

*Edmond Hamilton (1939)*

*TOEI Animation (1978) / Bastei-Lübbe (1981)*



*The Story of*  
*Joan Randall*  
&  
*Curtis Newton*

*(hey - even if this guy is the hero of the stories - lady's first ...)*

*Part 1*

*The Space Emperor*

*L'Empereur de l'Espace*

*Die lebende Legende - Der Herrscher von Megara*

## Introduction

Focus of this story is the relationship (if there is one anyway, you can decide by yourself then) between Ms. Secret Agent and Mr. Superhero, but I'll try to cover the main events of the adventure as well (as they are shown in the french anime) and the differences between book and movie ...

But no guarantees are given. If you think something should be included, tell me: [harraps@gmx.com](mailto:harraps@gmx.com)

## Names

... all the time different in the novels and the animes \*sigh\*. If you get lost, you can check here for the main characters:



### Pulp (USA)

Curtis Newton  
Joan Randall  
Otho  
Grag  
Ezra Gurney  
Simon Wright  
Johnny Kirk  
Eek  
Oog  
Comet  
Cosmolem

### Anime (D)

Captain Future  
Joan Lander  
Otho  
Grag  
Eszella Garnie  
Simon Wright  
Ken Scott  
Yiek  
Oak  
Comet  
Cosmoliner

### Anime (F)

Capitaine Flam  
Johann Landore  
Mala  
Crag  
Ezla Garni  
Simon Wright  
Ken Scott  
Limaille  
Frégolo  
Cyberlabé  
Cosmolem

I stucked to the pulp-names of all of the other characters, when in doubt, because at least I knew how to write them correctly...

But as a devoted fan (why else would you read this, anyway ?) you'll find your way, I'm sure.

This is how the two look in the US-Pulp:



Biggest difference is the colour of Joan's hair and eyes: both brown instead of blonde / blue.

And she's never wearing this red pack, always something different in each story.

For further questions please refer to: <http://www.capitaineflam.free.fr/>

## The order of the adventures

differ the same way. This makes things VERY complicated, when in the novels the two are already in "kissing status" and in the anime don't dare to look at each other ... grumbl...

To make things more confusing, the German anime (A) and novel (N) titles differ, too.

The order of the love-story ☺ follows the French DVD anime-version.



N	01 CF & the Space Emperor	01 Die lebende Legende	
A		02 Der Herrscher von Megara	01 L'Empereur de L'Espace
N	02 Calling Captain Future	02 Kollisionsziel Erde	
A		06 Der schwarze Planet	07 La Planète noir
N	03 Captain Future's Challenge	03 Die Gravium-Sabotage	
A		05 Der Kampf um die Gravium-Minen	02 Les Cinq Mines de Gravium
N	04 Captain Future's Triumph	04 Der Lebenslord	
A		11 Das gefährliche Lebenselixier	11 La Source de L'Immortalité
N	05 CF & the 7 Space Stones	05 Diamanten der Macht	
A		03 Das Geheimnis der 7 Steine	06 Le Secret des Sept Pierres
N	06 Star Trail to Glory	06 Sternstrasse zum Ruhm	
A		-	14 La course à travers le Système Solaire
N	07 Magician of Mars	07 Der Marsmagier	
A		07 Der Zauberer vom Mars	05 L'Univers parallél
N	08 The Lost World of Time	08 Im Zeitstrom verschollen	
A		01 Die Zeitmaschine	03 Départ pour le Passé
N	09 Quest beyond the Stars	09 Die Materiequelle	
A		04 A. d. Suche n. d. Quelle d. Materie	04 Le Créateur Universel
N	10 Outlaws of the Moon	10 Das Erbe der Lunarier	
A		-	-
N	11 The Comet Kings	11 Im Schatten der Allus	
A		10 Die Elektromenschen	10 La Comète de Halley
N	12 Planets in Peril	12 Held der Vergangenheit	
A		12 Planet in Gefahr	12 Le Semeurs de Givre
N	13 Face of the Deep	13 Planetoid des Todes	
A		08 Mitgefangen im Weltall	08 La Révolte des Prisonniers
N	14 Worlds to come	14 Invasion der Sverd	
A		-	-
N	15 Star of Dread	15 Stern des Grauens	
A		13 Ein gefährliches Geheimnis	13 La Caverne de Vie
N	16 Magic Moon	-	
A		09 Die Rolle seines Lebens	09 Silence, on Tourne!

