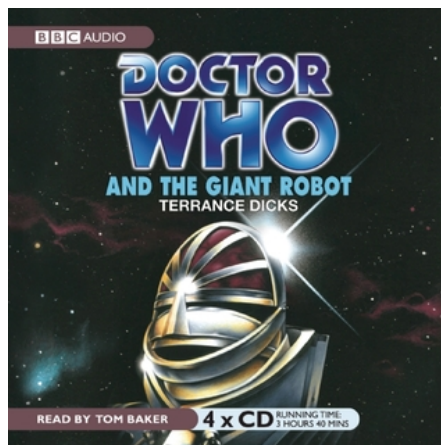




Doctor Who and the Giant Robot

Terrance Dicks , Tom Baker (Narrator)

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Doctor Who and the Giant Robot Terrance Dicks , Tom Baker (Narrator)

'Look, Brigadier! It's growing!' screamed Sarah. The Brigadier stared in amazement as the Robot began to grow... and grow... swelling to the size of a giant! Slowly the metal colossus, casting its enormous shadow upon the surrounding trees and buildings, began to stride towards the Brigadier. A giant metal hand reached down to grasp him... Can Doctor Who defeat the evil forces controlling the Robot before they execute their plans to blackmail - or destroy - the world? Tom Baker, who played the Fourth Doctor in the BBC TV series, reads Terrance Dicks' complete and unabridged novelisation, first published by Target Books in 1975. 'They're well-written books - adventure stories, of course, but with some thought... the creation of the character of the Doctor had a touch of genius about it.' - Westminster Press.

4 CDs. 3 hrs 40 mins.

Doctor Who and the Giant Robot Details

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From Reader Review Doctor Who and the Giant Robot for online ebook

Debra Manskey says

One of my all-time favourite Doctor Who stories - and made all the better by being read by Tom Baker!

Claire Louise says

Another brilliant Fourth Doctor story! Incidentally his first outing as the Doctor.

Malia says

I think this was once a radio drama. While I like Dr. Who books.

Nicholas Whyte says

<http://nhw.livejournal.com/1041222.html#cutid1>[return][return]Oddly enough, Dicks is not especially good at making his own stories transition happily to the printed page. There are some good bits added/changed here, especially the characterisation of the new Doctor, but in general it is competent rather than exciting.[return][return]One point that struck me on reading this (rather than on watching the TV original) was the similarity between the Robot and the Hangman in Roger Zelazny's Hugo/Nebula winning novella, "Home is the Hangman". The Who story came first, but I would be surprised to learn that Zelazny had had a chance to see it; both he and Dicks were, of course, drawing from many other sources going back at least as far as Mary Shelley.[return]

Travis says

The fourth Doctor's very first appearance is a great old fashioned evil mad scientists and a misunderstood monster story.

It's basically the kind of story that the third Doctor was famous for, so we have UNIT and Sarah Jane there, while we get used to the new guy.

Good introduction to the Fourth Doctor and new companion, Harry Sullivan.

The mystery is nicely done, the characters are well written and the monster is cool. What more do you need in a Doctor Who story?

Dodau says

again a target book, so not much to it. I have to admit to not liking Tom Baker's Doctor much and liking Sarah Jane Smith even less so not one of my favourite adventures. Typical 70's twaddle I'm afraid.

Dan Johnson says

Classic Doctor Who. My favorite episodes are just as much fun on the page as they are on the screen.

Adam Duclos says

This was a great audiobook featuring the Fourth Doctor's first story, and not only is the story pretty great, this was read by Tom Baker himself! It's like listening to all the best parts of the show, all the time. He does some great voices, but it's all in the accent, style and inflection, never in the pitch, which is great, because some of the other male Doctor Who audiobook readers will try to do female voices with a falsetto... not necessary, when you're as good as Tom Baker, I guess!

Out of the entire audiobook, there were just two times when I was a bit disappointed, and that was all down to the choice of the writer adapting the show to a book to lose some of the best dialogue of the show! I liked that some of the action scenes were just described generally, but they did the same with the Doctor waking up! In the show, this is great, and he speaks a number of great nonsense lines, like "Why is a mouse when it spins?" This was tragically omitted. Also at the end, they changed one of my favorite lines of the Fourth Doctor's... not much, but enough to be noticeable: "There's no point in being grown up if you can't be childish sometimes!" They left out the 'sometimes'... small change, I know, but it does change the meaning of the statement.

