

**THE SARAH JANE
ADVENTURES II**

**Episode 3
By**

Phil Ford

**Blue Revisions
17th April 2008**

© BBC WALES 2008. No part of this document or its contents may be disclosed, distributed or used in any way, stored in a retrieval system, disseminated or incorporated into any other work, without the express written permission of the BBC. Any unauthorised use is strictly prohibited and will be prosecuted in courts of pertinent jurisdiction.

2 CONTINUED:

2

CLOSE-UP: A scary big red painted clown's smile, revealing yellowed, ugly teeth.

CUT TO:

OPENING TITLES

3 INT. SARAH JANE'S KITCHEN -- DAY 2

3

Monday. LUKE is at the breakfast table, his denim jacket hangs over the back of the chair. He has a laptop open beside his untouched cereal bowl. He is reading a long email.

SARAH JANE enters. She's reading the Ealing Echo - the headline screams THIRD CHILD VANISHES.

SARAH JANE

(to herself)

There are worse things than aliens.

She puts the paper aside and notices Luke. He's (still) reading the email so Sarah Jane pours herself some tea. The lightness of her tone masks an edge of worry...

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

How is she? Does she like Washington?

Luke doesn't look up from the laptop.

LUKE

She says it's awesome.

SARAH JANE

(smiles)

It sounds like Maria's going to fit in perfectly.

Luke closes the laptop.

LUKE

Sounds like it.

He just plays with his breakfast. He's more than a little withdrawn. Sarah Jane feels for him.

SARAH JANE

Luke, I know it's hard when a really good friend - someone you really care about - moves out of your life, but you'll see Maria again. She's going to come back for her mum's wedding, isn't she? I'm sure we'll all meet up then.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

LUKE

It won't be the same.

SARAH JANE

Maybe not, but, you know, that's not
always so bad. One of the best things
about life is it's always surprising us.

And CLYDE is coming through the kitchen door, school bag
over his shoulder.

CLYDE

Morning people. This is Clyde Langer
reporting live from Bannerman Road
where, at this precise moment, a new
family is moving in at Number 36.

CUT TO:

4 **EXT. BANNERMAN ROAD -- DAY 2**

4 CONTINUED:

4

CLYDE (CONT'D)

(to Sarah Jane)

Don't worry, we won't say anything.
We'd just better hope Maria never left
anything lying around when she went.

SARAH JANE

What do you mean?

CLYDE

Well - you know - we've been hanging
with some pretty random intergalactic
sorts. Who knows what might have rubbed
off and still be over there?

Clyde moves off to catch up with Luke. Sarah Jane looks
across at Maria's old house and worries.

CUT TO:

5 INT. PARK VALE SCHOOL CORRIDOR -- DAY 2

5

The place is bustling with kids. LUKE and CLYDE arrive
for school in the middle of something - Luke is over-
sensitive.

LUKE

I did not fancy Maria.

CLYDE

Boy, I taught you well, didn't I?
Clyde's Cool Rule Number Two - deny all
emotion, especially where involving
girls.

LUKE

I just miss her, okay? Don't you?

CLYDE

'Course I miss her. But people move on,
Luke. Ask my mum and dad.

LUKE

I've never lost anyone before.

That cracks Clyde's cool a little.

CLYDE

Well, it's not going to be the same
without her, that's for sure...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CLYDE (CONT'D)
(remembering Cool Rule
Two)

I mean, who am I going to have to save
from Sontarans, the Slitheen and Gorgons
now?

And Clyde is almost knocked over from behind...

CLYDE (CONT'D)
Hey! Watch where you're...

... by new girl, RANI, in a hurry, small, athletic, and
pretty. Clyde is instantly and clearly taken...

CLYDE (CONT'D)
... Don't mention it. No problem.

RANI
Sorry. I'm looking for Mr Cunningham's
form.

LUKE
That's our class.

RANI
I start today.

CLYDE
And you run into me. That's what I call
a start!

RANI
(with a wry smile)
Yeah. Like starting the hundred metres
in the Olympics and tripping over your
laces.

Luke laughs at the put-down, Clyde takes it like a bucket
of water.

LUKE
This is Clyde. He thinks he's cool.
I'm Luke.

CLYDE
Who isn't.

RANI
Rani. My family just moved in to
Bannerman Road.

LUKE
Bannerman Road?