What ? You think THIS is confusing ???

It's sad but I do have to destroy one illusion: They never, ever kiss in the anime, even if you may sometimes think that the tape is going to rip (or the DVD is going to melt) if they don't take their chance NOW.

Sorry - but the novels make up for that. AND they are addressing each other with the first names and use "Du / tu" instead of "Sie / vous" very soon (in "Calling CF"). The first kiss ? No, I won't tell you here - but you'll find out, I promise.

In the animes they stick to the "Captain / Sie / vous"-stuff almost all the time, especially in emotional scenes. Hopeless...

By the way - there's another Space-Dreamteam - for them deep-freezing of one part of them does tremendous wonders to their love-life :-D

But as far as I can see, this is the only thing our lovers haven't tried. They got kidnapped (uncountable times), tortured, burned, imprisoned, thrown super-troupers at, crashed with an spaceship on an instable planet, hypnotised, suffocated, undergone partition of body and soul (twice), immobilised, electrified, gene-mutated (or something like that), beaten, shot at (all the time) - did I forget something ?

One should really think they know each other very well by now.

### Counter

**F: 01/02/0:03:36** = French DVD: Journey 01 / Chapter 02 / hh:mm:ss (of the chapter)

*Enjoy !*

### Main storyline:

On Jupiter (F: Mégara) a growing amount of people are infected with a strange disease: They're mutating, following the lines of the evolution back to the first spark of life some million years ago within some days - not a really pleasant sight. As nobody can find the source or the reason, Captain Future is called for help - and finds somebody, who'll be a great companion in some of his future adventures ...

The villain of this case is a real problem, because the Emperor isn't "solid" - he can't be touched, can't be harmed by weapons, but appears everywhere out of nothing ...

But, of course CF solves the mystery and beats the villain - did you have any doubts ?

### F: 01/02/0:03:36

I skipped the first chapter, in which the President calls CF for help (in the novel always with a signal sent from the North Pole instead, not with a direct call as it is in the anime), he immediately rushes to the threatened planet and has a little shoot-out on the way. Then he and Otho try to catch the Emperor with a trick, that doesn't work very well.... We plunge into the story shortly after CF arrived on Mégara. He's witness of a little accident on the streets of the main city, but not fast enough for help. There's someone else, who is much quicker than him, a lady in red:



Even the mutant seems to be surprised to be that successfully attacked by somebody like that. But her work is really effective ...





It's obvious what he is thinking: "Wow - who is this girl ?"

So the two have met for the first time, but she isn't aware of him, doesn't even notice him.

This episode isn't mentioned in the novel ...

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**F: 01/02/0:04:56**



CF tries to eavesdrop a conversation between Ms. X and the governor. When he butts into the conversation she's annoyed, but then he tells his name and she seems to be quite happy (and the governor too, of course).

**F: 01/02/0:05:15**

F: 01/02/0:07:04



A little meeting - and none of the guys thinks about offering the lady a seat ... grmbl ... LOOTS.

F: 01/02/0:07:56

F: 01/02/0:08:54



This walk, where she asks him to call her with her first name - so I'd say she's in love already (look at her eyes!), and he seems to like what he sees, judged by the way he looks at her.

This sequence is drawn very well (faces and tiny movements), I never expected to see this effort in a "fast food"-anime (but then, quite often the drawing is really URGH).



By the way: Of which age are Joan and Curtis? In adventure No. 8 (F-DVD)\* she tells him, that she can pretty well look after herself and doesn't need his help, because she does her job already for four years and so she is no beginner, thank you very much. So this leads to the assumption that she is a beginner here, but then she does her job very good (and has already a lot of authority). \*about complications with different counting => introduction





One comment on Joan's hair: If she's shown from the front, it is quite long, if she's shown from the back, it almost always ends at her neck, as you can see on the pictures above and below. So much for the consistency of the quality of drawing ... The long hair looks better, I think.



