DOCTOR WHO

SERIES 8 EPI SODE 10

"In The Forest of The Night"

by

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

21/07/2014

(SHOOTI NG BLOCK 7)

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1 EXT. A FOREST - EARLY MORNING - DAY

We're deep in a forest. Twisted branches. Rattling leaves. Slashes of light and ... the drumming of footsteps.

Someone is running. Someone is scared. Someone is lost. A girl in school uniform - MAEBH - hurries through the trees. Twigs snap at her face, bracken scratches her legs. She stops, looks around. She swats at the air as though molested by mosquitos.

She spots a path. Relieved, she follows it. Comes to a fork. Which way now? Mosquitos again. She tries to bat them away. Takes the left fork. But then stops. Something rattles in the bracken. A thick cloud of what looks like mosquitos rise out of it. She turns and runs.

Crash. What ever was in the bracken has heard and is chasing her. She keeps running until she comes to a clearing.

There, incongruously, is a blue police box. Without a backward glance she dashes over to it. Reads the sign "Assistance Available". Perfect. She knocks on the door and keeps knocking until the door opens and THE DOCTOR looks out.

THE DOCTOR is taken aback to see a visitor.

MAEBH:

I'mlost. Please can you help me?

THE DOCTOR:

(DISMISSIVE) It's ... that way.

He goes back in, closing the door behind him But then comes back.

THE DOCTOR: (cont'd)

Are those ... trees?

MAEBH:

I need the Doctor. Are you the Doct or?

THE DOCTOR:

Yes. Do you have an appoint ment? You need an appoint ment to see a doct or.

MAEBH:

Please. Something's chasing me.

He goes in, leaving the door open for her. She follows him i n.

CUT TO:

2 INT. TARDIS - DAY

MAEBH comes in. THE DOCTOR hurries to the console.

2

1

THE DOCTOR:

When you drink a glass of Coke, it's only this big (small) but it's actually got this much (huge) sugar in it? It works a bit like that ...

What does?

THE DOCTOR:

This. The TARDIS. It's bigger on the inside than on the outside. Or did you not notice?

MAEBH:

I just thought it was supposed to be bigger on the inside so I didn't say anyt hi ng.

THE DOCTOR:

Of course it's supposed to be. Most people find that confusing.

MAEBH:

I find everything confusing nearly. So I don't say anything. That's how come I'm in the woods. I thought Mss Oswald told me to find the Doctor, but it wasn't her. It was just in my head.

THE DOCTOR Looks up.

THE DOCTOR:

Mss Oswald? Dark hair. Highly unpredictable? Surprisingly round face?

MAEBH:

Everyone says she's in love with Mr. Pink.

THE DOCTOR:

The PE teacher?

MAEBH:

Maths. I really like him I was in his group.

THE DOCTOR busies himself starting up the TARDIS.

THE DOCTOR:

Mr. Pink was looking after you. That explains why you're lost. It doesn't surprise you that I know all about your school?

MAEBH:

Everyone seems to know everything about everything apart from me.

MAEBH:
D'you like the forest being in Trafalgar Square? I think it's lovely.

THE DOCTOR stares at her. Then he stares at Nelson's column.

FX: Off THE DOCTOR's gaze the camera travels upwards, up the trunks of the trees, through the branches above the canopy itself \dots

FX: We see the familiar landmarks of the London skyline - the Post Office Tower, Big Ben, the Shard and the dome of St. Paul's dawning over a billowing cloudbank of leaves.

TITLES: In The Forest of The Night ...

INT. MUSEUM - MORNING - DAY

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4 CONTI NUED:

DANNY: (cont'd)

First of all, collect any rubbish you' ve generated through midnight feasts or whatever ...

CUT TO:

INT. MUSEUM. MAIN DOOR / EXT. MUSEUM - DAY 5

5 *

DANNY is now leading the KIDS towards the main door. It's still locked. There seems to be no sign of life.

DANNY:

Hello, hello!

The lack of response is unsettling. The KIDS are unsettled. SAMSON buries his head in the hood of his coat.

DANNY tries the door. It won't budge. From somewhere unseen, there's a cough. An unhappy elderly security guard (GEORGE) appears.

ŒORŒ:

I'm supposed to have been relieved you know.

DANNY:

Coal Hill School. Sleepover.

GEORGE shushes him Apparently opening the doors is a taxing process, including key codes, something to do with a green button and the drawing of the noisy bolts.

DANNY: (cont'd)

Our coach back to school should be her e.

GEORGE stops what he's doing and stares at DANNY.

GEORGE:

It's not like opening a jar of pickles you know. This is a high security installation.

DANNY accepts the need for quiet. GEORGE gets on with it.

CLARA notices that RUBY has drifted off to the tree crosssect i on.

