

THE BRIDGE

Season 2, Episode 6

Blue Amends

By

Juno Dawson

08.04.24

1

EXT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

1

Set against a starry expanse, THE HARMONY ARENA, a huge SPACE STATION, like a Sydney Opera House or Guggenheim Bilbao in space. There's a STADIUM cradled inside, which almost looks open to space, except for a BUBBLE-LIKE RIPPLE on a hemisphere over the top; it's covered by an invisible shield.

FANFARES, the CAMERA swooping over, and then from below...

SABINE V/O

Are we excited, everyone? Cos here
we go, we're about to begin!

ROARS of the CROWD, as...

CUT TO:

2

OMITTED

2

3

OMITTED

3

4

INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT

4

SABINE, a beautiful FEMALE CAT in glamorous EVENING DRESS, on stage. NB, the stage is HUGE, but not revealing its full size yet, just Sabine against darkness, SOUND of the crowd.

SABINE

And here he is. Your favourite
host. Stepping out of cryogenic
suspension. May I introduce... the
immortal Rylan!

CUT TO:

5

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

5

UPRIGHT FREEZER hisses open, DRY ICE POURS OUT, a lightly-frosted RYLAN steps out; the genuine 21st century TV HOST, tall, slim, clever, EARPIECE already in place, immediately walking fast, female RUNNER scampering after him, a MAKE UP WOMAN dabbing away the FROST, SOUND MAN shoves a MIC at him.

RYLAN

All right babes, what's the year?

RUNNER

2925.

RYLAN

Venue?

RUNNER
Harmony Arena.

RYLAN
Teeth?

RUNNER
Dazzling.

RYLAN
And we're on.

And he STRIDES ON STAGE -

CUT TO:

6

INT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

6

RYLAN strides on, heading for SABINE.

RYLAN
Good evening, Harmony Arenaaaa!
Welcome to you all, ladies,
gentlemen, neither, and both!

SABINE
Bienvenue, mesdames, messieurs, ni
l'un ni l'autre, et les entre les
deux!

MASSIVE CHEER, now SEE THE REVERSE:

A HUGE AUDITORIUM, FULL of PEOPLE! This is like the Eurovision Song Contest, but far in the future. Huge arena, like the O2, rows and rows of seats, 100,000 PEOPLE - so big, most people are reduced almost to DOTS. It's a diverse audience of aliens and humans, waving interplanetary FLAGS.

CLOSER: a section of 100 PEOPLE & ALIENS, cheering!

CLOSE UPS: happy FANS yelling into CAMERA!

REVERSE: Rylan & Sabine on a HUGE STAGE (NB, this is like modern Eurovision, not the smaller, studio version from the 70s & 80s; the modern show is extravagant and beautiful.)

RYLAN
What a fabulous night!

SABINE
Quelle nuit fabuleuse!

ADR CONTINUED b/g from Rylan & Sabine as the CAMERA cranes down, OVER THE CROWD, all yelling, to find...

FLOOR LEVEL, there are PODS, like big CLAMSHELLS, private seating areas. The CAMERA closing on one as VWORP VWORP...

CUT TO:

7

INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

7

The TARDIS appears.

THE DOCTOR steps out, with the VINDICATOR, BELINDA following.

THE DOCTOR

Right, all we need is two minutes,
let's get the Vindicator aligned.
With a little bit of luck, this
should be the final reading...

BELINDA

Is that... Rylan?!

And they both look across, as...

ARENA STAGE: RYLAN and SABINE.

RYLAN

And welcome! To the 803rd
Interstellar Song Contest!!

CUT TO the huge AUDITORIUM of FANS - screams, cheers, FLAGS!

The Doctor and Belinda look at each other.

THE DOCTOR

Oh we're staying.

BELINDA

We're so staying.

CUT TO TITLES.

CUT TO:

8

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

8

A LONG hi-tech GALLERY, reminiscent of modern TV GALLERIES: SCREENS (showing ALT. ANGLES of Rylan & Sabine, CROWD, CONTESTANT PODS, and many showing FOOTAGE of PLANETS). CREW at work - VISION MIXER, TECHNICIANS. All hushed, busy.

Edges of the room: DRONEGUARDS; the station SECURITY. All in black, soldier-like militaristic SUITS, with helmet and visor occluding head and eyes. We see only a square jaw and impassive mouth with waxy skin, IE, the chin is PLASTIC.

Presiding over all: the director, NINA (50s, chic & poised).

NINA

Tighter on Rylan. Good. 15, give me
audience reaction, find some faces.
(MORE)

NINA (CONT'D)

Graphics, get ready with the voting links, steady on 26, thanks - Wynn, are we ready on pre-record 5?

WYNN's a striking impala-horned woman (20s) at a DESK.

WYNN

All cued up and standing by.

NINA

(leans into mic)

Rylan. Give me some awe.

CUT TO:

9 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT

9

RYLAN makes a SAD FACE.

RYLAN

Awww.

CUT TO:

10 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

10

NINA

No, awe, A-W-E.

CUT TO:

11 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT

11

RYLAN

Oh.

(gives it awe)

It's so awesome, folks. The Interstellar Song Contest is transmitted live across the entire Western Galactic Arm! We've whittled it down, from 50,000 contestants, to 40 finalists, from 40 different worlds, all singing live for you tonight, and reaching out in song, across the universe...

CUT TO:

11A EXT. PLANETS IN SPACE

11A

A VISTA of PLANETS, some with RINGS, some with sprawls of electric LIGHT from huge cities below, like the 1.1 planet.

RYLAN V/O
That's 40 million planets watching.
An audience of three trillion
lifeforms. To find one winner!

CUT TO:

12 OMITTED 12

13 OMITTED 13

14 OMITTED 14

15 OMITTED 15

16 OMITTED 16

17 OMITTED 17

18 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT 18

NINA into the MIC:

NINA
And cue confetti cannon.

CUT TO:

19 INT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT 19

A STAGE HAND has got a big, thick SILVER TUBE, about 3ft
long. He yanks a LEVER on the tube, and -

BANG! CONFETTI & GLITTER over RYLAN & SABINE.

RYLAN
Now let me hear some NOISE!

CUT TO:

19X POPPYHONEY ADVERT 19X

N.B Sc.19X plays through Sc.20-23.

Some thick honey dribbles from a honey drizzler into a
steaming cup of tea. It's luxury. It's aspiration. It's not
just honey, it's Marks and Spencer's honey etc.

SEXY FEMALE VOICE
Cultivated from a hundred per
cent organic golden poppy,
PoppyHoney is every bit as sweet,
rich and decadent as the real
thing.

A GLAMOROUS WOMAN sips her honey and lemon.

SEXY FEMALE VOICE (CONT'D)
And with the rejuvenating
properties of this ancient
botanical, it's so good, you
won't *be*lieve it.

We fade from the woman to a BOTTLE of POPPYHONEY.

SEXY FEMALE VOICE (CONT'D)
PoppyHoney. The galaxy's
favourite.

POPPYHONEY logo. The ad then repeats on an endless loop.

20

INT. HARMONY ARENA, BACK STALLS - NIGHT

20

BACK OF THE ARENA, surrounded by a CHEERING CROWD OF 100...

MRS FLOOD. She's very happy, loving the show. And wearing a
distinctive BANGLE.

MRS FLOOD
Yay!

She gets out OPERA GLASSES, looks down to...

POV: The VIP PODS, down below.

CUT TO:

21

INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

21

THE DOCTOR and BELINDA sit back, happy, drinking SLUSHIES.

BELINDA
Y'see, we were worried about
nothing. This proves that the Earth
survives.

THE DOCTOR
In style! I was there in '74 when
ABBA won. Olivia Newton-John came
second. Absolute *scenes*.

BELINDA
I watched with my mum and dad when
I was little.
(MORE)

BELINDA (CONT'D)

Best night of the year. They let me stay up late for the voting as long as I brushed my teeth and got into my pyjamas.

She looks up. SPACE above them; the roof looks OPEN.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

And look at me now. It's such a beautiful night. Where are we, where is this taking place?

THE DOCTOR

That's not night, it's space, the Harmony Arena is a space station, wait, d'you see..? There!

He points: a FAINT RIPPLE of the BUBBLE-ROOF.

BELINDA

We're inside a bubble. In a stadium. On a station. In orbit.

THE DOCTOR

The universe is wild, Belinda.

BELINDA

So the Song Contest let Australia in, and then space?

THE DOCTOR

I knew you'd enjoy it. Being with me. At last!

The Vindicator goes PING!

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Ahh, gotcha!

CUT TO:

22

INT. HARMONY ARENA, BACK STALLS - NIGHT

22

MRS FLOOD has a little, smart PALM-DEVICE. It makes exactly the same PING! as the Vindicator.

MRS FLOOD

...and thank you, Doctor. That's the final link. Lovely!

She settles back. Offers a GRAPE to the ALIEN next to her:

MRS FLOOD (CONT'D)

No rush. I love a good show. Grape?

