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The Condemned (Doctor Who)



Synopsis

Manchester 2008. The TARDIS lands inside a run-down tower block, beside a dead body, which leads to some awkward questions. Made the prime suspect, how can the Doctor prove to DI Patricia Menzies that she's actually investigating the death of an alien?

Book Information

Series: Doctor Who

Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

This audio drama has a lot working for it. First of all, this is a great story for those with little knowledge of the classic series. I knew Colin Baker was the Doctor in the mid-1980s and his general reputation but had only seen clips. I was aware that Charley Pollard was an eighth doctor's companion from audiodramas but had never listened to any of those. I had no trouble following this story which makes it a better jumping on point than the Fifth Doctor plays I'd heard with pre-existing companions. In addition, this is also a nice science fiction mystery as the Doctor teams up to solve the case with DI Menzies, a no nonsense Manchester cop, played wonderfully by Anna Hope, as they try to solve a locked room mystery where the doctor appears to be the only suspect, but rather aliens who live among us are involved. This story has a kind of Men In Black meets a Police Procedural vibe. Colin Baker is great as the Doctor, playing the role with great warmth and intelligence and India Fisher makes a compelling companion as Charley, who believes that she saw the Eighth Doctor perish. I like the whole idea of a companion having to hide knowledge of history from the Doctor. This is just a great serial that's enjoyable on every level.

I was perusing my son's Doctor Who magazine when I chanced upon the review of this cd. I was aware vaguely that a company was producing Dr. Who adventures with Classic Doctors but hadn't heard one. The review intrigued me and caused me to buy it. I wasn't disappointed. The Condemned is a triumph of acting, story and plot. Acting as India Fisher and Colin Baker shine as the Charlotte and the Doctor. Anna Hope (Novice Hame in the TV series) really makes DI Menzies into her own. This is a character I want to see again. The other supporting roles are as usual acted well. The Story is a good old fashioned Murder mystery as the Doctor and Charlie try to not only solve the murder that they have stumbled upon but the off world link to a very down to earth killing. The interesting plot shows that other worlds don't change regular motives. The alien twist doesn't get in the way of the actual quest to solve the murder and this adds to the quality. Finally the overall plot of a good old detective story is complicated by the conflict between the Doctor and Charlotte "Smith". The doctor trying to figure out just who and what his new companion is, Charlie trying cope with meeting the "wrong" Doctor. She finds herself in the position that the Doctor often does, knowing more than she can safely tell. This will only improve as the series continues and guarantees that I will be buying them. It was this episode that led to all the other purchases that I made. I would suggest picking up first Doctor Who: Storm Warning (Big Finish Audio Drama) and the Girl Who Never Was before listening to this one, but if you can only afford one of the three and don't mind hearing them out of order, this is the one to go for. Ipods were just made for this. Get this for yours.

Great story. Love idea of putting Charlie with the Sixth Doctor. Very interested to see where it goes.

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