RUBY:

Why is this one so fat, Mss?

CLARA:

Because it was alive so long.

RUBY:

This ring though. All the other rings are thin but this one's fat and red, see?

CLARA: Must have been a good year to be a tree. Come on, Ruby.

Finally the door unlocking is completed. GEORGE tries to barge it open, but nothing happens.

ŒŒŒ:

5 CONTI NUED: 5

Off the picture we -

CUT TO:

6 INT. BBC BREAKFAST - DAY

6

BILL TURNBULL is speaking from the studio.

BI LL:

Perplexing reports from all over the country of; what would you call it? An unexpected horticultural devel opment ... Jenny ...

> CUT TO NEWSREEL OF THE DISASTER FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD:

7 EXT. WEST COAST MAIN LINE - DAY

7

Footage of the reporter JENNY HILL standing on what seems to be a disused rail way line with a fine looking oak tree growing up between the sleepers.

JENNY HILL:
Well, Bill, you've heard of leaves on the line. This is going to be slightly harder to clear. Believe it or not this is the West Coast Main line. Until midnight yesterday it was carrying thousands of passengers North from London. Today it's completely overgrown. i... it's completely overgrown.
We're getting similar reports from the M25 ...

Insert shots of the unexpected M25 alder grove.

JENNY HILL: (cont'd) And the Scottish Parliament

A REPORTER stands outside the Scottish Parliament, but it looks like he is in Center Parcs.

CUT TO:

8 **OMI TTED** 8

9 * 9 **OMI TTED**

10 EXT. NOTRE DAME. PARIS - DAY

10*

A PARIS REPORTER is standing amongst the trees.

CONTI NUED: THE DOCTOR: (cont'd)

Your friend Mr. Pink was supposed to be looking after her ...

CLARA:

She probably has a name.

THE DOCTOR:

Good point. You. Do you have a name at all?

MAEBH:

Maebh. My name's Maebh. What's yours?

CLARA:

Maebh? No. Where are you?

THE DOCTOR:

Trafalgar Square. I found her wandering in the brand new forest.

CLARA:

Brand new for est?

THE DOCTOR:

Like The New Forest. Only even newer.

CLARA:

Is that the forest that's covering London?

THE DOCTOR:

London, yes, and also the surrounding planet. Ch. Was that the amazing thing you were going to show me? It is amazing, but I saw it first.

CLARA:

Is she alright? Can you bring her over?

THE DOCTOR:
No I can't bring her over. I'm a
Time Lord not a childminder.

CLARA:

You've got a space ship. All we've got is Oyster cards.

THE DOCTOR:

And I've got a global Rapid Afforestation crisis to deal with.

CUT TO:

13*

DANNY is on the roof looking out over the city.

FX: DANNY's POV - the whole of London town covered in trees.

DANNY heads back inside.

CUT TO:

13A <u>INT. MUSEUM - DAY</u>

13A*

DANNY comes back in to address the KIDS. CLARA will walk in during the following, putting her phone away. DANNY is a whirling vortex of energy and decision-making. We're seeing him doing what he does best.

DANNY:

OK so it stretches for several miles at least. In all directions.

GEORGE:

Is it some kind of protest? It's very inconvenient.

DANNY:

An inconvenience, rightly viewed, is just another name for an adventure. Isn't that right, team?

He strides past the CHILDREN, expecting them to follow.

BRADLEY:

What team? This is confusing me.

SAMSON:

Yeah. If there was a team - why would anyone pick you?, 3ye2p1 0m? This i1h 1'5 426.485

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	., ,		

Coul dn't get through. Left messages. I'll try again.

She takes out her phone again.

DANNY: You didn't call the school. You called him

CLARA: He called me actually. I can't stop

DW8: EP 10 'In The Forest of The Night' by Frank Cottrell Boyce - SHCOTING SCRIPT - 21/07/14 12. 13A CONTINUED:

RUBY:

That's what people do when they're in love. Don't you know anything?

CUT TO:

14 OMI TTED 14

15 EXT. LONDON. CROMWELL ROAD - DAY

15

DANNY leads the KIDS through the trees.

DANNY:

Who wants to be navigator?

BRADLEY and SAMSON's hands shoot up. DANNY hands BRADLEY a compass.

DANNY: (cont'd)

Good I ad. Let's do this.

BRADLEY is chuffed but as they go, he asks SAMSON.

BRADLEY:

What's a navigator?

DANNY is already charging off through the forest.

DANNY:

Follow the lamp posts, that will keep us on Cromwell Road. We'll be able to orientate ourselves.

RUBY questions DANNY.

RUBY:

I thought we were getting a coach. Where's the coach?

DANNY:

Well, Ruby, it seems the road is blocked with trees.

RUBY:

Can't we just wait here until they've gone?

