

# **DOCTOR WHO**

**SERIES 9**

**EPISODE 6**

**"The Woman Who Lived"**

by

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## **SHOOTING SCRIPT**

23/03/2015

(SHOOTING BLOCK 3)

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1

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD. NIGHT 1

1

TITLE CARD - HOUNSLOW. LONDON OUTSKIRTS 1651

An empty moonlit muddy road on the outskirts of London. Dead of night, the sound of galloping hooves. A horse drawn carriage speeds into sight, driven by a grubby, black toothed COACHMAN whose face is lit ghoulishly by a juddering lantern.

*Suddenly -*

Out of the darkness, in the carriage's path, a HIGHWAYMAN appears on horseback - masked, resplendent in a felt cocked hat, fitted coat, thigh high boots, a red silk hankie over his mouth, his face unseen, eyes gleaming as he holds up his flintlock pistol astride his midnight black mare.

And now, a booming voice!

HIGHWAYMAN  
Stand and deliver!

The COACHMAN yanks at the reins. The carriage horses skitter to a halt. The COACHMAN holds up his hands in fear.

A portly MR FANSHAWE, 30s, looks out angrily from the carriage. Next to him, LUCIE FANSHAWE, 20s, his trembling pretty wife, makes eyes at the HIGHWAYMAN -

COACHMAN  
(to MR FANSHAWE)  
Do as he says. I have heard of this brigand. He is known as the Knightmare!

HIGHWAYMAN  
What exactly have you heard?

COACHMAN  
Faster than Sam Swift the Quick,  
deadlier than Deadly Dupont -

HIGHWAYMAN  
Dabbling lowpads, the pair of them!  
With terrible pseudonyms to boot.  
(pointing his pistol)  
Cash bags, jewels the lot.

MR FANSHAWE  
I will not be robbed by some lone  
ranting cavalier!

HIGHWAYMAN  
Who says I am alone?

The HIGHWAYMAN puts his gloved fingers to his lips. There is a faint rhythmic hum, a purring coming from the dark swaying trees behind him, from the shadows.

1 CONTINUED:

1

LUCIE FANSHAWE  
(wide-eyed with fear)  
What's that noise?

HIGHWAYMAN  
You'll wish you'd never asked.

The purring stops. The HIGHWAYMAN, still aiming his pistol, lifts the lantern from the coach and holds it up into the gloom. Suddenly - reflected in the light - *two devilish amber eyes appear, otherworldly, hypnotic, beaming fiercely onto the carriage, a terrifying sight.*

LUCIE FANSHAWE lets out a piercing scream. And on the scream -

CUT TO:

2

2

EXT. WOODLAND. NIGHT 1  
- the DOCTOR pops his head out of his TARDIS - dark woodland. Did he hear something? Was that a scream?

In the distance ahead, a mansion looms in the large grounds of HOUNSLOW HALL. The DOCTOR holds a CURIOSANNER - (an alien artefact tracking device) in his hand -

The DOCTOR looks at the curiosanner which is unlit, silent. Then, it whirs and beeps into life.

THE DOCTOR  
Right. Warm...

A compass glows on the device. He follows it eagerly -

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Warmer.

CUT TO:

3

3

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD. NIGHT 1

Inside the carriage, MR FANSHAWE clutches his chest. LUCIE FANSHAWE hands over bags of money and jewels to the HIGHWAYMAN.

MR FANSHAWE  
(breathing hard)  
What was that strange beast?

COACHMAN  
We are cursed. The Knightmare's in league with the devil.

HIGHWAYMAN  
Aye, Satan's sidekick, Me!

The DOCTOR now bursting from the woods onto the country road. Whips the curiosanner one way, then the other, sees -

3 CONTINUED:

3

- robbery in progress. LUCIE FANSHAWE, eyelashes a-flutter, unpins a brooch, hands it over. The HIGHWAYMAN puts it into a leather bag.

HIGHWAYMAN (cont'd)  
(re loot)  
Where's the rest?

LUCIE FANSHAWE  
(doe-eyed)  
What else would you take from me,  
Sir?

And the Doctor barges into the middle of it all, swinging his curioscanner about, oblivious, to all.

THE DOCTOR  
Sorry, hello, don't mind me, I'll  
only be a minute.  
(Scanner flashes and  
beeps)  
Oh, warm, very warm.

HIGHWAYMAN  
(to DOCTOR)  
What are you *doing*?

The Doctor now darting all round the carriage, scanning it, prattling away.

THE DOCTOR  
Ignore me, passing through, fish in  
the night -

HIGHWAYMAN  
This is a robbery!

THE DOCTOR  
(Scanning the roof of the  
carriage)  
- no, it's not *fish*, is it,  
something else -

HIGHWAYMAN  
This is *my* robbery.

THE DOCTOR  
(Scanning the wheels)  
- *leaf* in the night, *ships* in the  
night, something like that -

HIGHWAYMAN  
Step aside or I shall blow your  
brains out.

THE DOCTOR  
- sorry, you've been talking,  
haven't you? Try again, I promise  
to listen this time.

3 CONTINUED:

3

HIGHWAYMAN  
 You have interrupted my robbery,  
 sir, and you will step away, if you  
 wish to take another breath.

MR FANSHAWE  
 It's true, he's robbing us.

COACHMAN  
 You're going to get us all killed,  
 if you don't shut your stupid  
 mouth.

THE DOCTOR  
 (Distracted by the scanner  
 again)  
 ... sorry, I was really planning to  
 listen that time, but I basically  
 didn't. Someone usually hits me at  
 this point, but she's taking the  
 year sevens for Tae Kwon Do. Oh,  
 look!

He's now scanning a treasure chest strapped on the back of  
 the coach - the beeping is now louder than ever.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
 Got you!

As the DOCTOR reaches for the chest, the HIGHWAYMAN has  
 dismounted, now pulls out his rapier. Levels it at the  
 Doctor's chest. The Doctor starts to register everything for  
 the first time.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
 Hang on! If I didn't know better,  
 I'd say this was some sort of  
 robbery.

HIGHWAYMAN  
 No-one defies the Nightmare.  
 Unless they have a death wish!

THE DOCTOR  
 Well, I don't, so that's you  
 foiled!

HIGHWAYMAN  
 I am robbing these people, you are  
 getting out of my way!

THE DOCTOR  
 I need one thing, just one tiny  
 thing, from that chest.

HIGHWAYMAN  
 This is my robbery!

THE DOCTOR  
 Well why don't we share it - isn't  
 that what robbery is all about?

3 CONTINUED:

3

During above, the COACHMAN has been observing the two men getting increasingly into their own argument. Seizing his moment...

Then, the sound of hooves as the carriage makes its escape!

The Doctor and the Highwayman left staring, pathetically, after the carriage, as it clatters away into the darkness...

HIGHWAYMAN  
You bungled my heist.

THE DOCTOR  
No Zorro, you bungled mine!

HIGHWAYMAN  
Whey-faced fool!

THE DOCTOR  
At least I show my face - what's wrong with yours?

The HIGHWAYMAN is caught off guard as the DOCTOR lunges -

The DOCTOR unmasks the HIGHWAYMAN, recoils in shock as he stands back, truly blind-sided -

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
You!

REVEAL - The 'HIGHWAYMAN' takes off her hat, her long hair tumbles down her back as grins at him - Ashildr, the girl whose life he saved so long ago. (We now refer to her simply as Me.)

ME  
(Still with booming voice)  
Yes. It's Me.  
(Clears throat - now resumes with normal voice)  
What took you so long?

#### OPENING TITLES

4

#### EXT. COUNTRY ROAD. NIGHT 1

4

The DOCTOR and ME sitting by the edge of the road.

THE DOCTOR  
'Old man?'

ME  
It seemed apt. Life expectancy is thirty five these days. Well, for everyone else.

THE DOCTOR  
But didn't you know it was me?

ME  
 Course. You don't forget the man  
 who saved your life.  
 (grins, an edge to it)  
 It's good to see you.

THE DOCTOR  
 I didn't get that impression when  
 you threatened to kill me.

ME  
 (Drops into the booming  
 voice)  
 The Knightmare has a reputation to  
 maintain.  
 (Normal voice)  
 Some of us have to live here.

THE DOCTOR  
 How do you do that voice?

ME  
 Practice. You can get good at  
 anything, if you have time.

THE DOCTOR  
 Then why are you robbing people?  
 Last time I saw you, you were Lady  
 Electra, a philanthropist, leading  
 by example, founding a leper colony  
 -

ME  
 Rings a bell.

THE DOCTOR  
 I was so proud of you.

ME  
 Waste of time. Taught me one thing -  
 let them die before they go off.  
 (Shoots him a look)  
 Proud of me? You weren't even  
 there.

THE DOCTOR  
 Yes, I was. You didn't see me, but  
 I saw you.

ME  
 And you just left me? Why??

