DOCTOR WHO

SERIES 8

EPI SODE 7

"Return To Sarn"

by

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

The Moon, half in sunlight, half in shadow, hanging in space.

CAPTION: The Moon, 2049.

Travel down on to the surface, faster and faster, past crags, mountains, dark shapes:

CUT TO:

2 <u>INT. INTERNATIONAL MOONBASE - DAY</u>

2

Tight on CLARA - she looks up at us. She's wearing a space-suit (without a helmet). She's scared.

CLARA

Hello, Earth.

She is sitting at a control panel in a dusty, cobwebbed Mbonbase. Two space-suited bodies are propped up against a wall.

CLARA (CONT'D)

We have a terrible decision to make. It's an uncertain decision and we don't have a lot of time. The man... who normally helps - he's gone. Maybe he's not coming back. In fact, I really don't think he is. We're on our own.

She I ooks up at COURTNEY, who stands there, afraid. Looking anxiously at CLARA.

CLARA looks at COURTNEY for a long moment, then looks back to the screen.

CLARA (CONT'D)

So - an innocent life versus the future of all mankind.

A tear drops from CLARA's eye.

CLARA (CONT'D)

... We have forty-five minutes to decide.

Tight on a computer display, the countdown timer ticking down:

00: 44: 58 - 57 - 56. . .

THE DOCTOR hurries down the corridor with his usual urgency, alongside CLARA, who is trying to get him to listen.

CLARA

Court ney Woods. She's just gone - crazy - she's uncontrollable.
Doctor - she took your psychic paper. She's been using it as fake ID.

THE DOCTOR

To get into museums?

CLARA

No, to buy White Lightning or al copops or what ever -

THE DOCTOR

I've no idea what you're talking about. What Courtney Woods?i

THE DOO	TOR		
No, Courtney, you	may	come in	1!
Only very special	peopl e	al I owed	i n
her e!			

CRASH BACK TO.

4B <u>INT. COAL HILL. CORRIDOR - DAY</u>

4B*

THE DOCTOR and CLARA as before.

CLARA

Doct or -!

THE DOCTOR

Sorry, those are the rules.

CLARA

You're not going to need those, Courtney. You're not going to be doing any travelling. Will you just tell her, Doctor?

THE DOCTOR

Tell her what?

CLARA

That she's special.

THE DOCTOR

...I'm sorry, have you gone bananas?

COURTNEY

D'you really not think I'm special?

THE DOCTOR rolls his eyes, exasperated.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)

You can't just take me away like that, then - y'know, 's like you kicked a big hole in the side of my life - d'you really think it? I'm nothing? Not special?

THE DOCTOR

Oh, for God's sake! (to COURTNEY)

You wanna be the First Woman on The Moon? Special enough?

COURTNEY

... Yeah, all right.

THE DOCTOR

Okay -

THE DOCTOR casually pulls a lever. The TARDIS dematerialises -

CLARA

Doct or -!

THE DOCTOR

- then we can do something interesting -

CUT TO:

6 INT. SPACE SHUTTLE - STORAGE BAY - DAY

6

Close on the TARDIS. The door opens. COURTNEY, space-suited and helmeted, stands there. Frowns.

COURTNEY

This isn't the Moon.

THE DOCTOR peers out from the TARDIS, comes out. CLARA follows him They both wear space-suits.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)

Where are we?

THE DOCTOR

A decrepit space shuttle.

They're in the storage bay of a clapped-out space-shuttle, surrounded by an eclectic mix of nuclear bombs of different ages, nationalities and sizes - some full-size, some just warheads - strapped up to the walls. The Shuttle is bumping rapidly into its descent. A small observation panel in the side of the bay, a door panel at the far end. COURTNEY, CLARA and THE DOCTOR look around, removing their helmets.

CLARA

What are ?

THE DOCTOR

About a hundred nuclear bombs.

He goes and peers out of the porthole.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Ah. We're on the way to the Moon.

Suddenly, the shuttle judders and banks sharply - a couple of loose bits of kit hurtle past them

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Check that - we're about to crash into it.

The g-force hits them and the shuttle bumps and shudders like mad. A warning alarm sounds.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Hold on!

They grab onto some of the webbing that holds the bombs in place.

CLARA

Why didn't you just tell her you didn't mean it?!

CUT TO:

Okay, then - well - you'd better shoot us. Shoot the little girl first.

COURTNEY

What?

THE DOCTOR

She doesn't want to stand around watching us being shot, she'd be terrified. Plus she steals things.

(to COURTNEY) D'yoù take one of my spares?

COURTNEY

. . . Bi ngo.

CLARA

(realising)

. . . **C**h.

THE DOCTOR

(pocketing the yo-yo)

We're on the Moon. You, me, her this bunch -

LUNDVI K

Captain Lundvik. Henry. Duke.

THE DOCTOR

How d'ye do - we should be bouncing about this cabin like little fluffy clouds. We're not.

(to LUNDVIK, gravely) What's the matter with the Moon?

LUNDVI K

Nobody knows.

DUKE

Its orbit's gone crazy.

LUNDVI K

That's why we're here. There was a mining survey - Mexicans -

happened to them up here. Nobody knows what. Not long afterwards, the trouble started down on Earth.

HENRY

It's really

CLARA

know what's the matter with the Moon?

THE DOCTOR

It's put on weight.

LUNDVI K

... How much?

THE DOCTOR

About 1.3 Billion tonnes.

CLARA

That's a hell of a heavy Christmas.

LUNDVI K

How can the Moon put on weight?

Why have you got all these nuclear bombs?