DANNY:

Trees don't just go, Ruby.

RUBY:

They just came. Why wouldn't they just go?

CLARA gets next to DANNY.

CLARA:
The question is, how did they get here? Can a forest grow over night? Or have we been asleep for years like Sleeping Beauty?

DANNY:

No. The question is, how do we get these kids home?

CLARA: Ch. Absolutely. That's the big quest i on.

He addresses the KIDS.

DANNY:

OK. Come on, keep up. It's crucial that we stick together. If you start to fall behind - don't. Bradley, we are going to

Fill your baths, sinks, and any buckets with fresh water to ensure a supply. We advise you to keep

MAEBH:

You don't need a phone to communicate, do you? I haven't phoned home, but I know my Mum is worried about me.

CUT TO:

18 INT. MAEBH'S HOUSE - MORNING - DAY / EXT. MAEBH'S HOUSE - DAY18*

MAEBH's MUM is having a phone conversation whilst frantically looking for her car keys.

MAEBH'S MUM
You said you'd collect her. No. YOU
said you'd collect her. It's
alright, I'm collecting her. Soon
as I find my car keys. Can't see a
thing. Next door have planted
bloody leylandii and they've gone
mental. Taking all my daylight ...

She's looking at the window which is totally obscured by leaves and branches. She spots her keys and heads for the door.

MAEBH'S MUM (cont'd) I've had words with her about it before. She's...

She has now opened the front door. Outside the front door there is a forest.

MAEBH'S MUM (cont'd)
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> She looks up and down the street, hoping to see an end to it, but there's no end in sight.

> > CUT TO:

20 EXT. LONDON. KNI GHTSBRI DGE. FOREST - DAY

20*

DANNY leads the CHILDREN through the lovely, inexplicable forest. Blossom blows by on the breeze. Every now and then their way is illuminated by a lamp post.

RUBY:

Mss, in the museum, right, I was reading about Reproduction.

CLARA:

Oh, Ruby, this isn't really the right moment.

RUBY:

And that said trees have blossom and then that turns into fruit or nuts or seeds. Right?

CLARA:

Right, Ruby.

RUBY:

These trees have got blossom and nuts on at the same time. See? Blossom and nuts.

CLARA:

That is strange. And that's very good observation skills, Ruby.

SAMSON:

Nuts. That's unlucky for you isn't it, Bradley, because you've got an allergy, haven't you, Bradley? What happens if one of them falls on your head, Bradley? You'll die, Bradley, yeah? You'll swell up like a massive melon ...

BRADLEY:

Shut it.

They shove each other about. Meanwhile, RUBY pulls at CLARA.

RUBY:

Maebh's on medication, Mss. What'll happen if we don't get to her in time? When her medication wears off she'll go mental. Her head goes funny. It's like ...

DW8: EP 10 'In The Forest of The Night' by Frank Cottrell Boyce - SHOOTING SCRIPT - 21/07/14 17. 20 CONTINUED:

CLARA:

I think Mr. Pink will get us there in time, don't you? I think we're in good hands with Mr. Pink.

She looks ahead to where he is chivvying the CHILDREN along and feels a rush of fond admiration for him

CLARA: (cont'd)
Yes. We are in really good hands.

CUT TO.

21 INT. TARDIS - DAY

21

THE DOCTOR is talking to himself, trying to work things out.

THE DOCTOR:

They are already blocking roads and rail way lines. So no food is being delivered. No medical supplies. Plus they're still growing so it's only a matter of time before the roots cut through the power lines, water mains. Water, electricity and wood - great combination. You know, if it wasn't a forest it would be a very effective weapon.

Meanwhile, MAEBH is muttering (it's coming, it's coming). She seems to be having some kind of dialogue with herself.

MAEBH:

Ssssh! Stop talking. Leave me alone.

He stares at her.

MAEBH: (cont'd)

Not you. I'm talking to ... myself.

THE DOCTOR:

I was talking to self but you interrupted.

MAEBH looks increasingly agitated. Her medication is wearing off. She's making that swatting gesture we saw earlier. She's muttering to herself - or possibly not to herself.

CUT TO:

22 <u>EXT. TRAFALGAR SQUARE - DAY</u>

22

CLARA has spotted the TARDIS. She heads for it.

CLARA:

There it is. Come on.

The KIDS are more interested in the great stone lions gazing at them through the leaves and branches.

DW8: EP 10 'In The Forest of The Night' by Frank Cottrell Boyce - SHOOTING SCRI PT - 21/07/14 22

CONTI NUED: 22

> The streetlights dotted around the square are all illuminated, making the leaves shimmer and glow. And there's that column of stone.

There's no one else there but the children.

DANNY:

Trafalgar Square! Well done Bradley. Excellent navigation skills.

