



Doctor Who: The Face of the Enemy

David A. McIntee

Download now

Read Online ➞

Doctor Who: The Face of the Enemy

David A. McIntee

Doctor Who: The Face of the Enemy David A. McIntee

The Doctor and Jo have gone off in the TARDIS, leaving the Brigadier and UNIT facing a deadly mystery - and a moral dilemma...

Robbery and murder are on the increase in Britain as disputes between underworld gangs escalate into open warfare on the streets. The Master seems inextricably linked to the chaos - despite the fact he is safely under lock and key.

Meanwhile UNIT is called in when a plane missing in strange circumstances is rediscovered - contaminated with radiation and particle damage that cannot possibly have occurred on Earth.

As the mystery deepens, what little light they can shed on the matter leads the Brigadier to believe that with the Doctor away, Earth's only hope may lie with its greatest enemy...

Doctor Who: The Face of the Enemy Details

Date : Published January 1998 by BBC Books

ISBN : 9780563405801

Author : David A. McIntee

Format : Paperback 281 pages

Genre : Media Tie In, Doctor Who, Science Fiction, Fiction

 [Download Doctor Who: The Face of the Enemy ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Doctor Who: The Face of the Enemy ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Doctor Who: The Face of the Enemy David A. McIntee

From Reader Review Doctor Who: The Face of the Enemy for online ebook

Michael says

The Master, UNIT, Ian & Barbara. Concurrent with The Curse of Peladon.

Despite the Doctor being almost completely absent from this book it turned out to be the best so far in the BBC range. Wanting a scientific opinion on a downed aircraft, missing for a week before its crash, the Brigadier calls on the services of Ian Chesterton accompanied by his wife Barbara. UNIT are about as faithful to the series as it's possible to be, as are all the rest of the cast. It's unlikely that I'll ever reread any of the books from either the Virgin or the BBC range but if I had to pick one it just might be The Face of the Enemy.

Steven says

Very continuity heavy, drawing on a lot of source material from the show and short stories, and giving a very different perspective on the Master and his plots against the Doctor and UNIT.

With the Third Doctor off on his own adventure, the Brig and his UNIT soldiers team up with Ian and Barbara, the First Doctor's companions, to tangle with a new threat to Earth. It's always fun to see the humans being able to hold their own against a threat to Earth without the Doctor, although this current threat came about due to the Three's interference.

Great adventure, and definitely a worthwhile read!

Travis says

Finally somebody gets around to showing us how UNIT deals with threats when the Doctor is out and about in time and space.

Would have liked a story with a more traditional monster, but there was some nice use of Doctor Who history and some great characterization.

Didn't think we needed to include Barbara and Ian, but they were well written. The Master was really well written here. Be interesting to see him get a solo novel of his own. Have to be the original version as every version after was a bit too meglo manic-ish to work.

Be nice if they did more of these, as I always thought UNIT deserved its own book series. Nice to see them portrayed as effective and competent. Most Doctor Who episodes they came across as about as useful as the army in a Godzilla movie.

But, I doubt we'll see any more of these books, as everything is Torchwood these days.

Mark says

On the surface David A. McIntee's novel is a curious contribution to the "Past Doctor Adventures" series: a Doctor Who novel without the title character. Yet McIntee pulls it off superbly by drawing upon the rich collection of supporting characters that have been introduced over the years. Setting it during one of the Third Doctor's unwilling excursions on behalf of the Time Lords, it's premised around two seemingly unrelated events: a violent bank robbery and the crash of a jet containing the body of a junior governmental minister — one who is still very much alive in London. Called in to investigate the latter mystery, Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart finds a substitute for the absent Doctor in the form of a husband-and-wife team with familiarity with the unusual: Ian and Barbara Chesterton, two of the Doctor's original companions.

