

Torchwood: Lost Souls

By

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Music: Muse – Sing for Absolution

SCENE 1: INT. A TUNNEL

A cold, echoing, underground tunnel. The music is on Leon's walkman.. LEON mending a piece of machinery. He's whistling along to the music as we hear metal scrape.

PROFESSOR (Communicator bleep) Leon? How are you getting on?

LEON I've re-secured the binding so the magnet's fixed, Professor, and inspected all the cooling pipes, and they're all ok. We're ready to go.

PROFESSOR (Comms) That's excellent. We don't want any hitches tomorrow. Thanks,. See you when you get back.

LEON: OK. See you up there.

Leon starts to pick up his tools, humming along to the music.

GHOST (DISTANT) Don't leave me, Leon.

Leon jumps, thinking it's a mate playing a trick.

LEON Who's that? Hello?

GHOST (CLOSER) Ab –sol – u - tion...

LEON Hey, who's there? Stop messing about.

GHOST (CLOSER) There's nowhere left to hide...

LEON (UNNERVED) Look, this isn't funny.

GHOST (CLOSER) Sing for Absolution...

LEON (breathless) What do you want..? (BEAT) Oh my God! What are you? Get away from me. (STARTS TO CHOKE). No!.

Suddenly the GHOST is up close. All around him. Terrifying. Voices swirling around.

GHOST Come closer, Leon. Come to me. You're mine now. Your life is our life. (A SUCKING SOUND)

Leon screams and passes out. The GHOST stops suddenly as well. And there's silence except for the dripping pipe and MUSE on the radio (at a suitably spooky instrumental bit).

OPENING TITLES Torchwood. Outside the Government. Beyond the police. Fighting for the future on behalf of the Human Race. The 21st Century's when everything changes. And Torchwood is ready.

SCENE 2: INT. A NIGHTCLUB

Club music

JACK: Stand back! Everybody get back.

BOUNCER Hey. What do you think you're playing at?

JACK Chasing a Weevil. Tall thing. Leather skin, sharp teeth. Terrible dress sense.

BOUNCER Who the hell are you?

JACK Captain Jack Harkness. Torchwood.

GWEN Gwen Cooper. We catch aliens.

IANTO Ianto Jones. And we need to catch this one before...

A man screams.

GWEN Over there! By the fire exit! Come on!

JACK: Excuse us. Mind your backs. Coming though.

Them running. People "oof"ing as they push past them.

They burst through the exit doors to outside. They're in the Bay.
Suddenly Jack's phone rings.

SCENE 3 – THE BAY

JACK You two carry on.

GWEN (simultaneous) Okay

IAN TO: (simultaneous) We're on it.

They run off and chase the WEEVIL. We hear them running in the background, off and on, during the rest of the scene.

JACK: (INTO PHONE) Hello?

MARTHA (PHONE) Jack?

JACK Martha Jones! Suddenly outside a tacky nightclub, the voice of a nightingale.

MARTHA (PHONE/IMPATIENT) Where are you?

JACK Oh you know us, chasing a weevil around Cardiff Bay. It's a quiet night, really. (BEAT) Martha, you okay?

MARTHA (PHONE) Jack. I need you.

JACK Don't tell me - you've finally seen the light and dumped that fiancé of yours! I'm on the first train to London.

MARTHA (PHONE) I'm not in London. I'm in Switzerland. Have you heard of CERN?

JACK Home of the famous particle accelerator - what are you doing there?

MARTHA (PHONE) There's a big thing here a few days, lots of politicians, diplomats, people with too much money - UNIT are covering security for it.

JACK: Okay.

MARTHA: They also wanted a UNIT medical team on hand because its new technology and everyone's just that bit more paranoid than normal.

JACK: Sounds like fun. Not.

MARTHA: Tell me about it. Anyway, listen, a friend of mine worked here and when I arrived, she told me people were going missing and.... Look, Jack, something really odd's happening. My friend's disappeared.... I need your help. Please, tell me you'll come.

JACK You know I will.

MARTHA (PHONE) Oh, and..umm..don't come in all guns blazing, yeah? Me bringing in Torchwood isn't going to make my bosses happy, but I need a fresh pair of eyes looking over things and . (BEAT) damn, someone's coming. I gotta go..

She ends the call.

JACK Martha?

A BIG SPLASH IN THE BACKGROUND. GWEN AND IANTO APPROACH

JACK: Where's the weevil?

GWEN: It, er, went into the Bay.

JACK: Oh. Can weevils swim?

IANTO: Apparently not. (BEAT) Anyone for coffee?

JACK Right, coffee, good idea. Then Torchwood's going to Switzerland!

SCENE 4: INT. THE AEROPLANE

Interior SFX of an aeroplane. The Flight Attendant is giving the safety instructions – which continues under JACK and GWEN's opening dialogue.

ATTENDANT *Ladies and gentlemen, we should be arriving in Geneva in about thirty minutes. Anyone requiring immigration or customs forms should alert a member of the flight crew now. Thank you..*

JACK Did I ever tell you about the time I flew from Venus to Mars? You should have seen that flight crew. All those hands... all those pincers...

GWEN Yes, thank you, Jack. Anyway, I've found out a few things about this particle physics laboratory. Over 10,000 people work there, from 100 different countries.

JACK: Martha said people were disappearing.

GWEN: Well, I certainly couldn't find any official record of any accidents or people disappearing, just a load of scientists all working on something called the LHC, which they'll be switching on in a couple of hours.

JACK The Large Hadron Collider. A thing of beauty. Oh, I love what they're doing – pushing the boundaries of human knowledge.

IAN TO So what exactly are they trying to do with this collider thing?

JACK: They're looking for the Higgs particle.

GWEN: The what?

JACK The fundamental particle of existence. Look out of the window.
See those clouds?

GWEN: Yeah

JACK What do they look like?