BRADLEY beams. This is magical. The KIDS are amazed.

CLARA's heading straight for the TARDIS.

CLARA:

Nearly there. All sorted now.

DANNY grunts his agreement. She's tickled by his distrust of THE DOCTOR.

Meanwhile, the KIDS are excited by the stone lion.

BRADLEY:

Can we have pictures with that lion, sir? Please?

DANNY:

Stay together. But OK.

The KIDS go off to take selfies with the stone lion.

CLARA:

Can't believe that Bradley said pl ease.

DANNY:

Really.

CLARA:

Yeah he usually prefers other means of persuasi on ...

CUT AWAY TO.

23

23 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - DAY

A glimpse of BRADLEY's usual method. He's threatening a YOUNGER KID. CLARA isn't looking at him

BRADLEY:

Mss, he won't lend me his cal cul at or, Mss.

CLARA doesn't look up but does make a suggestion.

CLARA:

You could try saying please, Br adl ey.

There's a crash. Now she does look up and there's a KID crying on the floor, a desk on its side and the door swinging on its hinges.

BACK TO:

24 EXT. TRAFALGAR SQUARE - DAY

24

CLARA and DANNY are still watching the KIDS. BRADLEY is going to take a picture. RUBY bosses everyone into position.

CLARA:

And Ruby ...

CUT AVAY TO.

25 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL. MATHS LESSON - DAY

25

DANNY is teaching a maths lesson. He's drawn a right angled triangle on the white board and marked the hypotenuse " χ ".

DANNY: How do we find X? ... Ruby.

RUBY looks like she's been tasered. She stares at the white boar d.

RUBY:

"X"? It's there, sir. At the top.

DANNY:

How do we find ...

RUBY:

It's not lost. It's there. At the top, look.

DANNY:

... the VALUE of X?

RUBY:

Why am I being asked all the questions? Give someone else a go.

BACK TO:

26 EXT. TRAFALGAR SQUARE - DAY

26

DW8: EP 10 'In The Forest of The Night' by Frank Cottrell Boyce - SHOOTING SCRIPT - 21/07/14 21. 26 CONTINUED:

THE DOCTOR: (cont'd) they just keep growing. This is a natural event.

More unsettling noises from Nelson's Column and more expressions of fright from the KLDS.

DANNY:

How can it be natural for a tree to grow in a night?

THE DOCTOR:

Exactly what they said about the Ice Age. How can whole glaciers just pop up out of nowhere? They just did. That's how this planet grows - a series of catastrophes. The Ice Age is over. Welcome to the Tree Age. Possibly. When it was the Ice Age you lot learnt to cook mammoth. You've got a forest. Eat nuts.

He keeps staring into the trees, trying to figure it out.

BRADLEY:

I can't eat nuts. I've got an allergy.

CLARA:

(TO DANNY) Don't worry. It's a thing he does. He pretends he's not interested and then he has an idea. He's playing for time.

THE DOCTOR:

Time. Interesting.

CLARA:

See? Clever kicking in.

THE DOCTOR:

A tree is a time machine. Plant a little acorn in 1795 and in the year 2016 there's an oak tree still in the same spot with a little bit of 1795 still alive inside it. You don't create an overnight forest with extra special fertiliser. You have to mess with the fabric of time itself. And you have to communicate ... with the trees.

Something has indeed clicked in THE DOCTOR's brain. He hurries back into the TARDIS, followed by CLARA and the others.

As he they go in, however, MAEBH slips away.

CUT TO:

THE DOCTOR:

You people, when will you learn. If a child is speaking ... listen!

DANNY:

Like you list ened to her?

DW8: EP 10 'In The Forest of The Night' by Frank Cottrell Boyce - SHOOTING SCRIPT - 21/07/14 24. 27 CONTINUED:

THE DOCTOR is now studying one of the TARDIS scanners. We can see something that clearly represents the Sun. A teardrop of energy is dripping form it. THE DOCTOR speaks while preoccupied with this.

THE DOCTOR:

You're right. He is right. She was trying to tell me something and I ignored her.

He points to all the screens and receivers.

THE DOCTOR: (cont'd)
Maebh Arden is tuned to a different
channel. She'll take us to the
source, the heart of the forest. We
have to find her and we have to
listen to her.

He takes out his sonic screwdriver. CLARA groans.

CLARA:

Not everything can be fixed with a screwdriver. It's not a magic wand.

THE DOCTOR:

Does she have a phone?

CLARA:

Well, yes she does.

THE DOCTOR:

Got her number?

CLARA:

Hmm Yes.

He zaps the phone with the screwdriver.

THE DOCTOR:

Maebh Arden ... 400 yards to the South East ... I'll get her.

He goes, taking her phone. CLARA looks at DANNY. He talks to her quietly.

