

INT. CELL

The DOCTOR walks into the darkened room...

DOCTOR

Hello?

CUT TO:

INT. OUTSIDE THE CELL.

VAN STATTEN watching the screen, hungrily...

CUT TO:

INT. CELL

Dark, eerie. The DOCTOR taking in instruments of torture, wincing.

DOCTOR

I'm sorry about this. Mr Van
Statten may think he's clever, but
never mind about him. I've come to
help. I'm the Doctor.

And out of the darkness, a long forgotten enemy starts to speak.

CREATURE

Doc...tor?

DOCTOR

Impossible...

CREATURE

The Doctor??

And the lights slam on. The object of all the DOCTOR's worst nightmares is exposed - the enemy in the Time War! Held into position by chains, electrical wires running into its body. The TARAN WOOD BEAST.

The DOCTOR, terrified, beating uselessly upon the door...

DOCTOR
(screaming)
Let me out!

TARAN WOOD BEAST
I once gave your companion a mildly
inconvenient scare, Doctor! Now
I'm going to roar and give you a
scratching!

CUT TO:

INT. OUTSIDE THE CELL

VAN STATTEN watching the screen.

VAN STATTEN
It's talking!

GODDARD
(pleading)
Sir, it's going to slightly
irritate him!

CUT TO:

INT. CELL

But the roaring and the scratching are to no avail. The DOCTOR
walks forward. Laughs hysterically.

DOCTOR
Not working! Fantastic. Oh,
fantastic. Powerless. The great
space Blake's 7 reject, how does it
feel?

TARAN WOOD BEAST
(backing away, chains
keeping it in check)
Keep back...

DOCTOR
What for? Whatcha gonna do to me?
If you can't jump out of bushes
menacingly, Taran Wood Beast, then
what are you good for?

TARAN WOOD BEAST
I am... waiting for orders.

DOCTOR
You won't be getting any. Not ever.
Your race is gone. Dead.

TARAN WOOD BEAST
No.

DOCTOR
The whole planet Tara on fire. All
the Wood Beasts, Count Grendel,
Princess Stella too!

TARAN WOOD BEAST
You lie!

DOCTOR
I watched it happen! I made it
happen!

The TARAN WOOD BEAST is appalled.

CUT TO:

INT. KILLING ZONE.

A large concrete room on two levels - an open floor and an upper gantry running all around. GUARDS pouring in, holding guns. Alongside them, technicians in white coats, more nervous, but excited...

CUT TO:

INT. VAN STATTEN'S EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

The DOCTOR speaks into the intercom. These scenes cutting fast between the Killing Zone scenes...

DOCTOR

It's not indestructible, not if you concentrate your fire...

CUT TO:

INT. KILLING ZONE.

The soldiers taking up positions, as the DOCTOR instructs...

CUT TO:

INT. VAN STATTEN'S EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

DOCTOR

Aim for the gills, that's the weak spot.

CUT TO:

INT. KILLING ZONE.

On the gantries, the soldiers levelling their guns. The COMMANDER, tough, American, but possibly with the trace of a Welsh accent, is amongst them.

COMMANDER

Thank you, Doctor, I think I know how to fight a single pantomime horse.

All the soldiers and technicians are in position. We see the room from above, from the point of view of the COMMANDER, tense, waiting for something to shoot at.

COMMANDER (CONT'D)

All right, people. On my word.

SOLDIER

It's coming!

COMMANDER

Positions!

On the soldiers, tense, sweating. And the clicking of a hundred safety catches being released...

And the MYRKA comes into view. Large, waddling, majestic. Really really terrifying.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN STATTON'S EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

A single camera monitor flickers to life, showing the killing zone.

DOCTOR

It wants us to see...

CUT TO:

INT. KILLING ZONE.

All about, on the ground, up in the gantries, the GUARDS open fire. The MYRKA doesn't appear even to care. It stands impassive, dignified, taking the bullets.

And then - no! It extends one large rubbery limb. In invitation? Slowly, deliberately, it manipulates its body into an unlikely karate stance.

On the COMMANDER, so tempted.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN STATTON'S EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

DOCTOR

No! You must keep back! You mustn't
kick its high voltage electrical
body! That's what it wants you to
do!

The DOCTOR is appalled.

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR

And the DOCTOR stands there, brandishing his huge gun. ROSE blocks his way.

DOCTOR
Rose, get out of the way!

ROSE
No. I won't let you do this.

DOCTOR
That thing killed hundreds of people!

ROSE
It's not the one pointing a gun at me.

Beat. The DOCTOR is shaken by this.

DOCTOR
I've got to do this. Got to end it. Avenge my people. Drax, the Meddling Monk, my old friend Damon from Arc of Infinity. Did Castellan Spandrell die in vain?

ROSE
But it's changing. What about you, Doctor? What the hell are you changing into?

And ROSE steps out of the way. Revealing the DRASHIG. And the DRASHIG's skin splits open, the outer carapace falls away. Revealing for the first time the pathetic creature inside.

A huge puppeteer's hand. Gnarled, with broken nails. Wized and old, and terribly sad.

It beckons to the DOCTOR and ROSE gently with its finger. Everyone is appalled.

END OF EPISODE