

Edmond Hamilton (1940)

T&E 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 7

Calling Captain Future

Kollisionsziel Erde - Der schwarze Planet

La Planète Noir

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:

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.



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:



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 ... ☺

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:



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
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.

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 every help will be appreciated. French language will do, meanwhile I can read it quite well - got that hint, hmmmmm ??? ☺

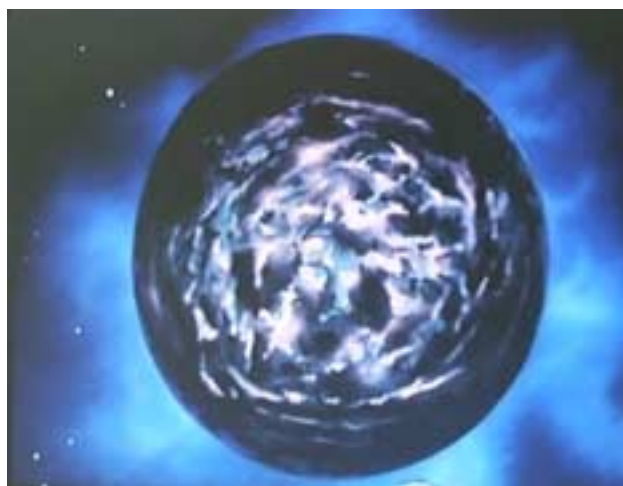
Enjoy !

Main storyline:

Again somebody wants to be ruler of the worlds, this time it's Dr. Zarro. At the same time a big asteroid / meteorite / moon seems to be crashing on the earth within weeks. Zarro pretends to destroy it if he's handed over all the governments power. At the same time all astronomers seem to be vanished, so finally everybody is convinced that they packed their stuff quite early to save their skins.

The solution is quite well done - and shows, that Edmond Hamilton did some research. This technique is still used to determine the mass of objects flying around in the universe far away. It is very unusual that this effect wasn't explained in the movie as usual - it's quite simple.

Anyway, this is another story where Joan and Curtis get their relationship a little bit further in the right direction. In the novel he's more enthusiastic than in the anime, and keep in mind: This is novel no. 2 and anime no. 7 !!!





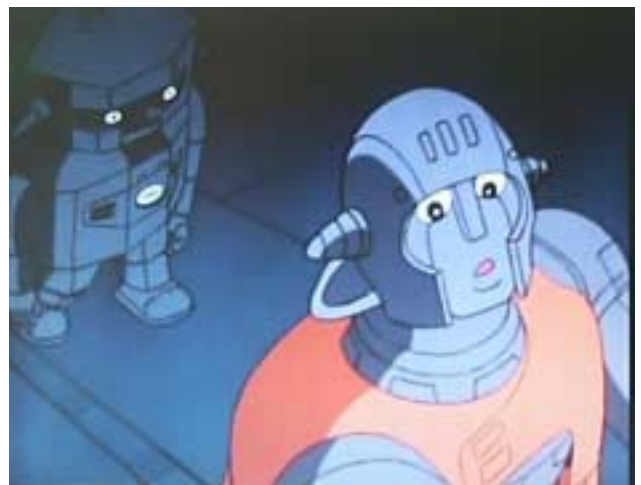
Some pictures to get settled into this episode.

Recognise the buildings and the volcano ? ☺

But what Toei thought when including the upper left picture in the last one is beyond me. Best answer would be "Nothing" and that's a bad one anyway.

Back to the story:

Usual call for Curtis (in the novel with a ray of light sent from the north pole (???)), whose pals are having a lot of fun - and Curtis with them. Eddie's Curtis likes jokes of every kind and is not half as serious as the Toei-Curtis - sad, but true (Hello August... ☺ *biggrin*). But the "Grag-junior"-episode takes place in "Magician", NOT here !





Telling this story turns out to be a toughy, everything is upside down, even the J & C relationship. *S-I-G-H*... In the novel he has to witness the kidnapping of Joan "live on screen", if he is told in advance in the anime: Dunno...

"Yes. You all agree that the dark star has much too little mass to become in fact dangerous. "

"Simon and I will verify that with our own observations", Captain Future murmured.

"However, first this Doctor Zarro must be caught and silenced before he can cause more panic."

Commander Anders juggled his head with sorrow. "We can't find Doctor Zarro ! We do not even manage tracing the secret HQ of his legion. And more and more scientists disappear . . . just an hour ago Kansu Kane, the Astrophysician of the Venus observatory!"

"We can assume that Doctor Zarros legion is responsible for that, too", Curt said. "We must have point. to start with. I think, we best should fly to Venus and try to follow the trace..." The television on the desk hummed suddenly.

