THE FABULOUS FOUR & THE SUPERCATS

A selective retrospective



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Her moral right of identification is asserted on behalf of the script author.

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Series Overview

When Fiona Turner contacted D.C. Thomson with a view to contributing to *The Fabulous Four* series, one of the editors provided her with a handwritten briefing note, which told her that writers had a licence to "do a kind of female Star Trek". But they had to avoid being over-technical, which girl readers aged 10-12 would find off-putting.

She was asked to go for good, strong storylines that would appeal to girls who like mystery, emotion and drama, and told that ordinary-seeming domestic situations could be made to fit the space-age. She was even allowed to have a kitten or a puppy taken aboard the spacecraft if it would provide an unlooked for result or effect.

The space travellers were also allowed to go back in time, as in Star Trek, to do the Roaring Twenties, etc. A slight girl/boy relationship would be in order, but not necessary.

Several other writers were contributing to the series "to gain variety". The artwork was created by freelance Spanish artists: the Romero brothers Enrique and Jorge.

Three of the crew of the spaceship *Lynx* have superpowers: chameleon-like powers of disguise for Fauna, Electra can generate electricity from her fingertips and Hercula has incredible strength (and looks just like Enrique Romero's later SF heroine Axa). Captain Helen Millar relies on her intelligence rather than physical super-powers.

Here are the surviving contributions made by "Fiona Turner", which exist as carbon-copies of accepted scripts and the author's notes. 40 frames was a standard size for a picture story, which usually had to be complete in one episode but some of the stories pushed out that envelope.

Each frame was described using a header, in which the author set the scene for the artist, and then an optional frame caption and dialogue for the characters.

The Earth Adventures

Fiona Turner suggested a series of episodes set on Earth, in which the Supercats would look for deadly crystals with the potential to destroy the planet's atmosphere. The crystals were deposited long ago by aliens hoping to turn the Earth into a refuge for themselves. The mission of the Supercats would be to find the crystals but, to avoid panic, they would operate undercover.

The author suggested that the girls could be dismissed from the space service, and they would be furious about this injustice – until their mission was explained. Her editor agreed with this device and decided that the girls could retain their uniforms – minus their badges; presumably as a convenience for the artist!

The girls would have a secret hideout on Earth to replace their spaceship, Lynx. Her editor had mentioned a Queen of the Underworld, and Fiona suggested that the Queen could also have found out about the crystals and be trying to find them in order to hold Earth to ransom, providing the girls with an opponent. The editor agreed that the recurring theme of duels with the Queen would be a good idea . . .

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THE WALKING PLANTS OF HUDRON

1. In the control room of the Fabulous Four's space-ship. Helen is at the computer, Electra seated at the navigation desk, with her fingers on the controls, half turning her head as she speaks to Hercula, who is dashing in through the door, closely followed by Fauna.

Caption: The Fabulous Four had received a message from Control telling them to take off at once for Hudron, a barren planet in a distant system which a teams of scientists were trying to transform into a habitable world.

<u>Helen</u>: Come on, girls, no time to waste. Ready for lift-off, Electra?

Hercula: Hey, what's the emergency?

<u>Electra</u>: We don't know yet. But something seems to have gone badly wrong on Hudron.

2. Helen is slotting a cassette into the space below the videoscreen on the wall, while reaching out with the other hand to switch on. The other girls are now at their own particular posts in the control room.

Caption: Helen switched on the video-screen.

<u>Helen</u>: Base Control have given us this taped report from Dr Rodin, the scientist in charge. Play it back, then we'll know just what the problem is.

3. The video-screen occupies rest of the picture, showing Dr Rodin, a pleasant-faced middle-aged man, standing beside a lab table on which stands a soil-box containing some plants.

The girls' heads could be shown at the bottom of the picture as they watch the screen, Dr Rodin's voice comes from the speaker grille.

<u>Voice of Dr. Rodin</u>: Our studies of the planet revealed a low level of oxygen in the atmosphere. Green vegetation was needed to supply more, so I decided to stock Hudron with these plants, which are able to move about by themselves in search of water.

4. A more general view of the girls watching the screen, which now shows a close-up of the plants. They are seen to be standing on two or three knobbly little legs, ending in something like root systems.