5 CONTINUED: (2)

5

CLYDE

Of course. Where else? Sarah Jane is right, the universe never stops weirding you out.

RANI

Sarah who?

LUKE

Never mind. Come on, I'll take you to class.

RANI's POV: A flash of yellow, blue and red moving quickly among the other kids.

RANI

(anxious)

Did you see that?

CLYDE

See what?

She's disturbed, but tries to hide it. (This isn't the first time she's seen it.)

RANI

Never mind. Come on, I'd better not be late.

Rani manages a smile, follows Luke. Clyde shrugs and follows.

CUT TO:

6 **INT. PARK VALE CLASSROOM -- DAY 2**

6

LUKE, CLYDE and RANI are at desks as MR CUNNINGHAM runs through some notices. Also amongst the kids in class are DAVE 'FINNEY' FINN and STEVE WALLACE.

MR CUNNINGHAM

The football team is out of the Inter-Schools Cup, after a 4-0 mauling by West Hill last night.

There's a burst of moans and good-natured booing from the class.

MR CUNNINGHAM (CONT'D)

We'll be looking for better news in the National Schools Science Challenge. Anyone who wants to sign up for the team should see Miss Webster.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

MR CUNNINGHAM (CONT'D)

I'll be expecting to see your name on
the list, Luke.

The class starts chanting with the same good-natured
footie spirit - *Lukey! Lukey!*

HARESH (CONT'D)

I know it's been a while since your last Head Teacher, Mr Blakeman, disappeared, and it looks like standards around here vanished with him! But, listen up, Park Vale has a new captain on the bridge, now.

CLYDE

(whispers to Rani)

I'm getting a very serious sinking feeling.

HARESH

I'm a fair captain but, believe me, I run a very tight ship.

Rani is rolling her eyes in disbelief.

HARESH (CONT'D)

I expect every one of you on course for top marks! Not just in your examinations, in every piece of work you do. And any slackers among you will answer to me!

CLYDE

(sotto)

Aye aye, Skipper.

But some of the kids hear and giggle - and Haresh gives Rani the briefest glance (which she avoids) before he homes in on Clyde.

HARESH

Ah, the joker in the pack.

CLYDE

I do my best.

There's an exercise book on the table in front of Clyde. Haresh checks the name.

HARESH

Well, Clyde Langer, I hope your classwork is as sharp as your wit.

As something catches Rani's eye in the window - a clown, leaning casually, dressed in bright red, blue and yellow. ODD BOB. He waves at Rani. In his other hand he holds a red balloon. Rani's eyes pop with fright.

(CONTINUED)

CLYDE

(to Haresh, unaware)

Don't worry, sir. It takes brains to be this funny.

Rani looks quickly at the others in the room - it's clear that no-one else can see the clown as Haresh glances doubtfully through Clyde's exercise book.

HARESH

No, Langer. It takes brains to know when to shut up and listen!

Haresh tosses the book back on to the desk. Clyde considers himself told. Rani looks back at the window - the clown has vanished. She is shaken. The others notice nothing. As Haresh ploughs on... *

HARESH (CONT'D)

Now, a third child has gone missing. I'm speaking to all classes today, reminding you all to be careful and - just as importantly - telling you all that if you see anything or anyone suspicious, tell the police immediately.

Rani's eyes linger on the now empty doorway...

CUT TO:

7 **EXT. 36 BANNERMAN ROAD -- DAY 2**

7

SARAH JANE presses the doorbell of Maria's old house. The removal truck has gone. She looks a little awkward with a flask and a plate of cakes - this isn't normal Sarah Jane.

The door opens. A woman in her late thirties in jeans and tee-shirt, grimy and hassled - GITA.

GITA

Yes? Hello?

SARAH JANE

Hello. I live over the road. I saw you were moving in. Thought maybe you haven't been able to find the kettle yet.

Gita's eyes light up.

GITA

Oh, tell me, do you save the world every day, or is it just on Mondays?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

Sarah Jane doesn't quite know how to answer that one.

GITA (CONT'D)

Come on in, come in.

And Sarah Jane goes in.

CUT TO:

8 **INT. CHANDRAS' HOUSE. LOUNGE -- DAY 2**

8

Boxes everywhere. Not much unpacked as SARAH JANE picks her way across the lounge followed by GITA.

GITA

Sorry it's such a state. I had a plan - a list of what was what and where it was going. But then you have to go and use removal men, don't you? Forget it, my darling, you might as well give in to chaos. I'm Gita.

