

TORCHWOOD 2

Episode 2

by

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Goldenrod Revisions

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1 OMITTED

1

2 INT. SMALL BEDROOM - NIGHT

2

Lights out. Silence. Except for the sudden thump coming from the other room.

BETH and MIKE are in bed, a young couple. Beth sits up, and switches the lamp on. It's a smallish flat, nice, but cheap, nothing too fancy, old-style TV, no computers.

BETH

Did you hear that?

MIKE

Someone's in the living room.

They wait.

BETH

You going to go in there?

MIKE

Are you?

She looks at him. He holds his hands up in an "okay, okay" gesture. He reaches under the bed, and grabs a cricket bat. Beth grabs a mobile phone, dials 999.

999 OPERATOR (O.S.)

Which emergency service do you require?

Mike pads towards the door. Opens it. Steps out.

BETH

Police. My name's Beth Halloran, I'm at 114 Brodsky Gardens, there's a burglar in the flat, please come quickly--

With a crash, Mike comes hurtling backwards into the room, sprawling on the floor, blood on his forehead.

BETH (CONT'D)

Mike!

She throws the phone under the bed, runs over and grabs the cricket bat from Mike's hand. Two balaclava-wearing BURGLARS burst in, see her, and the unconscious Mike.

BETH (CONT'D)

(calling to operator)

There's two of them! My husband's been injured, send an ambulance!

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

Burglar 2 grabs the bat from her. He grabs a belt from a chair and throws it to Burglar 1.

BURGLAR 2

Tie her up, I want to get all the TV stuff unhooked.

Burglar 1 grabs Beth, who screams in terror.

BETH

No! Get off! Please!

BURGLAR 2

And keep her quiet.

BURGLAR 1

Wait, wait - did you hear that?

They look around, listening, Beth looking around too.

We pan down to the phone under the bed, and stay on it. We don't see what happens in the room next, just hear it. The phone is still connected, the voice coming through faintly.

999 OPERATOR (O.S.)

Can you hear me?? Stay calm, officers are nearly there!

From the room, off camera, there is another strange sound, something tearing, and a metallic whirring.

BURGLAR 2 (O.S.)

Hey, what-- oh Jesus!

Another tearing sound, squelch, and a thunk. The lamp light bulb by the bed suddenly grows incredibly bright, then - ping! - it dies. Moonlight keeps things dimly lit.

BURGLAR 1 (O.S.)

Noooooo!

CUT TO:

3 EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

3

A police car screeches to a stop, all blues and twos. As the doors open, Burglar 1's body suddenly SMASHES onto the car roof, scattering the two panicked police officers.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

SLAM into the funky Torchwood opening credits...

CUT TO:

4 EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

4

The Torchwood SUV arrives, screeching to a halt. JACK, GWEN, OWEN and TOSH pile out and start to head into the building.

As they do, they pass by a couple of police officers and forensic technicians, all surrounding a car.

Burglar 1 is impacted into the top of the car, mangled and crushed. A paramedic is dealing with him.

Owen goes to the car. He leans in to inspect Burglar 1.

Burglar 1 suddenly JERKS, and wheezes in pain. Owen jumps out of his skin, and nearly drops his gear bag. He checks the burglar's pulse.

OWEN

Has he been stabilised?

The PARAMEDIC is surprised the burglar is still alive.

JACK

Gwen, Owen, go with him to the hospital, see if he says anything. Interview the husband and wife while you're there.

Jack and Tosh head inside the building.

CUT TO:

5 INT. SMALL BEDROOM - NIGHT

5

Portable hazard lights illuminate the room. The lead police officer talks to Jack, as Tosh inspects the room.

Jack is trying to hustle the man outside and out of their way, but he's determined to give his report.

As they talk, Jack deftly manipulates him backwards towards the door.

LEAD OFFICER

Bit weird this one, might be one of yours. Nobody saw anything, heard anything, blah blah blah, the usual. Don't know why we bother asking anymore.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

JACK

Thank you so much, we'll take it from here. If you could just wait outside--

LEAD OFFICER

In my opinion, the husband did it. He was looking for trouble, expecting to be burgled.

JACK

(*so* not listening)

Really.

LEAD OFFICER

Yes, look.

He points to the cricket bat.

LEAD OFFICER (CONT'D)

No other reason I can think of for keeping sports equipment in the bedroom.

He's a serious, no-nonsense type with no imagination. Jack flashes him a huge grin.

JACK

You should come round for a game of hockey sometime.

Thanks to Jack's expert manoeuvring, the officer is now standing outside the door, confused. Jack keeps the grin going, and closes the door on him. He heads over to Tosh.

TOSHIKO

Making friends?

JACK

Not really. What have you got?

TOSHIKO

No glass on the inside, so it was definitely broken out. Door was locked from the inside, too.

We finally reveal the fate of Burglar 2. He's slumped on his knees, with several stab wounds in his chest and stomach, and one in his forehead, through the balaclava. Jack inspects the body closely.

JACK

Police say the stab wounds were caused by some sort of long, narrow blade.

Which this isn't.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2)

5

He picks up the cricket bat, which is spotless.

JACK (CONT'D)

No weapons in the room that could have done this. So how the hell did they manage it?

TOSHIKO

Husband was unconscious, and the wife probably weighs less than I do. I can't see either of them doing this.

JACK

When you're afraid for your life, you'd be surprised what you can do.

CUT TO:

6 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

6

Gwen and Owen smile politely at Beth and Mike. Mike is in bed, a bandage on his head, looking groggy. Owen is swabbing Beth and Mike's hands with cotton buds.

BETH

I didn't see anything. We all heard this weird noise, then the next thing I knew, I was in the corner on the floor, and he was sitting there, dead. The other one was just gone.

GWEN

And what then?

BETH

Nothing. I just stayed there, until the police arrived. I couldn't move. I should have checked on Mike--

MIKE

Don't be silly. You did the right thing. I'm fine.

BETH

Be quiet you, you're supposed to be resting.

MIKE

I don't think the doctor meant my mouth.

BETH

Actually, he did, he was quite specific on that, no talking for a whole week, he said.

(CONTINUED)

6

CONTINUED:

6

MIKE

Lies, lies, why so many lies?

The banter is good natured, they're relieved to be alive.

During this, Owen tests the swabs using his medical kit. He uses an eyedropper to drip some liquid on to them. Nothing happens. He shakes his head at Gwen.

GWEN

Thank you for your time, we'll let you get some rest.

Gwen and Owen step outside the door.

CUT TO:

7

INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

7

Gwen and Owen talk quietly.

OWEN

Not a trace of blood on their hands, either of them.

GWEN

Then who did it?

OWEN

She did, obviously.

GWEN

Why "obviously"?

OWEN

Look at her.

They look through the window of the door. Beth looks so utterly unthreatening, it's almost funny.

GWEN

Ooh, yeah, see what you mean. Terrifying.

OWEN

Always the one you least suspect. They're all in a locked room, hubby's out for the count, and somehow she survives and two burglars get mangled? She did it. Must have.

GWEN

How?

(CONTINUED)

7

CONTINUED:

7

OWEN

Haven't worked that bit out yet.

GWEN

Ah, I see.

OWEN

All right then Jessica Fletcher,
whodunnit?

GWEN

Husband. His wife's in danger, keeps a
cricket bat under the bed, fill in the
blanks yourself.

OWEN

So... he kills two men, wearing gloves,
then swallows the murder weapon and the
gloves, then knocks himself out?

GWEN

...Something like that.

Owen opens his mouth to counter-attack, but his ear-comm beeps. He holds up a finger.

OWEN

To be continued.

(to comm)

Yep?

JACK (O.S.)

It's me. Anything?

OWEN

Nothing. They're totally clean.

JACK (O.S.)

Well one of them did it, we just need to
figure out how. One of you stay with
the burglar, all night if you have to.
And keep an eye on those two.

OWEN

Fair enough.

He disconnects the comm.

OWEN (CONT'D)

That was Jack. He says... that you have
to stay with the burglar, see if he says
anything. All night, if you have to.
And keep an eye on those two.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

GWEN

Brilliant... Well buy me a coffee before you go.

