

*Edmond Hamilton (1942)*

*TOEI Animation (1978) / Bastei-Lübbe (1983)*



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

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

*Part 10*

*The Comet Kings*

*Im Schatten der Allus - Die Elektromenschen*

*La Comète de Halley*

## 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 ... They never meet in privacy but always while hunting some villains or because one of them is in danger while the other tries to save her / him - so this is the only way to tell their story anyway.

But no guarantees are given. If you think something should be included or changed, tell me:

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## 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.

Anyway, the order of this 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 parallèle
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 ???

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



I thought long about which picture I should use here. First It seemed to be a great idea to show one or both of them as Comet People, but then I chose this one. Everything the story consists of is packed in this scene: Joan's grief over her lost paradise... (but what paradise would that have been, my friend ? You'll see in time that this wasn't the kind of what you wanted deep down in your heart. Forcing the man you love to stay with you isn't your style !)

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/>

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"). Difficult to notice in English - but translating "Sie / Vous" as "Thou" ? Better not ☺. 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, been hypnotised, stunned, 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 AND TRUST each other very well by now.

## 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  
Otto  
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  
Cyberlabe  
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.

## Counter

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

The counters are back, because this is a part of the script-project. I decided to keep all the cut scenes in this, even if they're not J & C. Besides: The german cutters deleted almost all important scenes with our two lovers in almost every episode. GRRR.

## Cut scenes

The biggest problem for me when writing this special summary was that in the German version a lot of J&C-scenes were cut to make the series fitting into the German TV-schedule. Thanks to a French Flam friend (the creator of this website you're currently visiting), who wrote down a lot of scenes for me, I could grab the meaning of some of them - but as you will see, the work isn't finished yet. So any help will be appreciated. French language will do, meanwhile I can read it quite well - got that hint, hmmmmmm ??? ☺ Up to now obviously almost nobody ... so no complaints about incompleteness please.

However:

*Enjoy !*

**Main storyline:**

A lot of freight- and passenger-spaceships vanished in the last time - and Joan and Ezra, investigating this mystery, with them. So Curtis has a new job. When finally finding Joan, he has to realise that he might loose her forever soon unless he either finds a procedure to save her really quick or accepts a decision that'll have serious effects on his future life. He chooses the latter one, then, but at first hand to solve the main problem. That this enables him to stay close to Joan is more or less a side effect ... \*Can't express clearly here what I'm thinking about this ! GRR!\*

But we get a happy end (or at least kind of ....), as usual.

This is one of the three episodes in which both of them have to consider what they truly feel towards each other and how much they are willing to sacrifice to their relationship. (In short: She'd die just to be near him and he... hmpf. But to be fair: He always comes looking for her when she's in danger - even if she refuses his help.). AND it is one of the rare stories where Joan is missing in action - means she isn't only a decoration on Curtis' side but we see her acting on herself.

Who is responsible for all that you'll see on some of the very last pictures. Some pairs need the help from species from other dimensions. Entry in the "Guinness Book" for "The most complicated marriage guidance"... ☺

But be warned: This may NOT be as funny or humorous as usual - in fact it got sadder the longer I worked on it... The reason for that could be that in this adventure the two are closest to be separated from each other forever - with one of them dying. Hamilton and Toei keep the suspension on a high level till the very last pages and minutes ☺

This whole story gives lots of insights into the characters of our two heroes and their appreciation of their relationship. And I'm afraid I've to tell you that at least one of them isn't that eager as he should be expected to be....

**However, let's start with the story so can judge by yourself:**

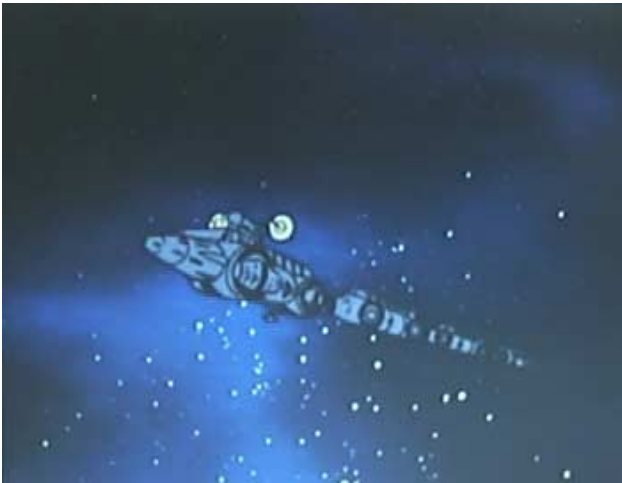
**F: 37/5/0:00:00**

**D: -**





Being pilot of a spaceship seems to be a nice and easy job - until something unexpected happens...



Smoking in a children's movie... Nowadays this wouldn't be allowed anymore.



How much leisure time does he get with a family that big ???





So this is no. 22 that disappears into nowhere without leaving any hint what happened. And the press wants to know exactly what happens and what the government is planning to do about this.



Same procedure as in the 21. century... Some habits seem to stay forever.







Joan and Ezra are deeply puzzled why their probe can't find anything. Ezra starts doubting the whole mission, but Joan is sure that, even if the next probe can't detect anything she'll find another solution.

The other solution doesn't happen to start with a "C", hm, Ms Randall ??? ☺

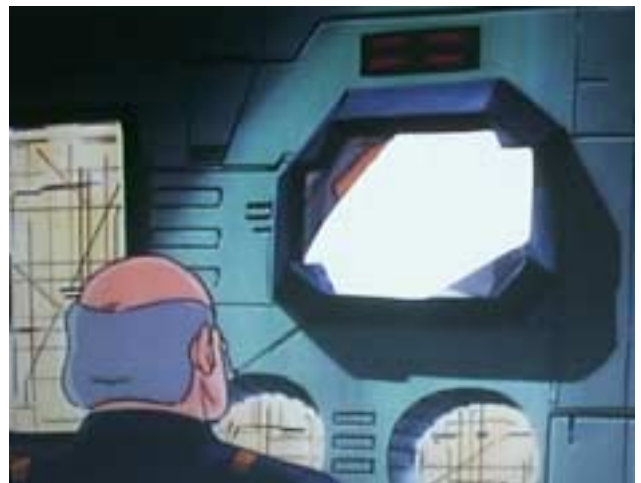
I've always riddled if that general might be a relative of Joan. He seems to be much more concerned about her vanishing than an average superior usually should expected to be.