IAN TO Candy-floss?

JACK: They look solid though, yeah? But they're not.

GWEN: Yes, thank you Jack. Everyone knows what clouds are made
of.

JACK Well imagine you had a huge digital camera and you could zoom
in further. Right into the clouds so you could see the individual
rain drops. Then zoom in further still and you see that the rain
drops are made of molecules, H₂O. Then zoom in further and
see what hydrogen is made of , one proton and one electron,
and zoom into the proton and-

GWEN (INTERRUPTS) Okay, we get it.

JACK And that's where it gets interesting. At CERN they've found a
way to look at those particles. To the very building blocks of
matter, of the universe, of everything.

IAN TO They've got a really big camera?

JACK Not exactly.

JACK They've built the world's biggest particle collider, deep underground, in a circular tunnel 25 kms around. They're gonna send protons racing around at the speed of light, smash them into each other and boom! Kind of like the Big Bang.

GWEN: The Big Bang. Impressive. So why would they want to make anyone disappear?

JACK I don't know, maybe these people found out something and had to be 'removed'. This proton smashing isn't trivial stuff. Some people think it could open a gateway to a parallel dimension, or create a black hole. Or even turn the world inside out.

GWEN: What?

JACK: Hey. Don't look so worried! It's only a theory. Everything's going to be fine.

IANTO: They're going to recreate the Big Bang but everything's going to be fine. That's alright then.

JACK: Yeah! Well, a billionth of a second after the Big Bang anyway. And Martha's got us front row tickets!

ATTENDANT: Ladies and Gentlemen, the captain has turned on the seat belt sign. We could be experiencing some slight turbulence on the remainder of our journey to Geneva.

SCENE 5: EXT. THE CERN FACILITY

JACK (APPROACHING) Get ready for the biggest hug of your life, Doctor Jones!

MARTHA Jack! It's so good to see you! Gwen, Ianto - how are you?

GWEN We're doing okay. Thanks

IANTO: Nice to see you Martha. How've you been, you know, since the funeral?

MARTHA: I've been ok - thanks. Working over here, mostly. (beat) Right, follow me then.

JACK: So, tell us, what's going on?

MARTHA Right, this mate of mine, Julia Swales, well, she works here as a doctor, and a few weeks ago she noticed that people were being taken ill with symptoms no one could really understand. So, because nobody here could do anything, the patients were sent to some specialist hospital across the border in France. Which all makes sense. Except, when Julia contacted the hospital she found that they never arrived. They've vanished – all eleven of them. Julia was worried, and as soon as I arrived with the rest of the UNIT medical team, she told me about it.

JACK Clever Julia.

MARTHA Clever Julia who's now gone missing as well.

GWEN Why didn't the UNIT team investigate?

MARTHA They did, but couldn't find any evidence of anything wrong. And once Julia vanished, I knew I needed you guys. (BEAT) Two

days ago another worker fell ill– he’s still in the Sick Bay. I hoped you’d take a look at him.

JACK And you can get us in there? Without UNIT’s security teams being alerted?

MARTHA They’re rushed off their feet. The Large Hadron Collider’s being activated today so they’ve got loads of dignitaries and ambassadors here. And right now, there’s a reception being held for them.

JACK (LAUGHS) A reception for the ambassadors? An ambassador’s reception.

MARTHA (WEARILY AMUSED) Yes, Jack.

IAN TO Excellente.

They enter the building.

SCENE 6 – CERN RECEPTION

GUARD Security passes please.

MARTHA Here's mine.... And this is Mr Ianto Jones... you should have him on your list.

GUARD Mr Ianto Jones (BEAT) The Ambassador for Wales?

IANTO Oh, hello. That's me.

JACK What?

MARTHA And this is his wife, Gwen

GWEN: Hi.

JACK: (makes disgruntled noise)

MARTHA: And their personal assistant, Mr Harkness.

GUARD Sir. Madam. Here are your passes.

IANTO Thank you. Darling, shall we go in?

GWEN Darling, it would be a pleasure.

GUARD And there's one for you.

JACK (GRUMPY) Yeah, whatever.

They enter the building. Industrial . Metal floors. Cramped.

MARTHA Well, if you'd like to follow me, ambassador. Oh, and before I forget, here's an entry pack. It's got a map and an itinerary and stuff. We'd really hate for you to get lost down there.

IAN TO Mademoiselle, with these maps you are really spoiling us.

MARTHA (PULLING OPEN THE LIFT DOOR) Just get in the lift. Going down!

SCENE 7: INT. THE LIFT

GWEN Ooh, my ears just popped. How much further down is it?

MARTHA It's about 100 metres altogether.

IANTO: Will our bluetooths and mobiles work down here?.

MARTHA Should do, give it a try now.

JACK Jack calling Gwen, Ianto

GWEN: Yep.

IANTO: Loud and clear.

MARTHA We're there. Undercover, Jack. Remember?

JACK: Sure .

The lift bumps as it stops and the doors open

SCENE 8 – Underground at CERN

MARTHA Well, here we are.

JACK: Hm. Impressive.

MARTHA It's like an underground city down here. Research labs, offices,
and the Control Room's on this side.

JACK: (thrilled) What's that?

MARTHA: That's ATLAS - the biggest of the particle detectors

GWEN Wow.

IAN TO It is indeed very... wow.

GWEN: It's like a giant ferris wheel .

MARTHA: And behind *that* is the entrance to the tunnel.

JACK: And that's where the LHC is, right?

PROFESSOR (APPROACHING) The Large Hadron Collider – that's quite
correct. It's the tube that the protons beams will be fired
through. Welcome. Professor Caitriona Johnson, head of the
LHC project. And you are?

JACK Jack Harkness.

IAN TO My personal assistant! (BEAT) Ianto Jones, Ambassador from
Wales. My wife, Gwen.

PROFESSOR Well, it's good to have you here.