LUNDVI K

They were all we could get. Doctor - how can the Moon put on weight -?

THE DOCTOR

(shrugs)

Lots of ways. Gravity bombs. Axis alignment systems. Planet shelling.

LUNDVI K

So it's alien? Is it anything to do with ?

THE DOCTOR suddenly realises something:

THE DOCTOR

1.3 billion tonnes?! ... That's an additional pull on the Earth of the tides'll be so high they'll drown whole cities!

LUNDVI K

. . . Yeah.

THE DOCTOR

Every day. Twice.

LUNDVI K

. . . Yeah.

THE DOCTOR

Where are we? 2049? Totally globalised, technology-addicted culture. Satellites dropping from the sky. Communications failure, no finance, no transport. No food. People starving, drowning - millions of people! Hundreds of millions of people!

LUNDVI K

. . . Yeah.

THE DOCTOR

So what are you doing about it?

LUNDVIK picks up an orange, briefcase-sized thing, clipped to the wall. A nuclear detonator.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

. . .

LUNDVIK
...That's what you do with aliens, isn't it? Blow them up?

CUT TO:

9	INT. SHUTTLE - FIVE MINUTES LATER - DAY / EXT. LUNAR SURFACE - SET OF THE FIVE MINUTES LATER - DAY	<u>3</u> ,
	A beautiful, stark sight. The Moon, in all its twilit glory.	4
	The shuttle door swings down. The six travellers stand at the door of the space-shuttle, looking down on it. All of them, even THE DOCTOR, awed.	† †
	COURTNEY Wow.	
	She shoulders her school-bag, goes to move down the ramp.	4
	LUNDVIK Holdon-sorry-	4
	COURTNEY What ?	
	LUNDVIKD'you mind if - we swap places?	
	COURTNEY What? No - (to THE DOCTOR) Hey, Doctor -	,
	LUNDVIK I'd really like to be the first woman to set foot on the Moon. It's - I've been waiting for this for -	t t

COURTNEY One small thing for a thing - one enormous thing for thingything!

LUNDVIK watches her.

LUNDVIK ... So much for history.

LUNDVI K

That's what happened.

THE DOCTOR

... I blame the teachers.

CLARA

Thanks.

LUNDVI K

They just stopped. They got up here. Stayed a few days. Went back. For got about trying to discover things. Invented the i Pad instead. Married their telephones. People stopped looking up, just started looking down.

DUKE

It's why we're on a rackety old space shuttle. We don't build new ones any more. Lost interest! If it can't make any money -

THE DOCTOR

You're the only astronauts left? That's why you're all so terribly old?

LUNDVI K

I'm only forty-seven!

HENRY

I'm not even an astronaut. Cabin crew on Virgin Galactic. Thirty years since. I used to work for Richard Branson.

LUNDVI K

How old are ?!

COURTNEY

What version i Pad is it now then?

A severe ground tremor. They each stagger, fall, and stumble down the hillside, holding on as best they can.

The tremor stops. They've made it to the bottom of the hill. In front of them, silent and dark, is The International Moonbase.

CLARA

(to COURTNEY)

Y' okay -?

COURTNEY

I'm okay. Yeah.



I'm not. I'm gonna need another hip replacement.

CLARA (to THE DOCTOR) CLARA

Court ney!

The hurry to her.

She's standing in front of an empty spacesuit. It's been ripped open. It resembles a dismembered deer, desiccated by webs, strung up by two strong threads of web, like something in a redneck's barn.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Tell me there wasn't anyone inside that thing.

THE DOCTOR

I could, but it wouldn't make it true.

CLARA's torch fails. She shakes it a little and can't get it to work. Puts it aside.

DUKE

...I'll get some power back on.

DUKE walks off. THE DOCTOR starts examining the spacesuit. Peering in, tootling with his sonic.

CLARA

You all right, Courtney?

COURTNEY

I'm okay.

CLARA

It's all right if you're not.

THE DOCTOR cuts through the web that holds up the suit. It drops heavily to the floor. Makes COURTNEY jump. He folds it up again, respectfully.

COURTNEY

I'm FINE!

(to THE DOCTOR)

What did it?

And then he's off again - taking readings, measurements.

THE DOCTOR

Maybe something trying to find out how you're put together. Maybe something wondering what you taste like.

COURTNEY

We got any guns?

LUNDVI K

Not unless you brought some.

COURTNEY

(patting her bag)
Just stuff to clean up with.

THE DOCTOR

... Chi cken, apparently.
(checking his sonic)
I'm getting a satellite reading he said they'd been knocked out -

LUNDVI K

Still some TV ones left. Low orbit. Mostly repeats of .

THE DOCTOR

Only three things in life are certain: death, taxes and Stephen Fry.

The lights come on, flickering one-by-one. Air starts to hiss in through the vents.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

(taking off his helmet) Save the air.

THE DOCTOR sits at the control panel, switches a few things. Finding his way around. The others remove their helmets.

CLARA notices something - she starts lifting her feet up and down -

He is scrolling through the records that the survey crew took.

THE DOCTOR

The Mexicans. They didn't find any minerals on the Mbon at all. Nada. (seeing something)
Ch...

CLARA (joining him)

THE DOCTOR has brought up some of the survey pictures that the crew took. They show parts of the Moon's surface from space - there are black lines snaking across the whole thing.

The others come to look.

THE DOCTOR

Lines of tectonic stress.

LUNDVI K

That's the . They've been there since the Apollo days. They've always been there.

THE DOCTOR

No, they haven't. These are much, much bigger.

He scrolls through different orbital pictures. Different parts of the Moon, each scored with black lines.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Sea of Tranquility. Sea of Nectar. Sea of Ingenuity. Sea of Crises.

