

THE BRIDGE

Season 2, Episode 8

Blue Amends

By

Russell T Davies

30.09.24

1 EXT. SEPARATED BALCONY - NIGHT

1

THE DOCTOR terrified as the BALCONY falls, falls, falls...

And then...

A SIZZLE. In the SOLID BLANK WALL BEHIND HIM, a HORIZONTAL LINE of GOLDEN LIGHT appears above head level.

Then a VERTICAL LINE of GOLDEN LIGHT sizzles DOWN.

In the shape of a DOOR.

It *is* a door.

Which OPENS.

And there's ANITA from the Time Hotel! Big smile!

ANITA

Welcome to the Time Hotel, if you'd like to come with me, sir?

The Doctor astonished as she takes him by the hand and pulls him through the door, which SEALS UP, VANISHES, shwup!

CUT TO:

2 INT. TIME HOTEL CORRIDOR - DAY

2

And THE DOCTOR is in a TIME HOTEL CORRIDOR. Amazed.

THE DOCTOR

What? But! Anita???

FLASHBACK: fast IMAGES, Christmas 2024, Time Hotel, Anita!

ANITA

Hello, Doctor.

The biggest hug!

CUT TO:

3 INT. BONE PALACE - NIGHT

3

THE RANI and MRS FLOOD watching the SCREEN. Not pleased.

THE RANI

Magic door. He had an actual magic door, the little...

MRS FLOOD

Too late - !

WHIP ACROSS to the CLOCK -

- the MINUTE HAND hits MIDNIGHT!

CUT TO:

4 INT. RUBY & CARLA'S FLAT - DAY

4

FLASHBACK of Sc.7.67A, Ruby screaming, and -

RUBY'S BEDROOM: Ruby BOLTS AWAKE in BED! DAYLIGHT. All back to normal. What..?! And CARLA's putting a CUPPA by the bed.

CARLA

Happy morning. One more day to go,
it's May the 24th tomorrow!

CUT TO:

5 INT. JOHN & BELINDA'S BEDROOM - DAY

5

FLASHBACK Sc.7.67, Belinda in the corridor, vanishing, and -

BELINDA wakes up in BED! The ALARM CLOCK ringing at 7am. But this time, there's no John Smith to turn it off.

BELINDA

John..?

CUT TO:

6 INT. TIME HOTEL CORRIDOR/EXT. VIEW OVER LONDON - DAY

6

THE DOCTOR in a state of panic -

THE DOCTOR

- but the world was destroyed - !

ANITA

No no no, look look look -

She's got a PLASTIC KEY-CARD, swipes a DOOR (ALL DOORS are now PLAIN RECTANGLES). And she opens the door on to...

THE SUN RISING over a peaceful LONDON, in Conrad's World.

THE DOCTOR and ANITA in the doorway, looking at the city.

ANITA (CONT'D)

It's May the 23rd. Again. May the 24th never arrives, it resets, it gets to midnight, then it all clicks back to 7am on May the 23rd, it's done it hundreds of times.

THE DOCTOR

And we're...? In mid-air?

REVERSE: the DOORWAY is a rectangle SUSPENDED IN THE SKY.

ANITA

I've got the house-key. I can open a door anywhere.

They step back, INT. HOTEL, the door CLOSES, *shwup!*

THE DOCTOR

This is crazy. Anita. It's so good to see you. And...

Anita is clearly, wonderfully, six months pregnant.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Honey, someone else was pleased to see you too!

ANITA

Ricardo. Head of HR. He worries too much but he's lovely. And this is a baby boy, due in 3 months, if we ever get there, cos this place is in trouble!

And DISTANT ALARMS are sounding throughout, as she looks UP.

CUT TO:

7

EXT. TIME HOTEL - DAY

7

EXTERIOR FX SHOT of the TIME HOTEL, as Christmas 2024, but now the revolving sign has RED LETTERING: ABANDON HOTEL.

CUT TO:

8

INT. TIME HOTEL CORRIDOR - DAY

8

THE DOCTOR & ANITA step back, as RUBBLE FALLS down the central well of the Hotel.

ANITA

The Hotel's gone into spasm, cos we're in 4202 and the world keeps ending in 2025. As far as I can see, that woman-in-the-sky-

THE DOCTOR

- the Rani -

ANITA

- the Rani, she's a Time Lord too, yes? I've tried looking for your Tardis but I can't find it -

THE DOCTOR

Woah. Anita. You're talking Tardises and Time Lords, honey, when I left you, you were just...

ANITA

Ordinary.

THE DOCTOR

I did not say that.

ANITA

This job at the Time Hotel taught me so much! And on my days off... well, I'd go looking. For you. Because. Okay, I'm daft like that, and I suppose, I hoped. But then -

CUT TO:

9

INT. CUTAWAY, METAL WALL

9

CU ANITA (from a good while ago, before she was pregnant) opening a DEFAULT DOOR - she's blasted by WIND!

HER POV: she's opened Ep.1.1 Sc.57, CUTAWAY (not new material) the Doctor and the Bogeyman in the airlock -

Anita, buffeted, CLOSES the DOOR.

CUT TO:

10

INT. CUTAWAY, METAL WALL 2

10

CU ANITA before pregnancy, opening a DEFAULT DOOR, looks out -

HER POV, she's opened a door into Day of the Daleks (1973), the end of Part 3, the Daleks identifying the Third Doctor.

Oops, Anita CLOSES the DOOR.

CUT TO:

11 INT. CUTAWAY, REGENCY WALL - NIGHT

11

CU ANITA before pregnancy, opening a DEFAULT DOOR, looks out -
HER POV, CUTAWAY (not new material) Ep.1.6 Sc.21A, the Doctor
dancing with Rogue.

Anita realises, at last. 'Oh.' Discreetly CLOSES the DOOR.

CUT TO:

12 INT. TIME HOTEL CORRIDOR - DAY

12

ANITA

I ran from that, straight to
Ricardo so all's well that ends
well, but what about this... Rani?
What's she doing, why does Friday
the 23rd keep resetting itself?

THE DOCTOR

She needs the same day to repeat
itself, so it gets thinner and
thinner and thinner. Until it
snaps! And once it's broken, she
can see underneath the skin of
reality.

ANITA

What for?

THE DOCTOR

To find Omega, the most fearsome
Time Lord in the whole of
existence. Can you take me to her?

ANITA

I can't, that palace of hers is No
Entry. She's surrounded by a
Threshold. We can't get in.

CUT TO:

13 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

13

THE RANI and MRS FLOOD taking readings from the CONTROLS.

THE RANI

It says, that portal was the Time Hotel, December 2024. You were supposed to follow him everywhere!

MRS FLOOD

All right, I had Christmas off. And so did you! We're the same person!

THE RANI

That strutting little pompadour, he'll try to stop us. We can't wait for another midnight.

MRS FLOOD

We don't have to, the Seekers have
fixed the location, there!

On SCREEN: the boiling swirl of the UNDERVERSE, and in the
middle of the maelstrom...

A POINT OF LIGHT. Cold, metallic. Both in awe:

MRS FLOOD (CONT'D)

Omega. Creator of the Time Lords.
Our Lord and Master.

THE RANI

No one is Lord and Master of me.
Now. How to bring him home?

CUT TO:

14 INT. JOHN & BELINDA'S HOUSE - DAY

14

KITCHEN: BELINDA on edge, holding onto the reality of this
world, pretending to be happy as she gives POPPY breakfast.

BELINDA

You know Daddy. He works so hard!
And he's gone away with work,
that's what must have happened.
He's gone away, and he'll be back
tonight and he'll give you a great
big hug. And me. Daddy's coming
home, darling, I miss him so much!

HALLWAY: CAMERA looking at Belinda & Poppy, then craning UP.
And UPSTAIRS, in the OPEN DOOR to POPPY'S ROOM, a SHINE OF
LIGHT, the soft SIZZLE of Anita's default door, and...

CUT TO:

15 INT. POPPY'S BEDROOM/HALL/KITCHEN - DAY

15

THE DOCTOR with ANITA, Anita just CLOSING the DEFAULT DOOR.

For the Doctor, this is so strange. His old world. He picks
up a soft TOY. Hushed, so Belinda can't hear:

ANITA

Belinda woke up without you. But
every time the world resets, it
gets a bit bumpy. Things fall
through the gaps. One day, Norway
got forgotten for 20 minutes.

(MORE)

ANITA (CONT'D)
But everyone sort of compensates.
Like, they make the reality work.

THE DOCTOR
It's a world built on a wish.
Willed into existence by the Rani's
pet human, Conrad Clark.
(of the toy)
And I've got a daughter.

ANITA
But she's not real.

THE DOCTOR
How dare you?

And he means that. Anita alarmed. His stare; the Doctor
stone-cold furious that she said that. Silence, then solemn:

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
I have been in the halls of the
Goblin King. I have stood in
Palaces of the Daleks. I have
entered the caves of Satan himself.
But what's happened. In this tiny
little bedroom in the middle of
suburbia. Is bigger than anything.

BELINDA OOV
Hello...?

They FREEZE.

DOWNSTAIRS, in the HALL, BELINDA looking up, scared.

BELINDA
Is there someone there?

On the Doctor. The silence, the tension. Then, so sad:

THE DOCTOR
It's me.

BELINDA
Oh! You're home! I thought you
were... I don't know what I
thought.

THE DOCTOR
I'm coming down.

And the Doctor takes a deep breath. What he must do to
Belinda, now. And Poppy. Okay.

The Doctor heads downstairs.

HALLWAY: Belinda is so SCARED. Because she knows something is very wrong. She can see the edges of her world.

BELINDA
I'll make us some tea.

She hurries into the KITCHEN, like she's escaping him.

BELINDA (CONT'D)
Nice surprise. Daddy's here.
Isn't that wonderful, Poppy?

HALLWAY: the Doctor is walking slowly down the stairs. Just a man, in a house, and yet, it's like a God descending.

KITCHEN: Belinda puts the kettle on, puts down 2 MUGS, THUNK!

BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS, the Doctor, so calm, so grave, knowing what must be done, RIPS OPEN his JACKET, YANKS it BACK -

- and in the cut, no FX, as the jacket hits the FLOOR -
- the Doctor stands tall in his PROPER CLOTHES.

And Belinda's heart is hammering, as she PICKS UP POPPY. Holding her tight, with fear in her heart...

Belinda turns...

In the doorway: THE DOCTOR. Still and grave. A man in extraordinary clothes, with the face of her husband. An impossible man from another world, another time.

And he's so serious. So ancient. So new.

THE DOCTOR
Honey. I'm home.

SMASH! Both MUGS fall through the TABLE!

CUT TO:

16

INT. TIME HOTEL CORRIDOR - DAY

16

GOLDEN LIGHT of a DEFAULT DOOR, blurring, resolving, as...

BELINDA & POPPY step through.

Belinda AMAZED by the Hotel, the truth tumbling in her mind.

THE DOCTOR following, holds the door open for ANITA - she stays back, discreet - the DEFAULT DOOR closing behind them. And the Doctor goes to Belinda and Poppy, so kind, so gentle.

BELINDA

But I'm... I'm Belinda Chandra.
And you're Poppy. She's real! Oh
my God, you're the Doctor!
(to Poppy)
But you're real, you're real,
you're absolutely real!
(delighted, to the Doctor)
That life was make-believe, but...
here she is! We had a baby!

THE DOCTOR

In a single day!

BELINDA

And... who's that?

THE DOCTOR

This is Anita.

ANITA

I just work in hospitality, really.

BELINDA

We've got a child! But...
(scared)
Is she safe, Doctor? Please tell
me our daughter is safe.