She offers her hand, Sarah Jane juggles the flask and cakes to take it.

SARAH JANE

Sarah Jane.

GITA

Well it's very nice to meet you, Sarah.

SARAH JANE

GITA (CONT'D)

So here we are, Monday morning, and I have to take care of everything all by myself. Still, what's the difference there then, eh? Shall I see if I can find some cups?

SARAH JANE

Oh. Perfect.

As Gita heads for the kitchen and Sarah Jane quickly puts her things down and flicks open her watch and starts to scan the room.

GITA (O.S.)

So, that's your house, is it? The big one right opposite?

SARAH JANE

(still scanning)

Yes.

GITA (O.S.)

You got kids, Sarah?

SARAH JANE

(to herself,
frustrated)

Sarah Jane.

Sarah Jane finishes her scan.

9

EXT. PARK VALE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND -- DAY 2

9

LUKE and RANI are talking as CLYDE plays playground basketball with a bunch of other kids (including DAVE FINN, and STEVE WALLACE). He's showing off for Rani, but she's hardly noticing...

RANI

So what were the last people like that lived in our house? Mr Jackson and his daughter?

LUKE

Nice. I miss Maria.

RANI

(teasing)

Oh, yes?

LUKE

I mean... we were friends. Maria, Clyde and me.

RANI

We can be friends.

LUKE

Yes. But it wouldn't be the same.

RANI

Oh. Sorry I suggested it.

LUKE

No - I didn't mean... I can't explain.
(frustrated,
apologising)
Inter-personal relationships is something I haven't mastered yet.

Rani studies him for a moment.

RANI

You know, I hope you don't mind me telling you - but you do know you're a bit weird, don't you? I mean, I think you're all right. Just a bit strange.

LUKE

(matter-of-fact)

I'm not strange, I'm just different. There's a difference.

(CONTINUED)

RANI

Yeah. I suppose. These kids going missing, though, that is weird. Three in two weeks. And the police just don't have a clue.

LUKE

Don't worry, statistically the chances of you being abducted are extremely remote.

She gives him a side-long look.

RANI

Like I said, strange. I'm not worried. I'm interested, that's all. It's weird. I'm...

(thinking uneasily of
the clown)

I'm into weird.

Luke gives her a sidelong glance - she's moved into the right road, then...

RANI (CONT'D)

(tentative, probing)

Have you ever seen anything strange? I mean around school?

Luke hesitates, frowns.

LUKE

Like what?

But she's overtaken by events.

As Clyde in the basketball game calls out...

CLYDE

Finney, over here!

Dave Finn passes Clyde the ball, and Clyde goes for a basket - but misses badly - and the ball hits passing HARESH on the back of the head.

Everybody winces, including Luke and Rani, as Haresh slowly turns around, fuming...

HARESH

Langer! My office. Now!

CUT TO:

10

INT. CHANDRAS' HOUSE. LOUNGE -- DAY 2

10

SARAH JANE and GITA are finishing their tea. Sarah Jane is looking anxious to get away; she's been here longer than she intended, already...

GITA

So what do you do for a living, Sarah?

SARAH JANE

I'm a freelance journalist.

GITA

A journalist? My Rani wants to be a journalist. What a coincidence. Maybe she should come round? You could give her some tips.

The last thing Sarah Jane needs!

SARAH JANE

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

At the bottom of the corridor - some way off - he sees Odd Bob. Just standing there.

CLYDE (CONT'D)

Hey!

And runs towards him. Odd Bob has time to pull a handkerchief from his pocket - it's huge. He holds it up - obscuring himself. As Clyde gets there it falls - and Odd Bob has vanished. Clyde is stunned.

Then hears a door swing behind him - it's the door to the boys' toilets...

Clyde steels himself and pushes it...

CUT TO

12 **INT. PARK VALE BOYS' TOILETS -- DAY 2**

12

The toilets are empty. CLYDE checks the cubicles - and, from behind...

ODD BOB (O.S.)

He's behind you!

Clyde spins.

FX SHOT: In the washbasin mirror he sees Odd Bob standing there. He looks like he's standing right next to Clyde - only he isn't there - just in the mirror.

CLYDE

Who - what - are you?

ODD BOB

All I want to do is give you a balloon!

FX SHOT: Odd Bob's hand, holding a red balloon stretches out of the mirror into the room! Clyde's eyes pop...