GWEN: This must be a very exciting day for you.

PROFESSOR: Nothing could be more important. I've been working all my professional life towards this day. Today we could unlock the secrets of dark matter. What we're about to do could change our understanding of the universe.

JACK: How long until the Collider's activated?

PROFESSOR The countdown's already started. Just thirty minutes to go. In fact, Dr Jones, perhaps you'd like to take these guests to the Viewing Area.

MARTHA: Yes, of course.

PROFESSOR: Now, if you'll excuse me.

MARTHA Ambassador, if you'd like to come with me.

IANTO: Thank you Doctor Jones.

MARTHA: Right. Sickbay's down this corridor.

SCENE 9: INT. THE SICK BAY

A door slides open and they enter the Sick Bay. Beeping heart monitors etc. Much more comfortable than the other rooms.

OLIVER Ah hello, Martha. I was wondering where you'd got to.

MARTHA I've been roped in to show visitors around. Ambassador, this is Doctor Oliver Harrington, head of UNIT's medical team. And my boss.

JACK: Nice to meet you, Doctor.

IAN TO: Looks like you've got some very impressive equipment down here.

OLIVER Well, we're not exactly in an ordinary situation. Cut off from the outside world in a little underground base.

IAN TO: I know the feeling.

OLIVER Oh, but I mean, it's quite an honour being here. There's not many get the chance to work alongside the world's brightest scientists. There's more Phd's down here than in a dictionary! (CHUCKLES AT HIS OWN JOKE THEN TRAILS OFF). Yes, well. Good to meet you.

GWEN Dr Harrington, when they activate the LHC, could there be side-effects? You know, could the health of the people working here be affected?

OLIVER Oh not at all. We've checked and double-checked everything so no, not expecting any problems at all. Today you're more likely to injure yourself slipping on a vol-u-vent.

GWEN Well, that's reassuring. Thanks.

OLIVER Well, if you'll excuse me. I'm representing UNIT's medical team, so I really should be getting along to the control room. I'm sure Dr Jones will take good care of you.

OLIVER leaves.

JACK: Handsome guy. (BEAT) Sad eyes though.

MARTHA His wife died last year. He nursed her through it, right until the end. Now, he's a workaholic. Guess he's blocking out the pain.

JACK (quiet) Easier down here in the darkness.
Okay Martha Jones,. let's take a look at your patient.

MARTHA Yeah, he's in intensive care – it's this way.

SCENE 10 – Intensive Care

They go into the next room. One heart monitor beeping. Small room. Oppressive.

IAN TO Who is he?

MARTHA Leon Foiret. A technician. He was working in the tunnel when... something happened. His bluetooth was switched on. (BEAT) They heard him screaming.

JACK I can't see any obvious injuries. No attack marks.

MARTHA He's in a deep coma. Won't respond to anything. Well... nothing we've got, anyway.

GWEN Okay. Well let's try this. A Bekaran deep-tissue scanner.

She activates the scanner.

MARTHA That's brilliant. I've never seen an x-ray like it.

GWEN: Owen was working on adapting it, before - Oh... The readings don't make any sense.

Choral noise starts

JACK What the hell is that?

IAN TO: Oh my god. His skin – it's glowing

The hum gets louder.

GWEN You can see right through it.

IANTO That is disgusting.

The hum gets louder and starts to pulse like a heartbeat.

MARTHA Right, everyone stand back... His temperature's going through the roof. Come on, Leon, stay with me. Leon, can you hear me? Leon?

LEON (HOARSE) Your life... is our life...

GWEN What?

The heart monitor going crazy.

MARTHA Okay, Leon. We're going to help you

LEON (CRIES OUT IN AGONY) Please! Don't take any more! Don't take any-

MARTHA: It's okay, Leon, shhh. I'm giving you something for the pain.

LEON: (groans)

He calms down again.

GWEN: It looks like he's stable again.

MARTHA: I've never seen anything like this.

IANTO Do you think this is what's happened to the missing people?

MARTHA Oh god, Julia.

JACK: (TAKING CONTROL) Okay, okay! Leon here was in the tunnel when he got sick, yeah? So was he exposed to something?

GWEN: The Collider?

JACK: Possibly, so let's find out where the other people were when they got sick. There has to be some connection between them.

MARTHA: I've got a list of their names. Here.

GWEN Is there a computer we can use? Check the facility's databases, that kind of thing?

MARTHA: There's the main computer room. Down the corridor. Third door on the right.

GWEN: Right, Ambassador, you're with me. We're going hacking.

IANTO: Yes, ma-am.

GWEN and IANTO leave.

JACK: Dontcha just love it when she gets bossy? Now, let's see if we can find out what's wrong the Angel Gabriel here.

MARTHA (Quiet) How are you, Jack. It's been a while since Owen and Tosh... Last time we talked about it...

JACK They're dead. And I've got to stay strong for the others. I'm fine.

MARTHA: Fine? I know you, Jack. I know what they meant to you. I know what they meant to me. (beat) .

JACK: We're getting through it. You know how death follows us. Follows me. (beat) All the times we try to cheat it. But no one escapes. Just me. Always me. (beat) I couldn't save them Martha.

MARTHA: Jack. I'm so... I'm so sorry.

JACK: The best I can do now is take care of Gwen ... Ianto.

MARTHA: Don't blame yourself! You can't. What happened to Owen and Tosh, it's not your fault.

JACK: I recruited them. Showed them a different sky. And now, . (sighs) Right... (switches on scanner again) Back to Goldenboy, let's see if we can find out what's happening to him.

SCENE 11: INT. THE COMPUTER ROOM

LOTS OF COMPUTERS...

GWEN Let's start with Martha's mate, Julia.

Throughout the scene, IANTO and GWEN are typing and reading different desktops.

IAANTO Swales, Julia... Okay, I'm into her personal records. What do you want to know?