"I ordered that all messages from Venus shall reach me without any delay", Captain Anders

called, "perhaps one of our agents finally found out something . . . " He pressed a button. On the screen the excitingly beautiful face of an earth girl appeared. She had dark, wavy hair. Her narrow, firm face was pale, and her brown eyes flashed excitedly.

"Joan Randall!" Curt gasped.

He recognised the girl immediately. She was one of the best agents of the planetary police. Just recently she had helped him on Jupiter against the Space Emperor.

"Captain Future!" the girl called with joy. "You see to the Doctor-Zarro-case? Thank god."

She spoke rapid and insistent. "I believe I have a trace to Doctor Zarro. I was here on Venus when an hour ago Kansu Kane disappeared. The Legion of Doom kidnapped him. I followed the legionnaires on their way back to the ship and heard them say they wanted to catch as next one Gatola, the Martian astronomer ..."

Joan stopped suddenly. Then she called: "Somebody tries to come in ! If the legionnaires have seen me and followed me. . . " She disappeared from the screen. The men in Carthews office heard a door crack and then a scream. The Televisor became dark.

"Joan !" Captain Future shouted. But he got no answer.

"The Legionnaires of Doom saw that she spied on them ! Now they kidnapped also Joan, my boy", Simon rasped.

[...]

His red-haired head booted almost onto the ceiling of the lab while Captain Future was running up and down and explaining his plan to the comrades.

"It is our only chance to rescue Joan Randall from the hands of the legionnaires and to get a trace to Doctor Zarro at the same time !" he declared with burning eyes. "Therefore I wanted to fly immediately to Mars after we witnessed Joan's kidnapping. She said that the legionnaires, or at least those ones who kidnapped also Kansu Kane, wanted to go to Mars to seize Gatola, that chief astronomer of the Syrtis-Observatory. Surely they arrive this evening on Mars. And if they come, I'm already there and waiting for them!" The lentil eyes of the brain looked doubting into the determined, tanned face of the young adventurer.

"However, if the legionnaires have noted that Joan reported us about their plans they will not be so stupid to fly to Mars", he objected.

"I doubt that they heard everything. In any case I want to chance it. They will have Kansu Kane and Joan as prisoners with them if they appear in order to kidnap Gatola. However, we turn round the tables . . . if we have the necessary luck.

[...]

And at last Otho got up. He looked just the same as Gatola, as if he was his twin brother.

"Finished, chief", Otho reported. His voice sounded exactly as the Martians.

It seemed as if Gatola's eyes wanted to pop out. But Captain Future cutted off the Martians expressions of surprise.

"You must disappear immediately from here, Gatola", he said. "Otho will take your place here tonight. You understood ?"

"I do not understand anything", the Martian said, "but I will withdraw. I go home and remain there. " After Gatola had disappeared, Curt Otho gave last instructions.

"If the ship of the legion comes, it will land surely outside of the city. At least a part of his team will get out in order to catch Gatola. I would like you to quarrel with them, fight with and hinder them as much you can. But don't risk your life. You must hold them back here as long as possible so that I get a chance to reach their ship and to free Joan and Kansu Kane."

"Listen to yourself, talking about great danger !" Otho protested. "Why can't we simply install a squadron of the planetary police department here to catch these mysterious devils immediately as soon as they arrive here?"

"The legionnaires would defend themselves most likely, and Joan could be killed", Curt gave back. "Plus I would like to get at last a trace which could lead me to Doctor Zarro. After all Joan got to know something."

"Besides that you're worrying a lot about that policewoman?" Otho asked with an expression of purest innocence on his face.

Curt gave the Android a punch in the ribs that hurled him some meters aside.

"We don't have any time for your nonsense right now ! Go to the telescope and make your best attempt to look like somebody who has at least some knowledge about astronomy."

"What ?! 'Best attempt' ?" Otho hissed indignant. "I know more about other worlds than these old crackers who sit around at such telescopes and stare into the sky. I do not study the astronomy . . . I live it" !" Curt could not suppress a grin, then he stormed outside. He hid himself in the shadow of the observatory and armed the proton pistol.