And the door bursts open - HARESH.

HARESH

Langer! I've been looking for you! Why aren't you outside my office?!

Clyde looks at the mirror - Odd Bob has vanished.

CUT TO:

13 **INT. PARK VALE - HARESH'S OFFICE -- DAY 2**

13

CLYDE is sitting opposite an angry HARESH.

(CONTINUED)

HARESH

A clown?

CLYDE

That's what I saw. Look, if I'm making it up, tell me - where is Finney - I mean Dave?

HARESH

He's been kidnapped by a clown? From the stationery cupboard? Langer, I don't know what sort of game you think you're playing, but this is not the way to make an impression on me!

Clyde is regretting this now.

CLYDE

Yeah, I know. I should've kept my mouth shut.

HARESH

Children are disappearing and you think that's something to joke about?

CLYDE

You told us - you said if we see anything suspicious, sing out. Well, I am. Listen, sir, I tell jokes - not lies.

Haresh considers this...

HARESH

David Finn has probably just bunked off school early.!

CLYDE

He wouldn't. Ask anyone.

HARESH

So how come no-one else saw this clown? Not even our CCTV cameras?

But Clyde's frustrated. Had enough.

CLYDE

Oh, what's the use? I knew I was wasting my time even talking to you! You're never going to believe me! It's a good thing that there's somebody else that will!

CUT TO:

14

EXT. PARK VALE SCHOOL GATES -- DAY 2

14

It's home time. Worried CLYDE and LUKE are deep in conversation as they leave.

LUKE

So you think we should tell mum?

CLYDE

What do you think? Mr Chandra's called in the police now. But they're not going to be looking for a clown that comes at you out of a mirror, are they?

LUKE

You didn't tell him that part, did you?

CLYDE

What am I? Mr Thicko of Thicksville? 'Course I didn't. But we know aliens have nabbed kids before. Remember Kudlak.

LUKE

Yes. Aliens. This was a clown. Why would an alien be dressed as a clown?

CLYDE

So you don't believe me, either. Thanks a lot, mate.

LUKE

Of course I believe you. I just don't understand it.

CLYDE

Well, there's a first.

And out of the corner of his eye, Clyde catches a flash of red, yellow and blue - ODD BOB!

CLYDE (CONT'D)

There it is!

Luke sees nothing -

LUKE

Where?

But Clyde has already taken off in the direction he saw the clown.

CLYDE

Come on!

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

Luke runs after him.

CUT TO

15 **EXT. STREETS/ALLEYWAY -- DAY 2**

RANI

They don't even believe the clown exists. You know that.

LUKE

But Clyde's right. It's nothing to do with us.

Rani is barely keeping hold of her anger now.

RANI

Look, there's something happening here that doesn't make everyday sense. Maybe you can ignore it because it doesn't go with your Mp3 players and your designer trainers but I can't. I've got to know what's going on.

CLYDE

(to Luke, quietly)

Oh, Sarah Jane's going to love this one.

As a car pulls up outside Rani's house. She gets suddenly agitated.

RANI

Look, there's something I've got to tell you. Something about me you ought to know.

CLYDE

You're from another planet. I already guessed.

But Luke has already seen...

LUKE

Actually, Clyde, it's worse than that...

And he indicates as HARESH gets out of the car.

CLYDE

Oh, no. Rani, tell me there's a good reason why our new Head just pulled up outside your house that doesn't include the word "dad".

RANI

Honestly, he's all right, really. It's just his job.

CLYDE

Yeah, that's what they said about Doctor Frankenstein.

(CONTINUED)

As Haresh sees her - and who she's with.

HARESH

Rani.

RANI

Hi, Dad.

As GITA emerges from the house.

GITA

Haresh! Don't worry, there are still plenty of boxes for you to open. Rani, my darling, how was your first day at school? Did your dad go all Captain Bligh again?

Luke and Clyde exchange a smile, Haresh simmers, embarrassed.

HARESH

I do not go Captain Bligh.

RANI

Just a bit. This is Luke and Clyde.

GITA

Luke?

LUKE

Luke Smith. Pleased to meet you.

Clyde rolls his eyes - Luke's so square!

HARESH

(with sudden interest)

Luke Smith?

As SARAH JANE closes on them from across the road, a tad defensive.

SARAH JANE

He's my son. I'm Sarah Jane Smith.

