DOCTOR WHO: WHAT CAN AND CANNOT BE

by

Orchard Dwee

FADE IN:

TEASER

EXT. HYDE PARK/LONDON - AFTERNOON - 1985

WE OPEN to see a woman in her mid 20's walking on a gravel path. She is dressed conservatively, as if for a job interview. As she continues down the path, WE SEE two boulders lying against each other surrounded by birch trees. It's a pleasant day with a soothing blue sky, but she doesn't seem to notice. Her countenance is serious. As she approaches the boulders, her gait slows, then stops. She reflexively touches her necklace from which hangs the Star of David. There is an inscription on the bigger boulder.

INSERT - INSCRIPTION

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL GARDEN
(in Hebrew and English)
FOR THESE I WEEP
STREAMS OF TEARS FLOW
FROM MY EYES
BECAUSE OF THE DESTRUCTION
OF MY PEOPLE
(LAMENTATIONS)

WE SEE her reach out and touch the stone, her hand lingering on the text. Bowing her head, she speaks softly in Hebrew.

MAN (O.S.)
That was lovely. Was that a prayer?

She turns and sees a man looking at her with a pleasant smile and kind eyes. She looks him over. He is dressed in a rumpled suit, reminding her of a TV detective. He seems to be a little older than her, maybe in his late 30's.

PUAH MELAMED
It's called El Malei Rachamim. “God full of mercy.” It's a version of it, anyway; one for victims of the Holocaust. It's actually supposed to be read at a graveside, but my grandparents.... Well, they don't have one, you see.

MAN
I'm sorry. How horrible for you to not have that closure.

PUAH
Thank you. I wish I could've known them; to have at least a personal memory of them.

MAN
How much do you know of your grandparents?

PUAH
Not as much as I would like. Some stories, some hand-me-downs, some pictures, but that's about it. My mother was only a child when she last saw her mother.

MAN
How did your mother survive?

PUAH
My gran's sister settled here some time before and my mum was sent to live with her. My grandparents stayed behind. They weren't going to give up without a fight. My mother might've met the same fate if it wasn't for some friends of theirs urging them to at least send their daughter away until things returned to normal. Not long after my mother arrived here they ended up going to the camps, including their friends. My grand-aunt still feels guilty that she was only able to save my mum. I can understand that. I guess I feel guilty for being alive when they're not.

MAN
Don't feel that way. They wouldn't want you to feel that way. The best thing you can do for them is to go on living a full life.

PUAH
I know. I really do. It still hurts though.

MAN
I'd be worried about you if it didn't.

PUAH
Thanks for your kindness. I think this loss helped guide me to become a historian so I can better understand what happened. In a way, researching the past also helps me connect with my grandparents too.

MAN
I hope you don't find me being too nosy, but I find talking about these things helps.

PUAH
That's true. And I guessed you were the inquisitive type when I saw all those question marks on your tie.

MAN
Yes. It's my favorite one. I practically wear it every day.

PUAH
It takes courage to wear something that's a bit out of fashion.

MAN
Oh, I've never been fashionable. You should've seen this scarf I had. Ridiculously long!

PUAH
I can imagine! Today's fashions aren't for me either. Way too loud. My tastes are out of sync with today. I prefer reading books, watching black & white movies, and listening to jazz. Sometimes I feel like I just keep going back in time.

MAN
I know the feeling.

PUAH
And you? Did you lose anyone in the holocaust?

MAN
Not in the holocaust, no.

PUAH
Oh, I thought you were looking to pay your respects here.

MAN
To be honest I was making my way through and saw you by these rocks and wondered what was here. Forgive my ignorance but I'm an out-of-towner.

PUAH
Of course. Can I be of any assistance? I live here so I could help you get to where you're going.

MAN
I was heading to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

PUAH
One of my favorite places. You're actually pretty close.

MAN
Would you care to escort me? I'd really appreciate the company. My treat!

PUAH
The V&A is free.

MAN
(brightens)
Even better! Now you have no reason not to go!

PUAH
(wary)
Umm, you're very nice, but....

MAN
(smiles gently)
...but, I'm a nosy stranger.

PUAH
I'm sorry.

MAN
Don't be! I'm not offended. If anything I should be sorry for being so familiar with you as if we've met before. I'm glad you're sensible enough to be cautious. I admire that.

PUAH
Thanks. I do hope you enjoy your sightseeing. And if I ever see you again maybe I'll take you up on that offer.

MAN
Fair enough. It's always best to go sightseeing with people you know, anyway. Don't you think?

PUAH
(smiling)
I do. Thanks for the chat.

MAN
My pleasure! Until next time then.

He turns and walks away. After watching him for a bit, Puah turns back to the rock to contemplate. WE HEAR an odd whirring, clanking sound. She turns around, wondering what it was. It came from the direction he just walked down. Her brow furrows. And then, she remembers.

PUAH
Doctor!

ACT ONE

Puah is running to catch up to the Doctor. Eagerly, she looks around, but doesn't see him at all. She becomes frustrated. She tries to calm down to gather her thoughts. A blurred idea sharpens into focus.

PUAH
The V&A!

EXT. VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM/LONDON - AFTERNOON

WE SEE Puah running up to the museum. She looks all around

but doesn't see him. She then looks towards the museum. Puah goes in.

INT. VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM/LONDON - AFTERNOON

WE SEE Puah walking briskly through the museum, still looking for him. Slowly scanning, her eyes rest on a blue police box. She smiles as if seeing an old friend. She walks up to it. Just before she's about to knock, the door opens. It's him, beaming.

DR. WHO
Puah! So glad you came.

PUAH
Doctor! Of course! I'm so sorry I didn't recognize you.

DR. WHO
Well, that's because we only first met a few minutes ago.

PUAH
That's not true! I remember you from when I was little.

DR. WHO
That was our last meeting. You were quite the opinionated tot back then!

PUAH
(confused)
And you... you're exactly the same! You haven't aged at all! How is that possible? And why are you in that police box? I never did understand your fascination with them.

DR. WHO
Come inside and get some answers then!

PUAH
What? Both of us can't fit in there. And besides, you'll get us in trouble!

DR. WHO
Well, what's worse? Being in trouble or being ignorant?

PUAH
(thinking)
Being ignorant.

DR. WHO
Then come in.

The Doctor steps into the police box as a darkness gradually obscures him. Puah leans in to peek inside but can't make anything out.

PUAH
(whispering)
Doctor!

Puah looks nervously around but no one seems to notice.

PUAH
(a louder whisper)
Doctor!

Suddenly, the Doctor's hand reaches out and drags her inside.

DR. WHO
Come in already!

INT. TARDIS

WE SEE Puah walking around, dazed, at the inside of the box being impossibly bigger than the outside. The Doctor looks at her, smiling, as if watching a puppy experiencing snowfall for the first time. She's overwhelmed.

PUAH
Doctor....

DR. WHO
Yes?

PUAH
This is impossible! This has to be some kind of trick!

DR. WHO
No tricks. It's a TARDIS.

PUAH
A what?

DR. WHO
“Time and Relative Dimension in Space”.

PUAH
Again, a what?

DR. WHO
It's a transporter.

PUAH
A transporter of what?

DR. WHO
Usually, just me.

PUAH
To where?

DR. WHO
To wherever I want.

PUAH
(dreamily)
Wherever you want--

DR. WHO
--Or whenever.

PUAH
(awed)
Whenever....

As she lets her imagination calculate the implications, Puah starts to comprehend what is going on. She looks at the Doctor with wide eyes.