THE DOCTOR

She's in danger.

He hugs them BOTH. Kisses the tops of their heads, fierce.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

But we will fight, Belinda. To
save her. Fight like never before.

CUT TO:

17

INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

17

The insurance office. EVERYONE at work, KATE at her desk,
CHRISTOFER at his, SUSAN TRIAD with her TROLLEY. The deadly-
dull silence of it. Motes of dust in the air. Tick tock.

And then... a noise, a SIZZLE. Kate looks up.

In a PLAIN WALL to one side, a horizontal LINE OF LIGHT is
appearing. Then a VERTICAL one. A DEFAULT DOOR.

KATE
What on earth..?

Christofer and OTHERS look up.

KATE (CONT'D)
Don't look! All of you! Keep
working! I said, keep working!

DOOR OPENS, THE DOCTOR walks out! A glimpse of ANITA - as the DOOR STAYS OPEN, a GOLD RECTANGLE, Anita ducks back, work to do, as the Doctor strides CENTRE. OWNING the room.

KATE (CONT'D)
Mr Smith? What on Earth do you
think you are wearing?!

THE DOCTOR
The future.

Kate looks round as ANOTHER DEFAULT DOOR starts to OPEN.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Just give it a second, guys. Cos
these are doorways into Real Time.
Allowing you to see the truth.

And Anita holds open the SECOND DOOR, pops back inside to...

...OPEN A THIRD DEFAULT DOOR, opposite side of the room.

The STAFF are staring, blinking. A BREEZE sweeps across the room, PAPERS scattering, as all begin to realise...

KATE
Mr Smith. Whatever this is. I
demand that you stop.

THE DOCTOR
Mr Smith is gone. I am the Doctor.

All hear the name and GASP, and -

SMASH! SMASH! SMASH! EVERY MUG falls through EVERY DESK!

CHRISTOFER
I'm wearing a suit!

KATE
I'm wearing tweed!

SUSAN TRIAD
I'm wearing nylon!

Anita OPENS a FOURTH DEFAULT DOOR, and -

BOOM! The big, wooden *DO NOT OPEN* CRATE... EXPLODES!

And there's THE VLINX!

THE VLINX
Danger! Sub-atomic disruption!

Kate furious, deep breath, and... SHOVES EVERYTHING off her DESK! TYPEWRITER, landline PHONE, PAPERS, FILES, on to the FLOOR, CRASH! And in the cut - no FX - her COMPUTER is back!

KATE
Doctor? What's happening?!

THE DOCTOR
Welcome back, Kate!

But then - WHOOMPH! The WHOLE ROOM ROCKS! BOOMPH! And again! RUBBLE and DUST fall from the CEILING.

KATE
What is it now?!

THE DOCTOR
Don't know! Never done this before! Hold on tight!

WIDE SHOT, everyone HOLDING ON, as a HUGE RIPPLE goes through the room, a ripple-in-reverse, going INWARDS, focusing on...

ONE CHAIR, which BUCKLES and RIPPLES and - a final WHOOMPH!

Sitting in the chair...

ROSE NOBLE. The Doctor runs to her! BIG HUG!

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Rosie Rosa Rosalie!

ROSE
But. It's like. I closed my eyes, for a second, and it lasted forever, and then... here I am!

THE DOCTOR
Conrad couldn't even imagine you. So you didn't exist! But now you're back, thanks to Anita!

ROSE
Thank you, Anita. Whoever you are!

ANITA
I'm in the hotel industry.

THE DOCTOR
Neet, I'm sorry, you need to stay
there and keep that door open,
honey. Keep the Real Time flowing.

Everyone standing, look at their clothes, each other, amazed.
The PORTABLE TVs are still showing Conrad, Ep.7 Sc.10. CONT.

KATE
Why is Conrad Clark on television?

SUSAN TRIAD
Never mind him, what the bloody
hell are those things?!

OUTSIDE the LOUVRED WINDOWS: a BONE BEAST, in the distance.
UNIT staff SHOCKED, seeing them properly for the first time.

THE DOCTOR
Bone Beasts. Creatures from the
Underverse. Cos when two realities
collide, you get friction, and the
friction creates these excited
atoms. And that summons the Bone
Beasts, they're like antibodies,
they sort of... graze. Feeding off
the atoms. Cleaning up the world.
And one more thing!

He indicates, the first Default Door.

BELINDA & POPPY walk through, in NORMAL CLOTHES. Big smile!

BELINDA
Hello, everyone. I'm Belinda.

THE DOCTOR
And this is our daughter, Poppy.

KATE
Well now you're going too far.

CUT TO:

18 EXT. DISPOSSESSED CAMP - DAY 18

A normal morning, again, at the camp, FOOD being cooked,
WASHING being pegged out. SHIRLEY calling across to WINNIE.

SHIRLEY
Morning, Winnie love. Another day
in paradise.

WINNIE
Happy May the 23rd!

SHIRLEY
Same to you. One more day to go.

CUT TO:

19 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

19

BACKGROUND, all still amazed - ROSE saying hello to BELINDA & POPPY, delighted! THE DOCTOR and KATE at her COMPUTER.

KATE
We had all UNIT personnel bio-
chipped, so we know where they are.
(looks closer)
We've only got a ten-mile radius,
but maybe we can use the chip to
signal them. And wake them up!

Kate STABS a KEY. RED LIGHT on screen PULSES, bleep, bleep.

CUT TO:

20 EXT. DISPOSSESSED CAMP - DAY

20

Bleep, bleep, bleep. A TINY RED LIGHT on SHIRLEY'S NECK, under the skin, begins to PULSE in time with the bleep. Shirley staring ahead. Realising. Looks round. AMAZED.

SHIRLEY
But. What the hell is going on?!

CUT TO:

21 OMITTED

21

22 EXT. JOHN & BELINDA'S STREET - DAY

22

MEL pours a DUSTPAN of BROKEN CROCKERY into a SLIP-BIN, as...
Bleep bleep bleep, a RED LIGHT under the skin of her NECK.

She realises! Blinks. Gasps! What...?!

CUT TO:

23 OMITTED 23

24 INT. RUBY & CARLA'S FLAT - DAY 24

KITCHEN, CARLA with little CLIFFORD, RUBY sitting with them, a version of Ep.2.7 Sc.31, but changing, this time round.

CARLA

You can't say things like that!
 Clifford is only 18 months old, he
 can't listen to doubts! He's going
 back to his mum tonight and we
 can't let those doubts spread,
 you've got to behave, Ruby. You
 can't go slandering Conrad.

But during this, slow track into Ruby, bleep bleep bleep.

A little red PULSE under the skin of her NECK...

...and, gasp! She REALISES!

CUT TO:

25 EXT. ROAD NEAR DISPOSSESSED CAMP - DAY 25

WINNIE, puzzled, on the pavement, as an excited SHIRLEY goes to the centre of the long, straight, car-free ROAD.

SHIRLEY

Winnie, I'm sorry about this. But
 I promise you, things will change.

WINNIE

I don't understand, it's just a
 normal day. Where are you going?

SHIRLEY

Me? I'm going to save the world.

Shirley presses a BUTTON, CLICK! ZOOM! The wheelchair ROARS down the ROAD, leaving FLAMING Delorean TYRE MARKS behind.

Winnie so delighted, she WHOOPS!

CUT TO:

26 EXT. JOHN & BELINDA'S STREET - DAY 26

ROAR! FEMALE NEIGHBOURS with DUSTPANS of CROCKERY scatter -
 MEL scorches out of her drive, down the street, on her VESPA!

CUT TO:

27 INT. RUBY & CARLA'S FLAT - DAY 27

RUBY fast, happy, a KISS for a puzzled CARLA, grabs her COAT, and as she runs to the FRONT DOOR, CHERRY's in her doorway.

CHERRY

Yu jus a run up and down like a mad sumaddy! What yu really doing?

RUBY

What I do best! Bye!

SLAM, she's gone!

CUT TO:

28 OMITTED 28

29 INT. CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY 29

CONRAD to the CAMERA, with his BOOK.

CONRAD

"And the Doctor said, no, Rani, I confess, you are wiser than me -"

- as THE RANI enters -

CONRAD (CONT'D)

- okay, let's repeat Chapter One!

MONITOR: Sc.7.10 FOOTAGE REPEATS as Conrad turns to the Rani, as the Rani goes to the COT, the BABY.

CONRAD (CONT'D)

Is it working? You said we had one more day to go.

THE RANI

We need to move a little faster.

(of the baby)

Sweet little Desidirium.

(MORE)

THE RANI (CONT'D)

If only you were older. You could imagine such complicated things.
(to Conrad)
Instead! I've got you.

CONRAD

I'll do anything for you, mistress.

THE RANI

Don't say that. You really are ridiculously handsome. I could tilt you on your side and serve olives in those dimples. But still! The Doctor! He's out there somewhere, and you hold all of the wish in your head, Conrad. Can you see him? Can you find the Doctor?

CONRAD

He's poison.

THE RANI

Then he will be visible. Out there. In the wild and the wishes.
(even closer)
Can you find him, Connie? For me?

Conrad's scared, reduced to a little boy in front of the Rani. He STARES AHEAD. Searching the world in his head.

CUT TO:

30

INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

30

BACK TO NORMAL. STAFF at DESKS, though all SCREENS are registering no contact with the rest of the world, all on RED ALERT, SIGNAL FAILURE, etc. CHRISTOFER & others just buckling up UNIFORMS & GEAR, ALL IN THE BACKGROUND to...

FAST JUMP CUTS, as THE DOCTOR sonics SUSAN TRIAD'S DESK, her SCREEN SCROLLS like crazy with CHARTS & DIAGRAMS.

THE DOCTOR

I need you to build me that. In record time. Can you do it?

SUSAN TRIAD

Consider it done, sir!

She runs off, as RUBY comes RUNNING IN - so excited!

RUBY

Doctor - !!

THE DOCTOR'S ARMS wide open for RUBY, the biggest HUG, WHAM!

JUMP CUT: SHIRLEY arriving. To the Doctor:

SHIRLEY

Don't go hugging me, you! I feel
like I haven't washed for days!

JUMP CUT, Ruby with BELINDA & POPPY, and ROSE, excited!

RUBY

Daughter?! D'you mean, an actual
daughter? That's amazing!

BELINDA

It's a surprise to me too!

ROSE

Well I didn't even exist! Anita
brought me back, say hello, Anita!

ANITA waves, holding her KEY-CARD to the WALL & DEFAULT DOOR
(and from now on, there's only ONE Default Door).

ANITA

I'm basically a hotelier.

BEEP BEEP! MEL, on her VESPA, RIDES IN, zooms down the
CENTRAL AISLE, into the space under the LOUVRED WINDOWS,
screeches to a halt, BRAKES. Taking off her CRASH-HELMET:

MEL

I have been. A housewife.

Coming out of jump-cuts now, as KATE strides forward - she's
been to the LOCKERS, now shucking on a different JACKET, more
herself. (B/G, Mel goes to give Ruby a hug, hello!)

KATE

Gold Protocols! Doctor on the
bridge. Update all of us, please.

And he addresses the whole room. So in control.

THE DOCTOR

Basically. We are facing the Unholy
Trinity. God of Wishes, crazy Time
Lady, and Conrad Clark. Mel, I'm
sorry, it's the Rani.

MEL

She's still alive...?

(to the room)

(MORE)

MEL (CONT'D)

I fought the Rani, when I travelled with the Doctor, all those years ago. I was lucky to survive!

THE DOCTOR

This should be the best day of my life. Another Time Lord. It means I'm no longer alone, except..

