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THE CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACT



DALEK

ISSUE 50



The Doctor and the Thals must stop the Daleks from destroying Skaro.



Terry Nation built on the success of his Dalek creations.



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Published by Hachette Partworks Ltd 4th Floor, Jordan House, 47 Brunswick Place, London N1 6EB

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Packaged by Panini Publishing, a division of Panini UK Limited.

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Distributed in the UK and Republic of Ireland by Marketforce.

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Printed in the UK.

ISSN 2977-5574

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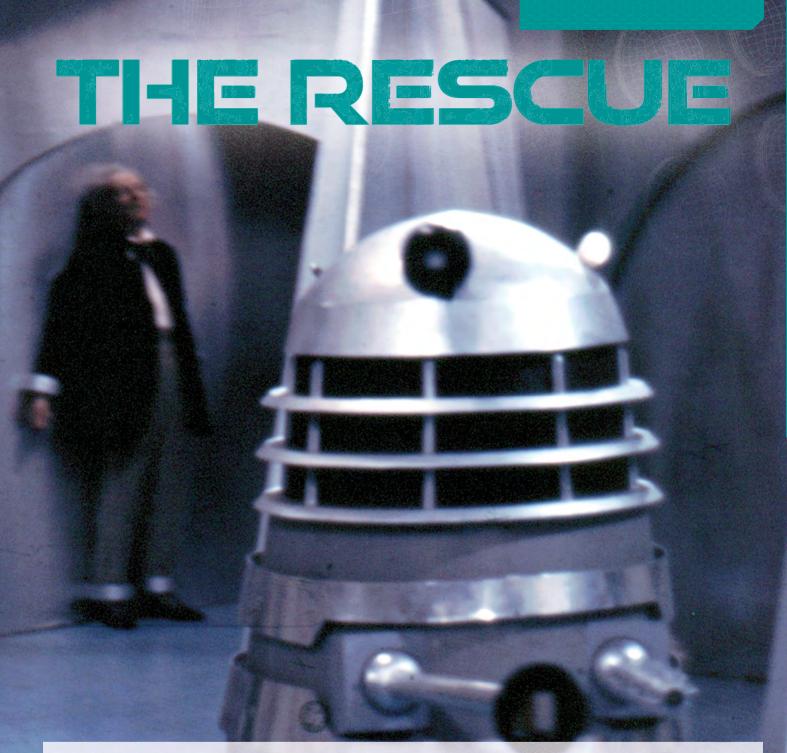
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The Daleks prepare to contaminate the planet with deadly radiation.

Season 1 Episode 11 First Broadcast: 1 February 1964

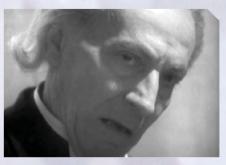
ntodus screams, "I can't hold on!" as he hangs suspended on the rope in the chasm. Ian tries desperately to cling to the rocks, but Antodus' weight is pulling him off the ledge. Ganatus appears and tries to help lan. "Antodus!" Ian cries, "Get a grip on the rock face! Take the weight off the rope!" But the rock is too smooth.

Ganatus calls to the others for help.

Antodus stares at his knife for a moment. He then cuts through the rope and falls to his death.

lan is pulled to safety by Ganatus. The heartbroken Thal looks down at where his brother has fallen. Ian pulls up the rope and realises that Antodus has allowed himself to die to save his life.

Inside the Dalek city, the Doctor and Susan learn of the Daleks' plan. "We wish to escape captivity. Go out and rebuild the planet Skaro," the Dalek leader says, "Our oxygen distributors will be subjected to waste radiation by the ejector capsule." The Doctor says that nothing will be able to survive on Skaro if that happens. "Except the Daleks," the creature replies.





Inside the mountain, Kristas reports that a rockfall has blocked their way forward. Ganatus falls into despair, but Barbara and lan insist that they retrace their steps and find another way. Their lamp starts to fade. Kristas switches it off to conserve power, but the group realises that there is still light in the tunnel. Ian finds its source and pulls away some rocks from a hole in the wall. He gasps in delight at what he sees: the Daleks' hydroelectric power station. "We're through! We must have been travelling under the pipes all the time!"

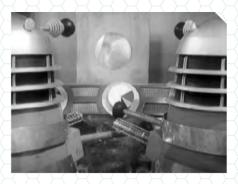


At the Thal camp in the petrified forest, Dyoni notices that the Daleks' antenna has stopped moving. "The Doctor must have succeeded in putting it out of action," Alydon comments. He realises that the Daleks have captured the Doctor and Susan. He turns to his people and rouses them to advance on the city. "We may be farmers, but have we forgotten how to fight?" he asks. The Thals pick up clubs.