Over the course of the book McIntee has to mix both the show's well-defined characters with his own original creations in a context that is unusual for a Doctor Who story. This is a challenge that he pulls off with considerable success, devising a novel that manages the difficult feat of offering an original mix of story elements that still demonstrates considerable fealty to his source material. And as successful as he is in depicting the portrayals of the Brigadier, Ian, Barbara, and the Doctor's other friends in the show, his greatest success is in capturing the Master in all of his Third Doctor glory. Though the character of the Master has been a longtime foe of the Doctor's he was never better than in Roger Delgado's original portrayal of him as the suave sadist. McIntee captures him in all of his arrogance and deviousness, making for a very different sort of dynamic than is possible with any of the Doctor-UNIT combinations. It all makes for an adventure that demonstrates the rich storytelling possibilities that exist in the Doctor Who universe, even with its eponymous character is absent.

Thasc says

This is a good read I would recommend this to anybody that enjoys reading about the Master in Dr Who. Roger Delgado is one of my favourite actors and this book certainly captures the way he portrayed the Master. Very different from the usual Who books as the Doctor doesn't make an appearance until the last page. UNIT are in top form as usual though. And it's very interesting to see the Master temporarily working for them and forging a very uneasy alliance with the Brig and co

David Layton says

"The Face of the Enemy" is fairly typical McIntee, high on action, low on probability. Alright, this novel is a deliberate fan wank, designed as such, and so pulls off that questionable job admirably enough. The Doctor and Jo are gone, and Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart is left to deal with an alien menace on his own, except that it is not really alien and he doesn't go it alone. Instead, he finds himself recruiting help from Ian and Barbara and the Master. The story itself mixes equal parts of the Sweeney, James Bond, and UFO. I found the inclusion of Ian and Barbara unhelpful, and the story could have proceeded just as well without them. About halfway through, the story shifts focus so that the Master becomes pretty much the protagonist. McIntee writes the Master well enough, getting the Delgado style just right. The plot ticks along nicely, as long as one does not pay too much attention to it, much like its stylistic sources. In general, it is an enjoyable read, if not very deep.

Daniel Kukwa says

It's a very satisfying UNIT-without-the-Doctor novel, with special guest stars Ian & Barbara Chesterton taking the place of the off-to-Peladon 3rd Doctor & Jo Grant. It's exciting, and surprisingly intense, but it does have two problems that keep it from a five star rating. The first is a supporting cast that is rather large, but not as well developed (or as interesting) as our familiar heroes...and familiar villains. The other problem is an ending that seems very sudden, and doesn't offer a satisfactory goodbye/thank you to Ian & Barbara.

Nicholas Whyte says

"<http://nwhyte.livejournal.com/1292645.html>[return][return]So, what was happening on Earth while the Doctor and Jo were on Peladon? Well, UNIT found itself dealing with peculiar doppelgangers of senior officials, and had to call on the resources of the Master, despite his imprisonment, and of some bloke called Chesterton, who brought his wife Barbara along as well. And up in Faslane, there was a naval medic called Sullivan who turned out to be rather useful...[return][return]One of my least favourite things about the Third Doctor era is the Third Doctor, so it was with some hope that I turned to this Past Doctor Adventure set in his absence. (I had also enjoyed McIntee's Second Doctor / future Master story, *The Dark Path*.) My hope was largely justified. The Brigadier and the Master spark rather well, and there are lots of gleeful continuity moments (including a surprise reference to Delta and the Bannermen). Ian and Barbara take a while to bed into the UNIT environment, though, and the treatment of Barbara in particular isn't terribly satisfactory; Ian as temporary Scientific Adviser is almost Liz Shaw to the Master as Doctor.[return][return]The actual plot is basically decent but important details get drowned out by continuity squee (though of course most readers will be concentrating on the squee). McIntee has apparently said he would have liked the villainous Marianne to be played by Jacqueline Pearce, and I can see that. A fun experiment with the format."

