

DOCTOR WHO 4

Episode 2

By

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Shooting Script

1 CONTINUED:

1

DONNA (CONT'D)

Like, 'veni vidi vici', my Dad says that when he comes back from the football, if I said 'veni vidi vici' to that lot, what would it sound like?

THE DOCTOR

Um... I'm not sure. Have to think of difficult questions, don't you?

DONNA

I'm gonna try it...

Goes up to a STALLHOLDER, a cheery Cockney, selling fruit.

STALLHOLDER

Afternoon sweetheart, what can I get you, my love?

DONNA

Veni vidi vici!

STALLHOLDER

(like she's dumb)

Ah. Sorry. Me no speak Celtic. No can do, missy.

DONNA

Yeah...

(back to the Doctor)

How's he mean, Celtic?

THE DOCTOR

Welsh. You sound Welsh. There we are, I've learnt something.

As they stroll away -

CUT TO A SOOTHSAYER, good distance away. Woman, 20s, in robes, face painted white, with strange patterns. Part-witch, part-priestess. She's hiding in the shadows of a doorway, staring at the new arrivals.

And she keeps to the shadows, as she follows them...

CUT TO:

2 EXT. POMPEII STREET - DAY

2

THE DOCTOR & DONNA walking along.

Throughout: a good distance away, the SOOTHSAYER follows.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

DONNA

Don't our clothes look a bit odd?

THE DOCTOR

Naaah, Ancient Rome, anything goes.
It's like Soho, but bigger.

DONNA

Have you been here before, then?

THE DOCTOR

Ages ago. And before you ask, that fire
had nothing to do with me, well, not
very much, well, a little bit, well...
But I never
got the chance to look around properly!
The Colosseum! The Pantheon! The
Circus Maximus! Although... you'd
expect them to be looming by now, where
is everything? Let's try this way...

They turn a corner. Stop.

FX: in the distance, a MOUNTAIN.

DONNA

I'm not an expert, but there's Seven
Hills of Rome, aren't there? How come
they've only got one?

And then everything starts to shake...

They look round, PEOPLE run for cover under doorways -
but smiling, one man calling to another, 'here we go
again!'

FX: SMOKE billows out of the top of the mountain.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Wait a minute. One mountain. With
smoke. Which makes this...

THE DOCTOR

Pompeii. We're in Pompeii. It's
volcano day!

CUT TO TITLES

3 EXT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - DAY

3

THE SOOTHSAYER runs towards THE TEMPLE OF SIBYL.

CUT TO:

6 CONTINUED:

6

DONNA

Oy! Don't get clever in Latin!

The Doctor runs across to the STALLHOLDER.

THE DOCTOR

'Scuse me, there was a box, big blue box, big blue wooden box, just over there, where's it gone?

STALLHOLDER

I sold it.

THE DOCTOR

But... It wasn't yours to sell!

STALLHOLDER

It was on my patch, I got fifteen sestertii, lovely jubbly.

*

THE DOCTOR

Who did you sell it to?

STALLHOLDER

Old Caecilius, if you want to argue, take it out with him, he's on Foss Street, big villa, can't miss it -

THE DOCTOR

(runs off)

- thanks -

(runs back)

But what did he buy a big blue wooden box

CUT TO:

7 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - DAY

7

CU CAECILIUS, beaming.

CAECILIUS

Modern art!

Standing back: THREE SLAVES have just shoved the TARDIS into a corner, Caecilius stands back to admire it; he's 45, smiling, optimistic. His wife METALLA is all coiffed and shrewish; daughter EVELINA, 17, innocent, watches.

(This is an open-plan villa, an atrium & living-room-area leading off to bedrooms. Everywhere, there are grilles in the floor, the hypocaust, issuing low-level steam.)

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (3)

7

7 CONTINUED: (4)

7

The POV rises up, getting closer to her...

FX: REVERSE, a glimpse of a CREATURE deep down in the shaft, in the dark, a stony face with burning eyes...

Closer on Evelina...

Who suddenly starts awake!

Below, the POV withdraws, fast, goes deep into the ground...

Evelina puts her face to the grille. Whispers.

EVELINA

Who are you..?

CUT TO:

8 EXT. POMPEII STREET - DAY

8

8 CONTINUED:

8

DONNA

9 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - DAY

9

SPURRINA has her hands up to her eyes. An EYE drawn on the back of each hand; this is their psychic communication.

SPURRINA

Then he is a stranger to Pompeii. Soon, he will learn.

She lowers her hands, alerted by -

THALINA

We have found it, Sister Spurrina.

THALINA, 30s, the SECOND HIGH PRIESTESS, sits with the THIRD. Spurrina goes to her; Thalina has an ancient scroll.

THALINA (CONT'D)

In the Thirteenth Book of the Sibylline Oracles. The blue box.