CUT TO:

23

INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

23

THE DOCTOR shoves the VINDICATOR back inside the TARDIS.

BELINDA

We're not going, are we?

THE DOCTOR

Oh I'm not missing this!

He CLOSES the Tardis, sits with BELINDA.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I wonder whose seats we're in.

BELINDA

Too late now, they've missed it!

HIGH ANGLE CCTV shot of the Doctor & Belinda. Playing into...

CUT TO:

23X

COMING UP LINK: INT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

23X

N.B Sc.23X plays within Sc.25.

RYLAN and SABINE address the camera directly from the MAIN STAGE. Highly scripted BANTS.

SABINE

You know Rylan, this is my first time hosting the Interstellar Song Contest. Do you have any advice for a rookie such as myself?

RYLAN

Babe, you got this. The most important things to remember are to *smile*.

SABINE

OK, I can do that...

RYLAN

Hurry the interstellar jury members along when they try to milk their fifteen seconds of fame...

SABINE

Why do they always do that?!

RYLAN

And whatever you do, don't get Thoros Alpha and Thoros Beta mixed up!

FX - Huge LAUGHTER from the audience. Sabine fakes laughter.

RYLAN (CONT'D)
Never gonna live that down am I?!
What am I like?

SABINE
Now. We have quite a show lined
up for you tonight.

RYLAN
Don't we just.

SABINE
As ever, you're gonna hear all
forty finalists and then you'll
get your chance to vote for your
favourite. And by midnight
tonight, one triumphant act will
take home our fabulous trophy.

RYLAN
Without further ado, let's start
the show!

FX - HUGE CHEER.

24

INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT

24

A CORRIDOR on the OUTER RIM of Harmony, one wall WINDOWS on
to SPACE, the other an INTERNAL METAL interior wall.

Sc.23 Doctor & Belinda on a TERMINAL SCREEN, watched by...

MIKE and GARY. A couple, 40s, always bickering. Gary vexed,
while Mike's more fed-up. Gary keeps trying to INSERT a
PLASTIC CARD, which gets REJECTED, ping, ping, ping, every
time; this terminal is a TICKET BOOTH.

NEARBY, a DRONEGUARD, who stays unmoving, impassive.

GARY
(to Mike)
They're sitting in our seats! Look!
Those two people. Are sitting in
the seats which absolutely
positively definitely belong to us!
(goes to the Droneguard)
How many times? Why don't you do
something? This is my ticket-card.
Mine! Now could you do your job and
get those people out, please?
(back to Mike)
I told you! If you'd been on time,
this wouldn't have happened!

MIKE

All right, I've said sorry.

GARY

It's more than that, Mike. You don't take anything I do seriously.

MIKE

Oh it's hardly important, Gary, it's just... songs!

GARY

I'm not gonna dignify that with a response. Actually, I will: it's not just *songs*. It's part of who I am, and when you make fun of it, it's like you're making fun of me.

Mike quieter, but truthful:

MIKE

Okay. But when do we ever do anything that I want to do..?

GARY

All the time!

MIKE

Like when?

GARY

I read that book.

MIKE

Did you finish it?

(no)

I don't know, Gary. We keep going round in circles, sometimes, I wonder if we should...

But Gary won't let him say it, storms back to the DRONEGUARD.

GARY

For the 10th time. I would like to report. The theft of my seats.

But the Droneguard ignores him, looks ahead, lifts a FINGER to his EAR-COMMS. Flat, sinister VOICE:

DRONEGUARD

Phase One activated.

And the Droneguard MARCHES AWAY.

GARY

Well that's no help! What am I supposed to do now?!

MIKE

What does he mean, Phase One..?

CUT TO:

25

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

25

ALL DRONEGUARDS put FINGER to EAR-COMMS.

DRONEGUARDS

Phase One activated.

NINA busy, glances across.

NINA

Okay, drones, keep it quiet, thank
you, what's Phase One?A sudden flash and a muffled cry beyond the door to the
studio. The CREW stop working, concerned. Nina alarmed.

NINA (CONT'D)

What was that?

The door slides open to reveal gorgeous KID (30s). The same
horned species as Wynn. He enters with swagger.

KID

I'm Phase One. Hi.

NINA

Who the hell are you?

KID

Who the *Hellion*. That's my species,
and my name is Kid.

NINA

We're in the middle of
transmission! Drones. Get him out!

KID

(holds up device)
But I have Drone Control.
(to the Drones)
At arms!

The Droneguards lift their GUNS, KA-CHIK. Everyone SCARED.

KID (CONT'D)

Nobody move. This Gallery is mine.
(pause)
Oh I *like* this!

CUT TO:

26

INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT

26

RYLAN hearing trouble on EARPIECE. Thrown. But professional.

RYLAN

And we're... Okay. Let's just...

(big smile)

We'll say hello to the contestants!

Who have we got? Hello there, hot favourite, Cora from Trion!

CUT TO:

27

INT. VIP VIEWING POD TWO - NIGHT

27

In a SECOND POD: CORA, humanoid, 20s, in a gold lamé GOWN, with her producer, LEN. Waving into CAMERA:

CORA

Hello everyone! I'm so excited.

It's an honour to be here. What a night! I can't wait to sing!

LEN

The love for Cora is so strong!

CORA

Hello to everyone back on Trion! We love you! I'll try my best!

CUT TO:

27X

CORA INTERVIEW: INT. VIP VIEWING POD TWO - NIGHT

27X

N.B Sc.27X plays through Sc.28, audio only.

In a SECOND POD: CORA, humanoid, 20s, in a gold lamé GOWN, with her producer, LEN. Waving into CAMERA:

CORA

Hello everyone! I'm so excited.

It's an honour to be here. What a night! I can't wait to sing!

LEN

The love for Cora is so strong!

CORA

Hello to everyone back on Trion!

We love you! I'll try my best!

SABINE (O.S.)

And it was third time lucky for you is that right?

CORA

Yes! I tried out last year and the year before, but it wasn't my time.

SABINE (O.S.)

Fingers crossed - or should I say toes crossed - for *My Big Feet*! I must say Cora, your feet don't look that big!

CORA

Ha ha! Thank you Sabine!

She and Len wave their Trion flag.

28

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

28

Sc.27 Cora waving on SCREEN, as a DRONEGUARD marches the last of the CREW out of the door, the CREW with HANDS clasped at the back of their HEADS, at GUNPOINT.

KID

Lock West 7 Bulkhead 5 and keep them guarded. Although it's a shame they're gonna miss the show.

WYNN and KID lock horns. They kiss.

KID (CONT'D)

Miss me?

WYNN

You have no idea.

KID

It's time, gorgeous. Phase Two.

Wynn returns to her DESK. But at the back of the gallery, NINA is in a CHAIR, A DRONEGUARD guarding her.

NINA

Wynn. Whatever you're doing. Stop. I took a chance on you. No one employs Hellions, but I did.

KID

How benevolent of you, baby.
(To Wynn)
Hit the back-up.

Wynn activates PRE-RECORD/EMERGENCY ONLY.

All the TV SCREENS flicker for a SECOND, but then resolve into FOOTAGE OF THE CROWD.

ON SCREEN: TRANSMIT LIVE changes to TRANSMIT DRESS REHEARSAL.

NINA

But that's the dress rehearsal.

WYNN

Broadcasting across the galaxy. No one's going to know the difference.

NINA

Well that's where you're wrong. Rylan wasn't there for the dress, he was still in deep freeze.

KID

Oh, we're ready for that. Publicity comms can say he's got food-poisoning. Tell them he ate something nasty.

And he STABS A BUTTON, *bleep!*

CUT TO:

29 OMITTED 29

30 OMITTED 30

31 OMITTED 31

32 OMITTED 32

33 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT 33

Bleep! BELINDA happy, watching, but THE DOCTOR'S SONIC gave that little BLEEP. He looks at it. Puzzled. Wondering...

A SCREEN beside him, waist-level - there's a MENU, for hospitality, but it's also showing Sc.34 SONG CONTEST:

CUT TO:

34 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE (PRE-RECORD) - NIGHT 34

ON Sc.33 SCREEN: SABINE, to CAMERA, on her OWN.

SABINE

Merci and bienvenue, and on behalf of the Interstellar Song Contest, and our sponsors, PoppyHoney, it's *bonne nuit* all around the galaxy!

(MORE)

SABINE (CONT'D)

From Alpha Centauri to the Zygon
New Habitat, songs and music and
joy can unite us all!

CUT TO:

35 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

35

But THE DOCTOR's puzzled, looks up, at the STAGE...

CUT TO:

36 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT

36

Same as Sc.34, except SABINE is with RYLAN.

SABINE

Merci and bienvenue, and on behalf
of the Interstellar Song Contest,
and our sponsors, PoppyHoney, it's
bonne nuit all around the galaxy!
From Alpha Centauri to the Zygon
New Habitat, songs and music and
joy can unite us all!

CUT TO:

37 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

37

THE DOCTOR TOGGLES the SCREEN IMAGES: Sabine alone/Sabine
with Rylan. They're transmitting a recording. Strange...