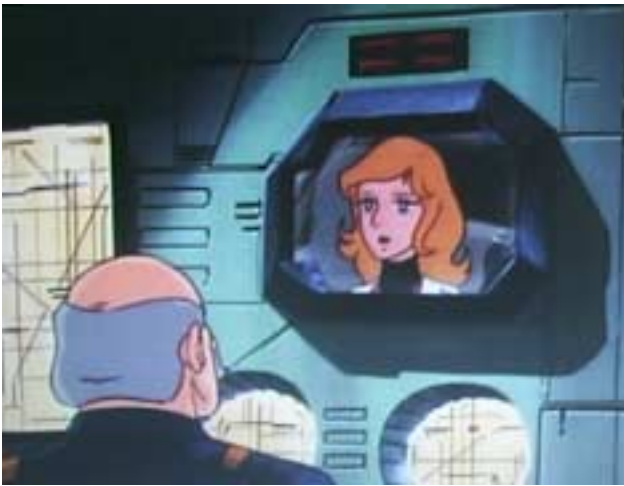
What a pity that good old Eddie didn't create a background for her and Ezra. Judged by that what we get to see her life consists only of her work and her love to Curtis, who she isn't allowed to visit in privacy and sees maybe once a year. I can't help myself, but she deserves something better - don't you agree ? On the other hand: Who else has a lover whose home he (she) can see every night ???

It would have been a nice idea, if it turned out that she's UI Quorn's sister or something like that - would've been interesting to watch how Curt would have handled THAT toughie.



Lovely old-fashioned levers. Wonder why they are still installed - tend to snip with time (and heavy duty work).





So Ezra and Joan are gone, too...



President and General finally decide to contact Captain Future. Persuading him to help wouldn't be that a difficult task, considering WHO disappeared. Don't know what they say in the anime, but this is the sequence in the novel (and the president isn't involved):

"I actually DID something", the Commander answered. "I sent another cruiser to examine and, if possible, to clarify. Two of my best agents are on board. You know them - Marshal Ezra Gurney and Joan Randall. It maybe seems to be a little strange that I entrusted such a young woman with that", he went on hastily, "however, Joan is not only one of the most sensible agents of our Organisation, she also knows the space routes better than most men do. And Ezra Gurney - he's the one who knows the whole solar system down to the core."

"And did they manage to find out something?" Bonnel wanted to know impatiently.

Halk Anders jerked his shoulders. "I don't know. I expect their call every moment."

But the Televisor on the desk hummed four hours later. On the square screen of the Televisors the vivid face of a dark, pretty girl appeared. Joan Randall's eyes had a worried expression, when she spoke to them across millions of kilometres distance.

"Ferronia calling, Commander", she said immediately. "We combed the whole sector. But we haven't found anything." "Nothing at all?" Anders repeated unbelievably. "You want to tell me ... " "Exactly. Here's nothing besides emptiness!" Joan Randall said.

"In the whole sector there's not one asteroid that is large enough to destroy a ship. In addition to that there is not a single remnant from a destruction of all these ships - It looks almost as if they simply were swallowed by space." Suddenly the grey-haired head of an old man appeared behind the shoulder of the girl. Ezra Gurney's pale blue eyes looked puzzled when he confirmed Joan Randall's announcement.

"It indeed sounds as a bewitchment, but that's how it is. That is the most inscrutable, damned secret that ever happened to me ... "

Then everything happened so quickly that neither Anders nor North Bonnel got correctly what was going on. In an instant Joan's and Ezra's frightened faces disappeared from the screen on which only a grey shimmer remained.

Differently pressed hard onto the Televisortaste.

"Joan! Ezra! What is going on?" But he didn't receive an answer. He punched several times onto a button and barked a command to the technicians. [...]

"Commander, we can't handle this with simple power. This is a task for somebody who'll deal with the problem scientifically. Somebody who is familiar with science." Halk Anders understood immediately what was meant. "You think about Captain Future?" The official nodded emphatically. "If there is somebody that can solve this puzzle it is this sorcerer of the sciences with his Future-team then." "... likes to be", the Commander growled. "Future always has an ace in the sleeve we can't even dream of. But will he agree to help us if you call him?" "Agree?" repeated North Bonnel. He strode to the Televisor. "Ezra Gurney is one of his oldest friends. And concerning Joan - you should know best about Captain Future's feelings towards her! Whether he would help us? He would give the whole universe if this would save Joan and Ezra!"



"When Future can't get on grips with that, then nobody can", Bonnel said nervously. "and if ships keep on disappearing . . . "  
A clear voice interrupted him: "What do you say? Disappearing ships? And something is wrong with Joan and Ezra?" Bonnel and Anders turned round to the door that had opened softly. In the doorway they recognised four figures.  
"Captain Future!" Bonnel called. He felt a weight pulled off his heart. "Thank God! Glad to see you and your team so soon!"  
Curt Newton didn't react to this warm-hearted welcome, urred with grooved forehead.  
"You broadcasted that Joan and Ezra are in difficulties. Something came about, Bonnel ? And why you did not inform me already formerly" ? " [...]

His clear grey eyes looked worriedly. It only few narrow friends, nevertheless these few stood to him very near. Marshal Ezra Gurney appertained to the oldest from that. Even nearer the brave agent whose life was now in danger stood to his Herzen, however.

"Where Joan and Ezra are" ? " he asked.

So Curtis is on duty again - with an extraordinary challenge which won't allow him loosing his track till the end.



F: 37/5/0:06:00

D:10/1 - 00:50



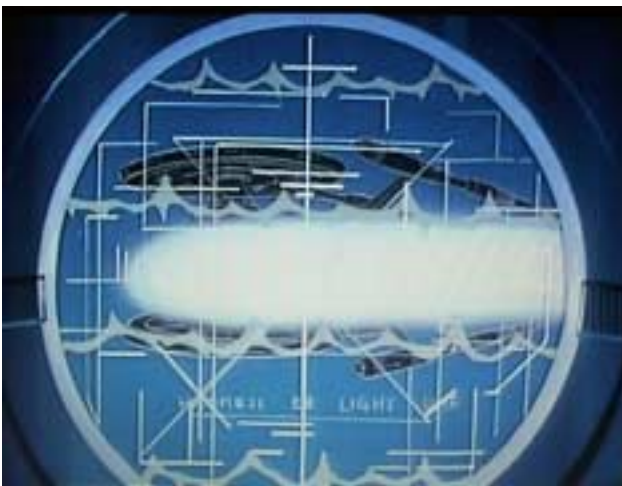
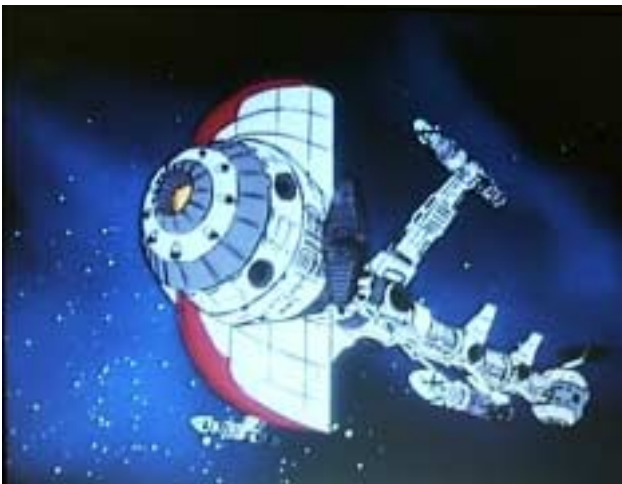
A task to dream of, having to tell Curtis the facts:

"Uh - Mr. Hero - we have some minor problems here ... nothing to be seriously worried about... but ... yes ... erh ... we seem to have kind of lost your girlfriend ... As I said - nothing serious.... and, by the way, just because we're talking 'bout that ... we've lost track of your best friend, too... but besides that everything's under control here... "

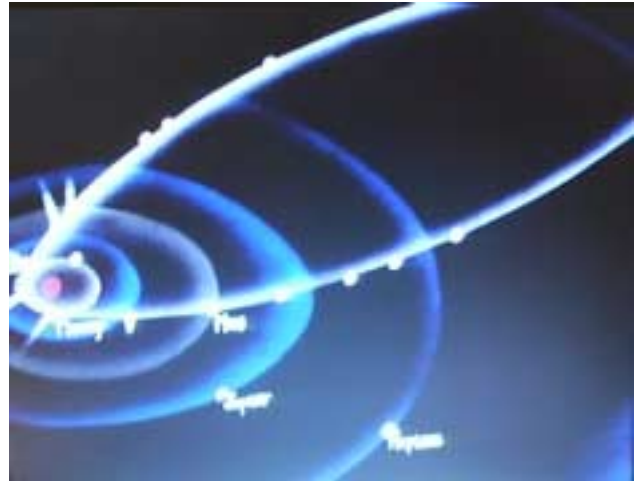




Recognise that ship ? ☺



Nice graphics.



A little bit gymnastics everyday keep our Crew fit.





**F: 37/6/0:16:39      D:10/1 - 11:35**

1 billionth mission to save Ms Randall... but this time he has not the slightest idea of what happened to her and she has to face the danger on her own, without his immediate help. But deep in her heart she'll be convinced that he will find her, as he did all the times before.

It would have been quite interesting to read (and see) how Joan and Ezra handled the first encounter with the comet's people... Especially why and how Joan came to this fatal decision. Unfortunately a missing sequence in all versions.



The landing platform seems to be somewhat crowded - and somebody stole the basic design of the Comet (spaceship on the far right). Don't you have a solar patent on this, Curtis ? If you ever can leave this place, you can earn a lot of extra money if you have one and sue that guy...



Some extra pictures - it is 1/1 to the novel.

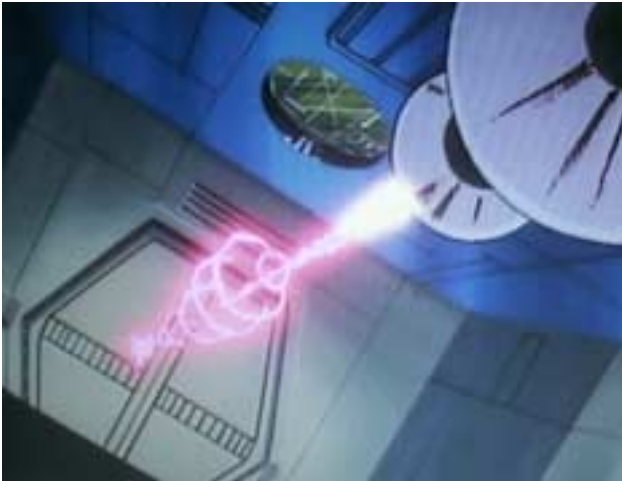


But Mr. Hero can't handle everything - luckily after all, he's just a human being.



Easier to handle for you, Ms J.





Even supermen can't win all the time... Astonishingly TOEI permitted the scene to be drawn like that - nowadays it is usual to joke around with heroes, but back then ???





That's it for our friends - at least for the moment.



What the hell is Ezra doing ?? Ahum...

**F: 37/6/0:21:47**

**D:10/1 - 13:55**



Ezra has to confess that he hasn't the slightest idea what happened to Joan. "I wasn't even able to protect a woman." - hey Ezra, it isn't your fault. Nobody can protect her if she doesn't wants to ... But ... you are her boss - and she's the girlfriend of your best friend... wouldn't like to be in your shoes here (I bet there IS some flashy english/american expression for this ?)

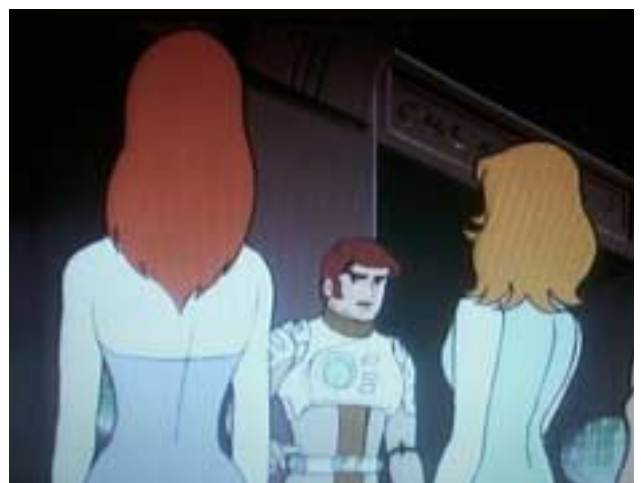
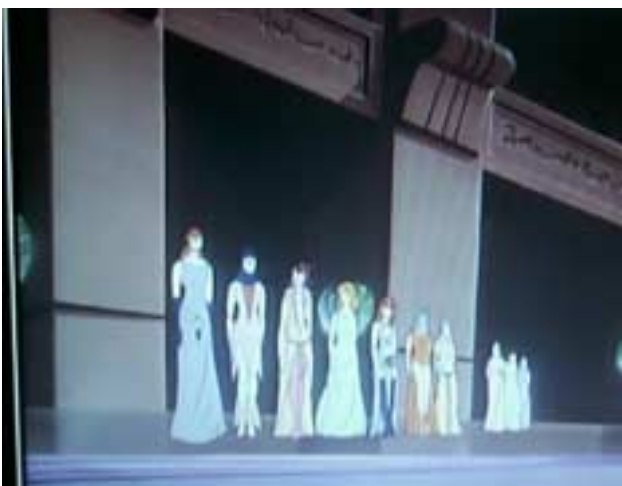
Basically I'd say Joan is a lot smarter than you - you refused to co-operate because you're way too proud. Other people can swallow that if the task demands this !