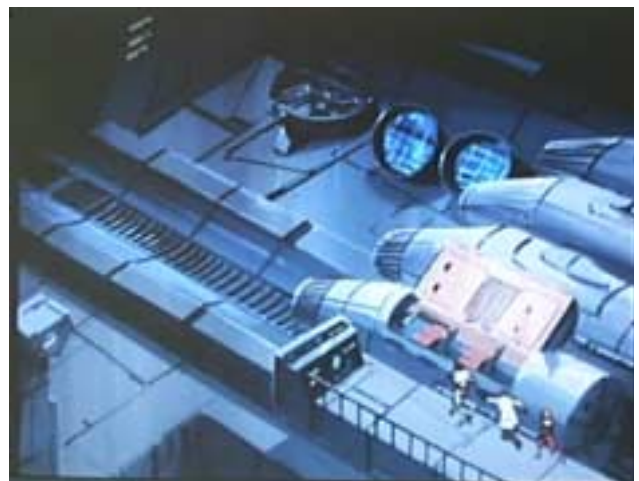


The Anime-Curtis doesn't know, WHO is waiting for her rescue - he finds out just in this moment. Our two lovers really should reconsider where to meet - don't you two agree that a moonlit beach or something like that would be at least a little bit more romantic ? HM ?





The running gag here: The calculating astronomer and Joan's dispute with him. But wait till you see her revenge ! As always: The watch replaces the ring Curtis is wearing in the novel.



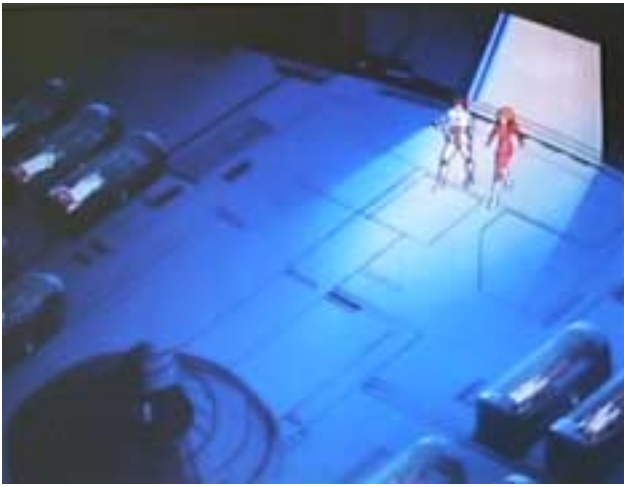
If the cell is controlled by a camera - why didn't they notice the escape of their prisoners ??? Zarro & Co. saw the alarm-boat, just then they realised what had happened. Lousy villains....



Can't remember that Curtis ordered her to suffocate him ... Aren't there any security belts in that space-ship ??? It is made for emergencies ?!



No idea what the two were debating - but it leaves Joan in tears. Lady - *no, no comment to that*. They find a ship that'll help them to escape from the maelstrom they got caught in. Joan and Curtis examine it, searching for some additional power to get them out of there, and then Toei starts varying the story. In the novel they just retreat, in the anime Curtis starts playing around with the ships instruments and gets Joan as first course on the menu of the passengers, who live on other creatures blood. GREAT ! A boyfriend to dream of ! In the novel this passage is nice to read too, but very long - so if anybody can help me with this ... scan it maybe ... You'll get more excerpts in the next edition - promised.



Why are they so angry with each other ???

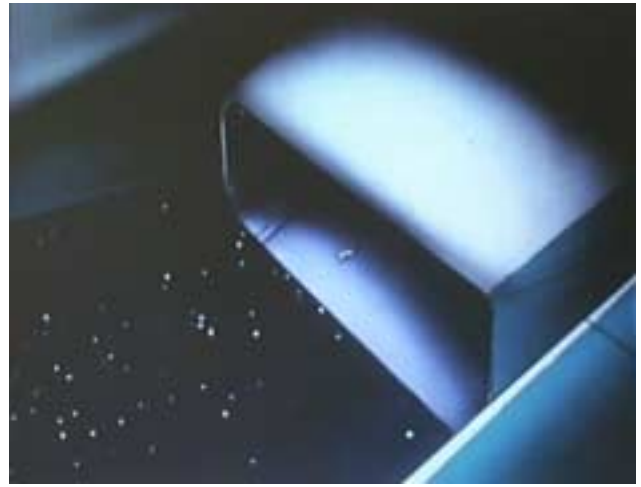




It's nice to have some broad shoulders to hide behind if things get tough ☺



Joan starts boasting - but who wouldn't ...



And she's braver than it sometimes seems. Can't remember that Curtis told her what to look for and where. Maybe telepathic communication ???



Anyway, they succeed and he receives a hug as a reward. Why is he so annoyed about that? Maybe because she calls him by his first name.



But, Curtis: You are not trained to the weapons of women. If they like somebody the first thing is to find out his first name, the more if the guy uses an alias ☺. So she most likely asked Ezra - he should know, and as he likes both Joan and Curtis, he would have told her without hesitation.