THE DOCTOR  
 You seemed fine.

ME  
 In a leper colony??

The Doctor - no good answers, pained for a moment.

4 CONTINUED: 4

A beat of hurt and anger from Me - which she quickly swallows.

ME (cont'd)  
 No matter. You're here now. We should celebrate. We'll repair to the Swan with Two Necks for a jug of ale before we go.

The words "go" seems to jolt the Doctor - but he passes quickly on.

THE DOCTOR  
 This isn't a visit. I've got a job to do. An alien object to find which has no business being on Earth in 1651. It just so happened that my tracking device led me to the carriage you were robbing...

He peters out seeing her puzzled face.

ME  
 You mean you haven't come for me?

THE DOCTOR  
 No. It's a coincidence.

A small chink in ME's armour. For once, she has no comeback.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
 (seeing she's hurt)  
 Ashildr, I'm sorry, I was passing through, I -

ME  
 Who's Ashildr?

THE DOCTOR  
 You are. That's your name.

ME  
 Was it? When?

THE DOCTOR  
 Ashildr. Daughter of Einarr. I called him Chuckles. Remember?

ME  
 ... I think I remember the village. All those Vikings, they were so funny. They were funny, weren't they?

THE DOCTOR  
 You loved that village.

ME  
 If you say so.

4 CONTINUED:

4

THE DOCTOR  
 Anyone in that village would have  
 died for you.

ME  
 Well they're all dead now, and here  
 I am, so I suppose it worked out.

THE DOCTOR  
 Ashildr -

ME  
 That's not my name. I don't even  
 remember that name.

THE DOCTOR  
 Then what do you call yourself?

ME  
 Me.

THE DOCTOR  
 Yes, you. There's no-one else here.

ME  
 No. Me. I call myself Me. All the  
 names I took died with whoever knew  
 me. Me is who I am now. No-one's  
 mother, sister, daughter, wife. My  
 own companion. Singular,  
 unattached. Alone.

A beat, the DOCTOR taking this in. Shocked, a little sad.

ME (cont'd)  
 Anyway! Time I got started.  
 (Getting up, heading to  
 her horse)  
 Jump on, I'll give you a ride. You  
 can help me.

THE DOCTOR  
 With what?

ME  
 Packing.

On the Doctor as this impacts. *Oh!*

CUT TO:

5

EXT. HOUNSLOW HALL GROUNDS. NIGHT 1

5

Something moves in the bushes of the large grounds of  
 HOUNSLOW HALL, then stops as it sees -

5 CONTINUED:

5

It's P.O.V. - the DOCTOR and ME (now off the horse, which we don't need to see) approaching the magnificent old manor, stone carvings, a large heavy door, no lights on in the windows.

THE DOCTOR

It's a big place, for someone who lives on their own.

ME

I have a servant. And all manner of visitors 'drop in'.

As the DOCTOR heads inside, the creature lets out an otherworldly snarl. ME turns and scans the garden. Silence, darkness, a slight movement in the shadows. ME puts her finger to her lips, smiles.

CUT TO:

6

INT. COUNTRY MANOR. HOUNSLOW HALL. NIGHT 1

6

A splendid but untidy hall, a huge stair-case, dusty portraits, a few of ME, discarded wine goblets, faded grandeur. The DOCTOR takes it in as ME throws her coat on the floor, lights a lamp.

ME

Your device - what is it?

The Doctor pulls the curioscanner from his pocket.

THE DOCTOR

My curioscanner. It scans for curios. And I'm just realising how it got its name. It's been picking up exoplanetary energy for weeks. I've been tracking it across the galaxy -

ME

Do you know what you're looking for?

THE DOCTOR

(bluffing)

I have a fair idea. Why?

ME

I wasn't just robbing Lucie Fanshawe for her loot. She has bragged about having the rarest gem in the land, an ancient amulet from foreign parts. Could it be we were after the same prize?

The DOCTOR takes this in. ME smiles as she tosses the money bags from her leather pouch into a chest full of money.

6 CONTINUED:

6

THE DOCTOR  
 Clearly you don't need money. So  
 why do you rob?

ME  
 For the adventure, Doctor. Isn't  
 that what life's all about!

ME heads towards a heavy closed door, opens it, gestures for  
 the DOCTOR to step inside.

CUT TO:

7 INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

7

The DOCTOR spins in awe as he takes in a grand windowless  
 library stacked floor to ceiling with journals and souvenirs  
 which track ME's life through the ages from VIKING times.

The DOCTOR spots a Mediaeval crown -

THE DOCTOR  
 A Mediaeval Queen? How exciting.

ME  
 You'd think. It was paperwork and  
 backgammon mostly as I recall.  
 Constant pressure to produce a male  
 heir. Ended up faking my own death.

CUT TO:

8 INT/EXT. QUEEN'S BEDROOM/CASTLE GROUNDS. DAY. 1200S

8

FLASHBACK: Mediaeval Queen ME lies in a coffin, the weeping  
 KING and consorts at her side. The KING and consorts leave  
 down a corridor. ME opens her eyes, sits up and clammers out.

ME (V.O.)  
 Did a bunk before the evisceration.

ME slips out of the window and legs it.

CUT TO:

9 INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

9

ME indicates a longbow, bloodstained arrows -

ME  
 (eyes lit up)  
 Now this was much more my thing.

The DOCTOR looks at a suit of armour -

THE DOCTOR  
 Battle of Agincourt.

9 CONTINUED:

9

ME  
My first stint as a man.

CUT TO:

10

FRANCE 1415

10

FLASHBACK - ME dons the armour of a bound and gagged English soldier, steals his longbow and joins the troops to march through mud to war.

ME (V.O.)  
No-one will ever know that a mere woman helped end the Hundred Years War.

CUT TO:

11

INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

11

ME looks at the DOCTOR, reliving the glory.

THE DOCTOR  
You should be careful. You're immortal, not indestructible. You can be hurt ... even killed ...

ME  
Ten thousand hours is all it takes to master any skill. Twenty thousand hours, and you're the best in the world. Over a hundred thousand, and you're the best there's ever been. I don't have to be indestructible - I'm superb. You should have seen me. I could shoot six arrows a minute, got so close to the enemy, I penetrated armour. The terror in their eyes as they retreated, I lost count of the number I slew.

The DOCTOR looks at ME, concerned by the zeal in her eyes.

THE DOCTOR  
You've killed people?

ME  
Course. Haven't you?

THE DOCTOR  
Only when there's no alternative.

ME  
Why wait?

THE DOCTOR  
And every death is burnt onto my  
conscience.

ME  
Thankfully, my conscience ran out  
centuries ago.

THE DOCTOR  
How many people have you killed?

ME relishes the DOCTOR's evident concern, plays up to it.

ME  
You'll have to check my diaries.

THE DOCTOR  
You can't remember?

ME  
Does it matter?

THE DOCTOR  
I didn't save you, so you could  
become this.

ME  
I don't live my life to win your  
approval.

THE DOCTOR  
Well that's lucky.

ME  
For what it's worth, I've saved  
many lives too, not that they  
deserved it.

ME scans her shelves, spots a cauldron which triggers -

ME (cont'd)  
There, see! I cured an entire  
village of scarlet fever once.  
Almost got drowned as a witch for  
my trouble, ungrateful peasants.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - ME, 1300s, in peasant clothes, plunged into the  
water as angry villagers look on.

When ME fails to emerge, the crowd cheers and turns away. ME  
splutters to the surface, unseen, at the far end of the dank  
pond!

12

CONTINUED:

12

ME (V.O.)  
 Fortunately, I'm really good at holding my breath.

CUT TO:

13

INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

13

The DOCTOR sees a Plague Doctor mask -

THE DOCTOR  
 The Black Death. 1348. I meant to warn you.

ME  
 I got sick but I got better.

THE DOCTOR  
 Of course. Your immune system is learning too.

CUT TO:

14

EXT. ME'S HOME. LONDON 1348

14

FLASHBACK - an open door on which is painted a red cross. Through the door, ME, her back to us, in a ragged dress.

We track round to see that ME is sobbing, breaking her heart, as she sinks to the ground, clutching a child's doll. Pan out to reveal three empty cots.

CUT TO:

15

INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

15

The DOCTOR sees ME frown for a second, then shrug it off.

THE DOCTOR  
 There's another bout coming. And a big fire that tears through London.

ME  
 (grinning)  
 Excellent. Maybe I start it!

THE DOCTOR  
 No, that was the Terileptils.  
 (Looking along the souvenirs)  
 Ninja, nun, surgeon, scientist, composer, inventor... it's a fantastic CV.

ME  
 You should try my diaries.  
 I read them myself now and then.  
 (MORE)

15

CONTINUED:

15

ME (cont'd)  
 Drink pomace wine. Have a little Me time.

THE DOCTOR  
 You don't seem the nostalgic type.