A light flickers. Everyone glances up.

CLARA

Meaning -?

THE DOCTOR

(sitting back)
... Meaning that the Moon, Clara this little planetoid that's been
tagging along beside you for a
hundred million years, which gives
you light at night and seas to sail
- is in the process of falling to
bits.

A ground tremor. All the lights go off in rapid succession.

CUT TO:

HENRY walks back to the shuttle by the shade of a ridge of crags, singing softly to himself under his breath.

He keeps glancing to his side. Maybe there's something there, beside him in the shadows.

He unclips his torch, shines it into the shadows. Nothing doing.

His battery fails.

He peers into the darkness for a moment.

Then the ground trembles. He falls.

Recovers himself, flustered. Gets up. Heads away from the shadows.

St ops.

A crack snakes across the surface in front of him It's just opened up.

He thinks for a moment, then goes to the crack, kneels down, looks into the deep.

DOWN IN THE CRACK POVLeN-0.045 Tw (His batterak0RACK) Tj POVw (POVL5ce

LUNDVI K

Duke - is that you?

DUKE (ON WALKIE TALKIE) I don't sound anything like that.

LUNDVI K

Try and get the lights on -

DUKE (ON WALKI E-TALKI E)

That's what I am doing -

The sound again. COURTNEY tries to follow it with her phone.

THE DOCTOR

What ever it is, it's in here. (to LUNDVIK) Give us your torch.

He takes her torch - leads them through the room Stops dead.

At the end of the tunnel through which they came, shadowed by the light from the torch -

Several spindly, SPIDERY legs, crawling forward. Rising up, as if scenting the air.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

...I think we've found your alien. Back - back...

Follow them as they hurry through the association room looking over their shoulders. The scuttling sound is following them -

But as THE DOCTOR shines his light back, he can't pinpoint where THE CREATURE is -

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Anyone see any doors we can close?

CLARA

Here -

They hurry to a door leading to a passageway, off - THE DOCTOR chucks CLARA the torch - she scans behind them - the noise is scuttling around - still can't find what's making it.

THE DOCTOR tries the door - it's bolted across - the bolt's very stiff -

THE DOCTOR

Come on, help me -

LUNDVIK helps him slide it across. The door itself is cobwebbed and very hard to open - THE DOCTOR drags it as hard as he can -

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

C'mon, c'mon -

CLARA picks up some legs creeping towards them, climbing up the side of a storage locker -

CLARA

Doct or -

THE DOCTOR

Yes. Move round, move round -

They abandon the door, press themselves against the walls, and try to move carefully around the room, away from the CREATURE -

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

When I say run - run.

LUNDVI K

Who made you the boss?

THE DOCTOR

Ckay, you say run.

More legs. Everyone tenses themselves back against the walls.

DUKE

(ent er i ng)

Need to get to the solar stack -

CLARA's torch gets him He's entering from the other side of the room

LUNDVI K

Duke!

A flurry of movement as the CREATURE hurtles towards DUKE.

LUNDVIK (CONT'D)

DUKE!

But he's a gonner by the looks of it. The CREATURE knocks him out of sight, round a corner. The terrible sound of DUKE screaming, his space-suit being ripped open, his flesh and bone devoured.

One of the lights flickers back into life with a buzz. (It continues flickering on and off intermittently for the rest of the scene.) The door's electronic system cuts in - it swings open automatically and starts closing again.

THE DOCTOR

RUN!

THE DOCTOR, CLARA, COURTNEY and LUNDVIK turn.

They run towards the closing door. THE DOCTOR, CLARA and LUNDVIK get through.

But behind them, before she can reach the door, COURTNEY rises into the air, slowing, her legs kicking against nothing.

COURTNEY

M SS!

They turn - the door has closed. THE DOCTOR and CLARA peer through the window in the door.

COURTNEY is floating slowly up to the ceiling. Her bag floating beside her.

The others are held tightly to the floor by their boots.

CLARA

Courtney -!

THE DOCTOR

(trying to lift his boots
 clear of the floor)
The gravity's shifted!

CLARA

(trying to open the door) The power's gone again -

THE DOCTOR Looks around - Looks up - not hing.

With COURTNEY, floating up towards the ceiling, shining her phone towards where DUKE was. The noises of the killing have subsided. The scuttling has begun again.

COURTNEY

It's killed him.. Doctor - it's coming! It's coming in here -

On the other side of the wall, THE DOCTOR takes out his sonic, starts unscrewing the screws on the window in the door. Peers through. Peers up. COURTNEY is floating in midair, getting higher -

THE DOCTOR

You'll be okay -

THE DOCTOR half-glimpses the SPIDER CREATURE entering the room beyond, wielding its front legs.

LUNDVI K

(on her walkie-talkie) Henry - come in - Henry -!

Look at me, Courtney, look at mesee if you can get yourself to the wall, pull yourself down - LOOK AT ME!

The SPIDER CREATURE scales the opposite wall, starts slowly crawling towards the ceiling, upside down. (We still only see this in flashes of flickering light.) COURTNEY starts desperately trying to swim towards the door and THE DOCTOR.

THE DOCTOR works away, freeing the window panel.

COURTNEY

Doctor, my bum's not going to fit through there -

THE DOCTOR

Ch - stop talking about your bum
Humans and bums - if you think your
bum s too big why aren't you thin
then, like me - l'm so thin l'm not
HenavireDyOsufeDEageiepehl youaseum d3. her 2

The SPIDER CREATURE is in position above COURTNEY's head - despite her struggling, she's still rising higher, and higher - it scents her -

COURTNEY stop talking about bums!