GWEN When did she fall ill?

IAANTO: Two days ago. Says she was transferred to a hospital in Evian les Bain that night.

GWEN: Had she been into the tunnel where they found Leon?

IAANTO: Erm oh, wait a minute. It says here that she was the one who found him..

GWEN Okay. Janet Rousseau. Disappeared a week ago. A student on placement here.

IAANTO And... yeah. According to her work-log, she was working on the quadripole magnets the day she collapsed with what Doctor Harrington diagnosed as a severe migraine.

GWEN: According to what I'm seeing on here, those magnets are part of the Collider – in the tunnel. Who's next?

IANTO Alain Nilson, he was a maintenance worker - in the tunnel,
Jacques Fournier, a coolant expert collapsed after final
temperature adjustments were made . . .

GWEN/IANTO: . . in the tunnel.

GWEN So all these people go into the tunnel all perfectly normal. . . and
they come out complaining of migranes but, if Leon's anything to
go by, they're actually -

IANTO: Lit up like a Christmas Tree.

SCENE 12: INT. THE SICKBAY

MARTHA is scanning

MARTHA Jack, look at the liver composition.

JACK What?

MARTHA I've never seen anything like it. It appears to be losing its density.

JACK Okay. Weird.

MARTHA All his organs are fading .. It's like he's made of... tissue paper or something. Jack, he's disintegrating.

scanner noise

MARTHA: Oh...

JACK: What? What is it?.

MARTHA: The human body is made up of atoms, right? And each atom has a nucleus made up of protons and neutrons, floating in a cloud of electrons . .

JACK: Yeah.

MARTHA: Well, that's why he's falling apart. His neutrons are missing.

JACK: But you can't just lose your neutrons – they're part of you.

MARTHA: Oh, he hasn't just lost them. They've been taken.

JACK: Damn...

MARTHA: You recognise these symptoms, don't you?

JACK: Years ago. Well, years ago for me. Back when I was with the
Time Agency I saw a whole colony go the same way as
Goldenboy, and it wasn't pretty, believe me. There was this
creature... . . . We'd better tell Gwen and Ianto.

SCENE 13: SICK BAY

GWEN Okay, so something's happened in the tunnel... but how's it linked to the Large Hadron Collider - it hasn't been activated yet?

IAN TO No, hang on, let me just access this... oh yes! Got you. There was an earlier injection test. (READING) Back in April... . Only for a few seconds but they went live (READING)_ April 23rd.

JACK (Approaching) And I wonder what they let through?

GWEN What do you mean?

JACK The LHC may have only been activated for a few nano-seconds but something got into that tunnel.

MARTHA A creature that feeds on neutrons in the human body.

GWEN: What? Jack, what is it?

JACK: What it is doesn't matter. What matters is that we stop it.

GWEN: And stop them activating the LHC today, yeah?

JACK: A few nanoseconds back in April were long enough to let one creature through. The full experiment today? Who knows what's waiting to pay us a visit. I don't want to think about what else can come through....

I think it's time I had a word with Professor Johnson -

GWEN: Someone got the missing people away from the base's medics and from UNIT . We're talking about *twelve* people. They can't disappear without someone covering it up.

JACK: Someone in charge... someone who knows this base inside out...

GWEN: And the hospital the records say admitted them? It doesn't exist. (BEAT) I know what I'd do. Why risk taking them out? This place is like a small city. I'd hide them here.

IAN TO: (Typing) Let me bring up a satellite image of this place, and compare it with the site plan you gave us, Martha... Here you go...

MARTHA: Brilliant

GWEN: Look, here's a small building up on the surface, to the west of the main complex. It's not marked on the site plan.

MARTHA: Julia could be in there. I'm going to find out.

JACK: Okay. Good luck. Gwen, Ianto... I need to get to the Control Room. I know how we can neutralise the creature but we've got to locate it first - which means you going into the tunnel.

GWEN: OK

IAN TO: On our way.

JACK: Hope you're wearing your thermals..

SCENE 14: INT. THE TUNNEL

Cold, echoing, dimly lit. Spooky!

INTO This is no job for the Ambassador for Wales...

GWEN Okay, Jack, we're in the tunnel.

JACK (COMMS BLEEP) What can you see?

GWEN Not much. It's dark...

INTO And cold.

JACK (COMMS) Is Ianto moaning?

GWEN Oh, yes.

JACK (COMMS) Okay, get scanning. See if there's any trace of the creature. If you find it, call in immediately and I'll tell you what you have to do. Don't engage it by yourselves.

INTO Let's hope it doesn't want to engage us!

JACK (COMMS) Good hunting!

They activate the scanners.

GWEN I'll go this way, you go - oh. Bikes.

INTO Oh yeah, it said in the info pack that this is what the workers use to get around down here.

GWEN: Okay, let's give it a go. (SHE GETS ON HER BIKE) Well, I don't feel stupid at all.

IAN TO: So we ride through the tunnel in opposite directions and meet up in the middle?

GWEN Yeah... Nice bit of exercise...

GWEN: Oh, just what we need...

They split up – cycling in other directions

GWEN (CALLING BACK) Be careful, yeah?

IAN TO Bwahahahahaha!

GWEN (GENUINE LAUGH THEN) Woooooooooooo!

They both laugh as they cycle away from each other

SCENE 15: INT. THE CONTROL ROOM

Think NASA launch centre. SCIENTISTS reading out figures.
Computers beeping. Lots of activity.

TOM Professor Johnson. We're nearly ready to begin.

PROFESSOR Thank you Tom. (TANNOY) Ladies and gentlemen, if I could just have your attention..

TOM Powering up... ..

PROFESSOR: Firstly, I want to thank you, every single one of you, for your hard work, your dedication, your well, frankly your brilliance over the last few months.

TOM Activation beginning in 5 minutes.