ME  
 It's not nostalgia - it's  
 curiosity. I can't remember most  
 of it. That's the trouble with an  
 infinite life, and a normal sized  
 memory. There's not enough room for  
 everything.

On the Doctor - starting to get just how difficult this has been for her.

THE DOCTOR  
 I'm sorry.

ME  
 You'll have to remind me - what's  
 sorrow like? It all just runs out,  
 Doctor. All of it. I'm just what's  
 left.

THE DOCTOR  
 It can't have been easy, outliving  
 the people you loved.

ME  
 According to my journals, hell.  
 (beat)  
 In fact -  
 (eyes burning)  
 I've done all I can here. I look up  
 at the sky and long to know what's  
 out there.  
 (passionate)  
 Please take me with you. All these  
 people round me, they're just  
 smoke. They blow away in a moment.  
 You don't know what it's like.

THE DOCTOR  
 I do know what it's like.

ME  
 Then however you fly, whatever ship  
 you sail in, please - take me with  
 you.

A beat. Then:

THE DOCTOR  
 We'll talk about it.

The DOCTOR turns his back, picks up a journal, flicks through it - wanting to avoid this conversation.

15

CONTINUED:

15

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
 In the mean time, I've got work to do.

ME  
 This thing you need to find. I'll help you - it'll be quicker.

THE DOCTOR  
 I don't need your help.

ME  
 I know where Lucie Fanshawe lives, and I'm an excellent house-breaker - yes you do. We'll leave in an hour.

ME goes. The DOCTOR reads her first journal.

ME (V.O.)  
 Today is the day I should have died. Instead, I was re-born. By my hero, a man called The Doctor.

The DOCTOR smiles.

CUT TO:

16

INT. HALLWAY. NIGHT 1

16

ME closes the library door, turns, her smile fading, her face angry, driven. She heads towards the front door.

ME (V.O.)  
 Benedict is dying. It broke my heart when the questions started and I knew I had to leave him. I return to find an old man who smiles and thinks I am a dream. I am flesh and blood, my love, but all you see is a ghost.

CUT TO:

17

INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

17

The DOCTOR frowns as he sees pages torn out, the next page illegible where the ink has smudged -

THE DOCTOR  
 (realising)  
 Tears.

CUT TO:

18

EXT. HOUNSLOW HALL GROUNDS. NIGHT 1

18

ME, holding a lit lantern, starts to cross the lawn.

CUT TO:

19

INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

19

The DOCTOR skim reads the next journal 1348 - 1349.

THE DOCTOR  
(reading)  
The Plague. Mass graves.  
(beat)  
Sightless children clutching toys  
as they sleep, never to wake up. My  
children. My screams. I could not  
save you, little ones. Such pain.  
And yet, still, *still*, I am not  
brave enough to die, to let go of  
this wretched life. I will endure,  
but no more babies. I cannot, will  
not, suffer such heartbreak again.

The DOCTOR's face as he takes this in, moved by the rawness  
of her pain, overwhelmed, then -

The DOCTOR cries. For ME, for her children, for all the  
suffering one person can bear.

CUT TO:

20

EXT. HOUNSLOW HALL GROUNDS. NIGHT 1

20

ME walks towards the dense dark shrubbery, towards a sound, a  
deep, quiet, throbbing, sinister purring from the bushes.

CUT TO:

21

INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

21

The DOCTOR reads -

THE DOCTOR  
(reading)  
From now on, it's Me against the  
world.

The DOCTOR flicks back - more pages torn out.

The DOCTOR stares at the Plague Doctor mask, a disturbed look  
on his face as suddenly, *he remembers* -

CUT TO:

22

EXT. LONDON. 1348

22

FLASHBACK - ME, heading out of London, on foot carrying a small bundle of food and clothes - a determined, cold, hard look in her eyes as she passes a Plague Doctor entering the city, smiles.

ME  
(to Plague Doctor)  
Rather you than me. I'm moving on.  
There's nothing left for me here.

ME shouts over her shoulder -

ME (cont'd)  
If you want to know what's causing it, my money's on the rat fleas.  
Better sanitation's the answer!

As she walks on, whistling bravely, the Plague Doctor removes his mask...

It is the DOCTOR, smiling, glad that she's okay.

CUT TO:

23

INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

23

The DOCTOR picks up the next journal, a heaviness in his heart, the torn out missing pages troubling him...

CUT TO:

24

EXT. HOUNSLOW HALL GROUNDS. NIGHT 1

24

ME reaches the bushes, the menacing purring.

ME  
Quiet, my friend. We have a visitor.

The purring stops. In the darkness, the silhouette of a tall, broad shouldered figure - regal, powerful, face unseen.

ME (cont'd)  
I did not get it.

The figure breathes deeply, waits.

ME (cont'd)  
But I will. By dawn. My visitor can help me. He doesn't know about you. He only knows about the artefact.  
(dark smile)  
He has no idea what we intend to do with it.  
(warily)  
It's the Doctor.

24

CONTINUED:

24

The figure tenses, its breath quickens, deepens.

ME (cont'd)  
Don't worry. My loyalty lies with  
you. I will keep your secret.

ME holds up the lantern. Its light catches two demonic golden beams which blind her temporarily. We glimpse the figure's face in the shadows - ferociously handsome with a noble skull, long golden hair, bronze skin.

And those amber eyes, wide-set, intense, penetrating. ME smiles wickedly.

ME (cont'd)  
This time, it is he who will be  
left behind. Waiting in the dark.

CUT TO:

25

INT. MASSIVE LIBRARY. NIGHT 1

25

The DOCTOR reaches the last journal. 1650. There is a gap on the shelf where the next one 1651, should be.

CUT TO:

26

INT. HALLWAY. NIGHT 1

26

ME enters the hall, holding the lantern as the DOCTOR steps out of the library. She is out of breath. He looks haunted.

THE DOCTOR  
I read your journals. Why are there  
pages missing?

ME  
When things get really bad, I rip  
the memories out.

THE DOCTOR  
What can be worse than losing your  
children?

A flicker of horror on ME's face before she recovers.

ME  
I keep that entry to remind me not  
to have any more.

THE DOCTOR  
I've left you alone too long. I had  
no idea how much you'd suffered,  
the wear and tear on your soul. I  
remember who you used to be. She's  
still in there. I can help you -

ME  
(sarkily)  
Spare me your pity. I'm fine.

THE DOCTOR  
I think this is another mask you  
wear, to protect you from the pain.

ME  
I think the alternative frightens  
you. That this is who I've become.

Stand-off as he looks at her. She shows no emotion.

THE DOCTOR  
Where is your latest journal? It's  
not on the shelf.

ME  
I stopped writing.

THE DOCTOR  
Why?

ME  
I stopped caring. I ran out of that  
too.

THE DOCTOR  
This is no way to live. De-  
sensitised to the world.

ME  
(angrily)  
So you intend to fix me, make me  
feel again, then run away?  
(with intent)  
I don't need your help, Doctor.  
Stay here. I'll get you what you  
came for. And then you can go.

As ME heads out, opens the front door -

THE DOCTOR  
Wait! I'm coming with you.

ME turns, her face in the shadows -

ME  
Don't you trust me?

THE DOCTOR  
No.

CUT TO:

27

**EXT. FANSHAWE'S MANOR. NIGHT 1**

27

In the dead of night, the DOCTOR and ME, with a leather bag of tools over her shoulder, stake out the back of a large impressive country house with a high roof and locked heavy wooden doors. Lamp light glows in some windows.

ME  
Housebreaks can be tricky -

THE DOCTOR  
Not for me.

The DOCTOR pulls out his sonic sunglasses.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Sonic technology should be able to deactivate all alarms and then -

ME  
What's an alarm?

The DOCTOR stops, stumped.

ME (cont'd)  
(re sunglasses)  
What else can those fancy blinkers do?

THE DOCTOR  
Open any lock!  
(shame-faced, realising)  
Apart from wood.

ME grins as she takes a poster out of her bag, unrolls it to reveal a rough sketch of her as THE KNIGHTMARE - WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE £100!

ME  
The most Wanted in the land.

THE DOCTOR  
Now's not the time for showing off.

ME puts the poster under the door and gets a small length of wire from her bag, jiggles it forward.

ME  
Now seems a very good time to me.

ME pulls the poster out from under the door with the key on top. She unlocks the door, grins as she puts on her mask.

ME (cont'd)  
Come on, sidekick. Watch and learn.

ME hands a second mask to the thwarted DOCTOR -

THE DOCTOR  
Brought my own, thanks.

27

CONTINUED:

27

The DOCTOR puts his sunglasses on. They head inside.

CUT TO:

28

INT. FANSHAWE'S MANOR. PITCH BLACK PASSAGEWAY. NIGHT 1

28

ME and the DOCTOR enter. They can't see a thing.

ME  
(whispered)  
Tis black as night. I have a  
tinderbox somewhere...

