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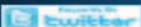
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SNEAK PREVIEWS AND WHISPERS

DOCTOR WHO – THE LOST STORIES: SERIES FOUR

And here we are. Four years after the Celestial Toymaker at last opened the door of his Brighton pleasuredrome, the **Lost Stories** are coming to end. We finally got to hear the song of the space-whale, visited Paradise 5, Prophecy, Luxor and Magnus; saw returns from Victoria, the Ice Warriors and the Daleks, witnessed the origin of the Sontarans, met Raine, Charlotte from the village and Alexander, and even went to two separate space prisons with Jamie and Zoe. But all good things must come to an end, as the cliché goes. There can only be a finite number of **Lost Stories**, so it's time to leave on a high. But what treats await in the final season?

The Dark Planet: An epic morality play on a very alien world, Matt Fitton's script is so beautifully authentic in its period detail, Maureen O'Brien swore she'd done it on TV – and yes, Vicki makes her **Lost Stories** debut, back with William Russell for the first time. Two of our finest companion actors start the season on a high, in the last of an unofficial trilogy of hard-hearted Hartnell blockbusters.

The Queen of Time: The range opened with the Celestial Toymaker, so it's only fitting the final series features his sibling – the time-obsessed Hecuba who shares his passion for games. Gorgeous magical realism from Cathie Harvey with a unique tone, it's a lot of fun.

Lords of the Red Planet: Like the last two, another Brian Hayles story and his own take on his best creation's origin comes to fruition in a 'Genesis of the Ice Warriors' story with a twist. A dark melodrama with a fabulous cast, including Michael Troughton finally making his **Doctor Who** debut.

The Mega: And to finish off, yes, at last, the set is complete. The Third Doctor finally gets his own **Lost Story**, in Simon Guerrier's terrifically enjoyable version of a Bill Strutton storyline. All you could want from the Pertwee years is there – UNIT action with a plot like a cross between an ITC action serial and *TV Comic*. A fittingly high end to the range, it's a delight.

EDITORIAL

Sometimes, I wonder if there's too much **Doctor Who** in my life. My walk to the train station in the morning is twenty-five minutes, give or take. It's annoying that I have to traipse all the way down to West Croydon (trains to the station nearest the BF office only run at certain, less convenient, times from the nearer East Croydon), but that walk is about the length of a **Doctor Who** episode, so before I even arrive at work, I'm in a **Who**-ey frame of mind.

Then, during the day, I deal with various **Who**-related stuff, whether it be CD inlays, questions from listeners, interviews with the stars or one of many other things.

Once home, of course, there's no reason to continue this **Doctor Who**-themed lifestyle. Yet every couple of weeks myself, my girlfriend Nat and my friends Ian Atkins and Anthony 'cover artist extraordinaire' Lamb settle down for an evening of pizza and **Who**-watching. Recent stories watched include *Pyramids of Mars*, *Warriors of the Deep*, *The Mind of Evil* and *The Two Doctors*. It's always fun reappraising these stories, deciding if they live up to their reputation or not, and wondering if Nat will stay awake through it all (she sometimes flags round about episode four).

That'd be enough, you'd think. But I'm also a big comics fan and I've decided to finally get on and read the collections of *Doctor Who Magazine* comic strips which I've been mounting up over the years. I've been working through in Doctor order, and I remember quite a lot from the first time round (I came in with *DWM #89*, halfway through *The Shape Shifter* – maybe it's why I've always had a soft spot for Frobisher). But oh, they're brilliant. The scale, the scope, the imagination. Remove all restrictions and you get such epic, amazing stories which you'd have trouble telling in any other medium. Utterly stunning. I'm on the Eighth Doctor collections at the moment and have just been revisiting the tale where he apparently regenerates into Nick Briggs (no, really) and marvelling (or should that be Panini-ing?) at the artwork of Martin Geraghty and the writing talent of one Alan Barnes. I wonder what happened to him?

Is there too much **Doctor Who** in my life? Never.

PAUL SPRAGG

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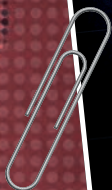
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COUNTER-MEASURES

MEASURING UP

AFTER A SERIES SUCCESSFULLY PROTECTING THE UK FROM TERRORS FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC, THE COUNTER-MEASURES TEAM IS BACK AND FIGHTING FIT. PAUL SPRAGG SPOKE TO STARS SIMON WILLIAMS (GILMORE), PAMELA SALEM (RACHEL), KAREN GLEDHILL (ALLISON) AND HUGH ROSS (SIR TOBY)





Karen Gledhill, Simon Williams, Pamela Salem and Hugh Ross

“IT’S WONDERFUL BECAUSE IT TAKES ME BACK TWENTY-FIVE YEARS TO WHEN I WAS THE RIGHT AGE FOR BEING GILMORE.” **SIMON WILLIAMS**

Welcome back! Did you always expect a second series?

HUGH ROSS: No.

PAMELA SALEM: No way!

HR: You never as an actor are confident of that kind of thing.

PS: In fact, we’re rather astonished that you called us back!

HR: I’ve been up for things too often that never went beyond the first series.