OWEN

Course I will! What are team mates for?

He checks his pockets.

OWEN (CONT'D)

Er... you haven't got a pound for the machine, have you?

Gwen sighs, and reaches into her pocket. Overhead, one of the fluorescent lights starts to get brighter, and brighter, until it suddenly dies with a ping sound.

Owen looks up at it, shaking his head.

OWEN (CONT'D)

Hospitals. They have to fall apart before anyone even thinks about repairs.

GWEN

Pound. Coffee.

Gwen gives him the pound coin, and sends him on his way. Glancing behind her, through the door window, she sees Beth crying into Mike's arms.

CUT TO:

8 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM 2 - NIGHT

8

Gwen sits next to the bed containing the mangled Burglar 1. He is in a hospital gown, and covered in cuts. She dozes off, dropping her empty plastic cup. The noise wakes her. She sits up, embarrassed.

She glances at the burglar, but he's not moving. She bends to pick up the cup. When she sits up again, the burglar's eyes are open. She jumps, and drops the cup again.

BURGLAR 1

Keep her away from me!

GWEN

It's okay, you're safe. Who did this to you?

BURGLAR 1

The woman in the flat!

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

He falls back, dead. The machine beeps as he flatlines. Gwen backs away as nurses rush in. She's completely shocked - the guy was asleep just 30 seconds ago...

CUT TO:

9 INT. TORCHWOOD, INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

9

SLAM! The door clangs shut, and Beth is handcuffed to the chair with a bag over her head. The bag is whipped off roughly. She blinks at the light, terrified, her face streaked with tears.

She finds herself looking at a stern faced Jack, and a similarly stern but slightly baffled Gwen.

JACK

Tell me everything.

BETH

Where am I? Where's my husband?

JACK

He's safe.

Beth stares at him, worried. That doesn't sound good.

BETH

What do you mean, "safe"? What have you done to him?

JACK

Nothing. Yet. What happened in the flat, Beth? It had to be you or Mike, so how did you do it?

BETH

You can't treat people like this. I've been burgled, attacked! I want a lawyer, I want a phonecall, I want to see Mike, if you're charging me with something it better be-

JACK

We're not charging you with anything. We don't have to. And there's no lawyer. No phonecall. Just us, and this room. For as long as it takes. Now. Tell me what happened.

Beth looks around the room, wildly, for any help.

(CONTINUED)

BETH

(at Gwen)

I already told her. And the police.
Please, I don't know anything.

Jack starts placing the crime scene photographs down on the table in front of her. Close up, gruesome shots of the wounds, the burglar smashed on to the car. Beth looks away.

JACK

Look at them.

She glances at him, and looks down at the photos. Tears fall from her eyes, but she's trying to act brave. As they talk, the nearby spotlight gets brighter and brighter.

JACK (CONT'D)

The second one just died in hospital.
"Keep her away from me", he said.
"The woman in the flat." His dying words. Now why would he say something like that?

BETH

I don't know, I swear. I never touched him.

JACK

Was it Mike? Are you covering up for him?

BETH

No!

Ping! The spotlight reaches maximum brightness, and the bulb dies with a popping sound. Everyone looks at it - Beth jumpy, thinking it's a trick, Jack merely puzzled, Gwen making the connection now with the bulb that blew at the hospital.

GWEN

Jack.

She puts a hand on his shoulder, and motions with her eyes for him to go outside. Jack leaves. Gwen sits down.

GWEN (CONT'D)

Beth, I'm Gwen. Look, we know these men attacked you and your husband. If you did fight back... people will understand. It would be self defence.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (2)

9

BETH

I promise. I promise I have no idea what happened to them. All I know is that it wasn't me.

CUT TO:

10 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

10

Tosh, Owen, Ianto, and now Jack, watch on the monitor.

IANTO

"Just us and this room? For as long as it takes?" Terrifying.

JACK

Really?

IANTO

Absolutely. Shivers down my spine.

JACK

You don't look scared.

IANTO

Oh, it passed.

JACK

Tosh, anything on the body scans?

TOSHIKO

Nothing out of the ordinary.

JACK

What happened to the light? Power surge?

TOSHIKO

Not from us. There was an electromagnetic build up around her, but I can't see how she caused it.

OWEN

Same thing happened at the hospital. Can't be a coincidence.

They watch her on the monitor again.

JACK

Let's do some tests, see who or what we're dealing with.

CUT TO:

10A INT. TORCHWOOD, CORRIDOR - DAY

10A

Gwen leads Beth through the corridors.

BETH

What kind of tests?

GWEN

Oh, just little things, to clear this all up... blood samples...

BETH

Blood samples? I haven't done anything!

GWEN

Hey. I believe you. But this is our job. Something really strange happened in your flat, and we have to make sure you had nothing to do with it.

BETH

But I didn't.

GWEN

Then there's nothing to worry about. They're doing the tests either way, Beth. Don't make it any harder on yourself.

CUT TO:

10B INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

10B

Gwen leads Beth into the Hub. It's Beth's first time seeing it. She stops and stares. The desks. The screens. The jars. The equipment. The fucking huge tower. The full 3D, CG majesty of the Hub.

Various bits of equipment whirr and beep, echoing in the wide open spaces. Beth touches the handrail on the walkway, as if checking that it's really real.

BETH

This is where you work?

GWEN

Yeah. Cosy, isn't it?

BETH

Who are you people? Don't you have any windows?

(CONTINUED)

10B CONTINUED:

10B

GWEN

Wouldn't really be in keeping with the whole secrecy thing, you know? If people could see in?

Beth picks up a complex piece of equipment, marvelling at it. She sniffs it impulsively. Ianto pops up out of nowhere, as he does. He gingerly takes the gadget from her.

IANTO

We don't sniff the sub-etheric resonator. It doesn't like it.

Beth doesn't hear him, still gaping at the place.

BETH

It's so... big...

Beth can't stop looking around, eyes wide.

BETH (CONT'D)

This is... this is crazy. Suddenly I feel very, very small...

Gwen lets her take it in. Beth shivers, suddenly cold.

GWEN

Let's just get the tests out of the way. Then you can get out of here, yeah?

Beth nods, wanting this to be over. Gwen leads her away.

CUT TO:

11 INT. TORCHWOOD, AUTOPSY ROOM - DAY

11

The cold, scary autopsy room. Beth looks small and vulnerable. Owen prepares his kit, as Jack and Gwen watch.

OWEN

We'll start with a blood sample. Nothing to worry about, just a little--

He sees how scared Beth is, and avoids the usual joke.

OWEN (CONT'D)

--needle.

He swabs her arm, and bends over with the syringe. Something startles him.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

OWEN (CONT'D)

Oh.

JACK

What's up?

OWEN

Needle snapped.

Beth looks to Gwen, unnerved.

BETH

Haven't you got a nurse for this?

GWEN

He's a doctor. It's okay.

Owen looks at the needle, puzzled. He doesn't make mistakes like that, and it bothers him.

He prepares another needle, and carefully places it against Beth's skin. Ping! The needle snaps again. He stares at it. Something is *very* wrong here.

BETH

Okay, look, I'm not doing this if you can't even--

Owen gets out a scalpel.

BETH (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

OWEN

Bear with me.

Before anyone can react, he quickly tries to make a cut in Beth's arm with the scalpel.

BETH

Hey, hey--

Snap!

Owen holds up the scalpel. The blade is snapped in half. Beth's arm is undamaged.

Jack watches quietly, thinking, trying to piece it all together. Beth and Gwen look worried, but not half as worried as Owen.

OWEN

When was the last time you were in hospital, Beth?

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

BETH

I don't... I don't remember. I don't think I've ever been. Why, what's wrong with me?

OWEN

No operations? Check ups?

BETH

No, nothing.

OWEN

When was the last time you got ill? Had a cold? Anything?

Beth thinks. Doesn't like where this is going.

BETH

I don't think I ever have. I take a lot of vitamin C.

OWEN

A hell of a lot, I'd say.

Jack pieces it all together, and steps forward.

JACK

Okay, Beth. You make lightbulbs blow, and we can't break your skin. So. What planet are you from?

Beth looks at him, utterly baffled. Is this a trick question?

