

**THE SARAH JANE
ADVENTURES**

Episode 6

By

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Shooting Script

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MARIA

This way!

They get to the fire escape and push down the bar, but it won't budge. It's locked.

As Sarah Jane takes the sonic lipstick from her bag, Maria sees Kudlak heading towards their cover.

MARIA (CONT'D)

He's coming!

PRAC: The sonic lipstick works at the edge of the bar handle and springs the lock. They push the bar down and open the door. Daylight floods in - Sarah Jane and Maria rush into it.

CUT TO:

7 EXT. COMBAT 3000 -- DAY 1 [1428]

7

MARIA slams the door shut behind them, and SARAH JANE locks it with the sonic lipstick.

MARIA

What about Luke and Clyde?

SARAH JANE

They're not there any more, Maria. But

KUDLAK (CONT'D)

You are a disgrace to your own species,
Grantham. You have always sickened me.
Killing you will be a service to both
our worlds.

GRANTHAM

No! Please...

MISTRESS (O.S.)

Kudlak? What is happening?

KUDLAK

The mission is compromised, Mistress.
We must evacuate.

MISTRESS (O.S.)

No! You will stay there. You must send
me children! More children!

KUDLAK

But our security has been breached.

MISTRESS (O.S.)

Do not argue, Kudlak. I am your
Mistress!

KUDLAK

(reluctant, but
obedient)

Yes, Mistress.

Grantham takes his opportunity.

GRANTHAM

Sounds like you'll still be needing me
around, Mr Kudlak. And I think I can
fix your security problem.

CUT TO:

10 INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC -- DAY 1 [1500]

10

SARAH JANE and MARIA are with MR SMITH

SARAH JANE

Luke and Clyde have been abducted by an
alien. I need you to identify the
species.

MR SMITH

Please describe.

SARAH JANE

Humanoid. White face.

MARIA

With scales. Kind of slimy.

A kind of alien identi-kit on Mr Smith's screen is building up an approximation of Kudlak from their description.

SARAH JANE

Wide cheekbones... Wider.

MARIA

And big teeth... No less of them.

Mr Smith gets it.

SARAH JANE

Yes! That's it!

MR SMITH

Uvodni. Their home planet is in the Spiral Cluster of the Dragon Nebula. Thirty four thousand lightyears from Earth.

SARAH JANE

His name is Kudlak.

MR SMITH

Accessing Uvodni database...Kudlak. General Uvlavad Kudlak. One of the Uvodni Signus Brigade's most decorated warriors.

MARIA

A soldier.

MR SMITH

The Uvodni were part of a planetary alliance that fought the Malakh in the Ghost Wars of the Horsehead Nebula.

MARIA

Who are the Malakh?

SARAH JANE

Not very nice to know. They would start a war with you just for looking at them.

MR SMITH

When the other allied worlds had been crushed by the Malakh Empire the Uvodni continued to fight.

SARAH JANE

But why is Kudlak on Earth abducting children?

MR SMITH

My last data registration of General Kudlak is from a cyber-con download with a Zantoxian trade vessel that passed through the Solar System two months ago.

MARIA

A what?

SARAH JANE

Mr Smith sometimes connects with the on-board computers of passing alien vessels.

MR SMITH

It pays to stay in touch.

SARAH JANE

CLYDE

I've got no signal. You?

LUKE tries to activate his phone.

LUKE

Nothing. My battery's dead.

Clyde's phone light picks up blankets and a bucket in there.

CLYDE

A bucket? Oh man. This is not good.

LUKE

I think you're right. Back there, did you feel it? The floor was vibrating.

CLYDE

How d'you mean?

LUKE

Very slightly.

CLYDE

Which means?

LUKE

It didn't do that before. I don't think we're at Combat 3000 any more.

Suddenly the boys both shout as the crate lurches -

CLYDE / LUKE

Yahhh!

- and then stops moving.

Neither one of them moves. They just listen. And all they hear is silence.

CLYDE

I think we arrived.

LUKE

Shine the light on me.