Haresh shakes her hand, excited.

HARESH

I've been looking at his results for the last year. Very, very impressive. Remarkable, in fact.

Sarah Jane puts an arm around Luke. It's part pride, part protection.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED: (3)

16

SARAH JANE
He's very gifted.

GITA
(to Rani)
Sarah is a journalist.

RANI
For real?
(to Sarah Jane)
I'm really interested in being a
reporter. Maybe I can come over some
time?

SARAH JANE
Well, I really am rather busy.

CLYDE
(to Gita)
Clyde Langer. The joker in the pack.
Apparently. Oh, and I see clowns that
don't exist.

Haresh simmers.

CUT TO:

17 **INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC -- DAY 2**

17

SARAH JANE bursts in, with LUKE and CLYDE behind.

SARAH JANE
Of course your Head Teacher was never
going to believe you, Clyde. Nor would
the police. Children don't vanish out
of closed rooms. It's impossible as far
as they are concerned.

CLYDE
But what about the clown? If it's an
alien that's taking these kids, a clown
disguise isn't exactly low-profile.

LUKE
But it might know that kids are supposed
to like clowns.

SARAH JANE
(shudders)
Personally, they always gave me
nightmares.

(CONTINUED)

LUKE

Clourophobia. It's the fear of clowns.
Johnny Depp has it.

CLYDE

What encyclopedia did you find that in?

LUKE

Heat.

SARAH JANE

Ramfind that in?

19 CONTINUED:

19

And Haresh follows Gita out. Closes the door after him.

Quickly, Rani is into the bag of Finney's schoolwork. And it doesn't take her long... All over the books - pictures and pictures sketched by Finney of ever-more malevolent clowns.

Shocked, Rani looks up - and at the kitchen window, his face pressed to the glass, is ODD BOB!

In fright, Rani jumps backwards in her chair, almost knocks it over.

She closes her eyes, tight.

RANI

No. You're not there.

And she opens her eyes.

And Odd Bob is standing in the kitchen!

His painted smile breaks apart to show ugly, yellowed teeth. And he's reaching towards her with a red balloon...

Rani is speechless with fear...

And the kitchen door opens. Gita's coming through it.

GITA

Rani, you've got a visitor.

Odd Bob has gone. Like he was never there.

And Luke follows Gita into the kitchen, completely unaware.

Rani could almost cry with relief.

LUKE

(unaware)

I thought you might need help unpacking.

CUT TO:

20

EXT. PARK VALE SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD -- LAT Qq1 02 BenON 2T Qq1 02 w 00S

STEVE WALLACE

My dad says journalists are scum.
They're like crows picking at road-kill.

CLYDE

I suppose he only buys a newspaper to
look at the pictures, then. Come on,
Steve. Sarah Jane is trying to help
find Finney.

Steve starts to bounce a football from knee to knee.

STEVE WALLACE

21 CONTINUED:

21

STEVE WALLACE

Take a hike, Krusty.

And ignores the proffered ticket. The boys carry on their way. Odd Bob watches them go.

CUT TO

22 EXT. PARK VALE SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD -- LATE AFTERNOON 2 22

SARAH JANE, CLYDE and STEVE WALLACE as they were.

SARAH JANE

So Tony Warner, the boy that went missing in the park took a ticket, as well?

STEVE WALLACE

Yeah. But they were just tickets off a clown. It doesn't mean anything, does it?

But Sarah Jane is on the scent of something...

SARAH JANE

What were the tickets for?

As a thought hits Clyde. He digs into his coat pockets...

CLYDE

Just a minute. I'd forgotten all about this. My mum said she'd picked it up at the shops.

And he pulls out a carelessly folded ticket.

CLYDE (CONT'D)

Like I'd want to go.

Sarah Jane looks at the ticket. And looks at Clyde, worrying.

CUT TO

23 INT. RANI'S BEDROOM -- LATE AFTERNOON 2

23

More half-unpacked boxes, sitting ignored as RANI brings concerned LUKE up to speed.

RANI

It was in the kitchen, Luke. It's getting closer to me.

(CONTINUED)

LUKE

Don't worry, it's gone now.

RANI

There's more. Look at this.

She gives him one of Finney's sketchbooks from Haresh's bag. As Luke turns from one picture of the clown to the next, each more scary than the last...

RANI (CONT'D)

Dad's taking Finney's books to the police. They're looking for clues. But I don't think they'll be looking for size twenty footprints.

