Edmond Hamilton (1943)

TOEIAnimation (1978/79)/Bastei-Lübbe (1983)









The Story of

Joan Randall



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

Part 13

Star of Dread

Stern des Grauens - Ein gefährliches Geheimnis La Caverne de Vie

Introduction

Focus of this story is the relationship (if there <u>is</u> 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: harraps@gmx.com

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.





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



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

The first kiss ? We had that already \dots \odot

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 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:



I sticked 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

is thrown out again

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, hmmmmm ??? ⁽ⁱ⁾

njoy!

Main storyline:

A little archaeological excursion - as an excuse to spend some time with Joan. Again the question: A little candle-light-dinner on the moon might have been a more private business. Anyway - the whole trip was surely planned to be a little more romantic than it turned out to be after the first day even if the whole gang including Ken & Ezra are with them plus some scientists with their assistants (in the novel no Ken).

Every time the two are allowed to act as the average lovers Joan gets kind of punished for this from TOEI (average ??? - with these two nothing is average, always above or below ...). Remember part 12 ? No, this trip definitely isn't something to dream of for her - besides the first evening ⁽²⁾. As this is the last episode fitting into the consecutive (?) series, the end is ... you'll see by yourself. So, as they are preparing to land, let's join them:







May I introduce today's menu ... eh villains ?























Ezra is constantly teasing Curtis about finding reasonable excuses just be together with Joan.

Men ... in future just ask her to take some days off, stuff her in the Comet and fly someplace nobody'll recognise you. But get her out of this red pack first into something more ... female ? And yourself out of this "Blister-package". AND leave everybody else, especially Ken, behind ! This is an order - you got me ? Presumably not... partially deaf when touching topics like that, are you ? Hey - great opportunity to weave in Augusts comment (finally !) - or better our conversation in Pascal's guestbook some time ago:

- August Merci à tous pour les éclaircissements sur la cagnotte des Futuremen. J'imaginerai bien Otho déposer des brevets et vendre les inventions de Simon. Autre question : nous connaissons le passe de toute l'équipe, un peu du passé d'Ezra, et rien de celui de Joan ?
- harraps @August: un peu du passé d'Ezra, et rien de celui de Joan ? E-X-A-C-T-L-Y. Not. A. Single. Word. Hmpf. :-((Wouldn't it have been nice if Joan turned out to be Kahlon's sister ??? ;-P
- August @ Harraps : Maybe she has some beautiful sisters. And she have had a lot of nice lovers, that's why we don't know about her past :-)
- harraps :-D :-D :-D :-D That's a good one, August! :-D :-D :-D :-D :-D
- August @Harraps : I can see no reasons why a healthy, young, lively and attractive (Mr. apricot-eater seems to thinks so) woman working daily with a lot of men (planet patrol) should not have a whole bunch of devoted colleagues (specially if she's wearing so short a skirt when off duty...)

harraps @August: I really love how much nice texts Joan is getting from you. It was / is always hard to bear for me how she is treated in the anime (in the books it is far better), especially from a certain Mr. C.N.
@Pascal: Can you please help me explaining to August why her post got me rolling on the floor almost crying of laughter ? Maybe I should try the last one ... (still giggling) ... but I think it's better to keep on with my usual outfit... :-))))))

Yes - Joans clothes are worth a debate of its own. Especially what she does in "Le Empereur" in front of Curtis is absolutely beyond my grasp... If THIS isn't flirting, I don't know what would count as that.

Don't worry, Pascal ! We won't abuse your guestbook as a private chat-room. :-) It was only that this was the EXACT sentence word by word I've heard so often recently... minus the skirt. Still laughing.... Sorry.

*Back to topic: I'm very curious what others think about this: Curtis tries all time to keep Joan outside his life (eternal excuse: too dangerous), even if that is the thing she most dearly wants (you can really see her heart aching every time she is rejected). In the last movie he takes her voluntarily with him - but on what a romantic trip: Its business & the complete crew PLUS Ezra PLUS Ken. GREAT ! On top of it she gets kidnapped, is tortured and her lover ponders if he maybe should sacrifice her life to protect the secret of that dumb cavern. Even when he manages to "save" her and she tells him that she broke down to save his life all he can think about is that cavern - not a single thought in what state her mind, body or soul may be. Not a single, private comforting word.... He hears her screaming all the time and the only thing he thinks is: If she has to bear too much, she'll talk. GODS ! Eddie - that wasn't your best work and TOEI made it more worse for her than it is written in the novel. Yes, he shows a soft spot in that episode: He cries, because the animal-men and women can't get their human form back... But he wasn't capable of taking Joan in a warm embrace after what she endured to protect his ideals (and what it meant to her to have to make that decision between his life and the secret he wanted to be protected by all means...).

