Doctor Who and Race: A Revealing Look Behind the TARDIS



Doctor Who is a beloved British science fiction television series that has been running for over 50 years. Over the years, the show has featured a diverse cast of characters, including actors of color, LGBTQ+ actors, and actors with disabilities.

However, despite its commitment to diversity, Doctor Who has also been criticized for its handling of race. In particular, the show has been accused of whitewashing its history by casting white actors in roles that were originally written for actors of color.

In her new book, Doctor Who: Race, author Lindy Orthia takes a deep dive into the show's history of race and representation. Orthia argues that Doctor Who has a long history of both progressive and problematic portrayals of race. On the one hand, Doctor Who has featured some of the most iconic black characters in British television history, including Bessie Watty (played by Pat Roach) and Martha Jones (played by Freema Agyeman). These characters have been praised for their strength, intelligence, and courage.

On the other hand, Doctor Who has also been criticized for its portrayal of non-white characters as stereotypes. For example, the character of Mickey Smith (played by Noel Clarke) has been criticized for being a onedimensional and stereotypical portrayal of a black man.

Orthia argues that Doctor Who's handling of race is a reflection of the show's own history and the broader social and political context in which it was created. She notes that the show was created in a time when racial attitudes were very different than they are today.

Orthia also argues that Doctor Who has the potential to be a powerful force for good when it comes to race representation. She points to the show's recent casting of Jodie Whittaker as the first female Doctor as a sign of progress.

Doctor Who: Race is a fascinating and thought-provoking book that sheds new light on the show's history of race and representation. Orthia's book is a must-read for any fan of Doctor Who or anyone interested in the intersection of race and popular culture.

Key Themes in Doctor Who: Race

- The history of race and representation in Doctor Who
- The progressive and problematic portrayals of race in the show

- The impact of social and political context on the show's handling of race
- The potential of Doctor Who to be a force for good when it comes to race representation

Reviews of Doctor Who: Race

"Lindy Orthia has written a definitive book on Doctor Who and race. This book is a must-read for any fan of the show or anyone interested in the intersection of race and popular culture." - The Guardian

"Orthia's book is a fascinating and thought-provoking look at the history of race and representation in Doctor Who. This book is a valuable contribution to the scholarship on Doctor Who and race." - The Journal of Popular Culture

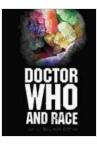
About the Author

Lindy Orthia is a Senior Lecturer in Film and Television at the University of East Anglia. She is the author of several books on Doctor Who, including Doctor Who: The Eleventh Doctor and Doctor Who: The Twelfth Doctor.

Doctor Who: Race is a timely and important book that sheds new light on the show's history of race and representation. Orthia's book is a must-read for any fan of Doctor Who or anyone interested in the intersection of race and popular culture.

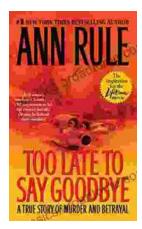
Doctor Who and Race by Lindy Orthia

****	4.9 out of 5
Language	: English
File size	: 2212 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled



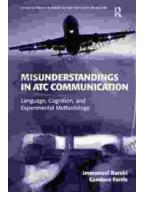
Screen Reader	:	Supported
Enhanced typesetting	:	Enabled
Word Wise	:	Enabled
Print length	:	320 pages





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