MEL

She's ruthless. Worse than ruthless, she's indifferent to any pain, or morality, or humanity. The whole universe is just an experiment to her.

THE DOCTOR

Now the Trinity has wished this world into existence. Conrad's World. But Conrad couldn't imagine everything! So he used us, we half-remembered ourselves, living his version of an ordinary life, all crushed and stifled and appalling.

RUBY

But if things are half-remembered... We met a girl called Poppy, Doctor. Exactly like her.

BELINDA

What does that mean...?

THE DOCTOR

It just makes it even more amazing, Bel. Little scraps of memories, yours and mine, they've come to life. In a child of our own!

And then the LIGHTS FLICKER, DIP.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

...and now we're in trouble.

THE VLINX

Caution! Incoming light stream!

And in the central space below the LOUVRED WINDOWS... THE RANI appears. A HOLOGRAM; she flickers, becomes REAL. At the same time, LIGHTS LOWER. It stays daylight outside, like a backdrop; the room SHADOWED, except for light in the central area. As the Doctor walks forward, all the OTHERS stand at the desks, half-lit like spectators in the stalls. Belinda stays with Poppy, more towards the back.

The Rani owns this theatrical space, in her element; maybe she even straddles Mel's Vespa at some point, so in control. But the Doctor's her equal. Two Time Lords, centre stage.

THE RANI

You really are an idiot, Doctor.
You had a whole world to hide in,
and you ran half a mile away.

THE DOCTOR

The Rani.

THE RANI

And Melanie!

MEL

We meet again.

THE RANI

After all these years, I thought you'd be dead. I thought, there's no way that painted doll of a princess could ever survive.

MEL

I never thought about you once.

THE RANI

Oh, you thought of me every night.

More serious; an old intimacy between Time Lords.

THE DOCTOR

Rani. The Time Lords were slaughtered. How did you survive?

THE RANI

...it was ferocious.

(silence)

But I saw it coming. The genetic explosion. I had a split-second, flipped my DNA, made a biological side-step. Survived the carnage.

THE DOCTOR

But how did you get to Earth? I have the only Tardis in existence.

A little reluctant, she holds up her arm. That BANGLE.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

(taking the piss)

Oof. Time Ring. Poor baby.

(to the others)

(MORE)

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

A Time Ring's like hitching a lift.
On a truck. A dirty truck. With
no roof. In winter.

THE RANI

It led me to you. Although. That
wasn't difficult.

(at Ruby)

Find a stupid blonde Earth girl,
and there you are.

RUBY

Excuse me?!

THE RANI

It was so tedious. Putting up with
you and your 57 mothers.

RUBY

I've never met you in my life!

The Rani CLICKS her fingers! FIZZ, and HOLOGRAM-MRS FLOOD appears, flickers, then REAL.

MRS FLOOD

All right, Rubes my darling?

RUBY

Mrs Flood?!

BELINDA

That's my neighbour!

RUBY

That's my neighbour!

THE DOCTOR

(to the room)

They're both the Rani.

THE RANI
We bi-generated.

MRS FLOOD
We bi-generated.

MRS FLOOD (CONT'D)

Obviously, I bow to the mistress.
But it took a lot of planning.
Spying on those two. "Cor blimey,
look at that police box!" And
pinning it all down to May the
24th, but I was brilliant, cos I
worked out, if I timed it around
the Star Register, then -

The RANI clicks her fingers, FLICKER, Mrs Flood DISAPPEARS.

THE RANI

It's like looking at old photos.

THE DOCTOR

But the plan is, Omega.

THE RANI

Splitting open the world, to reach
him. In the Underverse beneath.

THE DOCTOR

(to the room)

Every civilisation has a thousand
legends about a world hidden below.
The Upside Down. Or Narnia. Or
Hell. That's the Underverse.

THE RANI

To which Omega was banished.

KATE

My father fought Omega. Back in
the 1970s. He said he was a Titan,
he called him the Mad God.

THE DOCTOR

Omega was the first. The one who
discovered time travel. Some call
him the Original Sin of the Time
Lords. Cast out from Gallifrey.
Legend says, they bound him and
banished him, because he's insane.

THE RANI

The point is, he's alive! Exile to
the Underverse means he survived.

THE DOCTOR

You can't know that.

THE RANI

Alive or dead, he will work as a
gene bank. With his body, I can
resurrect the Time Lords. And
construct a new Gallifrey.

THE DOCTOR

Your Gallifrey!

THE RANI

Well, the Gallifrey of old never
did appreciate me. But this one!
This will be a power in the sky.

MEL

But. If you need the DNA of a Time Lord, there's you! The two of you.

THE RANI

I think she's asking us to mate.

THE DOCTOR

(to the room)

You don't understand, that's why...

He breaks off. Both the Doctor & the Rani sad, now, bruised.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I keep telling you, Poppy is so special. Because she's impossible. The child of a Time Lord.

BELINDA

And...?

THE DOCTOR

There's no such thing.

THE RANI

We're sterile.

THE DOCTOR

We are infertile.

THE RANI

The species is barren. We're a biological dead-end. There can never be another Gallifreyan child.

THE DOCTOR

Sometimes I think, that's what bi-generation is. A lifeforce trying anything to survive.

MEL

But what happened..?

THE RANI

That genetic explosion didn't kill us. But it roasted us. And sterilised us. Extinction is taking a bit longer, that's all.

BELINDA

So Poppy came out of the wish... Like an accident?

Poppy's near Belinda, and Belinda holds her, scared for her.

THE DOCTOR

The most beautiful accident.
That's what life does, it just
happens! A madwoman and a maniac
made a ridiculous plan, and out of
it... came her.

ROSE

But hold on, doesn't Poppy solve
everything? She's Time Lord DNA!

THE RANI

Well. Yes. Except.

A long pause.

THE RANI (CONT'D)

The mother.

BELINDA

What about me?

THE RANI

Human.

BELINDA

And?

THE RANI

The child is contaminated.

'Oh,' all around the room.

THE RANI (CONT'D)

I think I've lost the crowd.

BELINDA

You are disgusting.

THE RANI

And you are cattle. We're talking
about Time Lords here! The Highest
Universal Race, the greatest and
purest classification of life.

(at the Doctor)

Oh, he walks around like he's one
of you, but you're like insects to
him. Playthings. A fetish. And
right down deep in your hearts, you
know it. Now shut up, step aside,
let me build a new Gallifrey, and I
will leave your world untouched.

THE DOCTOR
But then the *wish ENDS!!*

His absolute fury.

Silence.

Belinda terrified. But strong. Stays calm.

BELINDA
What would happen to Poppy?

THE DOCTOR
She'd cease to exist.

BELINDA
No.

THE DOCTOR
She will vanish. In a whisper.

THE RANI
Doctor. I'm genuinely sorry. But
she is not real. She is made of
hopes and dreams and wishes.

THE DOCTOR
That's every child.

BELINDA
But if we don't end the wish...
this stays as Conrad's World?

THE RANI
Exactly.

SHIRLEY
We can't do that. That's not
happening, absolutely not.

(As per the Exec View 6 edit, Shirley actually says, "We
can't do that, absolutely not, that can not happen," so...)

Now Belinda faces down the entire room, magnificent.

BELINDA
Don't you tell me what we can and
can't do. Because I don't care
what UNIT thinks. Or Time Lords.
Or Gods, or anyone. I remember her
being my daughter, and if I
remember it, then it's true. And
not one of you is taking her out of
existence. Have you got that?
(MORE)

BELINDA (CONT'D)

Not *one* of you! Not while I'm here
to stop you.

And the Doctor turns back to the Rani as the Rani speaks
(Exec View 6, 21.06).

THE RANI

Quite the dilemma. I just came to
make an offer; stand with me,
Doctor, and set a new race of Time
Lords up on high. Or stay down
here with the beasts below.

THE DOCTOR

I swear. I will stop you.

And he LIFTS HIS SONIC. But the Rani calmly lifts HER SONIC, WHIRRS. The Doctor's SONIC SPARKS, ouch!, and he drops it.

THE RANI

The battle is on, Doctor. Good luck. Bye bye farmyard, I had fun.

Her HOLOGRAM begins to FLICKER. But she looks across at Christofer, sly, makes that phone-to-ear gesture.

THE RANI (CONT'D)

Call me.

Then to the Vlinx.

THE RANI (CONT'D)

And you.

Flicker, LIGHTS back to NORMAL, and she's GONE.

CUT TO:

31 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

31

THE RANI striding across the room, all energy -

THE RANI

How close are we?

MRS FLOOD

Target fixed! And approaching!

The CLOCK and the SEAL OF RASSILON GLOW with ENERGY and...

A TUNNEL of LIGHT FLICKERS into existence, the energy flowing FROM THE CLOCK, into THE SEAL.

THE RANI

Trouble is, the UNIT Tower is a tinderbox of weapons. But if we fake an excitation of its atoms...

She presses BUTTONS, and on the SCREEN:

The entire UNIT TOWER shimmers with RED PARTICLES.

CUT TO:

32 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

32

THE DOCTOR picking up the SONIC from the floor, when the whole ROOM goes RED. All look up. The red light STOPS.

THE DOCTOR
She's provoking the Bone Beasts. I
think we're at war.

CUT TO:

33 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

33

THE RANI
Bone Beasts are antibodies. They
will perceive the Tower as an
infection. And remove it.

CUT TO:

34 EXT. CENTRE OF LONDON - DAY

34

A slow, lumbering BONE BEAST lifts its head. BELLOW!

A SECOND BONE BEAST lifts its head, BELLOW!

Half a mile away. THE UNIT TOWER.

And all the Bone Beasts turn towards it, SHRIEK with RAGE!

CUT TO:

35 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

35

FAST! ALARMS! TECHNICIANS & SOLDIERS are installing a NEW DESK, CENTRE, facing the other desks, a BATTLE COMMAND - big LEVERS and a big METAL WHEEL. THE DOCTOR helping to PLUG IN the final CABLES. KATE stands at the helm, supreme.

KATE
Attention all staff, this Tower is
going into Battle Mode! Combat
team, attend your stations! Now!

ALARMS sound! And CHRISTOFER flips a DESKTOP - it literally revolves 180, and the underside, now the TOP, has RADAR SCREENS and LEVERS acting as JOYSTICKS.

CUT TO WIDER: ALL DESKTOPS now flipped to Battle Mode, STAFF busy at the CONTROLS. The Doctor running across the room -

THE DOCTOR
Mel Mel Melanie, unlock the Indigo
Device, Rose, I want you to bio-
sync Ruby for the flight -

ROSE
I'm on it!

RUBY
Did you say flight?!

- calling across to ANITA, at her DEFAULT DOOR -

THE DOCTOR
- Anita, hold that door open, keep
the Real Time flowing -

- as the Doctor reaches BELINDA and POPPY.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Trust me, Bel. We're going to
Floor Minus 10, come on!

- and the Doctor, and Belinda with Poppy, HEAD FOR THE LIFTS.

KATE
Activating weapons platform!

CUT TO:

36 EXT. UNIT TOWER - DAY

36

THRUM of HYDRAULICS as the HELIPAD DESCENDS. In the
distance, a BONE BEAST approaching, ROARING!

CUT TO:

37 INT. FLOOR MINUS 10 - DAY

37

A wide, industrial SUBTERRANEAN SPACE, half a mile
underground. In the middle, TECHNICIANS ARC-WELDING, SPARKS
FLY, cabling up a METAL BOX, the size of an ELEVATOR. CABLES
run to a separate CONTROL DESK, SUSAN TRIAD at the controls,
wiring panels and bashing components together like crazy.