BETH

...Earth?

Jack smiles. Shakes his head.

JACK

Stop wasting our time. We know you're an alien.

Beth stares. They're serious - and possibly crazy. Now she's really scared.

BETH

There's no such thing as aliens.

CUT TO:

12 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE VAULT - DAY

12

Beth sees Janet the Weevil's for the first time.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

JACK
Beth, Janet. Janet, Beth.

Beth backs away from the cell, terrified. Jack watches her closely, to see her reaction. He's convinced she's lying, and is looking for any giveaways.

CUT TO:

13 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

13

Gwen watches Beth on the monitor. You never forget your first time seeing an alien. She's re-living it now.

CUT TO:

14 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE VAULT - DAY

14

Beth stares at Janet.

BETH
What is it?

JACK
It's an alien. But you know that, because you are, too.

BETH
No, it's not - I'm not. I work in an office, personnel...

JACK
Why do you give off electro-magnetic waves? Why--

BETH
I don't KNOW! Stop it!

Too much. Too much to handle, to take in. She goes to pieces, bursting into tears, trying to talk through it. *Anybody* would give in and believe her now - but not Jack, who just stands there, impassive, waiting.

BETH (CONT'D)
Why are you doing this? I want Mike, I want to go home.

Beth can't stop looking at Janet. Janet sees Beth looking. They stare at each other - and something strange happens: the Weevil backs away, not scared, but almost subservient, lowering its head.

BETH (CONT'D)
Why's it doing that?

(CONTINUED)

14

CONTINUED:

14

JACK

I don't know, she's never done it before.

BETH

This is real, isn't it?

JACK

Yes.

BETH

I don't know about my skin, or any of that other stuff. How can I prove it to you? How can I prove I'm not an alien?

CUT TO:

15

INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

15

The Probe sits on Tosh's desk. It's not big, about the size of a baseball cap, black, curved, made to fit on the skull.

TOSHIKO

You said we weren't allowed to use that again.

The team are standing around, as Owen and Ianto prepare a chair next to Tosh's desk, bolting it down and checking the restraints. On a monitor, we (and they) see Beth still in The Vault, trying not to look at Janet.

JACK

It's just a mind probe.

IANTO

You remember what happened the last time we used it?

JACK

That was different, that species has extremely high blood pressure.

IANTO

Oh, right, their heads probably explode all the time.

OWEN

That wasn't the worst of it - the things he was saying... Freaked me out.

GWEN

Jack, you can't do this. What if you're wrong? If she's human it'll kill her.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

JACK

I'm not wrong. We have to find out what she is.

TOSHIKO

Go easy with it. Stop at the first sign of trouble.

IANTO

Or the first sign of exploding.

Pause. Jack nods at Gwen.

JACK

Okay. Bring her up.

CUT TO:

16 OMITTED

16

17 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

17

Tosh and Owen strap Beth into the chair.

TOSHIKO

Not too tight, is it?

BETH

It's fine. Are you sure this is safe?

Everyone looks at each other. Awkward moment as they all try desperately to think up a lie. Beth smiles nervously.

BETH (CONT'D)

Just try not to, you know, kill me, or anything. Okay?

Ianto holds a glass of water with a straw to Beth's mouth.

IANTO

You'll get dehydrated during the probing. This helps.

Beth sips at it. Everyone's being so nice, it's a bit worrying.

Tosh runs a cable from the monitors to the probe, using a special adapter to plug it in.

TOSHIKO

We're all set.

(CONTINUED)

17

CONTINUED:

17

Tosh keeps an eye on the monitors, which have a schematic displayed of the probe's surface area. She nods at Jack.

Owen stands by another screen, monitoring Beth's vital signs - heart rate, blood pressure, etc.

JACK

The probe drills down through your consciousness, so if there's anything hidden, it should pop right to the surface.

BETH

Will it hurt?

JACK

Yes.

Beth nods; just as she suspected.

BETH

Your bedside manner is rubbish.

GWEN

You should see his manners *in* bed, they're atrocious.

The others look at her. Ianto pops an eyebrow up.

GWEN (CONT'D)

So I've heard.

IANTO

Oh, they are. One time, he--
(Off Jack's glare)
--nothing, nothing at all.

GWEN

Are you ready?

BETH

I suppose.

GWEN

We'll go slowly. Tosh will be controlling the probe. Owen will make sure you're not in danger. Ianto has more water when you need it. And I'll be right here, just in case. Okay?

Beth nods. Then looks at Jack. One last challenge.

BETH

What about him? What does he do?

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

JACK
I'll be watching.

Still doesn't believe her. Never has.

Jack looks at Tosh, and nods at her to start. The screen highlights the top section of the probe. The probe hums.

It makes a high pitched noise, like a camera flash warming up. The segment flashes red.

Beth immediately arches her back in pain, and cries out. Gwen steps forward, but Owen gently puts a hand on her arm.

Owen's screen shows her heart rate jumping up, but the screen still displays: "Within Safety Tolerances".

OWEN
Safe.

JACK
Who killed the burglars, Beth?

BETH
I don't know! I- AAAAHHHH...

Tosh works the keyboard, and the probe digs deeper. It stabs into her mind again. Beth screams in pain. Owen's screen beeps.

OWEN
Safe.

JACK
What planet are you from?

BETH
I'm human! Oh God, it hurts! Please, stop!

Everyone looks at each other. This is awful. Jack's not enjoying it either, but has to be firm.

JACK
Go deeper.

TOSHIKO
Are you sure? She--

JACK
Do it.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: (3)

17

She does so, and Beth screams again. Owen's screen shows her vitals jumping up, erratically.

OWEN

Vitals are all over the place, but still safe.

Monitors beeping, probe humming and whirring, Beth screaming, shaking in the chair - it's a cacophony of noises and confusion.

Many of the Hub lights are now starting to get brighter. Tosh notices, checks another screen.

TOSHIKO

Getting an electro-magnetic buildup again.

JACK

Who killed those men?

BETH

I don't know! Make it stop!

She convulses in the chair, struggling against her restraints. She's in absolute agony.

GWEN

Jack, for God's sake!

Jack doesn't want to stop, but even he's looking unsure.

JACK

Go deeper.

BETH

Noooooooo!

Tosh adjusts the probe, and everyone tenses up, ready for Beth's scream of agony, and wondering when the lights are going to pop - they're now incredibly bright.

The probe stabs again, making the high pitched sound.

But then there's silence. No scream from Beth. All the beeping stops.

All the lights in the Hub flicker. On Owen's screen, all Beth's vital signs suddenly drop to normal, calm levels, and it stops beeping. The Hub lights go back to normal.

An eerie calm prevails.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: (4)

17

FX: And a strange thing happens to a section of Beth's right inner forearm: it becomes outlined with ridges of skin, and nodules raise up to form patterns, like Braille but constantly moving, segments of skin raising and lowering.

Parts of the raised segments are lit from beneath. The whole thing looks like a weird instrument panel made of skin, with complex shapes appearing and disappearing. It makes a faint, organic, gloopy sound.

GWEN

Oh my God.

Utterly sideswiped. Was convinced Beth was human. Owen fascinated with the arm from a medical standpoint. Tosh trying to get her head round it, from a tech point of view. Ianto backing the fuck away with the glass of water.

Jack silent. Vindicated, but not sure what it all means.

JACK

What happened?

TOSHIKO

Hit a buried compartment. Locked away, she couldn't have been aware of it.

They stare at her arm, then look at her face. Same face - no FX here - but it's just *not* Beth anymore, an alien intelligence peers out through her cold, dead eyes (again, no eye FX, all in the performance).

Where Beth was fragile, shaking, scared, this person is perfectly still, strong, watching. Cold and emotionless. Jack looks at her, and she looks right back at him.

JACK

Who are you?

She rattles off a string of some strange language, in a deep, guttural voice, as if reciting "no comment":

BETH

Kayehla Janees, putaak graszh, ish-nin-fas-du-hap-vac-nal.

JACK

Where are you from?

BETH

Kayehla Janees, putaak graszh, ish-nin-fas-du-hap-vac-nal.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: (5)

17

Same as before, same intonation, speed, everything. Jack thinks for a moment, testing a theory.