<u>Voice of Dr Rodin</u>: Unfortunately, things have taken an unexpected turn –

Hercula: Plants with legs! Now I've seen everything!

<u>Electra</u>: An ideal choice for a planet where water's scarce. Even Helen could hardly have come up with a brighter idea

Helen: Shh - listen -

- 5. The video-screen occupies the whole of this picture. It shows a view of Hudron's bare, stony surface. To one side, a huge group of the plants, now enormously bigger. To give scale, a jeep-type vehicle in the foreground, dwarfed by the creatures, with several members of the scientific team in it, one perhaps standing up in the back taking photographs. Voice of Dr Robin: For some reason we can't understand, the plants have kept on growing.
- 6. A scene of devastation appears on the screen wooden buildings completely wrecked, as if bulldozed; the remains of measuring instruments, and perhaps something that

might once have been a telescope, all broken, bent, and twisted. Two or three of the scientists gazing dismally at the wreckage. Show Helen and Hercula in the foreground, looking at this scene.

<u>Voice of Dr Rodin</u>: Now thousands of giant, mindless plantcreatures are roaming the planet, draining the soil of water and minerals, and blindly trampling down everything in their path. Already they've destroyed a great deal of valuable scientific equipment –

<u>Hercula</u>: Wow – the place looks as if it has been hit by a tornado!

<u>Helen</u>: Yes, they've made a pretty thorough job of flattening it –

7. General view of the control room, showing the girls at their posts, with Electra at the navigation desk. The videoscreen, in the background, shows Dr Rodin's face, worried and tense.

<u>Voice of Dr Rodin</u>: Worst of all, a huge herd of the creatures is now approaching the airtight domes where we live and work – and there seems to be nothing we can do to halt its slow, relentless march. Unless help comes soon, I don't know what will become of us.

<u>Helen</u>: I see what he means – if their shelters are destroyed, the scientists will soon begin to suffer from lack of oxygen. Switch speed to Warp 7, Electra. The sooner we reach Hudron, the better!

8. On Hudron, a bare, stony world something like the Viking pictures. Dr Rodin and the girls travelling in a jeep, looking down from slight rise in the ground on to a camp consisting of a number of dome-shaped buildings, some vehicles here and there, perhaps a parking lot with a few lorries, jeeps, etc.

A group of men and women are busy erecting a tall, sturdy mesh fence round the site, Not too far off can be seen the approaching plant-creatures, like the edge of a forest.

Caption: Dr Rodin met the girls at the landing-field and they drove to the camp.

<u>Hercula</u>: Things look bad. The plant creatures are dangerously close already.

<u>Dr Rodin</u>: Fortunately, they can only move very slowly. But we've no weapons to defend ourselves with. Our only hope is that this fence we're building will hold them back until we can find a way to deal with them.

9. The jeep has drawn up outside one of the domes. Background shows the fence, the people working on it, the plant-creatures vaguely visible beyond it.

Dr Rodin and Helen are standing talking while the other girls are still climbing out of the jeep. Dr Rodin makes a sweeping gesture with his arm, indicating the general scene as he talks.

<u>Dr Rodin</u>: I dreamt of creating a beautiful world here on Hudron, where millions of people could live happily. But now my dream seems to be crashing in ruins.

<u>Helen</u>: Don't worry, Dr Rodin, we'll do everything we can, We've cracked tougher problems than this.

10. A room furnished like an office, one or two desks, filing cabinets, shelves crammed with books and box files, a computer in the background.

Dr Rodin is showing the girls into the room. Jarn, wearing a lab coat, is somewhat younger than Dr Rodin, with narrow eyes and a rather sly expression.

Caption: Dr Rodin took them to his office in one of the domes.

<u>Dr Rodin</u>: Please excuse me, I have some work to do. But my chief assistant, Jarn, will give you all the help you need. <u>Jarn</u>: Of course. You can depend on me, Dr Rodin.

11. Jarn is now addressing the girls in an agitated manner. They look rather surprised at his unexpected outburst.

Caption: But as soon as Dr Rodin had gone, Jarn's manner changed.

<u>Jarn</u>: You've got to save us before those creatures kill us all. We must abandon the planet immediately – it's our only hope!