Unscrolling, revealing a crude drawing of the Tardis.

THALINA (CONT'D)

And yet, the Sibyl foretold that the box would appear at the time of storms and fire and betrayal.

9

CONTINUED:

9

HIGH PRIESTESS

This is a new age. Heed my words. I
predict a future of prosperity and

10 CONTINUED: (2)

10

CAECILIUS

I only bought it today.

THE DOCTOR

Ah well. Caveat emptor.

CAECILIUS

Oh, you're Celtic.

(Welsh accent)

There's lovely.

THE DOCTOR

I'm sure it's fine, but I might have to take it off your hands, for a proper inspection.

DONNA

Although, while we're here, wouldn't you recommend a holiday, Spartacus?

THE DOCTOR

10 CONTINUED: (4)

10

LUCIUS

The birds are flying north, and the wind is in the west.

CAECILIUS

Quite. Absolutely! And that's good, is it?

LUCIUS

Only the grain of wheat knows where it will grow.

CAECILIUS

There now, Metella, have you ever heard such wisdom?

METELLA

Never! It's an honour!

CAECILIUS

Pardon me, sir, I have guests, this is Spartacus and Spartacus.

Lucius regards the Doctor, haughty. A verbal battle:

LUCIUS

A name is but a cloud upon the summer wind.

THE DOCTOR

But the wind is felt most keenly, in the dark.

LUCIUS

Ah! But what is the dark, other than an omen of the sun?

THE DOCTOR

(as though defeated)

I concede that every sun must set...

LUCIUS

(victory!)

Hah!

THE DOCTOR

...and yet the son of the father must also rise.

LUCIUS

(defeated)

Damn! Very clever, sir. Evidently, a man of learning.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (5)

10

THE DOCTOR

Oh yes. But don't mind me, I don't want to disturb the status quo -

CAECILIUS

He's Celtic -

THE DOCTOR

- we'll be off in a minute.

The Doctor crosses to the Tardis, surreptitiously getting the key out. Donna following, but grim. Caecilius in b/g, leading Lucius to a plinth, topped by an object underneath a red cloth, but on the Doctor & Donna sotto -

DONNA

I'm not going.

THE DOCTOR

You've got to.

DONNA

I'm not.

THE DOCTOR

I'm sorry, but there's nothing that could make me stay... Oh.

CAECILIUS

But it's ready sir! All complete! My workmen have been toiling like Iberians. And I'll accept no payment, of course, it's my honour and privilege. The moment of revelation! And here it is - !

On Caecilius's 'Here it is!' , he whips the cloth away -

It's a 2ft x 2ft MARBLE SQUARE. Carved with right-angled patterns, exactly like a modern circuit board.

CAECILIUS (CONT'D)

Exactly as you specified. It pleases you, sir?

LUCIUS

As the rain pleases the soil.

The Doctor walking over, fascinated.

THE DOCTOR

Now that's... different. Who designed that, then?

CAECILIUS

My Lord Lucius was very specific.

THE DOCTOR

Where did you get the pattern?

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (6)

10

LUCIUS

On the wind and mist and rain.

DONNA

But that looks like a circuit.

THE DOCTOR

Made of stone.

DONNA

Like a silicon chip, silicon's stone.

(to Lucius)

D'you mean you just dreamt that thing up?

*

LUCIUS

That is my job. As City Augur.

DONNA

What's that then, like the Mayor?

THE DOCTOR

You must excuse my friend. She's from Barcelona. But this is an age of superstition,

10 CONTINUED: (7)

10

METELLA

I'm sorry, my daughter's been consuming
the vapours -

QUINTUS

By all the Gods, mother, what are you
doing to her?

CAECILIUS

Not now, thank you Quintus -

QUINTUS

But she's sick, just look at her!

LUCIUS

I gather I have a rival in this
household. Another, with the gift.

METELLA

Oh she's been promised to the Sibylline
Sisterhood, they say she has remarkable
visions -

LUCIUS

The prophecies of women are limited and
dull, only the menfolk have the capacity
for true perception.

DONNA

I'll tell you where the wind's blowing
right now, mate.

A rumble, a low shake, which continues under:

LUCIUS

The Mountain God marks your words. I'd
be careful, if I were you.

But the Doctor fascinated by Evelina:

THE DOCTOR

Consuming the vapours, you said..?

EVELINA

They give me strength.

THE DOCTOR

10 CONTINUED: (8)

10

EVELINA

Doctor... That's your name.

THE DOCTOR

How did you know that?

Evelina staring; the thunder rumbling, room shaking a little, building up the intensity. At Donna:

EVELINA

And you... you call yourself Noble.

METELLA

Now then, Evelina, don't be rude -

THE DOCTOR

No, let her talk -

EVELINA

You both come from so far away.