PUAH
The first meeting being today, the last meeting being years ago, and you looking the same each time. Doctor?

DR. WHO
Yes?

PUAH
Did you travel back in time, back to my childhood, so I would remember you now?

DR. WHO
Planting seeds, yes. I like that you were able to piece it all together, despite all the doubts that must be in your mind right now.

PUAH
What is? What's happening? Who are you?

DR. WHO
As you remember, I'm the Doctor. I'm a timelord. I'm not human. And at this point I would like to assure you, you're not going mad.

PUAH
But this is all-

DR. WHO
(smiling)
Impossible? As you can see, it's not. I've been doing this for some time.

PUAH
How long?

DR. WHO
(thinking)
You know, being a timelord, that's actually a rather awkward question for me to answer.

PUAH
What do you want from me?

DR. WHO
Companionship. Someone to share experiences with. Someone that needs a new way to look at things. Someone thirsty for knowledge.

PUAH
And that's me?

DR. WHO
Yes, I think so. You have heart, you're curious, and you're clever. These are all things I look for in a companion.

PUAH
But I can't just leave like that! I have obligations.

DR. WHO
Have you forgotten this can travel anywhere in time? We can be on adventures for years and I can bring you back to this same moment and you can go on with your life as it was before.

Puah thinks it over and then shakes her head “no”.

PUAH
What am I thinking about? None of this makes any sense whatsoever!

DR. WHO
Still skeptical, I see. Very well, it's time to prove it to you.

PUAH
(apprehensive)
What are you going to do?

DR. WHO
First, let's see if anyone's watching.

The Doctor flips a switch on the main console in the middle of the room. A screen on the wall turns on. It shows a view from outside of the TARDIS of people walking by to browse the other items on display.

PUAH
No one seems to be looking this way. Can they not see us?

DR. WHO
Normally I would say they couldn't due to the Perception Camouflage Matrix, but it's not on right now. I'm afraid this is just jaded art-snobbery.

Just then, a man and a woman step into view looking directly at the TARDIS.

PUAH
I think you have some admirers.

DR. WHO
Well then, let's give them something to admire. Hang on!

PUAH
Doctor...!

The doctor pulls a lever and WE HEAR the same mechanical whirring sound Puah heard before. The TARDIS rocks and Puah grabs onto a railing. She looks at the screen and slowly the view from the museum disappears and is replaced by what looks like a vortex.

INT. VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM/LONDON - AFTERNOON

WE SEE the man and the woman who were looking at the TARDIS. Slowly, the TARDIS disappears. The man, unlike the woman, seems curiously unfazed. Afterwards, he turns her.

KIM BREAD
Would you believe that this is the *second* time I've seen that happen?

INT. TARDIS

The Doctor is piloting the TARDIS amid flashing lights and clanking sounds. Puah has her eyes shut out of fear. Gradually, the noise comes to a stop and the lights remain calm and constant.

DR. WHO
Well, here we are.

PUAH
(nervous)
What do you mean?

DR. WHO
Look at the screen.

Puah slowly opens her eyes. She first looks at the Doctor, who's smiling a boyish grin. She then looks at the screen. WE SEE on the screen gleaming white structures. Many people are moving throughout the buildings. Puah gasps.

PUAH
It can't be!

DR. WHO
Shall we go and find out what can and cannot be?

The Doctor gestures towards the door. Puah rushes out.

EXT. JACKSON PARK/CHICAGO 1893 - EVENING

WE SEE Puah exiting out of the TARDIS, her eyes wide as she gazes at the white buildings in the distance. The city radiates with a crispness that is instantly inviting. Its reflection dances upon the surface of Lake Michigan, giving it the illusion of a floating city. The ambiance is dream-like, a fantasy made real. The Doctor walks up beside her, still smiling. Puah turns to him.

PUAH
This is the Chicago World's Fair! That's the White City!

DR. WHO
Correct on both counts. I told you; we can go anywhere and anywhen.

Puah, overwhelmed, sits down and looks back at the White City. She has a dreamy look in her eyes.

DR. WHO
Shall we check it out? Or do you need more proof?

PUAH
(thinking)
OK, Doctor. You've proven yourself and I'll travel with you under one condition.

DR. WHO
Let's hear it.

PUAH
I want to visit my grandparents first.

The Doctor's smile fades and his brow creases. He walks away, his head tilted down, as if he was thinking it over.

PUAH
It's possible, isn't it?

DR. WHO
It's possible, but are you sure? They won't know who you are and if you tell them that you're their granddaughter they will think you mad.

PUAH
I know! I don't want to freak them out or anything. I just want to see them. I want to see how and where they lived. That's not a bad thing, is it?

The Doctor tilts his head down again and paces. After some time, he stops and turns to her.

DR. WHO
Listen to me. We'll go, but you must behave yourself. There are consequences for mucking about in the past. No matter how much you want to, don't try to talk to them. If you so much as warn them about what is to come, who knows what path the world will take. At the very least, you could end up voiding your own birth.

PUAH
I understand. I promise not to rock the boat. I just want to see them alive and happy. I would like to have that as a memory.

The Doctor looks in her eyes sternly. Seeing that her mind is set, he acquiesces. He smiles again.

DR. WHO
Time to break out the lederhosen then.

PUAH
(smiling)
As long as they're not covered in question marks.

ACT TWO

EXT. ALLEY/BERLIN 1926 - EVENING

WE SEE a deserted alleyway. In the distance WE SEE a street, brightly lit with people walking by. WE HEAR a mixture of different jazz songs in the background. A sudden wind scatters litter around, followed by a whooshing, thumping noise. The TARDIS fades in with a final thump. The doors open and out comes the Doctor, smiling. He's wearing lederhosen festooned in question marks.

DR. WHO
Ah, Berlin, before the madness. Feel how alive it is, Puah! At this time the economy was rebounding for Germany and jazz music was everywhere because everyone wanted to dance and have fun again. Can you hear it, Puah?

The Doctor looks around, noticing Puah is still in the TARDIS.

DR. WHO (CONT'D)
Puah? Aren't you coming out?

Puah reluctantly steps out, dressed in 1920's fashion for a night on the town. Her hair is down. Her makeup is done. Her dress is just above the knees. She's sporting heels and she's wearing a man-tailored overcoat. She seems somewhat embarrassed.

DR. WHO
What's wrong? Aren't you excited?

PUAH
I was, and then you stepped out in that.

Puah points to the Doctor's choice of clothing.

DR. WHO
I told you, when we travel in time we have to dress for that period so we don't call too much attention to ourselves.

PUAH
And this is your idea of blending in?

DR. WHO
It's worked for me so far. Are you ready to head out?

The Doctor bends his arm to invite her to hook her arm with his. Puah takes a deep breath. After exhaling, she smiles and hooks his arm with hers.

PUAH
Let's do it.

EXT. STREET/BERLIN 1926 - EVENING

The Doctor and Puah walk out on the street. People are walking about peacefully, enjoying the clear night. Colorful electric lights keep the darkness at bay, giving the street a warm, welcoming glow. Music seems to pour from every building, filling the air with a chaotic yet enjoyable cacophony. With each step sounds shift, shimmer, dissolve, and reform. Dixieland has come to Berlin. Both Puah and the Doctor look about, enjoying the sights.

DR. WHO
What do you think?

PUAH
It's wonderful. I love hearing this old-time jazz emanating from everywhere. It's so rich sounding! I can't believe how this will all change in a few years. I feel no impending doom at all.

DR. WHO
Where to first? Should we dine first on authentic German sausages, or would you like to take in some German-born jazz?

PUAH
My grandparents! Please Doctor, you promised. I must see them.