**F: 37/6/0:23:00**

**D:10/1 - 15:28**



It IS heartwarming to see him to be so concerned about her. Don't worry, you'll meet her soon - please get ready your emotional airbags...**F: 38/8/0:04:25D:10/1 - 19:18**





Running towards her - but this is one of the rare times she doesn't fling herself happily into his arms. She tries to warn him but it seems as if he is too happy to have her back than to listen. That's nice .. but gets him puzzled as never before. One can almost hear the emotional gear-wheels in his head fighting creaking their way (until a much later scene, when he gets the explanation for this in homeopathic doses)... Seldom used equipment needs more servicing than ones frequently or permanently in use - hm, you great wizard of the sciences ?



I often heard of men getting a swipe from annoyed women they touched, but never have seen it happen literally ☺



This a typical encounter between our two heroes:  
Joan got herself into danger (and man - she really chose a no. 1 here !) and Curtis has to save her. This time her current status isn't a result of disobedience to his orders (for once), it is the result out of hopelessness.



But he can't touch her anymore... As you can see he is absolutely startled seeing her like that. Hey Mr. Newton - after all you have some feelings for her AND finally dare to show them !!! It's a bit late for that, though...



How can he misinterpret such a pleading gaze ???





She tries to give him a hint - but he is so angry with her that he doesn't notice what she wants to tell him with her eyes. Nice artwork from TOEI - noticed the differing size of their eye's pupils ?



Can't you see that you're making things worse for her ??? She needs your help - not to be chided !





What does he expect ? Should she explain her plan in front of the whole court with all the people around watching, interpreting reactions and listening ??? Even if they wouldn't understand a single word they can hear undertones. Yes, my friend, emotions can be understood that way, too - without using a club. (In the novel he gets some lessons of the language first).

Curtis, THINK !!!! Can't you see what she's trying to tell you with her eyes ???

And you behave like a five-year old who got his favourite toy locked away.

You never trust in her, but demand to be trusted in yourself all the time. If it was the other way round, I bet that would have acted as annoyed as you do now.

Unbelievable: He really believes in her words - it seems as if he isn't trusting her and breaks her heart with this for the billionth time. Those two know how to give each other a hard life... He REALLY should know her better... sad ... But she is really brave doing this, we have to admit that.



By the way: In the novel she's wearing something much more .. uh ... fashionable, something silvery with a rather tight fit. Curtis thinks that she never before looked more beautiful (and horrible at the same time)... TOEI's choice isn't exactly that ...but it could be worse - just look at what the other women are wearing ! If I ever get the chance you'll get the quote of the sequence as Eddie wrote it.

**F: 38/8/0:05:50**

**D:09/1 - 20:41**



anger : diplomacy 1:0....



Poor Joan - all of them seem to believe in what was Curtis impression.





Even her boss. Otho is the one with the most doubts - shouldn't it have been Curtis instead ?



F: 38/8/0:11:02

D: -

F: 38/8/0:11:09

D: -





Here we see somebody who is as relieved as never before in her live - I bet a whole moon is falling off her heart. ...

High expectations - hopefully not to be destroyed. What Curtis arrival means to her in fact, we'll learn later !

**F: 38/9/0:16:35**

**D: 10/2 - 05:44**



Thinking about her all the time. So the basic motivation he shows usually with his job gets kind of a turbo-booster here... There is no possibility NOT to find the perfect solution.

And if he finds a method to reverse the transformation he'll be participant of a revolution, which will get her in danger even more - as part of the court being among the nobles. Hard life...



**F: 38/9/0:17:45**

**D: 10/2 - 07:02**

**F: 38/9/0:17:46**

**D: -**

The true masters of this comet demand Curtis to be executed, but not only Joan has her Guardian Angel at her side now. The two will never learn it how much they need each other...



Please note the lady in the window on the balcony. If this is her room, she seems to have found a nice place just in the middle of everything - the best place considered the circumstances.







Sometimes the jobs are the other way round: Now it is up to the lady to save her lover and his friends ☺





Meanwhile Curtis tries to find out if the procedure can be reversed. Judged by the faces he's quite sure about that. (Sorry, August - but that's the way the story is). No chance for Curtis for a handy excuse.







What is he up to - killing HER ? Curtis, your lady needs tenderness and help !  
And she is your lady after all...



Sooo: IMHO we now get the scene with the most powerful, important & emotional content of the whole series (anime version).

Thank you, at least TOEI gave the two some time with each other for this, without any curious bystanders (Hamilton didn't). In the novel she's coming without the swords, but in general it is the same. But the dialogue is much more dramatic here (they address each other still with Captain and "Sie" / "Vous").

At least she could keep on calling her "Curtis" - considering what they are talking about ...

Curtis thanks her for saving his life and how surprised he was about her reaction in the throne room ... phhhh - men ! Always believing in what women tell them... ☺

And this is what she was planning to do::

After she and Ezra had been captured she decided to surrender to the King's order and join the comet's people to solve the mystery (Ezra never considered that, he said that would have been a cowardly act.). Once knowing the facts she wanted to flee with a spaceship to warn the solar system. As she couldn't survive outside the halo of the comet this would have meant death for her - but living on this comet for all eternity wasn't her plan anyway. This is the "prize" of the transformation: staying young forever unless one tries to leave the place or some accident happens. This would have been her "Plan B" then: If she couldn't manage to escape, she would have killed herself. She wrote a letter to Curtis, in which she explains all this to him and, according to her voice, she also wrote that she loves him... What a pity that he'll never get that letter now... (you'll get it, on the very last page of this story ☺). But she doesn't dare to tell him this, never finishes the sentence. JOAN, sometimes it is a question of now or never... And if THIS situation isn't one of type "now", I don't know which one then.

Curtis gets an emotional whack here he's never expected in his life, the situation is a bit beyond his control now. He can't take his "petite Joan" into his arms as he did so often as the only way he knows to hold and comfort her (and maybe never again will be able to do so). Above that she maybe is lost for him forever. He has to realise that she might have died without giving him a chance to save her and maybe even without him noticing. But now, as he found her, he still can't help her and she's rather determined to kill herself than to live on under these circumstances. Up till now just finding her was tantamount with getting her out of danger - so Mr. Newton has to learn some new tricks now...

I bet her heart is torn: This encounter was what she mostly feared about and at the same the one she hoped for deep in her heart (but never imagined to happen).





This is Joan's best attempt EVER to manoeuvre herself into a literally dead end. She can't leave the comet - and doesn't want to stay there all alone if left back from Curtis.

But there MUST be other people who'll miss her if she doesn't return from her mission, who will want a report from him. So he can't leave without her.

As I said before: These two are two of the same kind. Devoted to their job from the bottom of their heart. Astonishing that there's a place for something else (someBODY else) left in their minds.

A positive effect of this is that Curtis is forced to sort out his feelings towards her. Could he really leave her back ? (In "Planets in Peril", when she's about to 'die' he tells her that he'll NEVER will leave her....) Sorry - I can't imagine him leaving everything behind to live on a comet like this PLUS transform himself, just because of devotion to Joan.