LUCIUS

The female soothsayer is inclined to invent all sorts of vagaries -

THE DOCTOR

Oh, not this time, Lucius, I reckon you've been out-soothsayed -

LUCIUS

Is that so, man from Gallifrey?

THE DOCTOR

Both Evelina and Lucius staring; the sound of the volcano rumbling. The Doctor glances round; stronger steam from the grilles; the , the whole room terrifying, now.

LUCIUS

The strangest of images. Your home is lost in fire, is it not?

DONNA

Doctor, what are they doing?

LUCIUS

...and you, daughter of... London.

DONNA

(scared)

How does he know that?

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

METELLA

An irritation of the skin. She never complains, bless her. We bathe it in olive oil every night...

Bandage off. Evelina's arm is grey and somehow .

DONNA

What is it..?

METELLA

Evelina said you'd come from far away. Please... Have you ever seen anything like it?

From the arm, Donna's picked up tiny flakes between her fingertips, holds them up. Stares.

DONNA

...it's stone.

CUT TO:

12 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

12

POV FROM BELOW THE GRILLE, THE DOCTOR heaving at it -

And yanking it free! CAECILIUS with him, nervous, holding an oil lamp as illumination, as the Doctor peers down into the shaft, tests it with the sonic.

THE DOCTOR

Different sort of hypocaust!

CAECILIUS

Oh, we're very advanced, in Pompeii! In Rome, they're still using the old wood-burning furnaces. But we've got hot springs, leading from Vesuvius itself!

THE DOCTOR

Who thought of that?

CAECILIUS

The soothsayers. After the great earthquake, 17 years ago, awful lot of damage. But we rebuilt!

THE DOCTOR

Didn't you think of moving away? No, then again, San Francisco.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

CAECILIUS

(Welsh)

Look you.

THE DOCTOR

...they're all consuming... this.

The Doctor holds up the lamp.

In the light, SPECKS OF DUST in the air. Both entranced.

CAECILIUS

Dust.

THE DOCTOR

Tiny particles of rock. They're
breathing in Vesuvius.

CUT TO:

13 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

13

The villa dark and silent; THE DOCTOR sits near the grille, with a PIECE OF ROCK in his hand, deep in thought. DONNA comes and joins him. Nice little smile for each other, old friends. Pause, then quiet, a bit weary:

DONNA

Seventeen years old. And her arm is
turning to stone.

THE DOCTOR

All the soothsayers of Old Pompeii can
predict the future. And yet, none of
them can see tomorrow.

Pause.

DONNA

We're staying.

THE DOCTOR

Yeah.

CUT TO:

14 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

14

Quiet corner, dark, separate from Sc.13. QUINTUS sits alone, glum, with a goblet of wine. THE DOCTOR appears.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: 14

THE DOCTOR
Quintus, me old son. This Lucius Petrus
Dextrus, where does he live?

QUINTUS
Nothing to do with me.

The Doctor kneels in front of him. Produces a gold coin.

THE DOCTOR
Let me try again. This Lucius Petrus
Dextrus, where does he live?

CUT TO:

15 OMITTED 15

16 EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT 16

No one about. THE DOCTOR & QUINTUS at the back of a grand-looking building, just clambering on a barrel, to get in through a window. Quintus carrying a burning torch.

QUINTUS
Don't tell my Dad.

THE DOCTOR
Only if you don't tell mine.

And the Doctor clammers through.

CUT TO:

17 INT. LUCIUS'S QUARTERS - NIGHT 17

THE DOCTOR arriving inside. Small, dark room. Whispers:

THE DOCTOR
Pass me that torch.

QUINTUS passes the torch through the window, then clammers through himself. The Doctor looking round... Nothing special, just a chair, desk, parchments, scrolls, like a library. But one wall is concealed behind a curtain.

The Doctor yanks it, it falls. He stands back, amazed.

SIX OF THE SQUARES OF MARBLE, hanging on the wall, all looking like a one big circuit-panel.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

QUINTUS

The liar. He told my father it was the only one.

THE DOCTOR

Ahh, plenty of marble-merchants in this town. Tell them all the same thing, get all the components from different places, so no one can see what you're building.

QUINTUS

Which is what..?

LUCIUS

The future, Doctor.

They turn round -

LUCIUS and his TWO ROMAN SOLDIERS standing there.

LUCIUS (CONT'D)

We are building the future. As dictated by the Gods.

CUT TO:

18 INT. EVELINA'S BEDROOM - LATER

18

EVELINA now awake, more herself (bandage back on), sitting up in bed, clutching her knees. Laughing at DONNA, who's now trying on a toga. Nice and friendly, mates together.

DONNA

Oy, you're not meant to laugh, thanks for that! What d'you think?

(strikes a pose)

The Goddess Venus.

EVELINA

(laughing)

That's sacrilege!

DONNA

Nice to see you laughing, though.

