



## Doctor Who and the Space War

*Malcolm Hulke*

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## Doctor Who and the Space War Details

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# From Reader Review Doctor Who and the Space War for online ebook

## Mary JL says

Malcolm Hulke always wrote books where the "other side" was not just portrayed as the "bad guys". His portrait of the Draconians motivations is very good and it is a good adaption of the Tv episode. Actually, in some ways it's a little better than the episode as some background is given which would really enhance the show.

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## Min says

The greatest offering a novelization offers is hearing those details that would never work in a televised programme on a limited schedule.

Hearing inner thoughts, histories, and more levels of intrigue make a good story blossom into great. The Third Doctor is the adventurous one. An action hero in a gentleman's clothing. I can easily imagine him, only slightly adapted, into a Steampunk protagonist.

Also, one of the politically motivated stories of bluster and distrust creating the tension that only needs clear heads, and logic to find a peaceful solution amongst leaders and populace clamoring for war.

Even when the Master tries so very intensely to stir the hornet's nest, if only for his own amusement.

The Master is a character that needs more depth, even when he is already one of my favorite villians of all time. He is a mental match for the Doctor, and, many times, neutered by his own plots; nearly makes him comical. His motivations are too shallow.

This is Roger Delgado's last appearance as the Master.

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## Anandh Sundar says

When 2 equally matched nations war, it is the arms suppliers/other nations who benefit. Harping on this theme, the book is about the Doctor's old enemy "The Master" who foments war. Well written

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## Travis says

A big, epic peace of space opera as the Doctor is stuck in the middle of a war between Earth and the Draconian Empire.

Who's attacking cargo ships? What's the Master up to? How'd the Doctor earn a title of Draconian nobility?

Cool aliens, lots of action and a big epic feel and a twist ending make this one of the better, later third Doctor novels from that period where he was able to leave earth and wander through space again.

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## **stormhawk says**

Exciting first half of a longer adventure in which the Doctor's fortuitously accidental presence may help prevent an intergalactic war. One of the things I appreciate about Hulke's novelizations is his inclusion of background beyond the shooting script, including details of characters' inner motivations and histories.

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## **Daniel Kukwa says**

It's one of Malcolm Hulke's lesser efforts in the "Doctor Who" prose universe. While not anywhere near as disappointing as "The War Games" novelization, there is a distinct lack of the glorious depth & expanded character development present in Hulke's other adaptations, such as "The Caves Monsters" and "The Domsday Weapon". It deserves enormous kudos for streamlining an over-long six part story -- full of capture-escape-capture scenes -- into something far more concise & palatable. But there's a distinct feeling that Malcolm Hulke wasn't too keen on this story in general...and it bleeds into the book adaptation.

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## **Sean LeBeau says**

A great story that inexplicably ends differently than the original serial. I suppose the idea being that the book should be "self-contained" rather than ending on a cliffhanger. However, the last page lets us know that the Doctor is going to go off to deal with the Daleks anyway. So what's the point of the Master's final line being "there's always tomorrow?"

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## **Christian Petrie says**

If this book had been written by Terrance Dicks, I believe my rating for it would be lower than it is. Malcolm Hulke did a good job of bringing a flawed story a step above.

The plot of the story is that Earth and Draconian are reporting each other attacking their ships. This increases the tensions between the two empires closer to war. The Doctor and Jo arrive in the middle of this to discover the truth.

The good part of this story is mostly the first half. While the Doctor and Jo are on board Earth cargo ship, we have scenes back on Earth between the Earth president and her advisory. These scenes are well written and give some insight to the time period Earth is in. It also shows the issues going on with politics. This might not sound exciting, but it is something you don't see much in the classic Doctor Who.

The problem with the story is the rest of it. The scope of this story should be bigger, but because this taken from the show, you have very few characters. If the events that were going on were indeed, you would have a lot more people involved. The aspect that is an issue is space is treated like it is within the same town.

Maybe not that close, but the travel between locations feels like it takes a few hours. In science fiction really this story should be something that takes place over a longer period of time, other than feeling like a couple of days.

Still Hulke still does a good job of giving some life to the characters and other areas he give some expansion upon them. This helps to lift the story, slightly, over the limitations of the plot.

Not too bad of story, though notable for introducing the Draconians. Also, the last appearance of the Master until the 4th Doctor. Too bad Delgado did not have a stronger exit.

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### **Nicholas Whyte says**

[http://nhw.livejournal.com/1037395.html#cutid7\[return\]\[return\]](http://nhw.livejournal.com/1037395.html#cutid7[return][return])I was getting a bit worried about Malcolm Hulke after the disappointments of Doctor Who and the Doomsday Weapon and Doctor Who and the Sea Devils, but this was a welcome return to form; the slightly odd politics of the human and Draconian governments seem a bit less improbable on the page, and everyone is given decently believable motivations. The one slightly odd thing is that the ending just has the Master tidying up his desk, rather than shooting the Doctor. I suppose this was a quiet tribute to Roger Delgado.

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### **Kristina Brown says**

This takes a while to get going but builds up to an interesting conclusion. Of course the story continues into Planet of the Daleks so things aren't really concluded. The Master is enjoyably mischievous and sardonically funny trying to work with the particularly stupid Ogrons.

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### **Mel says**

This is a Pertwee and Jo novel, unlike most of the Pertwee stories he's actually traveling in space into the future in this one. It's a great sci-fi story with war, diplomacy and intrigue. It's set several centuries in the future where Earth and Draconia have colonised the galaxy. The Earth has a female president who wants peace, and yet everything seems to be conspiring to get the two powers to go to war (in this case everything means The Master). It's a great story of deception and intrigue, and though Jo and the Doctor spend most of their time as prisoners as one group or the other there is still quite a lot of action and interesting political debate. I have to say this was one of my favourite of the Who novels, I'd really like to see the episode though I'm sure the aliens would loose something coming out of the BBC instead of my imagination.

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### **Andy Hickman says**

“Doctor Who and the Space War” by Malcolm Hulke

A good Who story, with the Third Doctor and Jo Grant going “off Earth” several times in the story.

“Doctor Who, himself a Time Lord, ...” (p9)

“I've reversed the polarity...” (p29)

“... political prisoners...” (p70)

“Fear leads people into war.” - Doctor (p106)

“The thought of war always excites people.”

“People enter war always thinking that they will win, and that they personally will survive.” (p123)

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### **Reuben Herfindahl says**

When I was a kid and this would play on TV every few years, I'd forget how it ended and get really excited and then.... Planet of the Daleks. If you count the entire serial as part one it's the best cliffhanger in the entire run. One which doesn't pay off as they forgot it was a cliffhanger.

One would hope this got resolved in the novelization, but it actually gets worse. As the Doctor is not injured in the end and the opening pages of Planet make even less sense.

THAT SAID. This is Doctor Who doing epic space opera. And if you ignore what comes after it's among the best of the Pertwee era, and the novelization sticks pretty close to the novelization with just a few minor gloss overs to make it still fit into 150 pages.

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### **Adrian Sherlock says**

This was a great book, embellishing the TV serial a lot and really getting the reader involved in the situations. A solid read, all in all.

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### **Richard Noble says**

this was fairly entertaining. a bit slow to get going. much of the first hour was the doctor and Jo being captured, escaping, being recaptured, being questioned, being disbelieved, escaping again and then being recaptured again.

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