JACK

How do you like my shoes?

She glances at Jack's shoes briefly - can't help herself.

BETH

Kayehla Janees, putaak graszh, ish-nin-fas-du-hap-vac-nal.

Exactly the same. Close on Jack's face. Looks like this rings a bell.

Jack grabs a special hand scanner from Tosh's desk, and holds it over Beth's arm. A scan of her arm appears on screen, showing a cylindrical device under the skin.

The screen says "Accessing stored information", and files start appearing.

GWEN

Jack? What is it?

JACK

Name. Rank. Serial number. And that's all she's going to say.

TOSHIKO

How do you know?

JACK

Because I know who she is. And why she's here. Switch off the probe.

Tosh quickly ends the program, and yanks out the cable. FX: Beth's arm panel goes back to normal, disappearing completely. Beth jerks forward, taking a big gasping breath, her normal self again.

BETH

Oh... you weren't lying, that really hurt. Did you find anything?

They all just look at her.

CUT TO:

18 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE BOARDROOM - DAY

18

The team sit at the table, occasionally glancing at Beth's image on CCTV. She's locked in the Vault, next to Janet.

(CONTINUED)

18

CONTINUED:

18

The schematics from her implant scroll past on the screen.

JACK

She's a sleeper agent. It all clicked when I saw the implant.

OWEN

A sleeper agent? Who for?

JACK

No-one knows very much - they don't leave survivors. Official designation is "Cell 114". They infiltrate planets, adapting their shape, gathering intelligence. Sometimes for years. Watching. Until they're ready to take over.

OWEN

Okay, that is creepy. Are there more of them?

JACK

Don't know. If we're lucky, she's the first. They send an advance guard to gather intel. Given false memories so they blend in. She has no idea she's not human. Her real self must have taken over briefly, killed the burglars. Self preservation.

OWEN

(to Gwen)

Told you she did it...

TOSHIKO

How long has she been here?

JACK

No way to tell. Five days? Fifty years?

GWEN

That long?

JACK

Easily. The point is, by the time they attack, they know every... single... thing... about the planet. No "War of the Worlds" mistakes. It's over in hours. No hope of fighting back.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (2)

18

OWEN

What, they just kill everyone?

JACK

Yes. Then they take everything. I saw a planet they'd finished with, once.

You'd never guess there had ever been life there at all.

GWEN

What does the implant do?

Tosh displays the scans and files on the screen.

TOSHIKO

Information gathering. Normal x-rays don't show it, she's projecting a false image. It's got all this data stored inside.

We see some files appearing on screen as she speaks: Earth defence systems, military hardware, weaponry, pipelines, phone systems, statistics, population centres. Tosh points at a small part of the arm implant, from the scan.

TOSHIKO (CONT'D)

This is a forcefield generator, it creates an impervious layer above the skin, just a nanometre thick. That's why you couldn't get a needle into her.

OWEN

God, look - they even know about us...

He points to the screen, which is displaying files on Torchwood - a map of the Hub appears, with security protocols, and personnel files for each of them, even Gwen.

IANTO

They know more about this place than I do. Nobody knows more than I do...

Everyone is worried and scared now.

GWEN

Okay, so what can we do?

Everyone glances at Beth on the CCTV again.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (3)

18

JACK

Well for a start, I guess we'd better tell her.

CUT TO:

19 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE VAULT - DAY

19

Jack and Gwen watch Beth through the glass. She's watching herself on the monitor. When the on-screen Beth speaks the alien language, Beth's hand flies up to her mouth, as if trying to stop herself. She speaks quietly.

BETH

Turn it off, please.

Gwen flicks it off. Beth touches her now-normal right arm.

BETH (CONT'D)

So I killed those men?

JACK

Yes.

BETH

And I'm a mass murdering alien?

JACK

Yes.

BETH

My whole life, all my memories... It can't be fake. I know I love Mike. He loves me.

GWEN

He does, and you do.

BETH

So what's real?

GWEN

You both are, you both fell in love. That happened. Do you feel human?

BETH

Yes.

GWEN

Then you are. What makes us human? Our minds or our bodies?

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

BETH

And what happens when the disguise comes off? I want to have kids one day. Is "feeling" human enough for that?

Gwen has no answer. Beth looks to Jack for help.

BETH (CONT'D)

Could you fix me? Make me stay human?

JACK

No. Eventually, you'll activate. Your real memories will come back, and "Beth" will disappear.

BETH

What do you mean, "activate"?

JACK

Once you've gathered enough information, you'll send it home, and start the invasion.

BETH

There must be something you can do! All this technology, all the things you do here... And you're just going to keep me locked up, next to that thing?

Silence, as she realises the alternative.

BETH (CONT'D)

Are you going to kill me?

GWEN

No, of course not!

BETH

Have you killed other aliens?

GWEN

Only when we had to. When it was a last resort, kill or be killed.

Beth looks at Jack's face, and reads a different answer from it.

BETH

I wish this wasn't happening. I'd never know, I could be living a normal life.

JACK

Until the day of the attack.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (2)

19

Beth bangs the glass in frustration.

BETH

I won't do anything! I'm not that person!

JACK

I'm sorry. But you are.

She just looks at him. And starts to cry, turning her face away from them.

CUT TO:

20 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

20

Jack talks to Gwen while Tosh puts cables away nearby.

JACK

We can't let her go. She's too dangerous.

TOSHIKO

We could freeze her. Use the alien cryogenics. Wake her up if we figure out how to stop her memories coming back.

GWEN

Freeze her? For how long?

TOSHIKO

As long as it takes. At least she'd be alive.

JACK

Her implant would still be gathering information.

GWEN

Can't we deactivate it?

TOSHIKO

I could isolate the transceiver, fry it with an E.M. pulse. Right now, it's not sending or receiving anything - I've checked it five times, on every frequency.

Owen joins them, concerned.

OWEN

Won't that let them know we're onto them?

(CONTINUED)

20

CONTINUED:

20

TOSHIKO

No. If we freeze her, she'll never activate, they'll never know.

Jack thinks about it. Doesn't like it much.

OWEN

What about her husband?

JACK

She'd have to disappear completely. No goodbyes.

Owen doesn't like it, but can't argue.

JACK (CONT'D)

Get the cryo unit ready.

CUT TO:

20A

INT. TORCHWOOD, CORRIDOR - DAY

20A

Jack and Gwen lead Beth, handcuffed, along the corridor.

BETH

We've got a holiday booked. Just a weekend away. Nothing special. Somewhere warm. Will I ever see him again?

GWEN

I don't know.

Suddenly Beth cries out, flinching. Jack and Gwen struggle to hold her up, as she gets a brief memory of:

CUT TO:

21

EXT. WASTELAND - DAY

21

A mushroom cloud puffs out. Flashes of screaming faces, people running in a wasteland. Bleached out imagery, Beth's warrior memories coming back.

CUT TO:

22

INT. TORCHWOOD, CORRIDOR - DAY

22

Beth groans in horror.

BETH

Stop, stop, st--

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

She flinches again as we see:

CUT TO:

23 INT. SMALL BEDROOM - NIGHT

23

Beth's bedroom, as Beth leaps to her feet, lunges towards the two terrified burglars. Rams her fist at his stomach.

The burglar falls to his knees, stabbed. Note: We still can't see what she stabbed him with.

The dying burglar looks up as something sharp flashes towards him. Swish - thwack. Beth heads towards the other burglar, moving fast, her face blank.

CUT TO:

23A INT. TORCHWOOD, CORRIDOR - DAY

23A

Beth shudders, and it slowly passes.

BETH

Those men... oh God, those poor men...
what's happening?

JACK

Your real memory is coming back.
Destroying the fake human persona. The sooner we do this, the better. For everyone.

CUT TO:

24 INT. TORCHWOOD, AUTOPSY ROOM - DAY

24

Beth is strapped on to the table, as Tosh prepares to deactivate the implant transceiver. Jack and Gwen watch, Owen waits next to his medical kit and a white casket.

BETH

Promise me something? If you can't figure out how to keep me human? Don't wake me up. Just turn the machine off.

GWEN

That's not a promise I can keep.