SIMON WILLIAMS: It’s wonderful because it takes me back twenty-five years to when I was the right age for being Gilmore; I feel quite youthful after a day playing Gilmore, standing here like an old man with grey hair and a bad back trying to sound youthful like Gilmore. My favourite way of spending the day.

How have things changed in the second series?

PS: I think [Rachel’s] probably easier to work with than she was in the first series. I think the sense of humour is beginning to emerge. She’s not so deadly serious. A little bit more human feeling is coming out. She had it, but wasn’t good at showing it. And a little bit more empathy for other people. I think she’s far more understanding of Ian [Gilmore]. She even has glimpses of understanding for Toby!

I think that’s always the case anyway when you work in a group – especially when you’re facing danger and crises together, you have a bond with those people that goes on forever. They say that a group is made of forming, norming (becoming normal), storming (when you start all

the arguments and the fights), then reforming and then mourning, when you leave. And I think that’s how a group works together, and you’re really sorry to leave them.

Mind you, we’ve had no personal crises; we’ve had them in the show! We have a wonderful time here, there are no crises in the studio but there’s a few in the story.

KG: I had a very traumatic experience at the end of the last series, so I think this series I’m going to be working my way through that experience. I come through it in the end! I actually think there’s more character in this; there was more action in the previous one. We’ve all settled into who we are a bit more, because we’ve done it before.

PS: They’re more complex and they hold me a little more. I like science fiction but there’s a few you don’t know what’s going to happen, lots of twists, which I always enjoy.

KG: We have one episode in this where we’re together for quite a lot of the story, and it’s all a bit gung-ho, isn’t it?

SW: You say gung-ho, I say it’s got a wonderful spontaneity! The writers have obviously gone to some trouble to capture the rather John Buchan tone of the character; he’s very, ‘Okay, men!’ Every now and again he’s on the edge of being a little bit ludicrous; they just pull it back from being cartoon, I think. I like Gilmore. I know I’d like him if I met him; he’s my sort of officer.

PS: I think we’ve bonded much more. We’ve obviously got to know each other and our little foibles and I think we’ve become rather fond of each other in a strange way.

HR: I’m not sure you’re fond of me. I think they’ve picked up on what we brought to the characters in some way too. Don’t you?





[GILMORE'S] A VERY HONOURABLE MAN – ALTHOUGH QUITE OFTEN LOOKS A BIT STUPID! SIMON WILLIAMS

PS: I'm hoping that's what they did! There's development; we're not still in the same place, which makes it much more fun to act because you're driving on those relationships.

The idea was always to make Counter-Measures quite Sixties-styled. How does that work its way in?

HR: Is there a dash of Le Carré in there, perhaps? I love when they have little topical bits they put in, like the reference to the up-and-coming Margaret Thatcher.

SW: [Gilmore's] definitely a Sixties character. I can see him quite clearly in that period kit. And there's still an echo of the spirit of the war in the way Gilmore sets about things. Sort of the values of the Blitz. He's a very honourable man – although quite often looks a bit stupid! He's an amalgam, for me, of Dan Dare and *The Dambusters'* Gibson. He's got a lot of those characters. They stand the test of time because they had values. They sound a bit ludicrous now but they were very brave and I think people recognise that.

The way the army and all the forces give an assurance to heroes that they will be taken home, that they will land in glory at Brize Norton in their flag-draped coffin and the way nobody's left in the field, I think there's a tremendous

feeling of commitment from soldiers. They really are prepared to die for their country. They really are. It's an extraordinary thing.

What do you each make of Sir Toby?

PS: It makes it very interesting, because I don't think I'm afraid of you.

HR: You're not very afraid of anything!

SW: I think I'm probably less suspicious of him than a brighter man would be. He's not really my cup of tea. But they're never going to be best friends, are they?

KG: They're both alpha males, I think that's their problem.

SW: They're both of their time.

KG: And now they've brought in this other chap who's also a bit slimy; we've got Kinsella and Templeton.

SW: He's permanent, is he?

KG: Well, he might be. And neither of them are to be trusted. I don't trust Toby Kinsella at all in this series, I think that's quite interesting.

SW: He can't turn out to be completely bad or there wouldn't be another series!

Have you rewatched *Remembrance of the Daleks* to get back into these characters?

SW: I haven't seen it since before we did the last *Counter-Measures*. I would like to see it again.

KG: I watched it recently.

SW: How does it look?

KG: It's hilarious! I watched it because I wanted to refresh my memory before going to this convention because I thought people would have questions about it and I





“I THINK THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE THINGS I’VE EVER DONE!”

PAMELA SALEM

wouldn't be able to remember anything. I would say I was partly watching for my storyline. I'm completely peripheral in that story; I don't do anything except smash a Dalek up at one point! I follow Pamela around like a little lamb – absolutely hilarious! You're funny in it because you just wanna shoot these Daleks and it's so obvious it's not gonna work and you insist, just lining up all these soldiers and shooting them.

SW: I must have another look.

KG: It is very, very funny.

SW: I'm not really a sci-fi man, that's the trouble. I do remember [director] Andrew Morgan calling me into the editing room and saying, 'The only shots we can use of you firing the gun are when it doesn't go off, because when it does go off you wince like a big girl!'