THE DOCTOR started it.

He's detached the grille cover.

The SPIDER CREATURE starts grabbing for her -

THE DOCTOR flings out his hand, and his yo-yo bowls perTc -0.01 s0 1 90

(checking his sonic)
Did you say "germs"? Ch my God! CH
MY GOD - look at it! It's
incredible - it's the size of a
badger!

CLARA

Doct or -

THE DOCTOR

It's a prokaryotic, uni-cellular life-form with non-chromosomal DNA. And as you and me both know - no, maybe not you -

(to COURTNEY)

You - no -

(going over to LUNDVIK, who glances up at him)

You. Yeah. Scientist. As you and me know - that means - THIS-IS-A-GERM (to COURTNEY)

You flew because that 1.3 billion tonnes moved. It shifted. It's an unstable mass.

COURTNEY

(to CLARA) ...I'm scared, Miss.

CLARA

Ckay.

LUNDVI K

(to THE DOCTOR)

... He'd just had a grand-daughter. Elina. She was his first. He trained me. Taught me to fly. We both got sacked on the same day.

THE DOCTOR

(to LUNDVIK) Which way to the

?

COURTNEY

Please can I go home now? ... I'm really sorry. I'd like to go home.

THE DOCTOR and LUNDVIK look at her, irritated.

CUT TO:

15 EXT. LUNAR SURFACE - DAY

THE DOCTOR, CLARA, COURTNEY and LUNDVIK are out on the surface again, walking back to the shuttle.

(CONTINUED)

15

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

...Just now, I can't tell what happens to the Moon - because what ever happens to the Moon hasn't been decided yet. It's going to be decided here and now. Which very much sounds as though it's up to

LUNDVI K

Neither of you's going anywhere.

CLARA and THE DOCTOR turn and look at her. She's finishing up priming the bombs. Each of them glows with a little red light.

LUNDVIK (CONT'D)

I've lost my crew. We were the last astronauts, this is the last shuttle, those are the last nuclear bombs. We're the last chance for the Earth and you're staying to

The wreckage of an excavation site - arc lamps, drills, stuff with logos - is strewn around the edges of:

A huge, deep, chasm stretching across the lunar surface as far as the eye can see. It looks like the Moon is nearly split in half.

They take this in. LUNDVIK is especially horrified by it she knows the implications.

CLARA

How can the Moon die, though?

THE DOCTOR

Everything does. Sooner or later.

LUNDVI K

... Can we save it?

THE DOCTOR

Depends what's killing it.

They take the sight in for a few moments.

LUNDVI K

... There's the other three.

Below them, amongst the wreckage, are three spacesuits. Two of them are ripped apart, and spreadeagled on the surface.

The third is hanging on to the edge of the crack by its gauntlets - drag marks on the surface seem to indicate that it was pulled there, and whoever was inside it was hanging on to the ground for dear life.

THE DOCTOR, CLARA and LUNDVIK climb down towards the crack. They are in the shadow cast by a large rock.

CLARA

Is it those germ things, then? Are they like cockroaches? Is it an infestation?

THE DOCTOR checks the first couple of spacesuits.

LUNDVI K

Is it?

He heads for the last one - the one clinging on to the edge of the crack. Kneels down, peers at it. Lifts the visor.

THE DOCTOR

...I've only seen one of them so far. There'd have to be an awful lot more to cause the Moon to put on 1.3 billion tonnes.

Suddenly, the space suit jumps. THE DOCTOR recoils.

A SPI DER-GERM appears in the head.

It scuttles out and onto THE DOCTOR, trying to get in at him through his visor, like a face-sucker.

CLARA tries to spray the SPI DER-GERM, but nothing comes out -

LUNDVI K

It's a vacuum - it won't work -!

They try to drag the SPI DER-GERM away from THE DOCTOR's head. They tumble over in their effort, and fall out of the shadowed area and into direct sunlight again.

The SPI DER-GERM smoulders a little, detaches itself, and scuttles back into the shade.

THE DOCTOR I eans back. Exhal es.

THE DOCTOR

Well. That makes two of them

CLARA

Sunl i ght.

LUNDVI K

Sunl i ght?

CLARA

If they're germs. My Nan says it's the best disinfectant there is.

He walks up to the edge of the crack, peers down.

THE DOCTOR

Shine your torch down there -

LUNDVIK unclips her torch. Shines it in.

Down there, the sides of the crack seethes with SPI DER-GERMS, scuttling up at them - stopping as they come to the light.

LUNDVI K

Where have they come from?

THE DOCTOR

They've probably been down there all this time. It's warm Ish. They've been multiplying, feeding. Evolving.

He peers down into the crack. Stamps on the ground a couple of times. Thinks. Lays flat against the surface, feels it -bats away a couple of SPI DER-GERM legs -

LUNDVIK (cradling the briefcase) So we drop the bombs down there? Set them off?

LUNDVI K

I think that's what they're asking themselves at the moment. Maybe they just couldn't be bothered. Maybe they were scared. Maybe they just preferred to take pictures of things rather than doing them

COURTNEY thinks for a moment.

COURTNEY

... What's it like when you go back down?

LUNDVI K

To Earth?

COURTNEY brings up an image of her phone, of the Earth, peeping over the lunar horizon, rising. Considers it.

COURTNEY

Yeah. I mean, after you've been up here. I mean - it changes stuff, yeah? Like - that there is . Every moment of my life, my Mum and Dad's life - every moment that led up to me - being who I am - and, like, I can hold it in my hand. Doesn't going back there - just make you feel like - nothing?