While ME fumbles for a tinderbox, the DOCTOR points his sunglasses at an unlit candle and it immediately lights up.

ME can't hide that she's impressed. We catch a hint of a smirk as he picks up the candle and takes the lead, then -

ME (cont'd)  
Know where you're going, do you?

The DOCTOR stops as ME pushes open a door, takes the candle -

ME (cont'd)  
Servant's stairs. Follow me.

CUT TO:

29

INT. FANSHAWE'S MANOR. DARK WINDING STAIRS. NIGHT 1

29

As ME leads the way up the narrow stairs.

THE DOCTOR  
(whispered)  
I think you might be lonely, Me.  
What happened to the second  
immortality charge I gave you?

ME pulls a chain round her neck - from inside her clothes, the small white tile appears, now attached to the chain.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Why haven't you used it?

ME  
No-one's good enough. Hush!

They reach a door. There is a lamp light on beyond it. The light goes out. They keep heading up the stairs.

THE DOCTOR  
Humans need shared experiences -

ME  
I'm regretting sharing this one.

THE DOCTOR  
It's not right to be on your own.

ME  
You know when you meet someone, and want to be with them forever? Would you still feel that way, if you actually could be?

The Doctor: silent at that.

ME (cont'd)  
Yes. Thought that would shut you up.

They reach another door. ME gently opens it -

CUT TO:

**INT. FANSHAWE'S MANOR. UPSTAIRS PASSAGEWAY. NIGHT 1**

ME peeps out through the door along the passage. A maid heads out from a bedroom. There is another door to its right -

MAID  
Good night, Ma'am.

The maid heads down the main stairs, holding a lamp.

ME  
(whispered)  
I'll wager there's a dressing room.

ME, candle in hand, creeps along the corridor, opens the door next to the bedroom, beckons the DOCTOR who darts in with his curioscanner at the ready.

CUT TO:

**INT. FANSHAWE'S MANOR. DRESSING ROOM. NIGHT 1**

The small dark room is filled with shoes and gowns. The DOCTOR turns on his curioscanner which flickers and beeps as it directs him towards the treasure chest. From the door -

ME  
Turn that thing off!

The DOCTOR switches the curioscanner to vibrate, opens the chest. The curioscanner flashes over a small jewellery box -

ME (cont'd)  
Tis rumoured to be purple and gold.

The DOCTOR opens box to reveal an intricately designed gold, faience and amethyst amulet, shot through with purple gems, with two amber eyes at its centre.

31

CONTINUED:

31

THE DOCTOR  
(fascinated by it)  
The Eyes of Haides!

ME stands over him, equally fascinated.

CUT TO:

32

INT. FANSHAWE'S MANOR. MAIN STAIRCASE. NIGHT 1

32

The DOCTOR and ME slip down the main stairs as -

The front opens and the COACHMAN enters. They duck through another door into -

CUT TO:

33

INT. FANSHAWE'S MANOR. MAIN LIVING AREA. NIGHT 1

33

- a dark unlit room with a chimney and old fireplace to one side stacked with logs. In front of it is a large sofa.

The DOCTOR and ME close the door when -

MR FANSHAWE  
Lucie, is that you?

MR FANSHAWE rises from the sofa, turns. The DOCTOR and ME duck down behind it -

ME blows out her candle. She indicates her pistol. The DOCTOR shakes his head. MR FANSHAWE heads out with a lamp, closes the door behind him, leaving them in pitch black darkness.

ME gets up, tries the window but it is locked. The DOCTOR, follows but, without his torchlight on his shades, clatters into the coal scuttle, making one hell of a racket -

MR FANSHAWE (O.S.) (cont'd)  
(yelling)  
There is an intruder on the  
premises! Bring me my blunderbuss!

ME cocks her pistol, aims at the door, ready for action.

THE DOCTOR  
What are you doing?

ME  
(eyes gleaming)  
It's kill or be killed!

THE DOCTOR  
No! Me, you can't. We should hide.

A look between them - Where?

The door is flung open and MR FANSHAWE, pistol in hand, scours the room which is seemingly empty. He heads for the cupboard, opens the door. No-one there.

Then we see the DOCTOR's feet dangling down in the fire place. MR FANSHAWE doesn't see them, searches the room -

CUT TO:

INT.CHIMNEY FLUE. NIGHT 1

ME stands on a small step inside the chimney flue. The steps extend upwards on one side into darkness. She clings with one hand onto the DOCTOR, yanks him up, puts her arm around him as he grips onto the step above, face to face with ME.

MR FANSHAWE (O.S.)  
(shouting)  
Guard the doors! Alert the constabulary!

ME looks at the DOCTOR. They are nose to nose, closer than is comfortable! Their exchange is hissed in whispers.

ME  
I said you'd be a liability. Let me shoot them and be done with it!

THE DOCTOR  
You're the liability. I never have this trouble with Clara.

ME looks thrown for a second.

ME  
She's still with you?

THE DOCTOR  
Oh, you remember Clara, do you?

ME  
Of course. I take particular note of anyone's weaknesses.

The Doctor looks at her narrowly - she's sharp and she's dangerous.

Then, MR FANSHAWE is back in the room, his voice below -

MR FANSHAWE (O.S.)  
Search every nook and cranny. I warrant they will hang for this.

The DOCTOR and ME look at each other, then upwards -

The DOCTOR starts to climb the flue ladder as ME follows hot on his heels.

ME  
So what's wrong with Clara then?

THE DOCTOR  
There's nothing wrong with her.

ME  
Then haven't you made her immortal?

THE DOCTOR  
Look how you turned out.

They climb, concentrating on holding onto the narrow steps -

ME  
She'll die on you. She'll blow away  
like smoke.

THE DOCTOR  
Save your breath.

As they head for the top, see the dark night sky -

ME  
How old are you, Doctor?

THE DOCTOR  
Older than you.

ME  
Then how many have you lost? How  
many Claras?

One last step, the DOCTOR heaves himself towards the top of  
the chimney, reaches down and helps ME out safely.

CUT TO:

ME and the DOCTOR stand on the sloping roof in the moonlight,  
catching their breath in the night air. The walls either side  
are sheer. She looks him in the eye.

ME  
All I'm saying is ... you don't  
have to lose me.

THE DOCTOR  
Are you proposing?

ME  
Don't be disgusting. I ran out of  
that too.

THE DOCTOR  
(cutting across)  
Good. Let's just concentrate on how  
to get down, shall we?

ME pulls a length of rope and an anchor out of her bag. The DOCTOR has to smile.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. HOUNSLOW HALL GROUNDS. DAY 2

The DOCTOR and ME walk towards the mansion, in high spirits.

ME  
(singing)  
Now we are arrived to the Boozing-  
Ken...  
And our Pockets full of Cole...  
We pass for the best of Gentlemen  
When over a flowing Bowl  
Our hearts are at ease  
We kiss who we please -

THE DOCTOR  
About the singing.

As they pass a gibbet, a gallows style structure.

ME  
(re gibbet)  
They're meant to act as a  
deterrent. And they work because I  
fully intend not to get caught.

THE DOCTOR  
I do worry that it will end in your  
death, Ashildr.

ME  
I'm not Ashildr, I'm Me. And I fear  
no hangman in Christendom!

Suddenly, a man drops from a tree in their path. SAM SWIFT, 26, masked, handsome, strong, Cockney, scruffy Highwayman's clothes, with a mask, big nose, fake beard, long hair and a twinkle in his eye, stands before them, pistol raised.

ME (cont'd)  
Sam Swift the Quick! I wouldn't be  
so bold if I were you. Don't you  
know who I am?

SAM SWIFT  
Aye. The Knightmare. Which is why I  
am not alone.

Two masked robbers, in rags, appear from behind on foot.

ME  
Tis hardly a fair fight.

SAM SWIFT

Were you being fair when you stole  
my patch?

ME

Is that a fake nose, Sam? Should  
change your name to Sam Sniffed!

SAM SWIFT

Never knew you were so puny,  
Knightmare? Or should that be,  
Slightmare?

THE DOCTOR

Oh, not the puns. Line in the sand -  
no puns!

ME

It's what's in my brain that  
counts, Bingo Boy.

SAM SWIFT

No brain outwits a bullet.  
Dandiprat.

THE DOCTOR

This is banter! I'm against banter!  
I'm on record on the subject of  
banter!

SAM SWIFT

Throw down your arms, hand me your  
bag of loot or I'll shoot.

ME

(to the DOCTOR)  
We'd better had. He'll probably aim  
to miss and hit one of us.

ME throws down her pistol. The DOCTOR is reluctant.

THE DOCTOR

(a plea to SAM SWIFT)  
We can give you cash instead.

SAM SWIFT

Who is this. Your sidekick? You've  
got your Dad for a sidekick??

THE DOCTOR

I'm not her Dad. I'm the Doctor!