But this "She's so much like my mother at the same age, etc...." - ok, the scriptwriters had to find a turn to tell his story how he became CF.

In the novel the whole story is told in the second chapter, long before CF meets Joan.

It differs a little bit from the animated version: his parent's (Elaine and Roger) laboratory is on the moon's surface right from the start, and they're not killed by an explosion of their lab caused by some anonymous missiles but shot from their enemy (Victor Corvo), who wants to steal then the inventions but is killed by Otho and Grag immediately.

And who's the villain in detail - this is important in another story (The Magician of Mars - L'Univers Parallèle - Der Marsmagier)... so it won't be told here.



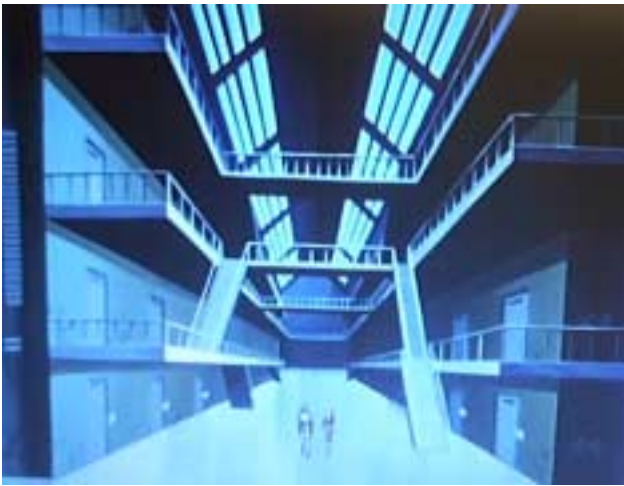


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On the way to the jail/hospital the two get almost roasted. I always ask myself: Did she misinterpret the output of the navicom or did he want to show her what great pilot he is ??? I vote for the second option, though ... ☺





Another mysterious situation:

They wander along a corridor, but seem to be in a cell suddenly. Then they look into one corner - no idea, what they see. Dialogue and pictures are not matching ... Next shot shows them on the corridor again, Joan tries to open the door of a cell, but it is locked, too.

They decide to go to the command centre, where the locks of all doors are controlled. ????

Then the Emperor blasts the command centre, and all the doors open automatically. Even CF doesn't notice the danger in their backs...



Any excuse is good enough to find a reason to rush into his arms, hm, Ms. Randall ? But this is the only sequence, in which he takes her by the hand...





This time she isn't aware of the danger, but they get even soon, and the lady can defend herself very well.



So I'd say it's 1:1 in the life-saving-game now.





But: Why is she so angry suddenly ??? Can't understand the dialogue ... HELLUP !



Only scene in the whole story (and I mean the WHOLE), where he carries her in his arms ...



"Please take the Cosmolem..." - "No, I won't leave you"

One of the two Classic Dialogues between the two - but this is typical Curtis-logic: If it would have been possible to leave with the vessel, both would have left for long - they couldn't, because the protection screen wasn't working anymore, so it in fact it was way too dangerous and so they returned to the command centre to find out what happened... But he seems to be pretty sure that she's capable of flying that thing on her own, even under these circumstances ... that's nice.

But they are rescued by Grag, who can fix the screen (Mr. Superhero can't ...).



After they've left the hospital / jail a sequence takes place which is one of the nicest and unique at the same time (and my absolute favourite ☺):



Ken first tends a burn on Curtis arm (never before or after I saw a bandage applied on top of clothing and armour...) and jokes about CF winning. Then he spots Joan and tries to get her in a "situation" in front of CF. I love how her face is drawn and expresses the change of emotion through the whole sequence:



First she's upset with Ken, then, when she realises who is watching, is very embarrassed (but why on earth does she redress in front of him, then ??? I mean, just compare what she's wearing in the scenes before and what she's wearing now - it must've been a complete do-over) and at least she has this self-confident look on her face. Yes, she knows that she's good looking... What a pity that they didn't show Curtis responding face to that... ☹. By the way - I can't see any buttons on this jacket - maybe she better should have chosen something else... Another thought: Who else on board of the Comet is wearing clothes with her size ???