LUNDVI K

No. It's back down there makes you feel like nothing. Makes you feel like nothing that there've been eight een men up here and no women.

COURTNEY

But, like - yeah, this is what I mean - see I've done this before, okay... And I went back, and everything's still the same. Home. School. What ever trouble I was in. I mean - I've only been away from school about an hour. They're having double geography now in 2014. And when I get back, it'll all be the same - I'll just be nothing special -

LUNDVI K

Yeah. Well, no-one said life's easy, did they? It's not anybody's right to be special just like that. If I were you, I'd stop whinging and do something about it.

A ground tremor. We stop cutting back to the TARDIS.

CLARA

Hey -!

(to COURTNEY)

We're coming over to see you, okay?
You know - you'll work all these
things out. All right?
(no reply)
Court ney?

Static from the walkie-talkie. Another, bigger ground tremor.

HENRY's deserted space-suit rolls down the rocky ridge beside them and lands at their feet.

LUNDVI K

Ch... There he is...

CLARA

Courtney -?!

CLARA hurries up to the edge of the ridge, where their footprints lead.

CLARA (CONT'D)

This the way we came?

LUNDVI K

They aren't anyone else's foot prints, are they?

CLARA

wasn't there before. Was it?

LUNDVIK comes to join her.

Down ahead of them, where their footprints lead, a large chasm has emerged on the lunar surface. Steam rises vaguely from it.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Was that where we landed?! (jabbing her walkietalkie)

Courtney?! COURTNEY!

CUT TO:

20 EXT. LANDING SPOT - DAY

20

LUNDVIK and CLARA hurry to the landing spot.

In the chasmin

LUNDVIK tries to make her way to it, stepping gingerly on fragile pieces of rock.

LUNDVI K

It's going!

CLARA

COURTNEY!

A ground tremor. LUNDVIK stumbles. CLARA manages to grab her before she falls in after the shuttle.

CLARA peers down into the crack, desperate.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Ch. God -

(trying her walkie-talkie)

Doct or - DOCTOR -

LUNDVIK kneels, opens the detonator case. Starts tapping stuff into it.

LUNDVI K

We need to get under cover. Our oxygen's running out.

With LUNDVIK - the detonator screen flashes. SEARCHING...

CLARA

Doct or -!

LUNDVIK's display reads - FOUND DEVICES - 100 - IN RANGE...

LUNDVI K

Oh, thank God for that -!

CLARA

(turning)

Thank God for what?

LUNDVI K

I'm gonna have to detonate those bombs.

Something bursts out of the chasm nearby them with a groan.

They I ook up.

It's THE DOCTOR. He stands there, dripping with albumen. Looks at them

THE DOCTOR

...I think it's make-your-mind-up time.

CUT TO:

21 <u>INT. INTERNATIONAL MOONBASE - DAY</u>

THE DOCTOR, CLARA and LUNDVIK enter. THE DOCTOR locks the door carefully after them The others start taking off their helmets.

CLARA

Where's the TARDIS?

THE DOCTOR

In the shuttle, isn't she? She'll turn up.

CLARA

Last time she did that, she turned up on the wrong side of the planet!

THE DOCTOR

You two have never gotten on, have you?

CLARA

We need to know where Courtney is!

THE DOCTOR

Courtney's safe.

(tuts)

You got her phone number?

CLARA

Of course I haven't got her phone number!

THE DOCTOR

Can you call the school - will the secretary have it?

CLARA

The secretary hates me - she thinks I gave her a packet of Tena-Lady for secret Santa. Courtney's posting stuff on Tumblr - doesn't that know where you are?

LUNDVI K

I don't know, I'm not an historian -

THE DOCTOR

(to CLARA)

Phone -

He sonics it -

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I know what the problem is (checking CLARA's phone)
Why is she posting that? She can't put pictures of online -!

(CONTINUED)

35.

21

He turns, clicks his sonic at a screen on the wall. A FACE-TIME screen, or some such. COURTNEY appears, fit and well, as seen through her phone camera (and stays there) -

COURTNEY

Yeah?

THE DOCTOR

(to COURTNEY)

You can't put pictures of me online!

CLARA

Are you okay?

COURTNEY

I'm fine. What's up?

LUNDVI K

You said you know what the problem is -

THE DOCTOR

Yes.

He looks out across the lunar surface. There are several new cracks appearing.

Then turns. Looks at them for a few moments.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

It's rather - a big problem

CLARA

...D' you want to share it with the class?

THE DOCTOR

I had a wee hypothesis. Seismic activity - the surface breaking up - the variable mass, increased gravity - fluid - I scanned what's down there...

THE DOCTOR switches his sonic, starts projecting something holographically into the centre of the room - it starts swimming into focus, something round, planet-shaped...

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

... The Moon is not breaking apart. Or rather, it breaking apart - quickly - in fact, it's got about an hour and a half left - but it's not been infested. That isn't the problem

COURTNEY

What are they, then, those things?

THE DOCTOR

Tiny, tiny bacteria. Living on something very, very big. Something which weighs about 1.3 billion tonnes. Something alive. Something growing.

CLARA

Growing?

THE DOCTOR

COURTNEY peers out of the screen. The others gather round the projection, which has focused. It shows an ultrasound scan of the area beneath them Indistinct bumps and lines, then something coming into perspective: a large something hanging there, moving, flexing. Something like a curled-up snake something that doesn't look particularly cuddly.

COURTNEY
lives under the Moon?

THE DOCTOR

No.

CLARA

What?

THE DOCTOR

It doesn't under the Moon. It the Moon.

LUNDVI K

What the hell are you talking about?