DR. WHO
Well, with the address you gave me, we should be close. Is that the street there?

The Doctor points to a cross street.

PUAH
It is! I hope they're home. If not, I might never see them.

DR. WHO
As long as you only see them. Remember, you made a promise too.

They both walk towards the street.

EXT. HOUSE/BERLIN 1926 - EVENING

WE SEE a house; its windows darkened. The Doctor and Puah walk towards the house with Puah leading the way.

PUAH
(pointing at the house)
Look Doctor! There it is! I recognize it from the photos.

Puah quickens her pace. Her excitement increases as she gets closer to the house. Before she gets too close the Doctor grabs her by the arm.

DR. WHO
That's close enough.

PUAH
But the windows are dark. How can I see them? I don't even know if they're home!

DR. WHO
How old are they now?

PUAH
They should be in their late 20's.

DR. WHO
They're probably out enjoying themselves. If that's the case, it could be a while before they get back.

Puah frowns as she looks back at the house.

DR. WHO
Don't worry! We might see them later. We can stay as long as you like. We have time, which is the primary benefit of being a timelord.

PUAH
(sighs)
I suppose. I just feel like I'm so close.

DR. WHO
Let's come back later. Berlin awaits!

PUAH
(smiles)
You're right. I think I'm a little too nervous to eat now. Let's see some jazz!

DR. WHO
Excellent! This way.

INT. JAZZ BAR/BERLIN 1926 - EVENING

WE SEE the Doctor and Puah enter a crowded bar with a live jazz band. Many people are dancing and drinking and having a good time. The mood infects them both. The Doctor turns to Puah.

DR. WHO
What do you think?

PUAH
It's amazing! To think that I'm here right now, at this place, at this time! My head is spinning!

DR. WHO
I know just the cure for that!

PUAH
What?

DR. WHO
Dancing!

The doctor then grabs Puah by the hand and leads her to the dance floor. The music swells up in volume as they start dancing among the crowd. One of the saxophone players starts soloing. Puah's head furrows and she stops dancing. She turns to watch the band, focusing on the saxophone solo. The doctor stands besides her.

DR. WHO
He's really on fire, isn't he?

Puah is silent as she watches. She seems troubled. The Doctor steps in front of her to get her attention.

DR. WHO
What is it?

PUAH
That saxophone. Do you see it?

The Doctor cranes his head to look at the stage. The soloist is playing a saxophone that is gleaming white.

DR. WHO
That's an odd-looking thing, but I guess it helps with standing out from the other sax players. It certainly sounds different.

PUAH
Doctor, I know that type of saxophone. It's a Grafton. It's made out of plastic.

DR. WHO
(looking back at Puah)
Plastic? They must not be very common.

PUAH
No, they're not, especially around this time, since they were only made in the fifties.

The Doctor's countenance changes as he looks back at the musician, who finishes his solo. All applaud as he steps off the stage to take a break while the band changes to a softer song to slow-dance to. The Doctor watches him with interest.

PUAH
How could he have that saxophone?

DR. WHO
It might not be anything. One of the common problems of traveling back in time is when the novice traveler mistakes an item of the past for an item in their own time, since that's all they know. I once knew someone who mistook a hearing aid for a smartphone.

PUAH
What's a smartphone?

DR. WHO
It's not important. Tell you what. Let's split up and ask around to find out who he is.

PUAH
Is this what you normally do? Have you done this before?

DR. WHO
More times than I can count. Are you ready?

PUAH
(thinks about it, then smiles)
Let's do it!

DR. WHO
Don't be that excited. We're just asking questions right now. We're not racing against the clock to save the world, or some such nonsense.

PUAH
(sounding bored)
Sigh. Let's do it. Was that better?

DR. WHO
On your way then. And remember, you're in a jazz club in the 20's so try to mimic the slang so you don't stand out. Savvy?

PUAH
Duck soup! I know my onions. Don't take any wooden nickles.

DR. WHO
(confused)
What? Look, just be careful.

PUAH
That's what I said!

Puah and the Doctor split up. While she goes to the bar to ask some people, the Doctor goes in the back where he last saw the musician. He sees a door open up from the outside and a man steps in, smoking a final puff from a cigarette before tossing it back outside to go back to work. As the door starts to close, WE HEAR a saxophone playing outside. The Doctor rushes up to catch the door from closing, and then listens. It's the same saxophone he's looking for. Looking around to make sure he won't get caught, the Doctor walks through the door.

EXT. ALLEY BEHIND JAZZ BAR/BERLIN 1926 - EVENING

The Doctor looks around for the source of the music, which sounds somewhat festive, as if the player was celebrating something. Following the sound, the Doctor comes across the man, seated on some stairs, a lit cigarette quietly burning next to him. The Doctor moves slowly to him. The man finally notices him, stops playing and meets his gaze. Without a greeting, he picks up the cigarette and smokes.

DR. WHO
You really shouldn't smoke if you're a saxophone player. It will get in the way of your playing if you're having trouble breathing.

The man inhales deeply and blows out a big cloud directly at the Doctor, who waves his hand to break it up. He tries to start a conversation again.

DR. WHO
That's a very unique-looking sax you have there. Grafton, isn't it? You don't see many like that around....

The man, remaining silent, keeps smoking. The Doctor presses on.

DR. WHO
...if at all.

Seemingly disinterested, the man resumes playing his sax.

DR. WHO
I wanted to compliment you on your playing. That was quite a solo you did. Very impressive. I daresay you're quite the... master.

MASTER
(stops playing, annoyed)
Doctor, you know it's me and I know it's you. Can we just get on with it?

INT. JAZZ BAR/BERLIN 1926 - EVENING

Puah is trying to make her way to the bar to chat with the bartender, but there are so many people at the bar getting drinks that it's slow-going. As she makes her way past

people, she asks random people about the saxophone player that was just on stage.

PUAH
(to a group of people)
Excuse me, does anyone know who that egg with the funny sax was?

Unfortunately, they all seem a bit too preoccupied with having fun to be helpful. Puah leaves them and gets close enough to the bar and tries to get the bartender's attention, but to no avail. Finally she sticks her fingers in the sides of her mouth and lets out a piercing whistle. The bartender still doesn't register her presence, but a couple in front of her both put their hands to their ears.

PUAH
(embarrassed)
Oh, I'm so sorry! I'm just trying to get the bartender's attention.

The couple turns around, both laughing. Puah freezes. She recognizes them. It's her grandparents, Gil and Alma, both younger than she is now.

GIL
Eh, it's OK, babe. Everything's copacetic.

ALMA
I think he's deaf anyway from all the music. You might have to throw something at him next time to get his attention.

Puah tries to recover her bearings.

PUAH
(stammering at first)
Um, yeah! That band's the bees knees, right? Especially that cat with the screwy sax! That solo was swell! Do you know who he is?

ALMA
(to Puah)
I don't think I've seen him before.
(to Gil)
Have you?

GIL
Nah. He's probably looking for a permanent gig. Wouldn't surprise me if that was his audition.

PUAH
Would you know where he might come from?

GIL
Look, sister, they come from all over to play, even from places really far away, like places I've never heard of.

EXT. ALLEY BEHIND JAZZ BAR/BERLIN 1926 - EVENING

The Doctor is watching the Master play. The Doctor's nerves contrasting with the smooth sounds coming from the plastic saxophone.

DR. WHO
OK Master, what are you doing here? And please don't respond by saying you're just playing the saxophone. We both know that's not true.

The Master stops playing.