The way her character is designed she most likely wanted to die before telling him what she did. Mr. Newton is very lucky to be just a fictional character ! :-)))))))))

August IMO, it's better to stick to the novels, for the anime is only somebody's interpretation of Hamilton's view of the stories and characters. I know very few of the novels (only what can be find on this site), but the characters are quite different, a lot more interesting and alive. Who can imagine for example the dull and boring anime CF giggling because he had fun with mechanical ride at the fun fair ?

harraps Hello August ! YES !! Precisely what I think too - the novel-Curtis has LOOOTS of good humour. But he isn't much more specific with certain projects concerning Joan... As Pascal wrote in his characterisation of Curtis (please take a look there). Please correct me if I'm wrong here, but I always had the nagging feeling that Mr. Anime-C. rather thinks that Miss J. is kind of additional strain than an enrichment to his life.

Sneaking around in other CF-pages (Hello www.captainfuture.org !) I learned that I'm not the only one who's got the impression that this is more or less a kind of "family trip" with mummy, daddy, kiddy, granddad & some friends. Kind of ---- (no words available describing this), TOEI ! WHY ?! Fortunately they didn't reduce Joan's part to play mummy (- - - uh ... wait ... realising what I'm typing here and getting ROTFLOL), but gave a strong character - you'll see later.





So daddy dug out something interesting (what else ?).



Granddad doesn't understand a single word ... but knows how to operate his gun. Hey - This is not the Far West here ! Or is it ? While the guys are discussing how to protect the camp against attacks

from the local aborigines Mummy is preparing the meal and taking care of everybody's well-being.







Gets to be a habit of her. Is this telling us something ? ⁽ⁱ⁾ But these are the last happy scenes for her - the forthcoming days (weeks in the novel) will be the worst of her life.



All of them know the secret of the "Cavern of Life" in another solar system that was inscribed on the monolith - it is destroyed by Curtis so nobody else will get to know it and no scientist can tinker around with that knowledge. The two who are with them on this mission are not too happy about this - and trouble starts here rightaway.





Running gag (on the right) ... The guys are leaving to calm down the inhabitants -



followed by a very nice scene with Joan and a caring Simon.



Winter is preparing the trap (guess for whom) while Ezra plays his favourite game: Teasing Joan and Curtis.



Everybody gives his compliments to the menu Joan created. Maybe not only because it is tasty. She seems to wear her gun always, so better not start arguments with cook being armed. Maybe she is threatening them to shoot them if they dislike what she cooked !

What I'm wondering about all the time is how idiotic this place is for wearing a gun. If she'll falls on her back during a fight (as can be seen) she'll be hurt nastily. Not so easy to reach, too TOEI ? Talking about marriage leaves Curtis kind of startled - and Joan... see yourself ©.





But neither of them starts protesting or denying (as Curtis did in the very first scenes of this adventure). This nice scene is interrupted by Norton who arrives back from hauling the fence. I'd love to see just ONE sequence with them as a relaxed pair with nothing & nobody threatening or

disturbing them. Kind of last picture of "Face of the deep", but looking at each other...



Getting them distracted to have a ship and to kidnap some knowledge, so Norton and Winter can find the cavern.



In the novel Winter is pretending to have hurt himself but in general it is exactly the same. Curtis, when will you learn that leaving her behind ALWAYS gets the trouble in gear or worse at least ???



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Norton brought some friends... Being attacked from acquaintances leaves the best fighter helpless if he has no time to prepare. Remember Megara ? She could've easily outdone him.





Not always so clever you are, aren't you ? (and Joan's hair is short, long, very long ... *sigh*)



Too late ... and Norton got themselves in deep trouble, stealing both his beloved ship and girl.





No ship to leave the planet, despite following them, the inhabitants about to attack - and if he's mourning the loss of his ship or his girl - I'm not too sure. Can't suppress the thought Joan is second winner here. The ship was his first love, somehow.





Always impressive how they play around with dangerous inventions. His argument: "It can't do us any harm, it were only mere seconds" leaves me open-mouthed. But it's result is pretty effective, though.



Running gag No. 2: Does everybody think that she's too desperate about her situation that she forgot entirely what to do with her gun ? Even if firing it in a spaceborn ship wouldn't be greatest of ideas - she proved to aim & hit very well in the past.... And the gun is wandering around her belt - THIS place would make it completely unreachable in tight situations - and falling on it would be desastrous.









She is upset beyond words - good artwork.