THE DOCTOR

The Moon isn't breaking apart. (looks up at them)...It's hatching.

CLARA

Eh?

THE DOCTOR

... The Moon is an

Pause. CLARA, COURTNEY and LUNDVIK stare at him for a moment. Then look at each other. Then look back to the projection, awestrur6E62a moP5.04 185.52 Tm - 0.195 r6i Tj 1 0 0 1 396.96 185.527L4i

THE DOCTOR

For a hundred million years or so. Growing. Getting ready to be born.

CLARA

The Moon's

been the Moon?

THE DOCTOR

It's never been dead. It's just been taking its time to come alive.

COURTNEY

... Is it a chicken?

THE DOCTOR

No.

COURTNEY

I was gonna say. Cause for a chicken to have laid an egg that big -

THE DOCTOR

It's not a chicken, Courtney, don't spoil the moment.

CLARA

What is it?

THE DOCTOR

... I think it might be unique. I think it might the only one of its kind in the universe. I think it's rather beautiful.

LUNDVIK, who has been standing behind them pipes up gravely:

LUNDVI K

... How do we kill it?

They turn to look at her. Pause.

CLARA

Why d'you want to kill it?

COURTNEY

It's a little baby.

LUNDVI K

Doctor. How do we kill it?

They look at the projection again. Pause.

THE DOCTOR

Kill the Moon?

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

... Well - you've got a hundred of the best man-made nuclear bombs. If they still work. If that's what you want.

CLARA

Doct or -!

LUNDVI K

You think they'll do it?

THE DOCTOR

If you set off a hundred nuclear bombs right where they are - right on top of a living, vulnerable creature - it's never gonna feel the sun on its back.

LUNDVI K

Then what? ... Would the Moon still break up? You said we've got an hour and a half -

THE DOCTOR

There'd be nothing to make it break up. Nothing trying to force its way out. The gravity of the dead little baby'd pull all the pieces back again. 'Course, it wouldn't be so pretty to look at. You'd have an enormous corpse floating in the sky. You'd have to have some pretty difficult conversations with your kids.

LUNDVI K

(lifting the detonator, powering it up)
I don't have any kids -

CLARA

Stop. Come on - this is a

LUNDVI K

Let me tell you something.
(to COURTNEY)
You wanna know what I took back
from being in space (turns them to the window)
Look! You see the edge of the
Earth? The atmosphere? That's
- that's the only thing that
keeps us all from death. Everything
around it - all the stars, the
blackness - that's dead. Sadly,

is the only life that any of us will ever know. Okay?

COURTNEY

But there's life . There's life just next door.

LUNDVI K

... When you've grown up a bit, you'll realise that life doesn't have to be nice. Some things are just bad. Besides, it's none of your business. You ran away.

The display on the detonator - ENTER ACCESS CODE -

LUNDVIK keys in the numbers. CODE ACCEPTED - SET COUNTDOWN -

COURTNEY

Doct or - I wanna come back -

CLARA

Courtney - you'll be safer where you are -

COURTNEY

Doctor - I'm sorry. This is important. I wanna come back, okay. I wanna help.

THE DOCTOR

... Box of DVDs on the blue bookshelf. Shove one in the console. They'll bring you to me.

COURTNEY

Right.

THE DOCTOR

Well done. Hold on to the console, though, or the TARDIS'll leave you behind.

CUT TO:

Come on - hey!

THE DOCTOR

... There are moments in the history of every civilisation which define the whole path that civilisation will take. What ever future humanity might have depends on the choice that is made here, now. ... You've got the tools to kill it. You made them and you brought them here all by yourselves by your own ingenuity. You don't need a Time Lord. Kill it or let it live. I can't make this decision for you.

CLARA

can't make it!

THE DOCTOR

There's two of you here.

CLARA

A school teacher and an astronaut!

THE DOCTOR

Who's better qualified?

CLARA

The President of America?!

THE DOCTOR

Ch, take something off his plate. He makes far too many decisions anyway.

LUNDVI K

She.

THE DOCTOR

She. Sorry. She's never even been to another planet. How'd she know what to do?

CLARA

I'm asking you for help!

THE DOCTOR

Listen, you and me went for dinner in Berlin, 1937. We didn't nip out after pudding and kill Hitler. I've never killed Hitler. You wouldn't expect me to kill Hitler. The future isn't any more malleable than the past.

CLARA's POV: a crack opens up in front of the Moonbase. Spreads. Dozens of smaller cracks snake off from it.

CUT TO:

25 INT. MOONBASE - SAME TIME - DAY

25

LUNDVIK comes up behind CLARA. Watches for a moment. CLARA feels like she's been kicked in the stomach.

LUNDVI K

We're detonating those bombs, agreed?

The other two don't move.

LUNDVIK (CONT'D)

Agr eed?

Suddenly, a vast new tremor.

Outside, the crack opens wider, and the end of some SPI DERY feelers creep out and begin flailing around.

As it snakes further out, it sends a crack snaking out towards the Moonbase.

LUNDVIK (CONT'D)

Get your helmets on!

The chasm hits. One of the corridors buckles and the air hisses out. LUNDVIK, COURTNEY and CLARA are sucked down towards the breach along with other debris.

A table flies past them and wedges in the breach, stopping the air escaping.

Gaping and gasping for air, they stagger back to the main room, helping one another to get past the door.

The table is cracking and buckling.

LUNDVI K

...If we let it live... what would happen if the Mbon wasn't there?

LUNDVI K

We haven't got for this!

CLARA

... We're discussing it! What would happen if the Mbon wasn't there?

COURTNEY takes something out of her school bag.