BETH

(to Jack)

You, then. I bet you can. Just don't let me hurt anyone.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

Jack nods.

JACK

You have my word.

BETH

It's funny. I've always had this nagging feeling that I didn't fit in.

She looks away.

BETH (CONT'D)

I was so desperate to have a more exciting life.

Tosh gets up, and brings over a small device like a hand scanner, but with several cables running from it.

TOSHIKO

I'm going to hit the transceiver with an electro-magnetic pulse, but you shouldn't feel anything. It won't harm you.

BETH

Okay.

TOSHIKO

It'll take out your forcefield generator too, I'm afraid - it's too close to avoid it, so I'll have to fry them both.

BETH

Do it. I don't want to be invincible.

OWEN

Once that's done, I'll sedate you, and we'll freeze you.

BETH

Will it hurt?

OWEN

No. Just like going to sleep. Only a bit colder.

Tosh holds the device over Beth's arm. She presses a button on the scanner, and the arm starts to deactivate.

BETH

Goodbye Gwen.

Gwen nods, upset.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: (2)

24

TOSHIKO

Done.

The scanner beeps. But nobody realises that behind them, on a monitor displaying a scan of the arm, a small circular part of the implant flashes white three times...

CUT TO:

25 INT. SUBURBAN DINING ROOM - DAY

25

A man, DAVID, and his WIFE, are having a drink before dinner, chatting and laughing.

DAVID

...so I stood up, and said fine, you want the whole bloody seat, it's yours, be my guest. In fact, why don't we ask all the other passengers to just get off, so you can have the whole carriage to yourself? Would you like that?

DAVID'S WIFE

You didn't!

DAVID

I did. Really loud, too. Couldn't help it, I was really annoyed. So she gives me the dirtiest look, right, and says--

He stops abruptly, his whole demeanour changing, face blank. He rolls up his sleeve. His forearm now looks like Beth's. A red, raised section on it is flashing.

DAVID'S WIFE

David? What is that?

He puts his glass down, and stands up.

DAVID'S WIFE (CONT'D)

What happened to your arm?

He starts to leave the room.

DAVID'S WIFE (CONT'D)

Hey! Where are you going? You're scaring me!

David stops, looks back. Checks his watch.

He quickly strides over to his wife, grabs her head and BREAKS HER NECK in one fluid movement.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

She falls forward with a thud. David leaves.

CUT TO:

26 OMITTED

26

27 EXT. PEDESTRIAN SHOPPING CENTRE - DAY

27

A young MOTHER is walking her baby in a buggy, when suddenly her forearm activates in the same way.

She stops, stares at it for a moment, then turns and walks away in the opposite direction, abandoning the buggy, which trundles away towards a busy main road.

She doesn't look back. From behind her, the sounds of screams, skidding tyres, and a car crash.

CUT TO:

28 EXT. STREET - DAY

28

A middle aged, male PARAMEDIC suddenly stops giving CPR to a man collapsed on the pavement. He looks at his arm, which is now the same as the others. The Second Paramedic wonders what he's doing.

The Paramedic just walks away, leaving his baffled colleague to pick up where he left off.

CUT TO:

29 OMITTED

29

30 INT. TORCHWOOD, AUTOPSY ROOM - DAY

30

On the examination table is a white casket with flashing lights on the side. Beth lies inside it, sedated, looking tiny and helpless.

Owen closes the lid, and starts operating the panel. With a hiss, crackle and a wisp of cold air, the casket freezes.

The panel shows her vital signs dropping to zero.

OWEN

It's done.

Gwen looks upset, and leaves the room.

CUT TO:

31 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE MORGUE - DAY

31

Gwen and Ianto slide the casket into a drawer. Shut the door.

CUT TO:

32 INT. TORCHWOOD, CRYO CASKET - DAY

32

Beth lies in the casket, motionless.

Her eyes snap open. Her arm panel activates.

CUT TO:

33 INT. TORCHWOOD, MORGUE DRAWER - DAY

33

On the panel, Beth's vital signs start going back to normal.

CUT TO:

34 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

34

Gwen gets back to her desk, and sits down. All the lights start flickering. Gwen frowns, activates the security monitor for the morgue. Then jumps up when it shows the open storage door, and the empty casket.

GWEN

Shit!

All the lights go out in the Hub, except for the red emergency lighting. Alarms go off. The rest of the gang rush in with torches.

JACK

What happened?

GWEN

Beth's gone.

JACK

I thought she was frozen.

OWEN

She was! Her vitals were all at zero.

Tosh grabs the keyboard.

TOSHIKO

Checking systems, command history...

All the lights come back on.

(CONTINUED)

34

CONTINUED:

34

JACK

What did she do? Is it a virus, a
lockdown?

TOSHIKO

No... she just turned off all the
lights.

JACK

What is it with her and light bulbs?

Tosh checks another monitor.

TOSHIKO

She went through the tunnels.

Ianto breezes past.

IANTO

Time to change the locks again?

JACK

She knew everything about this place, it
was all in her arm. The tunnels,
layout, security codes... She could have
shut us down, blown us up, anything.

GWEN

But she didn't.

OWEN

I swear, she was frozen.

JACK

Tosh, you switched off the transceiver?

TOSHIKO

Yes.

JACK

Are you sure?

TOSHIKO

Well... I was, until you asked. Unless
it was another false image.

OWEN

(realising)

False image... Hold on. Oh God -
everything about her was a lie.

He checks the cryo casket systems on his screens.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED: (2)

34

OWEN (CONT'D)

All of her vital signs were a false image. She can fool the equipment, tell it what we're expecting to see - she gets scared, it projects an increased heart rate, we try and freeze her, it does the opposite.

He's relieved now that there's an explanation.

TOSHIKO

Simulating that much information would need a huge amount of power -no wonder she had a big electro-magnetic field.

OWEN

That's why the lights kept blowing when she got upset.

TOSHIKO

So what's she doing? Did we activate her?

JACK

She couldn't be activated - if she was, we'd all be dead. We took her off the network, she has some other agenda.

GWEN

I think I know where she's going.

CUT TO:

35 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

35

Mike wakes up, to see Beth looking down at him, smiling.

BETH

Hey. How are you feeling?

MIKE

What's going on? Nobody will tell me anything. Are you all right?

BETH

I'm fine. Listen. You know I love you, don't you?

MIKE

Course I do, and I love you too.

BETH

Promise?

(CONTINUED)

35

CONTINUED:

35

Mike doesn't like where this is going.

MIKE

Why?

BETH

I just needed to make sure. I've got to go away.

MIKE

What do you mean? Where?

BETH

I can't tell you. For your own good.

MIKE

Beth, what are you talking about?

BETH

I'm sorry. I just have to stay away. If I don't, I'll end up hurting you.

MIKE

This is hurting me! Don't go.

BETH

I wish I could, I really do. Whatever happens, just know that I love you, and always will.

MIKE

If you've done something, I don't care, just don't leave me, we'll get through this.

BETH

Not this time. I've got to put things right, and I can't do that anywhere near you. I love you too much for that.

She grabs him, and they clumsily hug, tightly.

MIKE

I'm not going to let you go. I don't care what it is, no matter--

Swish, thwack. A strangely familiar noise.

They start to come out of the embrace.

MIKE (CONT'D)

What was that?

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: (2)

35

BETH

Don't know, sounded like--

As they separate, they realise that the end of Beth's right arm has transformed into a JAGGED BLADE, and is sunk deep into Mike's chest. Beth pulls it out of the wound in horror.

They look at the spreading bloodstain on Mike's chest. He starts gasping for breath.

BETH (CONT'D)

No! Oh God, help! HELP! Somebody, get a doctor! Help!

She hits the emergency call button.

MIKE

What... are... you...

Mike falls back, gurgling as he chokes on his own blood.

BETH

Oh no! I'm so sorry! I'm sorry!
Please don't leave me. Please.

But Mike is dead.

Jack and Gwen burst in, armed, holding the hand scanner and E.M.P. emitter. They see Beth, horrified, looking at her arm. The spike retracts, but her arm panel stays up.

BETH (CONT'D)

It was an accident... I just wanted to tell him... to say goodbye...