PROFESSOR: Today is a landmark in the history of science. In a few short minutes our knowledge of the laws of physics will be propelled into a new era!

TOM: Temperature in tunnels being lowered...

Suddenly a door opens. Hubbub as JACK forces his way in.

JACK (SHOUTS) Professor Johnson! Shut it down. Shut it down now.

PROFESSOR (CALLS) What the hell is this man doing in here?

JACK (APPROACHING) Professor Johnson... I'm ordering you to shut down the accelerator.

PROFESSOR (AMUSED) You're the Welsh ambassador's assistant, right?

JACK Jack Harkness. And I'm Torchwood.

PROFESSOR Torchwood? And Torchwood is?

JACK Torchwood is here to protect Earth against the threat of alien invasion.

PROFESSOR Alien invasion. Riiiiight.

JACK Listen to me. When the Large Hadron Collider was tested back in April, something came through.

PROFESSOR How do you know about the test? (INTERESTED) What kind of something?

JACK A creature that feeds on the neutrons found in the human body.

PROFESSOR And you think this, why?

JACK Because of the twelve missing people. And because the one you've got in your sickbay has a tendency to glow in the dark.

PROFESSOR What are you talking about? Missing people?

JACK Oh, come on, Professor. I can't believe anything happens here that you don't know about.

PROFESSOR I don't have time to listen to this madness. Now look... whoever you are. We could be about to make the biggest scientific breakthrough in centuries! (LOUDER) Status report, please Tom.

SCENE 16: INT THE TUNNEL

MARTHA (COMMS) Gwen?

GWEN: Hey Martha. What's it like up top?

MARTHA: (COMMS) Raining. How's things down below?

GWEN Cold... damp... underground. I could have stayed in Cardiff.

MARTHA (COMMS) No trace of Jack's creature then?

GWEN Nothing. How are you going on?

MARTHA (COMMS) It's a bit of a trek – but I'm nearly there. (beat). Gwen, you okay? You know... after Tosh. Owen.

GWEN stops riding and pauses for breath.

GWEN Honestly?... No... I mean, it's just that whole accepting they're gone thing. You know? I thought the funeral service would give us all closure or whatever, but when I think about it, or talk to you or Jack or anyone, I get flashes of...

MARTHA: (COMMS) Survivor guilt?

GWEN: Yeah (sad). And God knows what it's like for Jack. The man who can never die, outliving centuries of friends and lovers. I can't imagine a life more-

MARTHA (COMMS) - lonely.

GWEN Yeah.

MARTHA: (COMMS) Gwen? I've found the so-called secret building.

GWEN: OK. Good luck. Be careful, yeah?

SCENE 17: EXT. THE CERN FACILITY

MARTHA Yeah, Martha out. Okay (she rattles the door) What I wouldn't give for a sonic screwdriver... but... (MOVEMENT AS SHE PICKS UP A ROCK) A rock'll have to do...

ONE BIG BASH AND THE DOOR OPENS... MARTHA ENTERS.
IT'S QUIET. JUST TWELVE HEART MONITORS BEEPING.
QUIET AND SPOOKY.

MARTHA Oh my God... (SHE RUNS) Julia... Julia, can you hear me?

JULIA starts to glow... choral noise as before...

Oh, no! Not again...

.

SCENE 18: INT. THE TUNNEL

IANTO (CYCLING) Gwen? Come in, Gwen.

GWEN (COMMS) What is it?

IANTO My bikes got a bell. *(rings it)*

GWEN: (COMMS) I'm very pleased for you. (beat) It's getting colder.

IANTO: Yeah, same here. You see anything?

GWEN (COMMS) Nope.

He keeps on cycling when the beeps from his scanner stop and there's a noise ahead of him...

IANTO What the?

GHOST Ianto...

IANTO (jumps and brakes suddenly) Oh, sh... (INTO comms) Gwen...

GWEN (COMMS) What is it? Have you broken your bell?

IANTO I've think I've found something. (LOUDER) Who's there?

GHOST The dead... We're coming back...

IANTO You hear that?

GWEN (COMMS) I'm on my way.

IANTO Quick as you can, yeah? (TO THE GHOST) Afternoon. So...
you're the dead then? Not an alien creature?

GHOST I was always alien to you... Coffee Boy...
You told me I was a good doctor....

IANTO Owen?

GHOST Help me, Ianto.

IANTO Did I ever tell you I don't actually believe in ghosts?

GHOST Help us... We're lost...

IANTO Where are you?

GHOST . We're in the darkness! Help us, Ianto Jones. We're starving.

SCENE 19: INT. THE CONTROL ROOM

PROFESSOR How long until activation now Tom?

TOM: 12 minutes and 15 seconds.

JACK: You're making a big mistake Professor.

PROFESSOR: Look, even if I believed all this nonsense you're talking, it just isn't possible to stop it. It's not like flicking a switch.

GWEN (COMMS) Jack!

JACK What?

GWEN (COMMS) Ianto's found the creature.

PROFESSOR What did she say?

MARTHA (COMMS) Jack! It's Martha, come in.

JACK What is it?

MARTHA (COMMS) I've found the building, the one that's not on the map. The missing people are here.

PROFESSOR There are no "missing people",!....

MARTHA (COMMS) All twelve of them. In comas Jack, and they're glowing. They're glowing like angels. (LOUDER/ACCUSING) I've found them, Professor Johnson!

PROFESSOR I don't understand. I don't know about this, I...

JACK (QUIET) Martha, I think she's telling the truth.

MARTHA: (COMMS) So who put them all here and faked the hospital reports then?

JACK: Someone who knows more about that creature in the tunnel than they should. Your test last April let something through into our world. And far worse is on its way if you don't stop what you're doing now.

PROFESSOR It's all pre-programmed. Nothing can stop it! There's nothing I can do!

SCENE 20: INT. THE TUNNEL

IANTO starting to get unnerved now...

