

Recapitulation:

The Flying Dogtor trapped a so-called "sea serpent" in a tunnel of the Snowy Mountains Scheme and it turned out to be none other than Crafty Carson Carpetbag in disguise. Crafty tricked the Dogtor into opening the bag in which he was caught, and then he knocked over the Dogtor, who hit his head and lay stunned on the floor of the tunnel.

(singing) The Flying Dogtor

OUT
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The

~~guards~~
The guards who were waiting near the mouth of the tunnel wondered why they did not hear from the Dogtor. After a long time they went back cautiously. They found an empty canvas bag. But nothing else. The "serpent" was gone. And so was the Dogtor. They sent the news to Sir Thomas Persian, the Minister of Fisheries. The Flying Dogtor, they regretted, appeared to have been swallowed by the serpent.

[Sir Thomas was sad. "The Flying Dogtor will be remembered with respect," he sighed. "That in the cause of duty he lost his life for the nation's good is to be much regretted. He shall be given a glorious state funeral."

[Sir Thomas closed his eyes and imagined a magnificent ceremony in front of Parliament House. "I shall attend to it personally," he added.

OUT

MUSIC

But the Flying Dogtor was not really ready for a funeral. He was, however, not at all safe, and far from comfortable. When he awoke after being stunned from his fall in the tunnel, he found himself bound up, lying in the corner of a damp cave. Water dripped from the roof, and a glimpse of moonlight outside the mouth of the cave told the Dogtor that it was night and that he must have been stunned for a long time.

[He heard low voices nearby, and by straining around he could just see a nasty little group huddled round a lamp. He could make out Crafty Carson Carpetbag, Old Man Redback and one or two other little snakes and big spiders. Old Man Redback's whispery, spidery voice came to him: "You stupid snake! Nothing has changed. Only the dopey Dogtor knows you were the "serpent".

No-one else saw you. Once we get rid of that mournful medico, we'll be back in business." Crafty nodded wickedly and Old Man Redback gave a horrible laugh:

"He-he-he; to think how we have succeeded in tricking all those fools: they really think you are a sea-serpent! Now we can go further and really scare that priggish Persian..."

Old Man Redback's voice went lower as he described some awful new mischief he was planning. The Dogtor strained his ears but he could not hear. But then Crafty spoke:

"But how are we going to get rid of the dismal Dogtor?"

"He-he-he! That's how!" said Old Man Redback, and by twisting his neck around the Dogtor could see that the old spider was pointing to the back of the cave. From where the Dogtor lay the slippery wet floor of the cave sloped down to a dark well of water.

"That well is so deep, they say it connects with the ocean," giggled Old Man Redback. "And even flying dogtors don't swim very well when they are all tied up with rope..." He could say no more, he

OUT

MAD LAUGHTER

was so convulsed with fiendish laughter.

(The Flying Dogtor lay helpless. He tried to move, but the ropes held him powerless.

He heard a scuffling, slithery, snakey sound and he knew that Crafty was coming closer. He gave another valient wrench at the ropes that bound his legs, and as he did so he felt himself starting to slide on the slippery floor of the cave. He slid faster and faster. He could do nothing to stop himself.

OUT

SPLASH

He slid right into the dark well, and the icy water closed over his head.

OUT

(singing) The Flying Dogtor

VOICE OVER END TITLE:

What a situation for the poor Dogtor! Helpless, tied hand and foot, sinking in a deep, dark well! But for the biggest surprise in his life don't miss the next episode of -

(singing) The Flying Dogtor