Drew Perron says

It seems like nearly every *Doctor Who* book is frustrating in some way. This makes sense, considering the conditions they were created under - licensed books that were sold on the strength of the brand rather than the strength of the authors involved. They often involved writers new to the craft of novels; writers who were valued for productivity over quality; and writers who had been involved with the property for years - in a different medium. And this turned out many books that were frustrating in fascinating and valuable ways, books that transcended the problems of the format to create something interesting and fun that could only have been created in this time and place.

Not this book, though.

I mean, the *concept* is something that could only be created in a context like this - to save the Earth without the Doctor, the supporting characters of different *Doctor Who* eras have to team up with Earth's worst enemy! But what should be a fun adventure with a bunch of interesting character moments turns into a slog.

The problem here is that this is a book with many deep and complex characters in it that it stubbornly refuses to treat as deep or complex - no, even worse; that it builds an interiority for based on shallow cliches and

basic tropes, and then confidently proceeds forward as if this were all the complexity there was in a human soul. The pre-existing *Doctor Who* characters become broad sketches of themselves, the stock character archetypes that you'd assume if you had no familiarity with the series and someone described them to you in broad detail. (Barbara takes the worst of this; the woman with the hubris to try to overthrow an entire civilization for the greater good, and the wit, spirit and determination to *almost* pull it off, is attenuated into a plucky, didactic, worrisome schoolteacher.) The new characters *are* those stock archetypes, thinking loudly about their one-note motivations; they're based firmly in perspectives on the world that are supposed to feel "gritty" and "real", but feel more like the perspective of someone drained of empathy and vitality by the pre-Thatcher era, watching the news and trying to come up with a theory as to why cops, criminals and terrorists acted the way they did. Both groups get the occasional good moment - the primary antagonist, in particular, has a sympathetic moment near the end which almost fleshes her out into a full two dimensions - but moments are all there is.

The one exception to this is the Master, who's allowed to be his gleeful, chaotic, indulgent self; who values drama and style almost as much as taking over the world; who understands people deeply but can't bring himself to truly believe that understanding, because it would mean they aren't sheep, aren't a resource to be exploited, and that he is and always has been the worst thing possible - wrong. He feels, if not three-dimensional, an interesting two-dimensional slice of a three-dimensional character. (He's clearly David A. McIntee's favorite character here - this book heavily references the book he wrote about the Master's backstory, *The Dark Path*, and also throws in refs to another book of his with the Master as the antagonist, *Final Frontier*.)

The Master pulls my rating up to two stars, but no higher; he can't save this from being a boring book, one that thinks it's far more exciting and complex than it actually is. Not recommended.

Christian Petrie says

Again we encounter a Past Doctor story that fits perfectly with what I would like see. Depending on your view you might not agree with me. Which is fine, but why is this a perfect fit?

To begin it creates a great what if on something that has been tossed around, what happens to Earth while the Doctor is away? Here we have a mystery about a downed plane occur. With the Doctor away UNIT has to investigate which leads them to teaming up with the Master. Very interesting concept.

By using that idea as a starting off point, it leads into tidying up something from an earlier story. Won't say which one, since that would ruin the surprise, but it was well done. The other part is it brings back Ian and Barbara for us to get up to speed with them.

The last part is it fits in between Doctor Who stories as to not create a discontinuity with them. By combining these with a well written story, it is a great book.

I'm willing to give this 5 stars, but in reality it is 4 1/2 stars. The last few chapters feel more rushed than the earlier part of the story. It feels as if David McIntee skipped some dialog and scenes to wrap things up. At the end the story just ends with a quick epilogue. I was hoping for a few more pages dealing with the Master, Ian, & Barbara. Still even with that the story is good.

Matthew Kresal says

The Face Of The Enemy is what, in the terms of the New Series, would be called Doctor-lite. The third Doctor and Jo show up in the novel's prologue and its epilogue, a matter of about five pages out of 281. The novel therefore focuses on two other major aspects of that Doctor's era: UNIT and the Roger Delgado Master. Throw former first Doctor companions Ian and Barbara as well as quite a few bits of continuity into the mix and the result an intriguing take on the Doctor Who universe.