JEN

I won Level Two at Combat 3000. Next thing those jokers are locking me up.

LUKE

Clyde? I think I've found you that clue.

Clyde turns around - sees the Luke has just released LANCE from one of the other boxes.

CLYDE

Lance! Your mum's going mad.

CUT TO:

13 INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC -- DAY 1 [1510]

13

SARAH JANE and MARIA are with MR SMITH still.

SARAH JANE

Mr Smith, do you have a trace on the storm today? When Luke and Clyde were taken.

MR SMITH

Yes. I have been monitoring weather conditions across the country.

SARAH JANE

Is it possible to track the transmat beam? To calculate where it's taken the boys?

MR SMITH

Detection of such a transmission trail would require synchronous data scraping in all eleven dimensions around Combat 3000.

SARAH JANE

(short)
Can you do it?

MR SMITH

Of course. One minute.

There's the sound of breaking glass from downstairs. Sarah Jane and Maria exchange a look.

SARAH JANE

Wait here.

Sarah Jane goes to investigate...

CUT TO:

14 INT. SARAH JANE'S LOUNGE -- DAY 1 [1511]

14

... And finds GRANTHAM waiting for her, alien looking gun in hand.

GRANTHAM

I know I should probably have called first, but...

SARAH JANE

Not at all, Mr Grantham. I'm always delighted to study new forms of human low-life in the comfort of my own home.

GRANTHAM

You're a cool old bird, I'll give you that.

Sarah Jane, studies him coldly. Moves around the room; Grantham moves with her in the opposite direction, keeping the gun trained on her. He ends up where she started, with his back to the door.

SARAH JANE

Collaborating with an alien child abductor. That really is a new depth in the low-life stakes.

CUT TO:

CLYDE

And we played all over the place.
London,
(indicating individual
kids)
Brighton, Manchester, Leeds and
Inverness. Kids from all over the
country must have been going missing.
But how did we get here?

JEN

Wherever that is.

LUKE

And what's it for? Who are they? What
do they want with us?

LANC

I played that stupid game again and
again to get to Level Two - and I end up
in a crate. What's going on?

Jen hears footsteps beyond the door...

JEN

Someone's coming.

CUT TO:

16 INT. SARAH JANE'S LOUNGE -- DAY 1 [1514]

16

SARAH JANE and GRANTHAM as they were.

SARAH JANE

Business dealings? You're helping that
monster press gang children into a war
lightyears away just for money?

GRANTHAM

It's what makes the galaxy go round.

SARAH JANE

You're despicable.

GRANTHAM

And you're done with.

Grantham raises his gun to fire. As MARIA appears behind
him, in the heavy rubber gloves, a fuse rod from the
weather machine in each hand. She presses them into
Grantham's back.

FX SHOT: Power surges through Grantham. He crashes to
the floor, unconscious.

SARAH JANE

No, Mr Grantham, I think you're the one
that's done with.

CUT TO:

17 INT. SCOUTSHIP. PRISON DECK -- DAY 1 [1515]

17

CLYDE, LUKE and JEN are hiding together. The other kids
are also hidden elsewhere in the room.

CLYDE

(whispers to Jen)

Just stick with me. I'll look after
you.

He doesn't catch her withering look as a BLACK HELMET
come in carrying vacuum-packed food sachets.

The Black Helmet goes to the crates and opens one to feed
the kid inside - and Jen piles in, catching the Black
Helmet off guard and knocking him into the crate as Luke
leads other kids in to slam it shut, and lock it.

Clyde just stands there staring at Jen with open-jawed
astonishment.

She gives him a smile.

JEN

Just stick with me. I'll look after
you.

PRAC blast as the crate is blown open by the Black
Helmet's gun.

LUKE

Come on!

And he leads the kids out of the door.

CUT TO:

18 INT. SCOUTSHIP. CORRIDOR 1 -- DAY 1 [1517]

18

MARIA

How?

SARAH JANE

The transporter could have sent them right across the galaxy to the Uvodni world.