If you feel Allison wasn't a prominent character on TV, Karen, has the balance been redressed now?

KG: I think what's happened is, because I would have been at university in the late Fifties, they've made her a liberated woman, which wasn't evident – it was a little bit in the telly [version]; in fact there was an outtake on the

new version of the DVD which illustrates that a little bit more. I've just been given a bit more welly and I'm better qualified in this, so I know more. But they've still given most of the scientific explanations to Rachel!

There's a hint of attraction between Gilmore and Rachel as well; is there a future in it?

PS: I rather hope there is! We're feeling our way at the moment, understanding each other. It'll be interesting how it develops. We've both been through a lot.

This is the final day of recording; how have you found it?

PS: I always love coming back. I love seeing my sister, I love seeing all my friends, and it's coming home. I never really lose touch with London, which is an important part of my life. And to come back and not only meet one's friends but meet this audio family that we've got is lovely, it's really lovely! You pick up from where you left before. So I think this is one of the most enjoyable things I've ever done!

KG: It's just very nice, isn't it? It's a nice little group and we've had really lovely people coming in.

SW: It's so good. You two girls are great.

KG: So are you!

SW: I muddle along.

KG: You pretend to muddle along but you don't.

SW: [laughs]

KG: Tee hee! Tee hee, you put that in! That just about sums it up.

And how do you feel about future series?

PS: There's a whole broad spectrum of sci-fi lined up before us. I love strange and indescribable beauties and beings; I'd quite like to meet more odd beings in it. It's quite bleak at this point, the outlook of how the government behaves; it would be quite interesting to know the government also does a couple of programmes which are very cheering and uplifting! That's my nature, perhaps. Because I am an optimist in this and an idealist, but I'm a bit black and white about what I think other people should do. I think I've been a bit like that in my own life, maturing as I go.

KG: I can't wait until the next one! **VORTEX**

COUNTER-MEASURES SERIES TWO IS OUT NOW AND AVAILABLE ON CD AND DOWNLOAD FROM BIGFINISH.COM

HOWELLS IN THE DARK

THE ENEMY WITHIN WRITER WILL HOWELLS
EXPLAINS HOW HE GOT INVOLVED IN THE
MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF DARK SHADOWS





Hello Will. So what can you tell us about *The Enemy Within*?

■ It's the story of two lonely strangers, Cyrus Longworth and Sabrina Jennings, who discover a shared connection in their past. It's about how we deal with our inner demons: part whodunnit, part romantic comedy, with a dollop of **Dark Shadows** horror.

So who are Cyrus Longworth and Sabrina Jennings? Were they in the TV series?

■ Sabrina (as Sabrina Stuart) appeared in the TV series alongside her werewolf boyfriend Chris. She was a bit underused and she and Chris were written out off-screen so this has been a great chance to both flesh her out a bit and explore what happened next.

Cyrus was born in last year's *The Fall of the House of Trask*, part of a plot by the Dark Lord who hid his son inside Cyrus's mind – and that son has a big role to play in *The Enemy Within*. Cyrus's parallel universe counterpart was in the show (going out

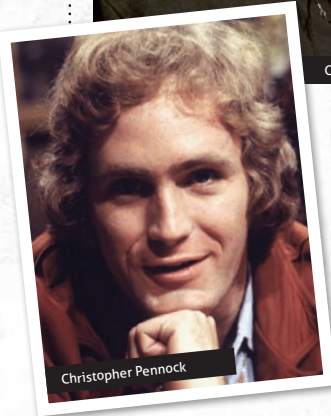
“IT'S ROMANTIC AND SINISTER AND FUNNY AND MOVING – AND REALLY ACCESSIBLE WHETHER YOU KNOW THE SHOW OR NOT.”

with parallel universe Sabrina!) but we've never seen him as an adult in the 'real' world, so he's effectively a new character too. You don't need to know their back-stories, though – we get to know them as they get to know each other. Chris Pennock and Lisa Richards have done a fantastic job in bringing their relationship to life.

This is your first story for Big Finish. How did you get involved? What's your background?



Christopher Pennock and Lisa Richards



Christopher Pennock

■ By a twist of fate that wouldn't be out of place in **Dark Shadows**, I was at the recording of BF's very first play, so it's great to have written a CD fifteen years on! My previous work has been a mix of comedy sketches for BBC radio and short plays. Producer Joseph Lidster

saw those and – knowing I liked **Dark Shadows** – asked if I'd pitch a story. I loved the idea of developing these characters, and the potential (both comic and dramatic) of a nice guy with an evil voice in his head.

So what's next for Will Howells?

■ More stage and radio scripts, but it's been a great experience working on this play and I'd love to do more. Hint.

And finally, why should someone buy this story?

■ Because it's romantic and sinister and funny and moving – and really accessible whether you know the show or not.

VORTEX

DARK SHADOWS: THE ENEMY WITHIN IS OUT THIS MONTH AND AVAILABLE ON CD AND DOWNLOAD FROM BIGFINISH.COM



WILL POWER!