Long story short, this was great!

Christian Petrie says

Well, here we go again. Now getting into familiar territory with my Doctor Who reading project, the 4th Doctor. The 4th Doctor was the first Doctor I saw, though it was not Robot.

For those who have not seen, or read Robot, the Doctor has regenerated and someone is stealing parts to build a disintegrator gun. No surprise of who what is stealing it, nor the people behind it. The question is what is their plan for it? Then near the end of the story, swap it out with King Kong and there go. Robot in a nut shell. As far as plots go for Doctor Who, it is okay.

What makes this story be slight above average, is what it represents. We are introduced to a new Doctor who is different from his previous self. It is a persona similar to the 2nd Doctor where he does what he wants, people underestimate him, then turns the tables on them with his knowledge. Also a Doctor who is wanting to not be on Earth. This is the end of the purely UNIT stories. From this point onwards we are exploring time and space again.

The other part is the introduction of Harry Sullivan. Even though we first met in the Past Doctor story Face of the Enemy, this is his first appearance on TV. It will be interesting to see how Harry appears and see if it matches up with memory.

Overall, not a bad story. More important for the transition for Doctor Who then the plot. Here is heading towards the many stories of the 4th Doctor.

Julian White says

Pdf - with the later 'Robot' head cover.

A bit of an oddity - a not very strong story and a new Doctor, plus a fresh 'action man' companion in Harry Sullivan, Naval doctor and James Bond wannabe... Shades of King Kong when the robot grows (but as it's only for a chapter and towards the end the title is a bit of a misnomer). Perhaps the best parts revolve around Miss Winters - but she's not too strong a villain(ess).

stormhawk says

I've mentioned before that I'm fond of regeneration stories, and the one introducing my favorite Doctor gets that shiny glow to it, because overall it's a pretty run-of-the-mill story ... misguided attempts to improve humanity at great cost and all that, lots of intrigue and running around, and the Brigadier gets some shooting in as well.

April says

A really good retelling of the fourth Doctor's first episode. Tom Baker is an enthusiastic reader and the story came to life. Great to have the extra insight into character feeling and thought which can easily be missed or misinterpreted in episodes when you're going on just a shared glance on-screen!

A giant robot is stealing classified items and with the Doctor still recovering from his latest regeneration it is at first up to Corporal Benton, Sarah Jane Smith, and the Brig to suss out what is going on.

Leila Anani says

Dr. Who (Tom Baker) encounters a giant metal robot and has to defeat the evil forces controlling it.

Features The Brigadier, Sarah Jane and UNIT.

Narrated by Baker this is a classic Dr. Who tale, but is very 'safe' and not particularly interesting and weird as some of the other Baker audios. Fans of classic who and old school sci-fi are going to love it - mad scientists, giant robots and Tom Baker what's not to like? However I like my Who a little more edgy and imaginative.

Min says

What a grand introduction to Tom Baker. The line, toward the end of the episode, "There's no point in being grown up if you can't be childish sometimes" encapsulates the enigma that is his interpretation of the character. Having Tom Baker read the book, with that resonate baritone, makes this tale even better. Also, one of the funnier lines the Brigadier is given, "You know, just once I'd like to meet an alien menace that wasn't immune to bullets." As this would be the second Doctor the Brigadier has known, and after a number of adventures, such a lament is humorous.

One can certainly find a few holes in the story, however, as much as I love to poke my finger in those holes, for this episode, they add to the charm. Or, as one might say, the chemistry between the Brigadier, Sarah, and the Doctor are so wonderful, who cares that he bad guys can't seem to get their motivation in order. I like how the writer uses the sympathy one feels for the robot as a sentient being, and there is compassion shown when the robot's demise comes.

One mustn't forget this being the introduction of Harry as a companion, however brief a tenure it might have been.

Mark says

"The thought of Miss Winters in handcuffs gave Sarah considerable pleasure." (p. 49)
Oh, Terrance.