And don't panic... this is not a proposal, good friends hug each other. Most common thing to do... AND - you touch her too, why shouldn't she do the same with you ???

You two should really work out and try to match the pace and intensity of showing each others affection. Ms Randall seems to be better off here than Ms. Landore...



Curtis is annoyed and changes topic with light speed - but can't keep his hands off her *grin*



On the following page we see a little discussion of who'll have the honour of accompanying Curtis.

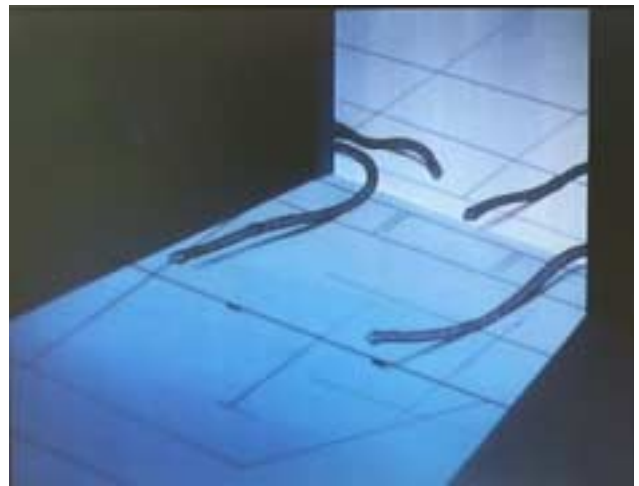


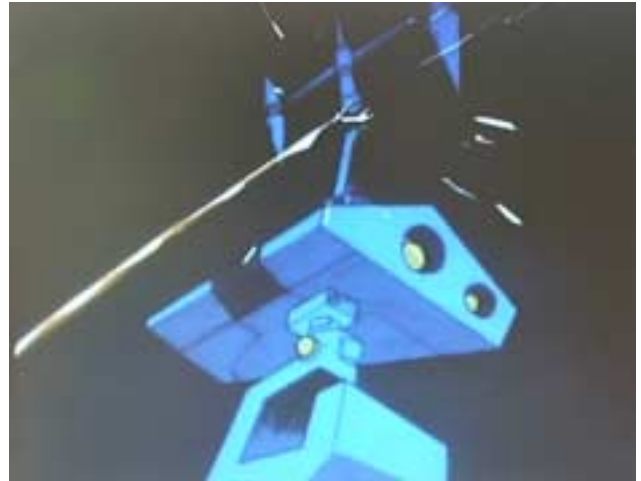
I'm sorry - killing the beast by shooting it into the TAIL ???? Heavens...



Her masters voice... In the novel she thinks more herself and isn't reduced to obeying orders.

Joan - obeying orders ? Yes, sometimes, if she likes them... ☺





Being together with Curtis seem to have some effects on Joans behaviour. Most important: She doesn't anymore kill people but finds other solutions. But this isn't rewarded by all means.



Finally Joan found out what her pistol should be used for - since the first encounter with Kahlon it seemed to be only a decoration on her belt... Good drawing of her face expression her emotions !



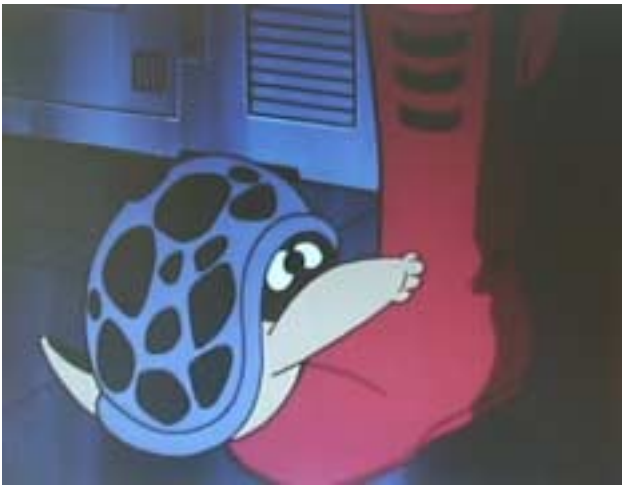
Almost same scene as in the novel. Difference: The other guy looks VERY different and isn't killed instantly, so he can tell Curtis where Joan went to investigate and what happened there.