The Daleks continue with their plan. "Begin radiation redirection to distribution capsule," the leader commands. The



Doctor tries to convince the Daleks to stop. "I have a ship capable of crossing the barriers of space and time," he says. The Dalek disbelieves him. The Doctor challenges the Dalek leader to examine the fluid link that they took from lan. "You will see it's part of a complicated machine." The Doctor offers to help the Daleks build their own time/space machine if they stop their efforts to kill the Thals. The Dalek leader says that they will deduce its secrets without the Doctor's help. "Every problem has a solution," it states. Another Dalek announces that the Thals have been detected inside the city.



Susan is overjoyed. "But can they get here in time?" the Doctor wonders.

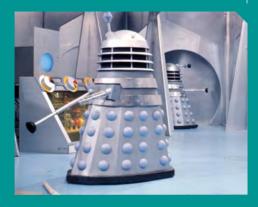
lan, Barbara, Ganatus and Kristas move down a corridor, searching for the Daleks' control room. Ian smashes a camera, but the Daleks have already seen him. They begin the countdown for the release of the radiation capsule. "Stop it, please!" the Doctor says. "Nothing can stop the Daleks!" is the reply.

lan and the others are reunited with Alydon. The Thal leader says the Doctor and Susan have been captured. His people have split into groups inside the city, but they don't know what to search for. "We must find that control room!" lan says. They hear an announcement



ORIGINAL ENDING

The biggest changes to Terry Nation's original outline were made in the final episode. A completely different ending was initially proposed by Nation: lan's party arrives in time to defeat the Daleks, but the Daleks are not killed. Talks between the Daleks and the Thals are held to find a way for both races to live in peace. The Doctor studies the history of Skaro. An approaching object allows the Daleks to counterattack the control room. The battle is halted when the Doctor announces that neither the Thals nor the Daleks started the war;



both races were attacked by a third, alien party. Rockets land on Skaro and the aliens advance on the city, immune to the Daleks' weapons thanks to an invisible shield. The aliens explain that their ancestors fired neutron bombs at Skaro 2,000 years ago. They now wish to make amends and help the Daleks and Thals rebuild their planet.

DALEK INSANITY







on a loudspeaker: "All Daleks to level ten immediately!" All the doors around them begin to close. Barbara and Alydon get through one, but Barbara is trapped beneath another. Ian and the others manage to force the door open.

The countdown approaches its conclusion as Ian and Alydon sneak into the control room to free the Doctor and Susan. Barbara throws a rock at a Dalek and narrowly avoids a lethal blast. It follows her into the corridor and some Thals assist Barbara in trapping it. The Thals swarm in and grapple with the Daleks. Some of the Thals are killed. One of the Daleks is shoved into a generator, which explodes. The countdown is halted. The Daleks suddenly lose their



mobility. "Listen... to me..." the Dalek leader says to the Doctor. "Stop our power... from wasting... or it will be... end of the Dalekssss..." The leader makes a final cry and stops dead.

Alydon examines one of his fallen comrades. "It's finished," he says, sorrow filling his voice, "The final war. Five hundred years of destruction end like this." The Doctor goes to check for radiation leakage from the capsule. Susan tells Ganatus that the Thals can use the Daleks' technology to grow food using artificial sunlight. "You've got



everything you need now," she says. Ganatus looks around at the dead Daleks. "Yes... if only there'd been some other way," he says.

The time travellers and Thals leave the Dalek city and return to the camp. The Doctor is amused to see Alydon studying a Dalek device. "It's useless. Throw it away. Forget it." he tells him. "unless vou want to live in a shell like our dead friends?" The Doctor points to some soil samples he has taken, explaining that it isn't as barren as the Thals believe. "Even you might live to see and hear the



birds amongst the trees," the Doctor says, smiling.

The travellers say their goodbyes. Ganatus and Barbara share a moment together. Ganatus kisses her hand, and Barbara responds by kissing him on the lips. She quickly retreats into the TARDIS before Ganatus can say anything. He is consoled by Alydon and Dyoni. The TARDIS vanishes before their eyes. Dyoni moves into the area where it stood. She kneels and touches the ground, amazed...