SAM SWIFT

Is that the best name you could  
come up with?

THE DOCTOR

Says 'Sam Swift the Quick'? Trying  
a bit hard, aren't you? Bit slow on  
the draw, are we?

SAM SWIFT  
You what?

ME kicks SAM SWIFT in the jaw, disarms him of his pistol, trains it on him.

THE DOCTOR  
I rest my case.  
(grinning)  
No-one outwits the Knightmare.

Then, suddenly - SAM SWIFT tackles ME to the ground. They fight. As ME gains the upper hand, ROBBER 3 picks up ME's pistol and grabs the DOCTOR. SAM SWIFT sees this.

SAM SWIFT  
(to ME)  
If you value the life of your sidekick, you should back down.

ME sees the DOCTOR held at gunpoint as ROBBER 3 unmasks him.

SAM SWIFT (cont'd)  
(to ME)  
Drop your weapon.

ME  
This weapon?

SAM SWIFT looks at the DOCTOR, smiles smugly -

SAM SWIFT  
Who's slow now, Doctor?

Quick as a flash, ME turns the pistol on SAM SWIFT.

THE DOCTOR  
(gleeful)  
Ha! Good question!

ME  
(to ROBBER 3)  
You harm my Dad, I kill your leader.

THE DOCTOR  
I'm not her Dad.

ROBBER 3 drops ME's pistol. ROBBER 2 looks on. Both retreat as ME, a killer look in her eyes, keeps her pistol trained on SAM SWIFT, who looks truly terrified.

SAM SWIFT  
Please, Knightmare. I don't want to die. Let there be honour among us!

THE DOCTOR  
Also could you confirm that I'm not your Dad?

ME  
What do you say, Dad? Shall I kill him? He'll be dead in a minute anyway - what difference does it make?

THE DOCTOR  
Kill him, and you will make an enemy of me.

A moment, poised. Then:

ME  
(To Sam)  
Run. Just run.

ME turns, breathing hard, looks at the DOCTOR as SAM SWIFT and his gang run for the hills.

THE DOCTOR  
Their lives seem so short - I understand. But those lives still matter -

ME  
Shut up. You're not my Dad!

On ME's face, a darkness in her eyes as they head for home.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUNSLOW HALL. HALLWAY. DAY 2

The DOCTOR stands, analysing the amulet. The hall is dim, unlit, full of dark corners, the curtains drawn.

THE DOCTOR  
(calling up the stairs)  
I have a theory about the amulet.

CLAYTON  
Amaretto? Very good, sir.

The DOCTOR turns to see a grey-haired manservant, 40s, old for this era, frail, kind, beaming up at him.

CLAYTON (cont'd)  
I'm glad Lady Me has a gentleman caller. I've been with her for five years now and I worry she's lonely. Out in the garden at all hours, talking to herself. It's not safe with this vagabond, the Knightmare at large. Between us, a mature gent such as yourself is just what she needs. Let's hope you live long enough to keep her safe. Clayton's the name, sir, and you are...?

THE DOCTOR  
The Doctor.

ME descends the stairs in a red satin dress with paned sleeves, rouge, lipstick. She carries a small bag. She looks sensational, purposeful.

CLAYTON  
Would you care for a cocktail too,  
my lady?

ME  
Oh, yes please.

As CLAYTON shuffles off down the dark corridor -

ME (cont'd)  
Half blind and deaf as a post. He's no use any more really but -

THE DOCTOR  
You keep him on. See, you do have a heart. You don't fool me.

ME  
How do I look?

THE DOCTOR  
(peering at her)  
Pink. Are you coming down with something? Look -

The DOCTOR hands ME the amulet.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
(animated)  
Why would an alien artefact resemble the Eyes of Hades, King of the Underworld. An ancient Greek talisman which wards off evil, protects those in death on their journey to an afterlife?

ME  
You tell me.

THE DOCTOR  
Could it be that the mythology originated on another planet?

ME  
You can't wait to get going and find out, I'll wager.

The DOCTOR stops, looks at her.

THE DOCTOR  
No. I think I need to stick around, keep you company -

ME  
 (wrily)  
 Get me back on track?

THE DOCTOR  
 Why not? We're a good team.

ME  
 (deadly serious)  
 Then take me with you.

THE DOCTOR  
 Oh, you don't want to get stuck  
 with an old fool like me. You have  
 all of this wonderful planet to  
 play on...

ME  
 It takes a day to get to Kent.

THE DOCTOR  
 In the future, you'll fly.

ME  
 I want to fly right now. I've  
 waited longer than I should ever  
 have lived. I've lost more than I  
 can even remember.

(losing it)  
 - please, Doctor, just get me out  
 of this place. Why not??

THE DOCTOR  
 (Thundering)  
 I. DON'T. KNOW. I just... It  
 wouldn't be good..

ME flinches as though he's wounded her. Then her eyes grow  
 dark with rage, determined.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
 Ashildr, please.

ME  
 I'm not Ashildr any more.

THE DOCTOR  
 Then I will stay as long as it  
 takes for me to find her again -

Then he hears it... a deep, throbbing sinister noise from  
 outside. ME is staring at the door. The DOCTOR turns -

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
 Do you have a cat?

The purring intensifies. Dogs howl in the distance.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
 It sounds like a very big cat.

The front door flies open and two golden beams of light blind the DOCTOR temporarily. He shields his eyes.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Hence the very big cat flap.

The DOCTOR squints at the figure in silhouette in the doorway - broad shouldered, statuesque, majestic. It purrs...

ME  
Leandro, meet the Doctor.

The DOCTOR turns to ME, stunned - what??

THE DOCTOR  
What's going on?

The door slams shut behind the alien. The beams of light dim, the purring stops. The DOCTOR looks at him.

And he is glorious, magnificent, handsome. He wears luminous skins and fine leather, the skins of creatures it has killed.

ME  
(loving it)  
You thought I was helping you - I'm afraid it was the other way round.

ME smiles wickedly as she holds up the amulet -

ME (cont'd)  
Leandro, we have it. My friend here was as useful as I'd hoped.

She tosses the amulet to Leandro.

LEANDRO  
(deep regal voice)  
Thank you, stranger.

The Doctor - high alert now, concentrating.

THE DOCTOR  
If somebody needed my help, why did nobody just ask?

Silence.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
I'm forced to assume you have plans, and I wouldn't approve.

Again silence. He looks to Me. So sad.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Oh, Ashildr.

ME  
(Avoiding his eye)  
Stop calling me that.

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CONTINUED:

37

The Doctor looks to Leandro. Then, so calmly:

THE DOCTOR  
Kill me.

A silence - what?

LEANDRO  
Why?

THE DOCTOR  
If you intend any harm to this  
planet, or its people, killing me  
is by far your best move.

LEANDRO  
You invite your own death?

THE DOCTOR  
No. I just want you to attack  
first. Then my conscience is clear.

LEANDRO  
Of what?

THE DOCTOR  
You.

Leandro stares at him. Then laughs.

LEANDRO  
You are unarmed.

THE DOCTOR  
And unafraid. Scary, isn't it?

The two of them, locked in burning gazes. Leandro sensing  
there is more to this man.

LEANDRO  
You are not of this world, or part  
of my plans. I have no quarrel with  
you.

THE DOCTOR  
Then tell me why you're here, and  
what you intend to do. In detail  
please.

The Doctor, now so in command. He takes a chair, leaning  
back, waiting.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Either that, or get on and kill me.  
But I'd advise you to be quick and  
very sure.

Leandro and Me exchange a glance - Me gives a little nod.

LEANDRO  
(deep regal voice)  
I am from Delta Leonis, a star in  
Sigma Leonis. My tribe were  
overthrown, my world destroyed, my  
wife killed as we escaped.

THE DOCTOR  
Using the amulet? That's your means  
of travel, yes?

LEANDRO  
I lost it when I crashed to Earth.

ME  
I found him in my grounds. He's  
been sleeping there while I  
searched for it.

The DOCTOR looks at the amulet in ME's hand -

THE DOCTOR  
The Underworld, gateway to an  
afterlife, another reality -

ME  
We need it to open a portal, travel  
the Galaxy.

THE DOCTOR  
So what's the plan, Ashildr? Fancy  
yourself as his new Queen? Hunting,  
running errands while he sleeps.

ME  
Oh dear God, you're like every  
other man. I'm not looking for a  
husband, you fatuous oaf, I'm  
choosing a horse to get me out of  
town. You said no, so I'm going for  
the pretty one.

ME looks at the DOCTOR, defiance in her eyes as she puts the  
amulet into her bag.

THE DOCTOR  
You really think you can trust him?

ME  
He knows what it is to be alone.

THE DOCTOR  
So do I?

ME  
Then how could you do what you  
did??

LEANDRO  
You will not be alone again, my  
lady. This is my promise.

The Doctor looks away, wearied at the transparency of this.