So he has to make a decision and swears that he will do everything to reverse the transformation.

TOEI's dialogue is quite difficult to translate, because Curtis' answer can be interpreted in two different ways. She tells him what she planned to do and finishes with:

"I wrote a letter, addressed to you, in which I explain all this to you and tell you that I ... ." *[fainting voice]*.

"What do you want to tell me, Joan ?" or "Do you know what you are talking about, Joan ?"

Is he only shocked by her words or does he really NOT understand what is going on here? I vote for the first one, though ☺.

But even if he doesn't grasp it here, he'll get a family-size package of hints from her at the end of this story.

The whole sequence shows him in total bewilderment and her in deep sorrow (NOT despair !). He's in despair because he can't touch her. I don't dare to think about more here ☺...

But I want to switch over to my two co-commentators ☺ (forgive me if I forgot one of your good ideas & thoughts):

" [...] and tell you that I ... ." (... *I love you ! Just tell it ! AARGH !!! See, harraps ! She almost managed it ! ... and Curtis still doesn't grasp it !!!*)

Yes, Pascal - exactly what I thought when watching the scene the first time.

Both try to avoid these three little words, so hard to tell and to hear, by all means. He by telling nothing at all, and she with circling the topic with LOTS of words.

And a little dialogue August and I had about this:

h: What I think is dramatic here is that Mr. C for the first time has to accept that she is brave enough to make a drastic decision on her own - without asking anybody.

A: Taking the decision of sacrifice was probably more difficult to her than to him because her parents probably did not educate her to become a kamikaze, when he had a harder education.

In this she is braver than him, imho.

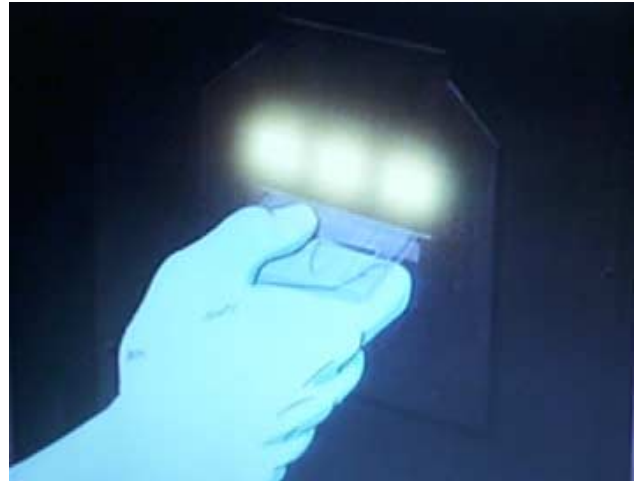
Yes, absolutely correct, besides that being a secret agent includes willingness to put one's life on risk - so she had to be aware of this one day. And she offers her life so often to save others.



This sequence was extremely well drawn by TOEI - good work !

But as it is in every emotional scene: She calls him "Captain" instead of "Curtis". WHY for god's sake ???



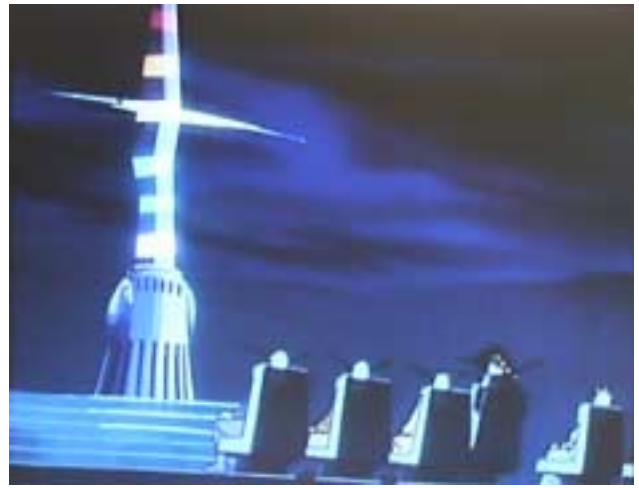
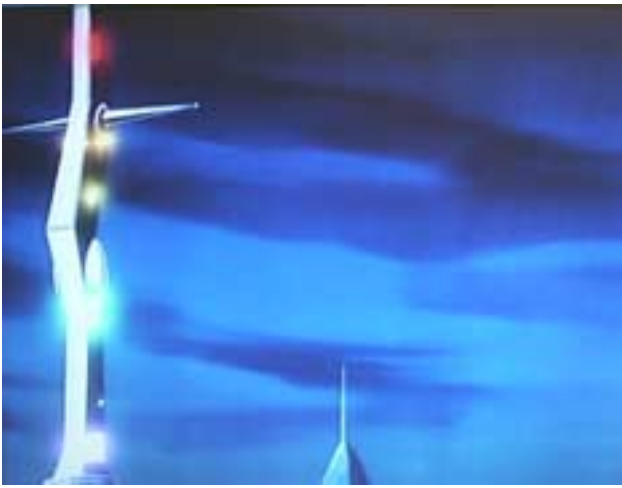


F: 38/9/0:23:03

D:-

F: 39/19/0:00:50

D:10/2 - 7:10



Curtis' look is hilarious - but maybe he thinks she's done enough for today... (and again a new artist drawing her \*sigh\* I take back what I said before... GRRR

Are this Ezra's fingers on her shoulder ? Antistatic gloves, then ?

And she is ordered (guess by whom) to stay back, because .... AND Ezra consoles her as usual - besides the fact that she won't need a torch at night to read we're almost back to normal...

Curtis is pretty unlogic here: She is the only one of the whole party who can get in immediate contact with the comet's inhabitants and likely the one whose risk of being harmed is less.

It would be easier for her being killed while protecting his life than maybe to face the fact that she has to stay the way she is and to do what she planned.

Curtis has every right to be upset with her - but should consider his behaviour nevertheless ....