BELINDA

Why are you watching it on TV when
you can watch it for real?!

THE DOCTOR

Yeah, hold on...

And he HOPS OUT of the POD, to the SIDE, on to the FLOOR.

CUT TO:

38 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

38

KID takes NINA'S HAND. Pulls her to a DESK.

NINA

Let go of me!

KID

You rather I cut your hand off?

He grabs her hand and presses it against a security panel. It grants them access - BLEEP! Lots of BLUE desk-lights go RED.

ENGINEERING (RADIO)
Gallery, what's happening? You've got control of the arena?

Kid clamps a hand over Nina's mouth. Wynn into DESK-MIC:

WYNN
That's correct. Just rerouting, nothing to worry about, Eddo.
(clicks off mic)
We've got about 30 seconds till they realise anything's wrong.

KID
That's all I need.

CUT TO:

39

INT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

39

RYLAN, still worried by his EARPIECE, mutters:

RYLAN
Cue VT? Anyone..?
(to audience, big smile)
To hell with it, let's start the show! It's Liz Lizardine from the Planet Lizoko, with her song, 'I Love You But My Heart Says No'!

CENTRE STAGE: LIZ LIZARDINE, a female lizard, starts to SING.
FX: HUGE ANIMATED HOLOGRAMS dance around her.

LIZ LIZARDINE
I saw you 'cross the astroport,
My sensibilities went for naught,
I saw you tall and super cool,
But one thing then did overrule,
No no! No no! Don't go! And so!
(chorus)
I love you but my heart says no,
It beats a rhythm, oh go slow,
No says my heart, don't you dare,
I love you babes, it isn't fair!

CUT TO 100 FANS dancing to Liz Lizardine's SONG.

CUT TO WS ARENA, 100,000 dancing to Liz's SONG.

CUT TO:

40

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

40

Liz Lizardine on SCREENS. KID flicks SWITCHES like an expert.

KID

Safety protocols... off!

NINA

But you can't do that.

ON SCREEN: with the SONG in b/g, RYLAN at the SIDE OF THE STAGE, with his finger to EARPIECE, muttering into CAMERA:

RYLAN

Nina? Anyone? Are you there? What is this, amateur hour?

Kid clicks on the DESK-MIC. To Rylan's SCREEN, smiling:

KID

Rylan. My name's Kid. Big fan. This is the greatest song concert in the universe, so let's raise the roof.

He pulls a sturdy LEVER.

CUT TO:

41

INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

41

THE DOCTOR is now OUTSIDE the POD, whirring at its base, where there are COMPUTER PANELS and WIRING. BELINDA still inside, though he's right IN FRONT of her, just a step down.

BELINDA

How are you going to vote, if you don't listen to the song properly?

THE DOCTOR

Yeah, Bel, I think there might be -

Suddenly, there's a KLAXON.

ALARM VOICE

Caution. Air Shield failing.

And they both LOOK UP, horrified...

CUT TO:

42

INT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

42

THE OPEN ROOF: A VERY VISIBLE bubble-like SHIMMER & RIPPLE passes over the entire hemisphere of the SHIELD.

CUT TO:

43 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE – NIGHT

43

ON STAGE: music STOPS, LIZ LIZARDINE keeps singing for a bit, then realises. Looks up.

RYLAN and SABINE look up, horrified.

CUT TO:

44 INT. HARMONY ARENA – NIGHT

44

100 FANS. Alarms sound. PEOPLE looking UP! What..?!

CUT TO:

45 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

45

THE DOCTOR, outside the POD, BELINDA inside, looking UP.

BELINDA
Is that part of the show?

THE DOCTOR
No way.

He starts SONICKING BUTTONS like crazy -

ALARM VOICE
Danger. Air Shield collapsing.

CUT TO:

46 INT. HARMONY ARENA, BACK STALLS - NIGHT

46

MRS FLOOD looking up. In HORROR. Because she realises...

MRS FLOOD
No. Oh no...

CUT TO:

47 INT. VIP VIEWING POD TWO - NIGHT

47

CORA and LEN stand, look UP, in horror...

THIS SEEN on CCTV ANGLE, played into...

CUT TO:

48 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

48

BACKGROUND: KID fevered, clenched fists, any second now...
But FOREGROUND: WYNN, furtive, Kid not seeing, she looks at a
SCREEN on her DESK, showing Sc.47, Cora and Len.

And discreetly, Wynn's HAND inches towards a BUTTON...

NINA watching her intently, as -

CUT TO:

49 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

49

ROOF: the SHIELD-BUBBLE shimmers.

THE DOCTOR looking UP at it, and then...

A SUSPENDED MOMENT as he looks at BELINDA in the POD.

She looks at him.

Somehow, they both know. This is goodbye.

 THE DOCTOR
 I'm sorry.

CUT TO:

50 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

50

CU on KID.

 KID
 D'you know my favourite kind of
 music?

Even CLOSER.

 KID (CONT'D)
 Pop.

CUT TO:

51 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

51

POP!

THE BUBBLE-ROOF literally gives a POP. Bursts. It's GONE.

The Doctor FIERCE, aims the SONIC at the POD-CONTROLS, WHIRR -
- but the next second, he FLIES UP!

BELINDA FLIES UP - but she's still within the POD, she flies up but she's JAMMED INSIDE THE half-clamshell ROOF, as -

- the TARDIS FLIES UP TOO!

The WOODEN BOX goes tumbling up into the air -

CUT TO:

52 INT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

52

THE DOCTOR mid-air, flying UP! He reaches out, wildly -

- but the Tardis FLIES PAST HIM, so FAST, like it's more reactive to the lack of mavity, and it goes SPINNING AWAY into the distance, becoming a little blue dot, far-off -

CUT TO:

53 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT

53

LIZ LIZARDINE goes FLYING UP!

CUT TO:

54 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

54

Desperate, secretive, WYNN presses the BUTTON.

CUT TO:

55 INT. VIP VIEWING POD TWO - NIGHT

55

In CORA and LEN's pod, the shield snaps down! The CLAM-SHELL CLOSES as the overhead ROOF curves down, its front made of GLASS, sealing Cora and Len INSIDE, *schwup* -

CUT TO:

56 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

56

The POD's ROOF curves round, the CLAM-SHELL POD closes. BELINDA hits the FLOOR, WHAM! But alive!

CUT TO:

57 INT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

57

WS, 100,000 PEOPLE the size of DOTS all FLY UP -

- to *HALFWAY*.

Halfway between floor and roof, they SLOW and PAUSE.

CUT TO:

58 INT. VIP VIEWING POD TWO - NIGHT 58

CORA and LEN at the GLASS, looking up, horrified.

CUT TO:

59 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT 59

BELINDA at the GLASS, looking up, horrified.

CUT TO:

60 INT. HARMONY ARENA, MID-AIR - NIGHT 60

For a second, as...

ALARM VOICE

Air Shield back-up engaged.

THE DOCTOR SUSPENDED. Halfway-up. Background behind him, some PEOPLE, behind that, PEOPLE-AS-DOTS. The Doctor sees...

RYLAN. SUSPENDED. Facing him. Behind him, suspended, SABINE and STAGEHAND, who's let go of the floating GLITTER CANNON.

A sad look between the Doctor and Rylan. Then...

ALARM VOICE (CONT'D)

Air Shield back-up failed.

WS: THE 100,000 DOTS go flying UP! And OUT! GONE!

CUT TO:

61 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT 61

NINA horrified, WYNN staring. And even KID looks shocked.

CUT TO:

62 OMITTED 62

63 INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT 63

GARY and MIKE at the WINDOWS, SAFE - unaffected, the Arena has sealed itself off - but they're STARING UP, into SPACE.

Their POV: 100,000 of DOTS tumbling into SPACE above.

And they HOLD HANDS.

CUT TO:

64 EXT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

64

WIDE SHOT FROM OUTSIDE: with 100,000 DOTS behind him, spreading out into SPACE, RYLAN, floating, rises gently up towards CAMERA. His FACE begins to frost over...

RYLAN
Oh, not again.

And creak!, he's FROZEN. Drifts gently away.

CUT TO:

65 INT. VIP VIEWING POD & HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

65

BELINDA at the GLASS. In SHOCK. Staring out.

AHEAD OF HER: the auditorium is EMPTY. No air. Mavity gone. Just a SLUSHIE-CUP floating in the air, gently. Its STRAW in a calm spiral. A FLAG, a BOOT, a VIOLIN. Just debris.

BELINDA
...Doctor.

And Belinda cries. For him. For herself.

CUT TO:

65X VOTING LINK: INT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

65X

N.B Sc.65X plays within Sc.66, on a gallery screen.

SABINE is on stage, talking direct to camera.

SABINE
Don't forget to make a note of your favourite performance, ready for when voting opens after all forty acts have sung. Lines are not open just yet, so don't try to vote because your vote will not count but you might still be charged. Later on you can vote using your home neural hypersync headset, or of course, on the app. Let's carry on with the show! Next up, all eyes on Alpha Centauri!