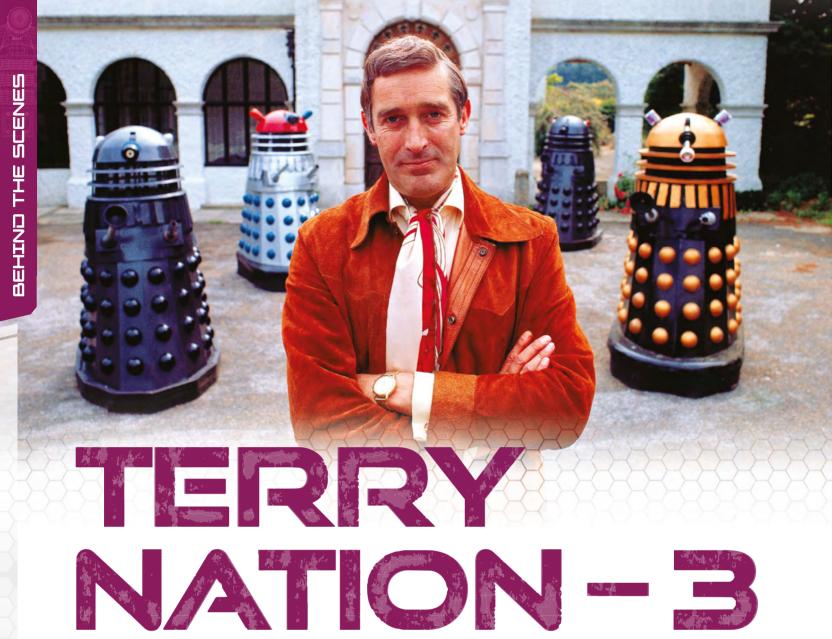
Portraying the psychological dysfunction of the Daleks was important to director Richard Martin: "The thing that I developed with the voice artists [Peter Hawkins and David Graham] a lot was that inside their machinery, [the Daleks] were nearly insane with claustrophobia. You only had to say one thing to them for them to lose their cool. And their only way out was to use this weapon." He had high praise for the voice actors: "It was an acting job, v'know? 'Exterminate! Exterminate!' He wouldn't do it privately. He'd be going absolutely purple in the face, he'd be throwing his own weight behind it."



about I build that into the eye?" The iris greatly added to the sense of the lead Dalek being 'alive' and was used in many close-ups. The idea was not carried on with future Dalek props, however, and it was not until Doctor Who's return in 2005 and the story Dalek that the contracting iris reappeared.







he 12-part serial, The Daleks' Master Plan, was a tale so epic it was even given its own prologue. Mission to the Unknown was broadcast on 9 October 1965, six weeks before the main story even began.

It was a one-part story that didn't feature the Doctor, making it unique in Doctor Who's history. "Mission to the Unknown was clearly one that they brought me in for because I knew the show so well and could turn one out quickly to cover all the problems," Nation explained. "People were probably having holidays and stuff like that, and I think I used the episode as the central theme for the next big one I was going to do. I wanted to give a little trailer for that."

Mission to the Unknown established the Space Security Service, a futuristic version of the spy agencies that had

become popular in 1960s movies, novels and television. Nation continued the concept in The Daleks' Master Plan with agents Bret Vyon (Nicholas Courtney) and Sara Kingdom (Jean Marsh). Nation was creating a cast of heroes who could combat the Daleks without the need for the Doctor and his companions. Sara Kingdom and the SSS also appeared in stories in 1966's The Dalek Outer Space Book.

Nobody in the *Doctor Who* production team was enthusiastic about making a 12-part story. Nation had to share the writing workload with Dennis Spooner. "Somebody up top at the BBC thought that if we had three months of it, we could really make an impact," Nation said. "It was a terrible mistake to think that you could do three months of the same thing, but we did. I don't know how the figures went, but I imagine by the end, people were getting very bored with the Daleks. Dennis Spooner and I didn't write them together, because I was working on The Baron at that time. We may have met on a few occasions, and given a broad direction as to where the show was going. Dennis was script



editor at that time, and we talked about it, and I went away and did my six, and he did his six. We certainly didn't write them together."

The Power of the Daleks, written by David Whitaker in 1966, was the first Dalek story not to involve Nation at all. He disliked its sly, seemingly deferential versions of his creations. The Evil of the Daleks, also written by Whitaker, concluded in 1967 with the Dalek city in flames due to a Dalek civil war and the Dalek Emperor destroyed. "I think we've seen the end of the Daleks for ever," Patrick Troughton's Doctor declared, and that was indeed the intent – at least on Doctor Who.

Terry Nation was now harbouring bigger ambitions for the Daleks. In 1966 he submitted a script to the BBC for the opening episode of a proposed solo series simply entitled The Daleks. The half-hour episode. The Destrovers. featured Space Security Service agents Jason Corey, David and Sara Kingdom, and the android Mark Seven clashing with the Daleks on a jungle world. It was met with interest, but Nation wanted the series made in colour and with a much higher budget than the BBC were accustomed to. It was politely rejected. Nation attempted to find alternative funding from American sources such as the ABC network but met with no success. "The Daleks don't have any personal character, any conscience, or morality," he commented in a 1966 interview. "They are totally bad. This has worried some American companies interested in them - Americans seem to



think that even the blackest villain must have some redeeming features."