THE DOCTOR and BELINDA with POPPY hurry in. To Susan:

THE DOCTOR
Is it ready?!

SUSAN TRIAD
If I have to hold it together with
my bare hands, yes, it's ready.

BELINDA
What is that thing?

THE DOCTOR
I call it a Zero Room.

And they approach the ZERO ROOM. One side open. It's completely BLANK AND EMPTY inside. And yet, it's scary, somehow, humming with power. With caution and awe:

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
We're half a mile underground.
Shielded from all signals. And the room inside that thing. Oh, babes. It's beyond time and space. It will exist outside reality.

BELINDA
So, we...?

THE DOCTOR
We put Poppy in there. We seal her in. And if the wish comes to an end and we open it up...

BELINDA
Poppy will still exist.

THE DOCTOR
I hope.

BELINDA
You hope?

SUSAN TRIAD
I will do everything I can to make it work. I owe the Doctor my life, Miss Chandra, I won't let him down.

BELINDA
But Poppy goes in there, on her own? Because I'm telling you. She does not. I'm going with her.

The Doctor's delighted, but can't make Belinda do it.

THE DOCTOR
Could you...?

BELINDA
I'm not leaving her. And I can't help you in the fight, my battle is in there. Saving my daughter.

THE DOCTOR

But if the Rani wins and we're destroyed, you could be locked in there for all eternity. You wouldn't starve, or age, or suffocate, you'd just... be. Forever.

BELINDA

With Poppy?

THE DOCTOR

With Poppy.

BELINDA

Let's do it.

SUSAN TRIAD

Systems primed. Null-space active.

THE DOCTOR

(hugs Belinda)

Good luck, Bel. I love you.

(to Poppy, kisses her)

And I love you, Poppy. Be safe.

CUT TO:

38

EXT. CENTRE OF LONDON - DAY

38

A BONE BEAST ROARS! And concentric circles of SOUND WAVES RIPPLE in a transparent TUNNEL from its OPEN MAW...

CUT TO:

39

INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

39

THE ENTIRE LOUVRED WINDOW shatters! GLASS falls! KATE and STAFF duck, recover. She yells a command:

KATE

Open the Parallax Cannons! Fire!

SHIRLEY and STAFF pull LEVERS -

CUT TO:

40

EXT. UNIT TOWER - DAY

40

BELOW the 55th Floor, OPPOSITE the Helipad-side, LARGE VENTS open, and two HUGE STEEL CANNONS emerge, extend and LOCK.

The Parallax Cannons fire, BLUE BOLTS of ENERGY!

The Bone Beast is HIT! It lurches, a high, wild SCREAM.

CUT TO:

41 INT. FLOOR MINUS 10 - DAY

41

Room SHUDDERS. DUST from the CEILING. Bone-screams outside.

Belinda steps into the ZERO ROOM, turns, holds out her arms for POPPY. The Doctor has no choice. Hands Poppy to her.

BELINDA

What if it doesn't work?

THE DOCTOR

I think... We won't remember. She will fade away like gossamer. It'll be like Poppy never existed.

But mother and father are now so strong:

BELINDA

That will never happen.

THE DOCTOR

Never! Because it all makes sense, now. I was meant to meet you, Belinda. In the future. And now. And Conrad telling me your name so I'd come and find you. All for this. So Poppy can live.

Then the Doctor steps back.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Close it.

Susan Triad pulls LEVERS. TECHNICIANS watch, scared.

The DOOR of the ZERO ROOM begins to CLOSE. Slowly.

Belinda with a brave smile. Poppy's little face.

The Doctor watching the door.

The GAP closing, closing...

And it SEALS SHUT.

CUT TO:

42 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY 42

KATE at the COMMAND DESK, CHRISTOFER slams LEVERS beside her.

KATE
Double Galvanic Beams, *fire!*

CUT TO:

43 EXT. UNIT TOWER - DAY 43

TWO GALVANIC BEAMS on the HELIPAD, now returned to Floor 55, and they OPEN FIRE, bright RED BEAMS blasting across.

BONE BEAST 2, half a mile away, HIT! Screams!

CAMERA ZOOMING AROUND the UNIT Tower, the Galvanic Beams firing RED from the Helipad, the Cannons firing BLUE from the opposite side. Bone Beasts taking the HITS, but not falling.

And half a mile away, a THIRD BONE BEAST advances.

CUT TO:

44 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY 44

Controlled CHAOS, KATE & CHRISTOFER at the COMMAND DESK, at the controls, SHIRLEY & STAFF at their DESKS, all slamming LEVERS to fire weapons, small FIRES breaking out, TECHNICIANS with EXTINGUISHERS racing to extinguish them.

RUBY with ROSE and MEL, Ruby hoisting on the INDIGO DEVICE - a small METAL BACKPACK with shoulder straps and a CONTROL PANEL at the front (last seen in 2009's The Stolen Earth). Rose INJECTING Ruby's ARM, Mel with a HANDSET to programme CONTROLS. (Around them, UNIT AT WAR, crash, glass, bang!)

RUBY
What's that for?

ROSE
It's like a bio-sync-thing, it makes the software respond to you.

MEL
The Indigo Device is a transmat.
Like a matter transporter. You'll be fine, as long as you don't -

Ruby, hoisting it on, PRESSES a shoulder-strap YELLOW BUTTON.

BOOMPH! Ruby VANISHES and...

BOOMPH! Ruby REAPPEARS 10 feet way!

MEL (CONT'D)
- press the yellow button.

RUBY
Oh my God, it really works!

- THE DOCTOR runs in - going to Mel, taking the Device's HANDSET, pressing in COORDINATES. Over the background NOISE:

THE DOCTOR
Press the blue button! That'll get you to Conrad. So you can stop him, and bring the wish to an end.

RUBY
How do I do that? What do I do?
Can I punch him?!

KATE
Yes you can!

WHAM!, room SHUDDERS, RUBBLE & GLASS fall.

KATE (CONT'D)
Parallax Cannons, East 21.6. Fire!

RUBY
But what about Anita and her Magic Doors?!

ANITA still holding ONE DEFAULT DOOR OPEN, with her KEY-CARD.

ANITA
I'm just a hotelier, really.

RUBY
Can't you get us into the Palace?

THE DOCTOR
Anita needs to keep that door open, or you lot will slip back into the wish. But! The Bone Palace is protected. It has a Threshold. If you tried to transmat inside it right now, you'd be puréed, baby!

RUBY
Nice!

THE DOCTOR
I need to get in there. To lower the Threshold. And stop the Rani.

MEL
How are you going to do that?

THE DOCTOR
Oh, I tricked her.

FLASHBACK: Sc.30, The Rani sonicking the Doctor's sonic.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
I copied her coding.

And he holds up the SONIC and WHIRRS.

CUT TO:

45 OMITTED 45

46 EXT. BONE PALACE, DOCKING BAY - DAY 46

The Docking Bay closed off from the Bone Palace, DOORS CLOSED, the Threshold intact. So no one sees, as...

The FLYING PLATFORM judders, blinks into LIFE. Under automatic control, it RISES. Flies up and away!

CUT TO:

47 OMITTED 47

48 OMITTED 48

49 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY 49

CHRISTOFER at the COMMAND DESK, with KATE.

CHRISTOFER
Bone Beast Three out of range!

KATE seizes the WHEEL. And it really is exactly like a SHIP'S WHEEL, as Kate HAULS IT ROUND.

KATE
We are turning! West 44.5! All personnel, hold on tight!

And the WHOLE ROOM *LURCHES* - !

CUT TO:

50 EXT. UNIT TOWER - DAY

50

The WHOLE BUILDING from FLOOR 55 UPWARDS begins to REVOLVE. Slowly, but remorselessly, the Tower GRINDING, CREAKING.

The GALVANIC BEAMS & PARALLAX CANNONS firing as it turns!

CUT TO:

51 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

51

All *TILTING* as KATE HAULS the WHEEL and the ROOM TURNS, STAFF hold on, the view sliding past outside the LOUVRED WINDOWS.

THE DOCTOR runs to the HELIPAD DOORS, OPENS them. WIND whips in, and he looks out, grinning, as LONDON swings round below.

And the Helipad swings to face the THIRD BONE BEAST.

KATE
Galvanic Beams at maximum! Fire!

CUT TO:

52 EXT. UNIT TOWER - DAY

52

The GALVANIC BEAMS FIRE from the TURNING TOWER!

Now facing the THIRD BONE BEAST! It's HIT, staggers! ROARS!

CUT TO:

53 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

53

THE FLYING PLATFORM descends to THE DOCTOR in the OPEN HELIPAD DOORS. He hops on, yelling back to the ROOM -

THE DOCTOR
Shirley! Monitor the Threshold on Frequency 5, as soon as it falls, Ruby, activate the Indigo Device!

KATE
Fly well, Doctor.

THE DOCTOR
And if we die here today! God, I
love you lot.

SHIRLEY
Shut up and go!

And the Doctor SONICS the Platform. It RISES UP. And OUT...

CUT TO:

54 EXT. SKY ABOVE LONDON - DAY

54

THE DOCTOR on the FLYING PLATFORM, high above London.

And he soars through MADNESS.

He flies around DOUBLE GALVANIC BEAMS, as the TOWER revolves -
- around screaming BONE BEAST 3 -

- around to BONE BEAST 2, as it's battered and scorched by
BLUE PULSES from the revolving PARALLAX CANNONS -

- past that, to BONE BEAST 1, as it rallies, and OPENS ITS
MAW, that rippling TUNNEL OF SOUND blasting out, and the
Doctor flies AROUND the sound-beam! YELLING all the way!

CUT TO:

55 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

55

The SOUND-BEAM hits, SMASH! GLASS falls from the CEILING.

All duck! CHRISTOFER covers KATE to protect her.

CUT TO:

56 INT. FLOOR MINUS 10 - DAY

56

The ROOM SHAKES! RUBBLE & DUST fall from the roof.

SUSAN TRIAD
Protect the retrofold cables! Keep
the red-links connected!

TECHNICIANS run to make repairs, SUSAN TRIAD manic, brilliant, throwing LEVERS. SPARKS fly from her DESK!

CUT TO:

57 INT. ZERO ROOM

57

A startling CUT TO ABSOLUTE SILENCE in a BLANK ROOM. BELINDA holding POPPY. Both completely removed from the world outside. Belinda hoping, hoping, with all of her heart.

CUT TO:

58 EXT. SKY ABOVE LONDON - DAY

58

SLAMMING back into NOISE - guns, lasers, bone-screams! - as THE DOCTOR, on his PLATFORM, ACCELERATES and PLUNGES DOWN - - towards the BONE PALACE - - he grits his teeth - here we go - !

CUT TO:

59 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

59

THE RANI and MRS FLOOD turn, aware, at the last second -

S M A S H ! ! ! !

THE DOCTOR FLIES IN through the DOCKING BAY DOORS! The Doctor and the PLATFORM and a million SHARDS of GLASS!

The Doctor falls, HITS THE FLOOR, WHAM!

The platform SKIDS across the FLOOR, in a SHOWER OF SPARKS - - and it BREAKS THROUGH the BEAM of light between the CLOCK and the SEAL, the beam ripping into nothingness, GONE!

CUT TO:

60 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

60

SHIRLEY
Threshold down!!

RUBY with ROSE & MEL. Oh God. She PRESSES the BLUE BUTTON.

BOOMPH! She VANISHES!

CUT TO:

61 INT. CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY

61

BOOMPH! RUBY appears! But she's disorientated, woah!, staggers, tumbles to her knees. And then, as she looks up...

There's CONRAD CLARK.

Holding a GUN.

CONRAD

Like I wasn't ready for you.

