

Dr Zoo and the Splurgle Challenge!

Drama 3

Characters:

Dr Zoo

Avril Mertlee

Professor Splurgledroid

David the shepherd boy

Samuel

Scene: In the pasture outside of Bethlehem with the sheep. To one side is the Tardis, to the other is Professor Splurgledroids laboratory with desk and computer.

Voice: Once again Dr Zoo and his travelling companion, Avril Mertlee, are hurtling through space and time in the Tardis. But they have no idea where or when they will land as Professor Splurgledroid has taken control of the Tardis with Dr Zoo's sonic umbrella. The Professor has been preparing his army of Splurgle Droids for their invasion of the universe which will start, he says, tomorrow in a small town called Beccles on planet earth, but in the meantime, where will he send Dr Zoo and Avril?

(From inside the Tardis)

Dr Z: We're out of control! A Tardis like this wasn't built for this sort of speed. We're hurtling through space and time faster than a comet! If we carry on like this for much longer we'll break up and be flung into space at a billion miles an hour.

Avril: What? And be squashed up smaller than an ant?

Dr z: You're learning fast Avril, very fast.

Avril: Well I haven't got much choice have I Dr Zoo, but I am expecting you to find a way out of this mess you know. After all, it is all your fault!

Dr Z: Well Avril, until we can get my sonic umbrella back there is not much I can do. We just have to go where ever the Tardis is sent and there is nothing I can do about it. None of the Tardis controls are working!

Avril: Well think of something Dr Zoo. I'm supposed to be at school and I'm not so sure that saying that I was kidnapped by a crazy Time Lord will be seen as a good enough excuse for having a day off.

Dr Z: I'm trying Avril, I'm trying.

Avril: Too right you are Dr Zoo! Very trying!

(Enter Professor Splurgledroid with umbrella open)

Prof: Well computer, your suggestion yesterday was a disaster. We're supposed to be sending them to dangerous places from where they will never come back, but Dr Zoo and his friend are still with us! So what suggestions have you got for me today? And this better be good or I might decide to up-grade you!

Comp: I'll consult my database professor. How about sending them to meet a giant killer?

Prof: A giant killer? Who do you mean?

Comp: Someone who can fight lions and bears with his bear hands, has killed a great giant with just one small stone and then has gone on to be a great king, leading a great army that has won loads and loads of battles.

Prof: Ummm..... sounds interesting.

Comp: All you need to do is drop them in at a time when they will get him angry and they don't stand a chance.

Prof: Sounds very good to me. Not even Dr Zoo could stand up to a giant killer like that! Especially without his sonic umbrella. (Evil laugh) Where and when shall I send them to?

Comp: Well according to my database this giant killer used to look after sheep, and if anyone or anything ever disturbed his sheep he would tear them apart, that's where the lions and bears bit comes in. So send them to a field outside of Bethlehem in the year 1,020 BC. When the Tardis appears and frightens his sheep he'll go mad!

Prof: Ok, giant killer, here they come! (holds the umbrella out and shouts) Send the Tardis to a field outside Bethlehem in the year 1,020 BC! (Evil laugh) Ok computer, tune in and let's watch the giant killer in action. (He settles down and watches screen)

(From inside Tardis)

Dr z: Hang on Avril! I think we're going to land! And not a moment too soon!

(Sound effect of Tardis)

Avril: Where are we Doctor?

Dr z: Well according to my time and distance Sat Nav, it seems that we are in a field near Bethlehem in the year 1,020 BC. This is very strange! Why would Professor Splurgledroid send us here?

Avril: Is it safe?

Dr Z: Well obviously Professor Splurgledroid doesn't think so, but all we can do is step outside and see. Come on.

(They exit the tardis)

Avril: It's a field. A field full of sheep. It doesn't look very dangerous at all - unless they are killer sheep that is. Or maybe those robot things you keep going on about disguised as sheep!