MARIA

But they're in space. Doesn't matter if it's Earth orbit or the Planet of the Apes. Unless you've got a friend at NASA that'll lend us a shuttle, we're stuffed, Sarah Jane. And so are Luke and Clyde.

SARAH JANE

Maria, we're going to get them back.

MARIA

How?

SARAH JANE

Mr Grantham is going to help us.

CUT TO:

21 INT. SCOUTSHIP. CORRIDOR 1 -- DAY 1 [1521]

21

FX SHOT: The CHILDREN cluster round the window, amazed, excited as through the window they see the earth hanging in space.

JEN

It's a trick. It's got to be a trick. We didn't fly anywhere.

LUKE

We were teleported.

JEN

Beam me up, Scotty. Like, yeah!

CLYDE

Trust me. It's real.

There's the sound of a laser bolt and explosion in the background.

CLYDE (CONT'D)

And that's a real gun. Come on!

And the kids are running again, as the BLACK HELMETS chase.

LANCE

If we're really in space - how are we going to get away?

Clyde looks unnerved. Looks at Luke.

CLYDE

He's got a point.

Luke is determined.

LUKE

We'll find a way.

He turns a corner - and comes face to face with a bunch of Black Helmets - and Kudlak.

KUDLAK

My warriors. Such very fine warriors.

CUT TO:

22 INT. SCOUTSHIP. CONTROL ROOM -- DAY 1 [1530]

22

KUDLAK is followed by LUKE, CLYDE, JEN, LANCE and the other KIDS, as they are herded by the BLACK HELMETS.

CLYDE

What are we doing here? What's with all this warrior stuff? All we did was win a game of laser tag!

LANCE

Hey, maybe that's it! Maybe this is just another part of the game. Level Three.

JEN

Some chance.

KUDLAK

Silence! Behold, your Mistress!

A screen suspended in the middle of the room lights up. An imperious female Uvodni stares down at them. THE MISTRESS.

MISTRESS

Welcome, my warriors.

LUKE

We're not warriors. We're just kids.

KUDLAK

None of those before you had the initiative to escape the holding deck. None forced my return to the ship to deal with them. You are good warrior stock.

CLYDE

This is such rubbish.

MISTRESS

LUKE

Suppose we refuse to fight. What then?

MISTRESS

Then you will be cowards. You will not fall as heroes. But, nevertheless, you will die.

They absorb with horror.

CUT TO:

23 INT. COMBAT 3000. ARENA 2 -- DAY 1 [1550]

23

GRANTHAM, his hands tied behind his back, is being led by SARAH JANE and MARIA.

SARAH JANE

That teleporter is here, Mr Grantham and you're going to take us to it.

GRANTHAM

Then what? Beam yourself up to the Uvodni ship and take them all on with your lipstick?

MARIA

You won't be so cocky when you go down for abducting all those children!

GRANTHAM

So you're going to tell the police I was helping some butt-ugly alien send kids to war in a galaxy far, far away. It won't be me going down, love. It will be you, down the funny farm.

SARAH JANE

Who needs to mention aliens? There's enough evidence to link you to the disappearances.

That shakes Grantham's cool. Sarah Jane sees it.

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

I doubt that men like you fare too well in prison.

Grantham absorbs.

GRANTHAM

All right, all right. I'll help you as much as I can. For all it's worth. First thing is, it's not Kudlak that calls the shots.

Sarah Jane is listening.

CUT TO:

LUKE

Can I borrow your phone, Clyde?

CLYDE

We're in space, Luke, who are you going to ring?

(with a grin at Jen)

Have you got a number for Captain Kirk?

Clyde basks in Jen's smile.

LUKE

Who?

Clyde gives him the phone.

CLYDE

Just don't break it.

Luke wanders off again. We don't see what he gets up to.

JEN

(getting back to their conversation)

Whatever's going on across the galaxy, it's got nothing to do with us.

LANCE

Kudlak doesn't see it like that.

CLYDE

And why do you think they need us to fight for them, any way? If you ask me, Kudlak and his Mistress aren't on the winning side.