Gwen quickly checks her arm with the scanner, then shakes her head at Jack.

GWEN

She's clear.

JACK

But she's losing control, it's getting worse. We need to contain her, fast.

GWEN

Come on Beth. Let's get you back.

BETH

No! I can't...

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: (3)

35

She sinks to the ground, utterly destroyed.

CUT TO:

36 OMITTED

36

37 INT. POSH HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

37

The GRAINGER family eat dinner - GRAINGER, MRS GRAINGER, and two kids ALEX (boy, 9) and CHARLIE (girl, 12).

GRAINGER

So what else happened at school?

CHARLIE

Alex's got a girlfriend.

Alex nearly chokes on his peas.

ALEX

I'm gonna kill you so much.

The doorbell rings. Grainger gets up to answer it.

MRS GRAINGER

Alex, don't talk to your sister like
that.

CUT TO:

38 INT. POSH HOUSE HALLWAY - DAY

38

He opens the door, revealing DAVID, the man who killed his wife earlier.

DAVID

Patrick Grainger?

GRAINGER

Yes?

FX: As soon as he confirms it, David's arm morphs into the jagged blade - the same as Beth's - and rams itself into Grainger's chest. Grainger staggers backwards.

David strides inside after him, grabbing him.

CUT TO:

39 INT. POSH HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

39

Mrs Grainger and the kids scream as David follows the staggering Grainger into the room.

(CONTINUED)

39

CONTINUED:

39

FX: David keeps his fist against Grainger's chest, as we hear the blade extend and retract several times.

CHARLIE

Daddy!

Mrs Grainger holds them, keeping them back and behind her.

Grainger sinks to his knees, like the burglar in the opening scene. David places his blade against Grainger's forehead.

Mrs Grainger quickly shields Alex and Charlie's eyes, but there's nobody to shield hers. Swish! Splat! She flinches as we hear Grainger being killed.

MRS GRAINGER

Please. Don't hurt my children.

But David is not interested in them. He turns and leaves.

CUT TO:

40

EXT. BUSY STREET - DAY

40

The middle aged Paramedic is driving a massive petrol tanker down the street. He slows to a stop, turning it sideways so that it blocks all the traffic.

Horns blare as he climbs out. A large, tough-looking DRIVER gets out of his car and approaches.

DRIVER

Oi! Fuckflaps! Get back in that truck, or I'll shove it up your arse!

The Paramedic ignores him, and a small metal disc comes out of his arm panel, like a slot loading DVD drive. He twists the disc, and it starts beeping. He attaches it to the side of the petrol tanker. It glows red.

DRIVER (CONT'D)

Oh, God.

He turns and runs. The Paramedic, without any hesitation or further thought, reaches for the detonation button.

CUT TO:

41 INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY

41

Jack and Gwen are slowly moving the distraught Beth along.

Jack touches his in-ear comm unit, making it beep.

JACK

Tosh? We got her. It's all over.
We're on our way--

KABOOM! The sound of a distant explosion, but still shockingly loud. All of the windows to the outside explode inwards, showering them with glass. The curtains billow in the shockwave.

Screams, people running, panic. Gwen helps Beth up.

JACK (CONT'D)

You okay?

GWEN

Yeah, think so.

Jack gets on the comm again.

JACK

What the hell was that?

CUT TO:

42 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

42

Tosh and Owen are checking the screens.

TOSHIKO

Petrol tanker. Looks like someone wanted to take out the M4 link road, for some--.

She trails off, checking her maps.

TOSHIKO (CONT'D)

No! It's not the road! There's an underground fuel pipeline! It's the special fuel supply for the military, they use it in emergencies.

OWEN

Not any more. Hold on.

Owen's checking his own screen. He connects to the call.

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED:

42

OWEN (CONT'D)

Just got a report that Patrick
Grainger's been murdered.

TOSHIKO

Who?

CUT TO:

43 INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY

43

Jack listens as they keep walking, heading outside.

OWEN (O.S.)

Leader of the council. Stabbed several
times in the chest, and once in the
forehead. Sound familiar?

CUT TO:

44 EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

44

Jack, Gwen and Beth are now outside.

GWEN

Why would anyone want to kill him?

IANTO (O.S.)

He's also the city co-ordinator. Takes
charge of the city in case of major
emergencies, has all the security
protocols.

OWEN (O.S.)

How do you know all that?

IANTO (O.S.)

I know everything. And it says it on
the bottom of the screen.

Jack stops walking. The penny drops.

JACK

They're putting all the pieces in place.

CUT TO:

45 EXT. TELEPHONE SWITCHING STATION - DAY

45

A large, grey building. A small plaque next to the door
reads "Telecommunications Switching Station & Mobile
Switching Centre".

(CONTINUED)

45

CONTINUED:

45

The Mother who abandoned her buggy calmly walks towards the building. In her hand is a small metal disc, like the one the Paramedic had. She twists it to activate it.

FX: She enters the building. Seconds later, the entire front of the building EXPLODES, doors and windows blowing out.

CUT TO:

46

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

46

Jack figures it out.

JACK

Tosh, Owen - it's starting, it's happening right now--

But his comm gives out a burst of static, and goes dead. Jack winces at the sudden noise. He taps his ear, twice.

JACK (CONT'D)

Tosh?

He looks around him. A busy, modern street, nearly every other person is on the phone, or texting. But now, they are all looking at their phones in confusion.

Gwen gets her phone out - "NO SERVICE"

JACK (CONT'D)

It's not just her. She's part of a cell. And they're activated.

Jack rounds on Beth.

JACK (CONT'D)

It's happening, now. Tell me how to stop it.

Beth is still dazed and upset, not focusing.

BETH

It can't be--

JACK

Well it is! Think!

Beth flinches. Gwen takes over.

GWEN

Beth, look at me. How do we stop it?

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

46

BETH

I don't know, I'm cut off from the cell.
I don't what the mission is. I'm sorry.

GWEN

What about your implant? How did you
get out of Torchwood?

BETH

The technology is part of me. I can
switch it on, use the tools.

GWEN

Could you do that now? Track the others
in the cell?

BETH

What if it goes wrong? Last time I used
it...

She can't complete the sentence, it's too painful.

GWEN

But if you don't, then everyone will
die. Not just Mike.

Beth winces at the mention of him. She nods, bravely,
and holds up her arm, concentrating on the panel. She
starts manipulating it, "typing" on it. Jack keeps his
hand on his gun, wary.

BETH

There's only one left. I can track him.

JACK

Let's go.

CUT TO:

47 EXT. TORCHWOOD SUV - DAY

47

Car doors slam shut as Jack, Gwen, and Beth pile into the
Torchwood SUV. Beth's in the back, Jack's in the driving
seat, Gwen rides shotgun.

The SUV speeds away from the hospital.

CUT TO:

48 INT. TORCHWOOD SUV - DAY

48

Jack guns the engine.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

48

JACK

Hang on.

CUT TO:

48A EXT. DAVID'S CAR - DAY

48A

David's car goes through a junction, leaving the city.

CUT TO:

49 EXT. RADIO SHOP - DAY

49

The car sits outside a musty old shop selling electrical equipment. Beth and Gwen are in the car. Jack comes running out of the shop with a CB radio car kit.

GWEN

What's that?

JACK

CB radio. They knocked out the phones, they can't knock out radio waves. Not yet, anyway.

GWEN

How are you going to attach that?

She points to the roof aerial. Jack whips out a roll of duct tape, holds the aerial next to the wing mirror, and quickly wraps several feet of duct tape around them both, fastening the aerial to the car.

JACK

There goes the paint. Ianto's going to kill me...

GWEN

Very clever.

JACK

Never underestimate duct tape. One time, I was stuck in a lift with some-- you know what, nobody needs to hear about that one.

CUT TO:

50 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

50

Tosh and Owen are going stir crazy, trying to figure out what to do.

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED:

50

TOSHIKO

No, I can't "just hook something up",
the entire telephone network is down!

OWEN

What about a mobile connection?

Tosh rubs her eyes and says, apparently for the 20th time:

TOSHIKO

The. Entire. Telephone. Network. Is.
Down.