She'll never tell, if attacked herself, would never betray Curtis wishes. That Ken is participating, helps her somehow in these moments (in the novel she is all alone, but the plot is exactly the same, except the journey takes weeks in which they got her heavily sedated).

What I always asked myself was: Why didn't Norton simply point his weapon at Ken and asked her ? She would have told him everything to save the boy's life.

After all it doesn't seem to be very clever of Curtis telling everybody WHO knew the details of the secret. Secrets demand some secrecy of the knowledge....

Both Nortons (anime & novel) are deadly determined to get to know what they want - Ken's actions are brave and helpful - but only delaying the end. Who would have thought that - me applauding Ken... *sigh*



So she gets some time to think it over. Norton, you're joking, aren't you ? Leaving her alone and let her consider her situation is the dumbest thing you could do...Novel's the same.



In the novel the tools are in the compartment. She seems to know the Comet very well in every detail... maybe yet Curtis & Joan got on some private trips ? Another thought:

With some couples it is that if they finally got sorted out their feelings towards each other they act more distanced when in public - avoid showing exaggerated affection.... Maybe this is here the same ? We got that romantic scenery in the beginning - but they took no advantage of that. And hugs are scarce, concerning what is happening.

You can tell that I'm feeling the weirder the longer I work on "The Story"... Pondering romantic feelings of animated, fictitious people.... gods But want to get to the end it properly.



Destructing one ship, repairs on the other - good team they are. Reminds me of one Enterprisemovie in which McCoy gave Scotty some little, important parts from the brand-new Enterprise, when they were about to steal the old one: "Some innards from one surgeon to the other" - or kind of.

No, I'm no "Trekkie", but I liked the scene... But don't ask me, which movie this was.





Don't panic, Joan, your private "Knight in shining armour on a white horse" is already following you.



New in-game: Trash-surfing in space. And a pretty good chance to get his buttocks grilled.





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No chance to win...















Never giving in neither up, but in this game she can't win - even if she still has got her gun.

















Strange enough - this should've given Norton a hint what to do. But they have reached their destination anyway - and are welcomed by a committee. "I'm *not* a committee !" ©



Finally found her gun and disarmed her.















The longer the journey, the worse and more hopeless the situation gets.



Cheering up Ken... - but who is cheering up her ?









Curtis arriving almost on time...











... with ... (or better without)





 \dots some trouble and not exactly where he planned to land (or how \dots).



Met some friends after some discussion (skipped that, this is long enough anyway)



The rope around her chest is gone and back ... Houdini at his best.



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Big blue begging - for a change not demanding - eyes can't achieve everything always.





Trying to do a bargain, but seeding doubts in Winter's conscience is easy, getting out of there unnoticed is unfortunately impossible because of the guards. And they did it again with her hair - this is hair-raising...



Conflicts are rising between the former pals.... Winter is doubting what they are about to do...



















Slipping, knocking him out - and giving Joan the shock of her life. She's wondering what Norton is planning to do to her now - as he leaves Ken almost unnoticed.





Her uniform isn't any longer that tight fitting as it was - no meals served on this flight ? So it must be either Ryan-Air or Sub-Economy-Class Lufthansa (freight compartment ?).



Relieved beyond words... but I'm sorry, Joan, it isn't over for you yet... 🙁 ...worst to come.



Ken, Simon and Skeen can flee, but Joan's freedom was only seconds, then catched again.







Fighting together but without any chance. In the novel the Future-Crew has to save now two instead of one - somehow the result of this rescue-campaign makes no sense at all.

So August, this is the scene we talked about. It gets my hair stand upon end always (and mine is at least as long as hers): Norton wants Joan to be interrogated at once, but Curtis holds him back. So Norton lets him choose twice if Curtis will talk - who refuses both times straightway - instead of questioning (...) Joan.

So she is taken downstairs - with him frightening about her well-being. Pardon me ? It was obvious what would happen, Norton told him in easy to grasp words that nothing would stop him.

That's what I meant then, August: She witnesses the whole debate, knows that Curtis had a choice but choose the protection of secret above her life (that's what Norton said).

She assures him that she'll won't talk at all, but the price Johann has to pay for that is way higher than Joan has to - the result of it is the same, though.



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Curtis hears her desperate screams all the time the following minutes (they even can be heard outside the tower), but the anime-Curtis thinks: "If she has to bear too much she'll talk in the end". I mean - huh ? This is what a devoted lover would think ? OK - he is upset with Norton, too, but that doesn't make up - even if his face shows despair and pity with Joan...