Nation remained busy writing adventure series for ITC, including *The Baron*, *The Champions* and *Department S*. He also became the script editor for *The Avengers* and wrote several episodes. However, as the 1970s arrived, *The Persuaders!* and *The Protectors* were the final two adventure series produced by ITC. Both featured scripts by Nation, but both lasted only one season. The fantastical heroes of the 1960s were losing their appeal with TV audiences, and an appetite for realism was growing.

Nation tried to launch two new series of his own devising. The first was titled

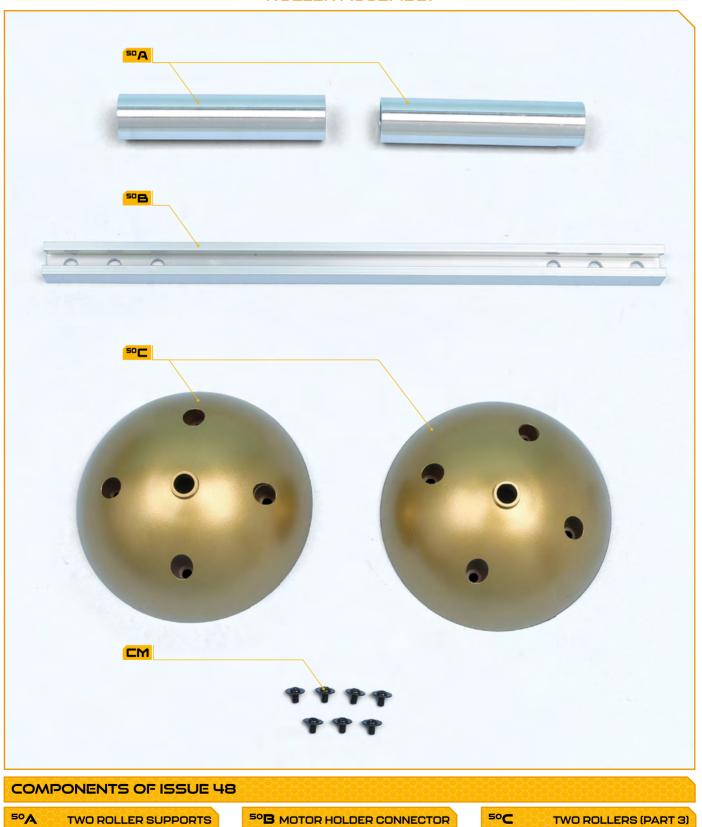
Beyond Omega, a series set in a post-apocalyptic world. The second was The Incredible Robert Baldick, focusing on the adventures of a Victorian investigator. Both were met with interest by the BBC, and the latter had a pilot episode made in 1972 starring Robert Hardy. Baldick investigates a series of strange murders and is confronted with human phobias that have been turned into a deadly reality. At the end of the story, he finds a weird device which appears to have come from the past, or perhaps the future? Alas, viewers would never learn the truth: despite positive reviews, the BBC decided not to turn it into a series.

This was a significant blow to Terry Nation. Despite his many successes, he had yet to create his own TV series. With The Daleks and The Incredible Robert Baldick both failing to fulfil this ambition, he found himself returning to Doctor Who for yet another Dalek story: Planet of the Daleks. While he approached the story with his usual professionalism, this was not the direction he wished for his career.

However, 1972 also saw a new path open for Nation. His *Beyond Omega* proposal had led to a commission to write a pilot. Nation crafted a story featuring normal people instead of flamboyant investigators, aliens or spies, and he placed them in a world that was only slightly removed from our own, with chilling effect. This was exciting new territory for the writer. Retitled *Survivors*, it would become what many see as Terry Nation's finest work.

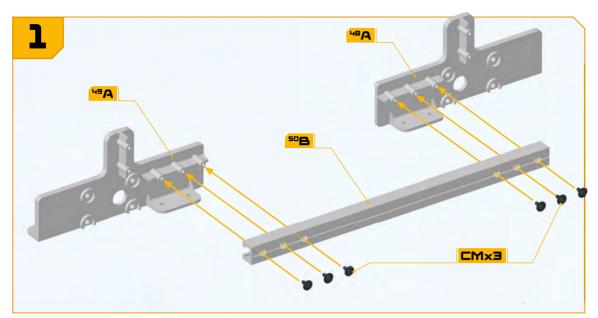


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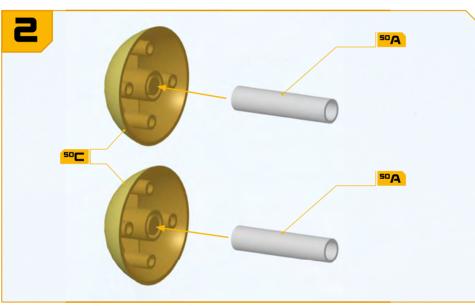
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