LUKE

Even if they do take it seriously, there might not be anything they can do.

RANI

(excited)

You see! This isn't natural. None of it. It's - it's supernatural!

LUKE

I doubt that it's supernatural.

RANI

You've got such a closed mind! The supernatural is only science we don't know yet - like life on other planets.

LUKE

That's different.

RANI

Look, I've got to do something, Luke. Look at those pictures. Finney was seeing the clown the same as I am.

Luke finds something trapped between two pages - another of Odd Bob's tickets.

LUKE

(reads)

Spellman's Magical Museum of the Circus?

Rani's eyes widen. She quickly hunts through some of her stuff - comes up with another ticket just like it.

RANI

People were handing these out by the tube.

(CONTINUED)

For Rani things start to fit into place. She's thinking fast. As Luke makes a decision.

LUKE

I think you should talk to my mum.

RANI

I can't talk to anyone, Luke. Don't you get it? You haven't seen the Clown. I think only kids that get one of these can see it. And then they disappear!

LUKE

(alarmed)

Clyde saw it.

RANI

Then he must have a ticket

LUKE

Believe me, Mum understands things like this.

RANI

Luke, whatever's going on here, no-one understands things like this. But this ticket has got to be a clue.

And she's on her feet as Luke looks anxious.

RANI (CONT'D)

Are you coming?

24 CONTINUED:

24

SARAH JANE

You know, Clyde, occasionally your sense of humour really leaves something to be desired.

She is looking at the life-size clown pictures, uneasy. Clyde doesn't notice.

CLYDE

Who said I was joking?

Clyde starts moving towards the door, then notices Sarah Jane holding back.

CLYDE (CONT'D)

Are you all right?

Sarah Jane is looking at the clowns. Steels herself.

SARAH JANE

Clowns make my skin crawl.
(steels herself)
Come on.

Ignoring the clowns (and her real deep-down fear of them) she leads Clyde into the museum.

CUT TO

25 INT. CIRCUS MUSEUM -- LATE AFTERNOON 2

25

SARAH JANE and CLYDE find themselves in a strange, dimly lit world of old circus exhibits. In the background we can hear odd snatches of different pieces of circus music from the various areas. A mechanical laughing clown rocks back and forth, heightening Sarah Jane's unease. There are posters on the walls and pictures of circus acts dating back decades. Glass cases contain tableaux of circus acts from years gone by. There's circus music playing quietly in the background, but despite the frivolous colours and the nature of the display there's something *not right* about it all.

CLYDE

Like museums don't normally creep me out, all those stuffed animals, old bones and mummies, but this place doesn't just take the biscuit, this place gets the whole Christmas tin.

And then ELIJAH SPELLMAN, dressed as a ringmaster, is there. As if from nowhere. Beaming, welcoming, but somehow sinister...

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

SPELLMAN

Welcome, welcome to Spellman's Magical Museum of the Circus and the story of the most wondrous family entertainment in the world.

Spellman bounds across to a model of the Colosseum in Ancient Rome.

SPELLMAN (CONT'D)

From the tumblers and jugglers of Ancient Rome.

And then on to an oil painting of early 19th century cavalry men charging on horseback.

SPELLMAN (CONT'D)

To the father of the modern circus - believe it or not, a Sergeant Major in the 15th Light Dragoons.

SARAH JANE

Mr Spellman, I presume.

SPELLMAN

Elijah Spellman at your service.

SARAH JANE

My name is Sarah Jane Smith. I'm a journalist. This is my friend Clyde. We're here to talk to you about clowns.

Spellman's eyes light up.

SPELLMAN

Ah, the princes of the sawdust ring! This way, please.

Spellman leads them out of the room.

CUT TO

26

INT. CIRCUS MUSEUM. CLOWN ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

26

SPELLMAN leads SARAH JANE and CLYDE through - into a room filled with life-size clown mannequins. Every one with a painted smile.

Sarah Jane swallows down on her phobia.

Spellman is in his element...

(CONTINUED)

SPELLMAN

Mankind has always needed someone to make them laugh, slave or king.

CLYDE

Can you do me a favour and drop a note to my Head Teacher?

Spellman ignores, irritated by the interruption to his schtick...

SPELLMAN

The Pharaohs had fools, so did Native Americans. We had the harlequin and, in the Middle Ages, the jester.