DANNY:

I'll go with him

CLARA:

I can go. You can ...

Danny:

You haven't seen him for months?

CLARA:

Something like that.

DANNY:

You didn't even say hello. You just clicked into action. Special unit.

THE DOCTOR Looks in again.

THE DOCTOR:
Do. Not. Touch. Anything. Anything. OK?

He goes again. Se6ng. Anything.

Unnerved, MAEBH's MUM tries turning the radio on and off.

I thought you were a soldier. That's so not soldier. You're supposed to be madly in love with her.

DANNY: I'm... who said that?

RUBY:

Ever yone.

SAMSON:

34

MAEBH's MUM is on her doorstep, frantically trying to call Maebh's phone. Her NEIGHBOUR is trying to coax her out.

NEI GHBOUR:

We've got a little camping stove. We're going to make a nice big pot of tea. Number 6 are coming. Come on Siobhan. We never have time to just sit and talk. Before we know it, they'll have this all sorted.

MAEBH'S MUM

And just how do you sort out a forest?

NEI GHBOUR:

Haven't you heard? It was on the radio. It's quite clever. The army are going use the Underground tunnels to get around. They're going to pop up out of every station on the Central Line and burn pathways North and South and then they're going to do the same on the Piccadilly Line so ...

She demonstrates the theory by interlacing her fingers but MAEBH's MUM is just staring at her in absolute horror.

MAEBH'S MUM

Burn it? They're going to set fire to the trees? But ... Maebh's still out there.

NEI GHBOUR:

Now you don't know that. The school will look after her. And the army know what they're doing. Come on. The kettle's on. We've got ...

But MAEBH's MUM has already disappeared around the back of the house. Now she reappears with a mountain bike. Jumps on and careers of fint othe trees.

NEIGHBOUR: (cont'd)

... Ginger Hob Nobs.

CUT TO:

35 <u>EXT. FOREST - DAY</u>

35

MAEBH is running and also still swatting and ducking whatever invisible presence it is that is flying around her head. That's what she's running away from - dodging and swerving.

Then she notices ribbons of smoke, thickening into blankets of smoke, blowing into her path. She coughs Stumbles forward.

She comes to a set of wrought iron railings, surrounding the entrance to a tube tunnel.

A team of soldiers in protective garments are running a hose pipe up from the underground. Also carting big chunky bits of kit into place - a sense that something massive is about to happen.

EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Right back. Right, right back. We're about to burn . . .

THE DOCTOR and CLARA watch as a team aims a flame thrower into the branches of the tree. A sheet of fire leaps out and ravages the branches. They burn brilliantly. Black smoke curling. Wood blazing. The crew cheer and move on to set up for the next tree. But then ... the fire goes out. Like a candle snuffed by invisible fingers.

EMERGENCY SERVI CES: (cont'd)

Go again. Go on. Get on it. Move.

Another sheet of fire. Another immediate blaze. Another invisible hand snuffs it out.

PICK UP ON the OFFICER on his radio.

EMERGENCY SERVI CES: (cont'd)

Copy for us. Not working here either, Big Ben.

They go and inspect the equipment.

THE DOCTOR nods to CLARA that they should move on. They sneak through the crowd of pre-occupied emergency service workers.

THE DOCTOR:
The trees all held their breath together so the fire has no oxygen...

CLARA:

Clever.

THE DOCTOR:

What kind of forest is clever? What kind of forest has its own in-built fire extinguisher?

CLARA:

What do they want?

THE DOCTOR:

Why now?

CLARA:

What do you mean? Why now?

THE DOCTOR:

The whole natural order is turning against this planet. Why? Why now?

CLARA:

What? What else?

He produces Maebh's homework book and shows her the drawing of the angry $\mathop{\rm Sun}\nolimits.$

THE DOCTOR:

How did she know this?

CLARA: What is it?

THE DOCTOR:

This is a massive solar flare headed for Earth. Like the one that destroyed the Bank of Karabraxos. I have an entire TARDIS and I didn't notice this. But she knew. How?

CLARA:

This is Maebh's. Where did you get t hi s?

THE DOCTOR:

You left your marking on the TARDI S.

CLARA:

Ch. That's just brilliant. You don't think ... did Danny see this?

THE DOCTOR:

I've just informed you that a solar flare is about to wipe out your pl. Ana. i R:

CLARA: Was that a how!? Was that a wolf?! No. That's impossible. We're in London. We're in

	But Maebh does scream again and CLARA instinctively runs towards it. THE DOCTOR follows.	*
	CUT AWAY TO:	
39	OMI TTED	39*
40	EXT. THE FOREST - DAY MAEBH running with the WOLVES on her trail. We intercut between the WOLVES, THE DOCTOR, CLARA.	40
	In the depths of the forest she runs past a taxi cab, a pillar box, a belisha beacon.	