<u>Hercula</u>: Calm down, Jarn. We'll do that if it seems necessary. But first of all we'll have to make a thorough investigation.

- 12. Jarn continues to look agitated as he harangues them. Helen speaks to him calmly, while the others look on. Fauna stands a little apart, studying Jarn with a thoughtful air. Jarn: It's too late, I tell you! Dr Rodin's mad, can't you see that? His project has failed disastrously, but he refuses to admit it. He's risking all our lives by forcing us to stay here. Helen: Please let us have the files, Jarn. We'll decide what to do when we know the facts.
- 13. Head and shoulders of Fauna in the foreground, looking thoughtful. In the background, Jarn and Helen standing beside the filing cabinet, taking something from one of the drawers, while Hercula and Electra are busy reaching books and files down from the shelves.

<u>Fauna</u> (thinks): Jarn seems a bit of a cowardly type – or else he's putting on an act for some reason. Whichever it is, it won't do any harm to keep an eye on him.

14. Helen, looking tired, head on hand, seated at a desk piled with papers, etc. Fauna sorting out the papers in a box file, Electra working at the computer. Hercula is over by the window, gazing out through a pair of binoculars.

Caption: Some time later -

<u>Helen</u>: I've checked all the work done by the team, and made tests of my own. They prove that nothing in the air, water, or soil of Hudron could account for the giant growth of the plants.

<u>Hercula</u>: H'm, we'll have to try a different approach. Come outside, girls. I've been studying the plant-creatures and I've got an idea.

15. Hercula, Helen, and Electra are standing just outside the fence, with the plant-creatures a short way off. Hercula is pointing out a particularly large one.

<u>Hercula</u>: See – that giant over there seems to be the leader of the herd. Now, supposing I were to challenge it to a fight – <u>Helen</u>: You mean, if you could beat it, the others would accept you as their new leader? M'm, yes, it might work – <u>Electra</u>: Then you could lead them away from the domes. Good thinking, Hercula.

16. Now that we see the creatures really close, they can be shown as having vague sort of faces, long and stupid-looking. Hercula, in a fighting pose, is confronting the giant leader. It towers over her, making a menacing gesture with its branches, showing that it is aware of her challenge.

Some of the others are moving sluggishly towards them. They have just about enough intelligence to realise dimly that something is going on.

Caption: Hercula squared up to the huge plant-creature.

Hercula: (thinks) - Whew, it's even bigger than I thought!

But it seems to have accepted my challenge – and some of the others are gathering round to watch. Well, here goes – one good heave should bring it down!

17. Hercula has her legs braced and both arms round the creature, straining to topple it over. But it has dug its roots into the ground and is firmly gripping the earth with its three short knobbly logs.

Caption: But Hercula found she had met her match – <u>Hercula</u>: (thinks) Help, it's digging its roots right down into the ground. I can't move it!

18. The creature now has Hercula hopelessly entangled in its numerous branches, and has lifted her off the ground. Helen and Electra could be shown looking on, with dismayed expressions.

Caption: She struggled bravely, but -

<u>Hercula</u>: (thinks) This is hopeless! It's like trying to wrestle with an octopus!

19. Hercula now thrown by the creature, flat on her back. Perhaps an expression of triumph on the creature's face. Helen is moving to help Hercula to her feet, while Electra looks nervously round as one of the plant-creatures makes a move towards her.

Caption: And in a few minutes -

Hercula: Sorry, girls. That wasn't much of a success!

<u>Helen</u>: Never mind, Hercula, you did your best. We'll just have to try and think of something else.

<u>Electra</u>: And I vote we do our thinking behind the safety of the fence!

20. The girls have dashed through a gate in the fence and Electra is fastening it behind them. Hercula is pointing off to a spot further along, where some of the creatures have advanced right up to the fence, and it is beginning to bend inwards as they push at it.

Caption: But -

<u>Hercula</u>: Who said safety? Look there – Helen: The fence isn't going to hold!

- 21. Electra, facing the fence, has raised her hands and is flashing an electrical discharge at it, while the others watch. Electra: Wait a minute I think I know how to stop them!
- 22. The creatures who were in contact with the fence have drawn back slightly, but at other points, others are still advancing.

<u>Hercula</u>: Good for you, Electra!. That's given them something to think about.