THE DOCTOR  
I'm waiting for the headline.

ME  
The what?

THE DOCTOR  
You're escaping, fine, escape all  
you want. Why wouldn't I approve?

ME  
The amulet ....

THE DOCTOR  
What about it?

LEANDRO  
A death is required. It is how the  
amulet works.

THE DOCTOR  
... of course. Oh, death is so  
clever, isn't it? It's a blip in  
the consciousness of the world, the  
darkness after the candle. Every  
single death is a tiny fracture in  
reality - and the amulet can lever  
that fracture open. Primitive - but  
effective.

ME  
It's just exploiting an abundant  
resource. There's so much dying  
here.

THE DOCTOR  
Whose death this time? Who dies so  
you can run away?

ME looks at the DOCTOR, determined, steely as -

ME  
(calling out)  
Clayton?

CLAYTON  
(Calling feebly from off)  
Coming, my lady.

On the Doctor, horrified.

THE DOCTOR  
No! No, you can't, he loves you.

ME  
To the end, it would seem.

LEANDRO  
Would you take his place?

LEANDRO's snarls, his mouth opens and *fire shoots from it* -

ME  
(panicking)  
Not the Doctor, we agreed!

ME stands in front of the DOCTOR as he steps back, unharmed.

LEANDRO wipes his mouth, settles, his eyes gleaming, *cruel*.

The Doctor - he seems barely aware of the attack that nearly happened. Is staring, so sadly, at Me.

THE DOCTOR  
Achildr, daughter of Einarr ...  
what happened to you?

ME  
You did, Doctor. You happened.

CUT TO:

**INT. SMALL ROOM OFF THE HALLWAY. DAY 2**

The DOCTOR is tied to a chair in the corner of a small dark windowless room. ME makes sure the ropes are secure.

THE DOCTOR  
I know you've suffered.  
(beat)  
Your children dying...

ME turns to him, sadness in her eyes for a second, then -

ME  
They would have died anyway. Human life is fleeting - people are mayflies, breeding and dying, repeating the same mistakes, it's boring. I have to play dumb lest they find me out. I am an old soul trapped in a young woman's body. In a misogynistic world. Doomed to be talked down to and forgotten.  
(anger in her throat)  
Abandoned by the one man who knows what eternity feels like. Who should understand.

THE DOCTOR  
I do... now, but -

ME  
You still won't take me with you.  
(fired up, over him)  
(MORE)

ME (cont'd)

You gadabout while I trudge through the centuries day by day, hour by hour. You come for the fight, I witness the fall-out. Do you ever think or care what happens after you've flown away? I live in the world you leave behind. Because you abandoned me to it.

THE DOCTOR

(temper flaring)

Why should I be responsible for you?

ME

You made me immortal!

THE DOCTOR

I saved you. I didn't know your heart would rust because I kept it beating. I didn't think your conscience would need renewing, that the well of human kindness would run dry. I just wanted to save a terrified young woman's life.

ME

You didn't save my life, you trapped me inside it. And now there is someone who will set me free. Someone who understands.

(She shows the Doctor the white tile)

And if he wants it, this is his.

THE DOCTOR

Oh, look at you. It's love after all.

ME

I outlived love a long time ago. But companionship I would have.

THE DOCTOR

I don't know what Lenny the Lion is up to but I know his type. First argument you have, guaranteed he'll bite your head off.

ME

Or I'll bite off his. Perhaps I would enjoy that.

THE DOCTOR

You're playing with fire. Open that portal, you have no idea what horrors might come through.

ME

Well that's as good a reason as any to do it.

THE DOCTOR

You're not like this. I know you're not.

ME

This is exactly what I'm like. *This is what you made of me!*

THE DOCTOR

He'll kill you.

ME

He'd have to be fast, but if he does ... perhaps it's about time.

A loud banging on the front door. Then -

SOLDIER 1 (O.S.)

Lady Me?

CUT TO:

OMITTEDOMITTEDINT. HOUNSLOW HALL. HALLWAY/SMALL ROOM OFF THE HALLWAY. DAY 241

ME looks out into the hall as two ROUNDHEAD SOLDIERS, armed with pistols, not the brightest, Dumb and Dumber.

SOLDIER 1

Lady Me, thank goodness you are safe. Sam Swift has been captured and he swore the Knightmare was headed in this direction.

ME

I haven't seen him.

SOLDIER 2

Sam Swift will hang in Tyburn at noon.

The clock says 11.30. ME locks eyes with the DOCTOR who sits, watching her.

ME

A guilty man destined to die, no harm in that.

Then, ME's eyes harden.

ME (cont'd)  
 (to the SOLDIERS)  
 I haven't seen the Knightmare. But  
 this is his sidekick, the Doctor.  
 He was robbing me. I only just  
 managed to overpower him.

As the DOCTOR stares at ME, betrayed, SOLDIER 1 comes to the doorway, looks at a rough sketch on a WANTED POSTER of the DOCTOR that he has.

SOLDIER 1  
 (to the DOCTOR)  
 You will hang for this!

THE DOCTOR  
 No, listen, she tied me up because  
 I was trying to help her and -

SOLDIER 1 fires his pistol as a warning.

SOLDIER 1  
 (to the DOCTOR)  
 Silence or we'll shoot.

ME  
 (smiling at SOLDIER 1)  
 He needn't hang. But keep him under  
 lock and key - for all our sakes.

CLAYTON emerges from the library, comes to the doorway -

CLAYTON  
 Was that the door?

CLAYTON sees the DOCTOR held prisoner in the small room.

CLAYTON (CONT'D) (cont'd)  
 Oh dear. Always the quiet ones.

As ME heads out, she grabs her long, black cloak.

ME  
 Goodbye Clayton.  
 (to the DOCTOR)  
 See, I do have a heart.

THE DOCTOR  
 In which case, don't do it.

ME runs out of the front door, amulet in hand.

CUT TO:

ME runs, adrenaline firing through her body.

ME  
Leandro?

LEANDRO emerges from nowhere. ME holds up the amulet.

LEANDRO  
Where is the old man?

ME  
We can't use him. Come. The Doctor  
is held up. It's nearly time.

LEANDRO looks at ME curiously for a second, contemplating  
that he could just kill her and get it over with, then -

ME (cont'd)  
We'll go to Tyburn. There will be a  
crowd. We'll give them a spectacle  
they will never forget.

LEANDRO  
A crowd? Yes. We can leave in a  
blaze of glory.  
(smiles)  
I will be eternally grateful for  
this.

ME  
You'd better be. When we leave, I  
have a gift for you. Come!

On their faces, two young beautiful partners in crime.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY. DAY 2

The DOCTOR, standing now, hands still tied behind his back,  
is led out by the grim-faced SOLDIERS -

THE DOCTOR  
Do I look like some feckless thief?  
I'm on your side, I'm an undercover  
constable. I'm from Scotland Yard.  
Do you have Scotland Yard yet?

SOLDIER 1  
Been on the cider, have we?

The DOCTOR holds up his psychic paper to reveal the DUNBAR  
VICTORY MEDAL.

THE DOCTOR  
The Dunbar Victory medal. I was  
decorated for valour in battle.

SOLDIER 2  
Tell it to the Newgate gaoler.

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CONTINUED:

43

THE DOCTOR  
 All I want is to bring the  
 Knightmare to justice. I became his  
 sidekick so I could win his trust,  
 help you catch him.

SOLDIER 1  
 But you were robbing Lady Me?

THE DOCTOR  
 I came to warn her. I fear her  
 life's in danger.

Through the window, the DOCTOR sees -

CUT TO:

44

EXT. HOUNSLOW HALL GROUNDS. DAY 2

44

ME driving a one horse carriage, speeding away from the Hall.  
 And a cloaked figure sitting in the back, LEANDRO.

CUT TO:

45

INT. HALLWAY. DAY 2

45

The DOCTOR turns to the soldiers, nods at the window -

THE DOCTOR  
 There, look. The Knightmare,  
 cloaked, in disguise. Bound for  
 Tyburn. You have to let me go or  
 take me there right now.

SOLDIER 2  
 You wish to hang too?

THE DOCTOR  
 Will you take me if I say yes?

SOLDIER 1  
 Indeed! There's a bounty on your  
 head of twenty pounds.

THE DOCTOR  
 (affronted)  
 Twenty pounds! Is that all?

SOLDIER 2  
 Tis a small fortune to us.

THE DOCTOR  
 In that case, I happen to know  
 where Lady Me stores all her money.  
 Up to a thousand pounds.

The SOLDIERS eyes light up.

45

CONTINUED:

45

SOLDIER 1  
 Now why didn't you say that in the  
 first place?

JUMP CUT TO:

46

INT. HALLWAY. DAY 2

46

The SOLDIERS cackle over their new-found loot. CLAYTON comes towards them with cocktails.

