



Doctor Who: Seasons of Fear

Paul Cornell , Caroline Symcox , Paul McGann (Narrator) , India Fisher (Narrator)

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On New Year's Eve, 1930, the Doctor lets Charley keep her appointment at the Raffles Hotel in Singapore. But his unease at what he's done to time by saving her life soon turns into fear. Sebastian Grayle: immortal, obsessed, ruthless, has come to the city to meet the Time Lord. To the Doctor, he's a complete stranger, but to Grayle, the Doctor is an old enemy.

An enemy that, many years ago, he finally succeeded in killing. And this is his only chance to gloat.

The Doctor and Charley desperately search human history for the secret of Grayle's power and immortality. Their quest takes in four different time periods, the Hellfire Club, the court of Edward the Confessor and the time vortex itself. And when the monsters arrive, the stakes are raised from the life of one Time Lord to the existence of all humanity.

Doctor Who: Seasons of Fear Details

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Author : Paul Cornell , Caroline Symcox , Paul McGann (Narrator) , India Fisher (Narrator)

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Download and Read Free Online Doctor Who: Seasons of Fear Paul Cornell , Caroline Symcox , Paul McGann (Narrator) , India Fisher (Narrator)

From Reader Review Doctor Who: Seasons of Fear for online ebook

Trent says

This was probably my favorite 8th Doctor story yet. I've been flipping back and forth between stories with Charley (monthly ranges) and those with Lucie (Eighth Doctor Adventures).

Although Lucie is a great companion and the EDA are much more similar to the current Doctor Who TV series in format and style, I have found that I much prefer the monthly range for now.

It seems a bit more light-hearted, episodes work better as standalone, and most importantly Charley and the Doctor make an amazing team. Charley is most comparable to Martha (my favorite modern companion), in my opinion, but without being hopelessly in love with the Doctor.

Like Martha, she is independent and smart, and always seems to catch on quickly and make good decisions. Though she does sometimes need to be rescued, she doesn't feel like a token 'damsel in distress'. I also love that she is not 'modern'. It gives her an interesting perspective.

That was a huge intro to this review. Haha. This episode was as good as anything on the show. The Doctor meets a man who claims to be his oldest enemy, someone who has watched him die after battling him through the years. The only problem is that the Doctor has never met him before.

This leads to the Doctor and Charley traveling back through various points in the history of Britain to find, battle, and ultimately beat this man. They also have to discover who is behind him.

This is a wonderful example of how great the audio adventures can be!

Mel says

After a few mediocre audios it was lovely to listen to this one. Charley was probably the wittiest I've ever heard her. The story had so many of my favourite things, Romans, the Mithras Cult, the Hellfire Club, Jane Austen references and one of my favourite classic who monsters. Definitely one of the best 8th Doctor and Charley audios.

Nicholas Whyte says

Develops the damage done to Time by the paradox of Charley's survival, and leaps between 1930s Singapore, Roman Britain, the court of Edward the Confessor (where we find out rather bizarrely that the Eighth Doctor once got engaged to his queen, Edith) and the Hell Fire club of the mid-18th century. I loved the Roman and Saxon bits, though was a little less convinced by the hell-fire club. The priest in the temple of Mithras reading the parish announcements was a beautiful little scene which also tipped me off to the authors being Paul Cornell and his wife Caroline Symcox.

Devin Harvey says

Seasons of Fear is a lot like past Doctor Who stories like "The Keys of Marinus" and "The Chase" where the Doctor and his companion travel from place to place to escape/stop the evil at work. The audio takes place in many interesting locations and the development of Sebastian Grayle is also quite well done. I have to say my favorite part was [spoiler, kinda?] the reveal of the true villains. It was truly a surprise and a treat. Just a pretty great audio!

Noah Soudrette says

Even better than the last McGann audio! Definitely the best so far. I love Paul Cornell's attempt to recreate a time hopping Dr. Who chase/adventure. The acting here is top notch and the slowly growing season thread finally rears it's head a bit more clearly. Can;t wait for the next one!

Angela says

The Doctor finally gets Charlie to Singapore. There he meets someone who seems surprised that the Doctor is alive because he claims to have killed him. The Doctor and Charlie then travel to different points in time to discover what is going on, and stop the evil. It's a fun, fast moving plot. I must admit that the first time I heard this I did not guess the bad guys until they appeared. A good listen.

Kelly McCubbin says

At first blush a little too simple. But a heck of a lot of fun, nonetheless. The Doctor and Charlie bopping through time chasing "his oldest enemy, "pans out to be fast paced, clever and extends the "Charlie should not exist" premise in a wonderful way.

Also, if you were to list all your favorite Doctor Who monsters and pick which one you would most want to be revived, this one would not be in your top 30. But I defy you not to giggle when they show up.

Sophie says

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Steven says

When the Doctor finally manages to bring Charley to Singapore in 1930, they meet the immortal being Sebastian Grayle whose secret power they must discover in order to defeat him. Travelling across Earth in four different periods of its history, the Doctor comes face to face with an old enemy...