COURTNEY

I've got my physics book... There's a thing about gravity -

LUNDVI K

Super. Is there a wordsearch?!

CLARA

... There wouldn't be any tides. We'd survive that, right? It's knocked the satellites out. No internet, no mobiles. I'm fine with that.

LUNDVI K

It's not gonna just - stop being there! ... Because inside the Mbon, Mss, is a gigantic creature, forcing its way out. And when it gets out, which is gonna be pretty damn soon, there'll be huge chunks of Mbon heading right for us, like what ever killed the dinosaurs, only about ten thousand times bigger -

CLARA

The Moon isn't rock and stone, though - it's eggshell -

LUNDVI K

Come on! ... Okay, fine. If by some miracle the shell isn't too thick, if it disperses or goes into orbit round us, or what ever - we're still left with a massive there, that's just popped out! And what the hell d'you i magine it is?

COURTNEY

Loads of things lay eggs.

LUNDVI K

It's a chicken!

COURTNEY

I'm not saying it's a chicken - I'm not completely stupid -

LUNDVI K

It's an exo-parasite!

COURTNEY

A what?

LUNDVI K

Like a flea. Or a head-louse. Think about it. Whatever laid it - its Mum - laid it in the temperate zone of the Sun. The Goldilocks zone. Not too warm, not too cold. Next to a planet with lots of life. That could feed it once it hatched. That's how nature works, sweetheart. And I don't want to be food for the Mbon!

CLARA

I'm gonna have to be a lot more certain than that if I'm going to kill a baby.

LUNDVI K

You wanna talk about babies? You must have babies down there, right now. You wanna have babies?

CLARA

What? Well - I - yeah -

COURTNEY

Mr Pi-ink.

CLARA

Ssh.

LUNDVI K

I magine you've got children down there on the Earth now.

Grandchildren, maybe. You want this thing to get out? Kill your whole family? You want today to be the day life on Earth stopped because you couldn't make an unfair decision? don't want to do this.

My whole life l've dreamed about coming here. But this is how it has to end.

LUNDVIK hits the count down button. It starts, blares into life with a screeching siren.

COURTNEY

Q: !

LUNDVI K

I've given us an hour. There's a cut-out here. If anyone has any bright ideas - if comes back - that stops it. Once it's pressed, though - it stays pressed.

CLARA

(softly)

If he doesn't come back...?

LUNDVI K

... I wasn't expecting to survive anyway.

COURTNEY and CLARA Look at one another.

COURTNEY

He's gonna come back, though, isn't he, Mss?

CLARA

Why don't you call me Clara?

COURTNEY

... Prefer to call you Mss, Mss. We just have to make up our minds, that's all.

CLARA Looks at her. She isn't so sure.

COURTNEY (CONT'D)

Well - know him

CLARA

...I think he really might just be leaving it to us.

A murmur of static from the control panel. A voice splutters through:

MCKEAN (ON SPEAKER)

Come in. Anyone hear me? Come in please...

LUNDVIK goes to answer. MCKEAN's face in a white fog of interference on the screen. He's about 45. He's LUNDVIK's mission-controller.

LUNDVI K

Lundvi k.

MCKEAN

This is ground control.

LUNDVIK Yeah, I can tell by your hair-cut. ... How are things down there?

MCKEAN
...Pretty bad.
etty bad.

Hello, Earth.

CUT TO:

28 EXT. LUNAR SURFACE - DAY

28

Earth turns in the sky. The surface of the Moon is now scored with cracks and fissures. Another tremor of the ground.

CLARA (V.O.)

We have a terrible decision to make. It's an uncertain decision and we don't have a lot of time. The man... who normally helps - he's gone. Maybe he's not coming back. In fact, I really don't think he is. We're on our own. ... So - an innocent life versus the future of all mankind. ... And we have forty-five minutes to choose.

And the SPI DER-CREATURES start to swarm up from the cracks, gingerly feeling their way...

CUT TO:

29 <u>INT. INTERNATIONAL MOONBASE - DAY / EXT. LUNAR SURFACE - DAY 29</u> / CGI - THE EARTH IN SPACE - DAY/NIGHT

The Count down. 43.43 seconds and counting. CLARA broadcasting to the world. COURTNEY and LUNDVIK watching.

CLARA

We can kill this creature. Or we can let it live. We don't know what it's going to do. We don't know what's going to happen when it hat ches. If it'll hurt us, or help us, or just leave us alone. We have to decide together. This is the last time we'll be able to speak to you. But you can send us a message... If you think we should kill the creature, turn your lights off. If you think we should take the chance - let it live - leave your lights on. We'll be able to see. Goodnight Earth.

The reception bars slowly dwindle away to nothing. The screen fuzzes over. CLARA switches it off.

Looks up at COURTNEY.



The ground shakes.

CLARA Come on, then. Let's see.

COURTNEY, LUNDVIK (carrying the detonator) and CLARA walk through the Moonbase, through the tremors and the explosions and the falling debris, to the observation bay, grabbing binoculars from a rack on the wall.

Across the lunar surface, Earth rotates in space. The lights of its continents twinkling orange.

Silence for a moment. The Moon seems to calm They stand there, watching, each holding their binoculars.

Across the continents, the lights go off, block by block, country by country, continent by continent.

As the Earth turns, the countdown continues, merging with the planet, showing us the time it takes for the world to make its decision. 40 mins. 32 mins. 18mins. 5mins.

The last country turns its lights out.

Slowly, Earth disappears behind the horizon. The surface dims.

COURTNEY

Night, night.

SPI DER GERVS begin to crawl out of the cracks in the Moon's surface.