CUT TO:

47

EXT. ROAD TO TYBURN. DAY 2

47

The DOCTOR, on horseback, gallops on to Tyburn, passes a milestone - TYBURN 5 miles...

CUT TO:

48

EXT. TYBURN ROAD. DAY 2

48

A gallows - TYBURN TREE, a wooden construction 18 feet high, crossbeams of nine feet. SAM SWIFT, no wig, handsome, terrified for his life, adrenaline-fuelled, drunk, a celebrity buying all the time he can get, addresses the crowd as the HANGMAN stands, watching.

There are street vendors, broadsheet sellers, excitement in the air.

Commoners, cavaliers, Roundheads, cutpurses all look on, wearing hats. It is crowded, people sit on roofs.

SAM SWIFT  
 Such a good turn-out. I'm honoured.  
 I'm sure I recognize some of you  
 lovely ladies. Yes, you... and  
 you... oh, and you...

The ladies cheer. SAM SWIFT mops his brow -

SAM SWIFT (cont'd)  
 All my girlfriends in one place.  
 I'd introduce you... if I could  
 remember your names.

The ladies boo. Laughter and applause from the men -

SAM SWIFT (cont'd)  
 (re HANGMAN)  
 It's a good job you're here, or  
 they'd kill me.

Laughter. People at the back can't see and yell to those in front -

48

CONTINUED:

48

CROWDS  
Hats off, hats off...

CUT TO:

49

EXT ROAD TO TYBURN. DAY 2

49

The DOCTOR, on horseback, hears the distant chant.

CROWDS (O.S.)  
Hats off, hats off...

The DOCTOR urges his horse to go faster.

CUT TO:

50

EXT. TYBURN. DAY 2

50

SAM SWIFT addresses the lively crowd. He spots a pregnant woman and winks -

SAM SWIFT  
Mary? Meg? Help me out here, Miss.

WOMAN'S HUSBAND  
It's Mrs Baxter to you!

SAM SWIFT  
Funny name for a fellow!

More laughter but the crowd are getting restless. In ME's carriage, a cloaked LEANDRO looks on.

LEANDRO  
It's time.

ME heads for the HANGMAN. As she does so -

LEANDRO (cont'd)  
Hang him!

CROWDS  
(chanting)  
Hang him! Hang him!

LEANDRO purrs in anticipation. SAM SWIFT starts to panic.

CUT TO:

51

EXT. ROAD TO TYBURN. DAY 2

51

The DOCTOR hears the distant roar of the crowd, the chant.

CROWDS (O.S.)  
Hang him, hang him, hang him...

CUT TO:

52

EXT. TYBURN. DAY 2

52

SAM SWIFT swigs from a gin bottle.

SAM SWIFT  
(to crowds)  
In order to face the short drop,  
one needs a long drop of gin...

The crowd laughs. SAM SWIFT is sweating even more, afraid his time will soon be up.

CROWD MEMBER 1  
Make us laugh, Sam!

SAM SWIFT  
Aye for while you laugh, I live.  
(beat)  
It was raining on the way here. The hangman said, 'It's all right for you, I have to come back in this'.

Laughter from the crowd. SAM SWIFT sees ME talking to the HANGMAN, handing him money -

SAM SWIFT (cont'd)  
(to ME)  
What are you paying for, my beauty?

ME  
To make it quick! A fitting end for you, Sam Swift.

SAM SWIFT  
(to crowd)  
Who should be the last to kiss these lips?

All the women in the crowd giggle and yell.

WOMEN IN CROWD  
Me! Me! Me!

SAM SWIFT  
(to ME)  
They must mean you, Lady Me!

ME smiles. She comes to him and kisses him on the cheek.

SAM SWIFT (cont'd)  
(to ME)  
You remind me of someone.

ME walks away, back to the HANGMAN. SAM smiles at the crowd.

SAM SWIFT (cont'd)  
Now I want to live more than ever.  
Come on, doxies, get in line.

But the laughter is dying out. LEANDRO, in his black cloak, steps out of the carriage, sees the DOCTOR arrive at the back of the crowd. LEANDRO calls out as he prowls -

LEANDRO  
Time to hang.

CROWDS  
Time to hang! Time to hang!

SAM SWIFT  
(terrified, brave)  
As God is my Highwayman, He steals  
the most precious gift of all.  
Life!  
(tears in his eyes)  
Magical, filled with adventures!  
But at least I can say I lived it  
to the full!

The DOCTOR, fighting through the crowd, looks at SAM SWIFT, admiring his courage, genuinely moved by it.

FEMALE CROWD MEMBER  
I love you, Sam Swift!

A desperate SAM SWIFT sees the DOCTOR, seizes a chance to prolong his life -

SAM SWIFT  
Isn't that the Doctor? Doctor,  
Doctor, I'm a robber.

THE DOCTOR  
Have you taken anything for it?

Trickles of laughter as the crowd recognize the DOCTOR who sees his own face drawn on WANTED POSTERS - TWENTY POUNDS!

SAM SWIFT  
Have you ever seen such an old  
sidekick?

THE DOCTOR  
I'm no-one's sidekick.

SAM SWIFT  
No, more of a sidelimp!

SAM SWIFT gulps - He bloody well hopes so. His mind races -

SAM SWIFT (cont'd)  
Why he's so old, he farts dust!

THE DOCTOR  
Your nose is so big -

SAM SWIFT  
(playing along)  
They'll have to widen the noose -

THE DOCTOR  
Bury you in a pyramid.

SAM SWIFT  
You know what they say, big nose -

THE DOCTOR  
Big handkerchief?

Raucous laughter from the crowd. But the DOCTOR sees ME pay more money to the HANGMAN, who then approaches SAM SWIFT.

ME looks at the DOCTOR triumphantly. LEANDRO looks on.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Wait! I have a pardon for Sam  
Swift. From Cromwell himself!

The DOCTOR holds up his psychic paper as he reaches the HANGMAN. The HANGMAN reads it, looks at SAM SWIFT.

HANGMAN  
(dramatic beat)  
Sam Swift is pardoned!

The crowd whoop. SAM SWIFT falls to his knees, overcome with relief. Then -

CROWD MEMBER 2  
We didn't come all this way not to  
see someone hang. What about the  
Doctor?

CROWDS  
Hang the Doctor. Hang the Doctor!

A crowd member holds out the DOCTOR's Wanted poster.

CROWD MEMBER 3  
(to the DOCTOR)  
Sign this first. It's worth more  
when you're dead.

The HANGMAN looks at the DOCTOR. The DOCTOR looks at ME.

CROWDS  
Hang the Doctor. Hang the Doctor!

ME  
(to the crowds)  
You want to see someone die. How's  
this?

ME produces amulet. SAM SWIFT looks at ME, confused as she places the amulet on his chest.

THE DOCTOR  
(desperate)  
No! Ashildr.

The DOCTOR tries to pull her off. SAM SWIFT starts to shake and spasm as his life force is sucked out of him -

SAM SWIFT  
(to ME, fearful)  
What are you doing to me?...

LEANDRO smiles as SAM SWIFT dies. The crowd gasps. Then from SAM SWIFT's chest, a shimmering purple light shoots up into the sky.

THE DOCTOR  
Purple, the colour of death.

ME beams at LEANDRO. The crowds gasp again, but now in awe.

ME  
(avidly)  
It's working...

A gloating ME turns to the DOCTOR.

ME (cont'd)  
We did it!

The DOCTOR stares as a hazy portal forms in the sky.

THE DOCTOR  
His life force is opening a portal.

ME  
To my new life.

THE DOCTOR  
Or to Hell.

As the outline of the shimmering portal becomes clearer, LEANDRO casts off his cloak. The crowd reacts.

CROWD MEMBER 2  
A lion man!

LEANDRO turns to the crowd. From his mouth, he roars fire to keep them at bay. As the crowd recoils, shrieks, prays.

THE DOCTOR  
(to LEANDRO)  
Why the circus act when you aim to leave?

CROWD MEMBER 1  
It's Satan.

CROWD MEMBER 3  
Tis a trick. A man in a costume. I have heard of such things on the London stage.

CROWD MEMBER 2  
(re sky)  
Look!

The portal is now distinct. The crowd is entranced.

Through it, a pathway, extending to the stars and beyond.

ME  
(beyond excited)  
Goodbye, Doctor.

ME takes LEANDRO's hand.

LEANDRO  
(to ME, cruelly)  
You're going nowhere.

ME falters. Ominous dread in the DOCTOR's eyes.

THE DOCTOR  
Doors work both ways. They let  
people out...

LEANDRO laughs, looks up at the darkening sky. From the portal, a terrible noise - purring, then humming -

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
And they let the enemy in.

Suddenly, the sky is filled with savage, glittering lights.

ME  
What's that, what's happening? What are those things?

THE DOCTOR  
Space ships - or they will be.  
They're coming through the rift,  
actualising in this plane of reality.