JEN

But - what can we do? We're in a space ship and the only way we're ever going to get off is when they send us into the middle of some alien war.

LUKE

Or we steal a shuttlecraft.

The others look at him - and we find Luke with Clyde's mobile phone in hand. He has hooked cables from the wall panel into it.

CLYDE

What did you say?

Luke smiles. And the others crowd around him as he shows them what he's been up to.

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

Come on. We've got to find the
Mistress.

They're out of there.

CUT TO:

32 INT. SCOUTSHIP. CORRIDORS -- DAY 1 [1610]

32

LUKE, CLYDE, JEN, LANCE and the other KIDS are dodging
the BLACK HELMETS in a network of corridors.

FX SHOT: One of the Black Helmets fires. But misses.
PRAC sparks off the corridor wall/floor.

CLYDE

33 INT. SCOUTSHIP. CORRIDOR -- DAY 1 [1611]

33

SARAH JANE and MARIA run along a corridor and past a window. Maria stops at the window and sees -

FX SHOT: The Earth hanging in space (as in 6/18).

Sarah Jane turns to see Maria transfixed by the scene through the window. She goes back to join her. They stare at the view before them.

SARAH JANE

I never thought I would lay eyes on a sight like this again.

MARIA

It's incredible. Even after everything I've seen, I never thought I'd see this.

SARAH JANE

Maybe if everybody could see the Earth from up here, they might appreciate it more.

They take in the view for a moment longer.

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

Come on Maria, we have to go.

And Sarah Jane takes off again. Maria follows.

CUT TO:

34 INT. SCOUTSHIP. CORRIDOR -- DAY 1 [1612]

34

The kids are still outside the locked door. Unseen Black Helmets are still closing. LUKE still works on connecting Clyde's phone to the ship's computer system, watched by the others. We see alien graphics running across the phone screen.

CLYDE

Okay, I've gone past "anxious" now. I'm not even stopping by at "worried". I'm full-throttle into "panicked totally beyond reason". Will you get a move on?

And triumphant Luke punches buttons on the phone. The door slides open. The other kids pile through. Clyde eyes Luke warily.

CLYDE (CONT'D)

You're enjoying this, aren't you?

But Luke has seen something on the phone screen. He frowns.

LUKE

Clyde, look at this...

But there's a small PRAC explosion just above the doorway. BLACK HELMETS are coming. Luke and Clyde lurch through the door. It hisses shut.

CUT TO:

35 INT. SCOUTSHIP. FLIGHTDECK. WALKWAY -- DAY 1 [1613] 35

LUKE, CLYDE and the other KIDS are on the other side of the door. Running across a high walkway.

LUKE

Clyde, I've just seen something in their computer banks -

CLYDE

Later, Luke, later!

JEN

Clyde, look! It's the shuttlecraft!

They are on a very flimsy looking, long, metal walkway in a cavernous chamber. The drop is vertiginous. They grip the rails, scared stiff.

FX SHOT: But there, down below, small in the centre of the wide open floor, is a spacecraft.

CLYDE

We made it!

Then the BLACK HELMETS are coming through the door. The kids are running again!

CUT TO:

36 INT. SCOUTSHIP. CONTROL ROOM -- DAY 1 [1614] 36

SARAH JANE and MARIA enter. THE MISTRESS appears on the screen.

MISTRESS

What is the meaning of this? Who are you?

SARAH JANE

I take it that you're the Mistress?

MISTRESS

I am.

SARAH JANE

My name is Sarah Jane Smith. And I want
my son back.

CUT TO:

37 INT. SCOUTSHIP. FLIGHTDECK. WALKWAY/ STAIRWAY -- DAY 1 [B615]

LUKE, CLYDE, JEN, LANCE and the other KIDS are running
down a flight of stairs towards a 2nd walkway level above
the flight deck. (NB the escape ship isn't in view).

BLACK HELMETS are gaining on them.

LANCE

Get a move on!