MASTER
But that *is* all I'm doing. I wanted to learn how to play so I set out to learn. I went from time to time, place to place, absorbing a little here, taking a little there. Have I ever told you how much I love being a timelord?

DR. WHO
That can't be all. What are you planning?

MASTER
Nothing.

DR. WHO
“Nothing.” I see. I do believe the era-appropriate response to that is bushwa.

MASTER
Well, Doctor, I can only blame myself for how you feel. Throughout our long history. I've done some unorthodox things--

DR. WHO
--Evil things, yes.

MASTER
In any case, no matter what I did I was never able to hurt you. But now, I think, I've realized where I went wrong, and will only seek to do good.

The doctor just looks at the Master, apprehensively. He doesn't know what to say.

MASTER
You don't believe me.

DR. WHO
I want to, but I guess I will have to wait and see.

MASTER
Then wait, timelord. Wait as long as you want. You will see, eventually. But for now, I just want to practice. So, if that's all you have to say....

The Master resumes playing, ignoring the Doctor. The Doctor leaves him without saying goodbye, not knowing what to think. The music fades as he walks toward the club's backdoor, and is drowned out by the din as he opens the door to go inside.

INT. JAZZ BAR/BERLIN 1926 - EVENING

Puah is still talking to her grandparents, who don't know that she is their granddaughter from the future. They're kind, funny, and jovial just as she thought they would be. It breaks her heart that in about 15 years they will be murdered. She has to say something.

PUAH
Say, I was wondering, how do either of you feel about what's happening in politics?

GIL
Aw, don't be such a flat tire.

PUAH
Sorry, it's just that Hitler mug. He gives me the heebie-jeebies.

ALMA
Who?

PUAH
(taken aback)
Hitler. Adolf Hitler.

Both Alma and Gil shrug their shoulders.

PUAH
Neither of you know who Adolf Hitler is?

The band starts playing a faster song and the crowd livens up. Alma and Gil perk up as well. A mass exodus to the dance floor begins.

ALMA
(to Puah)
Well, thanks for the chin.
(to Gil)
C'mon my sheik! Let's hoof it.

GIL
(to Alma)
Right behind you, my sheba.
(to Puah)
See you later, Mrs. Grundy!

Both share a laugh as they make their way to the dance floor. Puah watches them go. She sighs. From the crowd, the Doctor appears. He makes his way to her.

DR. WHO
Find out anything?

PUAH
No.

The Doctor looks at her with concern.

DR. WHO
It looks like you found something.

PUAH
I said no.

The Doctor tries to read her face.

DR. WHO
Perhaps all of this has been too much for you. Maybe I should take you back home so you can have a breather?

PUAH
(thinking)
Yeah, OK.

DR. WHO
I know I made a promise to you to see your grandparents. We'll come back as soon as--

PUAH
(downhearted)
--Don't worry about it.

Puah then walks slowly to the exit, not looking back. The Doctor watches her for a few seconds, and then follows.

ACT THREE

INT. VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM/LONDON 1985 - AFTERNOON

WE SEE the inside of what appears to be a storage room. WE HEAR the TARDIS and it appears not long after. The Doctor and Puah exit the TARDIS and look around. They are dressed as they were when they first met. Finding the door, they exit the room to disappear among the throng in the museum. Once they merge with the public, the Doctor looks at Puah to see how she's doing. She seems sad and pensive. She looks like she's about to cry.

DR. WHO
What is it?

PUAH
Nothing.

DR. WHO
That won't do. Tell me.

PUAH
Doctor, it's nothing. It doesn't matter.

DR. WHO
No. Not when you time travel. Any detail, no matter how insignificant you think it is, is worth looking at. What made you so upset? Is it not seeing your grandparents?

PUAH
I saw them.

DR. WHO
(taken aback)
You *saw* them? You didn't talk to them did you?

PUAH
I did. I wish I didn't.

The Doctor moves in front of her. He is very tense.

DR. WHO
What did you say to them? Did you warn them?

PUAH
(upset)
Doctor, they didn't even know who Adolf Hitler was! They were so ignorant and were only looking to enjoy themselves.

DR. WHO
You can't blame them for wanting to enjoy themselves when they're young.

PUAH
I always believed they stayed behind to fight, but I guess they thought everything was “the cat's meow”.

DR. WHO
You expected them to be what they weren't at that time in their lives.

PUAH
I just feel so disappointed. In effect, the grandparents I always wanted, always dreamed about, never really existed.

DR. WHO
And yet, they sent your mother away to be protected from the coming storm.

PUAH
They only did that because their friends urged them to.

DR. WHO
And they took their advice.

PUAH
So?

DR. WHO
What I'm saying is that the actions they took for your mother, and by extension you, means that they had changed since that time you met them. The grandparents you always loved and cherished did exist, but they were stolen from you before you got to meet them. Don't let this experience destroy what little scraps of your grandparents you have. Keep those thoughts and feelings you have for them alive. If you don't, then that sense of loss you feel will become much worse.

As Puah mulls over the Doctor's words, she begins to regain her composure.

PUAH
Thank you, Doctor. I didn't expect it would be like this. I guess it's one thing to study the past but another to experience it.

The Doctor and Puah start walking again.

DR. WHO
I can set the destination, but I can't predict what will happen when we get there. It's the risk we take for traveling to the past.

PUAH
So why do it then? Wouldn't it be better to travel in the future so you can warn people of what's coming when you get back? Why place yourself in such fragile situations?

The Doctor's face darkens.

DR. WHO
Because there are those of us that want to change things in the past to control the future. Those are the ones that must be stopped.

PUAH
So there's bad timelords too?

DR. WHO
Yes, but they never see themselves as “bad”. One of them is called the Master.

PUAH
(snickers)
If that's the name he chose for himself then it sounds like he's compensating.

DR. WHO
Perhaps, but he's awfully clever and a dangerous opponent. He was the one who was playing the plastic saxophone.

PUAH
That explains how he had that sax. But what was he up to?

DR. WHO
According to him, nothing. He was just there to enjoy himself, being a tourist, similar to what we were doing.

PUAH
And how do you feel about that? Was he telling the truth?

DR. WHO
I'm not sure, and that worries me. I always believed there was something else in the Master that could get him to change, but now that he says he has changed I'm not sure if I can believe him. And then that makes me wonder where the fault lies. Is it his fault for all the things he's done over the years that I can't believe him, or is it my fault for losing my faith in a person's ability to reform?

PUAH
I guess this calls for a “wait and see” approach.

DR. WHO
The problem with that is when you wait, sometimes it ends up being too late once you see.

Among the crowd, Puah notices a man wearing a nose-wide mustache and, more alarmingly, a shirt with interlocking swastikas. Puah is outraged.

PUAH
(to the man)
No more Nazis!

The man ignores Puah and continues on. The Doctor watches.

PUAH
Ay, Mr. Nazi! Don't you ignore me!

The man continues to take no notice of Puah. The Doctor tries to calm her down but she moves to confront him.

PUAH
Think it's cool to be a Nazi, do you?

MAN
(confused)
A what?

PUAH
(mockingly)
Urrr a wot? Wots a Nazi?

MAN
Well, yeah. What is that? Is that like a blind person?

The Doctor walks up and places himself between them.

DR. WHO
She's saying “Nazi”. N-A-Z-I. Have you not heard of them?

MAN
No. What are they?

PUAH
Liar!

DR. WHO
(studying the man's face)
I don't think he's lying.

PUAH
But of course he is! Look at that shirt!

MAN
What's wrong with this jumper?

PUAH
It's covered in swastikas!