THE DOCTOR:

You came looking for me. You didn't just stumble into the TARDIS. You know who is doing this. Tell me what you know ...

She is about to speak when there is a terrible crash of undergrowth and clang of metal behind her.

By now the WOLVES are hurling themselves at the fence.

CLARA:

Could we possibly deal with the wolves first, Doctor?

THE DOCTOR:

This is important.

CLARA:

Doct or !

The first WOLF is scrambling up the fence.

THE DOCTOR:

All we have to do is look like we're too much bother to eat. Stay still. Stay together. Look big. Like a three headed six legged scary thing.

They group themselves together, arms in the air, legs out.

THE DOCTOR: (cont'd)
The gruesome reputation of the timber wolf is completely undeserved. It comes from fairy stories, not from zool ogy. Plus these are zoo wolves. They're not used to hunting.

The first WOLF flies over the fence. Then the NEXT and the NEXT. They barely look at THE DOCTOR or CLARA or MAEBH but just go flying off into the forest - a blur of fur.

Everyone breathes a sigh of relief except THE DOCTOR.

MAEBH:

I didn't do the wolves. They weren't me. The wolves just came. And something worse is coming.

THE DOCTOR:

Listen. Those wolves were terrified. They were blind with fear. So ...

CLARA:

What are wolves frightened of?

There's a deep, deep throaty growl on the other side of the

Now we can see that it's a TIGER.

CUT AWAY TO:

41 EXT. MUSEUM - DAY

41*

MAEBH's MUM skids and bumps up to the door of the museum She hammers on the door and calls MAEBH's name. No response of course.

CUT TO:

42 OMI TTED

43 <u>EXT. THE FOREST - DAY</u>

43

42 *

THE DOCTOR, CLARA and MAEBH are paralysed with fear watching the TIGER patrol the fence, working its way up to a jump ...

CLARA:

Please tell me the tiger's reputation is based on fairy tales and not on zoology ...

THE DOCTOR:

There are ver Myrgoodss 5 wid 7 oa 1 0 0 1 539.04 of confidence and scientific reasons for being really quite fright ened just now.

MAEBH:

I'm sorry!

This is her response to the fact that the TIGER is taking a run at the fence and is ready to leap. This is it.

The TIGER recoils, snarls, bites the air in fury and frustration. Its eyes blaze. A figure is reflected in them

Only as the TIGER turns tail to flee do we see what has happened. DANNY has appeared out of the undergrowth with his "team" behind him DANNY has just shone BRADLEY's improbably bright torch straight into the tiger's eyes - confusing and frightening the creature.

As it retreats, BRADLEY, SAMSON and RUBY are almost over the fence hurling branches and insults after it, yelling - full of confidence and energy.

They turn to face CLARA, THE DOCTOR and MAEBH.

CLARA:

Mr. Pink ... errrmmm... thank you very much.

DANNY:

No problem Decided it w9V90 0 1 96 216.48 Tm - 0.195 Tc Tw

BRADLEY: See what we did? We totally put the fear on a tiger!

They're thrilled with themselves.

DANNY: They've worked well together. Noticeable increase in confidence and energy levels.

MAEBH charges into a clearing. The moment she does, great shafts of light stab through the branches - as though the Sun has just risen to tree height - making a kind of cage of light. Huge spider webs are draped through the sunlight. Millions of tiny mites dance in the light.

Beyond the clearing we can see what must be the Mall. There are flags and a glimpse of Buckingham Palace.

First THE DOCTOR, then the CHILDREN and their teachers all

THE DOCTOR:

No. Maebh. You didn't make a global forest grow over night. How could you do that?

MAEBH:

I thought it would be nice.

THE DOCTOR:

You didn't go all over the world with a bucket of acorns and some manure. What did you do?

MAEBH:

I'm sorry.

THE DOCTOR:

You need to tell us all you can.

MAEBH:

Thoughts come to me. Ever since Annabel went missing. I look for her everywhere. I don't find her but I find thoughts - like they're waiting for me - like the big forest was one. I thought everyone would love it. Then it came and it was tigers and fire. I'm sorry.

She gets more agitated, speaking as if in a fever.

DANNY:

This has gone far enough.

RUBY:

Just give her her tablet!

THE DOCTOR:

You've tried giving her tablets. You've tried taking her on special trips. Try the one thing she needs ... someone to listen to her.

MAEBH is swatting at the air. It's unnerving.

SAMSON:

Errm... She's not actually saying anyt hi ng.

THE DOCTOR:

Maebh what are you trying to shoo away?

MAEBH:

The thoughts. The thoughts.

THE DOCTOR:

You can see the thoughts?

MAEBH:

Too fast. They go so fast.