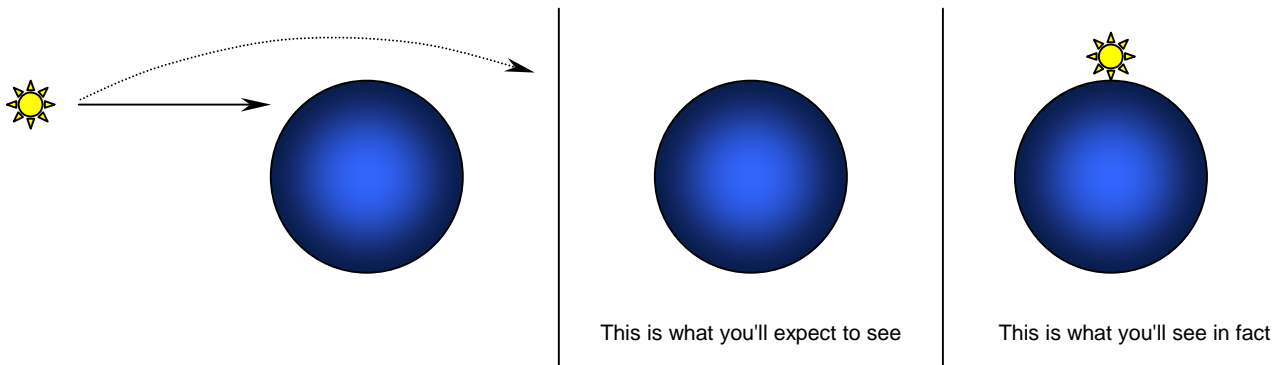


Whow - dangerous watch... *rolleyes*. The picture on the left gets me smiling all the time: Simon is the catch of the day - like a fish !!! And immobilised with some ROPES ??? Sorry... ?





There was no need for Otho's fright... The solution why Zarro tried to kidnap all astronomers is the solution of the sudden appearance of that moon as well. Everybody who has a slight idea of astronomy would have detected real quick that the size and the mass of that moon weren't matching. The more mass an object has, the more the light rays passing the object are bended. The more mass, the more the objects behind it show up on places where they are not supposed to be. Something as big as this moon didn't show that effect at all - it couldn't, because its mass wasn't more than a tiny space-cruiser. So the correctly calculated mass showed up the truth, even if hard to believe. The discrepancy between size and mass was that big that it couldn't simply be a matter of density. Otho should have known that ... It's written down in every book about the basics of viewing the sky with the eye of an astronomer... It's the only way to detect planets in other solar systems - if you can't see the object itself, just check what the surrounding does.

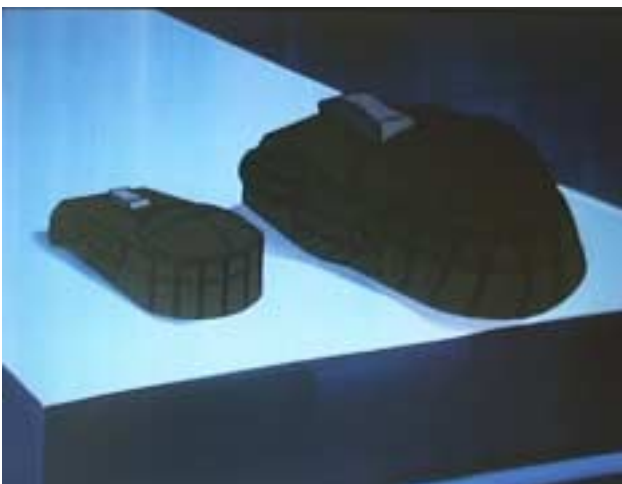


I admit that this is a quite a quick explanation - for details please check the appropriate books.





Why is she smiling ???? And her tears are impossible - they all are supposed to be paralysed with every nerve numb.





Freeing Joan that way is nicely dramatic - but I really hope that he has a First-Aid-Kit at hand.



This is where she calls him "Curtis" for the first time in the novel. There he is pleased and glad ...

and starts calling her "Joan" (and "you" - in any other language than English). And: Simon can't fly (Remember: novel 2 = anime no. 7 !!!)



Four to score ... ☺



All in all there are a lot of pleasant Joan & Curtis scenes in that novel (including the end). So I rather recommend you to read it.

From now on some traditional dialogues will reappear in almost every story: Otho and Simon teasing Curtis about Joan - and Ezra has his way with both of them. But then he handles Joan's feelings very careful. Nice to read how everybody around our Dreamteam tries to get them together - or soothe them, if things go wrong. One of the best novels concerning Joan&Curtis-interaction.

And the end has a very, very nice sentence waiting for Joan ☺

Some statistics ☺

Life-saving J : C	0:2
"Too Dangerous":	yes... once
Otho's comments:	In the novel: yes - here: I don't think so
Joan is kidnapped:	twice
Together in peril:	thrice
Hugs:	Y-E-S !!!!! SHE is hugging HIM - Yeah ! ☺