In his previous novel The Dark Path for the Virgin Missing Adventures, David A. McIntee showed his incredible characterization of Roger Delgado's Master. In this novel, McIntee takes the Delgado Master even further as he makes him into the most unlikely thing expected: UNIT's temporary scientific adviser. But just because The Master is working with the "good guys" doesn't mean he isn't the same old Master. The novel also gives the Master to play a London gangster as well during it's first half which is a role that perhaps isn't quite as convincing at first but one that, as the novel progresses, actually serves the Delgado Master well thanks to McIntee's characterization. The novel also gives McIntee the chance to tie back into The Dark Path as well in a rather unexpected way. The result is that this remains of the Master's strongest stories in any medium.

This strong characterization extends to other familiar character's from the TV series. McIntee perfectly captures the UNIT family from the Brigadier to Captain Yates and Sergeant Benton, bringing them to life with the same skill he brought to the Delgado Master. The Brigadier in particular comes across well, tying into elements from previous Who novels. The novel also reintroduces sometime UNIT Corporal Bell and shows us the first time a young naval lieutenant named Harry Sullivan came into contact with UNIT, with McIntee bringing them both to life splendidly.

Perhaps the shining stars of the novel, besides the Master of course, are Ian and Barbara. McIntee perfectly captures the two character's as believable extensions of the character's we saw on TV. McIntee in fact takes their character's even further, especially Ian in Chapter 13 onwards when the character is pushed to the edge but a seemingly tragic event. The result is a novel full of strong character's all around.

That extends to the cast of new character's as well. They range from DI George Boucher, who finds himself tied into the novel's events through a seemingly unconnected bank robbery, to the novel's set of character's who are not what they seem. High up on that latter list is Marianne Kyle who spends the novel as something of an enigma as she constantly swaps sides and allegiances until the truth about her is revealed. These new character's come across strong as well and each add something to the novel as a whole.

The plot of the novel is a curious one. It does what Doctor Who does best: combine different genres into something that is undeniably Doctor Who. The novel starts off as a cross between Quatermass, a gangster movie and a spy thriller. The mix is an at times uneasy one, especially in the earliest parts of the novel, but the farther along it gets the better it becomes. It all works because McIntee inserts Who elements into it, bringing it all together into a complete whole as the novel races along to its climax. It also helps that McIntee keeps it moving at quite a pace, turning this into what may could easily be called the Doctor Who equivalent of a techno-thriller.

The Face Of The Enemy is an intriguing Doctor Who novel. It's a Doctor-lite tale that focuses on many of the supporting character's of the third Doctor's era as well as two previous companions and illuminates them. It does so while putting them all into a thriller plot that mixes genres to create a story that is undeniably Doctor Who. It's an intriguing take on the series and a strong novel to say the least.

Christopher says

Suspicious activities abound as shady forces work to take over the Earth. With the Doctor away, UNIT must turn to his former companions Ian & Barbara, and as things grow ever more dire.....even the Master!

Great story that keeps you guessing, with everybody getting a piece of the action, the Master in particular has some fun action scenes and thoughtful moments. Seeing old companions return is always a joy, and McIntee crafts an interesting follow up to a classic story that I didn't expect.

Dolores says

Love all these books that feature the Master!

Angela says

The Doctor is away and the Brigadier has to solve an alien mystery. So he gets an expert in called Ian Chesterton, who brings his wife Barbara along. Meanwhile the aliens are making life difficult for the Master.

This is a really good story that is full of character moments. Its nice to see what happened to Ian and Barbara. The Master is as manipulative as ever, but does have some moments of humanity. A must read for anyone into the UNIT years. A very good read.

Ken says

Whilst The Third Doctor and Jo are having an adventure in Peladon, this book serves as what would be known as a Doctor-lite story.

The main focus being The Master, it's an interesting idea and on the whole works really well.
