

DOCTOR WHO AND THE MANTRAPS

THE CHANGING FACE OF DOCTOR WHO

The cover artwork of this book portrays the fifteenth Doctor Who played by Ncuti Gatwa.



AND THE MANTRAPS Based on the BBC television adventure 'Dot and Bubble' by Russel T Davis

SCULLY BENNETT

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Cover artwork By Scully Bennett

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Prologue

1st June 2024, 3 Minto Road, Notting Hill, London.

Ruby Sunday was in a rush, she recently came back home after a couple of adventures in time and space, most recently she and her time lord, mate called the doctor was on a war-torn planet known as Kastarion 3. The Doctor mistakenly got trapped when he stepped on a landmine that almost caused that planets destruction.

Ruby did like become back home to her Mom, Carla Sunday and her grandmother, Chery Sunday they were happy and cheerful, as always but she could tell they were worried sick about her traveling in space and time, they were worried that she would be stranded on a moon in the far reaches of the galaxy with no way of getting home, She

shrugged it off as their paternal instincts getting a head off her self but she does appreciate them caring.

Ruby looked around her room to see if she needs to bring anything else on her next trip. "Would I need my keyboard?" she asked herself aloud. Her Mother overheard her in the next Room over.

"Do you think Aliens do discos?" She heard her laughter from the other room. "Maybe you could take my portable Vinyl player?" Her voice grew loud as she entered Rubies Room. "I know the Doctor has that Jukebox in that Box of his, but you'll never known, Some Alien might only communicate in Beatles!" Ruby laughed.

"We met the Beatles in 1963, at Abby Road".

Her mom's face dropped. "Are you kidding?" She paused "Can the doctor take me one day? I want to get my collection signed, that would make Claire jealous." She smirked and let Ruby Continued packing.

In the living Room, Cherry Sunday was watching the Tv. She flickered through each channel at an amazing speed. The doctor sitting across the room from her was amazed at how she can process if a show was bad or boring for the few seconds she saw it. Finally, she landed on an episode of Star Trek, she missed only the first five minutes of the program, but she will happily watch it, if it avoids Countryfile. The doctor got up from the sofa and walked towards rubies room. She was almost finished packing, the suitcase was stuffed to the brim of clothes, ranging in distinctive styles.

"Got everything?" the doctor asked.

"Yeah, I think so." Ruby paused. She had another look around her room. She did not know the next time she would be in here. "I defo got everything."

The doctor smiled "Righty, I'll be in the TARDIS, and we'll head off." The doctor faced towards the front door and headed out the apartment, Ruby moved towards the window, looking at the TARDIS. She was gauging how much of a pain will it take to bring her huge suitcase downstairs, into the TARDIS. In the corner of her eye, she through she saw an old women standing behind the TARDIS. She knew it could not be Misses Flood as she normally wears brightly coloured clothes, The women she saw was wearing all black. She did not catch all the details as she only saw the women for a split second. She saw the Doctor jumpy and jolly head towards his Ship, The TARDIS was parked road from her mother's flat up the because the first-time doctor landed in the apartment it destroyed her roof, and it took months to repair it.

Ruby closed her rooms door. She searched the house looking for her mother and Grandmother. She found them in the living room, as she approached the door frame. Carla got up. She approached Ruby with her arms to give her a huge hug before heading off to Time and Space. Sunday spoke up.

"Make sure that Doctor keeps you safe, if he leaves with the dinosaurs, I'll hit him with my slipper."

"He will Gran" she paused "He will." Ruby went towards Sunday to give her a kiss on the cheeks. Carla walked Ruby out the house and towards the TARDIS. She was carrying and extra coat and three Tupperware boxes with her cooking. The top one had her lasagne and the other two had the cake she baked last night when ruby and the doctor returned.

They both stopped at the front door of the TARDIS. Carla looked sad that ruby was leaving again but she understood that she was 19 years old now, she needs a life beyond her roof. "Make sure to call when you can."

Ruby replied "I will Mum. I am going to miss you" she hugged her mom one last time. She opened the door of the TARDIS and shoved her suitcase in. she grabbed the coat and Tupper boxes from her.

"I'll miss you too sweetheart." Ruby did a smile and entered the box. Within seconds, The TARDIS moaned and groaned, The Blue of the TARDIS faded into the street behind it, the light at the top pulses a bright blue and slowly faded into nothing. The TARDIS was now gone. The doctor and Ruby could be anywhere in space or Time.

Chapter 1

Dot...

Lindy opened her hand graciously to release the tiny device from her palm of her hand. She opened her eyes to see it float five centimetres away from her head. She smiled.

"And bubble"

The device projected screens rotating around her head. Each with videos of each of her friends, they were either chatting, vlogging or playing games. She looked around her tiny community, some unmuted and wished Lindy Pepper-Bean a good morning.

Cooper Mercy was the first person to do this.

"Hi there Lindy!" her smile radiated from the translucent screen. "It is such a super day! You look so good, baby."

Lindy was in shock and thanked her "Oh cooper, you are so kind."

"Kindness all day long!" Cooper mercy video link grew smaller and got pushed along for the next person, Harry Tendency.

"Good morning to you! Another Day!"

Harry's video link was pushed aside too, it was Hoochy Pie's turn.

"Don't lie in bed, lindy Girl!" She said in an affirming tone. "Hup, hup. Today is toasty!"

Lindy rose from the comfort of her bed, counting to interact with her screen.

Blake Very-blue obnoxiously shoved Valerie Nooks video to one side. His voice was high pitched and squeaky. "I heard from Lucien, he said that it was a mistake and that women was her sister!"

His laughter ruptured Lindy's ears and she taped his video and pushed him along. She saw that her best friend's video was empty. Jimbo Fennell was quite as if no one was there.