DW8: EP 10 'In The Forest of The Night' by Frank Cottrell Boyce - SHOOTING SCRI PT - 21/07/14 40. 44 CONTI NUED: 44

> She's looking everywhere around her now as though surrounded by some invisible host.

> > BRADLEY:

This is stressing me now. If I get stress I forget my anger management.

CLARA is watching MAEBH's face.

CLARA:

Maebh, can you see something we can't see?

MAEBH:

Nearly. Too fast. Everywhere.

THE DOCTOR takes out his sonic screwdriver.

THE DOCTOR:

Everything is subject to gravity. If I can create a little local increase ...

The sonic screwdriver does its stuff. The shimmer increases around MAEBH. DANNY is immediately concerned.

DANNY:

No. You're not experimenting on her.

But he's interrupted by a whoop of joy from MAEBH who stands up and stares happily into the glimmer. Everyone is entranced. It's a host of tiny, shining CREATURES, struggling to get free of the extra gravity.

MAEBH:

They're lovely. They don't like it that you're holding them They want you to let them go ...

THE DOCTOR:

Who are they?

The shining host speaks in a thousands strong chorus of tiny voices. MAEBH repeats what they're saying but in unison with them - as though she's thinking in tune with them

MAEBH: / THE HERE:

We are Here. Here always since the beginning and until the end.

When she speaks the others hear a faint shimmer in her voice - as though they can pick up the echo of the "Here".

THE DOCTOR: "Here" that's it?

DW8: EP 10 'In The Forest of The Night' by Frank Cottrell Boyce - SHOOTING SCRIPT - 21/07/14 42.
44 CONTINUED: 44

When MAEBH recovers herself ...

MAEBH: (cont'd)
They've gone! Why does everything have to go?

But THE DOCTOR has walked away, lost in thought. CLARA goes to talk with him

CLARA:

This is really going to happen, isn't it?

THE DOCTOR:

Stars implode. Planets grow cold. Catastrophe is the metabolism of the universe. I can fight monsters. I can't fight physics.

CLARA:

Why would trees want to kill us? We love trees.

THE DOCTOR:

You've been chopping them up for furniture for centuries. If that's love no wonder they've been calling down fire from Heaven ...

CLARA:

Fire from Heaven?

THE DOCTOR:

You weren't listening? The Northern Forest - the Tunguska Blast, 1908. An asteroid smashed into Siberia. Equivalent to a thousand atom bombs. Almost destroyed the Earth. Curuça Event 1930 - same again in the Amazon. They seem to have hit the bullseye this time.

CLARA:

But we saw ... the future ... lots of futures ... Earth futures.

THE DOCTOR:

They're about to be erased.

THE DOCTOR seems lost.

CLARA:

If you can't save it all, save what you can.

THE DOCTOR Looks puzzled.

CLARA: (cont'd)
The TARDIS. It's a lifeboat, isn't it? Not everyone has to die.

THE DOCTOR: Yes. Yes you're right of course. The KIDS, still singing, hack off a layer of brambles from the outside of the TARDIS. SAMSON and BRADLEY work as a team As they continue, CLARA talks to THE DOCTOR.

CLARA:

Well, it's been fun.

THE DOCTOR:

But ... you're coming.

CLARA:

I can't.

THE DOCTOR:

Ch. When I say "you" I obviously mean you plural. You can bring the gifted and talented and the maths guy. We could find a viable planet. You could start up a colony with

CLARA:

Shush. I nappropri at e.

The KIDS whoop. They've cleared the TARDIS door.

THE DOCTOR:

This is unexpectedly difficult.

CLARA:

No. Like you said you've done it before. On the bank of Karabraxos.

THE DOCTOR:
(quoting Clara's words)
I walk your Earth. I breathe your air.

CLARA:

CLARA: Because if I did, they'd be the last of their species. That's too much. For anyone.

THE DOCTOR is looking at the TARDIS screens. An image of the Sun with a droplet erupting from its surface.

CUT TO.

50

51 <u>OMI TTED</u> 51

SAMSON:

This is intense.

THE DOCTOR:

OK. Well: that's the bad news. The good news is it's happened before.

No one is sure that this is a good thing.

THE DOCTOR: (cont'd)
And you're still here. The Tunguska
Blast. 1908 - that should have
thrown the planet off its axis. But
it didn't. It knocked a few trees
over. Well, a few tens of thousands
of trees over. Curuça in Brazil.
Same story. Earth should have been
smashed but it wasn't. What do
these things have in common?

RUBY:

They're really, really scaring us.

THE DOCTOR:

Trees! Whenever there's a planetthreatening extra terrestrial impact - trees. Massive forest. Filling the atmosphere with oxygen. Pumping it up like a massive highly airbag so when trouble hits...

SAMSON:

Everyone di es.