CHRISTIAN EDWARDS, AKA NEW COMPANION WILL ARROWSMITH, GETS A WARM WELCOME TO THE **DOCTOR WHO** MAIN RANGE FROM PAUL SPRAGG

“IT’S THE FIRST TIME I’VE DONE SOMETHING LIKE THIS, A PROPER FULL CAST AUDIO DRAMA. IT’S BRILLIANT!”

Hello Christian. How have you found your first audio experience?

■ It’s the first time I’ve worked with Big Finish and it’s the first time I’ve done something like this, a proper full cast audio drama. It’s brilliant!

What’s your role in proceedings?

■ My role is Will Arrowsmith and I’m, I suppose, a companion’s companion! I’m Dr Klein’s companion, as it were, and also the Doctor’s companion because I get on

board the ship by my own means, by trying to prove myself to Klein. I use a bit of initiative – because he’s rubbish in the field, he’s a bit of a nerdy geek. So he goes in to prove that he’s good at field work, to try to prove himself to Klein.

He wants to be a permanent member of staff and he’s kind of a provisional member of staff. He’s done all the grades, excelled in all the academic stuff, he’s brilliant at doing stuff inside, doing all the written work and intellect, but as soon as he has to do the field work, getting outside, he’s not very good because he’s awkward and he’s more comfortable talking to himself and his dictaphone. So he records everything and analyses it at another point, not talking to another human being.

He might be nerdy, but he certainly has an eye for the ladies.

■ The beautiful blue Ziv he gets a bit infatuated with, and then also in the final one that we’re doing at the moment, Qaren. I think he becomes very infatuated with women



There's a beautiful reaction when he encounters the Daleks for the first time.

■ He's a nerd; he loves it! He's read about them, he's studied them. He's the person who gets excited when he sees the Doctor in the bar the first time; in the first story he's having a conversation with Klein and he's the one that sees the Doctor and goes, 'God!' And I think that's also why he jumps onto the TARDIS and takes the initiative, because he's just excited about the whole thing. It's the Doctor that he's read so much and heard so much about – and that's him! I get to meet him, and then I get to meet the Daleks, I get to meet all these weird, beautiful blue women and toad people... I think he's just dead excited about the Daleks. He's like, 'Wow! It's a real live Dalek! Oh God, they can kill me, but they're amazing!' It's like when someone like me meets Jordan. No, it's not actually, I don't like Jordan! When I was a kid, the first girl that I massively properly fancied was Cindy Crawford. But now I love Scarlett Johansson actually. I think Scarlett Johansson's gorgeous. Even if she was blue. Get her involved! She might do it as a favour! She might be a big **Doctor Who** fan! **VORTEX**

and I think there's something going on with Klein as well. I think he likes the domineering role that she plays.

What is Will's journey over the stories? Do you think he gets more confident?

■ I think so, yeah. Particularly in the one we're doing at the moment [*Daleks Among Us*], because he's started standing up for himself a little bit, even to Klein, and doing little smart remarks to her which he never would have done in the first few. I think it's because the Doctor trusts him more, or at least gives him responsibility that Klein never would have. And I think the fact that he succeeds in some of the tasks – not every task, but in some of the tasks the Doctor gives him – surprises Klein as well so she gets a little more respect for him.

I think it makes him feel a little more confident about himself, actually, and physically he seems to deal with situations a bit [better], although he does get his leg stuck in the turnstile thing in the one that we're doing at the moment. So he begins being very nerdy and socially very awkward and actually, in the final one, he doesn't even use his dictaphone very much. He makes comments all the time about the fact that he is a nerd, so he's aware that he's awkward. It's a journey for him; he's aware that he's trying to change himself.

DOCTOR WHO: PERSUASION IS OUT THIS MONTH AND AVAILABLE ON CD AND DOWNLOAD FROM BIGFINISH.COM



VORTEX MAIL

BEST-SELLERS

Who is your best-selling Doctor in the **Doctor Who** series? What's your best-selling Big Finish title?

Jim Carruth

Nick: Because there are so many variables involved in the different ranges and titles, it's pretty difficult to work out who the best-selling Doctor is. Also, some Doctors have had more releases than others, largely for no particular reason. They all pretty much sell the same in the end. The Tom Baker releases were, of course, big news, because Tom hadn't previously worked for us. I think his releases sold quicker, but ultimately it's unlikely they'll end up selling more. I think I'm safe in saying that the best-selling Big Finish title is *The Sirens of Time*.

ABSOLUTE TREASURE

Just a quick thank you for **Treasure Island**. I think it is one of the very best titles you have released. Absolutely superb and extremely faithful to the novel.

Looking forward to *The Light at the End* – surely you can fit Richard Franklin in somewhere? He does a marvellous Pertwee voice and the Third Doctor's era is only represented by Ms Manning otherwise. Fingers crossed!

Martin Edmonds

Nick: Thanks, Martin. Yes, I think Barnaby Edwards did a tremendous job on **Treasure Island**. His adaptation was splendid and he assembled a splendid cast, and me! Yo ho ho... I'm afraid that Richard Franklin isn't in *The Light at the End*, but we do think he's great. A lovely man who will, we hope, be working with Big Finish for a long time to come.