GHOST Ianto.... it's me... Toshiko... ..

IANTO You're in my head. That's how you're doing this. You're just particles...

GHOST Help me... Please Ianto...It's Lisa. Hold me...

IANTO You can't be Lisa. She's gone. They're all gone.

JACK (COMMS) Ianto, can you hear me?

IANTO Yes, Jack.

JACK (COMMS) Gwen's on her way. You okay?

IANTO Erm... yeah. No. Sort of.

JACK (COMMS) That helps. What's going on?

IANTO It's in my head, Jack. The alien - talking to me. Saying it's Owen and Tosh and Lisa and...

JACK (COMMS) The dead stay dead, Ianto. They don't come back. It's just an alien. Like the weevils. Trust me.

GHOST Ianto Jones... you only need to listen to me. To my voice. So it's just us...

JACK (COMMS) Ianto! List- (HE IS CUT OFF)

GHOST That's it... Just you and me... Ianto Jones and Lisa Hallett...

GWEN (DISTANT) Ianto, can you hear me?

GHOST Remember how we used to go to that Greek restaurant... And that night you told me you loved me, for the first time.

IANTO Stop it, stop it, stop it.

GWEN (CLOSER) Ianto! Answer me! Where are you?

GHOST Ignore her... I'm here for you... I've always been here for you... Come closer. Come to me.

IANTO (SCREAMS) NO! NO!

GWEN (CLOSER) I'm nearly there! Hold on!

GHOST Your life is my life... I need you. I'm hungry for you.

And IANTO starts choking and screaming as the neutrons are sucked out of his body

SCENE 21: INT. THE LIFE-SUPPORT BUILDING

The choral noise is building.

MARTHA Hold on, Julia... Jack! What's happening?

JACK (COMMS) Ianto and Gwen have found the creature. Professor Johnson says she can't shut the Collider down.

MARTHA Well make her!

JACK (COMMS) Oh, never thought of that!. Just look after your patients, Doctor Jones leave the Professor to me.

Suddenly, the sound of someone else entering.

MARTHA Hello? Oliver! Thank God – listen, something's happening and... and...

OLIVER: Martha. You shouldn't be in here.

MARTHA: (realising) Oh, Oliver, oh my god. It's you. You had the authority, your UNIT credentials - I should have realised.

OLIVER: (Cocks gun) Please don't try to resist. Because I really don't want to have to start shooting these poor people. Starting with your friend Julia...

SCENE 22: INT. THE TUNNEL

Gwen arrives on her bike.

GWEN Ianto! Oh god, Ianto. Can you hear me, sweetheart?

IANTO Lisa...

GWEN No, it's me Gwen! Come on! Hold on...

GHOST We'll be back for you, Gwen Cooper... so much death in your short life...

GWEN: So not listening...

The GHOST vanishes

GWEN Ianto? (BEAT) Ianto... answer me!

The choral noise sounds...

GWEN Oh no... not you... I'm not losing you...

IANTO: You don't...understand...Gwen...let me go....

GWEN: What??

IANTO: They need our help...my help...let me go to Lisa...to Tosh...

She starts to drag him

GWEN Now Come... on... I'm... not... leaving... you...

IANTO: I want to be with them....I want to be with...my friends...

GWEN: Listen to me, Ianto Jones. Whatever that creature is doing to you, get over it. I know you, I know you're better than this. And hell, if you don't quit struggling, I'll drag you out of here and get Jack to kick your arse later! Got that?

IANTO: I just want them back again...

SCENE 23: INT. PROFESSOR'S OFFICE

JACK: Listen to me. I'm Torchwood. You lot are scientists - you're here searching for answers – well I know the answers. If you fire up the collider now - all hell is going to break loose.

PROFESSOR You're serious aren't you. OK, I don't know what's going on here, but something is, so until we can sort this out, safety procedures, we need to prepare for a total lockdown. Listen everyone, I want you to step away from the controls. All of you!

JACK Come on, listen to the clever lady, people. (beat) Move!!

He runs to the controls and starts pressing buttons.

JACK Right! You're firing two beams of protons at each other, yeah?

PROFESSOR That's right.

JACK Didn't this place used to have an antiproton beam facility?

PROFESSOR: We won the Nobel prize for it, in the 80s. We still use it for making atoms of antimatter. Of course! If I can flip the polarity of the magnets and replace one of the proton beams with antiprotons...

JACK: They'll cancel each other out! Then the portal can't open - and we'll all live happily ever after.

PROFESSOR That's brilliant.

JACK That's me.

MARTHA (quiet) Jack.

JACK Martha! (BEAT) Doctor Harrington.

OLIVER Move away from there! Get away from the controls or I'll shoot her.

JACK Okay... Oliver... Just put the gun down!

OLIVER (SCREAMS) I said stand back!

SCENE 24: INT. THE TUNNEL

Coolant still building up. GWEN desperately dragging IANTO.
She's shivering so much now.

GWEN (sound of her dragging him) Come on Ianto, come on!....

GHOST (DISTANT) Gwen Cooper...

GWEN I'm... not... listening...

GHOST Is Ianto an angel yet? Glowing like an angel... We want you...
We want your souls...

GWEN Yeah... well.... I want... a pint of lager... but we can't have...
everything... Gnnngh!! IANTO!! Wake up!!

She stops, exhausted.

GWEN Jack! Come in!

JACK (COMMS) Not a good time, Gwen. I've got company.

GWEN It attacked Ianto.. He's glowing... He's getting worse... It's
coming back for me...

JACK (COMMS) Are you near an exit?

GWEN Yes, I can see it. We're nearly there.

JACK Gwen, I'm gonna have to go...

GWEN Jack... wait... what if we don't make it...

JACK (COMMS) Too much death talk around here, Gwen. I'm not losing you. Now fight. Get out of there! You stay alive!

