

Dr Zoo and the Splurgle Challenge

Drama 4

Characters:

Dr Zoo

Avril Merttlee

Professor Splurgledroid

Simon

Andrew

Jesus

Scene: By lake Galilee. To one side is the Tardis, to the other is Professor Splurgledroid's laboratory with desk and computer.

Voice: Once again Dr Zoo and his travelling companion, Avril Merttlee, are hurtling through space and time in the Tardis. They are shooting faster than a comet through billions of miles and millions of years
And there is nothing they can do except hope that Professor Splurgledroid will decide where he wants them to land before the Tardis shatters into a trillion pieces and they are sucked into space at a billion miles an hour.

(From inside the Tardis)

Avril: What are we going to do Doctor? We'll just be hurtling through space and time for ever at this rate. How are you going to get us out of this mess?

Dr z: There is nothing I can do Avril, nothing. The Sonic Umbrella over-rides all the Tardis controls. I made it that way so I could call the Tardis to where ever I was, even if it had been stolen! It's been really useful in the past. It seemed like such a good idea.

Avril: But not so good now Dr Zoo. You should have taken more care of your Sonic Umbrella if it is that powerful. Is there no way of getting control of the Tardis back?

Dr Z: No, no way. The Umbrella has the most powerful Teletransporter chip ever made in it. Nothing can over-ride its power.

Avril: So what shall we do?

Dr z: Well if we carry on much longer we'll be entering the syrus B 12 asteroid belt. It's got so many asteroids that no one has ever flown through it, so the chances are that we'll be smashed to pieces in just a few minutes!

Avril: What, and then sucked out into space at a billion miles an hour?

Dr Z: That's about it Avril.

Avril: But I don't want to be squashed as small as an ant Doctor! So DO SOMETHING!!!!

Dr z: I'm thinking Avril, I'm thinking.

(Professor Splurgledroid enters with umbrella open)

Prof: Well my last 3 attempts to get rid of Dr Zoo have been a disaster, but at least I still have the sonic umbrella and 'I' am still in control of the Tardis. I've just got to think of a way of getting rid of the pesky Doctor and his little friend, then I can release my army of Splurgle Droids and take over the universe with my mind numbing gunge. In no time at all everyone, including you miserable lot, will be my slaves!! (Evil laugh). So computer, this is your last chance! Come up with a good idea of where we should send Dr Zoo and his friend, or you are heading for the scrap heap.

Comp: Yes Professor. I'll do my best Professor. I'll consult my database. (Pauses)

Prof: Well then? What have you got?

Comp: Well Professor, you know how Dr Zoo likes to stick up for the weak and the poor and the slaves of the universe.

Dr Z: Yes, tiresome isn't it. I hate people who are always trying to do good!

Comp: and you know how he is always trying to stop people like you get what you deserve, supreme power.

Prof: Don't I know it computer. I've battled him for years, in fact thousands of years, and he has always managed to ruin my plans - my plans to conquer the universe and become its supreme leader! (Evil laugh)

Comp: Well Professor, there's someone on my database who tried to do just the same?

Prof: What? Someone else who wants to take over the universe?

Comp: No Professor, someone else who wanted to stick up for the poor and the weak people of the world.

Prof: Oh, another do gooder eh? Well we don't want anything to do with them, they just always get in the way!

Comp: Well Professor, this one came to a rather sticky end, and so did many of his friends and followers. I thought if we sent Dr Zoo to join him he would probably come to the same sticky end.

Prof: (Thinking) You know computer, I think that this might be a good idea. Dr Zoo can't resist trying to do good so he's bound to get wrapped up in all that this other man is trying to do, and then ... (Evil laugh) Ok, let's send them. Where and when computer?

Comp: A place called Galilee in the year 30 AD.

Prof: Right here goes. (Holds out umbrella) Send the Tardis to Galilee in the year 30 AD! Come on computer, tune in and let's watch the end of Dr Zoo!

(From inside Tardis)

Dr Z: We're slowing down Avril, we're slowing down. Just a mile from the asteroid belt! We must be about to land. Hold tight!

(Sound effect of Tardis)

Dr Z: Phew! That wasn't a moment too soon. One more minute and we would have been smashed to pieces.

Avril: Well where are we then Doctor?

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Dr Z: Well the sensors say we are in Galilee in the year 30 AD.

Avril: Is it dangerous?

Dr Z: I'd thought you've have learned by now that all places are dangerous in some way - especially for a Time Traveller! So let's go outside and see what danger Professor Splurgledroid thinks is lurking for us this time.

(They exit the Tardis)

Avril: Well it doesn't look very dangerous. There is a nice lake. There are people fishing in little boats. The water is calm, the sun is shining, the people look friendly. There doesn't seem to be any danger at all.

Dr Z: Well let's see Avril, let's see. Come on, let's have a look around.

(They exit)

(Enter Simon and Andrew. They have something to represent a small boat and stand in it)

And: You know fishing is such hard work Simon.

Sim: It is Andrew. Very hard work. We work hard and then sometimes we catch nothing.

And: Like last night. We sailed up and down this lake from sunset to dawn and didn't catch anything!

(Jesus walks on at side)

And: Hey Simon, look! It's that Jesus.

Sim: So it is. I wonder what he wants down here at the lake. He's not a fisherman.

And: Maybe he's after some fish to buy for his lunch?