DR WHO

We were recently thrilled to visit Riverside studios on the 100th anniversary of the late, great Peter Cushing's birth and to watch the two Sixties Dalek films on, obviously, the big screen and in, naturally, colour!

It got us wondering if Big Finish could possibly, using your usual magic, reunite surviving members of the Who family

Roberta Tovey, Jennie Linden and Jill Curzon on audio? It could be the Who Family Christmas, or a 100th birthday party for the late Dr Who, and Chief Superintendent Tom Campbell would have to drop by. Perhaps after turkey and too much sherry, Susie Who's children could uncover Tardis in Dr Who's workshop and a new adventure could unfold...

If you get going now, it could be ready in time to be the 2013 Christmas subscriber bonus.

Si Hunt & Simon Rayner

Nick: I was meant to be at that screening, but pressure of work prevented me from going – on a Sunday! I know!

DEAD END

Congratulations and best wishes to Paul Spragg, I wish him the best of luck as the new editor for *Vortex*.

I would like to make a suggestion for the world of **Dark Shadows** at Big Finish. Please resolve the cliffhanger that was left at the end of *Kingdom of the Dead*. If this can be done soon in the full cast range, that would be great! If not, would you consider addressing this in the dramatic reading range? Next month will mark the third anniversary of the release of that story.

Justine Lavallee

Nick: We'll have a word with Joe Lidster about this. I've emailed your email to him.

TWO EYES

Firstly, I've just listened to the **Dark Eyes** box set (again!) and I was just wondering when the already confirmed **Dark Eyes 2** might be released? I'd love to see Dr Sally Armstrong's character developed, maybe she could get to travel with the Doctor and hopefully Molly along the way? I know she got exterminated but anything's possible in **Doctor Who**, isn't it?

Also, can we expect any appearances from any other Time Lords in future stories? (Bar the Master.) An appearance from The Rani is long overdue.

Ryan Denyer

Nick: We'll be making an announcement about when the further *Dark Eyes* releases are coming out. My workload and Paul McGann's availability have been significant factors in the delay of these releases.

We hope to get into studio by the end of September, so an early 2014 release looks likely. Yes, I rather liked the Sally Armstrong character too. I think she may well have more to do.

GOOD YEARS

A couple of months ago I was at Big Finish Day 3 and it was fantastic – the panels were funny and entertaining; it was great to meet Tom Baker, Carole Ann Ford and others who appreciate the great work you do. Nick, I don't know how you did it – it seems that all day if you weren't on a panel you were podcasting or working on the stall. I've been a fan of your audios since 1999.

Last year was a very good year for Big Finish with the Fourth Doctor's debut, *Dark Eyes* and in particular the Seventh Doctor stuff with *Love and War*, **UNIT: Dominion** and the *Black and White* trilogy – quite ironic considering we thought we'd almost lost Sylvester McCoy to Peter Jackson!

This year looks to be equally as good if not better – about to tuck into *Phantoms of the Deep*, and I look forward very much to *The Light at the End* and *The Beginning* at the end of the year – the details sound incredible.

One final question to end – are there any plans to tap once more into the wider Whoniverse by bringing back Frobisher or the Eighth Doctor *Company of Friends* companions Izzy or Fitz, plus introducing to Big Finish Abslom Daak or the book companions Chris and Roz?

Danny Lavery

Nick: Cheers, Danny. Good to see you again, as always. Sorry to say we don't currently have plans to bring back any of the characters you mention. That said, as you well know, I never say never!

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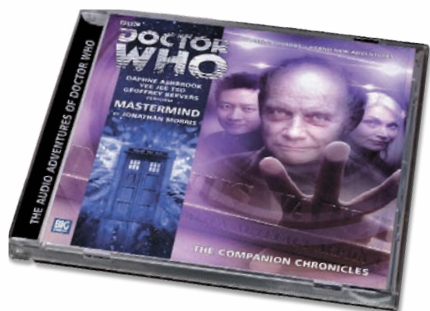
HAVE YOU MET

COMING SOON...



CLOSING CHRONICLES

AS THE **COMPANION CHRONICLES** START THEIR FINAL SERIES, PRODUCER DAVID RICHARDSON PREVIEWS WHAT'S TO COME



8.1 MASTERMIND

WRITTEN BY JONATHAN MORRIS

DIRECTED BY KEN BENTLEY

I'd always wanted to do a sequel to *Tales from the Vault*, Jonny's audacious *Companion Chronicle* that saw Yee Jee Tso and Daphne Ashbrook return to *Doctor Who* as two new characters, Charlie Sato and Ruth Matheson. Charlie and Ruth are members of UNIT, charged with looking after

"THIS TIME THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE DOCTOR. IT'S A FASCINATING SIDE-STEP IN THE WORLD OF DOCTOR WHO"

its vault of weird and wonderful alien artifacts, and that story featured no less than four TV companions (Steven, Zoe, Jo and the First Romana), all caught up within the same narrative tapestry.

For a while I toyed with the idea that the sequel should feature four monsters, before falling in love with Jonny's pitch that focused on just one – the Master! Locked away in the vault, this is his story... and it also fills in plenty of back-story for Charlie and Ruth.