Shimmering above, as much of a battle fleet as we can manage.

ME  
(to LEANDRO, horrified)  
I thought you were the last of the Leonians. We were meant to escape.

LEANDRO  
You shall. In death.

Now energy beams start firing from the shimmering, materialising spaceships. The screaming starts as people run for cover, desperately trying to hide.

ME is overcome with despair as she turns to the DOCTOR -

ME  
 (ashen, wretched)  
 Doctor, what have I done? What have  
 I done to these people?

The DOCTOR sees her pain. The fleeing humans tug at ME's heart as she realises the extent of LEANDRO's betrayal.

ME (cont'd)  
 (screaming at LEANDRO)  
 Stop this! They are defenceless.

LEANDRO smirks.

THE DOCTOR  
 He doesn't care.

ME  
 But I do.  
 (realising it, desperate)  
 Oh God, I do. I actually do, I  
 care.

THE DOCTOR  
 You see? Welcome back!

ME  
 Well do something then! They need  
 you.

LEANDRO  
 It's already done.

The DOCTOR focusses on ME. All around them, screaming people, some injured, running for cover from the relentless gunfire -

THE DOCTOR  
 Oka-ay... Eyes of Hades...  
 afterlife... life force opens  
 gateway... we need to close it...

ME  
 I know but how?

THE DOCTOR  
 Reverse it...  
 (epiphany)  
 Sam Swift is the conduit - the  
 amulet - it's still in him -

They turn to where the purple light still streams from the amulet in SAM SWIFT's chest, holding the portal stable -

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
 It's his death that's opening the  
 rift. So what do we do?

ME  
 Reverse it.

LEANDRO  
You cannot reverse death.

ME  
Oh, yes, we can!

The DOCTOR and ME run towards SAM SWIFT. LEANDRO looks on as ME takes the tile from her bag and presses it against Sam Swift's forehead.

The DOCTOR and ME wait. SAM SWIFT lies still - nothing. LEANDRO sniggers.

Then -

SAM SWIFT jolts upwards, eyes possessed as he gulps for air. And a golden light shoots out from his body into the portal -

LEANDRO  
(roaring)  
NO!

THE DOCTOR  
The light of immortality.

Chaos as the spaceships are blinded by the golden light.

LEANDRO is enraged. He turns to ME, fire shooting from his mouth, as the DOCTOR throws ME to one side, to safety.

The portal starts to fade and collapse. LEANDRO roars in defeat. The spaceships and LEANDRO shimmer in the golden light, their forms hazy, transparent and then - the portal, LEANDRO and the spaceships vanish. A terrible yowling then -

Silence. Dazed people slowly look out from their hiding places. SAM SWIFT sleeps like a baby.

HANGMAN  
Doctor, the Nightmare is lucky to have you as his sidekick.

ME grins at the DOCTOR as the crowd cheers! SAM SWIFT blinks awake.

THE DOCTOR  
It's me who is lucky to have him.

The DOCTOR and ME are lifted onto the shoulders of the crowd.

SAM SWIFT  
I'm alive!  
(triumphant yell)  
I'm alive!

CUT TO:

53

INT. SWAN WITH TWO NECKS. DAY 2. AFTERNOON

53

Straw on the ground, jugs of ale on wooden tables and a great deal of merriment. The DOCTOR and ME sit at a table, talking to a befuddled SAM SWIFT -

SAM SWIFT  
Last thing I remember is you turning up, Doctor. Good thing too.  
(quietly)  
Between you and me, I was running out of material.

THE DOCTOR  
I could tell. Gave a whole new meaning to dying on stage.

SAM SWIFT  
Gallows humour can be tricky. But at least there's never a second house.  
(Looks at their glasses)  
We've nearly finished these - I'll get some more in.

He starts to the bar, but looks back, with a grin, at Me.

SAM SWIFT (cont'd)  
By the way - I haven't forgotten your kiss.

Off he goes.

Me rolls her eyes, looks to the Doctor.

ME  
Is he immortal now?

THE DOCTOR  
Do you want him to be?

ME  
I don't think I want anyone to be.

THE DOCTOR  
Probably not. Probably the power would have been drained by reversing the portal opening thingy. There was enough power to bring him back, but not enough to keep him here. Probably.

ME  
Did you just make all of that up?

THE DOCTOR  
Probably, yes, it's hard to keep track. Keep an eye on him, he might be around for a while. Or not. Who can say?

ME  
... you're still not going to take  
me with you, are you?

The Doctor considers. A sad shake of his head.

THE DOCTOR  
People like you and me. We go too  
long, we forget what matters. The  
last thing we need is each other -  
we need the mayflies.

(Looking around at  
everyone else)  
The mayflies know more than we do.  
How beautiful and precious life is  
because it is fleeting. Look how  
Sam Swift made every last moment  
count, right to the gallows.

(Looking over at Sam at  
the bar)  
Look how glad he is to be alive.

SAM SWIFT laughs loudly with the HANGMAN at the bar.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
I looked into your eyes and saw my  
worst fears. Emptiness. Weariness.  
That's why I needed to save you.

ME  
That's why you can't travel with  
me. Our perspectives are too vast.  
Too ... far away.

An understanding between them - kindred spirits.

THE DOCTOR  
We could have one trip through  
outer space, a final fling? Return  
of the Jaded.

ME  
No.

THE DOCTOR  
No?

ME  
I'm dumping you this time, Doctor.  
I'll keep time travelling, one day  
at a time. It's possible I might  
learn things you never will.

THE DOCTOR  
I'll keep an eye on you.

ME  
No. I'll keep an eye on you.

The Doctor: what??

ME (cont'd)

What I said before was true. You turn up for the battle, and you run away from the consequences. Someone has to look out for the people you abandon. Who better than me? I'll be the patron saint of the Doctor's leftovers.

The Doctor looks at her, thoroughly disconcerted.

THE DOCTOR

Well. Good.

ME

Yes, I think it will be good.

THE DOCTOR

Okay, good, excellent.

(A beat, troubled)

The way you're talking ...

ME

What about it?

THE DOCTOR

We're not *enemies* now, are we?

ME

Of course not. Enemies are never a problem. It's your friends you have to watch out for. And, my friend, I shall be watching out for you.

The Doctor considers - picks up his glass, clinks her.

THE DOCTOR

Ashildr, I think I'm very glad I saved you.

ME

Oh, I think everyone will be.

They drink. Eyes on each other. Friends - but just a little wary.

CUT TO:

The DOCTOR sits in the TARDIS, deep in thought. He's playing his electric guitar. Something sad and lovely.

Then the door opens and in bursts CLARA -

CLARA

Hey!

THE DOCTOR  
Hey!

CLARA  
Did you miss me?

THE DOCTOR  
Be more specific. Who are you?

CLARA  
I've got a present for you.

THE DOCTOR  
Why? Am I ill?

CLARA  
No.

THE DOCTOR  
Are you ill?

CLARA  
No.

THE DOCTOR  
Are you never going to travel with  
me again, because I said a thing?

CLARA  
It's not a *good* present.

THE DOCTOR  
Well that's a relief.

CLARA  
Remember Evie Hubbard? Year Seven,  
you helped her with her homework?  
Imaginary interview with Winston  
Churchill - you basically cheated?

THE DOCTOR  
Her fault. She should have stressed  
'imaginary'.

Showing him her phone.

CLARA  
She got an A. So she's sending you  
this selfie.

On the phone - a picture of Clara with a young girl. They are standing in the playground holding up an essay with an A on the front.

THE DOCTOR  
You're right, that's not a good  
present. Don't they make sherbert  
lemons any more? And I'd quite like  
a Ferrari.

CLARA  
I knew you'd be thrilled.

THE DOCTOR  
No, hang on, let me see that again.

He pulls the phone back, examines the picture.

CLARA  
What's wrong?

THE DOCTOR  
Nothing. Nothing at all.

On the phone. Beyond the Clara, there's a figure standing at the school gates, as if observing. The Doctor zooms in a little. It's quite clearly Me. Modern clothes, smiling slightly. As if directly at the Doctor.

CLARA  
Doctor?

The Doctor hurriedly shoves the phone back at Clara.

THE DOCTOR  
Tell her thanks. But next time I'll take cash.

On the Doctor's face. Oh!! Me is on his trail after all.

CLARA  
So! Where are you going to take me?

THE DOCTOR  
Wherever you want.

CLARA  
Somewhere magical. Somewhere new!

THE DOCTOR  
There's nowhere new under the sun!  
(grins)  
Above it on the other hand...

An excited CLARA hugs him spontaneously. He hugs her back, beaming over her shoulder, needing her around -

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)  
I've missed you, Clara Oswald.

CLARA  
Well don't you worry, daft old man.  
I'm not going anywhere.

On the Doctor's face. Smiles drops a fraction, that haunted look. Oh yes she is - some day.

END OF EPISODE

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