Dr Z: You mean Professor Splurgledroids Splurgle Droids.

Avril: What ever they are.

Dr Z: That's a good point Avril. I'll make a time traveller of you yet, but my special sensor tells me that these are real sheep.

Avril: Special sensor? What special sensor?

Dr Z: Err (holds nose) my nose Avril. This place stinks! They must be real sheep.

Avril: Now you say it (holds nose) it does pong!

Dr Z: But why are we here? There isn't any danger. This is very strange, very strange.

Prof: Oh just you wait Dr Zoo! Just you wait until you meet the 'giant killer!' (Evil laugh)

Dr Z: Let's go and explore Avril, there must be someone around.

Avril: Are you sure that's a good idea Doctor? What if your Space Time Vortex starts to open up again?

Dr Z: Don't worry, we won't go far, and we can run pretty fast. Just try and remember where the Tardis is this time!

Avril: What, me? It's your Tardis.

Dr z: Oh come on and stop moaning.

(They exit)

(David enters carrying a harp)

David: What a beautiful day. And I get to spend it doing the best job in the world – looking after my lovely sheep. Some people think they are smelly and dirty animals, but that's not true. They are the friendliest animals ever and I know everyone of my sheep by name. I love my sheep and my sheep love me! Well they all look very happy this morning so I can get on and practice my harp . I'm writing a song you know. A song of praise to God who is so good to me every day. Now let's see, where did I get too?

(David sits down and pretends to play the harp)

(Sound effect of harp music)

Prof: Who on earth is this computer? Is this your 'giant killer?' He doesn't look very frightening to me. Are you sure he killed the giant? Or did he just send him to sleep or bore him to death with his awful music? This better get better or you are for the scrapheap!

(Voices off stage)

Avril: I'm sure I can hear it Doctor, can't you?

Dr Z: Now you say it Avril, I can hear something. It sounds like music.

Avril: But who would play music in the middle of a field of sheep?

(They enter)

Avril: (Whispering) Look Doctor, over there.

Dr Z: Well I never, who's this?

(Harp music stops)

David: (Sees Dr Z and Avril and stands up) Hello! Who are you, and what are you doing in my field?

Prof: That's it 'giant killer,' go for them!

David: I hope you aren't here to cause trouble or to upset my sheep. That can get me pretty angry you know!

Prof: Yes! Yes! Get them 'giant killer!' Get them! (Evil laugh)

Dr Z: No, we're not here to cause trouble. In fact we're not quite sure why we are here really.

David: Well that's alright then. Actually it's rather nice to have visitors, it can get a bit lonely out here in the fields on my own sometimes. I'm David by the way, David the Shepherd Boy. Who are you?

Dr Z: Well I am Dr Zoo.

David: Dr Who?

Dr Z: Oh no, he's my brother, but we do look quite similar. I'm Dr Zoo.

David: Dr Zoo!? What sort of a name is that?

Dr Z: Well, as I tell everyone, it's the name my mother gave me. You see my mother had 26 children and she gave each one a name beginning with a different letter of the alphabet – Aoo, Boo, Coo, Doo – get the picture? I'm the youngest, so I'm Dr Zoo.

David: But that's a terrible name.

Dr Z: It's not so bad, I feel more sorry for brothers 12 and 16.

David: (Counting on fingers) She didn't did she?
Dr Z: She certainly did.
David: What? Dr Loo and Dr Poo?!
Avril: Erhem.
Dr Z: Oh yes, and this is Avril, Avril Mertleee.
David: Well I'm pleased to meet both of you, very pleased.

Prof: No you're not! You're not pleased to meet them at all! You're angry with them, mad with them! Come on 'giant killer' just get on with it!!!

David: Sit down here for a moment. I'll just go and check on the sheep then I'll come back and you can tell me more about yourselves.

(Dr Z and Avril sit down. David exits)

David :(off stage) 1, 2, 3, 4 Oh hello Larry, are you alright today?