IANTO

Mobiles, landlines, tin-cans with bits of string. Everything. Absolutely everything. No phones. Phones all broken. "Hello? Is there anyone there? No, because the phones aren't working."

Beat.

OWEN

What about--

TOSHIKO

There is NO WAY of getting in touch with Jack! No! Way!

Crackle.

JACK (O.S.)

Tosh, Owen, can you hear me?

They look at each other. Tosh races over to the corner, where an old CB radio unit sits under stacks of folders. She swipes the folders off, and grabs the handset.

TOSHIKO

Jack! Thank God. What happened?

CUT TO:

51 INT. TORCHWOOD SUV - DAY

51

Jack sits in the car while Gwen holds the microphone near his mouth. They haven't driven off yet.

JACK

There's a cell, it's active. Four including Beth, two are dead, we're tracking the last guy now.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

JACK (CONT'D)

If we get him before he does anything,
we can stop this.

TOSHIKO (O.S.)

What can I do?

JACK

He's heading for an abandoned farm just
outside the city, used to be called
Cliffside Farm. I need to know what's
out there.

He starts the engine.

CUT TO:

52 OMITTED

52

53 INT. DAVID'S CAR - DAY

53

David is leaving the city, speeding but in control.
Occasionally he glances at his arm panel, following
directions only he can understand.

CUT TO:

54 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

54

Toshiko and Owen are going over ordnance survey maps,
military files, public records, but coming up with
nothing.

OWEN

Where the hell is he going? There's
nothing there!

We look at the big, empty field on the map, next to a
large cliff face. Tosh has an idea.

TOSHIKO

Nothing on the surface...

She types furiously, clicking around screens too fast to
see. The screen glitches, a loose connection. Owen
bangs the top of it to fix it - but it just goes dead.

TOSHIKO (CONT'D)

What did you do that for?

OWEN

Trying to fix it!

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

TOSHIKO

It's sensitive electronic equipment,
what did you think would happen?

IANTO

You should try shooting it, that would
definitely work.

Tosh reaches around the back, and checks the cable. The screen comes back on.

OWEN

Worked when The Fonz did it.

TOSHIKO

The Fonz is your yardstick for cool behaviour?

OWEN

Eyyyyyy! Don't diss The Fonz! Okay,
I'll stop now.

CUT TO:

55 INT. TORCHWOOD SUV - DAY

55

Jack yanks the wheel around, speeding recklessly.

Beth activates her arm panel again, and quickly presses sections of it, changing the display.

BETH

He's nearly there, we need to hurry.

JACK

Yes, hurrying, thank you.

Gwen looks back at Beth working her panel.

GWEN

What happens when it starts? Do you bring the heavy weaponry through, or something?

BETH

I don't know. It looks like we just have the arm stuff.

GWEN

So how do you manage to take over so quickly?

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED:

55

BETH

I don't know! I didn't even know how to
use this until recently.

Beth holds up her arm panel, frustrated.

CUT TO:

56 INT. DAVID'S CAR - DAY

56

David keeps driving.

CUT TO:

57 EXT. ABANDONED FARMHOUSE FENCE - DAY

57

An abandoned farm. Despite this, a new, sturdy, metal
fence surrounds it. Warning signs read "DANGER:
MINEFIELD TESTING GROUNDS. NO TRESPASSING."

In the near distance, the fields end by a huge, crumbling
cliff face.

David's car approaches, fast, heading for the main gates.
CRASH! His car smashes through them.

CUT TO:

58 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

58

Ianto hurries in with a large, old book.

IANTO

This is as far back as they go. There
used to be a coal mine in the cliff.
The army sealed it off in the 40s,
doesn't say why.

Owen holds the CB microphone near Tosh, so Jack can hear.

TOSHIKO

Let me see if I can sneak into the
military files.

The Ministry of Defence secure screen appears, and her
software quickly spools lots of numbers and letters
through the password box until the correct one appears.

TOSHIKO (CONT'D)

Come on guys, that wasn't even
difficult. You disappoint me.

(CONTINUED)

58

CONTINUED:

58

IANTO

It's almost obscene, what you do to
security systems.

Tosh calls up more information - files about the mineshaft, depth, blueprints, and so on. "HIGHLY CLASSIFIED" appears at the top of all of them. She freezes.

TOSHIKO

Oh God.

JACK (O.S.)

What is it?

TOSHIKO

The mineshaft. The military are using it for storage. For nuclear warheads. Ten of them. Nobody's supposed to know, not even us.

CUT TO:

59

INT. TORCHWOOD SUV - DAY

59

Jack looks at the other two.

JACK

So that's how it starts.

GWEN

No heavy weapons...

JACK

Exactly. They don't need any. They use our own against us...

Beth looks at him, realisation dawning on her face.

JACK (CONT'D)

We left the keys under the welcome mat. All you need to do is walk in and take over.

He glances at Beth in the rear view mirror, a new found respect - and fear - in his eyes. Beth looks sick at this news. The CB radio crackles.

TOSHIKO (O.S.)

Please tell me you can stop it.

JACK

Going as fast as we can.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

59

JACK (CONT'D)

If not, you won't feel a thing, we're all at the centre of the blast radius.

TOSHIKO (O.S.)

That's comforting.

JACK

Come on, have a little faith. With a dashing hero like me on the case, how can we fail?

CUT TO:

60 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

60

Tosh, Owen and Ianto stand around the CB.

IANTO

He is dashing, you have to give him that.

OWEN

What if they can't stop it?

TOSHIKO

They'll stop it.

OWEN

But if they can't?

IANTO

Then it's all over.

They all think about this.

OWEN

Let's all have sex.

They look at him.

IANTO

And I thought the end of the world couldn't get any worse. I stand corrected. And slightly nauseous.

CUT TO:

61 EXT. ABANDONED FARMHOUSE FENCE - DAY

61

The Torchwood SUV arrives at the fence, and drives straight through the gap.

(CONTINUED)

61 CONTINUED:

61

It zooms through the farm, passing the bodies of a few soldiers who have been run over.

CUT TO:

62 EXT. ABANDONED FARMHOUSE SECURITY BUILDING - DAY

62

A secure, grey building set against the crumbling cliff face. A large, locked door is protected by a security keypad over the road. About ten soldiers are between it and David's car, which pulls up slowly. David gets out.

The soldiers open fire, but the bullets bounce off him, some sparking off the car.

A soldier appears behind David, trying to overpower him. David calmly kills the soldier with his arm spike, grabs his machine gun, and swiftly shoots all the rest.

He walks to the keypad, holds his arm over it, and manipulates the raised sections on his arm panel. The keypad springs to life, scrolling through numbers, as his arm starts figuring out the passcode.

Beep! It gets the first number. Beep! The second. There are ten digits in total.

CUT TO:

63 INT. TORCHWOOD SUV - DAY

63

Jack slams his foot down hard. More and more soldiers' bodies litter the area, until up ahead they see David standing outside the security building, surrounded by even more dead soldiers.

The road leads them sideways on to David, not head on.

JACK

Okay, when we get there, I'll hold him down, you disable his forcefield and transceiver. How long do you need?

GWEN

I don't know, I've never done this before. Tosh?

TOSHIKO (O.S.)

Just a few seconds. Make sure the dampening field is in place first. That'll stop any transmissions while you're doing it.

CUT TO:

64 EXT. ABANDONED FARMHOUSE SECURITY BUILDING - DAY 64

Beep! Nine digits. Nearly there. David glances to his left at the approaching car, unconcerned. Beep! All ten digits. A green light goes on by the security door.

David starts walking from the keypad across the road towards the big security door.

CUT TO:

65 INT. TORCHWOOD SUV - DAY 65

They drive towards the scene of carnage. Jack heads straight for David, not slowing down.

JACK

Let's see how good his forcefield really is.

GWEN

Er - have we thought this part of the plan through?

JACK

Hey, I'm open to suggestions, preferably in the next three seconds.

Nobody says anything.

JACK (CONT'D)

Okay, then...

The car is heading straight for David--

CUT TO:

66 EXT. ABANDONED FARMHOUSE SECURITY BUILDING - DAY 66

--who glances to his left again. Sees what is coming for him. For the first time, a glimmer of emotion. Fear.