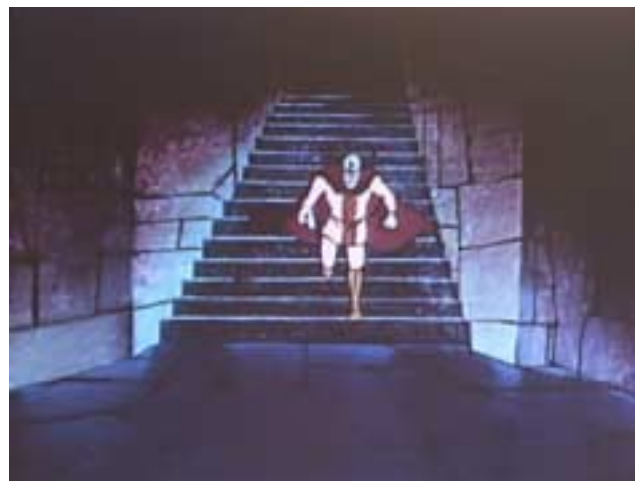


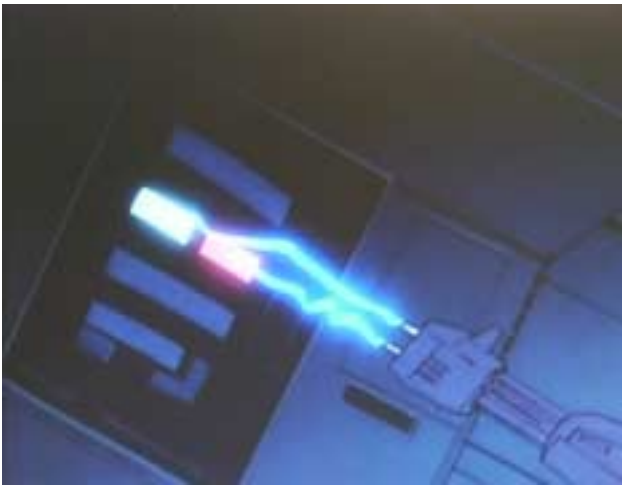


F: 39/19/0:03:00 D:10/2 - 08:55



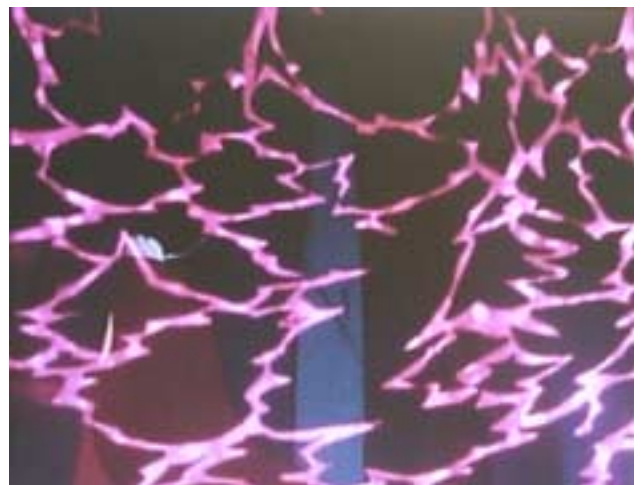
F: 39/19/0:06:36 D:10/2 - 10:54





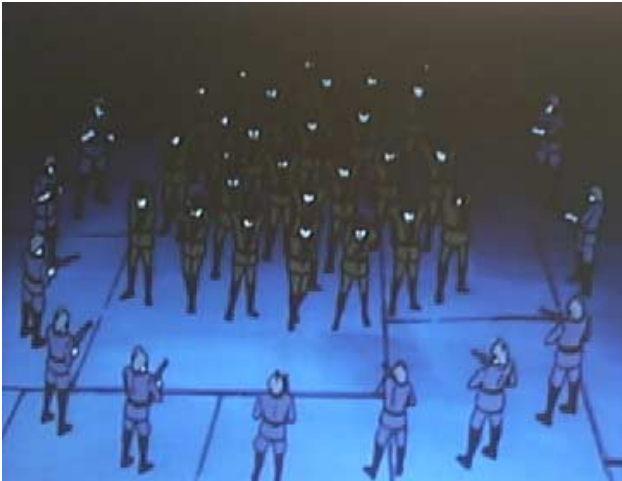
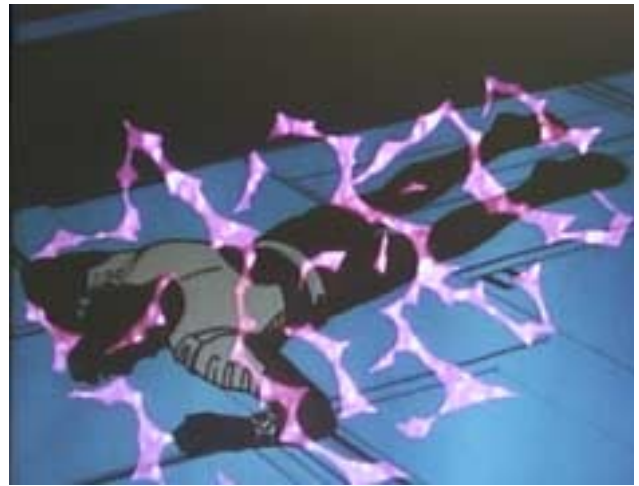
They thought they'd won - but the true masters are more powerful they ever assumed...





Curtis and all the others - except Otho and Grag - are captured. Ezra somehow vanishes and is back only on the last scenes.





F: 39/20/0:10:40 D:10/2 -13:29



The rest of the story is a little bit like Alexandre Dumas: One for all and all for one...

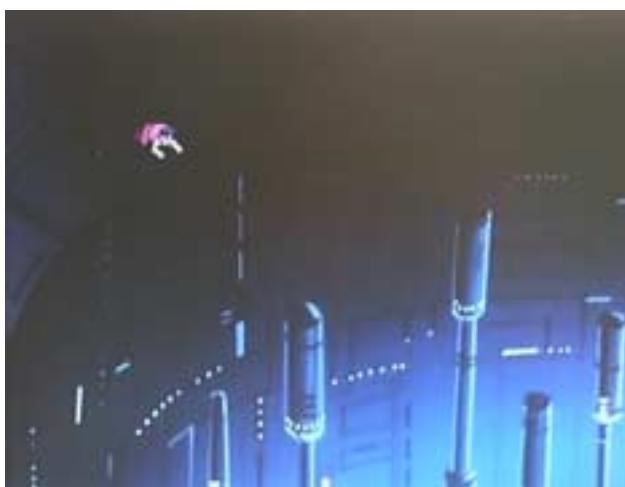


This is a crazy team - but only complete WITH the lady... (Ezra isn't really necessary - it's nice having him along, but not missing if not. Sorry...)



F: 39/20/0:17:25

D:10/2 - 20:03



Thinking about Joan and how to save her. Uh, NOT what you think: Nothing emotional here - pure pondering about chances and risks and techniques.

I don't want to talk ☺ about the symbolism of the picture below (on the right).

Light at the end of the tunnel ???

Anybody else ?



F: 39/20/0:18:31 D:10/2 - 21:12



Please meet the true rulers of the comet. Curtis almost fell for it, especially when they tell them that transforming Joan is no problem... but everything is a fake. To know too much sometimes isn't good for getting out unharmed.



