



Doctor Who and the Underworld

Terrance Dicks

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Exploring the very edge of the known universe, the Fourth Doctor, Leela and K9 discover a group of astronauts searching for the lost gene bank of the Minyan race. During the perilous voyage, the astronauts' craft plunges into the heart of a recently formed planet, wherein an awesome secret is hidden. How will the Minyan quest end? What must the Doctor wrest from the Heart of the Oracle?

Doctor Who and the Underworld Details

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Author : Terrance Dicks

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From Reader Review Doctor Who and the Underworld for online ebook

bluetyson says

isbn,original

Callan Jones says

Best doctor who book

Jamie says

A great little book. Most of the Target novels are.

stormhawk says

Not one of my favorite episodes ... another megalomaniacal computer, another race in thrall, another ancient quest. This isn't to say that Dicks did a poor job in writing it, just that he had iffy material to work with, in my opinion.

Lee says

Having never read any *Doctor Who* before I don't really have much to compare this offering to. As a science fiction book it's pretty mediocre. The seemingly rushed nature and enormous coincidences within the story make it feel more like a first draft of a television episode rather than a novella in its own right. Imagining Tom Baker running around doing the deeds described makes the whole thing more bearable, but this probably wasn't the best use of my Saturday morning.

Travis says

Not your typical 'Who' story, but not entirely successful attempt to try something different. Feels more the kind of thing you'd expect to see more in 'Star Trek', as the Doctor helps a space ship crew on a quest get where they are going,

Daniel Kukwa says

It's one of the most infamous stories in the 4th Doctor's canon, but thankfully Terrance Dicks takes some time & much skill to compensate in print for this story's terrible television incarnation. He can't completely save it, but in Mr. Dicks' hand "Underworld" becomes a far more competent & engaging story. If you've never seen the television episodes, you might want to read the novelization first, before subjecting yourself to the original on DVD.

Nicholas Whyte says

<http://nhw.livejournal.com/1007902.html>[return][return]Doctor Who and the Underworld is a bit less embarrassing than the TV original, but this is not saying much. The fact that we are not distracted by the disastrous special effects means that we can see the inadequacies of the plot rather better.

Matthew Goode ? says

Okay, nothing spectacular. It continues with the usual Dr Who theme of human-like society under some tyrannous feudal system.

Leo H says

Much better than it's reputation would have you believe, although that's a fairly low bar to clear. There are some interesting ideas going on here (the Minyans as the reason the Time Lords have a non-intervention policy, the weariness of a one hundred thousand year quest, regeneration as a curse rather than a blessing), but none are thoroughly explored, sadly. I've not seen the televised version, but by all accounts it's pretty bad, having run out of money building the spaceship sets, all the cave sections were shot using CSO (70s green screen) and look fairly ropey, so at least you're spared that in the book. Dicks does an admirable job of keeping this exciting and engaging, clearly his weariness at writing these didn't set in for another couple of years. Worth a look.

Julian White says

pdf of the paperback - 98 pages

A straight retelling of the script with a little expansion of the Minyan/non-interference policy. It's fun working out the 'original' names of the crew but that only goes so far - and the science is, as usual, somewhat suspect in several places. However, we are spared the over-use of CSO which plagued the filmed version.

Ian says

Full review here: <https://fsfh-book-review2.webnode.com...>

Wealhtheow says

Doctor Who's revolutionary zeal is pretty apparent in this book, in which he overthrows a slave planet and also ends a millenia-long quest by a very creepy starship crew.

Mel says

Doctor Who and the Underworld is a Tom Baker and Leela adventure and I have to say it was totally enjoyable. The book restored my faith in Terrance Dicks as a Doctor Who writer. The novelisation had lots of interesting back story about the Time Lords deciding to play god with a humanoid race they came across and how it all went terribly wrong! For an old who there was quite a bit of interesting philosophy here. The Time Lords had given a race technology and they used it to destroy themselves, but before they did they sent off two spaceships, one full of genetic material to rebuild their society, and another to take that ship to their new planet. But things went terribly wrong and they'd lost each other for 100,000 years when the Doctor and Leela arrived. This book did remind me what a great companion Leela was, totally capable, a little bloodthirsty and quite fun. I liked this ship full of people who'd been regenerating for millenia and hated it, the planet full of slaves (even if the mad computer was a touch original Star Trek) But all told I thought it was interesting and fun and I shall definitely have to watch the episode.

Rose says

A great story with an undisguisedly heavy allusion at the very end. Which is a bit of a shame, undermines the well crafted subtly of the rest of the book.