(sits with her)

What d'you do in old Pompeii, girls of your age? You got... mates? D'you go hanging about round the shops? T K Maximus?

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

EVELINA

I am promised to the Sisterhood. For
the rest of my life.

DONNA

D'you get any choice in that?

EVELINA

It's not my decision, the Sisters chose
for me. I have the gift of sight.

*

DONNA

Then... What can you see happening
tomorrow?

EVELINA

Is tomorrow special?

DONNA

You tell me. What can you see?

Evelina closes her eyes. Deep breath. Then:

EVELINA

The sun will r 26 Tc 3 laun wilsU/0o9Tm T Q q 1 0 0 1 0 726

20 INT. EVELINA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

20

EVELINA holds her hands fixed in place, scared. DONNA just thinks this is some ritual gesture, keeps going.

EVELINA

There is only one Prophecy!

DONNA

But everything I'm about to say is true.
I swear. Just listen to me -

20 CONTINUED: 20

DONNA
Oy, don't go getting me in trouble -

CUT TO:

21 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - NIGHT 21

THE THREE SISTERS now kneeling in front of the HIGH PRIESTESS'S draped area. The misshapen SILHOUETTE within.

SPURRINA
The Noble Woman. She spoke of a new Prophecy, the fall of Pompeii.

HIGH PRIESTESS
Pompeii will last forever.

SPURRINA
Then what must we do?

HIGH PRIESTESS
The False Prophet must die. Sacrifice her!

CUT TO:

22

THE DOCTOR

I don't know! Isn't that brilliant! I love not knowing! Keeps me on my toes! Must be awful, being a Prophet, waking up every morning, is it raining, yes it is, said so - takes all the fun out of life! But who designed this, Lucius? Who gave you these instructions?

LUCIUS

I think you've babbled enough -

THE DOCTOR

Lucius, really, tell me, I'm on your side, honestly, I can help -

LUCIUS

You insult the Gods. There can be only one sentence. At arms!

The two soldiers draw their swords.

THE DOCTOR

Oh, morituri te salutant.

LUCIUS

Celtic prayers won't help you now.

QUINTUS

But it was him, sir, he made me do it, Mr Dextrus, please don't -

THE DOCTOR

Come on now, Quintus. Dignity in death. I respect your victory, Lucius. Shake on it.

Offers his hand. Lucius draws back, cradling his arm.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Come on now. Dying man's wish.

And he darts forward. Grabs Lucius's dead hand. For a second, they're locked, staring at each other, the Doctor blazing; then he pulls back, still holding on tight -

And the Doctor is holding a STONE STATUE'S ARM, forearm, elbow, all the way up to the bicep, cleanly broken off. Even the soldiers are horrified by this, step back.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (2)

22

QUINTUS

But he's..!

THE DOCTOR

Show me.

Lucius brazen, throws back his cloak. Short-sleeved tunic underneath; the broken end of his STONE ARM sticking out.

LUCIUS

The work of the Gods.

QUINTUS

It's stone. He's stone.

THE DOCTOR

Armless enough though - whoops!

As he throws the arm to Lucius -

Who has to catch it, one-handed -

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Quintus - !

And Quintus throws the burning torch at the soldiers -

All this happening fast, simultaneously - the Doctor pointing the sonic at the shelves of squares -

- the squares fall! (NB, falling out of frame below) -

Lucius running to them, desperate -

LUCIUS

The carvings! My carvings - !

And during this, the Doctor is bundling Quintus to the window, fast -

THE DOCTOR

Out out

CUT TO:

23 EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT

23

QUINTUS, then THE DOCTOR, flinging themselves out -

And they're belting down the street -

CUT TO:

24 INT. LUCIUS'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

24

The TWO SOLDIERS run out, b/g. But on LUCIUS, carrying
one of the squares (unbroken) across the room -

*
*

LUCIUS

The work is still unbroken, we may
prosper yet!

*
*
*

25 CONTINUED:

25

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Like...footsteps...

QUINTUS
Can't be.

They look down the street:

PRAC FX: at the far end, with a , a barrel shakes.
closer, a crate topples. closer, a street-
sign falls, shaken by vibrations getting closer...

THE DOCTOR
Footsteps underground...

QUINTUS
What is it?

The Doctor grabs his hand - runs - !

CUT TO:

26 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

26

DONNA in the dark, sitting with EVELINA, who's tearful,
recovering, Donna holding her, kind.

EVELINA
But how can you see things that the
sisters cannot?

DONNA
I don't see them. I just . And I'm
trying to save your life -

A shudder. Donna & Evelina startled.

DONNA (CONT'D)
What the hell..?

CUT TO:

27 EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT

27

THE DOCTOR & QUINTUS running like mad things -

CUT TO:

28 CONTINUED:

28

FX: (NB, ALL IN ONE SHOT) THE MAGMA CREATURE breathes a WALL OF FIRE and the MAJOR DOMO is incinerated! Bursts into ashes, gone!