Sim: Well he won't get any from us then will he. Come on, let's get these nets sorted and then we can get to bed!

And: You know Simon, I was listening to Jesus speaking the other day.

Sim: Yes, I've heard him too. He says some amazing things.

And: He does, he talks about God and about the poor and lonely and sad people of the world.

Sim: yes, he says that God loves everyone - rich or poor, strong or weak. There's something really special about him you know.

Jesus: Simon, Andrew, come and follow me.

Sim: What did he say Andrew?

And: I think he said: 'Come and follow me.'

Sim: Follow him? Follow him where?

And: I don't know Simon. But do you know, there is something inside of me that wants to pull the boat up on the shore, stow the nets away, and go with him. It's a bit mad I know, but but but it seems right!

Sim: Andrew, I feel just the same. What shall we do?

Jesus: Simon, Andrew, come and follow me.

And: Let's go! Come on, let's go and follow him. What have we got to lose? We're not catching many fish.

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Sim: You're right Andrew, let's do it!

Jesus: Simon, Andrew, come and follow me.

Sim: Yes Jesus. Yes we will!

And: We'll just sort the boat out and we'll follow you where ever you go.

Jesus: Good! I'll come and find you later.

(Jesus exits)

Prof: Computer are you sure this is going to put Dr Zoo in great danger? It doesn't look very dangerous to me. Don't forget what I said: If this doesn't work you are for the scrap-heap!

(Simon and Andrew pull the boat up on the shore)

(Dr Zoo and Avril enter)

Avril: Well most of the people are friendly, apart from those Roman soldiers. Why are there so many of them about.

Dr Z: Well we are in the middle of the time of the Roman Empire. The Roman Emperor and his soldiers rule most of the world, and they are not very nice.

And: Shall we sell the boat? After all, if we follow Jesus we won't need it again.

Sim: We could try. How about those two over there?

And: I haven't seen them around here before. We better find out who they are first.

Sim: OK Andrew. (Shouting to Dr Z and Avril) Hey you!

Avril: Are they shouting at us Doctor?

Dr Z: Seems so. I wonder what they want.

Sim: Hey you! We haven't seen you about here before. Who are you?

Dr z: Well I'm Dr Zoo.

And: Dr Who?

Dr Z: No, this is a common mistake I'm afraid. Dr Who is my brother, I am Dr Zoo.

Sim: Dr Who?

Dr Z: No, as I said, he is my brother, I am Dr Zoo.

Avril: Doctor, let me explain! If I have to hear all this again I'll lose the will to live. His name is Dr Zoo. His mother had 26 children and gave each one a name beginning with the next letter of the alphabet. He is the youngest so he is Dr Zoo.

And: Dr Zoo?

Dr Z: That's me.

Sim: But that's a terrible name!

Dr z: Well Dr Zoo isn't a bad name really. I feel more sorry for brothers 12 and 16.

Sim: (counting on fingers) She didn't did she?

Dr Z: she certainly did.

Sim: What? Dr Loo?

And: and Dr Poo?

Dr Z: As I said, Dr Zoo is not a bad name really.

Sim: Well Dr Zoo, I'm Simon and this is my brother Andrew, we were wondering if you would like to buy a boat and a set of fishing nets?

And: All in very good condition.

Sim: And a permit to fish in the lake for the next 6 months.

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And: Where there are plenty of fish just waiting to be caught.
Sim: Erhem!
And: Well most of the time anyway.
Dr Z: Well this is interesting. Why are you selling?
Sim: Well we are giving up fishing and going to follow the most amazing man ever.
And: He's called Jesus and he says wonderful things.
Sim: He talks about God and love and how we should live and how everyone is precious to God whether you are rich or poor or weak or strong. He says God loves us all!
Dr Z: Well that sounds very interesting, very interesting indeed. I'm not so interested in the boat, but I think I'd like to meet this Jesus. He sounds like my sort of person.
Avril: Doctor, are you sure that is a good idea? What if your Space Time Vortex starts to open up again? We shouldn't go very far from the Tardis.
Dr Z: Don't worry Avril, we won't go too far, and we can run pretty fast – we've had plenty of practise recently!
Sim: Well if you want to meet Jesus you can come with us now Dr Zoo.
And: Yes, come along, Jesus will be happy to meet you. He's happy to meet everyone!

(They exit)

Prof: Umm.... This is interesting, and I think it might be working. Dr Zoo is very interested in this Jesus. He's bound to get too involved with him, and then when it all goes wrong. (Evil laugh) He'll come to the same sticky end. But I don't want things to go wrong this time so I think I better travel to Galilee myself, just to make sure this is the end of Dr Zoo and his little friend.
Computer, can I use this umbrella to travel to Galilee myself.
Comp: Yes Professor. You just hold the umbrella up as high as you can and tell it where you want to go.
Prof: Well that's simple enough. Here goes. (Holding Umbrella high) Take me to Galilee in the year 30 AD.

(Professor mimes being dragged across the stage by the umbrella. He stops by the Tardis)

Prof: Well that was easy, (he closes the umbrella) so let's go and find Dr Zoo and see what is going on (Evil laugh).

Voice: What will happen to Dr Zoo and Avril?
Will they come to a sticky end?
Will Professor Splurgledroid be able to release his army of Splurgle Droids and take over the Universe.
Come back tomorrow for the answers to these and many other questions in the final episode of Dr Zoo and the Splurgle Challenge.