A scene like that can't be found for a second time in the whole series - maybe they thought this wouldn't fit into a children's movie ?





The whole hospital / jail-episode is quite different in the book, main differences:

- the hospital is right in the city, so no Cosmolem
- Joan pretends to be a nurse and wears the appropriate uniform (and tells CF later, that she's a member of the Interplanetary Police)
- she's unarmed
- the command centre of the jail isn't destroyed, the two are just locked in with all those creatures
- they escape by unlocking one door with the help of some radioactive powder from a light bulb
- no Ken in this adventure

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**F: 01/03/0:02:40**



Then Curtis takes her back home aaaaaand: the other Classic Dialogue:

"I want to come with you." - "No, it is too dangerous for a woman." ARGH! The only thing he achieves with sentences like that is that she stops thinking just to disobey him, and then they always get into real, BIG trouble. And I LOVE her face on the right picture ... (even if the drawing isn't that good), it is the reaction on something like "Good girl!" or whatever he says... She shouts at him while waving good-bye, that she is going to the factory, where a lot of the mutation happened, right away early next morning. Now I say: "Good girl!" ☺





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So she leaves for investigations in that factory the next morning and even doesn't follow orders from her boss, Ezra Gurney. In fact she's lying, she tells that CF has sent her on that mission.



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F: 01/03/0:05:50

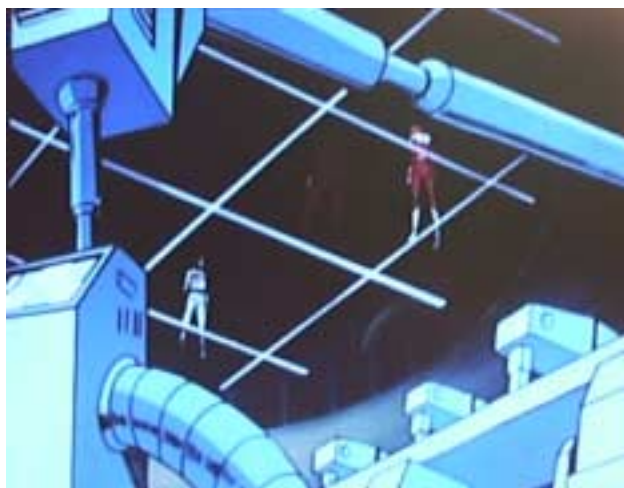




In the factory there is a little trouble ahead, but after shooting two of the mutants and saving the owner, ...







Sometimes she looks so much like a little girl ...



...Brewer, they find out something very interesting, when they go searching for the missing assistant of Brewer, Cunnig: In a hidden area pistols are manufactured automatically by the thousands (as Otho finds out later: they are for the inhabitants of the planet, who are to obey the command of the Emperor to get rid of all non-inhabitants).

Cunnig threatens Joan and Brewer, but mutates suddenly too (and his clothing mutates from white to blue ☺). Then the Emperor appears out of nowhere (a lot of coming and going in this factory...) and sets the floor under electricity.



Nice study of her face - well done.



The Emperor isn't so easy to shoot, and his revenge isn't nice.



"Help me, Captain" - this is a BIT late now, lady ... (But don't worry, he's already looking for you !)

But in spite of defending herself very well at first, Joan is defeated by this and kidnapped by the Emperor. Brewer, who is left back, dies in CF arms, when he comes searching for Joan. But he manages to tell CF what has happened to her. The question is: Why did Brewer die of the electric shock and Joan not ???

In the book Joan leaves for the investigation without any interference of Curtis, but is captured, too. The event of the mutation takes place in front of Otho, Grag, Ezra and Simon, when they want to find out what happened to Joan.

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**F: 01/03/0:12:10**



So Curtis is quite surprised to see his girl-friend (☺) back here. But for what the mask ? To make her feel more helpless ?