*

All flinch back, Metella screaming her lungs out, Caecilius running to hold her, protect her -

CUT TO DONNA, far back in the atrium - where there's a bucket of water, she's just heaving it up, when -

- the SOOTHSAYER & SIBYLLINE SISTERS reach out of the shadows, grab her, hands over her mouth, silent assassins - swift, ruthless, they pull her into the shadows, gone -

CU Evelina, shocked - closer to the Doctor, but looking round, so she's the only one who's seen Donna being taken -

CUT TO THE DOCTOR stepping forward, brave -

THE DOCTOR

Talk to me, just talk to me, that's all
I want, I'm a friend, I'm the Doctor,
just tell me who you are -

FX: the CREATURE breathes in deep, about to roast the Doctor -

QUINTUS

- Doctor - !

- Quintus runs in, fast, with TWO SLAVES, all three with

29 CONTINUED:

29

DONNA (CONT'D)
the time I've finished with you, now

SPURRINA
This prattling voice will cease forever -
And she's raising the dagger high, above Donna -

THE DOCTOR
Oh, that'll be the day.

All the SISTERS turn - THE DOCTOR, casual as anything!

SPURRINA
No man is allowed to enter the Temple of
Sibyl!

THE DOCTOR
That's all right, just us girls.
(strolls around)
D'you know, I met the Sibyl once. Hell
of a woman, blimey, she could dance the
Tarantella. Nice teeth. Truth be told,
I think she had a bit of a thing for me.
I said, it'll never last, she said, I
know. Well, she would.
(to Donna)
You all right there?

DONNA
Never better.

THE DOCTOR
Like the toga.

DONNA
Thank you. And the ropes?

THE DOCTOR
Mmm, not so much.

And he whirrs the sonic -

Donna can now pull the ropes free -

SPURRINA
What magic is that?

THE DOCTOR
(stronger, closer)
Let me tell you about the Sibyl. The
founder of this religion.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (2)

29

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

She would be ashamed of you. All her wisdom and insight turned sour, is that how you spread the word? On the blade of a knife?

SPURRINA

A knife that now welcomes you -

She's drawing the dagger up again, at him, when -

HIGH PRIESTESS

Show me this man.

The FIRELIGHT rises up behind the drapes, casting the misshapen SILHOUETTE. The sisters prostrate themselves.

SPURRINA

High Priestess! The stranger would defile us!

HIGH PRIESTESS

Let me see.

The Doctor walks forward, Donna joining him. Peering... Closer on the strange, deformed shape...

HIGH PRIESTESS (CONT'D)

This one is different. He carries starlight in his wake.

THE DOCTOR

Very perceptive. But where do all these words of wisdom come from?

HIGH PRIESTESS

The Gods whisper to me.

THE DOCTOR

They've done far more than that. Might I beg audience? And look upon the High Priestess?

The SILHOUETTE gestures; a SISTER draws the veils aside.

Sitting up on her bed, the HIGH PRIESTESS is made of STONE; rough, melted, exactly like the plaster-casts of the Pompeii victims. A crude face, eyes black pits, stony arms, the rest of the body swathed in robes.

DONNA

...oh my God. What's happened to you..?

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (3)

29

HIGH PRIESTESS
The Heavens have blessed me.

THE DOCTOR
If I might..?

She nods. He comes closer. Kneels. Touches her arm.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Does it hurt?

HIGH PRIESTESS
It is necessary.

THE DOCTOR
Who told you that?

HIGH PRIESTESS
The voices.

DONNA
Is that gonna happen to Evelina? Is it
happening to all of you?

Spurrina shows her arm, the same grey stone as Evelina's.

SPURRINA
The blessings are manifold.

DONNA
They're .

THE DOCTOR
Exactly. The people of Pompeii are
turning to stone the volcano
erupts. But why..?

HIGH PRIESTESS
This word, this image in your mind,
this... volcano. What is that?

THE DOCTOR
More to the point, why don't you know
about it..?
(harder)
Who are you?

HIGH PRIESTESS
High Priestess of the Sibylline.

THE DOCTOR
I'm talking to the creature inside you.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (4)

29

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

The thing that's seeding itself into a human body, in the stone, in the dust, in the lungs, taking over the flesh and turning it into what..?

The High Priestess struggling, as something inside awakes.

HIGH PRIESTESS

...your knowledge... is impossible..

THE DOCTOR

Ohh, but you can read my mind, you know it's not - I demand you tell me, who are you??

She's shuddering, and now STEAM starts to rise around her, surrounding the bed, RED LIGHT blazing - and now, the High Priestess talks with a deep, guttural MALE VOICE:

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

...we are... awakening...

