

FROM THE AUTHOR OF
HELD BY A STRANGER

THE
LOST SHIP
POPEO6
LOST

CREATED BY
DAN BARKER

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THE LOST SHIP
P01E06- LOST

THE
LOST SHIP

CREATED BY
DAN BARKER

Part One: Epitale Six:

“LOST”

Written by

Dan Barker

Edited by

Somalia Carty

IN THE PREVIOUS EPITALE

After being backed into a corner by one of those creatures, Henry tried shoot it in the pitch-black dark but missed. The miss may have cost him his life as the creature viciously attacked Henry by throwing him across the corridor like a rag doll.

Forced to use the Muscle Re-Synthesiser Machine to stitch back together what's left of Henry's body, Doctor Jeffries and Jodie had no choice but to go back to the medical-bay.

Back to square one. Will Jodie manage to keep the Doctor and Henry safe?

The doors were still barricaded. Thankfully, there hasn't been another creature come around this way, so far. What are they anyway? Jodie wondered. She thought it'd be best to ask the Doctor, *he's the smartest person in the room right now and if anyone would know, it has to be him*, she said to herself.

"So, what are these creatures?" Jodie queried.

"They look like Xerkans to me. But, if I'm honest my dear, I truly have no clue what they are." The Doctor explained.

"Xerkans?"

"Yes, they're a mutant race from the TQ-11 galaxy."

"I think I've heard of-"

Interrupting Jodie was the sound of a 'Xerkan' approaching the blocked door. "Wait!" Jodie whispered in a bossy tone. The pair stood there in silence, hoping the creature would turn around, hoping that the creature wouldn't smell the blood of its brother whose head was in the room with them and whose body lay lifeless just out side the door way.

The Xerkan stopped – well, the footsteps did, at least – and the sound of it's heavy breathing bounced off the walls of the corridor and the walls of the medical-bay, just as it's brothers did before him. The silence must have worked because the creature turned away and walked off. Relieving the Doctor and Jodie. "Okay, quick, let's get Henry in machine!" she ordered urgently.

"It will take up-to seventy-two hours." The Doctor explained.

"Is there anyway we can shorten it?"

"Not without significant and permanent damage to Henry's muscles and general tissue."

"Can we secure him in there whilst we move on?"

"Where are we going?"

"To find other survivors"

"Have you got a concussion, my dear? That's absolute suicide!" The Doctor bellowed.

"Doctor, you're a smart man, you know there's safety in numbers."

"That is true and you see, there are much more of the Xerkans than there are of us!"

"That's why we need to find other survivors!"

"There are none!"

"How do you know?" Jodie questions in disbelief.

"We did an internal scan from the computers in here. There were only three human life signs. That's how Henry knew where to find you. We are alone here. We don't even know *where* we are. We're lost."

Jodie stood in silence and let that sink in. There are no other survivors. They were trapped in deep space and all of her colleagues, all of her friends, dead. Killed by these 'Xerkans' or whatever they were called. Captain Kate Coly, her fiend. They grew up together. *What about Ellie? She was like a sister*, Jodie thought. *Ellie helped-*

A huge **THUD** shook the room. The distant sound of Neutron Pistols filled the doctor's heart with concern.

"Someone else is here! Someone has just boarded the ship!" The Doctor announced.

"They could be hostile too." Jodie added.

"Okay, let's get Henry into the machine!"

Jodie and the Doctor wheeled Henry into the long tube that was the 'MRS Machine'. The muscle man was surprisingly light to wheel around on the Doctors table.

Another **THUD** causes Jodie and the Doctor to nearly lose their balance, but they manage to place Henry's still lifeless body inside the MRS Machine. After pressing a few buttons and dragging a few sliders, the Doctor started the machine up and a loud monotone hum began to fill the room. The hum wasn't loud enough though because another huge **THUD** broke through the sound and caused a beaker to fall off the Doctor's cluttered counter and smash onto the floor.

"They're getting closer!" Doctor Jeffries observed.

"I noticed!" Jodie responded sharply.

Again, another **THUD** shook the room, this time causing the holographic shield blocking the door to flicker. This worried Jodie. Not only are they getting closer, whoever they are, but they clearly possess the power to knock out Jodie's make-shift door-

Suddenly, a huge burst of light attacks the room and disables the shield. Footsteps edge closer and closer and shadows of three figures grow larger and larger as the 'intruders' come towards Jodie and the Doctor. Just as the Doctor's heart reached speeds not even the GSS Nimbus could reach, the three figures stood at the doorway, wielding Neutron Pistols. It was her best friend, Ellie. She was accompanied by two security officers — Jodie wasn't sure of their names — and that brought a warm feeling to Jodie's heart. There were other survivors after all. There maybe hope.

END.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dan Barker was born in Nottingham, England on January 4th 1999. Dan has always been imaginative and creative but it wasn't until he discovered writing that he was able to actually create the worlds and characters he wanted. Dan started as screenwriter and still remains, though writing stories and books are his main focus right now. Dan writes many short stories and books a year with the help of his editor and partner, actress and writer, Somalia Carty.

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