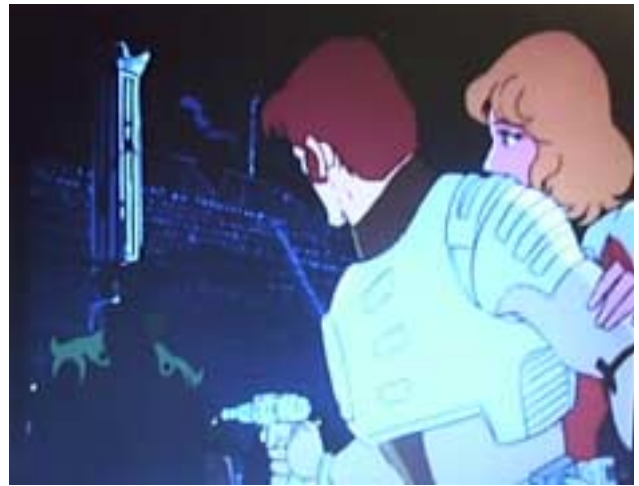




When she's chained to the column first, the chain is around her waist, on the next pictures it is just connected to the handcuffs...







Our both heros can be seen standing just below the globe... But Othos coming for the rescue !

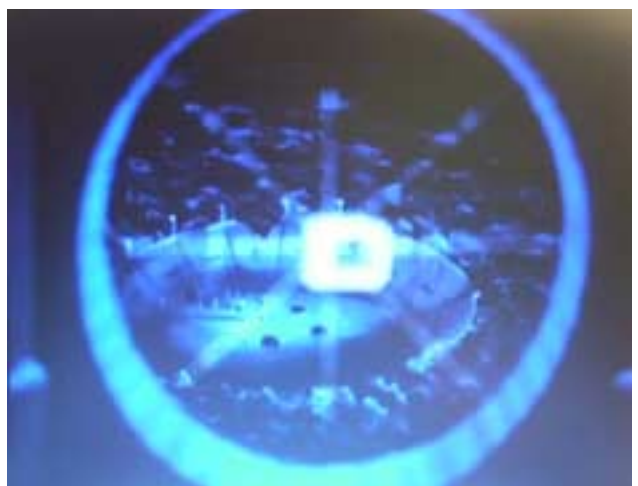


The three are threatened by Gof with the mysterious rays that cause the mutation.



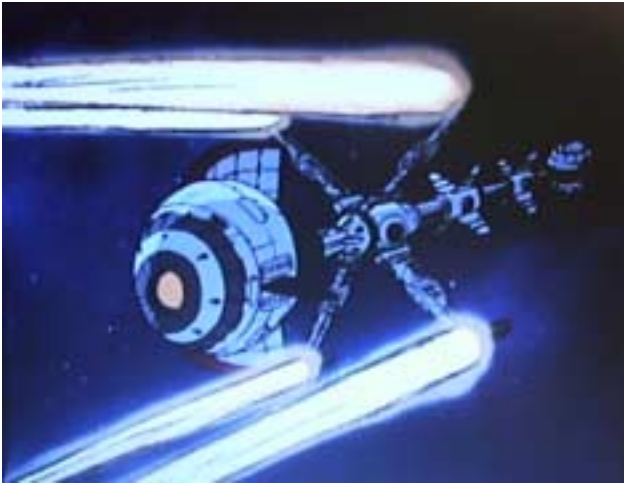
One of the seldom times when she hugs Curtis, usually she just curls herself up leaning on his breast.

But a nice picture, the two... (And Otho forgot to put on his trousers when removing his disguise ☺)





Our usual victim No. 1 can't get out of this situation without being a little bit stressed. CF tells Otho to stop the shooting because Joan may be harmed by a misled ray, the two shake the device until the clamp opens and lets go of Joan. And after this fall from a 20m-height onto a stone floor, everything he tells her is: "Try to reach the Comet with the communicator". No comment to that.



Grags rescue is a little bit overdone ... but gets the two really close together. Hey - don't complain, they (and we) have to take every tidbit of romance what they / we can get ☺!