This time there's no sign of the Doctor. It's a fascinating side-step in the world of *Doctor Who* – and a must for anyone who has ever wanted to learn more about his greatest foe.



8.2 THE ALCHEMISTS

WRITTEN BY IAN POTTER
DIRECTED BY LISA BOWERMAN

Golly, this one has bumped around the schedules! Most of the time our production process goes swimmingly. *The Alchemists* was a rare case in which we were hit by a few delays – none of which hurt the finished product at all. Ian Potter has written a mesmerizing historical, in which a pre-*Unearthly Child* Doctor and Susan arrive on Earth... in Berlin, in the 1930s. Hitler's National Socialist party is on the rise, and the travellers get caught up in some deadly local politics... If you like good drama, this one is for you.



8.3 UPSTAIRS

WRITTEN BY MAT COWARD
DIRECTED BY LISA BOWERMAN

We love working with Maureen O'Brien. She's just such an accomplished, confident actor, and such a lovely person to have in the studio. We chat quite a bit on email, and Maureen happened to mention that she'd love to do a *Companion Chronicle* with Mat Coward, a writer she knows and greatly respects. So we made it happen – and Mat has written a really creepy, atmospheric piece in which the Doctor, Vicki and Steven become trapped in the attic of

Number Ten Downing Street. I don't really want to give anything more away, other than the fact that Peter Purves is also on hand to play Steven...



8.4 GHOST IN THE MACHINE

WRITTEN BY JONATHAN MORRIS
DIRECTED BY LOUISE JAMESON

Yes, you did read that correctly – Louise Jameson, aka Leela of the Sevateem, makes her *Doctor Who* directing debut (she has directed for the stage, and our *Drama Showcase* range) with this story. My brief to Jonny Morris was to give us a story that had some of the raw atmosphere of *The Blair Witch Project* – a companion, scared out of her wits, with only a portable recorder for company, facing the fight of her life... Katy Manning steps into the platformed boots of Jo Grant and faces her most terrifying story yet.



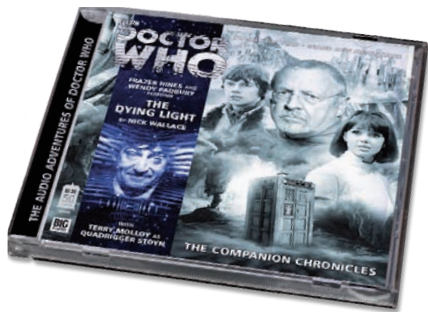
8.5 THE BEGINNING

WRITTEN BY MARC PLATT
DIRECTED BY LISA BOWERMAN

I started planning this story over two years ago, and was delighted when we were given the thumbs up to do *The Very First Doctor Who* story – the Doctor and Susan fleeing Gallifrey. Since then, of course, we've glimpsed that

"I STARTED PLANNING THIS STORY OVER TWO YEARS AGO, AND WAS DELIGHTED WHEN WE WERE GIVEN THE THUMBS UP TO DO THE VERY FIRST DOCTOR WHO STORY"

moment on TV in *The Name of the Doctor* – and I can promise that Marc Platt's script will slot neatly into that continuity, while taking us much further... We get to experience the TARDIS's first flight from Gallifrey, the Doctor and Susan's first steps onto another world... and they have someone with them, a Gallifreyan technician called Quadrigger Stoyrn, who was aboard the ship when it suddenly dematerialized. Terry (Davros) Molloy plays Stoyrn – and he'll be back in the next two releases, because this is the start of a trilogy.



8.6 THE DYING LIGHT

WRITTEN BY NICK WALLACE
DIRECTED BY LISA BOWERMAN

It's the very end of the Second Doctor's era, as the TARDIS brings Jamie and Zoe to a distant alien world where the sun is dying. This will be their last stop before *The War Games*, so expect some fireworks as the Doctor meets an embittered Stoyrn again, and faces the horrors of this world... Frazer Hines is once again on brilliant double duty, playing the Doctor and Jamie, and with Wendy Padbury voicing Zoe and Terry Molloy back as Stoyrn, the cast is sounding nicely full.

8.7 LUNA ROMANA

WRITTEN BY MATT FITTON
DIRECTED BY LISA BOWERMAN

So there we were, during the final recordings for series two of *The Fourth Doctor Adventures*, and we were having the most

brilliant time. Mary Tamm said she'd love to do more stories, and we chatted about this two-disc *Companion Chronicle* for her and Lalla Ward. Full steam ahead it was written, and at the start of July I emailed Mary to talk about recording dates. She said the timing wasn't great but we'd work something out. A couple of weeks later she had passed away.

In the coming months we went through all sorts of thought processes. Compared to Mary's death, a *Doctor Who* script seemed like such a minor thing. After some time, the thought occurred to me that we should forge ahead – and make this a tribute to someone that we at Big Finish had loved working with.

For now, I don't want to say more. But when you hear it, you'll realize that this one really is for Mary Tamm.

8.8, 8.9 AND 8.10 — TO BE ANNOUNCED!