CUT TO:

62 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

62

THE DOCTOR on the FLOOR. Dazed. Bruised. Looks up.

The PLATFORM skidded across the room, hit the wall, lying in a corner now, broken. And in front of him...

The SEAL of RASSILON is GLOWING with POWER.

He stands, staggers back. Behind him, THE RANI & MRS FLOOD plus DRONEGUARDS, who RAISE GUNS, ka-chik! All near the CLOCK; the energy from Clock to Seal has stopped, now.

MRS FLOOD

You were too late, Doctor. The portal has locked on to its target!

THE RANI

And you're really very obvious, I know you haven't arrived with a weapon. Only a speech. Some dazzling words. Maybe a pun. And then some lachrymose little tug-the heartstrings mimosa-scented platitudes about the power of love.

MRS FLOOD

But aren't you tempted, Doctor? To start again? The Time Lords reborn?

And the Doctor seems uncertain now.

THE DOCTOR

The Time Lords. Of Omega. Were tyrants and murderers.

THE RANI

Then rebuild them. With us.
You're not amongst the humans now,
stop pretending. You are a Lord of
Time and Space, now act like it!

MRS FLOOD

Don't you want to see him? The Almighty One? Don't you?

THE DOCTOR

...yes.

And even the Doctor is tempted, as he looks at the Seal...

MRS FLOOD

Omega locked and approaching. Here he comes. Back to reality.

The SEAL OF RASSILON changes its curves and lines, peeling away to become a NEW PATTERN. Based around the OMEGA SYMBOL. The CIRCLE now in cold, hard, burnished STEEL.

More like a huge, circular DOOR.

The noise of the battle falls away. The Doctor fascinated.

THE DOCTOR

What is that, a doorway..?

THE RANI

The Tomb of Omega. Or his prison. His asylum? I suggest we find out.

She walks forward, to CENTRE. Holds out her SONIC. WHIRRS.

CUT TO:

63

INT. CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY

63

RUBY facing CONRAD. She's so still, so careful, so wise.

RUBY

I want to say thank you.

CONRAD

Oh, sure.

RUBY

I mean it. Because Conrad's World.

(pause)

It could have been so much worse. A fantasy world, I'd expect girls and whisky and guns, but yours is nice. It's actually... nice.

He doesn't lower the gun, but relaxes it, a little.

CONRAD

I did what he said.

RUBY

Who?

CONRAD

The Doctor. He told me. People just want to be safe and warm and fed. So that's what I did.

RUBY

And you tried to give everyone a family. Cos that's where you...

CONRAD

What?

Now Ruby dares to say...

RUBY

All that time we spent together. You never mentioned your dad. You never, ever mentioned your father. And I wonder why.

Conrad, still holding the gun, raw, on the edge, tearful.

CUT TO:

64

INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

64

THE RANI holding up her SONIC, as it goes... PING-PING.

THE RANI

A heartbeat.

MRS FLOOD

A double heartbeat.

THE RANI

Omega lives.

And now ALL THE SEEKERS mutter:

SEEKERS

Omega Omega Omega Omega Omega

Never-stopping, a bed of sound; the Rani triumphant, CENTRE, THE DOCTOR standing back with MRS FLOOD and the DRONEGUARDS, still with their GUNS RAISED. The Rani calls to the Symbol:

THE RANI
I summon you! Creator of the Time
Lords. Come back to this world!

A CLANK from the SYMBOL OF OMEGA. Like a HUGE UNLOCKING.

The Doctor scared. But dying to see...

An almighty GRIND. The GIANT SYMBOL shifts, now a CIRCULAR
DOORWAY, hinged on one side, slowly OPENING. One INCH.

A sliver of WHITE LIGHT in the gap.

The Seekers chanting, stronger: Omega, Omega, Omega...

CUT TO:

65 INT. CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY

65

CONRAD so on edge. GUN shaking.

CONRAD
You don't know me at all.

RUBY
But some of it was true, you and
me. Cos I was there, Conrad. In
the dark. When I made you smile.
That was real.

FLASHBACKS: the two of them. From Ep.2.4. In the park. In
the cafe, the bar, the village, with mates. Good times.

Conrad uncertain. Lowers the gun, just a little...

CUT TO:

66 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

66

THE RANI facing THE SYMBOL OF OMEGA.

It creaks OPEN another INCH. More LIGHT creeping out.

THE RANI
Droneguards. Stand by.

DRONEGUARDS tighten their grip on their GUNS.

THE DOCTOR and MRS FLOOD staring, scared, but so fascinated.

But.

They are expecting a door to open, to see a man inside.

But CLAWS emerge. Gripping the door through the gap.

HUGE CLAWS. The talons of an ENORMOUS BEAST.

THE RANI (CONT'D)

What..?

The DOOR SWINGS OPEN FULLY.

And THE BEAST OF OMEGA screams!

IT FILLS the entire door, a HUGE, WILD MONSTER. Once a man, now EXPANDED and CONTORTED; a SKULL OF A HEAD with EMPTY EYE SOCKETS, and by coming out through the Symbol, it's forced into a circular-door-shape like toothpaste from a tube. HEAD & SPINE & BODY roughly TUBULAR, EXTRUDING from the DOORWAY.

Except for its ARMS, CLAWING the FLOOR. Pulling itself out.

THE DOCTOR

Rani, get back!

THE RANI

But what is it..?

THE DOCTOR

The Underverse is a world of legend! So Omega has *become* his legend! He is the Mad God! The Titan! The Original Sin!

And Omega's voice comes from Hell.

THE BEAST OF OMEGA

Hungry

The Rani lifts up her SONIC, WHIRRS at it -

THE RANI

Well, I think you'll find -

But a HUGE CLAW reaches out and PICKS HER UP, SWOOP!

LIFTS the Rani up INTO THE AIR. Dangling like a delicacy.

She SCREAMS!

And then...

Omega SWALLOWS HER WHOLE!

One mouthful, WHUP, down that tube of a body, GULP, GONE!
The ECHO OF HER SCREAM going all the way down to its ribcage.

The Rani's BANGLE clatters to the FLOOR.

The Beast BELLOWs! SOUND WAVES like bone-screams RIPPLE OUT.

The Doctor and Mrs Flood FLINCH, blasted by the WAVES.

SEEKERS scream and COLLAPSE on to their DESKS, dead.

THE DRONEGUARDS' heads EXPLODE, as in Ep.2.6 Sc.95.

CUT TO:

67 INT. CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY

67

Explosions heard, from off, making CONRAD's head turn -

RUBY steps forward -

But no! Conrad STRAIGHTENS the GUN! Aiming RIGHT AT HER.

CUT TO:

68 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

68

THE DOCTOR runs forward, CENTRE OF THE ROOM.

THE DOCTOR

Omega! Omega!! Remember me?!

THE BEAST OF OMEGA looks at him. Like considering an insect.

THE BEAST OF OMEGA

My. LiTTle Doktor.

THE DOCTOR

It's been a very long time. And
let me introduce, the Rani -

He looks round.

But MRS FLOOD'S picking up the BANGLE, slips it on her WRIST.

MRS FLOOD

So much for the two Ranis, it's a
goodnight from me.

And WHOOSH, a SPIN OF LIGHT, and she's GONE!

THE DOCTOR
Ohh *thanks* - !

And now the Doctor faces the Beast of Omega.

Alone.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Omega. The very first Time Lord.
May I ask. What is your intent?

THE BEAST OF OMEGA
I **aM** fReE. To FEasT. UpoN this
WorLd. NonE. sHALL STOp Me.

THE DOCTOR
Then there's nothing I can do. I
stand here. Without hope or help.
Thinking. If only.
(a glint in his eye)
If only I had a weapon. Hiding in
plain sight. Oh wait a minute!

And the Doctor simply turns round -

- and LIFTS from the CLOCK-FACE, which is RIGHT BEHIND HIM -
THE VINDICATOR!

The Doctor swings back round to face Omega, and KA-CHIK! The
Vindicator is now exactly like a GUN. It IS a gun!

And he aims it at the Beast of Omega.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
A weapon with the power of *one*
billon supernovas!

And he FIRES!!

A MIGHTY BEAM of thick, bristling, jagged ENERGY funnels out
of the VINDICATOR and HITS the Beast of Omega! It SCREAMS!

CUT TO:

69

INT. CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY

69

And RUBY presses her YELLOW BUTTON!

BOOMPH! She's GONE!

Conrad: what?! It takes him a vital second to TURN 180° -

All this time, Conrad's been standing IN FRONT OF THE COT. To protect the BABY. But now Ruby has the baby IN HER ARMS.

She KISSES the baby's forehead.

And she is kind.

RUBY

Conrad. I wish you to be happy.

And Conrad, amazed... FADES AWAY.

CUT TO:

70 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

70

THE DOCTOR yelling with RAGE, FIRES the VINDICATOR again!

THE DOCTOR

Back into Hell!

THE BEAST OF OMEGA being BLASTED by the BEAM, forced back into the circumference of the DOOR, shrieking, bellowing, CLAWS holding on to the RIM, but being PUSHED BACK, BACK -

The Doctor ADVANCES, firing, firing, firing.

And with a huge cre-e-e-a-k, the SYMBOL SWINGS SHUT, WHAM!

CUT TO:

71 INT. CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY

71

RUBY kisses the BABY's FOREHEAD.

RUBY

End the wish.

CUT TO:

72 INT. BONE PALACE - DAY

72

THE DOCTOR has barely a second to pause, as...

HALF THE ROOM fades away in front of him. As the wish peels out of existence, he's suddenly facing BLUE SKY and LONDON below. But there's a danger he could FALL, woah!

The Doctor throws the dead Vindicator away, and RUNS -

CUT TO:

73 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - DAY

73

KATE
Hold your fire, hold your fire!

And a SILENCE falls across the room.

CUT TO:

74 EXT. CENTRE OF LONDON - DAY

74

THE BONE BEASTS stumbling and... FADING AWAY.

The LEGS of the BONE PALACE cease to exist, one by one.

A PLANE flies in, life going back to normal.

CUT TO:

75 INT. CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY

75

RUBY, holding the BABY, amazed, as all around her...

CONRAD'S ALL-WHITE ROOM seems to EXPAND. His simple BED MOVING AWAY from her, with that DOLLY-ZOOM feeling.

To the other side, the BOOKCASE DOLLY-ZOOMS away.

Ruby realises the truth, as it all becomes clear. The objects are receding down long WHITE WALKWAYS. The WHITENESS is gaining ROUNDELS. The space revealing itself to be...

CUT TO:

76 INT. TARDIS

76

RUBY, with the BABY, finds herself by the CONSOLE.

Conrad was inside the Tardis all along. Now, down one WALKWAY, Conrad's BED. Down another, his BOOKCASE. All his belongings scattered across the wide open space.

CUT TO:

77 INT. CORRIDOR & CONRAD'S ROOM - DAY

77

THE DOCTOR runs into the CORRIDOR, and, yes! He'd HOPED!

The BONE-WHITE DOOR fades into the TARDIS DOOR. And the Doctor's got his KEY, frantic, runs inside -

CUT TO:

78 INT. TARDIS

78

RUBY with the BABY as THE DOCTOR runs in - both in FEAR, as the Doctor hits the CONTROLS and the Tardis goes into FLIGHT.

Ruby's quiet, fearing for Poppy's life. Of the baby:

RUBY
Can't we wish for Poppy..?

THE DOCTOR
But then she might vanish. When I do this. Because I must.

And he leans over. KISSES the baby's forehead.

A whisper.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
No more wishes.

And the baby... is just a baby.