66

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

66

WYNN taps away on her station.

WYNN

The arena is purged. Closing the shield, to maintain integrity.

NINA

You're monsters.

KID

That's what people have said to me, my whole life. Because of the horns. I'm only doing the things you expect of me.

(To Wynn)

Moving to Phase Three. Final phase. Fetch the device.

WYNN presses BUTTONS, says on MIC:

WYNN

Device to the Gallery.

NINA

But listen to me. The Mavity Shell is still on. It's not too late, you could still save those people.

KID

Except I'm busy. With this.

TWO DRONEGUARDS enter, carrying a METAL CAGE OF ELECTRONICS.

NINA

What is it..?

KID

It's called a Delta Wave. Cos Phase Three is the absolute best!

CUT TO:

67

EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

67

THE DOCTOR. FLOATING. Eyes CLOSED. Dead..?

BEHIND HIM, 100,000 DOTS, but they're tiny. BEHIND THAT: the HARMONY ARENA, with a RIPPLE of the BUBBLE over the Arena, as the AIR SHIELD is reinstalled.

CLOSE on him. His SKIN starts to FROST; a fine filigree of ice scattering over his face.

The sound of his double heartbeat thudding, slowing, dying...

But then. In the distance. But rising... A VOICE.

VOICE
Go back... Go back...

And the Doctor's EYES BOLT OPEN! As the VOICE BECOMES -

CUT TO:

68 INT. TARDIS - DAY

68

SUSAN.

Susan, the Doctor's GRANDDAUGHTER, as glimpsed in Ep.1.8; but Susan NOW (the same actor, today) older, wiser, and absolutely in command. In a shiny, white space, blurred, but like... the Tardis? To CAMERA. To her GRANDFATHER.

SUSAN
Go back.
(closer)
Grandfather. *Go back.*

CUT TO:

69 EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

69

And THE DOCTOR, in an airless void, somehow GASPS!

CUT TO:

70 INT. TARDIS - DAY

70

SUSAN
Find me.

CUT TO:

71 EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

71

THE DOCTOR - sudden LIFE! ENERGY! But DESPERATE!

He's flailing, tumbling, spinning, reaching, grabbing -

CUT TO:

72 INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT

72

GARY & MIKE looking out of the WINDOWS, seeing...

GARY
Is that one... moving?!

CUT TO:

73 EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

73

THE DOCTOR flails like crazy, reaching for...
The FLOATING CONFETTI CANNON. He grabs hold of it!

CUT TO:

74 INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT

74

GARY
He is *not* seriously gonna use a
confetti cannon to fly through
space...

CUT TO:

75 EXT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

75

THE DOCTOR pulls the LEVER! POOF! A burst of GLITTER - !
- and the Doctor is propelled THROUGH SPACE, back towards the
HARMONY ARENA behind him, WHOOSH!

CUT TO:

76 INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT

76

GARY and MIKE RUN down the corridor -

GARY
He did it, he did it - !

- to an AIRLOCK DOOR, which CHIMES with a RED LIGHT. Gary
stabs buttons, and the AIRLOCK DOOR OPENS - THE DOCTOR falls
out, hits the FLOOR, WHAM! Barely conscious.

MIKE
Gary! Medical kit! On the wall,
break the seal, bring it to me.
(to the Doctor)
It's all right, sweetheart, I've
got you, my name's Mike, Michael
Gabbastone, now you've had a little
shock, but you're gonna be fine -

Gary gives him a MEDKIT, Gary SLAMS it open FAST - gets a
HAND SCANNER & HYPO, injects the Doctor's neck and scans him -

MIKE (CONT'D)

- oh you're amazing, two hearts,
you show-off, respiratory bypass
system, very clever, you're an
amazing little creature, I've got
you, now hold on...

GARY

I've never seen you at work before.

MIKE

Good, cos that would mean you're
very ill. And I don't want that.
(loud!)
This might hurt!

And BAM! He stabs the HYPO into the Doctor's chest!

The Doctor YELLS - !

And then... is perfectly fine. Sits up.

THE DOCTOR

Oh.

MIKE

Better?

THE DOCTOR

Oh. Man. Honey. You're good.

GARY

He is, isn't he?

THE DOCTOR

Did I just fly through space on a
confetti cannon?

MIKE

Yes.

THE DOCTOR

Camp.

But as the Doctor stands... a huge anger.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I was frozen.

MIKE

You were lucky, mate, you should
see it out there, it's carnage.
Must be a hundred thousand dead.

THE DOCTOR

No. Not dead.

MIKE

I'm sorry, but... look at them.

THE DOCTOR

Look at *me*. I survived.

MIKE

You were lucky, darling.

THE DOCTOR

No, I was clever, Mike, did you say Mike?

MIKE

Mike.

THE DOCTOR

And what's your name?

GARY

Gary.

THE DOCTOR

I was clever, Mike-and-Gary. Cos mavity is holding them. But I triplicated the mavity field.

FLASHBACK, Sc.51, The Doctor and Sonic, that fierce *WHIRR*.

GARY

So they're not just floating, they're in mavitic suspension?

THE DOCTOR

In a state of preservation.

GARY

But it's freezing out there!

THE DOCTOR

Exactly! That helps us!

MIKE

It's like... I've seen it happen, like when a body is plunged into freezing water, the life-signs get suspended. And they can be revived!

The Doctor crosses to the window. DOTS floating afar.

THE DOCTOR

Belinda's out there. Frozen. But the Tardis is gone, what do I do, what do I do, what do I do??

MIKE

I don't want to urinate on your vegetable wedges, mate, but...
(MORE)

MIKE (CONT'D)

That's one hundred thousand people.
Frozen. And suspended. In space. To
reach them, and catch them, and
revive every single one of them...
You'd need to be... some sort of
insane genius.

THE DOCTOR

Hello. I'm the Doctor.

CUT TO:

77

INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 2 - NIGHT

77

Normal corridor, though internal corridor DOORS HAVE SEALED,
at either end. CORA and LEN trying to open them.

CORA

Everything's sealed off, that
wasn't an accident, someone's doing
this on purpose.

A DOOR on the INTERNAL WALL opens - BELINDA steps through!

BELINDA

Oh my God, I'm not the only one,
what do we do, what was that?! What
the hell happened?

CORA

No idea, and we're locked in.

Len holds up a KEY-CARD.

LEN

Don't worry, I started in the tech
squad, I can get this open. If I
can just trip the code-switch.

He gets busy at a WALL-PANEL, as Belinda goes to the WINDOWS.

OUTSIDE: the FLOATING BODIES are just DOTS now.

BELINDA

My friend... my friend went out
through the roof. Is there some
sort of... air bubble or something?
Are they all dead?

LEN

Frozen. But I wouldn't hold out
much hope.

BELINDA

Can't we call for rescue? Are there
emergency services? They've got to
exist!

CORA

We can't call, we're in closedown.

BELINDA

What does that mean?!

CORA

Gambling rules. If people could transmit from here, they could hyperstream a bet to the other side of the galaxy before the results get there. So all signals are blocked and closed.

BELINDA

So... no one knows? No one's doing anything? There's no police or..?

CORA

Not till the show ends.

And on a SCREEN: the CONTEST CONTINUES...

CUT TO:

78

INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE (PRE-RECORD) - NIGHT

78

PRE-RECORD, dress rehearsal. The DUGGA DOO song.

CUT TO:

79

INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 2 - NIGHT

79

BELINDA watching the screen, horrified, with CORA (LEN in the background, still at work on the WALL-PANELS).

LEN

That's the dress-rehearsal, it must be playing on automatic.

BELINDA

But. We can't. How do we..?

(so upset)

Oh my God. I've got no way out. My mum and dad will just sit there waiting, like... forever? I don't even know where I am.

CORA

You're on the Harmony Station.

BELINDA

But where's that?

CORA

Sector Diamond 5.

BELINDA

But where's that?

CORA

West of Vangossiter.

BELINDA

Yes, but where's that?! Where the hell am I? And what do I do, do I live here? Is this it? I haven't got any money, I haven't got a... passport, do you even have passports, I've got nothing! I don't exist! I'm no one! I'm stuck here on my own and I'm no one!

But Cora HUGS HER, calms her.

CORA

Hey, you're alive. So many died. But you're alive. What's your name?

BELINDA

Belinda.

CORA

Nice name, Belinda. I'm Cora.

BELINDA

Hi Cora. Sorry. I'm just... My friend. Oh God! He was so wonderful. And I never told him.

But Len interrupts, worried.

LEN

This is weird. I'm tapping into the computer core, but... it's being overridden. There's something new. Like... software that's rewriting everything. But what for?

CUT TO:

80

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

80

KID

Syncing software and calibrating.

KID's attaching the DELTA WAVE BOX to the DESK-SYSTEMS. ONE SCREEN scrolls with NEW TEXT, an alien language, Hellion.