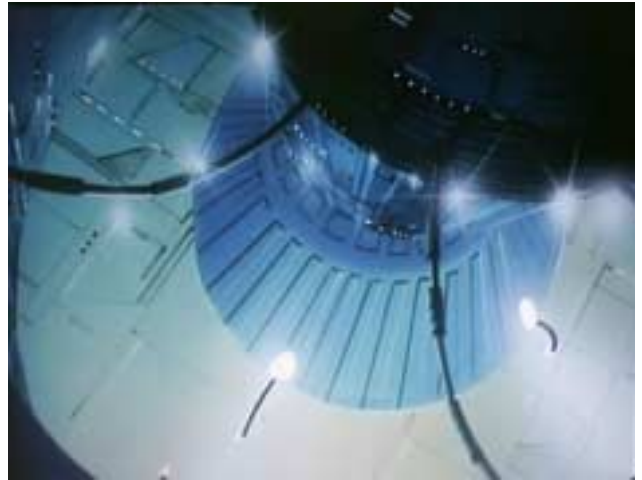
They want to drag every scientific knowledge out of him, so they can adapt themselves better to this universe. Oh, I almost forgot: These gentlemen came to transfer every scratch and bit of energy from this into their universe, for this they have to be the rulers of this. Can't villains think about a more creative result of their efforts - only for once ? This gets kinda boring \*snort\* .

On the crystal globe on the next page you'll see what they get out of Curtis head ... Recognise it ?

☺

But then Curtis is too clever and gets Joan in bigger danger as she is already.





His plea to spare her is denied... As a result he's panicked down to the bottom of his heart.  
But this wears off till the last adventure. You get a whack from me then, my boy !!! Prepare yourself !



I always asked myself why didn't just jumped out - the cell is big enough to gain enough speed for a good jump.





Mr. King, this was a big mistake.

She isn't by far as docile as she seems to be. And you misinterpreted their relationship a little bit: Ok, they are not hot lovers in public, but never, ever threaten one of the two ... The other will almost always be there for help and will never betray his or her friend(s) - with little exceptions from time to time.... grmbl.



Curtis, even if you look that soft and impress your pals - if the transformation can't be undone there's no other choice than to stay on the comet - with or without Joan. And there's no other way of destroying your enemies but becoming an electric man. Hmph. So it is only a sacrifice to your task with something to look forward if it doesn't work out.

I doubt again that you would do this if you can win with another trick. Joan is the least one you think about now - am I right or am I right ? But you're pretty sure it can be made undone....



THIS grimace he stole from Joan....



As I said: Never underestimate her.





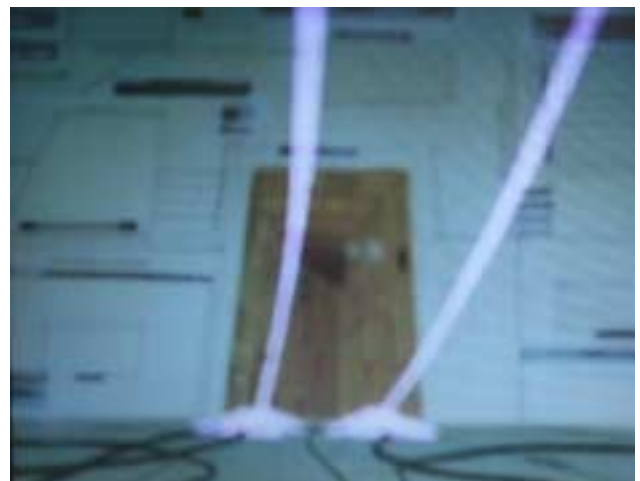
Otho and his forgotten trousers seem to be a running gag....



F: 40/23/0:17:32 D:10/3 - 18:18



Why is destroying of one door enough ? The tower had at least two ...







As I said... each others Guardian Angels, if things get REALLY tight ...



Luckily he is quicker than them...



The next Tiger Woods in action....



Ah, Curtis ....





Curtis ??



Ahem ?





Ok, sorry, I hate to interfere here, but could you maybe consider taking her in a tight hug ? I mean T-I-G-H-T - so that she can feel your comforting arms ??? A little bit more enthusiasm would be appropriate here. And may I suggest a kiss ? On the menu today... Man, do YOU need a manual. THIS IS NO HUG A LOVER SHOULD EVEN THINK OF !

And what are you telling her ?! \*wailing tone from harraps\*

WHY did you transform yourself ? Huh ?

Only because this was the only chance to destroy the foreign creatures ....

Yes, tell her, she'll be happy to hear this. Curtis, could you please check if there is something beating on the left side of your chest ? Not so easy with all the armour ? I bet that Joan has the matching marks on her face already... so many times she sought comfort there.

You are a lucky man that she can't think clearly in this moment, she's too busy holding back the tears glittering in her eyes and too happy to be in your arms - wait, arms ?? ... arm, can only see a half and a hand on her other shoulder. \*desperate sigh\*

The matching dialogue is unbelievable:

Joan: What if the transformation can't be reversed ?

Curtis: Then I'll stay here forever with you on this comet.

So she's second winner here... and gets nothing, because this isn't something you offer her, it is the logic consequence. You can't do anything else, then. Having Joan with you would be like the cherry on top, but I bet you could do without her.

But for the moment she seems to be happy.







I love the reaction of Otho, Grag and their pets ☺ Difficult to see on a single picture, but Otho gives Grag a punch in the ribs with his elbow... And the face of Eek is PERFECT.

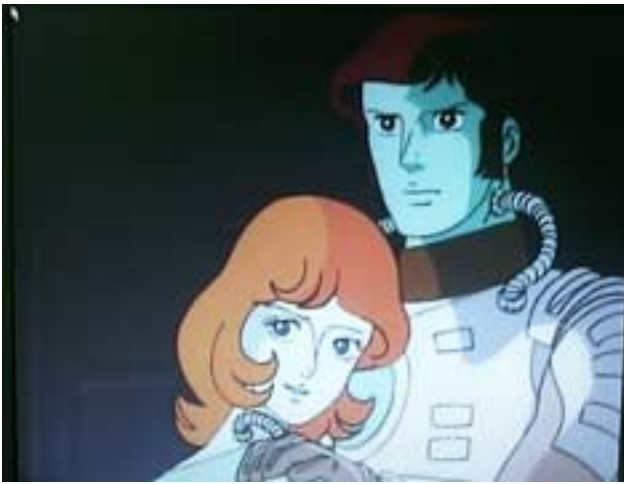
They deliver the good news, followed by an immediate tactical retreat. At least in this moment they let the two have some privacy. Good boys. At least these two are hooked on romance ☺ They are really tender with our Dreamteam ("Uh, won't disturb... already gone...." Nice !)

The novel and the German anime-dialogue differ. In the novel Curtis does what he should do (why can't TOEI grmbl mumble grr ...ok, forget it), and the French dialogue is more technical, Curtis doesn't refer to the consideration of his friends.



Curtis doesn't seem to be too happy about seeing them in this moment - judged by his face. Joan doesn't seem to have any objections... Maybe she knows that the two know more about their relationship than Curtis is willing to accept. In the novel Curtis and Simon discuss this quite often - maybe the anime-Curtis should do, too.