That THUMP of the TARDIS as it LANDS, the room settling.

The Doctor so scared of what comes next.

Please, oh please.

CUT TO:

79 INT. FLOOR MINUS 10 - DAY

79

THE DOCTOR looks out of the TARDIS DOOR.

There's the ZERO ROOM. Still closed.

SUSAN TRIAD at the CONTROL DESK, lowering LEVERS to close it down, the HUM OF POWER dying away. But she looks at the Doctor, fearful. Of the Zero Room:

SUSAN TRIAD
I don't know.

The Doctor heads towards the Zero Room.

RUBY - now with no Indigo Device - comes out of the Tardis, with the BABY, but scared. TECHNICIANS keep back, worried.

Floor Minus 10 DOOR, KATE and CHRISTOFER arrive. So scared.

The Doctor pauses.

SHIRLEY, MEL, ROSE & ANITA arrive. They stay back.

All watch, holding their breath, as...

The Doctor walks forward.

Deep breath.

He operates a SWITCH on the Zero Room's side. The Zero Room DOOR hisses, grinds, clanks, slowly deciding to OPEN.

The Doctor stands back.

The door opening.

The Doctor watching.

Everyone watching.

And there's BELINDA.

And...

POPPY!

She's ALIVE! She EXISTS! She's REAL!

A whoop, from all, as the Doctor RUNS FORWARD. Takes Poppy in his arms. Kisses her, hugs Belinda, Belinda so happy!

EVERYONE CLAPS! So happy! So very happy! They come forward, in awe of Poppy, a hug for the Doctor, for Belinda, for each other. They did it, they did it, they did it.

The Doctor holds his daughter.

Sheer joy!

CUT TO:

THE DOCTOR holding the BABY.

CARLA's there, CHERRY in her dressing gown, and RUBY. The Doctor's handing the baby over to Carla.

THE DOCTOR

We don't know the parents. He's human by birth but we don't know where in time and space he's from.

RUBY

He's a foundling. Like me.

THE DOCTOR

Like me! So I thought, who do I know? Who's the best mother in the world...?

CHERRY

Me, but I'm too busy playing poker.

CARLA

But we can't just... I mean, there's paperwork, and all sorts.

The Doctor holds up his SONIC, WHIRRS.

THE DOCTOR

Paperwork all sorted.

CHERRY

Joseph, was my late husband's name.

RUBY

Joe Sunday. Little Joe Sunday. You keep bringing me family, Doctor. Now I get a brother.

THE DOCTOR

It's a month of Sundays.

CARLA

And what about you, Doctor? Ruby says you're a father, now.

CHERRY

I pity the child!

CARLA

But what will you do? You can't run around like a nutcase any more. Things will have to change.

THE DOCTOR

I know. Isn't it great?

And he's so happy!

CUT TO:

81

INT. TARDIS

81

BELINDA has got Carla's old COT, from Christmas 2023, beside the CONSOLE, POPPY inside it, as THE DOCTOR and RUBY walk in (outside, Carla's bedroom, they parked in the flat).

BELINDA

She's too big for this already, aren't you, Poppy? She'll climb out! This place is a death trap!

THE DOCTOR

I know! We'll need rails! Safety rails all the way around! It's going to look amazing!

RUBY

But what are you going to do? The three of you. Settle down?

BELINDA

Absolutely not! My daughter does not get to live a boring life! We can go anywhere and everywhere and show her everything.

(of Poppy's jacket)

Oh you're too hot in that, Pops.

It's a PUFFY JACKET, Belinda taking it off Poppy.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

It's always cold in here. For the first time, it's too warm.

THE DOCTOR

That's the Tardis, accommodating.

RUBY

But there's still one thing I don't understand. How come my memory was different? Why did I remember things that no one else did?

THE DOCTOR

I. Have. No. Idea. But we've seen a lot of strange things together, Ruby-roo. Maybe something kind of... jolted your mind. So you see things better!

RUBY

It's a skill!

THE DOCTOR
It's a skill!

Belinda's got Poppy out of the coat.

And now Ruby stands back. Watching the Doctor and Belinda, both at the console. These brand-new parents.

Belinda hands the Doctor the JACKET, and he FOLDS IT while talking. Then he HANDS IT BACK to Belinda. She folds it, hands it back to him. Then, like a little game, they FOLD IT, on every line, HAND IT BACK, the jacket going to and fro.

BELINDA
We'll need all sorts of things.
Like, a room, for toys.

THE DOCTOR
We can do that. I can change the Tardis into anything. We can have a room off there! Or anywhere!

BELINDA
I wonder where we take her first.
She could see Neptune. No, we can take her to Kerala.

THE DOCTOR
I've never been. All the universe, and I have never been there.

BELINDA
We can go and see my Uncle Roo. He is wonderful!

THE DOCTOR
In the year 60,000, there's a planet called New New Delhi.

BELINDA
We're going there! Isn't it funny?
I used to say, take me home.

THE DOCTOR
Now you want to stay! I knew it.
I knew I'd get you in the end.

BELINDA
I want to see planets and galaxies.
I want to see the Big Bang!

But DURING THIS...

As they pass the JACKET... it gets THINNER.

Ruby watches this happening, transfixed.

The jacket becomes a bit less puffy. Then less. Then less. With every fold and pass, it becomes less, until it's just thin fabric. Then it becomes a cloth with the design printed on it. Then it becomes a piece of cloth which is blank. Then the blank cloth gets thinner, as it's passed and passed.

And finally, Belinda hands the Doctor the thinnest cloth.

THE DOCTOR
We will have. The best of times.

And he WIPES HIS HANDS.

The cloth is GONE.

And Ruby *knows*. So scared, as she moves to look at the COT.

Which is EMPTY.

RUBY
Where's she gone?

THE DOCTOR
Who?

RUBY
Poppy.

BELINDA
Who's Poppy?

Oh no.

RUBY
But.

The Doctor and Belinda just busy, happy, as the Doctor gets out that TUBE containing Belinda's STAR REGISTER (Ep.2.1).

THE DOCTOR
One more thing! Gotta sort this out! Cos the Robots from Missbelindachandra One -

BELINDA
- Ruby, I had a whole planet named after me! It was so mad!

The Doctor presses CONTROLS, and the Tardis goes into FLIGHT, the TIME ROTOR moving. The Doctor runs to the Tardis DOORS unrolling the REGISTER - passing Ruby, and the cot -

THE DOCTOR

- they picked up the Star Register in the future. After the Rani destroyed the Earth. Now, the planet is not destroyed! So I need to throw this thing out into space! Then the Robots can find it.

The Doctor opens the doors, throws the Star Register OUT.

Then he goes back to BELINDA at the CONSOLE, passing the cot -

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

History is intact!

RUBY

Doctor, where's she gone?

THE DOCTOR

Who?

RUBY

Poppy.

THE DOCTOR

Who's Poppy?

RUBY

Your daughter.

THE DOCTOR

(laughs)

What d'you mean?

RUBY

You have a daughter, together, the two of you.

BELINDA

(laughs)

I think I'd remember that!

RUBY

But what d'you think this cot is -?

And she turns -

No cot. It's gone.

RUBY (CONT'D)

No. No no no, there was a little girl. Called Poppy.

THE DOCTOR

Long time ago. That space baby.
 Ruby, she's far away on a different
 world, I think your memory's got a
 little bit jumbled.

(to Belinda)

Now! Where shall we go?

BELINDA

There's a great big universe
 waiting for us!
 (echoes Sasha from Ep 201)
 Take me to the stars!

THE DOCTOR

Good good good, let me just make
 sure everything's back in place...

He THROWS LEVERS, *schunk!*, the jolt of the Tardis landing.

The Doctor and Belinda heading out of the Tardis. Ruby just
 watching them, following slowly, horrified.

BELINDA

Don't take too long. I want to see
 Mars as well! And the Moon, let's
 walk on the Moon!

And they go through the doors -

CUT TO:

82	OMITTED	82
83	(SEEN WITHIN SC.86)	83
84	OMITTED	84
85	OMITTED	85
86	INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - NIGHT	86

THE DOCTOR & BELINDA, then RUBY, step out of the TARDIS.
 It's landed towards the back of the room.

It's NIGHT. The room has been tidied and mostly reassembled.
 Rubble cleared. DESKS back to normal functions. Some areas
 behind HAZARD TAPE, still needing repairs. TECHNICIANS just
 soldering a final panel of the BIG WINDOW back into place.

Quiet, late-night atmosphere; KATE's there, and CHRISTOFER. SHIRLEY, MEL & SUSAN TRIAD at their desks, the VLINX watching, ANITA to the side, watching. Minimal STAFF, b/g.

MUCH OF THIS played off Ruby, standing back, her mind whirring, still slotting things into place.

MEL
Here comes trouble!

KATE
And you're just in time, Doctor.
Here it comes...

She brings up on the BIG SCREENS:

BIG BEN. Tolling TWELVE. The chimes resounding.

SHIRLEY
At last!

CHRISTOFER
It is now, officially, May the 24th. The day we thought would never arrive.

THE DOCTOR
Congratulations! Welcome to the 24th, welcome, welcome, welcome...

He gives Mel and others a hug. A little slightly-aware-hug between Kate and Christofer. Noted by Shirley.

CHRISTOFER
Happy May the 24th.

Anita calls across. She's holding her DOOR open, in the WALL. The Doctor runs over to her for a hug.

ANITA
And I'd better go. That signals the end of my time here, I think.

THE DOCTOR
Anita! You are amazing. Thank you! Good luck with the little one! And Ricardo! Lucky man!

KATE
You're very welcome to stay, Anita. You could work for UNIT, you'd be very useful, with a key like that.

ANITA

I'm so sorry. But they only gave me one day here. I'm not allowed to stay, there's too much to do.

She steps through the door, but stops, looks back.

ANITA (CONT'D)

They say hello, by the way.

THE DOCTOR

Who does?

ANITA

The Boss.

And the door CLOSES, its GOLDEN LINES fade away, GONE.

THE DOCTOR

Okay. Parking that.

But as he turns back to the room, Ruby is taking control.

RUBY

So. The entire world is back to normal.

THE DOCTOR

Yep. We're off to Neptune, c'mon, I can pop you home, Ruby.

RUBY

No, but. Hold on. It's important. Is the world exactly as it was?

SUSAN TRIAD

Well, funny you should say. There are tiny little changes. Like, Conrad's World was sort of glitchy, now we've got the same. We're getting reports that the border between Norway and Sweden has moved 7 miles east.

SHIRLEY

The colour teal is a bit more blue.

MEL

And Ernest Borgnine is still alive.

RUBY

So there are mistakes?

THE DOCTOR

That's bound to happen, Ruby,
reality shifted on a massive scale.

BELINDA

Ernest Borgnine got lucky!

MEL

Here's quite a big change. Cos I
searched for him and found this...

Mel stabs BUTTONS, calling up, on the BIG SCREENS -

The Sc.83 FOOTAGE. Shot on a phone, like an Instagram post.

A little KITCHEN in a little CAFÉ, the COOK at work.

And it's CONRAD CLARK. He looks happy.

ALL watching Conrad on the BIG SCREENS.

MEL (CONT'D)

Chief cook and bottle-washer, nice little place in Lewisham. And no one remembers him from the old days, that Conrad's been forgotten. Even by himself. That was a very kind thing you did, Ruby.

But Ruby's angry.

RUBY

The Gods are full of tricks. One wish survived, and it turns out to be him, not Poppy.

THE DOCTOR

I've told you, there's no one called Poppy.

RUBY

(to Kate)

Kate. Tell me. Do you remember a child called Poppy? In this room?

KATE

No.