Main differences to the novel:

- the invisibility lasts for 10 minutes in the novel (but he blind during this time)
- no Otho or Grag for the rescue, Joan and Curtis are captured and thrown into the pit (in which no strange device is installed) and threatened with the ray
- they escape by decoying a "digger", a dangerous animal, into the pit (through the wall) and crawl through the tunnel it has left (after killing the animal with their bare hands - did I say something about romance ???

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**F: 01/04/0:17:50**

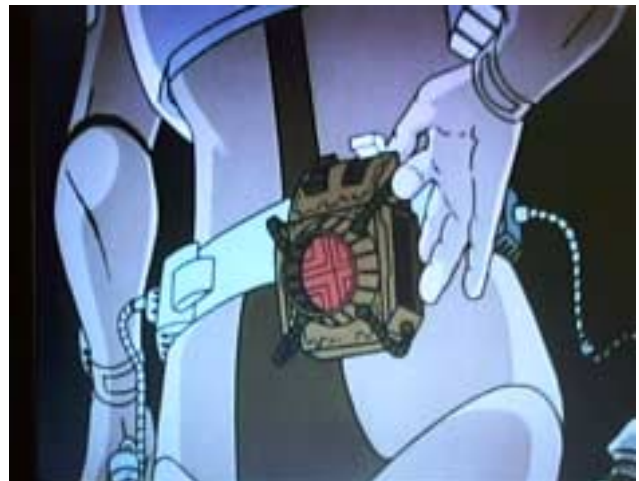
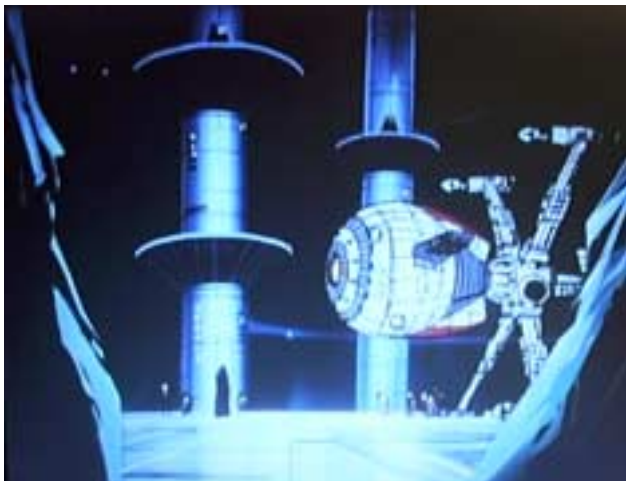
The final confrontation between CF and the Emperor takes place on the planets surface, this whole "Noon Moon"-story is an invention from TOEI. The inhabitants of the planet try to attack the cities of the foreigners with the pistols they got - no spaceships available in the book...

The rest is quite matching.





Obviously this isn't too dangerous for Joan...







The emperor seems to be pretty surprised ...



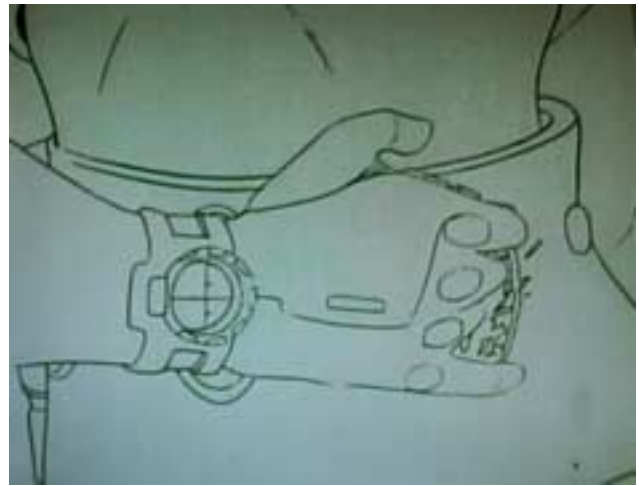
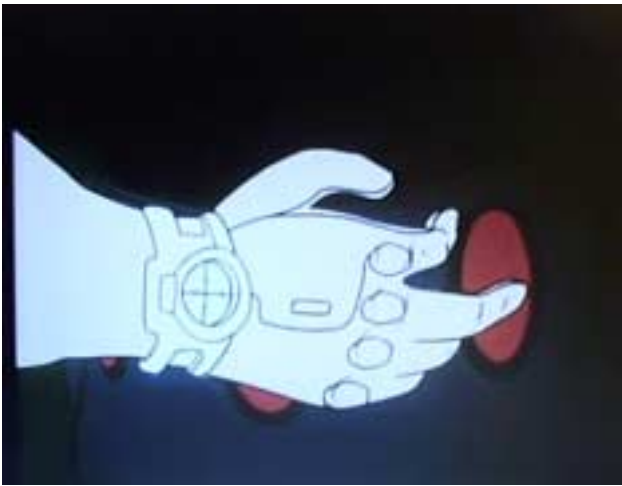