The car hits David's side at TOP SPEED, and he vanishes UNDER the SUV--

CUT TO:

67 INT. TORCHWOOD SUV - DAY 67

--which BOUNCES over his body. Jack slams on the brakes, Gwen, Beth and Jack thrown forward, yanked back painfully by their seatbelts--

CUT TO:

68

EXT. ABANDONED FARMHOUSE SECURITY BUILDING - DAY

68

--the Torchwood SUV skids to a halt about 30 feet away.

David's not dead, but can't get up or move his legs. No blood or cuts though, the forcefield is holding - he's just slightly askew.

But still, he's trying to pull himself towards the door, to finish his mission.

Gwen, Beth and Jack leap out. Gwen and Jack race over to David. Jack leaps on top of him, grabbing his arms, while Gwen tries to hold the scanner over his arm panel, also holding a semi-circular gadget underneath the arm.

JACK

This wasn't supposed to happen today.
Was there a date set? How do we stop
it?

FX: David's arm spike morphs out, spearing Jack in the shoulder. Jack cries out in pain, but doesn't let go of his arms. Gwen frantically works away with the scanner.

The scanner starts beeping, while Jack and David talk.

DAVID

It doesn't matter. You can't stop us.
We know what your weakness is. And we
know who you are, Jack Harkness. We
know all about you, and Torchwood. We
got plenty of information before you
switched her off.

He indicates Beth. His arm spike extends further, going deeper into Jack's shoulder. Jack winces, but holds tight.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You'll be factored into our plans.

JACK

Gwen?

GWEN

Got it. He's done.

She stands up. The light is green on the hand scanner.

Jack lets go of David, and pulls himself off the spike. David holds his arm up, looking at the arm panel.

(CONTINUED)

68

CONTINUED:

68

JACK

Don't bother, your transmitter's dead.
And so is your forcefield.

DAVID

You're lying.

JACK

Oh yeah?

Jack whips his gun out, and shoots a hole in David's shoulder. David yells in pain.

JACK (CONT'D)

Factor *that* into your plans. Now,
when are the others coming?

David smiles, a ghost of a smile, but a terrifying one.

DAVID

They're already here.

Close on Jack. It's the *worst* possible thing he could have learned. His swagger drains away. Helpless.

David ejects his metal disc bomb. It's already beeping.

JACK

(to Gwen and Beth)

Run!

Gwen, Beth and Jack run for cover.

GWEN

Will the warheads be safe?

JACK

That door should stop a nuclear strike
from the outside, in theory.

GWEN

In theory?

JACK

Yeah.

They keep running, and dive into a ditch.

KABOOM!

The explosion takes out David, and several soldier corpses.

(CONTINUED)

68 CONTINUED: (2)

68

When the smoke clears, the security building is blackened, but still standing, undamaged. The three of them stand up. Jack throws Gwen a "phew" glance.

JACK (CONT'D)

See? Told you the warheads would be fine.

GWEN

Yeah... never doubted it...

CUT TO:

69 INT. TORCHWOOD, THE HUB - DAY

69

Things are returning to normal. Tosh is getting the systems back up, while Owen is passing through.

Her monitor glitches again. Tosh pauses, then slaps the side of it. It starts working again. She smiles in triumph.

She looks up, and sees Owen looking right at her, eyebrows raised.

Ianto walks in with a pained expression. He holds the duct-taped CB aerial between his thumb and forefinger, as if it is something utterly foul. He bins it. Jack hides in his office, knowing he's in trouble...

CUT TO:

69A INT. TORCHWOOD, HOTHOUSE ROOM - DAY

69A

Beth sits staring at plants, in a world of her own. Gwen walks in, and sits down with her.

GWEN

We're all set with the cryogenics, when you're ready.

BETH

Will it work this time?

GWEN

Tosh reconfigured the casket, it'll work around the implant. No more false images.

Beth nods, not really paying attention.

BETH

If we'd been a minute later...

(CONTINUED)

69A CONTINUED:

69A

GWEN

We weren't. We stopped him.

BETH

What happens when you have to stop me?
If the freezing doesn't work?

GWEN

It won't come to that.

BETH

I can feel it coming, pushing me out...
What will you do when I lose my last bit
of... me?

GWEN

We'll figure something out.

BETH

No, we won't. I'm too dangerous, we
both know that. Have you got someone,
at home?

GWEN

Fiancee.

BETH

Have you ever hurt him?

Gwen goes quiet as she remembers her past crimes.

GWEN

More than once.

BETH

Remember how guilty you felt?
Imagine that times a billion, all the
time, every second of the day. That's
how I feel now. But the worst part is,
when I turn back, I won't feel guilty
anymore. I'll want to carry out my
mission. I won't even care about Mike.
I'll forget all about him.

She looks away, a single tear spilling out of one eye.

BETH (CONT'D)

I don't want to die as one of those
things, Gwen. I don't want to forget
Mike.

GWEN

Then don't. Who knows what we'll be
able to do in a month? A year?

(CONTINUED)

69A CONTINUED: (2)

69A

But Beth is no longer listening. She's made a decision.

BETH

Thanks for being so good to me,
Remember me the way I am now. Remember
Beth.

GWEN

What do you--

WHAM! Beth takes hold of Gwen and extends her arm spike,
holding it against her throat.

CUT TO:

69B INT. TORCHWOOD, SPACE BY HOTHOUSE / THE HUB - DAY

69B

Beth leads Gwen out onto the small area looking over the
main hub.

BETH

(shouting down)
I won't let you freeze me! I'll kill
you all!

OWEN, TOSH, IANTO and JACK are racing, guns drawn,
shouting.

OWEN

Let her go! Let! Her! Go!

GWEN

Don't shoot! It's a trick, she won't
hurt me!

TOSHIKO

Get away from her! Now!

Jack aiming his gun right at Beth.

JACK

Everybody calm down. Beth, you don't
want to do this, just let Gwen go, and
we'll talk.

BETH

I'll kill her first, then all of you,
then the rest of your miserable species.

GWEN

Beth, please! They'll kill you! You've
proved you're better than that, you
helped us stop the invasion - you can be
human.

(CONTINUED)

69B CONTINUED:

69B

Beth looks at Gwen, sadly, and whispers.

BETH

Not human enough. Goodbye, Gwen. And good luck.

She lifts her arm back, preparing to strike, leaving herself vulnerable.

GWEN

NO!

BLAM, BLAM, BLAM - everyone fires at Beth, riddling her with bullets, and snapping off her arm spike.

She's thrown to the ground, dead. Gwen rushes over, frantically checking on her, but it's too late.

GWEN (CONT'D)

She wanted you to shoot her. She wanted to die. She used her last shred of humanity to do this.

OWEN

We couldn't take the chance. She must have known that.

JACK

She did know. She wanted to make it easy for us.

Gwen stares at Beth's body. But doesn't cry. She's been through too much to cry over this. She's toughened up.

CUT TO:

70 OMITTED

70

71 INT. TORCHWOOD, JACK'S OFFICE - DAY

71

Jack toys with Beth's severed arm-spike. It's about a foot long, and wickedly sharp. Gwen is in the doorway.

GWEN

You think we stopped it?

JACK

Maybe. Maybe we've just put it off. I don't know. We don't know anything.

GWEN

We know plenty. We know about their implant.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

71

CONTINUED:

71

GWEN (CONT'D)

We can disable their forcefield. We know how they attack. We know they can be killed. And while they think they have the element of surprise - we know they haven't. But until that day, we have to just keep on doing what we do.

Jack smiles at her.

JACK

Them's fightin' words. And don't think I haven't noticed the ring.

GWEN

Wondered when you were going to say something.

JACK

Rhys?

GWEN

No, some random stranger.

JACK

Have you set a date?

GWEN

Oh, don't get me started, my mum's already been on the phone, why don't you do it at our local church, it's ever so lovely...

They share a moment. He's really pleased for her.

JACK

Go home. Keep doing what we do.

She nods, and leaves. Jack keeps smiling, waving as she disappears out the door.

When he is alone again, the confidence and swagger vanish. He picks up the arm-spike, and looks at it.

For a moment, he looks scared, alone, human.

THE END