RUBY

(to Christofer)

Do you?

CHRISTOFER

No.

RUBY

Mel?

MEL

I don't know what you mean.

RUBY

The Vlinx, do you have a record of a child called Poppy, in this building, on May the 23rd?

THE VLINX

Negative!

RUBY

Shirley, do you remember her?

SHIRLEY

No.

RUBY

Susan. You saved Poppy's life.
You built a Zero Room to save her,
you've got to remember that!

Susan concentrates. And there's a chime, a fluting chord, as she blinks; a sign of TIME CHANGING, and MEMORY with it.

SUSAN TRIAD

There is a Zero Room. On Floor
Minus 10. I built it... like an
escape pod. For all of us.

RUBY

Poppy went in there. We all
watched her come out! We did!

THE DOCTOR

(kind)

Ruby, I'm sorry, but you really are
remembering this wrong.

BELINDA

And I'm not being rude, but... it's
kind of offensive. To say I've got
a daughter I don't remember.

KATE

Poppy's your daughter?

BELINDA

Well, exactly, she doesn't exist!

RUBY

So what we're saying is. My memory
is one of the glitches?

THE DOCTOR

Must be.

RUBY

I'm glitching?

THE DOCTOR

Yes.

RUBY
Poppy is a glitch?

THE DOCTOR
Yes.

RUBY
Except the glitches were real.
Before they changed.

A silence.

And now, the Doctor's doubts are rising.

RUBY (CONT'D)
Cos I was right in the Wish World,
wasn't I? And I'm still right,
now. Conrad wasn't a nice, happy
chef, was he? Mel?

MEL
...no.

RUBY
That's not teal, is it?

SHIRLEY
No, it's too blue.

RUBY
And I don't even know who Ernest
Borgnine is!

THE VLINX
Actor, originally died in 2012.

RUBY
Don't you see? There's another
world. A slightly different
reality. With a child called
Poppy. It might just be a tiny
little change, but she's a child,
she's a little girl, she's so
beautiful, her name is Poppy and
she's lost. Somewhere out there.
(goes to him, close)
Doctor. I don't have any proof.
All I've got is your faith in me.

And the Doctor is listening, now. Ever since the
disappearance in the Tardis, he's been haunted.

And he's beginning to believe...

THE DOCTOR

I love you, Ruby Roo, I believe
every word you say.

RUBY

Then believe me now.

THE DOCTOR

But. I'm not...

And she goes to him. So intense.

RUBY

Doctor. One life has disappeared.
And you know that can happen, you
know better than anyone, because
it's happened before. *It happened
to me.* Remember?

She takes his hand. He stares. Sees:

The first Christmas Episode, the Goblins, the version of the
world without Ruby. Carla and Cherry so sad.

RUBY (CONT'D)

That Christmas. I was that life, I
ceased to exist, and you did
everything to bring me back.
Because you couldn't bear a world
with one person missing.

MEMORIES: the Goblin Ship, the baby basket, Ruby back home.

Belinda steps forward, slowly realising...

BELINDA

You did that for me. I was
trapped. In that Time Explosion...

MEMORIES: Ep. 201, the Time Explosion, and then -

CUT TO Ep. 201 Sc.B, Lakshmi startled, the Doctor appears -

BELINDA (CONT'D)

I was a baby.

CUT TO the 201 Sc.A, a FLASHBACK within 201 Sc.38, the Doctor
holding Baby Belinda, startled.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

And you were there. You said you
went through my entire life.

THE DOCTOR
That car when you were seven.

FLASHBACK: Ep.201, Sc.39A, the Doctor pulling Young Belinda out of the path of a car -

BELINDA
That was you...?

THE DOCTOR
Yeah.

BELINDA
You saved me.

RUBY
Even the Space Babies, you saved them. Because if a child needs help. There you are.

SUSAN TRIAD
I'm barely a year old. Born out of the Tardis, remember? You set me free and saved my life.

KATE
You save all of us. Sometimes I think we're all your children.

And now the Doctor believes Ruby.

Heartbroken.

THE DOCTOR
We're missing... One person.

RUBY
Your daughter.

THE DOCTOR
I have a daughter.
(corrects himself)
But it doesn't matter who she is.
If this whole wide world exists, at the cost of one life. Then that cost. Is too much.

Belinda upset, realising...

BELINDA
If Poppy was real, that means she was mine. I've lost...

He turns to Belinda. Never more fierce.

THE DOCTOR
I will find her. Belinda. I
swear, on my life, I will do
anything to find her.

And he walks to the Tardis. So determined.

Kate & Christofer call out.

CHRISTOFER
But Doctor, we can help!

KATE
We've got the Time Window, we've
got Temporal Dams, we've
Retrodynamic Artron Cascades -

He stops in the Tardis doorway.

THE DOCTOR
Time has changed. By one degree,
by the tiniest little degree. And
no technology in the universe can
change that. Only one thing. Is
strong enough. To move the whole
of reality by one, tiny degree.

KATE
Which is what..?

THE DOCTOR
The last of the Time Lords.

And he goes inside -

Ruby and Belinda run forward, scared for him -

RUBY BELINDA
No - Don't -

But the door goes SLAM!

CUT TO:

THE DOCTOR runs to the CONSOLE. Slams LEVERS!

CUT TO:

88 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - NIGHT 88

ALL stand back. RUBY and BELINDA holding each other.

A MIGHTY WIND sweeps through the room, the blue wooden box never more mighty. And all watch it fade away; Ruby and Belinda, KATE and CHRISTOFER, SHIRLEY, MEL, SUSAN TRIAD. With respect and sadness. Like this is goodbye.

CUT TO:

89 INT. TARDIS 89

THE DOCTOR walks around the CONSOLE.

Never more determined. Psyching himself up. Like a boxer heading for a fight; like a brainbox heading for an exam.

THE DOCTOR

Ohh man.

He covers his face, scared, keeps walking.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

C'mon, c'mon, c'mon.

Walks faster.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Poppy, Poppy, Poppy, her name is
Poppy, okay?

But then he's mean, cross, spiteful.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Oh I like *this* face!!

He stops, stabs buttons. Opposite him...

A shimmer, a HOLOGRAM, a figure standing there.

The First Doctor.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Man oh man. Long time ago.

Then it changes. The Second, the Third, the Fourth.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I miss that scarf.

Then the Fifth, the Sixth...

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Best coat EVER!

The Seventh, the Eighth, the Ninth, the Tenth, the Eleventh -

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Bow ties really are cool.

- the Twelfth, the War Doctor, the Thirteenth Doctor, the Fugitive Doctor, then the Fourteenth. Said with a smile:

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Let's be honest. I was the best.

Then the IMAGE RIPPLES, and the THIRTEENTH DOCTOR STEPS OUT!

NOT a hologram. A real person, in the Tardis!

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR
Okay. Let's say best male. But
don't tell the others.

THE DOCTOR
What?! How are you...?!

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR
Cause and effect is getting a
little bit out-of-order.

THE DOCTOR
I'm surprised it wasn't the other
guy, he's always turning up.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR
I've been summoned from the Edge,
cos there's a great big Time Schism
on its way. Caused by you!

THE DOCTOR
Time needs shifting, Doctor. So
I'm gonna punch a ton of
regeneration energy, into the
vortex. To jolt it! One degree!

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR
Giving your life.

THE DOCTOR
Life for a life. Cos I saved the
world at the expense of one person.
And that's no world at all.

But she's serious, now, grave.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

There might not be any worlds. If you rupture the Time Vortex. You could damage the whole of creation.

THE DOCTOR

Is that why you're here? To stop me?

She stares at him and...

Smiles!

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

Naaah, that's never gonna work!

And she adores him, goes to him, big hug.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Blimey. You're gorgeous. Your skin is really quite something.

THE DOCTOR

Might be my final skin. If I get this wrong.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

Don't get it wrong, then.

THE DOCTOR

Good idea.

She's secretive (no one's listening, but you never know).

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

Try shifting your third strand of phenotype markers one micro-spasm to the left. Might just help.

THE DOCTOR

Ohhh that's clever.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

I am!

THE DOCTOR

And I'm you!

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

We're so smart!

But then his smile fades, he can't hide it.

THE DOCTOR

Ohh man.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

Scared?

THE DOCTOR

Terrified.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

Don't go in fear. Go with that
lovely smile.

THE DOCTOR

I just wish... I wish I had longer.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

May we always wish that.

THE DOCTOR

Yeah.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

I've got to go. Back to the Edge.
I'd better make space for you!
Goodbye, Doctor. Good luck.

THE DOCTOR

Love you, Doctor.

THIRTEENTH DOCTOR

Ooh. I never say things like that.

THE DOCTOR

That's why you got me.

And she's delighted, as she FADES AWAY.

He's alone. Blinking, amazed.

But invigorated, now.

He rubs his hands together. Harder, faster. Like generating friction. Building up the energy.

His hands begin to GLOW with REGENERATION ENERGY.

Then he lifts both fists up on high, above his head, both BLAZING with that rippling GOLDEN ENERGY: he looks like a superhero, a God, a Titan.

Then he SLAMS DOWN BOTH ARMS, aiming at the console, and the GOLDEN ENERGY BLASTS OUT of his FISTS, into the CONSOLE -

WHAM!!!

HUGE FIRES erupt from the console!

The Doctor keeps channeling energy, ROARS!

ROUNDELS burst and SHATTER! All around the chamber, pop, pop, pop, bang! FLAMES gutting out.

The Doctor keeps going! ENERGY streaming from his fists.

HUGE FIRES rise up from the depths of the TARDIS.

And now GOLDEN ENERGY rises up, up, up, through the CENTRAL COLUMN, the TIME ROTOR.

Up to the ROOF, and -

CUT TO:

90 EXT. TIME VORTEX

90

The TARDIS spinning like crazy!

And GOLDEN REGENERATION ENERGY bursts out of the Tardis's LAMP, scorching, spiralling, flinging out into the Vortex.

CUT TO:

91 INT. TARDIS

91

CHAOS, as THE DOCTOR pours energy into the CONSOLE, the whole room shuddering and burning and -

THUNK!!

The IMAGE BREAKS IN HALF.

CUT TO:

92 INT. UNIT OPS ROOM - NIGHT

92

As Sc.88, BELINDA & RUBY, KATE, MEL, SHIRLEY, CHRISTOFER, SUSAN TRIAD, staring ahead, at where the Tardis was, but now, it's like this image is CAPTURED WITHIN GLASS. Almost frozen, but moving, just fractionally.

CLOSER on Belinda and Ruby.

THUNK!!

The image BREAKS IN HALF. Like the glass cracks, but not thin shattering like a window, it's like glass 10 inches thick, SNAPPING IN HALF, both halves of the image shifting.

And in the *THUNK!*, Belinda is GONE. Just RUBY remaining.

CUT TO:

93 INT. CHANDRAS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

93

BELINDA, as she was in Sc.92, staring ahead (standing, as will be discovered, in her parents' living room).

THUNK!!

The thick, deep glass image BREAKS IN HALF -
- and now there's Belinda and POPPY!

CUT TO

94 INT. TARDIS

94

THE DOCTOR, as Sc.91, like an IMAGE CONTAINED IN THICK GLASS, SNAPPED across the middle, and now...

The GLASS under STRESS, massive PRESSURE, the TWO HALVES separating, the Doctor in slow-motion, YELLING IN PAIN, and -

THUNK!!

CUT TO:

95 EXT. CHANDRAS' BACK GARDEN - DAY

95

CUTTING from the Sc.94 image of the Doctor, to THE DOCTOR here, across two halves of a broken-glass image, but the two halves, under tremendous pressure, coming BACK TOGETHER and -

THUNK!