WYNN's helping him, and runs a CABLE from the box to the wall, near NINA. Quiet, so Kid can't hear:

NINA
You could still help those people.
(Wynn ignores her)
I saw you save that contestant.

WYNN
Don't. Say. A word.

NINA
That was the girl from Trion,
what's so special about her?

WYNN
I said, shut it. One more death
won't make any difference. We're
doing this for Hellia.

Wynn goes to join Kid. His DEVICE is now COMPLETE, a METAL
CAGE with RED LIGHTS. He flips a switch, it starts to throb,
menacing. A display reads: *CALIBRATING DELTA WAVE 240 dB.*

KID
Starting the upload. We should be
ready to broadcast during Song 14.
(he knows, but asks Nina)
Which is..?

On SCREEN: PUBLICITY PHOTOS of Cora.

NINA
Cora Saint Bavier, she/her.

Nina fascinated; Cora means something to Kid and Wynn.

KID
Best voice. Best act. Best song.
Our dearly departed Cora Saint
Bavier is gonna blow their minds...

On the Device, a progress bar. DELTA WAVE SYNC: 55%.

CUT TO:

81 INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT

81

THE DOCTOR sonics at a PoppyHoney screen, the SCREEN fizzing.
MIKE and GARY hover back. The Doctor's mind races, muttering:

THE DOCTOR
If I can tap into the helium core.
Maybe I can... No, that wouldn't
work, but what if..?

SUDDENLY, the ALIEN LANGUAGE, scrolling across the SCREEN.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Oh! New software. Says it's Hellion-script, who are Hellions?

GARY

From the planet Hellia.

MIKE

My mum and dad used to vacation there. All those fields of Hell Poppies. Far as the eye could see. They said it was stunning.

GARY

It's all been ruined, now. Totally destroyed. They say the Hellions did it themselves, they stripped their own planet bare.

THE DOCTOR

So what are they uploading..?

He taps on the ALIEN SCRIPT and -

- a WILD, PULSING SOUND WAVE fills the air! Shuddering!

All three fall to their knees, clutching their ears. Agony.

Gary reaches for his husband. Mike reaches for his hand.

The Doctor in so much pain. LIFTS the SONIC SCREWDRIVER, whirrs. The WALL-PANEL next to the screen EXPLODES.

Noise stops. They're stunned, recovering. The Doctor has a nosebleed. He wipes it on his hand.

MIKE

(to Gary)

You okay?

GARY

Yeah. Hooh. Alive. You?

MIKE

Just about. Oh I love you.

GARY

I love you too.

And they have a lovely hug.

The Doctor's busy at the broken screen, poking, whirring.

THE DOCTOR

Time and a place, boys. That was a primitive Delta Wave. Aimed at the temporal lobe of the brain. How many people watch the song contest?

GARY
Three trillion.

THE DOCTOR
They're going to kill them all.
If they route that signal through
the station and transmit, it'll
kill *every single person* watching.

CUT TO:

82 OMITTED 82

83 OMITTED 83

84 OMITTED 84

85 OMITTED 85

86 OMITTED 86

87 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT 87

The Delta Wave climbs to 70%...

CUT TO:

88 INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 3 - NIGHT 88

The CORRIDOR DOOR OPENS. Leading to another CORRIDOR. This one's got 6 SURVIVORS, huddled on the floor, amazed to see BELINDA, CORA and LEN. Including a young lad in Harmony STAFF UNIFORM, a Steward, JEDDY KINE, 18, a GRAZE on his forehead.

JEDDY
Oh my God, we thought everyone was
dead. We couldn't open the doors!

Len hands him a copy of the KEY CARD.

LEN
All right, now take this. Head for
the Loading Bay. Use that to hijack
the cars and fly for your life.

JEDDY
Thanks, but what about you?

But Len gets busy, goes to the WALL-PANELS, CORA takes over -

CORA

Someone did this on purpose. We want to find out what's going on.

BELINDA

How's your head, is that all right?

JEDDY

I fell over, I'm okay.

Belinda holds up a VIAL OF LIQUID, then gives it to him.

BELINDA

I've got simolin. Always carry it with me. Now go! Loading Bay, run!

Jeddy and friends RUN, back the way Belinda, Len and Cora first came. Belinda watches them go; a small smile, quietly pleased. A quiet moment for her and Cora:

BELINDA (CONT'D)

That's what I do. If this is my new home, then... I'm a nurse.

CORA

And I was a singer. Not any more.

(bit tearful)

God. Like it matters. But all I ever wanted to do was sing. Where I come from, we live in communes. One mother raises lots of children. We didn't have much, but we always watched the song contest. Then we all got scattered, but... I finally got here. Third attempt. Then this.

LEN

I've got it!

They go to Len, who's opened the WIRING of a WALL-SCREEN to control it himself. And he can see the ALIEN LANGUAGE.

LEN (CONT'D)

It's the Hellions. They did this.

BELINDA

What are Hellions?

LEN

Weird lot. They say they practice *cannibalism*. And witchcraft. They've got these horns, people say they give them psychic powers.

CORA

People say that a lot. About
species they don't understand.

CUT TO:

89

INT. MUSEUM, ARENA CORRIDOR 4 - NIGHT

89

THE DOCTOR, with MIKE & GARY, SONICS open a DOOR, leading on to a LONGER CORRIDOR, dressed for the Song Contest as a MUSEUM. Celebrating its history. Huge VISUALS, posters, glass cases displaying costumes. The Doctor RUNS IN -

THE DOCTOR

If I'm going to fight that signal,
I need to find a caustic hyperlink.

GARY

I've got it! There's a tech-desk
over here, I can access it...

Gary hurries the Doctor and Mike to a WALL, where he OPENS A PANEL and PULLS OUT a METAL TECH-DESK from the INTERIOR, complete with SCREEN & KEYBOARD; like an inbuilt Black & Decker Workmate, part of the normal Arena's construction.

GARY (CONT'D)

Hyperlinks, dazzle filters,
retroscopes, B-line-blockers...

THE DOCTOR

You know your stuff.

MIKE

That's my boy.

The Doctor starts SONICKING the controls, busy busy -

THE DOCTOR

What is this, a museum..?

GARY

The history of the entire contest.
I just call it paradise. Cos that's
how I got the posh seats, I worked
on the Song Contest tech-design. I
was in charge of the hologram
archive, d'you see?

Gary presses a BUTTON. FIZZ, a hologram of GRAHAM NORTON, the 21st Century Eurovision Host, blinks into existence.

GRAHAM NORTON

Welcome visitors! Hello! Wishing I
hadn't sold my likeness in
perpetuity but here we are!

THE DOCTOR

No way! I met him once at Brighton
Pride! What a weekend!

GRAHAM NORTON

I'm Graham Norton. Long since dead.
Sad face. But from humble
beginnings on planet Earth, the
Interstellar Song Contest now spans
the entire universe!

FIZZ, blip, OFF. But from nowhere, the Doctor's crying.

MIKE

What is it..?

THE DOCTOR

Belinda would love this.

MIKE

Is that your friend..?

THE DOCTOR

I'm her protector. I swore. To get
her home. And I keep thinking...

CU Doctor, and -

FLASHBACK. Susan's face. Closer. Staring. Haunting him.

He snaps out of it, ruthless.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

No! Stop. Good. I need to find that
hyperlink.

GARY

Here!

THE DOCTOR

Plus sound and vision - woah - !

He's surprised as the SCREEN glitches and fizzes -

CUT TO:

90

INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 3 - NIGHT

90

The SCREEN glitches and fizzes, same as Sc.89. LEN, with
BELINDA and CORA, steps back -

LEN

Woah, what's going on - ?

CUT TO:

91

92

GALLERY: KID into CAMERA. Facing THE DOCTOR in the CORRIDOR.

ARENA CORRIDOR: CORA seeing Kid. She keeps quiet, but... oh!

LEN pulls up the Doctor in-screen, like a FaceTime.

THE DOCTOR
Right. And d'you know what I'll do?

CU Doctor, for a second, he BLINKS, and -

CU Sc.68, Susan, haunting him -

And then right into CAMERA. The Doctor cold and terrifying.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I will survive. And then I will
find you. You can run and hide and
whimper all you like but I will
find you. Cos I've got ice in my
heart, darling. You put it there.
So I will cast your body. Out! Into
the void. Then I will stand and
watch you freeze. To death.

Belinda unnerved.

BELINDA

That's... not him.

GALLERY: WYNN steps into SHOT.

WYNN

Delta Wave at 95%, you need to
input the final calibration.

CORA

(shock)

No...

Belinda clocks her recognition.

Kid with a final sneer at CAMERA.

KID

Thank you for the empty threats. I
will now have you terminated.
Droneguards! He's in the museum!
Find and execute. Immediately!

Two DRONEGUARDS march from the Gallery, PICTURE cuts DEAD.

CUT TO:

94

INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 3 - NIGHT

94

LEN, BELINDA and CORA'S SCREEN goes DEAD.

BELINDA

Cora, did you know them?

CORA

She's called Wynn. He's called Kid.