THE DOCTOR:

No. The impact burns off the excess oxygen. You have some hectic weather for a few days and some fairly trippy looking sunsets but basically you'll be alright. I was wrong. The trees are not your enemy. They're your shield. Since forever, they've been doing this. Protecting you from everything that space can throw at you.

CLARA:

The wide ring. The red ring.

They look at her.

CLARA: (cont'd)
In the museum, Ruby saw the cross section of a tree. One of the rings was wider than the others and red.

THE DOCTOR:

At mospheric dust captured by the trees. The finger print of an asteroid. Happy Red Ring Day.

RUBY: I don't get it. If they're good, why are we chopping them down then? MAEBH:

Essential services have been disrupted due to an Unexpected For est

MAEBH'S MUM Maebh! Where are you?

CUT TO:

60 INT. TARDIS - DAY

60

MAEBH continues with her announcement.

MAEBH:

We'd like to reassure you that the situation will be rectified very soon. We apologise for any inconvenience. In the meantime, please don't be scared. And please don't chop, spray or harm the

61 EXT. TRAFALGAR SQUARE - DAY

61

MAEBH hugs her MUM Her MUM sobs with relief and happiness.

MAEBH'S MUM

I thought I'd lost you, too.

MAEBH:

Never. Not ever.

When they look up, the other CHILDREN have all followed MAEBH out and are watching this emotional reunion - it's making them feel emotional, too.

CLARA:

So ... trip to space anyone?

RUBY:

I want my Mum

SAMSON:

I slightly want my Mum, too.

CLARA:

Tell them, Mr Pink, what an educational opportunity ...

DANNY is clearly going to say nothing of the sort.

He goes to one side and speaks to her quietly.

DANNY:

You go. This is enough for me.

CLARA:

What?! Coronal ejection. Geomagnetic storm How often do you get a playlist like that?

DANNY:

I was a soldier. I put myself at risk. I didn't try too hard to survive but somehow here I am And now I can see what I nearly lost.
And it's enough. I don't want to
see more things. I want to see
these things in front of me more clearly. There are wonders here, Clara Oswald. Bradley saying please. That's a wonder. A wonder. One person is more amazing - harder to understand - but more amazing than universes.

CLARA:

Really? What person is that then?

He doesn't answer. She reaches up and kisses him

There's a raucous cheer from all the CHILDREN - who they've forgotten about until now.

W8: EP 10 CRIPT - 2 61			e Night' by Frank	Cottrell Bo	yce - SHOC 52.	OTING 61
			RUBY: I said so, didn'	t 1!?		*
					CUT TO:	*
62	EXT. KNI GI	HTSBRI DGE -	DAY			62*
	The group	are walking	along. CLARA fall	s in step v	vith DANNY.	*
			CLARA: ve a picnic.			*
		_	DANNY: You've got markin	g.		*
	She's take	en aback to	find him chilly ar	nd remote.		*
			CLARA: y're from ages ag s	o. What		* * *
		They al ways	DANNY: write the date not of the page.	eat I y		* * *
		They do, do	LARA: n't they.			*
		Last Friday Last Friday	DANNY: . You were on the . Today you thoug oing to end. You me the truth.	ht the		* * * *
			CLARA: interrupted. He			*
		I want to k care what i it. Like Ma	DANNY: now the Truth. I t is. But I want ebh said. Like th ar a bit Iess, tr	to know e		* * * * * * *
		Ok. Well	OLARA:			*
		Not now. Go Think it ov	DANNY: home. Do your ma er. Then tell me. rom a tiger. I de			* * * *

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CLARA: Yes you di d. Yes you do.

CUT TO:

FX: Space is still. The green Earth hangs there. The solar flare comes in - a tidal wave of light.

FX: THE DOCTOR looks down at it anxiously. The wave of light breaks over the planet.

THE DOCTOR:

I hope I'm right. It would be slightly awkward if Earth really was destroyed at this point.

CLARA:

What ?! ?

There's a whoosh.

63

THE DOCTOR:

There goes the planet-sized airbag. That's the trees harvesting the solar fire.

CLARA:

That. Is. Amazing.

THE DOCTOR

Now you've seen it. Who are you going to tell?

CLARA:

Well now I ...

THE DOCTOR:

If you have to keep things like this to yourself, you might as well be the last of your species.

CUT TO.

64 INT. CLARA'S FLAT - DAY

64

FX: The TARDIS materialises in the flat.

CLARA and THE DOCTOR look out of the bedroom window.

FX: From here they can see London covered in trees, under a trippily vivid sky.. Suddenly all of the trees crumble and scatter in a billion flittering fragments.

CLARA:

How will they ex-0. 1 168 179.52 Tm - 0.194WhTN42 Tm - 0.195

THE DOCTOR: