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SCENE 2. INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR

STELLA comes through the doors of a busy hospital, approaches a nurses station.

7. STELLA Nurse, excuse me. I'm looking for a patient.

Jack Harkness.

8. NURSE Sure, I'll just check for you/Harkness. ITU,
Bay 2..

As GWEN approaches and intercepts.

9. GWEN

15. GWEN Yes.

16. STELLA I don't understand, Jack can't die.

17. GWEN This is worse than death.

Gwen pushes open a door.

SCENE 3. INT. HOSPITAL ITU ROOM

<u>STELLA gasps – as she sees JACK. He's wide-eyed but apparently comatose hooked up to bleeping monitors. The hiss of equipment breathing for him.</u>

18. STELLA My God.

GWEN closes the door. IANTO, in vigil beside Jack's bed, stands.

19. IANTO You must be Stella. Sorry I called you so late.

20. STELLA It's ok lanto. I'm glad you did.

She goes to unconscious Jack.

21. STELLA Jack.

22. GWEN His eyes have been open since he collapsed,

but we don't think he can hear us

Stella examines. Shines a torch in Jack's eyes, and checks his reflexes.

23. STELLA His pupils are dilated, completely blown. No

reaction to light stimulation. No perceptivity

on full body check....but some basic reflexive

movements, so...

24. GWEN Is that good?

25. STELLA ...this isn't a coma. It's more like a trance.

How long has he been like this?

26. IANTO Thirteen hours.

| 27. | STELLA | He hasn't aged a day. Of course he hasn't. |
|-----------|----------------------|--|
| 28. | IANTO | Can you help him? |
| 29. | STELLA | Let's find out. |
| Stella ty | pes into the compute | er monitor. |
| 30. | STELLA | Look – there. On the monitor. |
| 31. | IANTO | What are we looking at? |
| 32. | STELLA | Brain activity. Small. Just like a tiny blinking light in the dark. But it's there. |
| 33. | GWEN | Does that mean there's a chance? |
| 34. | STELLA | It's a start. What happened? He doesn't look like he's been in any sort of accident. |
| 35. | IANTO | Stella, it's not just Jack. |
| 36. | STELLA | What do you mean? |
| 37. | GWEN | There are twenty other people in this hospital. |

SCENE 4. INT. ROBERTS' HOUSE

A telephone starts to ring. It's the bell of an old-fashioned 1970s phone. In bed. BOB and his wife JAN. She stirs as the phone continues to ring.

40. JAN Bob... Bob!

Bob isn't keen on waking up...

- 41. BOB Hmmm? What?
- 42. JAN The phone.
- 43. BOB What? It's quarter past three. It'll be a wrong

48. BOB Who's there? If this is someone having a

laugh, congratulations you got me out of my

bed. Very funny. Ha. Ha.

And on the other end of the line... the sound of an old exchange making connections...

49. BOB What the hell...?



SCENE 7. INT.ROBERTS' HOUSE

JACK, GWEN and JAN.

67. JAN He's a fit man. There was no sign he was ill.

Nothing. So how did this happen? I can't lose

him. Not like this (getting upset)

Gwen hands her a cup.

68.

| 76. | JACK | Now listen to me, I'm not going to make you any wild promises I can't keep. I'm just going to tell you what I know. That I will do everything I can to bring Bob back to you. And believe me, I never give up on anything. So don't you give up on Bob. |
|-----|------|--|
| 77. | JAN | (SNIFFS BACK HER TEARS) What do you want me to do? |
| 78. | GWEN | He was on the phone, wasn't he? When it happened. |
| 79. | JAN | Yes. It rang in the middle of the night. |
| 80. | GWEN | Can we see the phone, please? |
| 81. | JAN | If you like. But how's that going to help? |

85. GWEN You go ahead. We'll be fine.

Jan gets the call, walks back into the kitchen with the mobile.

86. JAN Ellie... No there's no change. What time is your train...

SCENE 7a In the Hall

Jack picks up the receiver of the Roberts' phone. There's a little ding of the bell as he does so.

| 87. | JACK | This should be in a museum. |
|-----|------|---|
| 88. | GWEN | No, Jack, it's almost trendy. |
| 89. | JACK | Trendy? Are you saying I don't get trendy? Look at me. |
| 90. | GWEN | Yeah. 'Course. Museum chic. |
| 91. | JACK | Classic never goes out of style. |
| 92. | GWEN | Which is why old phones like this sell for a bomb these days. |
| 93. | JACK | Style is one thing. Technology is quite another. Everywhere apart from Earth. Here, the more technology advances the more you people hanker for the past. |

Another ding as he replaces the handset.

| 94. | GWEN | And on the subject of technology, put your |
|-----|------|--|
| | | foot against the door while I scan the phone |
| | | for Rift energy. |

Gwen pulls a gizmo from her pocket. Electronic beeping as she scans.

95. JACK You know I had a phone just like that one.

Nineteen seventy four. The Towering Inferno,
Abba, streakers, chiffon scarves. Good times.

Gwen turns the gizmo off.

| 96. | GWEN | Faint traces of residual Rift energy, Jack. We |
|-----|------|--|
| | | should take this back to the Hub. |
| | | |
| 97. | JACK | Are you telling me that there's something |
| | | alien buzzing through the Cardiff phone |
| | | network? |
| | | |
| 98. | GWEN | Which means that every time someone |
| | | answers a call they could be in danger |

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108.

SCENE 9 INT. THE HUB

GWEN enters through the rolling door. JACK and IANTO have been running tests on the phone.

| 123. | GWEN | So, how have you been getting on with the Roberts's phone? |
|------|-------|--|
| 124. | JACK | Not just the Roberts's phone. Look. |
| 125. | GWEN | Someone's been busy. |
| 126. | IANTO | I wonder who that could've been. |
| 127. | JACK | The other victims' phones. Notice anything? |
| 128. | GWEN | They're all the same. Old fashioned. Seventies phones. |

The ding of an old phone's receiver being lifted. Jack's talking into it.

| 129. | JACK | Two-tone grey – standard office issue. Hi, |
|------|------|--|
| | | baby. Want to come see The Texas Chainsaw |
| | | Massacre tonight? |
| | | |

130. IANTO And they went with you?

131. JACK Hey, it was the seventies. The movies were so bad, making out was a dead cert. You

should've seen me in my platforms and five inch lapels. You'd have looked hot, lanto.
Sideburns and a Mexican moustache. You should try it. A little seventies role play.

| 132. | IANTO | Please, God. No. |
|------|-------|---|
| 133. | JACK | (WISTFUL) Stella Courtney liked to role play. |
| 134. | GWEN | Who? |
| 135. | JACK | I dated her back in seventy five for a few weeks. She was a junior doctor back then. She's one of the country's top neuroscientists today. But boy, did she have some imagination for a boffin! |
| 136. | IANTO | You're still in touch with her? |
| 137. | JACK | Haven't seen her in years. But I check her out once in a while. Make sure she's okay. Anyway that's old news this on the other hand |
| 138. | IANTO | Is a piece of paper. |
| 139. | JACK | With the phone number that, according to the records, rang all these museum pieces before their owners collapsed. Cardiff two oh five nine. |
| 140. | GWEN | That can't be right. Phone numbers all have six numbers. Don't they? |

| 141. | IANTO | They do now. But not thirty years ago. |
|------|-------|--|
| 142. | GWEN | You mean in the seventies? What the hell has |
| | | the nineteen seventies got to do with what's |
| | | happening to all these people? |

152. IANTO

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| 164. | STELLA | But there's no physical change. He's not |
|------|--------|--|
| | | coming out of it.(A THOUGHT!) Where are |
| | | the other patients? |
| | | |
| 165. | GWEN | This way. I'll show you. |

SCENE 11 INT. HOSPITAL WARD

GWEN and STELLA rush onto the ward. Twenty patients the same as Jack. The same rapid beeping from twenty monitors.

168. GWEN

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SCENE 13. TRUCKERS' CAFÉ

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| GWEN | And there's you always saying you don't |
|------|---|
| | spend enough time with me, Rhys Williams. |
| | You're starting to think like a copper. |
| | |
| RHYS | I got the feet for it, too. Come on. |
| | |
| | |

SCENE 14. HOSPITAL ITU ROOM

[Beat.]

IANTO has remained with unconscious JACK. STELLA returns to the room with coffee.

| 200. | STELLA | I brought you a coffee. |
|------|--------|--|
| 201. | IANTO | Thanks. He's just the same. |
| 202. | STELLA | I've seen Jack's brain scans. There's no apparent physical cause for his condition. No tumors and no haemorageI think what's going on here is some sort of electrochemical reaction to what came down that phone line. |
| 203. | ANTO | An electrical signal? |
| 204. | STELLA | Signal, some sort of sentient electrical lifeform. Who knows? I saw too much stuff back in the seventies to discount anything. |
| 205. | IANTO | With Jack, you mean? |
| 206. | STELLA | Never meant to get mixed up in Torchwood, but somehowchanges how you see the world. |
| 207. | IANTO | So how do you see this? |

208. STELLA

It's an amazing thing the brain, lanto.

Basically, it's like a crazy thunderstorm of energy going on all the time. A hundred billion neurons sending electrochemical pulses to each other along thin protoplasmic fibres, up to a hundred of them every second at practically the speed of light. Whatever was on the other end of that phone has acted like some sort of computer virus, turning those pulses off.

209. IANTO

But if all those pulses were stopped, that would shut down his breathing and his organs. He'd be dead.

210. STELLA

That's right, and that's the interesting part.

Whatever's turned off the action potentials in Jack's brain, has left just enough turned in to keep his body, and those of the other victims, functioning.

211. IANTO

SCENE 15 EXT. DERELICT OFFICE BUILDING

The SUV doors slam shut.

| 213. | RHYS | This is it? |
|------|------|---|
| 214. | GWEN | Cardiff hasn't had four digit phone numbers for more than twenty years. But when it did, if you rang two-oh-five-nine you were calling this place, Madoc House, head office of the Cardiff and West Building Society. |
| 215. | RHYS | Looks like it's seen better days. |
| 216. | GWEN | The C and W moved shop to Swansea in the mid-seventies. |
| 217. | RHYS | And it's stood empty since then? |

| 221. | RHYS | Does that mean I | get a gun like yours? |
|------|------|------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | |

222. GWEN No, I think it's safer that way, don't you?

And she's gone. Rhys follows. The metal noisily falling back into place.

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| | | 35 | | |
|--|------|--|--|--|
| 229. | RHYS | And is there? | | |
| 230. | GWEN | Barely. | | |
| 231. | RHYS | Then we're wasting our time. Come on, I'm choking on the stink. I need some fresh air. | | |
| From elsewhere in the building – the sound of an old telephone ringing echoing through the floors. Chilling. | | | | |
| 232. | GWEN | Listen! | | |
| 233. | RHYS | There's no wiring. That phone can't be ringing. | | |
| 234. | GWEN | Just like those phones back at the Hub. | | |
| She heads off. | | | | |
| 235. | RHYS | So where do you think you're going? | | |

To find it.

(departing)

supposed to be bad news.

I thought phones were

236.

237.

GWEN

RHYS

Scene 16B

They're going upstairs

238. GWEN Up here. Come on.

They're going up steps. The sound of the phone getting slowly louder.

239. RHYS God! It smells even worse up here. What is

that?

As they come to the top of the stairs.

240. GWEN Maybe you should wait here, Rhys.

As she pulls her gun. Ka-chink, as she loads it.

241. RHYS

them.

247. RHYS: I'm going in.

And Rhys opens the door. The ringing phone's louder – the buzzing flies louder still – as they come pouring out.

248. RHYS Get off, you filthy beggers! Get off!

Then they're both coughing, spitting. Overwhelmed by the flies and the stink. And then the buzzing of the flies subsides a little... And they see what lies around the still ringing phone.

249. GWEN Oh, my God. ...

250. RHYS Oh. Hell.

And Rhys throws up.



260. GWEN

Some sort of super-dense alien alloy. There, That'll keep it out of trouble.(A THOUGHS0.2 (

SCENE 18. INT. HOSPITAL ITU ROOM

IANTO is alone with JACK.