The picture is WHOLE AGAIN, and CUT TO -

Real time, SLAM! The Doctor hits the floor, as though falling out of the schism. Lying on grass. The TARDIS behind him. What? He looks around, where the hell is he?

Dazed, he gets up, but...

He holds his HAND UP. It starts to glow with REGENERATION ENERGY. But he BLOWS ON IT, like a candle.

THE DOCTOR

No, not yet.

It FADES. He looks round, still piecing it together. He's in suburbia. London. The back garden of a nice, middle-class house. NOT TOO POSH, just nice. Maybe birdsong, it's early, 7.30am; dawn on May 24 2025 is 5am. Then...

BELINDA

Here he is. Bad penny. Go on, mystery man, where've you been?

She's standing in the BACK DOOR, all smiles. Normal clothes (not her nurse's uniform).

THE DOCTOR

I would love to be called Bad Penny. But... what happened?

BELINDA

You were there, then you were gone. But come on. She's waiting.

And his hearts rise, he's so excited, heads for the house.

CUT TO:

96

INT. CHANDRAS' KITCHEN & LIVING ROOM - DAY

96

THE DOCTOR runs in, through the KITCHEN and into the LIVING ROOM, and there's...

POPPY.

Simply sitting on the mat with some TOYS. The Doctor runs to her, picks her up, hugs her.

THE DOCTOR

Poppy, Poppy, Poppy...

BELINDA in the kitchen doorway, smiling.

BELINDA

Isn't she beautiful?

THE DOCTOR

The best. How could I forget?!

BELINDA

Forget what?

THE DOCTOR

Nothing, I just get a bit time-lagged, remind me, what happened?
I was with you..?

BELINDA

Well I had to come home, everyone at UNIT got busy - I'm going for drinks with Ruby next week, we are so going to talk about you, I warn you, you won't survive us two on the negronis - but then I turned around, and you'd popped off. And I had to get back home! Cos that was the point, all this time, I had to be here, in this house, by 7.30am on May the 24th, remember?

CUT TO:

97

INT. TARDIS

97

NEW INSERT into Ep.201, Sc.45.

The Tardis has just BOUNCED many times. BELINDA at the console, angry with THE DOCTOR, just where she says...

BELINDA

Doctor! I told you. Get me home!

She NOW CONTINUES:

BELINDA (CONT'D)

24th May 2025, I need to get back for Poppy!

CUT TO:

98

INT. TARDIS

98

NEW SCENE, Ep.202, Sc.71A.

THE DOCTOR and BELINDA in their 1950s costumes, walking out of Sc.71, closing the door behind them, going down the walkway (NB, this moment was never seen at all).

BELINDA

Never mind Miami! Poppy is waiting for me.

CUT TO:

99 INT. TARDIS 99

NEW INSERT into Ep.203, Sc.43.

END OF SCENE: BELINDA lying on the floor, staring up, scared. THE DOCTOR lying next to her. Final line was Belinda, 'How does Earth not exist..?' And NOW SHE CONTINUES:

BELINDA
 My daughter. Will I ever see her again?

CUT TO:

100 INT. TARDIS 100

NEW SCENE from Ep.204, Sc.2A.

THE DOCTOR and BELINDA have met young Conrad on New Year's Eve, now walk back into the Tardis, with Vindicator, happy.

BELINDA
 ...and I've got to be back for Poppy by 7.30am!

CUT TO:

101 INT. TARDIS 101

NEW INSERT into Ep.205 Sc.4.

TOP OF THE SCENE. The first line was previously, Belinda: 'You need to get me home.' But now, BEFORE THIS, THE DOCTOR and BELINDA higher up in the walkways, heading down:

BELINDA
 If I'm not back by 7.30, I'm in trouble!

CUT TO:

102 INT. TARDIS 102

NEW SCENE from Ep.206, Sc.6A.

IN BETWEEN Sc.6, The Tardis arriving, and Sc.7, THE DOCTOR and BELINDA stepping out; this is the Doctor with Vindicator, and Belinda, heading out, towards the door, happy.

BELINDA

I can't wait for you to meet Poppy,
 she's so cheeky, she's worse than
 you.

CUT TO:

103 INT. CHANDRAS' KITCHEN & LIVING ROOM - DAY

103

BELINDA so happy - POPPY back on the floor now, with TOYS, as
 THE DOCTOR pieces this new reality together...

THE DOCTOR

So you were *always...* coming home
 for Poppy.

BELINDA

And for my timeline to get back to
 normal, I had to be here, for
 Poppy, ready for 7.30am.

THE DOCTOR

Why 7.30..?

And LAKSHMI pops her head round the door, in her COAT, ready
 to leave, carrying her VIOLIN CASE and a light BAG.

LAKSHMI

Better be off. Bit early for
 gentlemen callers, Belinda, but
 he's a nice one, hello!

BELINDA

This is my mum, Lakshmi.

THE DOCTOR

I've heard so much about you!

BELINDA

This is, um, one of the doctors.
 From the hospital.

LAKSHMI

At last! I keep telling her to
 bring home a doctor!

BELINDA

Mum!

LAKSHMI

Not for you, for me, I keep getting
 this pain down my left side,
 doctor, every time I turn a corner.

(MORE)

LAKSHMI (CONT'D)
(a beep from outside)
Oh! That's for me! Better go!
I've got a concert in Manchester,
nice to meet you - !

And she heads off, FRONT DOOR, slam, gone.

THE DOCTOR
So you had to get home. Because
your mother...

BELINDA
I'm on nights. So mum and dad had
Poppy. And I had to get back by
7.30 this morning...

THE DOCTOR
...because of Manchester.

BELINDA
You really have forgotten, haven't
you? It's a good thing Poppy
wasn't with me, I had Robots
crashing through my kitchen! But
I'm glad you found us, now you can
meet, at last. Poppy. This is
Uncle Doctor.

THE DOCTOR
I'm her uncle...?

BELINDA
Well, sounds nice.

THE DOCTOR
...so who's her father?

BELINDA
I've told you.

THE DOCTOR
Tell me again.

BELINDA
Her father's Rufus. Rufus Gumede.

CUT TO:

In flight, after Miami, THE DOCTOR and BELINDA still in 1950s clothes. Becoming friends. And Belinda explains, smiling:

BELINDA

I've known him since I was 21, we got together, and... Well, Poppy was born, and it didn't last, he's still got some growing up to do. But we're friends. He sees her, he pays his way, he's a nice man.

CUT TO:

105 INT. CHANDRAS' KITCHEN & LIVING ROOM - DAY

105

THE DOCTOR looking at POPPY. His hearts quietly breaking. BELINDA wondering what's wrong.

THE DOCTOR

He's a nice man. I remember.

And he gets out the SONIC, WHIRRS at Poppy.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I hope he knows. Rufus Gumedee. I hope he knows how lucky he is. To be father to a girl who's...
(sonic bleeps, confirms)
100% human.

LAKSHMI comes back in, in a fluster.

LAKSHMI

I thought I had those grips. For my hands, where are they?

BELINDA

D'you mean the strengtheners? I saw Dad with them, he was trying them out, he put them under the stairs, hold on...

Belinda and Lakshmi go into the Hall.

The Doctor left with Poppy.

THE DOCTOR

Hello Pops. Can I tell you a secret?

Poppy smiles.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I can't have children. But if I did. I wish she was exactly like you.

(pause)

Except I brought all the wishes to an end. Clever old me.

A moment between them.

'Bye' from Lakshmi, FRONT DOOR slams, Belinda comes back in.

BELINDA

There we go. You all right?

THE DOCTOR

Just... Oh, y'know, thinking. The Gods play tricks, Belinda.

(makes himself smile)

But I beat them. I always win.

BELINDA

You saved my daughter's life. And thank you! For everything! You've driven me absolutely mad but I've got to say. You are the most amazing man in the world. Or any world. And I've seen a few!

And she gives him a great big HUG.

THE DOCTOR

That sounds like a goodbye.

BELINDA

I know you. You're not going to stay in suburbia, are you?

THE DOCTOR

I could take you to the stars.

BELINDA

I'm not leaving her behind again.

THE DOCTOR

We could go together. All three of us! In the Year 60,000, there's a planet called New New Delhi -

BELINDA

- where my daughter can get shot at by lasers and hunted by cartoons and blown up by Time Ladies?! I don't think so. And anyway.

(MORE)

BELINDA (CONT'D)

Every single day with Poppy is a great big mad adventure, your life is calm, in comparison.

THE DOCTOR

Yeah. I wish I had some of that madness.

BELINDA

...are you okay?

THE DOCTOR

I'm just so happy for you. Bel. I could not be happier.

And they HUG.

CUT TO:

106 EXT. CHANDRAS' BACK GARDEN - DAY 106

THE DOCTOR stands by the TARDIS.

BELINDA and POPPY stand by the BACK DOOR, to say goodbye. (She's standing back in case that Tardis interior is too great a temptation.) She's smiling, but tearful.

THE DOCTOR

It's been an honour, Miss Belinda Chandra. An honour and a nightmare and a triumph.

BELINDA

Maybe, when she's grown up... You could come back. And take me to Neptune.

THE DOCTOR

I'd like that.

BELINDA

I'd love it.
(can't stop herself)
But will you? I mean, will you really? Do you ever do that? Or do you never go back?

THE DOCTOR

I hope you'll see me again. But not like this.

BELINDA

What does that mean?

THE DOCTOR
I've got to go.

BELINDA
Just. Be careful. And...
(upset)
Why does it feel like there's
something I've forgotten?

THE DOCTOR
That's our lives, Belinda. We
travel in and out of the
slipstreams of Time. Beautiful
things can be forgotten and gone.
But they still happened, somewhere.
And I think one thing remains. I
love you. And I love you, Poppy.
That will never change.

He smiles, and steps into the Tardis. The door clicks shut.

Belinda crying, and she kneels, to be with Poppy, getting her
to wave goodbye, as the air fills with the GROAN OF ENGINES.

And the Tardis FADES AWAY.

CUT TO:

107 EXT. OUTER SPACE

107

Huge, beautiful reefs of the cosmos.

The TARDIS spins along, gently.

CUT TO:

108 INT. TARDIS

108

THE DOCTOR at the CONTROLS.

A GASP OF PAIN - his HAND glows with REGENERATION ENERGY.

He shakes it off.

He realises:

THE DOCTOR
I don't want to do this alone.

But he knows what to do. He walks towards the DOOR. HANDS
GLOWING, more REGENERATION ENERGY falling from him.

He OPENS THE DOOR.

CUT TO:

109 INT. TARDIS/EXT. TARDIS IN SPACE

109

The TARDIS suspended in a magnificent cosmos.

THE DOCTOR stands in the OPEN DOORWAY. His HANDS are GLOWING with GOLDEN ENERGY. He looks up and out, into space.

THE DOCTOR
I'm never alone. With you.

Far away: A STAR. Twinkling. That same star.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Joy to the world.

And now the GOLDEN ENERGY is spiralling out of him, curving and enfolding him in shimmering curls. And he's smiling.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
And that's exactly the word. This has been an absolute joy.

He take a deep breath, and...

REGENERATION ENERGY volcanoes out of him! COLLAR and SLEEVES filled with STREAMING BOLTS OF GOLD.

WIDER. The Tardis in space, the Doctor in the doorway, with energy SHOOTING OUT INTO THE GALAXY, a wild display.

CLOSER, as the Doctor's face finally vanishes into the gold.

And...

A face appears!

A person wreathed in miraculous gold and light.

Who says...

Oh, hello!

END OF EPISODE 8

*