While exploring a cavern in the Sea of Flames, which was shown on the stone globe in the temple, Curtis finds a similar device to that which the Emperor uses. So he has a real chance to defeat him. Problem with this device: unless you carry enough air with you, which is changed to the same mode as your lungs, you can't breathe.

Time's almost up for our Captain.







Bur even if he's near to suffocation, he can rip off the device from the Emperor's belt.



No, I'm not going to show you who's hidden under the mask - won't spoil you in case you haven't seen the anime yet ☺.

What astonished me was, why nobody thought about grabbing Joan (it's kind of a tradition to threaten her life) and let Curtis choose between her life and overcoming the Emperor.

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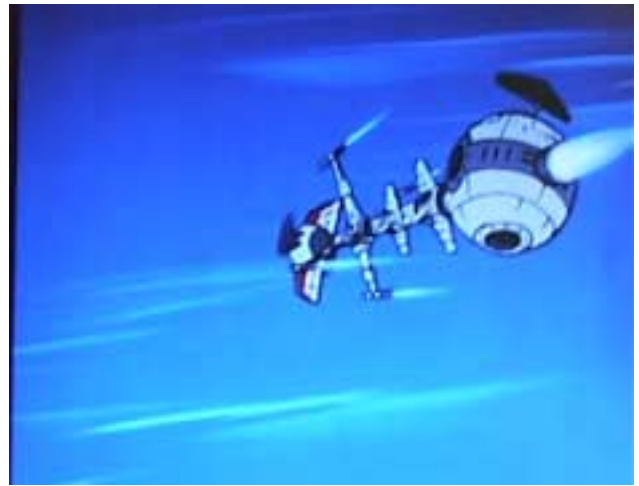
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Look at her face !

This is REALLY romantic:

Curtis tells Joan to take care of Ken. When she tells him, that she looks forward to see him again some time - WHAT DOES HE ANSWER ? Pascal, tell me this isn't true ... ☺



**F: 01/04/0:23:19**

In the novel it is like that:

"And now you want to return to this isolated home on the moon, without any other human being around you ?"

"I'm returning to my home", Curt defended himself, "and my comrades will be with me."

"Captain Future, you really want to live this tough, dangerous life forever ?", the girl shouted emphatically.

Curt's face became serious. His voice sounded sombre and he looked into the distance.

"Long ago I devoted my life to one task", he said, " And as long as this isn't fulfilled, I am and will be - Captain Future !"

He spread his arms and the friendly smile returned to his face.

"Good bye, Joan. I hope we'll meet again some time somewhere."

He grinned when turning to Gurney. "I'm pretty sure that I'll meet you in this solar system soon enough. Exactly in the spot where the things are tightest."

A tear crept into Joan's eyes, when she saw Curt entering the spaceship.

...

Curt seemed to be far away with his thoughts, sitting at the controls. He turned to the Brain and said:

"That was a gorgeous girl, Simon." Hastily he added suddenly: "Not, that this has any special meaning for me, you understand ?"

"I got you already, my boy", the Brain replied. "I was a man once, too, you know ?"

## **Some statistics ☺**

**Can't resist, but don't take it too seriously, hm ?**

Life-saving J : C            1 : 2

"Too Dangerous":        only once

Otho's comments:        none (too early)

Joan is kidnapped:        only once

Together in peril:        thrice

Hugs:                        one