DR. WHO
You don't think it might be a bit offensive with it's connection to Hitler?

MAN
Why would I? Sure, he popularized it but it's just a design. It's like getting upset over chevrons.

DR. WHO
So it means nothing more to you than just a design?

MAN
Well, I think it means good luck. If you really want to know, why don't you just go to the exhibition?

The man points towards the far end of the museum where WE SEE people are gathered.

DR. WHO
Exhibition?

MAN
(frustrated)
That's what I said. Look, I gotta go. Good luck with your friend there.

The man walks away. Puah watches him go. She's confused and her anger is starting to give way to concern.

PUAH
Doctor! What--

Before she can finish the Doctor walks away briskly towards the exhibit. Puah runs behind to catch up.

PUAH
--does he mean by an exhibition? What's happening?

DR. WHO
Didn't you find it curious that he knows about Hitler, is wearing a shirt covered in swastikas, but has never heard of a Nazi?

PUAH
Maybe they're called something else in England.

DR. WHO
Even so, we would assume he would've heard of the group if he's wearing a swastika. Unless Nazis don't exist.

PUAH
How can there be a Hitler with no Nazis?

DR. WHO
A good question, and I think we'll find the answer to that in there.

The doctor stops walking and looks up. Puah turns her head to see what the Doctor is looking at. Above them is a huge sign that says “Adolph Hitler Retrospective”. Puah's face blanches. She quickly hides her Star of David necklace beneath her dress. The Doctor turns to her.

DR. WHO
Shall we?

PUAH
I don't think I want to see what's in there.

DR. WHO
Courage, Puah. Sometimes we have to go where we don't want to go to get answers.

PUAH
Doctor, I can't! It will feel like I'm betraying my people!

The Doctor looks at her. He sees how uncomfortable she is.

DR. WHO
(gently)
I would prefer if you joined me, but if it bothers you that much then I'll just go in. Maybe you can do some research in the meantime and we can compare notes after, OK?

Puah breathes a sigh of relief and nods silently. The Doctor offers a small smile and turns to make his way inside. Before he leaves her, a thought comes to Puah.

PUAH
Doctor! How are you going to get in? You need to pay for a ticket. Actually, do you even carry money?

DR. WHO
Don't need to. I have what I need right here.

The Doctor reaches inside his coat and brings out a wallet. He opens it to show her.

PUAH
(confused)
Umm, it's blank.

DR. WHO
To you it is, but to those guards there, it will display a ticket.

PUAH
OK, that's literally magic.

DR. WHO
No, it's just something you don't understand. It's psychic paper. It will show whatever I need it to show to gain access. Watch.

The Doctor turns around and walks to the entrance of the exhibition where the guard stops him. The Doctor shows the psychic paper to the guard. The guard nods his head in satisfaction. The Doctor turns around to Puah, smiles wide, and goes inside.

Puah smiles briefly as she watches the Doctor walk inside. She then looks up at the sign again and shivers. She lifts up the collar of her coat to hide her face. She does her best to avoid meeting anyone's gaze.

As the Doctor walks inside, WE SEE watercolor paintings of buildings, bridges, and statues in the background and WE HEAR a voice echoing loudly. As the Doctor follows the voice, it gets louder and clearer.

TOUR GUIDE (O.S.)
...living in Vienna at a men's hostel called the Männerheim which was a big step up from the Asyl für Obdachlose. And Hitler was even starting to make money off of his art, first with small postcard-sized drawings and later with larger watercolors, some of which you walked past as you entered this room.

The guide pauses and points to the entrance.

TOUR GUIDE
However, he would fall back into his old habit of arguing vociferously about politics. He would even invite people to have political discourses just to argue with them! To add to his misfortune, Hitler tried again to get into the Academy of Fine Arts and was rejected yet again. The professor he
(MORE)

TOUR GUIDE (CONT'D)
auditioned for told him that while he wasn't impressed overall, he did find his drawings of buildings remarkably accurate. This, of course, sent Hitler into a gloomy funk, for this wasn't what he wanted to hear. Thankfully, Hitler had one true friend, who bluntly told him “Yes, you can't draw a man or a horse or anything like that, but so what? Your art lies in buildings and structures. If you keep at it, people will come looking for your work to buy.” Thanks to that man's coaxing and support, that is what Hitler ended up doing, and he improved his art and as a result he started to be sought out. People were beginning to look for Adolf Hitler and his fine watercolor renderings of the buildings and monuments of Vienna. Success was starting to come to him, so much so that he eventually was able to move out of the hostel and acquire his own apartment. Eventually, he would begin to work as a freelance industrial designer. During this time, his style began to evolve from the watercolor realism of buildings to the austere graphics he became known for. You can see some of this work, a lot of which you've probably seen before, towards the left over there.

The guide points to a wall covered in what appears to be symbols and company logos. In the center is a swastika, displayed proudly.

CUT TO:

Puah is sitting on a bench in the lobby, her head down. She is very nervous. Puah sighs. She's feeling the outline of her Star of David beneath her dress. Then, her eyes widen.

PUAH
--Dear God! Mum! Dad!

Puah fidgets and looks around. WE SEE her POV slowly panning the lobby until she finds a payphone. She walks up to it, being careful not to be noticed, and gets in the booth. She then picks up the receiver, puts in some coins, and dials a number. WE HEAR it ringing. Someone picks up.

WOMAN (O.S)
Hello?

PUAH
Mum?

WOMAN (O.S)
No, bubbale it's your bubbe.
Your mother's out right now.

PUAH
(stunned)
Gran?

CUT TO:

The tour guide continues his lecture.

TOUR GUIDE
And of course the rest is history. Hitler would become a well-regarded industrial designer, first as a freelancer, then landing at Volkswagen. He would go on to influence countless designers including England's own Peter Saville. In fact, it's not a far stretch to say that if it wasn't for Hitler, there wouldn't even be a Volkswagen.

As the guide drones on, the Doctor takes another look around at the collection of watercolors, graphics, and product reproductions and is amazed. Then his face darkens.

TOUR GUIDE
Ladies and gentlemen, this marks the end of the tour. We hope you enjoy this exhibition as much as we do. Does anyone have any questions?

The Doctor raises his hand.

DR. WHO
Would you have any idea who Hitler's friend was at that crucial time in the hostel? It sounds like he was a big help to him.

TOUR GUIDE
You're right to say he was a big help for if it wasn't for that friend to keep him focused on his art, who knows what Hitler's future would've been like?

The Doctor winces a bit.

TOUR GUIDE
In any case his name was Reinhold Hanisch and we know of him through his posthumously published journals.

DR. WHO
Posthumously? So he's not around anymore.

TOUR GUIDE
Unfortunately not. Allegedly he died in the 30's.

DR. WHO
Why allegedly?

TOUR GUIDE
Well, there's paperwork, but that's it. There's no record of remains anywhere. It's as if he just vanished.

CUT TO:

Puah puts down the receiver and dries her eyes. She exits the booth and walks around aimlessly in a daze. At the same time, the Doctor exits the exhibition and looks around for Puah. He finds her.

DR. WHO
Puah. Find anything? I--

The Doctor notices that it appears Puah has been crying.

DR. WHO
Puah? What is it? What's happened?

PUAH
Doctor! My grandparents! They're alive!

The Doctor looks at her gravely. Puah is too happy to notice.