SPURRINA

29 CONTINUED: (5)

29

SISTERS

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

We have slept beneath, for thousands of years.

THE DOCTOR

Okay, so seventeen years ago woke you up, and now you're using Human bodies to reconstitute yourselves, but why the psychic powers?

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

We opened their minds. And found such gifts.

THE DOCTOR

Okay, fine, so, force yourself inside a Human brain, use the latent psychic talent to bond, I get that, yeah - but seeing the future, that's way beyond psychic, you can see through .
Where does the gift of Prophecy come from?

Donna's heaved the grille up -

DONNA

Got it!

THE DOCTOR

Now get down!

DONNA

What, down there?

THE DOCTOR

Yes down there!

(at the Priestess)

But why can't this lot predict the volcano? Why's it being hidden?

SPURRINA

Sisters. I see into his mind. The weapon is harmless.

THE DOCTOR

Ohh, but it's gotta !

And he squirts!

The High Priestess shudders, steaming - !

- and the Doctor races over to the grille, Donna crouched beside it, ready to go -

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (7) 29

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
I said down!!

CUT TO:

30 INT. ROCK TUNNEL - NIGHT 30

CU DONNA landing on the floor of a rocky tunnel - small,
cramped - with an Next second, THE DOCTOR lands
next to her - and as they get to their feet, fast -

DONNA
You fought her off with a water pistol,
I bloody love you!

THE DOCTOR
Come on, this way -

DONNA
Where are we going?

THE DOCTOR
Into the volcano!

DONNA
No way!

THE DOCTOR
Yes way! Appian Way!

And the Doctor & Donna run - !

CUT TO:

31 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - NIGHT 31

As THE SISTERS worship THE HIGH PRIESTESS:

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE
The stranger would threaten our great
endeavour! The time has come! The
Prophecy must advance -

CUT TO:

32 INT. LUCIUS'S QUARTERS - NIGHT 32

LUCIUS on his knees, at the grille, breathing in STEAM,
hearing the same voice in his mind -

LUCIUS
- the Prophecy must advance! Thy will
be done.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

LUCIUS (CONT'D)
(turns to SOLDIERS)
Summon the Cult of Vulcan. We must go
to the mountain. Vesuvius is calling!

CUT TO:

33 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

33

THE LIGHT OF DAWN shining through, into the villa.
CAECILIUS sits with METELLA, consoling her, QUINTUS
standing back, EVELINA further back. All scared, hearing
the rumbling, the room trembling a little.

CAECILIUS
Sunrise, my love. A new day! Even the
longest night must end.

QUINTUS
But the mountain's worse than ever.

METELLA
We killed a Messenger of the Gods. In
our own house.
(to Evelina)
Sweetheart, can you see? Tell us.
What's going to happen?

QUINTUS
Leave her alone.

But Evelina closes her eyes. Breathes deep, scared.

EVELINA
I can see...

METELLA
What is it?

EVELINA
A choice. Someone must make a choice.
(eyes open, wide)
The most terrible choice.

CUT TO:

34 INT. ROCK TUNNEL - NIGHT

34

THE DOCTOR & DONNA hurry along, though it's cramped.
Fast:

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

DONNA

- but if it's aliens, setting off the volcano, doesn't that make it all right? For you to stop it?

THE DOCTOR

It's still part of history.

DONNA

Yeah, but I'm history to you! You saved me, in 2008, you saved all of us, why's that different?

THE DOCTOR

Some things are fixed, some things are in flux, and Pompeii is fixed.

DONNA

But how d'you know which is which??

The Doctor stops, turns back, more honest, quiet:

*

THE DOCTOR

Because that's how I see the universe. Every waking second, I can see what is, what was, what could be, what must . That's the burden of a Time Lord, Donna. And I'm the only one left.

*

*

He turns away - almost embarrassed by having been so honest - and they hurry on, but she won't give up -

*

*

DONNA

How many people died?

THE DOCTOR

Stop it.

DONNA

Doctor, how many people died?

*

THE DOCTOR

Twenty thousand.

DONNA

Is that what you can see, Doctor? All twenty thousand? And you think that's right, do you?

whole place shakes, PRAC DUST falls, some RUBBLE -

And they hear the roar of a Pyrovile, further back -

(CONTINUED)

38 INT. THE HEART OF VESUVIUS - DAY

38

THE DOCTOR & DONNA creep out, staying low. A flat, rocky area, with a REEF OF ROCK nearby, which they scuttle up to, and peer out from behind. And they're agog, seeing...

FX: WIDE SHOT of the HEART OF VESUVIUS. A volcanic stone floor, stripped with rivers of glowing HOT LAVA. At the centre: a ROCK SPHERE (PRAC BUILD), with a hinged DOOR, now open, lights glittering inside. Rock-cables snake out from the base of the Sphere, snaking all over the floor space. And across the area, PYROVILE stomp, other PYROVILE stomping along raised ledges around the circumference. Staying hidden, hushed:

THE DOCTOR

The Heart of Vesuvius, we're right inside the mountain.