BELINDA

As in baby goat?

CORA

As in his mother was shot before
anyone asked her his name. The
Corporation Harvesters just called
him Kid and it stuck.

LEN

How d'you know so much about dirty,
stinking Hellions?

CORA

Because I'm one of them.

Cora takes a deep breath, parts her HAIR, revealing...

The small nubs of two SHORN-OFF HORNS.

CORA (CONT'D)

I couldn't tell you. We're not
allowed to sing. We're treated like
scum, right across the galaxy. But
Wynn is my Kin-Sister, we were
raised in the same commune. I
haven't seen her since... I left
her back on Hellia.

LEN

They're all psychic! Don't say
anything, those Hellions will be
listening to every word.

CORA

Oh for the sake of the heavens,
Hellions aren't psychic, we don't
eat babies, we're not witches,
we're not cannibals.

LEN

Tell that Hellion upstairs!

CORA

That's him! Not the species! You
can't blame the entire race!

BELINDA

So what happened? How did you...
I'm sorry, I don't know how to ask,
but did you cut those horns off
yourself, was that by choice?

CORA

By force. Hellia was the most
harmless world in the sky. Then the
Corporation bought the entire
planet. Including its population.
For one reason only. So they could
harvest the Hell Poppy.

BELINDA
Is that like, drugs?

CORA
No, it's for this.

Belinda looks to a PoppyHoney ADVERTISING SCREEN.

BELINDA
PoppyHoney? And that's, what..?

CORA
It's honey.

BELINDA
Like... the food? I'm sorry? Your planet was invaded for *honey*?

CORA
No, my planet was invaded for honey *flavouring*. They made us harvest the crop. Then they took the seeds and burnt the fields so we could never grow it back. And even that wasn't enough. The Corporation, led by its almighty Boss, told stories across the galaxy. Rumours and whispers and lies. Calling us monsters. So no one came to help us, because no one cared.

BELINDA
(accusing Len)
Did you know about this?

LEN
(ashamed)
It's, just. A story.

BELINDA
And *they're* the monsters?!

LEN
That murderer! Is still up there!

CORA
Yes, and he was with Wynn, we've both known Kid forever.

BELINDA
So Kid blames the Corporation. And the Corporation sponsors the Contest...

CORA
He's out for revenge. And that includes every single viewer.

BELINDA

But you know him, can you stop him?

CORA

They might listen to me. Len, you understand the door systems -

LEN

I'm not helping you.

CORA

Then help everyone else. That Gallery is 7 floors above us. If you can get the elevator working -

- and ELEVATOR DOOR built into the INTERNAL WALL.

CORA (CONT'D)

- then maybe I can talk to them.

BELINDA

And I want to get there. Cos that's where the Doctor will be heading. And I've never seen him like that before. Trust me, if he's angry, this whole world is going to shake.

CUT TO:

95

INT. MUSEUM, ARENA CORRIDOR 4 - NIGHT

95

THE DOCTOR at work on the TECH-DESK, pulling WIRES out, sonicking away. Like a SOLDIER. So fierce, so focused.

FACING HIM, MIKE and GARY. A bit scared of him, now.

GARY

But. Sir. That Hellion. He said he was going to kill you.

MIKE

He sent Droneguards. They're on their way, right now.

THE DOCTOR

...what I need to do is, trip this switch. And fold it over. And kink that together. Till it makes one, single conduit.

DEEP BEHIND the Doctor: DOOR OPENS, and the TWO DRONEGUARDS enter. They MARCH towards the Doctor; he's got his back to them, but Mike and Gary are facing them. Gulp.

MIKE

Doctor.

THE DOCTOR
And once I've done that. If I fold
the whole system back...

GARY
Doctor!

THE DOCTOR
And once I've folded it back. I
need to employ a micro-stitch...

GARY & MIKE
Doctor!

The Doctor doesn't look round, holds up the SONIC, WHIRRS.

The DRONEGUARDS STOP. And their HEADS BLOW UP!

They CLATTER TO THE FLOOR like DUMMIES, and the Doctor just
keeps working. Mike and Gary *truly* scared of him now.

THE DOCTOR
Then I can loop this rod into a
fully-energised hyperlink. Now, if
only I had an expert in
triangulation.

GARY
That's me. Sir. I invented that
triangulation system.

THE DOCTOR
Gary.

GARY
Yes?

THE DOCTOR
I like you.

GARY
Oh thank God.

CUT TO:

96

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

96

The Delta Wave upload is at 97%. KID grins and turns to the
SCREENS showing the pre-recorded contest.

KID
And counting down. Song 14...

On SCREEN:

CUT TO:

97

INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE (PRE-RECORD)- NIGHT

97

CAMERAS SWOOP in to find... CORA on stage. HOLOGRAMS dance.

And this is CORA'S SONG. It's nice, fun, happy, daft pop.

CORA

My heartbeat,
It's so sweet,
It fell in love with Captain of the
Fleet - but then - !
My big feet!
My big feet!
I jumped in deep with my big feet!

CUT TO:

98

INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 3 - NIGHT

98

Sc.97, Cora's pop-song, on SCREEN. BELINDA and CORA watching.
LEN working on the ELEVATOR WIRING. Bitter.

LEN

All these years working on that
song. And you lied to me, Cora.
I'm telling you, if I get this
done... You're on your own.

CUT TO:

99

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

99

KID & WYNN watching Sc.97 On SCREEN; Kid exhilarated, Wynn
scared. NINA horrified, still guarded by a DRONEGUARD.

KID

Delta Wave at 98%. When Cora hits
the key-change then the Corporation
will be remembered for a massacre.

NINA

But this slaughter is off the
scale. I'm begging you, think of
them. All those people at home.

KID

Did they ever think about us? No
they did not. Delta Wave, 99%.

THE DOCTOR

When I tell you to stop...

And they ALL TURN.

FAR END of the ROOM: THE DOCTOR. Strong. Cold. Glaring.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
You really should stop, babes.

Kid grinning, pulls a GUN on the Doctor.

KID
Or what?

THE DOCTOR
Or you will regret it. Because I've
met so many versions of you, Kid.
And revenge is just an excuse.
Because your cold, filthy heart
just likes to kill.

KID
Well, Doctor. If you insist.

And Kid FIRES!

LASER-BOLTS which... GO THROUGH the Doctor and hit the WALL
behind, BANG!, as the Doctor FIZZES and shashes - a HOLOGRAM!

KID (CONT'D)
What - ?

CUT TO:

100 OMITTED 100

101 OMITTED 101

102 OMITTED 102

103 OMITTED 103

104 INT. MUSEUM, ARENA CORRIDOR 4 - NIGHT 104

GARY at the REWIRED TECH-DESK, with MIKE; Gary wearing HI-
TECH GLOVES, to puppeteer - in front of him - a 6-inch
HOLOGRAM DOCTOR. Which now fizzles and shashes and DISAPPEARS!

GARY
Lost him! They know it's a fake!

CUT TO:

105 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT 105

KID and WYNN turn round a full 180° -

- and there's THE DOCTOR, happy, relaxed, right BEHIND THEM, sitting at the METAL CAGE of the DELTA WAVE, with his SONIC.

THE DOCTOR

Hiya.

KID aims his GUN at him.

KID

Don't move.

THE DOCTOR

What, in case I do this?

And he THROWS THE CAGE into the air -

WHIRRS the SONIC -

BOOM! BLAST of FLAME & SMOKE as the Delta Wave EXPLODES!

ALL FLINCH, but Kid turns his GUN on the Doctor -

KID

Big mistake -

But the Doctor just coolly WHIRRS again.

Kid's GUN EXPLODES, he DROPS it - aaah - !

THE DOCTOR

Cos the thing about holograms is...

And he stands. So UNSTOPPABLE now. The Time Lord; a Doctor like never before, calm and cold and deadly. And he takes from his pockets HI-TECH GLOVES, like Gary's, puts them on.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

They're kinda soft. They fizz and crackle and they're not much use. Unless you're me. And you convert them. Into Hard Light. Then. A hologram can *hurt*.

And he CLENCHES his GLOVED FIST.

The HOLO-DOCTOR appears, right next to Kid, and simply holds Kid by the shoulder. Kid ELECTROCUTED! YELLS! Shudders! The second it's done, the holo-Doctor blinks OFF again, gone -

CUT TO:

GARY pulls off the GLOVE like it HURTS - alarmed -

GARY
Ahhh, what's he doing - ?!

CUT TO:

107

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

107

KID staggering back, scared - and WYNN steps back, horrified -
THE DOCTOR calm, a man possessed, clenches his FIST again.
And with every clench, CU Doctor - seeing Susan - and -
The HOLO-DOCTOR BLINKS ON, holds Kid's shoulder -
Kid ELECTROCUTED, aaah! Sinks to his knees, Holo-Doctor OFF.

THE DOCTOR
How many people did you want to
kill? Three trillion? How about we
try this three trillion times?!

The Doctor CLENCHES HIS FIST.