PUAH
(excited)
I called home to check on Mum and Dad to see if they were OK and I talked to Gran! She's fine. They all are! Do you know why? The Holocaust never happened! Hitler never came to power. There wasn't even a second World War! And you know what? I've started remembering things too! I remember their visits from Germany when I was a child. I remember playing with them. I remember them giving me advice at my Bat Mitzvah. I remember when they moved in with us after they retired. My God, Doctor I even see their faces in my mind now! Hearing my Gran's voice on the phone has brought it all back to me! All the conversations we had. All the conversations we've yet to have! Oh Doctor, I've never felt this happy before. I feel so whole now.

Puah is beaming. The Doctor gives no reaction.

DR. WHO
It's time to leave. Come. Back to the TARDIS.

The Doctor starts walking back to the storage room where the TARDIS is parked. Puah follows him, confused.

PUAH
Doctor--

DR. WHO
--Yes I heard you. What you said makes sense. Your grandparents are alive because there was no Holocaust. There was no Holocaust because there were no Nazis, no Auschwitz, no Kristallnacht, none of it! Hitler took another path.

PUAH
So what was in the exhibition then? I thought it would be all concentration camp pictures and celebrations of racial purity.

DR. WHO
Far from it! He accomplished his goal of becoming an artist. When he did that, everything else fell by the wayside. Politics became less important to him. He found what made him fulfilled.

The Doctor and Puah enter the storage room.

PUAH
And so all those people who died during the Holocaust, who died in World War 2, were all able to live out their lives. Oh Doctor, it's so wonderful!

DR. WHO
It's much more than that--

The Doctor fishes from his pocket the key to the TARDIS and opens the door.

DR. WHO
--it's wrong.

The Doctor enters the TARDIS quickly. Puah, now concerned, follows him in.

ACT FOUR

INT. TARDIS

WE SEE Puah looking troubled while WE HEAR the TARDIS in operation. She is fingering her necklace. She turns to

look at the Doctor who is busy piloting. Slowly, she gets up and moves closer to him.

PUAH
Doctor, where are we going?

DR. WHO
To Vienna a little after the turn of the century.

PUAH
To look for Hitler?

DR. WHO
If need be, but I'm more interested in finding a friend of his. I think he's the one responsible for changing Hitler's destiny, and by extension everything else.

PUAH
Why that person?

DR. WHO
Because no one knows what happened to him. It's a mystery. And where there's a mysterious figure somewhere in the past, it usually means a timelord is mucking about.

PUAH
So you suspect this friend of Hitler is really the Master?

DR. WHO
Yes, I think he may have done away with the actual person so he can masquerade as him.

PUAH
And if you find him?

DR. WHO
Get history back on track.

PUAH
Why?

DR. WHO
Why? Puah, you saw how wrong everything was.

PUAH
(offended)
Wrong? The Holocaust never happening is wrong? World War 2 never happening is wrong? My grandparents and millions of others were murdered, but now they're back! It's all fixed and you want to set it back!

DR. WHO
I don't want to. I have to.

PUAH
Why do you have to? You're not under anyone's command. You're rogue. You can do what you want.

DR. WHO
No, I can't! Don't you think I would love to go into the past to make things better? I would love to make sure the Titanic didn't sink, or that the Black Death didn't happen, or that the slave trade never existed! I would love to reshape your world, and other worlds like it so no one would have to suffer.

PUAH
So do it! Start now!

DR. WHO
Just because I have the power to? What gives me the right to change things, even if I think they are for the better?

PUAH
What gives you the right to change it all back and murdering millions of people?

DR. WHO
No. No Puah, that's not true. They're already dead! That's what really happened. It's monstrous and evil, but it's the truth.

PUAH
Who cares about the truth? No one knows what the truth is except you, me, and the Master. We're talking about lives that were stolen being returned and lived as they should have been. Isn't that more important than the truth?

DR. WHO
OK, Puah. Let's say we left things as they are right now. What's next?

PUAH
(thinking)
I don't know.

DR. WHO
No, you don't. Neither do I. Nor would anyone else except for the Master. One person shouldn't have all that power.

PUAH
You seem so certain that the Master means harm, but you're just assuming.

DR. WHO
Just because we don't know why the Master has done this doesn't mean that he's changed; only his methods have. Think, Puah! He has altered the fate of millions of people without their knowledge. If it benefits them, why all the secrecy? Until there's an answer, I must remain suspicious.

PUAH
But the results--

DR. WHO
--should not justify the means. That's what dictators do. Don't be in a hurry to adopt their techniques to bring about the changes you want, Puah.

PUAH
Doctor, I must do something! I cannot let my grandparents die again! The pain I had from losing them will be so much worse now.

DR. WHO
I won't lie to you. It will be. But sometimes pain isn't always a bad thing, and pleasure isn't always good.

PUAH
Meaning what?

DR. WHO
Meaning the Holocaust is one of those pivotal events where humanity is tested. You know, of all the planets I've visited, I keep coming back to Earth because there's something about it that tugs at my hearts.

PUAH
Hearts?

DR. WHO
Stay focused. I think the reason why I love humanity is the same reason someone can love the misadventures of children. Not to be rude, but humanity is still in its infancy, and the Holocaust is a lesson. How humanity deals with that lesson is going to determine its future. Do you dare take that away not just for now, but for future generations as well? Do you, as a single human being, have the right to determine humanity's future?

PUAH
That's way too clinical a way of looking at it. A lesson is learning the alphabet, not determining the right of people to not be murdered!

DR. WHO
Puah, because of the Holocaust, actions were taken by many people so it wouldn't happen again. If we take away those results, this leaves a possible Holocaust to happen in the future. With all the advances in technology and medicine that have been made since the 1940's, can you imagine how much worse a present-day Holocaust would be?

Puah sighs, turns around and walks a few paces. The Doctor watches her patiently and intently. Finally, she turns around to face him.

PUAH
OK Doctor. What do we do?

DR. WHO
I have the TARDIS set for 1909 Vienna. Sometime in that year is when their partnership began. We have to make sure that it doesn't.

PUAH
But how do we go about finding the Master? Do you know where and when he'll be exactly?

DR. WHO
First, we start here.

The Doctor goes to the console and punches a few unlabeled buttons. The TARDIS starts rocking.

EXT. MEIDLING, VIENNA 1909 - EVENING

WE SEE people lined up shivering outside the gate of a large, drab building. Gradually, WE HEAR the sound of the TARDIS getting louder. Puzzled, people look around to find the source of the sound. Suddenly it stops. No one can figure out where it came from. The distraction to their misery over, they resume trying to keep themselves warm.

INT. TARDIS

The Doctor turns on the viewscreen to outside.

PUAH
What's that?

DR. WHO
That's the Asyl für Obdachlose, or “Asylum for the Homeless” and those poor wretches are waiting to be let inside so they don't have to sleep outside. This is where Hitler and the Master met for the first time. I have the Perception Camouflage Matrix on so we're invisible to everyone. Now we wait.

PUAH
We could potentially be waiting for a long time.

DR. WHO
(smiles)
Ah, but when you're a timelord, there's always a way around waiting.

The Doctor takes off his jacket and drapes it across a railing. He then crouches to open up a panel in the TARDIS control console. He gets inside and starts tinkering around. Puah creeps up behind him to observe.

PUAH
What are you doing? Are you doctoring the TARDIS?

DR. WHO
Not to be mysterious, but any explanation I give would sound like utter nonsense to you. Just give me a few minutes.

Puah's eyes land on the Doctor's discarded jacket. As she walks towards it a loud spark is heard. Puah's head quickly turns towards the Doctor.

DR. WHO
That should do it!

The Doctor wiggles his way out from under the console and replaces the panel. WE SEE the jacket is still on the railing, but hanging differently than before. Puah is standing by it, somewhat fidgety. The Doctor doesn't seem to notice as he grabs the jacket and puts it on.