Verry good: Joan is managing the whole work while the boys do the heavy duty work ☺

Thank you Ann, for this perfect comment. That was in another context, but fits in here pretty nicely.





It is kind of a shock to Joan that the redesigned machine works very well. Hey lady, this is YOUR hero after all, you should've anticipated that... I'm sorry for you.... ☹



She forces a smile on her face to please him, and he does understand nothing (as always)  
And a little dialogue with August:

h: And I don't think that he would have transformed himself if the only reason was to be together with Joan again. He did it to destroy their enemies.

A: So did she ! When she chose to become electric, she didn't knew he would come.

You said in part 2 those two always overdo things (something about women and electricity :-)).

She could have chosen to become electric to find out what was going on and send a ship with a message or something instead of going herself, and at least stay alive on the comet.

And hope that he'll come to rescue her, yes, that's a point I didn't thought about..

Sorry Pascal for neglecting you - consider it as a kind of soft extortion to set up a forum.

**F: 40/23/0:19:57      D:10/3 - 20:08**

**F: 40/23/0:22:19      D:10/3 - 22:30**



I bet Joan has seldom felt more desperate and lonely like in this moment. She's weeping about her lost paradise, finally can't hold back her tears and has such a - sorry - numbhead at her side, who doesn't even know how to take his girl friend in a proper, comforting hug.

Maybe I already complained 'bout this ... ? \*grin\*

Dialogue is fun, though:

Curtis: Something wrong ?

Joan: No .... it's just .... (Women classic, huh, guys ? ☺)

Curtis: Just ... what ?



And then she tells him everything she feels and hoped for all the years, her most secret feelings and wishes (he should have seen in her eyes long ago) she has locked away for so long... and knows they'll never come true and she'll be alone again soon enough .... But finally she is brave enough just to tell her private jerk (concerning emotions) everything.

Tricky situation for him - no he'll never again have the excuse of knowing nothing.... Must feel trapped, I think. But he listens, doesn't find excuses...

BUT the novel-Curtis blows it....He tells her he'll find a place for the two of them - no, knows a place for them, only for her and him and nobody else - to live as soon as....

NOT A SINGLE VILLAIN IS LEFT IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM.

\*WAAAAAHHHHHHHH !\*

Simple equation: Notasinglevillain + J&C = NEVER

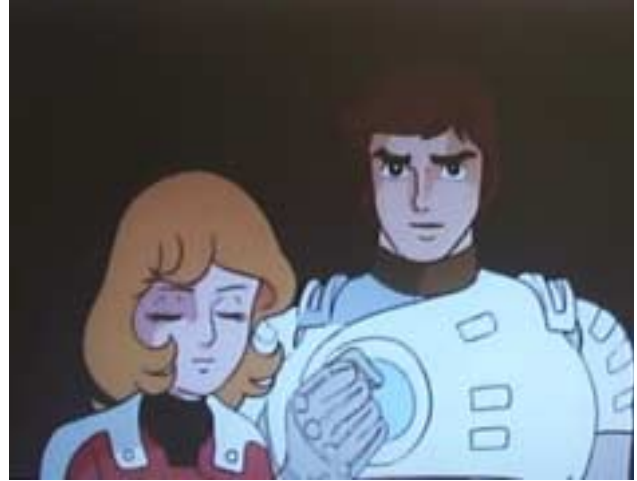
The answer of the anime-Curtis is more promising and believable...



Sad and angry (with herself or with him ?) and desperate...

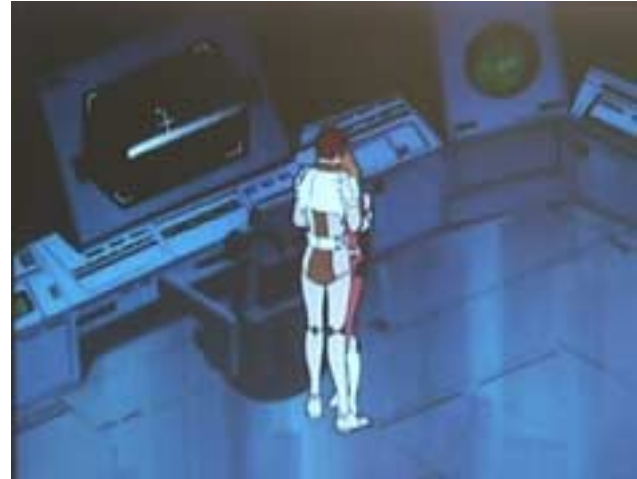


But, my, SHE knows how to use her big blue eyes..... Hahahaha ! Even a stone would melt with THAT look ! Woohooo ! And perfect drawing from TOEI - compliments ☺ ☺



Did I just say something about "good art-work" ? Urgl.... But the close-ups are almost always good ! Her answer is hilarious...:

"Yes, Curtis"... it reminds me about a mother's reaction towards her babbling little son....



And this last picture get's me upset !

Curtis, (maybe I'm repeating myself) what she wants and needs is

- a) a tight hug, so tight that she almost can't breathe
- b) a deep, long, passionate kiss that leaves her breathless
- c) something to believe in, maybe "I love you" ? (that'll make her finally gasping...)
- d) a First-Aid-Kit to revive her ...

Order is without preference (except d)....☺) ... You think you can manage that ? Hum ? At least as a favour for being brave enough to tell everything to you ? BTW - you said nothing at all...

**F: 40/23/0:23:08      D:10/3 - 23:21**

**Some statistics ☺**

Life-saving J : C      1 : 1 ?

"Too Dangerous":      1

Otho's comments:      no - too happy Curtis got his lady back

Joan is kidnapped:      kind of....

Together in peril:      all the time


Hugs:      grounded: 2 - 3 (estimated). completed: 2



**Curtis Newton**  
**- CONFIDENTIAL -**

Curtis ~ you reading this letter means that my plan worked after all. Please take care and warn everybody to stay away from Halley's Comet as far as possible. Something terrible goes on here. I wasn't able to find out many details - but the inhabitants are determined to sell the whole solar system to some kind of "gods", powerful beings nobody gets to see. What they get in return you'll see when looking at my body: transformed like this they'll stay young and healthy forever, until an accident happens or they try to leave the comet. I thought I could find out more if surrendering to the king's wishes, but my mind was cleared - I can't remember what they did to me. I knew what would happen to me when fleeing from the comet but my duty is to warn the government and you. The vanished space ships and their personnel and passengers and Ezra are on the comet, almost all of them in the jail, a few decided to accept being transformed like this. But this is no life, it is just existing, so the decision I had to make wasn't that difficult at all...

Please don't try to touch me, you can't without being seriously hurt. Maybe you can arrange that this ship will be sent into the sun...

You remember the day I was lucky enough to get you out of there ? So somehow the circle closes here... Curtis, I love you so much...

Joan