Beep as he ends the conversation.

GWEN Jack? Jack? (SHE STARTS TO DRAG IANTO AGAIN) Oi, Ianto! Wake up!

GHOST Jack doesn't care about the dead.

GWEN Oh you really don't want to mess with me right now...

SCENE 25: INT. THE CONTROL ROOM

OLIVER should be mostly quiet and calm

JACK Oliver... listen to me... Killing Martha won't achieve anything...

OLIVER It won't matter if I do. She'll come back. Don't you understand?

JACK Back In April, after the test... you heard a voice, yeah? Whose was it? Dead mother? Girlfriend? Boyfriend?

OLIVER My wife. She came back to me.

PROFESSOR That isn't possible.

OLIVER Don't you see what you've done here? Am I the only one who can see it?

PROFESSOR What do you mean?

OLIVER You' ve opened a doorway. To Heaven.

JACK No, Oliver, it's not heaven it's another dimension. A creature has come through and it's feeding off people. The voices are a trick to draw you to it.

OLIVER You're wrong. Marie spoke to me. She told me that if I helped her, she'd bring everyone back. And it's happening!

MARTHA But the creature- it attacked those people!

OLIVER Attacked? Didn't you see them glowing? They're becoming angels. That's why I had to hide them, to protect them until they

were strong enough. When the portal is fully-opened, their souls will be drawn back from Heaven and they – and Marie – will return to life.

MARTHA No! It's their neutrons that have been taken. Not their souls.
Oliver. Your wife's gone. She's not coming back.

OLIVER And you think that's it? That there's nothing else. That all we've got is this... life?

MARTHA I don't know. Honestly, I don't know. Maybe there is an afterlife. Maybe there is a Heaven. But... that's not where the voice you've been talking has come from.

OLIVER You're wrong. I have faith.

MARTHA And I respect that, I really do. But the creature's been using you. What if we're right and you're wrong? Are you really going to sentence everyone on this planet to death?

OLIVER But they won't die.

JACK You don't know that. You're going to risk all those lives because a voice told you it was Marie? Can't you see that that's wrong?

OLIVER She told me things. Things only we knew.

JACK Oh, it's clever. It knows which buttons to push. These voices, they're not the dead, trust me.

MARTHA Please Oliver... Just put the gun down. The dead, they don't come back. You're a doctor, you know this.

JACK: You work for UNIT - you know about aliens, you know what's out there.

PROFESSOR: Dr Harrington – listen to me I don't care whether you think its your wife, or a ghost or whether Jack's right and it's some kind of alien - we're not taking the risk . We're shutting the Collider down now.

OLIVER (quiet) No.... (Loudly) No!! I can't lose her again.

And he bolts, shoving Martha aside. Door slams after him

JACK: Martha - Get after him, don't let him near the Collider.

MARTHA: I'm on it. (she goes)

JACK: Now, Professor, we have to reverse the polarity, or those creatures will be here for good! And the first thing they're gonna find are Gwen and Ianto!

SCENE 26: INT. THE TUNNEL

Noise building up. GWEN still dragging IANTO. She's freezing to death but isn't going to give up on IANTO.

GWEN Come... on... (LAUGHS) Ianto... I.. we're nearly there out of here
– just a few more feet....

IANTO: (really ill) Everything we've seen ... Torchwood ... The wonder of
the universe... and we're gonna die in a tunnel... in Switzerland!

GWEN: What did you imagine -the Bahamas?

IANTO: So...so cold...

GWEN: (Desperate) Ianto, listen to me, right? We're nearly out of here,
right? Look, according to the map, that's near the Control Room.
That's where Jack is. And coffee! You love coffee. Coffee and
Jack. Come on, please Ianto, I can't carry you...

GHOST Don't leave me, Gwen! Don't leave me in the darkness!

GWEN Get back... just keep back

GHOST But we're Owen, we're Tosh, we're all the dead... we want to live
again...

GWEN I'm alive! Ianto's alive! I'm not listening! Come on, Ianto, please
get up.....

SCENE 27: INT. THE CONTROL ROOM

PROFESSOR: Jack! The collider! 15 seconds to LHC activation.

JACK OK... stand back everyone. I can smell two beams of protons about to be launched... Professor, patch me into the antiproton beam facility.

PROFESSOR: Have you got any idea what you're doing?

JACK: Not really. Making it up as I go along – what I do best.

PROFESSOR Can you actually stop them?

JACK Nope. But I can try and prevent them creating their portal in time and space. And trust me portals like that are more trouble than they're worth.

He starts to hit buttons etc.

JACK So... I just need to generate the antiproton beam and...

PROFESSOR What about Oliver?

JACK Hello? Busy saving the world here. I kinda need you to focus, Professor. Oliver Harrington is one short step away from destroying the world, I kinda don't care about his well-being right now.

PROFESSOR Okay...okay...focussing. (beat) Well?

JACK: Right, Professor, I think I'm going to do what you wanted. Hopefully show you the fundamental particle – the Higgs.

PROFESSOR The Higgs? I'm really going to see it today?

JACK Guess so – if we get a move on.

PROFESSOR: Of course... the proton beams won't hit each other, they'll hit the antiproton beams instead. They won't explode, they'll create the Higgs particle. We were doing it all wrong and this way...oh my god...

JACK: By George, I think she's got it!

PROFESSOR The particle is life, And the antiprotons and protons are going to create it.

JACK: Professor Johnson, we're going to have a baby.

PROFESSOR But how is it going to stop this portal forming?

JACK The antiprotons'll do that by neutralising the protons. The Higgs particle is just a side effect. Almost an afterthought really.

PROFESSOR We're going to create life as a side effect. So the Higgs particle dark matter, dark energy, all of us, everything... we're just an accident?

JACK Guess so. And isn't that cool?

TOM: Professor Johnson?