"Hey, where's Jimbo" She grew a small bit agitated that he was not there, her perfect wake up call was ruined. "He wakes up first, Jimbo? Jim?" she grew more frustrated, almost going into a temper tantrum like a small toddler. "Come on, Jimbo, wake up!"

Gothic Paul's video rose up "have you heard from Mabel?" his face was concerned, he was not bad at the absents of Mabel, just concerned. "And Neve? It is like they disappeared. I tried to link with their bubble, but they are gone-"

before he could finish his sentence, he was pushed aside for Hoochy pie, she returned to Lindy's screen. "Lindy babes, you lie there much longer, your blood is going to pool. I said get up!" Her red hair was fire like the way she spoke. Hoochy Pie revealed she had a toy trumpet and blowed an ear aching tune.

Lindy finally moved away from her bed, as she grew uncomfortable sitting up right.

Her room was simple, there was not much furniture dotted around the room, it was only her bed. Her side lamp and a simple fluffy rug. The room was well kept as a service droid comes in every afternoon when she is out to dust and clean up. Lindy has the bad habit of leaving her clothes on the floor when she is done with them, this was because when she lived with her mother and father she would throw the clothes on the floor and expected a maid to pick it up and put it in the washing machine. Lindy has had a fortunate life. She grew up in a big home and got what ever she wanted. When she was little kid, she wanted to have a unicorn as a pet, therefore her father paid a bunch of scientists to genetically alter a pony to look like one. It died with an hour.

Lindy is now 19 years old and, in her bathroom, getting ready to brush her teeth and do her 20-step skin care routine. While getting the toothpaste from the draw she overheard weather forecaster will.

"And the weather report says..." he paused "it's another glorious day in fine time..." he said in quieter tone then before "in theory." He continued with the same melancholy tone. "Not goanna lie, we've got a little trouble with the weather satellite." Lindy's attention faded, she did not want to hear anything but perfect weather.

When she was bushing her teeth, she thought and paused. She spat out her toothpaste and spoke up.

"Do I need to pee?"

A man with a white coat appeared on video in front of her.

"Urine content is zero for the third day in a row!" She smiled and thanked Dr pee. "Don't waste the day with daily waste!" his voiced got overshadowed by two video calls at once, this time it was two twin yapping.

The twin on the right said. "Oh, my days! Have you seen?! He made a new post!"

The twin on the left. "I cannot breathe! He. Is. Amazing!"

Both twins kept flapling at each other. Lindy's anticipation grew. She moved the twin's along to see the man she has a crush on. Ricky September. He was a tall blond muscular man. All the thing Lindy loves about a man. He has been debating on messaging him or calling him for months however she has not built up the courage to do so. As she was admiring his dancing and singing a strange man video call over shadowed Ricky's. The man was wearing an orange jumper underneath and tartan coat. Lindy face grew sour as if she saw a bug on her window. The man spoke.

"You don't me, but my name is the Doctor." His voice was desperate "Your life is danger. There are creatures out there. In the real world. They are coming to get you!"

Lindy still looked sour, she looked up and down at the Doctor. She pressed the huge that was at the right side of his name. before the doctor could react, he shouted her name.

Lindy continued to admire Ricky, even following along with his song. She picked back up the toothbrush, pretending it was a micro phone.

She kept lip-syncing with out any worry that something be behind her.

Chapter 2

The Doctor, sauntered around the TARDIS console, flick buttons and pressing switches. Ruby was sat looking down from him on one of the TARDISES walkways which leads to many of the rooms the ship has. The TARDISES central column nudged up and down while it is flight. She is enjoying the cake her mother made before they left earth in the mid-2020s. The rooms was lights dashed around them changing in shades of purples and blues. The rooms was a huge ball in shape, the console joining the concaved roof. Ruby thought to herself that the room looks cold to look at however the TARDIS is warm, therefore you do not need to wear any layers. She removed her coat and placed on the banister above her head.

The lights around her stopped and the central console did one more final thud. They have arrived somewhere.

"Where are we?" Ruby spoke aloud."

"I am unsure" the Doctor looked that scanner, seeing if he can digest the information on the surrounding. "We are far from earth, on a planet in Fineline system." The doctor paused and continued to read. He moved to another panel of the TARDIS while ruby got down from the walkway to meet with him. "it's similar to earth during the Jurassic period, the planet is mostly covered in large forests".

Ruby looked jumpy. "so are we going to go explore?". She paused to look at the doctor's response "Is it safe?"

"Let's have a look, shall we?"

The doctor walks away from the console to grab his checkered coat, ruby follows behind him. He opens the door of the TARDIS they both look at the surroundings. They landed near a giant waterfall, 'the drop was at least 200 feet' they both thought.

They both moved way from the TARDIS onto a path. Ruby noticed it looked man made. "This doesn't look natural to me, Doctor"

The Doctor replied looking down. "Robot's made this, you can tell." He point at the sides which had trek marks. "Robots would have moved along here over a period of time, The path is too thin for vehicles and I believe during this time people employed robots to do their work." He paused "they were obsessed with their screens."

"Sounds like my time." Ruby remembered that since she started traveling with the doctor, she has used her phone less, she often leaves in the TARDIS and only uses it when ringing her mum. She grew an appreciation of space away from constant advertisements and social media. She preferred spending time now speaking to aliens or helping people who can't help themselves. The doctor taught her there is life beyond a screen.

The doctor saw a small building, hidden behind bushes, as if it was trying to disguise itself. The doctor grinned and headed towards it. Ruby followed.

"What is it?" Ruby asked.

The doctor pulled out his sonic screwdriver. He released the mechanism that is keeping the door shut. They both enter.