

THE LOST ADVENTURE BY DOUGLAS ADAMS DRAMATISED IN FULL AT LAST!

PAUL MCGANN IN

DOCTOR WHO SHADA

FEATURING

ANDREW SACHS, JAMES FOX,
SUSANNAH HARKER, SEAN BIGGERSTAFF,
HANNAH GORDON, MELVYN HAYES

WITH LALLA WARD AS ROMANA

AND JOHN LEESON AS K9

BIG
FINISH

AUTHOR'S NOTE

"I WAS DOWN TO WRITE the six-parter at the end of that season," Douglas Adams once explained of his year as script editor of *Doctor Who*. "I had in mind a story that I wanted to do, and the producer said, 'No, that's over the top, I don't want to do that story. Come up with something else.' So I wrote *Shada*." The rejected idea, *Doctor Who* and the Krikkitmen, would instead form the basis of Douglas's third Hitch-Hiker novel, *Life, The Universe and Everything*. Meanwhile, elements of the cancelled *Shada*, notably St Cedd's College and the character of Professor Chronotis, would later find their way into the 1987 novel Dirk Gently's *Holistic Detective Agency*. "There were good bits in it, and I didn't want them to go to waste," Douglas later remarked.

"In a way I preferred writing the *Doctor Who* scripts to Hitch-Hiker's, because I would be made to get the plot straight first. In the things I wrote for *Doctor Who*, there were absurd things that happened in it, and funny things. But I feel that *Doctor Who* is essentially a drama show, and only secondarily amusing. My aim was to create apparently bizarre situations and then pursue the logic so much that it became real. So on the one hand, someone behaves in an interesting and apparently outrageous way, and you think at first that it's funny. Then you realise that they mean it, and that, at least to my mind, begins to make it more gripping and terrifying... I can understand people saying 'They weren't taking it seriously', but in writing it I was taking it terribly seriously."

"The whole point of *Doctor Who* is that, if you take the second letter of each of the 59th words of all the episodes over the last twenty years of broadcast and run them together backwards, the original location of the lost city of Atlantis is revealed."

Douglas Adams
Variously over the years



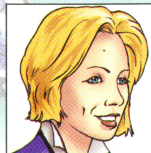
Douglas Adams was born in 1952 and educated at St John's College, Cambridge. His untimely death in 2001 deprived the world of a brilliant mind and a much-loved writer.

Best known as the author of *The Hitch-Hiker's Guide To The Galaxy* and the Dirk Gently novels, Douglas worked as the script editor of *Doctor Who* during the late 1970s, overseeing the 1979/1980 season and writing three of the show's most memorable scripts: *The Pirate Planet*, *City of Death* and *Shada*. Production on the last of these was halted in 1979 by industrial action at the BBC, and as a result the story remained unmade until BBCi and Big Finish collaborated on this brand new audio production.



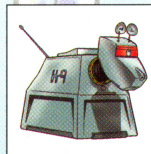
"I spy with my little eye something beginning with Worshipful and Ancient Law of Gallifrey"

The Doctor



"You'll stand as much chance as... well, there isn't anything that stands as little chance as you will out there."

Romana



"Likelihood of the Doctor-Master's survival after the forcefield collapsed, Zero Point four-seven percent."

K9



"Take over the Universe? How childish. Who could possibly want to take over the Universe?"

Skagra





“Oh dear, I’ve got a memory like... Oh, what is it I got a memory like? What’s that thing you strain rice with?”

Professor Chronotis



“As the years go by, the visitors get ruder than the students...”

Wilkin



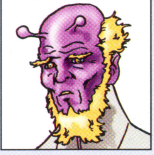
“One minute we’re fighting those Krarg things, the next, ‘stay put’. I feel like a pet dog.”

Chris Parsons



“He conceived the project on a grand scale, just how grand we didn’t realise until we built the sphere.”

Professor Caldera



“The writing looks more like an explosion in a spaghetti tree.”

Clare Keightley



“In my experience people don’t usually steal rooms very much.”

Constable



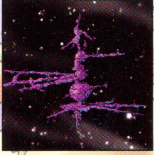
“Much of my circuitry feels uneasy about continuing to accept instructions from a dead man.”

The Ship



“The foundation is under strict quarantine. Do not approach. Everything is under our control...”

Think Tank Voice



SHADA END CREDITS

BIG FINISH WISHES TO THANK
Kim Plowright; Lynda Ronan; Robert Francis; Kate Beharrell, Richard Hollis and Shyema Khan of BBC Licensing.

This production of Shada is dedicated to Douglas Adams and to his daughter Polly.

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RUSSELL STONE
Recording by
ALISTAIR LOCK

Series theme by
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**DOCTOR
WHO**
1963-2003

SHADA

Written by DOUGLAS ADAMS

Directed by NICHOLAS PEGG

STARRING

PAUL MCGANN as the Doctor

with LALLA WARD as Romana

and JOHN LEESON as Kg

FEATURING

Chris Parsons.....SEAN BIGGERSTAFF
Constable.....STUART CROSSMAN
Professor Caldera.....BARNABY EDWARDS
Professor Chronotis.....JAMES FOX
The Ship.....HANNAH GORDON
Clare Keightley.....SUSANNAH HARKER
Wilkin.....MELVYN HAYES
Think Tank Voice.....NICHOLAS PEGG
Skagra.....ANDREW SACHS

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