DONNA

There's tons of them.

THE DOCTOR

What's that thing..?

The Doctor's getting a little telescope out of his pocket.

A distant roar from the tunnel behind, Donna looks back -

DONNA

Better hurry up and think of something, Rocky 4's on his way.

His POV: closer on the PRAC ROCK SPHERE.

THE DOCTOR

That's how they arrived. Or what's left of it. Escape pod, prison ship, gene bank?

DONNA

But why'd they need the volcano? Maybe... it erupts, and they launch themselves back into space or something.

THE DOCTOR

...I think it's worse than that.

DONNA

How could it be worse?

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

Another roar behind them -

DONNA (CONT'D)
Doctor, it's getting closer -

LUCIUS
Heathens!

They look round -

To the side, on the level above, on a STONE LEDGE,
LUCIUS, looking down - he's seen them!

LUCIUS (CONT'D)
They would desecrate your Temple, my
Lord Gods!

The Doctor grabs Donna's hand - to run forward -

THE DOCTOR
Come on -

DONNA
We can't go in!

THE DOCTOR
We can't go back!

And they run - !

LUCIUS

38 CONTINUED: (2)

38

The Doctor addresses the whole cavern.

THE DOCTOR

Now then, Lucius, my Lords Pyrovillian.
Don't get yourself in a lava. In a
lava! No?

DONNA

No.

THE DOCTOR

No. But if I might beg the wisdom of
the Gods, before we perish. Once this
new race of creatures is complete, then
what?

FX: A PYROVILE on the rock-floor steps forward, its jaws
grinding together in rock-language,

LUCIUS translates:

LUCIUS

My Masters will follow the example of
Rome itself. An almighty Empire,
bestriding the whole of civilisation!

DONNA

But if you crashed, and you've got all
this technology... why don't you just go
home?

LUCIUS

The Heaven of Pyrovillia is gone.

THE DOCTOR

What d'you mean, gone, where's it gone?

LUCIUS

It was taken. Pyrovillia is lost. But
this world has heat enough for a new
species to rise!

THE DOCTOR

Better warn you, it's 70 per cent water
out there.

LUCIUS

Water can boil. And everything will
burn, Doctor.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED: (3) 38

THE DOCTOR
Then the whole planet is at stake.
Thank you. That's all I needed to know.
Donna - !

And he grabs her hand, pulls her -

Into the Sphere!

CUT TO:

39 INT. ROCK SPHERE - DAY 39

Cramped inside, just big enough for two. Rocky interior surface, inlaid with buttons of stone, like rock-controls, and embedded in the walls, the SIX MARBLE SQUARES.

- and as THE DOCTOR & DONNA pile in, he sonics the door -

The door shuts!

DONNA
Could we be any more trapped?!

CUT TO:

40 EXT. THE HEART OF VESUVIUS - DAY 40

LUCIUS on his ledge, exultant -

LUCIUS
You have them, my Lords!

FX: A PYROVILE BREATHES FIRE over the SPHERE -

CUT TO:

41 INT. ROCK SPHERE - DAY 41

41 CONTINUED:

41

DONNA

Can't you stop it? With those controls?

THE DOCTOR

Course I can, but don't you see..?

(in anguish)

That's why the soothsayers can't see the volcano. There is no volcano. Vesuvius is never going to erupt, the Pyrovile are stealing all its power, they're gonna use it to take over the world.

DONNA

But... you can change it back?

THE DOCTOR

I can invert the system, set off the volcano, and blow them up, oh yes. But that's the choice, Donna. Pompeii, or the world.

DONNA

...oh my God...

THE DOCTOR

If Pompeii is destroyed... it's not just history, it's me. I make it happen.

CUT TO:

42 INT. THE HEART OF VESUVIUS - DAY

42

FX: THE PYROVILE BREATHES FIRE over the SPHERE, stronger -

CUT TO:

43 INT. ROCK SPHERE - DAY

43

RED LIGHT stronger inside. THE DOCTOR stabs the final buttons. DONNA desperate -

DONNA

But the Pyrovile are made of rocks, maybe they be blown up -

THE DOCTOR

Vesuvius explodes with the force of 24 nuclear bombs. Nothing can survive it. Certainly not us.

DONNA

(quiet)

Never mind us.

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED:

43

53 CONTINUED: 53

The Doctor's stabbing at the controls at the same time -

CUT TO:

54 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - DAY 54

CAMERA SHAKE, the whole villa shuddering - CAECILIUS,
METELLA, QUINTUS looking up, horrified -

CAECILIUS

The sky is falling...

CUT TO EVELINA, seeing -

EVELINA

Death! Only death!