PROFESSOR: Yes Tom, what is it?

TOM: Doctor Harrington. He activated the tunnel lockdown sequence – those people are going to be trapped in there with those creatures...

SCENE 28: INT. THE TUNNEL

As before. GWEN close to death.

GWEN (SO COLD) Ianto... come on . . . we're at the corridor now, come on (effort noise) Doctor Harrington!

OLIVER What are you doing here?

GWEN Getting out of this tunnel as fast as I can....Help me ...

IANTO (HOARSE) Your life is our life...

GWEN Dr Harrington... please?. Just help me with him.

OLIVER: Yes...yes...all right. Come on.

IANTO: Thank you...

OLIVER: There you are...

MARTHA: (off) Gwen! Stop him! Stop Harrington!

GWEN: Oliver?

OLIVER I'm going back into the tunnel. Don't come after me. I... I'm sorry...

MARTHA Wait. You'll die in there.
Oliver! The doors are locking!

Kerchunkk – the door seals itself.

MARTHA: Damn it! (hammering on doors) Oliver!!

GWEN: Martha ... need ... get lanto ... the warm...

MARTHA: Come on, let's get you both out of here.

SCENE 29: INT. THE CONTROL ROOM

TOM Tunnel lockdown sequence complete – it's sealed up. And we have thirty seconds until proton beams collide. The Collider is active...now.

JACK Come on, come on!! Professor... that switch there...

PROFESSOR Is there anything else I can do?

JACK (LAUGHS) Pray?

PROFESSOR An antiproton beam... we've created it..

JACK Gwen, are you clear of the tunnel?

MARTHA (COMMS) Jack, It's Martha. I've got Gwen and Ianto, they're safe. But Dr Harrington is locked inside the tunnel.

GWEN (COMMS) I couldn't stop him, Jack...

PROFESSOR (quiet) Oh my god. Oliver!

JACK It's too late.

SCENE 30: INT. THE TUNNEL

All the noise builds up suddenly then stops and there is silence except for the countdown.

OLIVER Marie? Are you there? It's Oliver.

GHOST I'm here. Waiting for you my love...

OLIVER Oh it's so good to hear your voice. We'll be together again soon, my darling. These months without you - I've been so lonely. All I've done is dream of you. But now we're going to be together again, forever.

GHOST (SUDDENLY REALLY HARSH AND TERRIFYING/LAUGHS)
You humans, so often undone by love. Dreaming of it in the void. Be ready to embrace the Dark Times... We're back... and we're hungry.

OLIVER So... so it's true what he said – you were never really Marie? It was all a lie...

GHOST You don't need her. But we need you.

OLIVER: But you're Marie... you know things...only she could...

GHOST: Drawn from your fractured mind,. You have given us passage, enabled us to control and devour the minds of this world, a whole new source of energy to feed us for centuries...

OLIVER: Feed on our...our minds.....

GHOST: You are just cattle to us, ready for the slaughter. We used you, Oliver Harrington,... your weakness, your gullibility...

OLIVER: My God...those people...I thought they were angels... they mean nothing to you...

GHOST: Your species...you all mean nothing to us except as a supply of food...

OLIVER: No...no...you're wrong. We're so much more and we're going to stop you.

GHOST How?

OLIVER: We die. Together.

Suddenly, we hear the proton waves flying towards us from two different directions.

The ghost screams, as does Oliver until they cut off, hard.

SCENE 31: INT. THE CONTROL ROOM

PROFESSOR Oh my God – Dr Harrington – he’s in the tunnel. There has to be something we can do...

JACK: I’m sorry. It’s too late. His body will already be gone. A fragment of smashed protons.

TOM: Professor! Look! On the screen

PROFESSOR The Higgs particle... it’s so beautiful.

JACK And it’s inside all of us. It’s life. Something good out of all this...

PROFESSOR Are you sure you’ve stopped those creature things coming through?

JACK Yup! And with them gone, your angel coma patients should be returning to normal.

PROFESSOR I’ll have people go and check.

JACK: Gwen? Gwen? Are you there?

GWEN (COMMS) Yeah... yeah... freezing like a... whatever... and Ianto’s stopped glowing... Jack... he looks like he’s going to be ok...

JACK We’ll come and get you.

PROFESSOR Thank you. For everything.

JACK

All in a day's work.

SCENE 32: EXT. THE CERN FACILITY

MARTHA, IANTO and GWEN are waiting outside.

GWEN I dragged you all that way and you don't remember?

IANTO Nope. Can't remember a thing. (beat) But Gwen?

GWEN: Yeah.

IANTO: Thank you - .

GWEN: You're welcome.

MARTHA: Here he is, hero of the hour.

JACK (APPROACHING) Doctor Jones, how's your mate Julia?

MARTHA She's fine. You know what, they're all fine! (sigh) Guess I just need to let UNIT HQ know about Oliver.

IANTO "The stream will cease to flow; the wind will cease to blow; the clouds will cease to fleet; the heart will cease to beat..."

JACK: "For all things must die." Never saw you as a Tennyson man, myself, Ianto.

IANTO: There's more to me than meets the eye.

JACK: Clearly. You 21st Century humans with your science, your beliefs and your poetry and... yeah, you're pretty great.

GWEN: (serious) You say all these little things – the human race has to be ready... what do you know, Jack?

JACK: I know you're worth fighting for.

IAN TO: No, not good enough. Why us? Why do they keep coming to *us*?

JACK: Because you're special. You'll never stop searching for answers. Sometimes I don't think you know what the questions are, but you never stop searching.

GWEN: Questions of life and death.

MARTHA: Yeah.

JACK: Somewhere out there in that chaos of darkness and light, of science and protons, of gods and stars and death ... somewhere there's an answer. And sometimes I think that asking the question, that is the answer. (beat) And sometimes I think I just need coffee... come on. Let's go home.

The END