8.11 THE ELIXIR OF DOOM

WRITTEN BY PAUL MAGRS
DIRECTED BY LISA BOWERMAN

Everyone loved *Find and Replace*, Paul Magrs' brilliant script in which Jo Grant unwittingly went travelling through the vortex with Iris Wildthyme – both characters played, of course, by Katy Manning. Now both Jo and Iris are back in this playful sequence in which they take on Hollywood during the heyday of monster movies! It's a monster mash, in the way only Paul Magrs can write...

8.12 SECOND CHANCES

WRITTEN BY JOHN DORNEY
DIRECTED BY LISA BOWERMAN

One of my favourite ongoing storylines in the *Companion Chronicles* has been the arc of the older Zoe Heriot (Wendy Padbury), who has been captured by the mysterious Company, which is trying to prove that she travelled through space and time. Zoe, of course, remembers everything... and yet remembers nothing. The story began in *Echoes of Grey*, continued in *The Memory Cheats* and *The Uncertainty Principle*, and comes to a brilliant conclusion with *Second Chances*. It's a John Dorney script, so it is guaranteed to be both very clever and deliver a huge emotional wallop. This is the final monthly release for the *Chronicles*, and I'm pleased that they will go out on a very high note. **VORTEX**



**PRODUCER SCOTT HANDCOCK
PREVIEWS THE NEW RUN OF
THE CONFESSIONS OF DORIAN GRAY
WITH HELP FROM SOME TWITTER
FOLLOWERS...**

AN AUDIO TWEET

When Paul Spragg asked me to write a piece for this month's *Vortex*, I struggled to think of something to say. I didn't want it to be just another bit of waffle explaining how the series came about or how lovely it is to work with Alex 'Dorian' Vlahos (although it is, just for the record, always). So instead I took to Dorian's Big Finish Twitter account (@DorianGrayBFP – come follow us!) and asked the listeners for inspiration... Brace yourselves!

@CassieParkes: Is it going to scare me whilst I'm on a bus as much as the first?

Obviously this will vary wildly between bus routes, but I think it's fair to say that the second series has its moments, though the type of horror is very different from that of the first. The scale of our stories has broadened – we're now not just focusing on Dorian but the people around him – and so the tone of the series has expanded too. We have some very dark tales to tell... but a few lighter ones to balance them out. It's not all doom and gloom!

@chris606: Is the order in which the stories are told chronological?

There's an order to them, kind of... Whereas before we worked through the twentieth century, this time we'll be working back from 2012, stopping off in 1964, 1939, 1913, 1879, then back to 2012 for the finale!

@thefourteenth: Are there any returning characters from last season?

I have to admit, I was tempted. I even chatted with Alex about a couple of possibilities, but in the end we had more stories to tell elsewhere – and with such brilliant actors as Katharine Mangold, David Menkin, Sarah Douglas, Hugh Ross, Geoff Breton and Lalla Ward! But it's nice to know our characters made an impact in just thirty minutes, and I credit that to the great scripts and actors we got to work with! Revisit series one, folks!

@sominarisoul: Is there an episode that is going to make me cry as much as *The Heart That Lives Alone*?

I hate upsetting people, obviously, but I'm weirdly proud of how many people bought into that story the way they did. The new series certainly has its emotional moments, but also some highs to balance the lows, and some lovely humour. We definitely experience some new sides to Dorian.

@kalliope1979: Does Dorian get a new love interest?

He has a few... encounters, shall we say?

@PsycheDK: On a scale of 1 to 427, how hot is it?

Blimey – bit one-track, these Dorian fans. Let's end it there!

**THE CONFESSIONS OF DORIAN GRAY: SERIES TWO,
EPISODE 1 IS OUT SATURDAY 27TH JULY AND
AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM BIGFINISH.COM**



THE STEALERS FROM SAIPH

IN HONOUR OF MARY TAMM'S FINAL AUDIO PERFORMANCE THIS MONTH, KENNY SMITH LOOKS BACK AT HER TOUR DE FORCE IN **THE STEALERS FROM SAIPH**

This month sees the release of the final adventure in the current Fourth Doctor series which, sadly, is Mary Tamm's final performance as Romana.

It's hard to believe that it's now twelve months since she passed away, but amidst the sadness, we can celebrate her performances on audio and enjoy Mary's undoubted talent in the part.

As well as playing Romana in the **Gallifrey** series, Mary recreated the character in the **Companion Chronicles**, making her debut in the third season's finale, *The Stealers from Saiph*, by Nigel Robinson.

Producer David Richardson recalls, "I knew Mary was great at voices, so we decided to experiment on our first (and so far only) solo reading."

Nigel, later to work for Big Finish on the **Lost Stories**, says: "I didn't treat *Stealers* as an audio play as such, as there was only one voice. I treated it less as a script and more as a novella, but one which was designed to be read aloud. But that also involves adapting your prose style – avoiding convoluted sentences for one thing, and ensuring that your reader can vary his or her voice to the different characters (which I think Mary Tamm did admirably well).

"Once I knew I was dealing with Romana, I had to decide on what sort of story and location would suit her, and briefly considered a story set in a haunted house in space. But I have

always enjoyed stories set on Earth and decided that the first Romana would fit in perfectly with the wealthy Riviera set of the 1920s. I could just see her enjoying cocktails at Antibes with the likes of F Scott Fitzgerald!