John Whitney says

Probably my favourite out of the 8th Doctor series before Zagreus.

It's nice that for once a series that uses time travel as it's central premise actually does a story where time travel takes centre stage rather than being a conceit in the opening minutes for how the Doctor gets there before a genre shift.

Without spoiling too much the main plot line is the Doctor and Charley following the same man through 4 different time periods, the actor does a remarkable job of keeping each incarnation separate and showing the tolls time has had on his character.

Well worth a listen, highly recommended, and for those worrying about continuity it works wonderfully as a standalone.

Sara Habein says

This one was funnier than some of the others, and it ended on a cliffhanger. Definitely recommend.

Jayaprakash Satyamurthy says

Another stellar adventure which begins with McGann's silky voice narrating the apparent end of Charley's adventures as the Doc drops her off in Singapore to keep her famous date. But a sinister gent turns up and acts sinister with the Doctor, implying that the world has actually been taken over by alien monsters and this is a small side-reality his masters have created in which he can take vengeance on the Doctor.

What follows is a story that really works the TARDIS, sending the Doc and Charley to Roman Britain, the middle ages and the 17th century, on the trail of an immortal man who is trying to unleash a dread alien race of invaders.

Lots of clever touches and historical nods, but this isn't just nod-and-wink stuff, it's a deadly chase across time, real white-knuckle stuff. The ending is a set-up for further adventures, and I won't comment on it at the moment, but the story in itself is deeply involving and has the right mix of suspense, chills, laughs and awesomeness.

David says

Loved it. Much faster paced, snappier talking than the other programs I've heard. Excellent story in one of my fav historical periods, pre-Christian Roman Britain. Throw in a time twisted villain and invaders from outer space and it's pretty classic Dr. Who material done very well indeed.

*give this one a 2nd listen!

Taksya says

Una stella sotto il precedente, ma una godibile storia in perfetto *stile Who*.

Un essere misterioso (che si rivelerà essere un cattivo già conosciuto), un aspirante immortale incattivito dalla sua stessa immortalità (sembra che solo il buon Jack sia sfuggito in parte a questo destino) e un rincorrersi nelle più svariate epoche storiche, nel tentativo di impedire la solita distruzione della Terra e dell'umanità.

Buon colpo di scena finale, che mantiene vivo il filo conduttore rappresentato dal paradosso della sopravvivenza di Charley.

Meredith says

As an FYI, Seasons of Fear is set right before Neverland, which is right before Zagreus.

Benjamin Franklin as one of the US presidents? We are in an alternate reality, aren't we? ;)

Other than the BF mistake, which is just a small side reference, it's a really solid adventure, complete with a serious time paradox. The Doctor meets a man who knows him but the Doctor hadn't yet met. Yet because of this man telling the Doctor what's already happened, the past/future changes. An interesting study on how easily living (nearly) forever can change one in terrible ways if one isn't careful.

Christopher Buchanan says

Another great story by Paul Cornell. The Doctor finds himself caught in a closed causal loop, forced to create an enemy to prevent that enemy from killing him. Trust me, it makes sense in a way that only Cornell can pull off. The Doctor and Charlie chase their enemy through time to prevent him from becoming the monster he will be and yet, in doing so turn him into the monster he will be. It's a fun mind bender of a story. I highly recommend it.

Kate Sherrod says

Ashldr before there was Ashldr, with the ultimate baddies being the beloved Fourth Doctor joke-villains [REDACTED]! What's not to love?

Jennifer says

A Doctor Who audiobook four stars when I am supposedly only along for the ride? Yes! This was a cracker and it is only now that I know it was written by those responsible for some genuinely moving and interesting TV Doctor Who.

This is a proper time travelling tour with the Doctor and Charley (a young woman he has rescued from a famous no-survivors airship disaster some long way back in this Big Finish 8th Doctor series) They start at early 20th century Raffles in Singapore where the Doctor meets a man who has killed him. Clearly this needs sorting out so off they go to Hadrian's Wall in Roman times, where mundane parish notices are read out at the beginning of a service in which there is to be an animal sacrifice to Mithras. And then plutonium is thrown into the mix. There is a sound effect every time the alien presence is involved which is very creepy indeed.

The Doctor then has to chase his foe to Saxon England which involves tangling with Edward the Confessor and his wife Edith. More dressing up opportunities for Charley.

Next stop the Hellfire Club although this is not, alas, quite as vividly depicted (although I never thought I'd hear the word 'orgy' in a Doctor Who story)... a moving finale and then when you think it's all over, it isn't.

Richard Brooks says

Some of the earlier Big Finish audios felt like they were finding their feet, however this was a strong production with an epic sweep. It tails off in parts and like a lot of audio that jumps around locations you can lose the thread a bit, but generally I felt this was exceptional value for the price I paid and I would listen again.

Ausir says

A pretty good Doctor Who audio drama by Paul Cornell, known also as the writer of "Human Nature"/"The Family of Blood".