SARAH JANE

It's not so much the clown's showbiz history that I'm interested in, Mr Spellman, as their reputation for scaring people.

Spellman looks at her, senses her uneasiness among the clown mannequins.

SPELLMAN

Ah, the fear of the painted smile.

And Spellman smiles. It is an unsettling thing.

SARAH JANE

It's not as simple as that, Mr Spellman. They used to paint clowns on the walls of children's wards, but when they were asked, every child said the pictures scared them. Children sense things.

Sarah Jane pushes aside a memory...

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

I know.

CUT TO

RANI and LUKE reach the museum.

RANI

Come on!

Luke holds her back.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

LUKE

I really don't think we should be doing this.

Rani pulls free.

RANI

Okay. We won't. I'll go in on my own.

And she goes in. Luke follows.

CUT TO

28

INT. CIRCUS MUSEUM. CLOWN ROOM -- LATE AFTERNOON 2

28

CLYDE, who's been mooching around the exhibition, calls SARAH JANE's attention to a picture.

CLYDE

SARAH JANE
Myths, legends, fairy tales... Every
story has its inspiration, Clyde.
(turning around)
Mr Spellman...

But Spellman has gone. And the museum feels darkly
threatening.

CLYDE
Where did he go?

Sarah Jane looks around her at the clown mannequin.
She's anxious.

SARAH JANE
I don't know, but something tells me we
should get out of here, too. Quickly,
come on!

They turn to go - and find LUKE and RANI standing there.

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)
Luke?

And Luke is just as shocked.

LUKE
Mum?

CLYDE
What are you doing here?

But Rani is as much confused as shocked.

RANI
What are we doing here? What are you
doing here?

LUKE
(to Sarah Jane)
You told me to stay with her.

Rani's confusion is getting to critical point.

RANI
Am I missing something?

CLYDE
(to Luke)
Yeah, and keep her out of the action.

RANI
What action?

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: (2)

28

And one of the mannequin clowns grabs Rani's arm. She screams. Clyde leaps to her aid, pulling the clown off her.

CLYDE

What's happening?

But around them the other mannequin clowns are coming to life. Closing in on them.

RANI

They're alive!

SARAH JANE

Run!

CUT TO

29 INT. CIRCUS MUSEUM. CORRIDOR/ROOMS -- LATE AFTERNOON 2 29

SARAH JANE, CLYDE, LUKE and RANI charge through the museum - other mannequin clowns grabbing for them, moving like automata.

CLYDE

What happened to Spellman?

SARAH JANE

He's controlling them.

I think they're like puppets - probably

under some soegLof thelekSMNk2fo thelekg2 Tm /auiB/9cM0 12 1

29 CONTINUED:

29

She aims the sonic at the clowns and zaps. The clowns aren't moving forward any more, their arms jerk as if they're trying to move but can't.

RANI

What was that?

SARAH JANE

Sonic lipstick. Never leave home without it. I've seized up their joints. Should hold them up for a while, just be careful to stay out of their reach as you slip by.

And carefully Sarah Jane leads them through the clowns, nimbly dodging their twitching hands. Rani's eyes are wide with amazement.

RANI

(to Sarah Jane)

Aliens. Luke said aliens.

CLYDE

Actually, he just said alien.

SARAH JANE

And it will still be around here somewhere. Come on. There's no time for explanations.

Sarah Jane leads the way through the museum, sonic at the ready. Luke follows. Rani is just trying to keep up in her head, never mind on foot. Clyde takes her hand.

CLYDE

She's right. And from what I've seen before, one alien can be as much trouble as a whole invasion.

Rani just boggles at him, but allows herself to be led.

CUT TO

30

INT. CIRCUS MUSEUM. LOBBY -- LATE AFTERNOON 2

30 CONTINUED: (2)

30

(NB: This should be the same actor playing all the aspects of Spellman)

PIED PIPER

I am the Pied Piper, who conjured away a whole town's infants, and has chilled the hearts of parents for more than seven centuries.

FX SHOT: The Pied Piper transforms into ODD BOB, the pipe is now the red balloon.

ODD BOB

And now I am Odd Bob the Clown, who snatches children in the heartbeat their mother's back is turned. I am the thing that lives in the darkest corners. I am all these things and more. I am all that you fear the most. And you are mine to feed on!

And Odd Bob reaches out to take them. Sarah Jane and the others cower away - but there is no escape!

PART ONE ends