Hamilton let his Curtis' conscience fight a long, long battle with no conclusion what would be the best to do. He is worried about Joan - especially when he can't hear her screaming anymore - he expects the worst. Sorry, my friend - you had the choice. Your tortured heart is the best punishment for what you did. And in spite of that she'll never let you down and break her promise... As Ezra pointed out in part 11: She would give her life to please him. Addicted to him, I'd say. This is no good relationship it is the worst I have ever heard of.

That this is the only way to keep both of them alive some time longer wasn't his clever plan - it is more or less a beneficial side-effect, as we will see.

And all this about a cavern with something in it nobody maybe will know how to operate - even don't know if it still is in working condition. Joan's life is worth less than this ??? EDDIE ! TOEI !! YOU come up with plots, REALLY.


















Trying to find his gun - it HAS to be somewhere.









Tricking them out...











She will never tell - think about something else then...



Unexpected help ...



But a failure, too ... not easy seeing someone shot in an attempt to protect her...



Save for the moment - the animal-humans are attacking the city - led by the Future-Crew.







Luckily Curtis doesn't shoot the rope around the column - otherwise she would have been a perfect shield. to one of the guards. Sometimes he seems to think in advance.























That's it ? You think you're finally safe now ?













Curtis thinks that with dying while protecting Joan Winter has payed for what he did to her ... hm.



The battle is NOTHING to be watched by little children!





Ken wants to fight too - at least one is reasonable here and stops him.



The Comet is gone again and no other ship to follow...



The moment Joan was afraid of all the time: "Captain, there's something I have to tell you..." When she's using 'Captain' instead of 'Curtis' another drama is ahead... oh, Joan ...



Everybody is shocked when she confesses that the gave in and told Norton the location of the cavern. Curtis defends her - she had to bear to much - so she simply couldn't hold it back longer. Curtis, do you still know her so little, trust her so little ? She'd rather have died than talked.



Dear Eddie named the matching chapter "Joan's mistake".



The reason was - you. She had to decide if she should tell the secret or let you die. Classic dead end. She chose to let you live (can't see any mistake), and would rather died herself than to have to tell you this. Considering her internal pain he is astonishingly cool, even doesn't embrace her August - I don't believe he'll comfort her later. Maybe he is afraid she'll break down totally when handled more tender. Better keep the adrenaline working, they all have to go on....

But I bet her heart cries bitterly for some caress. The thought I always had here was, if she shouldn't better have died. Hey - I like her - but Eddie shoves her around in the oncoming stories, doesn't know what to do with her. The relationship stagnates somehow....

















Is this a bruise on her cheek ? Usually it isn't there. Sometimes TOEI is absolutely perfect with transporting emotion via expression on the faces.

















Frantically denying that she would ever thought about revealing everything, disobey his wishes. Dramatic as this is - it gets a smile in my face.... But she only disobeys orders - never wishes ...



She saw Winter being shot without hesitation - she would never play games with his life at stake.



A really long conversation - better take a look yourself.



But she managed to hold back some important details.



A little bit hiking in the woods...





No idea what is going on here...







Please keep an eye on our two lovers - maybe you'll notice yourself something very interesting.

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Swimming - ME ? In WATER ?? Two faces... his - ok, but she is living in N.Y. - so she should be used to water & an ocean. Or maybe a childhood fright ?



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Hey - THIS is, what she is doing ! And the WWF and Greenpeace are nowhere... I once saw a wood-harvester in action - frightening 30 sec. to turn a sound tree into a log ready for use.



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Why has she suddenly her gun back ? Where was she keeping it ?? Hiding a gun that big (even if it often differs in size) in a pack that tight is an admirable trick. Her aim is still perfect - indestructible, this woman. Please consider yourself what she had to endure the last weeks (or days).



Watching something framewise sometimes reveals little diamonds as the one on the upper left.

On the next page there is another example - J & C are no more looking like responsible grown-ups, but like some teenager, discovering their affection to each other for the first time. This sequence is my favourite above all ©

Please notice that she is running directly towards Curtis - doesn't even have the tiniest look to spare for poor old Ezra - her boss after all.

Ok - so it seems as if she either can't swim or is too weak. Don't worry - the SAR-squad Aar-style is already on it's way (Baywatch... ©).



No idea what they are talking about - but pictures to melt for...Sorry for being romantic - but on the picture on the right he looks as if thinking: "God, I love this woman...".







Every paparazzi in the whole universe would sell his soul for a picture like this (left). Why are they looking so dreamily - did TOEI withhold something important from us ???



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Heaps of romantic situations - but nothing *sigh*

Second try crossing the ocean worked quite well with the help of some friends. The fights are often bloody and disgusting - so I kept them as short as possible...



