



the avengers

starring

PATRICK NACNEE
as John Steed

and

DIANA RIGG
as Emma Peel

in

"MAN-EATER OF SURREY GREEN"

by

PHILIP LEVENE

In which Steed kills a climber --
and Emma becomes a vegetable..

Cast also includes:

Sir Lyle Peterson.....DEREK FARR
Doctor Sheldon.....ATHENE SEYLER
Laura Burford.....GILLIAN LEWIS
William Job.....ALAN CARTER
Professor Taylor.....EDWIN FINN
Professor Knight.....HARRY SHACKLOCK
Dr. Connelly.....ROSS HUTCHINSON
Lennox.....JOHN G. HELLER

directed by SIDNEY HAYERS
produced by JULIAN WINTLE



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Episode entitled:
"MAN-EATER OF SURREY GREEN"
Synopsis

"MAN-EATER OF SURREY GREEN"

by

PHILIP LEVENE

In which Steed kills a climber --
and Emma becomes a vegetable ...

- short synopsis -

The Avengers set out to help a botanist whose fiancée, a horticulturist, is missing. Only the wearing of a deaf-aid saves Steed and Emma from unearthly, hypnotic influences which are turning humans into slaves.

- detailed synopsis -

THE AVENGERS set out to help botanist Alan Carter when his fiancée Laura Burford suddenly goes missing and joins the ranks of a number of eminent horticulturists who have disappeared in the county of Surrey in recent months.

Steed has a quick lead on the case when he visits the home of plant specialist Sir Lyle Peterson, who has a penchant for exotic insect-eating plants. The missing scientists are all at Peterson's establishment.

When Steed questions Peterson point-blank, he is told that the scientists are all working on the development of a new flowering shrub, and, rather surprisingly, Laura Burford, the errant fiancée, is introduced to him. She seems happy in her new environment but inexplicably casual about the forsaken Alan Carter.

On leaving the premises, Steed spots a giant oil derrick in the grounds, its base surrounded by a high wire fence. He later learns that Peterson has another derrick on order to be delivered to a remote farm.

Steed and Emma investigate the farm and come across the charred remains of a manned space-ship. They call in the authorities who reveal that it was a space-shot which failed, and that the craft, after a year in orbit, must have returned to earth undetected several months before - the very time when the first plant expert went missing.

contd.....

Found attached to the space craft is a giant vegetable seed, on which Dr. Cynthia Sheldon begins an investigation.

Having been unable to contact his fiancée by telephone, Alan Carter goes to the Peterson estate. He sees her among an army of trance-like farm hands at work around the base of the giant derrick. Calling to her through the fence, Carter is electrocuted on the wire, but astoundingly, Laura's only reaction is to turn away.

Dr. Sheldon now discloses her findings to Steed and Emma. She says that not only has the plant got a brain and the capacity to grow to gargantuan size, but that it is also man-eating.

The horrified pair set out with Dr. Sheldon to the Peterson estate equipped with an acid plant-killer. They fear that another space seed is being germinated there under the mysterious derrick.

By now, Steed has realised that the few Surrey scientists to have resisted the call to Peterson's establishment have one thing in common: they wear deaf aids. He conjectures that the transistorised circuit of the aids must work as a protective barrier against unearthly hypnotic influences, and he equips himself with a set of aids to use at the estate.

Reaching Peterson's, they find pandemonium has broken out. The plant is growing rapidly and is summoning local inhabitants with its hypnotic call to satisfy its hunger.

Steed and Emma battle through the plant's hypnotised slaves to Peterson's growth control room, where Peterson attempts to stop their rescue operation. The plant now covers the entire house.

Emma overpowers Peterson and Steed equips him with a deaf aid which immediately frees him from the influence of the plant. He had been its unwilling slave all along.

While Steed and Peterson battle to save the now-imperilled Dr. Sheldon from the plant, Emma goes to collect the acid plant killer, but the plant surrounds her and she loses her deaf aid in the struggle.

Now the plant's slave, Emma herself fights Steed to stop the plant's destruction, but, after a tense struggle, the herbicide is thrown on the giant growth and, with its death, Emma is released from the deadly spell.

THE AVENGERS have trampled another menace under foot.