<u>Electra</u>: Not for long, though. They're so stupid, they'll just come blundering back again. I'll have to keep on recharging the fence.

23. Electra once again flashing electricity at the fence. Hercula is rubbing her aching arms, while Helen passes a hand wearily across her brow.

Caption: Helen and Hercula were both exhausted.

<u>Hercula</u>: Electra's given us a breathing-space – and we really need it! My muscles are aching after tackling that overgrown vegetable.

<u>Helen</u>: And my head's aching after all these calculations! But Electra won't be able to keep going much longer. She's using up energy at a fantastic rate.

24. Helen looks discouraged as she talks to Hercula, while Electra yet again flashes at the fence –

<u>Helen</u>: I'm beginning to think Jarn was right. Perhaps we should abandon the planet before it's too late. But I hate to see a mission fail after we've all tried so hard –

<u>Hercula</u>: All except Fauna, that is: She doesn't seem to be trying very hard – she's been missing for ages!

25. The others look round as Helen points to Fauna, who can be seen outlined against the wall of a dome a short distance away. She looks a bit like a paper cut-out from a picture of a scientific lab, furnished with racks of test-tubes, etc.

Caption: But next minute -

Helen: Look - there she is!

<u>Electra</u>: She must have stayed behind to help the scientists – but why should she bother to camouflage herself?

26. Helen and Hercula have advanced to meet Fauna, now her normal self, while she runs towards them, calling to them as she does so.

Helen waves to Electra, who has stayed behind by the fence, to come and join them.

Caption: Fauna changed back to her normal self, and ran to meet the others.

<u>Fauna</u>: Helen – Hercula – quick – Call Electra! There's something funny going on here.

<u>Helen</u>: (thinks) The creatures have retreated for the moment, so it's safe for Electra to leave the fence. And Fauna sounds as if she's on to something important –

27. The others following Fauna through the entrance to the dome, which would be in the form of an airlock.

Caption: Fauna led the way into the dome.

<u>Fauna</u>: Jarn's got a secret lab. in here. He keeps the door locked, but I managed to slip in.

Helen: So that's why you camouflaged yourself!

28. A corridor inside the dome with a closed door. Hercula is shaping up to charge the door with her shoulder.

<u>Fauna</u>: He's got a strange-looking machine in there and I heard him muttering something about putting paid to Dr Rodin's career.

<u>Helen</u>. And he tried to scare us into leaving before we could even start our investigation – so he could have something to hide.

Hercula: Right - we'll see what he has to say for himself!

29. The girls burst, into the lab. Jarn, standing in front of a complicated-looking machine built into the wall, with dials and switches, etc., looks angry and alarmed.

<u>Jarn</u>: How dare you – you've no right to come bursting in here!

<u>Hercula</u>: Stop bluffing, Jarn. We know you're up to something – and we're here to find out what it is!

30. Jarn glares at them defiantly. The girls are looking curiously round the lab., Electra with her eye on the strange machine, while Fauna tries a cupboard door.

<u>Jarn</u>: Whatever's gone wrong, it's Dr Rodin's fault, not mine. None of this would have happened if they'd put me in charge of the project!

Helen: Oh-oh – do I detect a note of jealousy?

31. Fauna has managed to open the cupboard door, revealing a space-suit and various boxes and packages stashed away inside.

<u>Fauna</u>: And look at this – an emergency survival kit! So Jarn was making sure he'd be all right, whatever happened to the rest of the team.

32. Flectra and Helen are now studying Jarn's machine, while he stands with arms folded defiantly, watching them mockingly.

<u>Electra</u>: Is this the machine you meant, Fauna? It's emitting radiation of some kind – I can feel it.

<u>Helen</u>: He could be using it to control the plant-creatures in some way.

33. Jarn still sneering. But Hercula has now advanced to the machine and grasped the edges of the casing, ready to put out her strength and rip it away from the wall.

<u>Jarn</u>: very clever! – but you still have to find out how to switch it off!

<u>Hercula</u>; I don't think we'll let that worry us too much – come on, Electra!

34. Hercula has torn away then metal casing of the machine, and Electra grasps the electrical cables to wrench them loose.

Sparks fly and her body glows as the electricity flows through it. Jarn stares, eyes popping. He looks scared out of his wits.