266. IANTO They say that you're supposed to talk to

people when they're in a coma, don't they? I have absolutely no idea whether or not you can hear me, Jack. I never heard of anybody

267. IANTO

This must be the longest I've ever looked at you and not seen you smile. I've watched you in your sleep, did you know that? So many times. Just woken up beside you in the middle of the night, and watched you, watched your eyes moving behind your eyelids as you dreamed and tried to imagine what a man like you could possibly dream about. The things you've seen, and the lives you've lived. The people you've loved. I wondered if you were dreaming about me. I hoped you were dreaming about me. But let's be honest, Jack, I'm nothing more than a blip in time for you. Every day I grow a little older, but you're immortal. You've already lived a thousand life times. How could you watch me grow old and die, Jack? How can I watch you live and never age a day? I suppose we both know that will never be a problem. Not in this

SCENE 19. INT. MR TYLER'S OFFICE

275. TYLER

Oh. The telephones? I see. I'm sorry, I believe the developers have already made arrangements All the telephony equipment has been sold on.

| 285. | GWEN | In St Helen's Hospital. All of them after a phone call. A call that came from the telephone number your company used at Madoc House. On phones that came from there too. |
|---------|-------|--|
| 286. | TYLER | That's impossible. |
| 287. | GWEN | All the same, I can see from the way your hands are shaking that you sort of understand it. Don't you? |
| 288. | TYLER | Who are you people? |
| 289. | GWEN | We're Torchwood. Now what have you got to hide? |
| 290. | TYLER | We're not hiding anything. The Cardiff and West has always been a caring business. A family business We look after our own. |
| 291. | RHYS | Look after who, Mr Tyler? |
| 292. | TYLER | I think, perhaps, you should come with me. See for yourselves. Please. |
| Tulance | d O | d Dhua mat um |

Tyler opens a door. Gwen and Rhys get up.

| 293. | GWEN | Where are we going? |
|------|-------|---|
| 294. | TYLER | It's not far. Just on the coast. A private nursing home. Our's as a matter of fact. |

SCENE 21. INT. NURSING HOME. BEDROOM

TYLER leads GWEN and RHYS into a bedroom. There's the familiar sound of monitoring and life support equipment. A woman lies unconscious in the bed.

| 300. | TYLER | This is Gillian. She's been here thirty three |
|------|-------|---|
| | | years. |
| 301. | GWEN | Oh, my God - her eyes. She's just like all the others. |
| 302. | RHYS | But this happened in 1976? |
| 303. | TYLER | September 24th. Three o'clock. That's when the phones started to ring. We worked in the |

307. TYLER

Thirty four years ago? Thirteen. Being in a

314. GWEN

No, Mr Tyler, I don't. But tell me something else. Gillian and the other patients – did something happen first thing this morning?

SCENE 22. INT HOSPITAL CORRIDOR/ ITU ROOM



| 340. | RHYS | Hang on, you're not telling me that the Rift |
|------|-------|--|
| | | has some sort of effect on the weather? |
| 341. | GWEN | Of course. Why do you think they never saw |
| | | the hurricane coming back in the eighties? |
| 342. | IANTO | There's a Rift match with the storm of |
| | | September 24 th . |
| 343. | GWEN | A storm that hit Madoc House and then all0.2 (|



magnetic pulse. Calibrated to the frequency recorded on Stella's brain scans. It's the same process the Hub computer system uses to repulse virus attacks.

357. STELLA

The MRI scanner. It uses electro-magnetic

energy.

358. IANTO

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IANTO is wiring the PDA into the scanner's computer as STELLA wheels JACK in there with them,. His monitor still "dialling"...

| 370. | STELLA | Help me with this trolley. I need to keep Jack monitored. How much longer? |
|------|--------|--|
| 371. | IANTO | Nearly there. The PDA's wired in. Accessing the Hub computer system |
| 372. | STELLA | They're still dialling. The whole city could be out by now. |
| 373. | IANTO | I need that phone! |

lanto activates the scanner. It thrums into life. In the same instant the old phone starts to ring. The electricity builds. The cacophony of phones ringing around the building, louder and louder. Crescendo to

SCENE 25 INT. THE HUB

STELLA has just finished examining JACK

| 386. | STELLA | Okay, Jack, you can get dressed now. |
|------|--------|--|
| 387. | JACK | So how did I score, Doc? |
| 388. | STELLA | It's Professor now, Jack. And it was a medical, you didn't score. Not this time. |
| 389. | JACK | Not like the old days? |
| 390. | STELLA | Not even close. I'm a grandmother now. |
| 391. | JACK | And such a glamorous one. |
| | | |

Stella laughs.

| 397. | GWEN | Seems the electro-magnetic pulse destroyed |
|------|--------|--|
| | | the virus and re-set the victims' brains as they |
| | | were. Half the phone network is burned out, |
| | | mind |
| | | |
| 398. | STELLA | Then I should be getting back. It's been good |
| | | to see you again. Jack. |

407. JACK