CU Doctor - seeing Susan - and -

HOLO-DOCTOR appears, touches Kid, ELECTROCUTES HIM, goes.

The Doctor CLENCHES HIS FIST.

CU Doctor - seeing Susan - and -

HOLO-DOCTOR touches Kid, ELECTROCUTES HIM.

The Doctor CLENCHES HIS FIST.

CU Doctor - seeing Susan - and -

HOLO-DOCTOR touches Kid, ELECTROCUTES HIM.

The Doctor CLENCHES HIS FIST.

CU Doctor - seeing Susan - and -

HOLO-DOCTOR touches Kid, ELECTROCUTES HIM.

The Doctor CLENCHES HIS FIST.

CU Doctor - seeing Susan - and -

HOLO-DOCTOR touches Kid, ELECTROCUTES HIM.

And then...

The elevator DOOR OPENS.

BELINDA and CORA standing there.

And the same time, Kid, dazed, amazed, seeing Cora.

The Doctor seeing Belinda as he CLENCHES HIS FIST again -
- as Belinda looks at the Doctor, HORRIFIED, and says -

BELINDA

No.

The Doctor is so shocked. And he sees -

CUT TO:

108 INT. TARDIS - NIGHT

108

SUSAN

Stop.

CUT TO:

109 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

109

And THE DOCTOR realises what he's become.

THE DOCTOR

Bel.

And he pulls off the GLOVE. Devastated. Opens his arms. So
needing Belinda; so needing a human at his side.

And she RUNS to him.

Wham, into a HUG. The best hug in the world.

And behind them, smart, fast, NINA's in action, stabs buttons
on a WORK-STATION -

NINA

Droneguard override! Default to
stat-matics. On those two!

And the DRONEGUARDS lift GUNS on Wynn and Kid.

Cora to Wynn, a distance between them.

CORA

After all these years.

WYNN

I won't apologise.

CORA

This cannot be the gentle kin-
sister I loved so much.

WYNN

You abandoned me.

CORA

They took me. They sold me. I didn't want to leave, I was sold!

WYNN

You left me there to rot. So we had to do it, we had to tell the galaxy. About the Corporation. What have you ever done? Except hide?

Kid, on his knees, broken, to Wynn:

KID

But you saved her life.

WYNN

(quiet)

Of course I did.

The moment broken by:

NINA

Get them out of here. Shuttle them to the Justice Monolith, they're going down for life.

DRONEGUARDS march Wynn out and haul a recovering Kid to his feet. Passing THE DOCTOR and BELINDA, he's still arrogant:

KID

I'll see you again, Doctor.

THE DOCTOR

I'll be ready. And believe me, Kid. That ice you put in my heart. It's still there. I think it's there forever now. So you take care.

Kid lowers his head, is taken to the door, but...

STOPS, at the last minute. And now he's quiet and honest:

KID

You know what happens next? Three trillion people switch to another channel. And everything the Corporation did to Hellia is forgotten. All over again.

And the Doctor...

Has no reply. Because this time, Kid is right.

Kid is taken away.

The Doctor SLUMPS, SITS at a WORK-DESK. Exhausted.

Belinda sits with him. Takes his hand. But he just stares ahead. Hollow. Lost in thought. Kid's final words burrowing into his soul; like Kid won, in the end. Words in the b/g:

BELINDA

But what do we do? It still isn't over, there's still a hundred thousand people out there. Trapped in that mavity thing.

NINA

Nothing we can do. They're going to die. Frozen to death.

BELINDA

But there's got to be something...

...on and on, in the background, dialogue sinks into ADR, as the FOCUS closes in, in, in, on the Doctor, in his emptiness.

Close and closer.

No solutions. No hope. Only loss.

Except...

One word.

THE DOCTOR

Rylan.

CUT TO:

110

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

110

TEN MINUTES LATER, THE DOCTOR in fine form, ALL ENERGY! He's ripped out the WIRES from lots of SCREENS & DESKS, building himself a HIVE of technology, EVERYONE grouped around him, in awe of him, now - BELINDA, NINA, Nina's CREW now released, plus MIKE and GARY - the Doctor showing a SCREEN to Gary.

On the SCREEN: 100,000 DOTS around Harmony Station. All FAST:

THE DOCTOR

D'you see? All those people were frozen in the Mavity Shell. Perfectly suspended in space. But! If only! I had a hologram expert who could fashion hard light into a tractor beam. Can you do that Gary?

GARY

I'll do anything for you.

MIKE

Gary.

GARY

Anything.

CUT TO:

111 EXT. HARMONY ARENA - NIGHT

111

RYLAN, FROZEN, revolving slowly in SPACE...

But then a YELLOW HOLOGRAM LIGHT glows around him.

WIDER, Rylan in a YELLOW LIGHT SPHERE, with a LINE OF YELLOW LIGHT pulling him through space, back TOWARDS THE STATION.

CUT TO:

112 INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

112

ALL watch GARY working feverishly at the DESK with his Sc.104 HI-TECH GLOVES - helping him, BELINDA and NINA passing him WIRES and CIRCUITS, fast - as THE DOCTOR runs to MIKE - fast -

THE DOCTOR

And if only. I had medical staff!
Who could turn Rylan's cryogenic
chamber into a revival booth! What
d'you say, Mike?

MIKE

I'll do anything for you.

GARY

Back of the queue!

CUT TO:

113 INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

113

MIKE, with GARY at his side, now has a LONG BENCH of improvised CONTROLS, both operating SWITCHES together.

MIKE

Blood pressure balanced, synapses
level, minus one, and... zero!

RYLAN'S UPRIGHT FREEZER opens, and RYLAN steps out! ALIVE!

THE DOCTOR, BELINDA, NINA, JEDDY the Steward and STAFF. all CLAP! Yell! Wild! Belinda steps forward to help Rylan out.

BELINDA

Oh my God, I'm so pleased to meet you! It's Rylan! Um. Sorry.

(being professional)

Mr Clark, my name is Belinda, I'm a nurse, don't worry, you're fine, we're just going to check you out -

RYLAN

But what happened?

BELINDA

You came back from the dead.

RYLAN

Well that sums up my career.

Belinda leading him away as the Doctor runs to Mike and Gary -

THE DOCTOR

Amazing, amazing, amazing! Now. Can you do that 100,000 times?

GARY & MIKE

(oh blimey)

Yes!

CUT TO:

114 INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

114

MIKE at the CONTROLS, with BELINDA waiting to greet each patient, JEDDY & STAFF running to and fro behind them, wiring up CABLES like crazy, as the FREEZER opens -

DRY ICE, A YOUNG MAN steps out, blinking, shocked, happy.

JUMP CUT, FREEZER OPENS -

DRY ICE, A YOUNG WOMAN steps out, blinking, shocked, happy.

JUMP CUT, FREEZER OPENS -

DRY ICE, 2 YOUNG MEN step out, blinking, shocked, happy.

JUMP CUT, FREEZER OPENS -

DRY ICE, 3 YOUNG WOMEN step out, blinking, shocked, happy.

JUMP CUT, FREEZER OPENS -

DRY ICE, some MAD ALIEN steps out, blinking, shocked, happy.

JUMP CUT, FREEZER OPENS -

DRY ICE, LIZ LIZARDINE steps out, blinking, happy. Sings!

LIZ LIZARDINE
Laaaaaaaa - !

CUT TO:

115 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

115

THE DOCTOR and LEN at the CLAMSHELL-PODS. FAST:

THE DOCTOR
And if only! I had someone clever
enough. To take a VIP Pod and
convert it into a revival booth!

CUT TO:

116 INT. VIP VIEWING POD - NIGHT

116

A VIP CLAMSHELL-POD opens, with a HISS of DRY ICE.

20 PEOPLE inside. All cheering! Alive!

JUMP CUT, a VIP CLAMSHELL-POD opens, with a HISS of DRY ICE.

25 PEOPLE inside. All cheering! Alive!

JUMP CUT, a VIP CLAMSHELL-POD opens, with a HISS of DRY ICE.

30 PEOPLE inside. All cheering! Alive!

CUT TO:

117 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT

117

RYLAN and SABINE on stage. Sabine now wears an EYE-PATCH.

RYLAN
Ladies and gentlemen and others and
betters and whatevers. We're BACK!!

SABINE
On est de retour!

CROWD OF 100,000: CHEERING! Flags! Joy! LIFE!

CROWD of 100: many with BROKEN ARMS in SLINGS and BANDAGED
HEADS and waving CRUTCHES, but so happy to be ALIVE! And

CUT TO VIP POD: THE DOCTOR & BELINDA with 20 FANS, cheering.

RYLAN
And that. Is the spirit. Of the
song contest. Not winning. But the
joy. Of each other. Come ON!

And the PLACE GOES WILD.

The Doctor mutters, a hope, a prayer.

THE DOCTOR
Come on, Rylan. Do your stuff.

On STAGE, Rylan more serious, calming the crowd down:

RYLAN
Now the actual contest is a bit
null and void. What with us dying
and everything. But there is one
song... There's one song we want
you all to hear. Right across the
galaxy. With all three trillion
people watching, I give you... Cora
Saint Bavier!