They reach the second walkway and run towards the next
staircase, but KUDLAK emerges from the top of the stairs.
He fixes them with his eyes. Then he bows, low.

KUDLAK

Warriors, I salute you. Yours is,
without doubt, the finest war blood I
have been honoured to gather. And now
it is time to leave. To take your
places on the Uvodni Front Line.

MISTRESS

My people are not desperate. They are proud. They are victorious.

SARAH JANE

Victorious? Is that what you call a people that use somebody else's children to fight their war?

MISTRESS

Your species has a hunger for battle.

MARIA

We don't. The children don't. We've seen what adults have done to the world with their wars. We don't want it any more.

MISTRESS

Lies. I have seen your games.

MARIA

It's pretend. Can't you understand that? The children you've sent to fight the Malakh might score high in a game. That's not the same as fighting in a battlefield.

MISTRESS

They adapt. Or fall.

SARAH JANE

And just how victorious are your battles, Mistress? What is the word from the Front?

The Mistress hesitates. And the door opens. KUDLAK and BLACK HELMETS lead LUKE, CLYDE, LANCE, JEN and the others in.

KUDLAK

Mistress, your warriors are ready -

Kudlak sees Sarah Jane and Maria. He draws his gun.

KUDLAK (CONT'D)

Intruders!

MISTRESS

Execute them, Kudlak!

LUKE

Mum!

Luke runs to Sarah Jane, who holds him.

KUDLAK

And I had such hopes for you, young warrior.

Kudlak aims his gun.

CLYDE

No!

He tries to rush Kudlak, but the Black Helmets hold him, and the other kids back.

SARAH JANE

He's not a warrior, none of them are warriors, they're children.

KUDLAK

War changes everything.

LUKE

Computer screens around the room are suddenly filled with the same image - an ancient Uvodni in regal robes, upon a throne, the Uvodni EMPEROR.

EMPEROR

Vessels of the Imperial Fleet, this is your Emperor. We have agreed an armistice with the Malakh. After all these centuries, peace at last. Come home all my proud warriors. Come home, we have much to re-build.

Kudlak watches, unable to believe.

KUDLAK

What Malakh subterfuge is this?

SARAH JANE

Luke found it in your databanks. You have to believe it, Kudlak. The war is over.

LUKE

According to the data, the message is ten years old.

KUDLAK

Ten years? The Mistress would have told me. We would have gone home.

Kudlak aims his gun at them, angry.

KUDLAK (CONT'D)

This is a trick! You wish to destroy us!

SARAH JANE

No, Kudlak! We don't want to destroy you! No matter what your Mistress has told you, Earth wants to live in peace with its neighbours.

KUDLAK

But, Mistress, is this true? Is the war ended all these years?

The Mistress doesn't reply.

SARAH JANE

Perhaps she doesn't want to go home, Kudlak. Perhaps without a war, there's no need for her. Or for you.

Kudlak is horrified

KUDLAK

Mistress?

MISTRESS

Peace does not compute. Peace does not compute.

MARIA

What?

MISTRESS

Peace does not compute.

There is a crackle of static and interference across her screen.

LUKE

The Mistress. She's the computer!

SARAH JANE

She buried the message from the emperor.

KUDLAK

Is this true, Mistress?

MISTRESS

I am not programmed for peace. This scenario does not compute. It cannot be real.

SARAH JANE

You never expected the war to end. Your computer was never programmed to recognise it when it happened.

MISTRESS

Peace is an anomaly. Without war I cannot exist.

KUDLAK

But the point of our war was to achieve peace for our home.

MISTRESS

We have no home, Kudlak. Except the battlefield. Peace is a stranger's land. We have no place there.

KUDLAK

You may not, but I do.

(beat)

All these years of peace wasted. I thought the Malakh were my enemy, but all this time, it was you. And I will not suffer my enemy to live.

FX SHOT: Kudlak fires his gun.

Sarah Jane notices that Luke is very quiet

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

You're quiet, Luke. Is something wrong?

LUKE

No.

CLYDE