<u>Electra</u>: Great! I'm all charged up again. Now to give that fence another shot of electricity before the plant-creatures break through –

35. Outside the dome. In the distance, beyond the fence, the giant plant-creatures and shrivelling and collapsing. As the Fabulous Four emerge, they see Dr Rodin standing there, looking as if he couldn't believe his eyes.

Groups of scientists are staring and pointing, others running out from the various domes to see the sight. A general scene of excitement.

Caption: But when the Fabulous Four raced outside – <u>Dr Rodin</u>: The plant-creatures are collapsing! It's incredible I don't understand it!

<u>Helen</u>: But we do! Jarn was broadcasting a powerful ray, which must have been causing the plants to keep on growing. And now it's stopped, they're all wilting!

36. Dr Rodin and the Fabulous Four have moved outside the fence, along with some of the others. All around lie the giant bodies of the plants, wilting. But further off, a crowd of small plants, young shoots, are still upright and looking quite healthy. Fauna is pointing them out to the others.

<u>Fauna</u>: Not all of them – look, the small ones have survived. They didn't have time to be affected by the radiation.

<u>Dr Rodin</u>: And now they'll have a chance to develop normally, and provide Hudron's atmosphere with the oxygen it needs.

37. A happy scene, Dr Rodin looking pleased, the Fabulous Four satisfied that they have accomplished their mission after all.

<u>Helen</u>: So your dream will come true after all, Dr Rodin.

<u>Hercula</u>: But next time, mind you choose an assistant you can really trust!

SLAVES OF THE SEA-WORLD

1. In the Fab 4's spaceship. Fauna is seated at the communications unit, a listening device clipped to her ear. In front of her is the open code-book, which she's studying with a puzzled look.

Hercula and Helen are standing beside her, Helen with her head half-turned towards Electra at the main control panel. **Caption:** Out on patrol in a little-known region of the Galaxy, the Fab 4 picked up a mysterious signal from a nearby planet.

<u>Hercula</u>: What's the message, Fauna? Is it a distress call? <u>Fauna</u>: It's hard to say. The signal's very faint, and there's nothing like it in the Galactic Codebook.

<u>Helen</u>: This may mean there's trouble down there. I think we ought to investigate. Take us into orbit, Electra.

2. Helen and Electra are studying the large viewing screen, which shows a distant view of the planet, a smooth globe with no land-masses visible on its surface.

Hercula and Fauna are beginning to move off in response to Helen's request.

Caption: But after circling the planet a few times –

<u>Electra</u>: The whole surface is one vast ocean – there's nowhere for us to land!

<u>Helen</u>: Hercula, you'd better take the others and go down in the shuttlecraft for a closer look. I'll stay up here with the ship. 3. A view from the shuttlecraft, not far above the planet's surface. Fauna at the controls, the heads of the other girls seen as they look out of the window, down at the "islands".

There are about five or six of them, all in a group close together. They look rather like rafts of matted vegetation, covered with a low bushy growth.

Caption: The shuttlecraft flew low over the surface.

Fauna: Look - there IS land of some kind.

Hercula: A group of islands - but they look very strange.

Electra: They seem to be floating on the ocean!

4. The shuttlecraft has now landed and the three girls have got out. The island looks like a well-cared for garden, with flowers, bushes, and low trees here and there.

Caption: The girls landed on one of the islands.

<u>Fauna</u>: What a beautiful place! It's like a garden – masses of flowers, and that fruit looks delicious!

<u>Electra</u>: And everything's so carefully tended' But where are the people who look after it?

5. Hercula has caught hold of Electra's hand to help her jump across to the next island, only a few feet away. Fauna stays behind, admiring the flowers.

<u>Hercula</u>: Our arrival must have scared them into hiding. Come on, Electra, let's have a look on some of the other islands. We can easily jump across.

6. On another island, same garden-like scene. Electra looking round, perhaps spreading her hands in a gesture of bewilderment, while Hercula, her attention caught, stands in a listening attitude.

Caption: Hercula and Electra explored several of the islands. <u>Electra</u>: What can have happened? Someone must have cared

for these plants – but there's no sign of life anywhere. <u>Hercula</u>: Listen – that's Fauna's voice! She's calling for help!