Left: Keeping each others hands properly with themselves - never let them stray (almost never [©]) Right: What is she planning to do - sing a national anthem ?





Anybody who loves statistics or calculations concerning probability ?







Curtis does - and bingo: Sesam - open the door !











Wrong movie ? Maybe "Alladin " ?? (The German Disney's Jinn-voice was way better then R.W. !)



Remember what I said on page 54 - got an idea already ? No ? *biggrin* It is absolutely obvious...



Into the trap again - she'll have nightmares with this journey - hopefully she's not alone then. ©





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Uh - Curtis ... sneaking makes sense only if there's something to hide behind. In these surrounding casual walking hits the mark.

















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Fleeing - and dying. Luckily the Comet was hidden in this canyon - they might never found her.







Why is she running away?













Scanning their minds. Hey - these are the good ones !



Seems to be convinced - an they tell their story, so I don't have to *devilgrin*

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EVERYBODY in this room is weeping. I decided to show our Dreamteam only, otherwise I would've needed to hand out some scuba-outfits to you to plunge through this page without drowning.

Oh, they were weeping because only the new born descendants of the animal-people would look as humans again - it would be impossible to accomplish this with the already Living.



She is falling down at his feet out of exhaustion - and he is not even looking. Dreaming, Curtis ? But the work is finished, this was the last one.

So the two ancient scientist are leaving to their homeworld. Curtis is longing to follow them, but they won't even tell him where they are heading to. The cavern is to destroy it self - so it'll never be abused again. Hopefully they didn't forgot to treat somebody.

In the novel Curtis decides to follow them one day. Hello ?

Main plot of novel and anime are the same - little differences, difficult to describe. easy to see if excerpts are available. May I quote dear Curtis ? "Maybe one day ..." *Bwahahahah*



Saying good-bye - and Joan get's one more to play the part of dear caring mummy.



That's it, can't help it. Can anybody please throw Ken overboard (or at least in a freightcompartment on the far end of the ship ? TOEI ! THIS IS NO APPROPRIATE LAST PICTURE !

Some statistics ©	
Life-saving J : C	1:1
"Too Dangerous":	yes and getting her straight into the danger with this.
Otho's comments:	no - but Ezra takes over
Joan is kidnapped:	boy, does she worst of all
Together in peril:	almost half of the time
Hugs:	one 😕

Oh - you want know what I meant on page 54 ? It was absolutely impossible to take a picture with only one of our Dream-Team since Curtis rescued her. They never get apart farther than a couple of steps - and this was seldom enough. They stick together all the time. She's watching him all the time - if she's following him that close or if he stays at her side all the time voluntarily, but unnoticed - I don't know. But this is different - till now it never mattered if other people were standing or walking between them, from now on they are always in close proximity, with almost no exception ©. But not touching each other... only from time to time.

The End (unfortunately)

So - that's it... time to leave...

You bravely followed me through every single of the 13 journeys - and no happy last picture of those two.

I'm sorry, but it isn't my fault. I looked in every nook and cranny to find what could be told about Joan & Curtis - you saw every little tidbit. Nothing left out - and just a tiny bit was added, when it became unbearable (only twice)...

Oh - I know there's in a No. 14 - but don't get your hopes up... I'll do it, but is was a special as an anime - so it'll be here, too, as a special some day. But nothing is happening there, believe me.

All in all Curt (Hamilton's novels) and Curtis (TOEI's anime) are basically the same "Macho-hero" (thank you, Johann). But the first handles being adored by so many people, knowing so much more than most scientists in this fictitious universe and his love to Joan in a much more likeable and relaxed attitude than the latter.

Joan & Johann are the same kind of women - stubborn & lively, just to name two. Both adore their hero in quite a self-confident manner - without putting themselves too much, down. Hey - a relationship with a guy like C. IS not easy...

I'd say the couple Joan / Curt (Hamilton) could get along - if I didn't knew better, what is going to happen in the next novels.

With Johann / Curtis - hopeless... He's definitely waaay too dull for her (thank you, August !) .

Thank you so much everybody for your ideas and suggestions, in alphabetical order: Amanda, Ann, August, Palmax, Pascal and of course everybody @ http://veryshyguy.covers.de/yabbse/index.php & http://www.capitaineflam.free.fr - did I forget somebody ? Huh ? What's this ? All the ladies have an "A" as first letter - the guys a "P"... ③ just noticed... strange

So it's time to say good.bye... *sniff* - to prevent August from laughing in this tragic moment I refrain from placing a tear here... *ahum*

Greetings, harraps