DR. WHO
Now then, let's see if this actually works.

The Doctor turns a knob. As he does so, WE HEAR a low humming frequency grow higher in pitch. On the viewfinder, WE SEE the gates of the shelter open to let the people in, but now they are moving with an unnaturally fast gait. And just as quickly as they entered, the gates close, the night changes to day, and the gates open again to let everyone out. Then it happens again. And again.

PUAH
(marveling)
It's like the fast-forward on a VCR!

DR. WHO
Yes, in this way we can skim a location's history. What I'm doing is having the TARDIS plot out many landing points to trace our location, so think of it as doing sequential micro-trips. If the Master's here, this shouldn't take long.

They watch people flicker and fade from view. After some moments, the Doctor recognizes a figure and presses a button to pause.

DR. WHO
There he is!

The Doctor presses another button to zoom in on a particular figure. WE SEE the Master walking towards the building as if to enter it.

PUAH
What's the plan, then?

DR. WHO
I'm still trying to figure that out. This is a complex situation. I'm open to suggestions.

Puah bows her head down and thinks. She absentmindedly touches her necklace. She then smirks.

PUAH
How about confronting him?

DR. WHO
That might blow up in my face, and knowing the Master that could be quite literal.

PUAH
I mean try reasoning with him. He's a fellow timelord, isn't he? There has to be some kind of relationship between you two besides being enemies.

DR. WHO
Well, approaching him will probably be the only way I'll be able to see all his cards, but he is dangerous and I don't want to put you in any more risk than I already have.

PUAH
The risk to me is minimal. Think about it. He hasn't seen me and he doesn't know I'm with you, so for all he knows I'm just some random passer-by. I can observe you both pretty safely from a distance, and if you end up needing help, I'll be right there for you.

DR. WHO
(thinking)
It won't work.

PUAH
Probably not, but you need to at least try. You must give him the benefit of the doubt that he's changed. If you just condemn him outright what does that say about you?

DR. WHO
That I've dealt with him before?

PUAH
Everyone changes, Doctor. You told me you wanted to see him change. He may very well have but you're ignoring it!

The Doctor turns around and walks silently. He pauses. Suddenly he turns around with a serious expression.

DR. WHO
OK, I'll talk with him first. I'll repress every instinct I have in hopes that he's changed for the better. You can watch but please be careful. He's dangerous and capable of anything. Got it?

PUAH
Got it.

DR. WHO
Right. Let's get changed.

ACT FIVE

EXT. MEIDLING, VIENNA 1909 - EVENING

The Doctor and Puah exit the TARDIS. They are both dressed like people who are down on their luck. Their clothes are ragged, stained, and torn. Their faces and hands are dirty. They separate; the Doctor walking up to the Master while Puah remains in the background, watching. The Doctor reaches the Master before he enters the building.

DR. WHO
Getting into art now, Master?

The Master stops walking and turns around. He's smiling.

MASTER
I heard I could find some interesting watercolors here.

DR. WHO
I think you're more interested in the painter than his paintings.

MASTER
I'm just trying to right a wrong, Doctor. Shouldn't everyone get the chance to express themselves artistically?

DR. WHO
Not if it rewrites the past to change the future.

MASTER
Did it change the future? How unfortunate! In what way?

DR. WHO
In many ways. Why did you do this? You care for art as much as you care for this world and its inhabitants.

MASTER
Exactly, Doctor. This world is full of so much misery and pain that I finally couldn't stand by any longer. Don't you see? I feel compelled to help in whatever way I can.

DR. WHO
(sighs)
How easily you twist things to your own end. I see you haven't changed at all.

MASTER
I prefer to think of it as “evolving”. Perhaps that's why you don't understand my point of view. You're the same as you've always been. Just look at your TARDIS. You know how to fix the chameleon circuit but you never do.

DR. WHO
I prefer it that way. That's my choice and it doesn't affect anyone but me. All timelords should live that way, weighing if their choices might cause more harm than good.

MASTER
You're just making excuses for your inaction. Too many people live that way; too cowardly to make big changes. But it doesn't have to be that way, Doctor. Think about it. We can make any changes we want. We can reshape reality without anyone knowing it.

DR. WHO
(sarcastically)
Yes, without those pesky dissenting opinions of others to insure you never get your comeuppance.

MASTER
Sometimes it's a curse being so advanced over everyone else. But we can guide them.

DR. WHO
That's not our lot.

MASTER
What is the purpose of being a timelord if not to change things? We have this power. Let's use it!

DR. WHO
It is not our right to change things to suit our needs.

MASTER
But it's in their best interests.

DR. WHO
Is that why you're lurking around in time's background?

MASTER
It's better that way. They wouldn't understand. They would just accuse me of doing something nefarious, much like what you're doing.

DR. WHO
Why does it have to be this way with you? Why these tricks? Just admit you're doing this for your own purposes. Not out of any altruistic intentions.

MASTER
Since you seem to have set your mind, would you mind telling me what those purposes are?

DR. WHO
I don't know. Usually you try to grab power but this latest scheme is more puzzling.

MASTER
It's puzzling to you because I've changed, Doctor, and you haven't. And so the chasm between us grows ever wider.

DR. WHO
It grows wider because of you. I have tried to help you for so long but each time you treat me like an enemy and thus nothing gets resolved.

MASTER
Again with the past. Perhaps being a timelord hasn't been good for your progression, Doctor. Always obsessing about the past. Why not join me in the future?

DR. WHO
It's your future. You're the architect. You're deciding the fate of the world and taking everyone along with you without their knowledge or consent. I can't be a part of that and I must stop you.

MASTER
Stop me from saving the world?

PUAH (O.S)
That's enough!

The Master looks past the Doctor.

MASTER
And who is this? Another hapless companion of yours?

DR. WHO
This is Puah, who's grandparents died in the Holocaust, and even she knows what you're doing is wrong.

MASTER
As usual, you can't discern between right and wrong. Why don't you turn around?

The Doctor furrows his brow and slowly turns around. WE SEE Puah pointing a device at the Doctor. She has a wild look in her eyes.

DR. WHO
(disappointed)
Puah--

PUAH
--No, Doctor. I won't take your lies anymore.

DR. WHO
I've never lied to you.

PUAH
You've fooled me all this time! Here I was thinking you were on humanity's side but the Master has done more for humanity than I've seen you do.

MASTER
Quite right.

DR. WHO
Puah, you have it all backwards! Don't fall for this. He's trying to confuse you.

Puah starts walking around the Doctor to the Master, still pointing the device at the Doctor.

PUAH
I could say the same about you! I don't know what the truth is. All I know is that my grandparents are alive thanks to his actions and you've been trying to reverse all he's done!

DR. WHO
I'm trying to set things right!

PUAH
You know what? I really don't care what you consider to be “right”. My family is whole. That feels right to me. The Holocaust will be avoided and millions of my people will get to live out their lives. That feels right to me. Whatever we're doing here doesn't feel right to me.

As Puah speaks, she shakes her hand with the device as if for extra emphasis.

DR. WHO
Please don't play with that. You don't know what it can do.

Puah moves next to the Master.

PUAH
I know. That's why I'm giving it to him.

She hands the device to the Master.

PUAH
I'm sure he'll know what to do with it.

MASTER
(looking it over)
Indeed I do.

DR. WHO
Puah, we can still fix this.