7. Hercula and Electra are standing right on the edge of one of the islands, looking across to Fauna's, which has moved off quite some distance from the others.

Fauna can be seen waving and shouting. Hercula has formed a trumpet with her hands to call across to Fauna.

Caption: They hastily retraced their steps.

<u>Electra</u>: The island's moving away from the others. It must be drifting.

Hercula: Throw us a rope, Fauna. We'll soon haul you back.

8. Fauna has secured her end of the rope to a small sturdy tree, while Hercula and Electra are hauling on theirs, lying right back and obviously putting out all their strength.

Caption: Hercula and Electra heaved with all their might.

<u>Hercula</u>: I can't move it! It's almost as if the island was pulling against us. Dig your heels well in, Electra – this is a tug-of-war!

Electra: And it's a tug.-of-war that we've just got to win!

9. The end of the snapped rope is seen whipping through the air, while Hercula and Electra have both sat down with a bump. Fauna's island now considerably further off.

Caption: But next minute -

Hercula: Whoops - there goes the rope!

Electra: And there goes Fauna – and the shuttlecraft!

10. Fauna's island is now almost out of sight. Hercula stands gazing after it, while Electra, her head slightly bent, presses her fingers to her temples as she senses the radiation.

Caption: The girls could only watch helplessly as Fauna's

island vanished into the distance.

<u>Hercula</u>: We're stranded! Without the shuttlecraft we can't communicate with Helen. And we may be the only living creatures on this planet of oceans.

<u>Electra</u>: I don't think so. I can sense a beam of ultra-wave radiation, just like the signal we picked up on the ship. And that means someone, somewhere, is operating a transmitter.

11. A long view, showing the island with Hercula and Electra now moving off in its turn. The jerk as it starts off throws them off balance, and they're clutching at bushes and each other to stop themselves falling.

Caption: Suddenly -

Electra: Ouch - what's happening?

<u>Hercula</u>: Our island's getting under way! Any more for the Skylark?

12. Out on the ocean, large waves. The "island" could be shown just beginning to slide down from the high crest of a wave, with the two girls bracing themselves against the movement as they gaze towards the horizon where the seacity, covered by a transparent dome, is just visible.

Caption: The island sped across the ocean, and soon –

Hercula: Land ahoy!

<u>Electra</u>: It's a city – a city in the sea! And our strange craft is making for it like a homing pigeon.

13. The island is now very close to the city. Inside the dome the outlines of buildings are visible, showing if possible a central tower rising up to the highest part of the dome. Outside the dome a broad jetty juts out with steps down to the sea, and a number of strange-looking men are standing close to the steps, looking rather menacing and carrying

some sort of ray-gun type weapon.

<u>Hercula</u>: Oh-oh, there's a reception committee – and they don't look any too friendly –

<u>Electra</u>: Well, at least we know now the planet isn't uninhabited!

14. The guards have stepped forward, surrounding the girls, who are alarmed. One grabs Hercula's arm while the others close up on Electra, threatening her with their weapons.

<u>1st Guard</u>: Fools! – so you thought to escape! You slaves are indeed slow to learn.

<u>2nd Guard</u>: The slaves have no brains, that is why they never learn. A good beating's the only lesson they understand.

15. The guard who speaks is the leader of the patrol; he stands a little apart, giving the orders, while the others close in on the girls. One seizes Hercula's arm, and she looks as if she's preparing to throw him off easily, but Electra puts out a hand to calm her.

<u>Hercula</u>: Hey, what goes on? Get your hands off me! <u>Electra</u>: Cool it, Hercula. We'd better go along with them for the time being. It's no use starting anything until we know exactly what we're up against.

1st Guard: Take them to Valdor. He'll deal with them.

16. The girls are now being marched into the city through a lofty door, which slides open. Inside, they see more guards herding slaves, all chained together and looking extremely miserable.

The slaves look like ordinary human beings, with just one distinguishing feature, perhaps a peculiar hairdo, to show they are not earth-people. Hercula and Electra both look indignant at the sight.

<u>Electra</u>: These people – they're being herded along just like animals!

<u>Hercula</u>: It's a good job we happened to pick up that signal – and decided to investigate. We'll have a few questions to put to this Valdor, whoever he may be.