Avril: Well, he seems nice.
DR z: It makes it all the more strange. Why are we here? What is the great danger?

Prof: I'm beginning to ask myself the same question Dr Zoo. This is the last time I listen to you, you stupid computer.

(Enter Samuel)

Sam: Have you seen him?
Avril: Seen who?
Sam: Seen David, the shepherd.
Avril: Oh yes, he's gone off to check on the sheep. (Pointing) He went that way.
Sam: I must find him, I've got some important news for him. He's going to be a king.
Dr Z: A King? What him? A shepherd boy.
Sam: Oh yes. You see God has sent me here to choose the next king from his family. None of his brothers are right, so it must be him. It must be David that God wants to be king!
Avril: Well he's a nice boy and all that, but he's hardly king material. King's need to be brave and fearless and strong and mighty.
Sam: And David is all those things.
Avril: Well he doesn't look it!
Sam: Well that's true. He doesn't look brave and fearless and strong and mighty, but he is. You see David believes in God and God is brave and fearless and strong and mighty, and God will make him brave and fearless and strong and mighty.
Avril: Wow!
Sam: But hang on, why am I telling you all of this? I don't even know who you are.
Dr Z: Oh yes. I'm Dr Zoo.
Sam: Dr Who?
Dr Z: Oh no, he's my brother ...
Avril: No Doctor, please don't go through all that again, not now. He's Dr Zoo and I'm Avril. We are travelling together.
Sam: Well I'm Samuel the prophet and God has sent me here to Bethlehem.

(David enters)

David: (Looking back) and don't you come back and bother my sheep again you stupid lion!

Avril: Lion?

David: Oh yes, lions don't worry me. I chase them away. They soon run off, Bears as well.

Sam: You see what I mean? (Sam bows before David) Your Majesty.

David: Pardon? What are you doing?

Sam: David, I am Samuel the prophet. God has sent me to tell you that you have been chosen to be the next king. You will be a great leader and fight mighty battles. You will be strong and keep your people safe, just like you have kept your sheep safe.

David: What? You're kidding! Me? A King? Come off it! I'm just a shepherd boy! I'm not clever or strong like my brothers, choose one of them.

Sam: David, God will give you wisdom and strength and you will be a great king. Just wait and the day will come. But now I must go. (he bows) Goodbye your Majesty.

(Sam exits)

David: I don't believe it! I don't believe it! Me? A King? That's crazy! (Looks at Dr Z and Avril) It's been really nice to meet you two, but I must get going. I need to tell the sheep, they'll be really excited to hear I'm going to be a king! Wow! A King!

(David exits)

David: (off stage) Hey you lot! I've got some amazing news!

Avril: Well that was amazing. I've met a King.

Dr Z: He's going to be a great King, a very great king, and I think that makes sense of why Professor Splurgledroid sent us here. He obviously thought that David was a fierce and angry king who would have us arrested or worse. How wrong could he be?!

Prof: Wrong! Me! How dare you Dr Zoo! I'm never wrong, it's just this very stupid computer that gets things wrong. A computer that is heading for the scrapheap!! But now it's time to see you start running again! (Opens the Umbrella - Evil laugh)

(Sound effect of rumbling noise)

Dr Z: Oh no! It's happening again. My Space Time Vortex is opening up. We need to find the Tardis.

Avril: Well come on then Doctor – run!!!

(Fast music and running around. They find Tardis and jump in just as music stops and sound of Tardis begins)

Prof: Till tomorrow Dr Zoo! Till tomorrow! (Evil laugh)

Voice: Will Dr Zoo and Avril ever escape from the power of Professor Splurgledroid?
Will the Tardis disintegrate as it hurtles through space and time faster than a comet?
Will the Splurgle Droids be released to take over Beccles?
For the answers to these and many other questions, come back tomorrow for episode 3 of Dr Zoo and the Splurgle Challenge.