COURTNEY, CLARA and LUNDVIK look down to the instrument panel.

12 SECONDS. yVIK loupown once its decis-L Tw (its decis- to o6ocsi.19ns0

COURTNEY

What's it doing?

THE DOCTOR

Feeling the sun on itself. Getting warm

Slowly, the wings begin to beat. A flurry of confusion and colour, filling the whole sky. Then it's gone, overhead.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Now it's flying away.

CLARA

Did you

?

THE DOCTOR

You made the decision. Humanity made its choice.

LUNDVI K

We

humani ty!

THE DOCTOR

Well, there y'go.

LUNDVI K

What happens now? Tell me what happens now!

THE DOCTOR closes his eyes, steps forward towards the sea. Frowns - twitches - expressions flit across his face. He's reading the future.

THE DOCTOR

It warms itself by the sun for couple of years, then tootles off.... Does what ever it needs to do. The bits of Moon disperse, just being eggshell - and - everything is generally fine.

LUNDVI K

I honestly don't know why you couldn't've said that an hour ago!

THE DOCTOR

I didn't know an hour ago.

He starts looking further and further, seeing Time join up, re-connect.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

...In the mid-twenty-first century, humankind started creeping off into the stars.

(MORE)

Spread its way through the galaxy, to the very edges of the universe and humankind endured until the end of time. And it did that because one day, in the year 2049, when it'd stopped thinking of going to the stars, something occurred to make it look up. Not down. It looked out there, into the blackness, and it saw something beautiful. Something wonderful. That for once, it didn't destroy. And in that one moment, the whole course of history changed. (to Courtney)

Not bad for a girl from Coal Hill School. And her teacher.

He turns back to them Opens his eyes. Moves aside.

Behind him, light strikes an object in the sky.

Slowly, creeping over its surface, bringing it into brightness.

It's a perfect disc - unblemished, like polished white marble, gleaming brightly. It radiates new aurae off itself. It's like a small, white sun.

COURTNEY

It laid a new egg! ... Oh my God - it's beautiful. Doctor - it's beautiful.

THE DOCTOR

It's what's known as a new moon.

COURTNEY

(to LUNDVIK)

You can be the first Woman on that.

THE DOCTOR

...I think someone deserves a thank you.

LUNDVI K

... Yeah. Probably.

LUNDVIK thinks for a moment. Her cynicisl. 6 Tc 0.005 Tw (m..red74hky)

*m . . r ed7

CLARA (CONT'D)

Tell me what you knew!

THE DOCTOR

... Not hing. I told you - I have grey areas.

CLARA

Yeah, I noticed. Tell me what you knew, Doctor, else I'll smack you so hard you'll regenerate!

THE DOCTOR

... I knew that eggs are not bombs. I know they don't usually destroy their nests. Essentially, what I knew is that you'd always make the best choice. I had faith you'd always make the right choice.

CLARA

Honestly, do you have music playing in your head when you say rubbish like that?

THE DOCTOR

It wasn't my decision to make. I told you.

CLARA

D'you do it for Courtney, was that it? Did you know she'd -

THE DOCTOR

She pretty dam special now. First woman on the Mbon - saved the Earth from itself - rather bizarrely, she also becomes President of the United States - y'see, she marries a feller called Blinovitch -

CLARA

Oh, shut up. I'm sick of listening to you.

THE DOCTOR

I didn't do it for her. I didn't know what was going to happen. You think I'm I ying?

CLARA

...I dunno. I mean - if you do it for her - uh - either way, it was pathetic. It wasNo - it was patronising.

(MORE)

That was you patting us on the head and saying, "Ch, you're big enough to go to the shops by yourself now-well done - toddle along..."

THE DOCTOR

That was me allowing you to make a choice about your own future. That was me you -

CLARA

My God, was it? Well, that's - respected is really not how I feel -

THE DOCTOR

Right, okay -

CLARA

I nearly didn't press that button - I nearly got it wrong - that was , my friend, making scared, making me feel like a bloody idiot -

Clear off, then! Do us a favour. Get in your bloody lonely little TARDIS and don't come back!

THE DOCTOR

Clara - CLARA -

She turns, walks out.

CLARA

Go away. Okay? Go a long way away.

She's gone. THE DOCTOR thinks for a moment. Then turns to the console.

CUT TO:

35 <u>INT. COAL HILL. STORE CUPBOARD - SAME TIME - DAY</u>

35

The TARDIS dematerialises.

CLARA turns, watches it go.

CUT TO:

36 INT. COAL HILL. CLARA'S CLASSROOM - DAY

36

CLARA returns to her desk. Afternoon breaktime is happening outside. She picks up some papers that blew off her desk.

DANNY arrives at the door.

DANNY

Hello.

CLARA

Now then.

DANNY

What've you been up to?

CLARA

... The usual.

Danny looks at her. Questioningly.

DANNY

It happened, didn't it?

CLARA

... He - di dn' t do anyt hi ng. Not hi ng.

36

DANNY

... You don't have to obey a man you don't agree with, Clara. Leave the army. Be a teacher instead.

*

CLARA

*

DANNY

Think about it. Tell me.

DANNY Leaves. CLARA considers this.

CUT TO:

37 <u>INT. CLARA'S FLAT - NIGHT</u>

Danny -

37

OLARA lets herself in. She carries shopping bags. Dumps them in the kitchen.

Opens a bottle of wine, pours herself a glass. Takes her marking out of her school bag. Leafs through it.

Coes to the window. Looks out. The Moon is in the sky.

She looks at it for a long moment.

She draws the curtains. Sits down.

CREDITS