17. Valdor, the Leader, is seated behind a large desk. The girls are lined up with the guards at a respectful distance. Valdor glances at them indifferently, as if he hadn't much time to be bothered with these runaway slaves.

<u>1st Guard</u>: We have brought these slaves to you for punishment, Leader. We caught they trying to escape.

<u>Valdor</u>: They seem different from the others – but no doubt their backs are just as strong. Put them to work with one of the labour-gangs.

18. Hercula has now stepped forward to the desk as she addresses the Leader, followed by Electra. He looks surprised and annoyed.

<u>Hercula</u>: Wait a minute – you can't do that to us! What right have you to keep these people in chains? We demand that you set them free at once!

19. Valdor, now frowning angrily as he waves his hand for the guards to remove the prisoners. Hercula looks furious, as if she'd like to go for him, but Electra restrains her.

<u>Valdor</u>: You are presumptuous, slave. We are the Masters, and we permit no one to question our actions. Take them away, Guards. No doubt a spell in the punishment block will help to rid their minds of these ridiculous ideas.

Hercula: Why - you -!

<u>Electra</u>: Careful, Hercula. The guards have their weapons trained on us.

20. In the guard-room, the guards have pushed Hercula and Electra into a small room and one of their number is holding up the electronic key, a small gadget like a flat box, with which he creates an invisible force barrier. Perhaps rays coming from the gadget to show it's operating

21. Inside the cell, which is cramped and bare. A young boy, one of the slave-people, is crouching in a corner, staring apprehensively at Hercula and Electra as they speak to him in a reassuring way.

Hercula: Hello, who are you?

<u>Electra</u>: Don't be afraid, we're friends. It's our job to help anyone in trouble – and it certainly looks as if we're needed here.

Grel: I am called Grel.

22. At one side of the frame, show Grel and the girls talking, and if possible an inset picture depicting the scene Grel is describing – two or three of the islands floating on the waves, with people happily chatting or working among the fruit bushes; the edge of the island could be several small children dangling their legs in the water and eating bunches of fruit.

A happy, idyllic scene is contrasted with their miserable state shown earlier.

Caption: Grel told them his story.

<u>Grel</u>: Not long ago my people were happy and free. We lived on the great sea-beasts that roam the oceans, and tended the gardens growing on their broad backs. Our lives were peaceful and contented.

<u>Electra</u>: So the 'floating islands' are really living creatures, half animal and half vegetable. What a strange world!

23. This frame again illustrates Grel's story – the Masters' city is shown coming down to land on the sea, making an oblique descent to show its shape – it looks like a flying saucer.

The people on the islands are looking up, pointing, but because they are simple and trusting their attitudes show astonishment and curiosity, not fear

Top Caption: Then one day the Masters came down from the sky in their flying city –

Bottom Caption: They promised to help us, and teach us many wonderful things –

24. In the prison cell – Electra and Grel talking, Hercula pushing with her shoulder against the invisible force barrier as she speaks.

<u>Electra</u>: But instead, they turned your people into wretched slaves!

<u>Grel</u>: We tried to escape on the sea-beasts, but the Masters found a way to control them, so that they carried all human beings straight back to the city.

<u>Hercula</u>: I think we've heard enough. Let's get out of here – it's time we had a reckoning with our friend Valdor.

25. Hercula stands back while Electra directs a discharge of electricity at the barrier but the lines indicating electric current flowing from her fingers stop dead against it with no effect.

<u>Hercula</u>: But my strength's no use against the force-field. This is a job for you, Electra.

<u>Electra</u>: I'm trying – but I don't seem to be making much impression –

26. A view from inside the cell. Show a small table in the outer room, the guards seated at it with their backs half-

turned from the cell, playing a game of some kind with counters or cards. The electronic key has been placed on the end of the table nearest the cell.

On the wall to the left there's a window with long curtains, and Fauna has been standing in front of it, camouflaged, so as to be invisible. She has moved slightly forward, toward the table, so the edge of the curtain appears a little distorted where Fauna's shape is emerging. Hercula is pointing that way, while Electra has her eye fixed on the key.

Caption: After several attempts -

<u>Electra</u>: It's no good – we can't break through without the electronic key. It'll take a miracle to get us out of here! <u>Hercula</u>: I think our miracle's about to happen – or else my eyes are playing tricks. Look over there!