"I was keen to have as many female characters in *Stealers from Saiph* as possible, as it was being narrated by Mary, and I wanted to give her the opportunity to try a wide variety of female characters to show off her acting skills.

"So we have the exotic Madame Arcana, the shy and reserved Anne and the flapper Sally – I think Mary does a great job on all of them, but particularly Madame Arcana."

David continues, "This production was Howard Carter's first sound design and music job for us. It soon became clear that he is a bit of a star, and he's not stopped making **Doctor Who** for us since."

Howard explains, "As *The Stealers from Saiph* is set on the French Riviera in the 1920s, I thought having a Seventies-style soundtrack might detract from the atmosphere of the piece.

"I had to write some scene-specific big band music for a few party sequences, and for the sake of cohesion thought it would be more appropriate to write an orchestral score for the play.

"I also wanted to bring out the sense of mystery and adventure in the story, and found this easier to achieve with an orchestral approach." **VORTEX**

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FORTHCOMING RELEASES

JULY 2013

Doctor Who: **Persuasion** (175, Seventh Doctor and Klein)

Doctor Who - The Fourth Doctor Adventures:

The Final Phase (2.7, Fourth Doctor and Romana)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **Mastermind** (8.01, The Master)

Dark Shadows 35: **The Enemy Within**

The Confessions of Dorian Gray: **Series Two, Episode 1** (Download only)

AUGUST 2013

Doctor Who: **Starlight Robbery** (176, Seventh Doctor and Klein)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **The Alchemists** (8.02, First Doctor)

Blake's 7: **The Liberator Chronicles - Box Set 5**

Iris Wildthyme: **Series Four Box Set**

Dark Shadows 36: **The Lucifer Gambit**

Benjamin & Baxter (Interview)

The Confessions of Dorian Gray: **Series Two, Episode 2-5** (Download only)

Big Finish Classics: **The Picture of Dorian Gray**

SEPTEMBER 2013

Doctor Who: **Daleks Among Us** (177, Seventh Doctor and Klein)

Doctor Who: 1963: **Fanfare for the Common Men** (178, Fifth Doctor)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **Upstairs** (8.03, First Doctor)

Doctor Who - The Lost Stories: **The Dark Planet** (4.01, First Doctor)

Bernice Summerfield: **Missing Persons Box Set**

Bernice Summerfield: **Adorable Illusion!** (Missing Persons tie-in book)

Dark Shadows 37: **The Flip Side**

OCTOBER 2013

Doctor Who: 1963: **The Space Race** (179, Sixth Doctor)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **Ghost in the Machine** (8.04, Third Doctor)

Doctor Who - The Lost Stories: **The Queen of Time** (4.02, Second Doctor)

Gallifrey VI (Three full cast adventures)

Blake's 7: **The Liberator Chronicles - Box Set 6**

Blake's 7: **Anthology** (Various authors)

Dark Shadows 38: **Beyond the Grave**

The Confessions of Dorian Gray: **Halloween Special** (Download only)

NOVEMBER 2013

Doctor Who: 1963: **The Assassination Games**

(180, Seventh Doctor, Ace, Counter-Measures)

Doctor Who: **The Light at the End** (Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Doctors)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **The Beginning** (8.05, First Doctor)

Doctor Who - The Lost Stories: **Lords of the Red Planet** (4.03, Second Doctor)

Jago & Litefoot: **Series Six Box Set**

DECEMBER 2013

Doctor Who: **TBA** (181, TBA)

Doctor Who: **Night of the Stormcrow** (Fourth Doctor and Leela)

Doctor Who: **Trial of the Valeyard** (Sixth Doctor - Subscriber Special)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **The Dying Light** (8.06, Doctor TBA)

Doctor Who - The Lost Stories: **The Mega** (4.04, Third Doctor)

The Ordeals of Sherlock Holmes: **Box Set**

JANUARY 2014

Doctor Who: **TBA** (182, TBA)

Doctor Who - The Fourth Doctor Adventures: **The King of Sontar**

(3.1, Fourth Doctor and Leela)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **Luna Romana** (8.07, Fourth Doctor)

Doctor Who: **Dark Eyes II** (Eighth Doctor)

FEBRUARY 2014

Doctor Who: **TBA** (183, TBA)

Doctor Who - The Fourth Doctor Adventures: **White Ghosts**

(3.2, Fourth Doctor and Leela)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **TBA** (8.08, Doctor TBA)

Blake's 7: **The Liberator Chronicles - Box Set 7**

MARCH 2014

Doctor Who: **TBA** (184, TBA)

Doctor Who - The Fourth Doctor Adventures:

The Crooked Man (3.3, Fourth Doctor and Leela)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **TBA** (8.09, Doctor TBA)

APRIL 2014

Doctor Who: **TBA** (185, TBA)

Doctor Who - The Fourth Doctor Adventures: **The Evil One**

(3.4, Fourth Doctor and Leela)

Doctor Who - The Companion Chronicles: **TBA** (8.10, Doctor TBA)

Jago & Litefoot: **Series Seven Box Set**



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