SLAM! A single SPOTLIGHT.

WIDE SHOT. A tiny Cora, the crowd hushing.

CORA's alone, in the vast space. But brave.

CORA
This is a song the Corporation
tried to hide. The song of my home
planet, Hellia. To remind us of the
world that we lost. Its beauty. Its
history. Its soul.

Cora starts to SING.

It's the most beautiful, haunting ARIA.

SOARING, filling the air and the heart and the soul. Cora's
SONG filling the air.

The 100 FANS silent, staring ahead, in awe, transported.

The Doctor & Belinda amazed. Stare ahead. Filled with music.

Rylan and Sabine, heads high, staring ahead, so moved.

CUT TO:

118

INT. STUDIO GALLERY - NIGHT

118

THE SONG fills the AIR. Cora on every SCREEN.

NINA moved by the music. Staring ahead. Tearful.

All her CREW stopping, to stare ahead.

CUT TO:

126 OMITTED 126

127 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT 127

And CORA...

...finishes her SONG.

The SILENCE.

The whole AUDITORIUM, silent.

CUT TO VIP POD: THE DOCTOR, BELINDA and FANS so sad.

CUT TO:

128 INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT 128

KID lowers his head in shame; Cora just united the galaxy,
rather than destroying it.

WYNN is crying. And yet joyful, proud of Cora. A whisper:

 WYNN
 Good girl.

CUT TO:

129 OMITTED 129

130 OMITTED 130

131 OMITTED 131

132 INT. BACKSTAGE, THE WINGS - NIGHT 132

LEN wipes his face, deeply ashamed.

MIKE, so moved, gives GARY a kiss on the top of his head.

Then Mike and Gary begin to CLAP. Then Len, too.

CUT TO:

133 INT. HARMONY ARENA, STAGE - NIGHT 133

CORA looks up, amazed.

EVERYONE starts to CLAP. More and more. And not the wild fun of the Interstellar Song Contest, but a thunderous, powerful clapping, the audience all uniting as one.

The 100 FANS so proud, on their feet, clapping.

CUT TO: VIP POD, THE DOCTOR, BELINDA & FANS clapping.

RYLAN and SABINE abandon their roles to CLAP.

WIDE SHOT, the WHOLE HARMONY ARENA, applauding.

Cora at the centre.

And maybe there is hope.

End on the WIDE SHOT, all races united.

CUT TO:

134 INT. ARENA CORRIDOR 4 - NIGHT

134

Quiet, now. THE DOCTOR and BELINDA being led by JEDDY KINE.

JEDDY

There you go. They found it on the
asteroid spar. Tough old thing!

And there, at the far end: THE TARDIS.

BELINDA

Thank you, Jeddy.

JEDDY

Better get back. Lot of accident
forms to fill in! Take care now!

And he goes. The Doctor and Belinda walk towards the Tardis,
but slowly, both exhausted. Belinda takes his arm.

BELINDA

And the results from Belinda
say... Douze points, Doctor.

THE DOCTOR

I thought that was my Waterloo.
Turns out, it was my Rise Like a
Phoenix.

BELINDA

I don't think I've ever told
you... you're wonderful.

They stop, and she HUGS HIM. As they separate:

BELINDA (CONT'D)

But still. I never really know
what you're thinking. You scared
me, back there.

THE DOCTOR

Scared myself. I thought I saw...

(pause)

The death of three trillion people
triggered me. Made me think of my
home planet. Cos they all died in a
single second, every last Time
Lord, but I got this image...

He closes his eyes for a second. Susan. Now TURNING AWAY.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Long time ago. Can't be.

(smiles)

I need to get you home, Bel.

BELINDA

If I disappear for much longer,
they'll make a podcast about the
missing nurse. And besides.
There's a very tasty chef on
Hinge who's gonna think I ghosted
him. So fire up that Vindicator.
And get me back to Planet Earth.

They're standing next to the TECH-DESK, and - blink! The
word 'Earth' activates GRAHAM NORTON-HOLOGRAM.

GRAHAM NORTON

Planet Earth! Age-old home of the
Human Race. Also, dogs, cats,
ferrets, polar bears and measles.

BELINDA

Oh my God, that's Graham Norton!

GRAHAM NORTON

Sadly, no more. Poor old Planet
Earth died, many years ago.

The Doctor & Belinda chilled to the bone.

THE DOCTOR

Hologram. Explain.

GRAHAM NORTON

The history books say that the
planet ended. On the Old Earth
date, May the 24th, 2025.

BELINDA

...what?

THE DOCTOR
Ended? How?!

And behind the hologram-Graham...

IMAGE from the end of Ep.2.1. The rubble of Earth. Taxis and statues and pyramids, floating and crumbling in space.

GRAHAM NORTON
It is said... The planet disintegrated, into rock and dust and ashes. All the memories here were sieved from the rubble of a civilisation that died in a single second. Cause: unknown.

The Doctor and Belinda LOOK AT EACH OTHER...

And RUN into the TARDIS!

CUT TO:

135 INT. TARDIS - NIGHT

135

THE DOCTOR and BELINDA run in - the VINDICATOR'S by the door, and the Doctor GRABS IT as they run to the CONSOLE, to the panels facing the Tardis doors -

*
*
*

BELINDA
But that was the day I left! How can the whole world be dead?

The Doctor JAMS the Vindicator into the controls, and starts stabbing BUTTONS and pulling LEVERS -

*
*

THE DOCTOR
I don't know! But we're going to find out! Cos - finally, yes! - we've got enough readings on the Vindicator! This thing is *working!* I'm not just gonna take you home, Bel, I'm gonna *save* your home! *Here we go!!!*

*
*
*
*
*
*
*

He SLAMS LEVERS, and -

BOOMF! The Tardis STOPS DEAD, plunges into DEEP-RED LIGHTING. A huge, almighty METAL CREAK from the ROOF.

*
*

BELINDA
...what's happening?

*
*

They look UP, following the noise of the CREAK, from above...

*

...to the TARDIS DOORS.

*

BELINDA (CONT'D)
What's that noise?

*

*

THE DOCTOR
That. Is the sound. Of May the
24th.

*

*

*

And the DOORS EXPLODE INWARDS - !

*

BOTH DOORS HURTLE TOWARDS them, right into CAMERA, WHAM!

*

END of EPISODE, CUT TO END CREDITS. But then INTERRUPTED -

*

CUT TO:

136 INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

136

MIKE at the CONTROLS, GARY just fetching him a COFFEE.

MIKE
Here we go, this is the last one.

HISS, DRY ICE, and the FREEZER OPENS to reveal...

MRS FLOOD.

But she's not well, staggers, Mike runs to catch her.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Whoops, there we go, we've had quite a few with side-effects, but I can get you to sickbay.

MRS FLOOD

Has he gone?

MIKE

My name's Mike, and I'm a nurse -

MRS FLOOD

I said, has he gone?

MIKE

Who?

MRS FLOOD

The Doctor.

MIKE

How d'you know the Doctor?

GARY

Yes, he's gone, we looked, but he just disappeared.

MRS FLOOD

Then it's safe.

And she stands upright. Steps back from Mike. Head high. She begins to GLOW. With an old, familiar GOLDEN LIGHT.

MRS FLOOD (CONT'D)

I'm afraid my double-brainstem froze. Lethal for a Time Lady. But I've got my own knack for survival. I suppose I should think of some famous last words, how about... Let battle begin!

And with a WHOOSH... she BI-GENERATES!

As Special 3, GLOWING with ENERGY, Mrs Flood SPLITS ONE WAY, and a NEW SELF - THE RANI - splits the OTHER.

Sharing CLOTHES. And the BANGLE has transferred to the Rani. Half-joined, they stare at each other, the Rani with disdain. Mrs Flood instantly SERVILE to her.

THE RANI

Oh, must we? How inelegant.

MRS FLOOD

I'm ever so sorry, ma'am.

And then POP! They separate. Into two people!

MIKE

Well they never taught me that at nursing school.

MRS FLOOD

We've... bi-generated.

THE RANI

Evidently.

MIKE

But. How did you..? Are you both the same person?

THE RANI

Unfortunately, yes. Our name is the Rani. Although she's become a Rani, while I'm the Rani. The definite article, so to speak.

(to Mrs Flood)

Now! Have you got the Vindicator readings?

Mrs Flood gives her the PALM-DEVICE from Sc.22.

MRS FLOOD

Here, ma'am, sorry ma'am.

THE RANI

Then come with me, Mrs Flood.

Mike and Gary simply amazed as the Rani SWEEPS OUT of the room, imperious, Mrs Flood humbly following.

THE RANI (CONT'D)

Out of the way, boys. Because I have a date to arrange. And as for the Doctor... oh, I will bring him absolute terror.

*

MRS FLOOD

That's what I said.

THE RANI

Shut up.

MRS FLOOD

Yes ma'am.

CUT BACK to END CREDITS.