PUAH
I am fixing it, Doctor. I'm fixing it so you won't interfere. I'm now going to Berlin to see my grandparents and I'm going to tell them everything that's happened. I'm going to tell anyone who will listen about the Nazis, the Holocaust, and Hitler. And I'm going to tell them about you, Doctor, and how you tried to stop the Master from righting all the wrongs that we had to endure. Goodbye.

Puah turns around and starts walking away.

DR. WHO
Puah, remember where you are! You won't be able to cross the border without any identification.

Puah turns back and WE SEE her holding up the psychic paper.

PUAH
That won't be an issue.

The Doctor checks his coat, finding only empty pockets. With a smile, she turns around again and leaves them both.

DR. WHO
Puah!

She offers no reaction as if there was nothing to react to. The Doctor watches sadly as she disappears. Then he looks at the Master, who seems amused.

MASTER
Well Doctor, I think she may be my favorite of your companions. Would you like your sonic screwdriver back?

DR. WHO
(irritable)
Yes, please.

The Master throws the device to the Doctor, who catches it and puts it in his jacket. He looks back at the Master and they stare at each other.

MASTER
Why didn't you just take it from her just now? You knew the screwdriver was harmless.

DR. WHO
And then what? She thinks I tricked her and the wounds she has go deep. It would take a lifetime for us to reconcile.

MASTER
That's too bad, but I should be going too. Looks like my plans are foiled again, curse your meddling and all that.

DR. WHO
You're just going to go? No fight or anything? Just quit and leave Hitler to his own devices, returning everything to how it was before?

MASTER
Yes, and I'm glad to be done with it. I'm sure I found Hitler to be a bore but his paintings were interesting. Not because they're good, mind you, but did you notice that while he could paint buildings and monuments fine, he could never paint a human being? Fascinating, don't you agree?

The Doctor comes to a realization.

DR. WHO
This was never about fixing things. You didn't care if your plan worked or not. This was all about causing chaos.

MASTER
No, Doctor. I did care if my plan worked, but my plan wasn't to cause chaos. My plan was to hurt you. And I did. I hurt you. I see how much pain you're in from losing face in your companion's eyes. And now I know how to defeat you. So you see Doctor, I have changed after all.

DR. WHO
Only your methods. Not your soul. And not your mind.

MASTER
(dismissively)
Yes, yes I've heard this song way too many times from you. In any case, my work is done here. Now to spread my help elsewhere. Until the next time, Doctor.

The Master strikes a brooch on his chest. WE HEAR a whooshing, whistling sound as the brooch starts to glow brightly. The Doctor shields his eyes and the light grows until it seems as if morning has exploded. Then in a quick flash the light and sound are gone, as well as the Master. The Doctor looks at the space where the Master was, lingers, then walks back to the TARDIS. WE HEAR the sound of the TARDIS starting up and it too disappears in the night.

EXT. HYDE PARK/LONDON 1985 - AFTERNOON

WE SEE a field surrounded by trees in Hyde Park and WE HEAR the sound of the TARDIS fade in, followed quickly by the appearance of the TARDIS itself. The Doctor exits the TARDIS and walks forwards. After a few paces, he stops and looks down, solemnly.

DOCTOR'S P.O.V. — HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

WE SEE the Doctor looking intently at the memorial. He sighs.

OLD WOMAN (O.S)
I was hoping you would come back here on the same day we met. I believe this is yours.

WE SEE a wrinkled, liver-spotted hand jut out holding the psychic paper. On the wrist is a faded tattoo of digits. The Doctor looks at it, then turns his head to follow up the arm. It is an old woman. Her eyes are sad but her smile is kind. She is wearing a necklace the Doctor recognizes.

DR. WHO
(astonished)
Puah!

PUAH
It's nice to see you again, Doctor. And I'm glad I can give this back to you.

The Doctor tentatively takes the psychic paper and looks at it quickly before putting it back in his jacket.

DR. WHO
I hope it helped.

PUAH
Yes, no one doubted who I was thanks to that. But I've had it for far too long and it should be with you.

DR. WHO
Thank you.

They stare at each other silently for a few seconds, both seem unsure how to begin.

DR. WHO
Puah, I'm--

PUAH
--No, Doctor, don't. I did you wrong. After a lifetime of thinking, I can see that now. You were trapped in an unfair situation. No one should have that much power. If one person can have that power, then other people can, and then monstrous things happen. I've seen what happens when someone gets too much power.

DR. WHO
What did you do after we parted? Did you try to tell people what was to come?

PUAH
Yes, I did try, which almost led me to being committed to an institution for anxiety. I figured if I was deemed insane I wouldn't be able to help anyone out, so I kept quiet and acted more normal, even when I saw things starting to happen. I thought somehow you defeated the Master.

DR. WHO
After you left, so did the Master without incident. His purpose wasn't to save people from the Holocaust. He wanted to humiliate me and have me lose faith in myself. He wanted to break me.

PUAH
Ah, at last, the mystery has been revealed! And now things are as they were.

DR. WHO
Yes, for bad and for good. I am truly sorry about your grandparents, Puah. I'm sure the pain of losing them is much more awful now that you've met them. If it wasn't for me--

PUAH
--Doctor, if it wasn't for you, I never would've met them at all. Because of you, I was able to know them as friends. Do you remember when I told you that they had some friends who insisted that they send my Mum away? I was one of those friends! I couldn't save them, but I was able to save my mother so she could live a full life with her family. Years later I visited them.

DR. WHO
You did? Did you see yourself?

PUAH
Funny enough, my parents now have a son. They gave him the name they were going to give me if I had been born a boy. I guess not absolutely everything gets restored as it was before.

DR. WHO
Mostly everything does but as things play out sometimes chance has its way of offering up a few surprises. I hope you don't feel that you've been replaced.

PUAH
Actually, it made me feel good to see them all. I never told them who I really was, though. It would've upset them needlessly. And I don't feel replaced. By the time I met them I had a family of my own.

DR. WHO
I'm glad you weren't killed in the Holocaust and were able to live a full life.

PUAH
Many full lives, Doctor! Not only the life I had before I met you and the life I live now, but also the life I had when the Master had his way. I still have those memories even though reality has been reset. Isn't that funny?

DR. WHO
It's because you traveled in the TARDIS. We timelords need to keep track of all the realities we visit so we don't forget anything important. The TARDIS keeps all those memories in check for you.

PUAH
Looking back on it all, I'm glad that I was able to get to know my grandparents not only as their grandchild, but also as their friend. Everyone should try to get to know their relatives as friends.

DR. WHO
And so you managed to come through everything intact. Well done. As for me, I'll try to be more careful before dragging someone along to keep me from getting too lonely.

PUAH
Good. And you didn't drag me. I was invited and I accepted. And I was the one who insisted on seeing my grandparents. We both had some lessons to learn.

DR. WHO
Thank you. Now then, how about going for another spin for old time's sake?

PUAH
(laughing)
Thank you, Doctor, but no. I can honestly say I've had enough for three lifetimes! On to your next adventure, timelord.

DR. WHO
Until next time.

The Doctor turns and walks to the TARDIS. Just before he is about to enter, Puah has a thought.

PUAH
Doctor, if I can only remember alternate realities when traveling in the TARDIS, how do I know if the reality I'm currently living in is the right one?

DR. WHO
You wouldn't know. But if I have anything to say about it, you can rest assured it will be.

PUAH
So I will see you again, then?

DR. WHO
Yes, and maybe sooner than you think.

The Doctor smiles and enters the TARDIS. Strong winds blow as the TARDIS starts up. After disappearing, the wind dies down and WE SEE Puah looking upwards, her hand clasping her necklace. She then turns to the memorial, lays a hand on it, and smiles.

FADE TO BLACK