CUT TO:

55 INT. POMPEII MARKETPLACE - DAY 55

ALL look toward the volcano, in horror.

*

CUT TO:

56 EXT. POMPEII STREET - DAY

58 CONTINUED:

58

62 CONTINUED:

62

THALINA at her side. Quiet, in the madness, as though they're wise at last, facing the High Priestess:

SPURRINA

You lied to us. And yet...

64 CONTINUED:

64

The Doctor horrified. Stares.

But then he runs on.

66 CONTINUED: 66

CAECILIUS pulls them all closer, kisses them. Protecting them, to the last.

CUT TO:

67 INT. TARDIS - NIGHT 67

THE DOCTOR at the controls, wild-eyed. DONNA at the

68 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

68

PRAC RUBBLE & DUST, ASH falling, FLAMES getting closer, CLOSE on the FAMILY, huddled, awaiting the end.

And then...

The grind of mighty engines, a wind sweeping through.

The family looks up.

In awe.

The noise building, more magnificent than ever, as...

FX: LOW ANGLE on the TARDIS, appearing in front of them, like a monolith, the lamp on top blazing with light.

The door opens. THE DOCTOR stands there, the light of the Tardis blazing unnaturally bright behind him; a halo, almost silhouetting him.

And he holds out his hand.

THE DOCTOR

Come with me.

CAECILIUS scared, trembling, holds out his hand...

CU his hand clasping the Doctor's.

CUT TO:

69 EXT. HILLSIDE - NIGHT

69

FX: POMPEII from a great distance, VESUVIUS raging, the PYROCLASTIC flow rolling slowly over the whole city.

CUT TO REVERSE. THE DOCTOR, DONNA, CAECILIUS, METELLA, EVELINA & QUINTUS standing on the hillside, the TARDIS behind them. All watching in silence.

Hold, for a long time. Very still. Then, sadly:

*

THE DOCTOR

It's never forgotten, Caecilius. Oh, time will pass, and men will move on, and the stories will fade. But one day, Pompeii will be found again. In thousands of years. And everyone will remember you.

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

69

DONNA

What about you, Evelina? Can you see anything?

EVELINA

The visions have gone.

THE DOCTOR

The explosion was so powerful, it cracked open a Rift in Time. Just for a second. That's what gave you the gift of Prophecy, it echoed back, into the Pyrovillian alternative, but... Not any more. You're free.

METELLA

(still scared, quiet)

Who are you, Doctor? With your words. And your Temple containing such size within.

THE DOCTOR

I was never here. Don't tell anyone.

CAECILIUS

The Great God Vulcan must be enraged. It's so... vulcanic, like some sort of... "vulcano".

(but then, upset)

All those people.

He's tearful, Metella goes to him, holds him.

And with the family staring out, the Doctor & Donna glance at each other, quietly go back into the Tardis, unnoticed...

CUT TO:

70

70 CONTINUED:

70

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
You were right. Sometimes I need
someone.

(weary smile)
Welcome aboard.

DONNA
Yeah.

And they both smile, understanding each other better.

CUT TO:

71 FX SHOT, TIME VORTEX

71

[STOCK SHOT] The Tardis spins away, through the Vortex...

MIX TO:

72 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS, ROME - DAY

72

CAPTION: ROME.

Tracking across a wall, to REVEAL CAECILIUS, his old
self, hurrying, fussing with his toga, calling across:

CAECILIUS
Metella, my love, have you seen that
clasp? The beetle one, the Egyptians do
love a scarab -

METELLA crossing to him, all smiles.

METELLA
Here we are, I was giving it a polish,
now calm down!

CAECILIUS
If I get this contract, for the marble
Granaries of Alexandria, we'll be rich,
you'll see -
(sees)
Hold on there, Evelina! You're not
going out wearing that.

EVELINA crossing, an ordinary, cheeky teenage girl now,
in a shorter-than-usual tunic -

EVELINA
Oh don't start, Dad, it's what all the
girls in Rome are wearing, see you later -

Gives him a kiss, runs out -

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED:

72

CAECILIUS

Are you seeing that boy again?

METELLA

Ohh, but look at Quintus! My son, the Doctor!

QUINTUS entering, much smarter, carrying scrolls.

QUINTUS

Mum, I've told you, I'm not a Doctor, not yet, I'm just a student of the physical sciences -

METELLA

Well that's a Doctor to me, now give thanks to the Household Gods before you go, there's a good boy.

(back to Caecilius)

Come here, let me fix it, you've got that folded all wrong...

*

But on Quintus, going to an alcove, as in the old villa. He dips his fingers in the goblet of wine, sprinkles it.

QUINTUS

Thank you, Household Gods.

(smiles)

Thank you for everything.

And the frieze is now a bas-relief sculpture of the Doctor and Donna; the Temple behind them is the Tardis.