27. Same view-point as above. Fauna has now moved forward clear of the window and her camouflaged shape stands out against the wall, showing her hand stretched out, fingers almost touching the key. Hercula and Electra watch tensely.

<u>Electra</u>: Fauna! – she's reaching for the electronic key! If only she can secure it before the guards notice.

28. Fauna, now back to her normal self, shown still holding the electronic key with which she has just dissolved the force field. Electra has stepped out of the cell and is standing, talking to Fauna, while Hercula has made a rush and pinned the guards against the wall with the table, knocking the breath out of them. Grel seizes their weapons.

Caption: Fauna flashed the electronic key and the barrier dissolved.

<u>Electra</u>: That was a tight spot! Thank goodness you turned up, Fauna.

<u>Fauna</u>: My island brought me to the city, but I camouflaged myself among the bushes. Then I saw the guards capture you, and managed to follow without being seen.

Hercula: Quick, Grel, grab their weapons!

29. The four are now to the left in a large porch outside the building. View through the door shows the guards draped over the table in a state of collapse.

The jetty is visible in the distance, and Fauna is getting ready to set off in that direction.

<u>Fauna</u>: The shuttlecraft's hidden on the island, but it may be spotted any minute. I'd better get back there straight away. <u>Electra</u>: Then you can radio Helen. She must be worried sick after all this time with no news of us.

<u>Hercula</u>: If only she could land the ship on the jetty – that would show Valdor we really mean business. But we've no way to guide her to the city.

30. A close-up view of Hercula and Grel, with Electra listening in the background. Grel excitedly points off in the opposite direction to the jetty as he speaks to the girls.

<u>Grel</u>: The Masters have a room on the roof of the tower that we are forbidden to enter. I have seen it – that is why they imprisoned me. There is a wall covered with dials and switches, and strange lights that flash on and off.

<u>Hercula</u>: That sounds to me like some kind of control room. Can you lead us to it, Grel?

31. Hercula, Electra and Grel have just emerged from a lift onto the flat roof of the tower. Grel is pointing towards a low building with an arched opening, some distance off. Close by, on the edge of the roof, there's a stubby mast topped by an antenna. Hercula gazes thoughtfully at it as she speaks.

Grel: The forbidden room lies beyond the archway.

<u>Electra</u>: And this must be the transmitter that sends out the ultra-wave signal to the sea-beasts.

<u>Hercula</u>: H'm, I think I've got an idea. Give me a leg-up, Electra.

32. Hercula is shown clinging to the mast, having succeeded in bending the antenna. Electra is indicating a figure, which has emerged from the door and is hurrying in the direction of the archway leading to the control room.

<u>Hercula</u>: I've bent the antenna so the signal will beam upwards. Now Helen can use it to home in on the city.

<u>Electra</u>: Well done, Hercula. That's one problem solved, but we've still got another to tackle. Look, there's Valdor – and he seems to be in rather a hurry.

33. The three shown running as fast as they can in pursuit of Valdor, Hercula in the lead. Valdor has vanished through the archway and a sliding panel has begun to descend, partly closing it off.

<u>Hercula</u>: He's making for the control room! Those guards must have recovered and raised the alarm.

<u>Electra</u>: Oh, no – that panel – it's sliding down to close the entrance!

34. Hercula shown supporting the sliding panel with her shoulders, while Electra and Grel, stooping slightly to pass under, rush into the control room.

<u>Hercula</u>: Oof, it's heavy. But I'll hold it open as long as I can. Hurry, Electra.

35. Inside the control room. The whole of the back wall is taken up by the control panel, with the usual assortment of

knobs, dials and switches, etc. The side walls are windows from floor to ceiling.

Electra is confronting Valdor, who stands by the control panel with his hand on a large knife switch. Grel is standing near one of the big windows.

<u>Valdor</u>: Look again – what can your Base Control do against my powers? Look out of the window.

Grel: The water is rising over the jetty.

<u>Electra</u>: The city's submerging! If the Leader gets away with this, Helen may never find us – and we'll spend the rest of our lives as slaves of the Masters!

36. Valdor has slammed down the switch. Grel looks alarmed as he bends forward to look down through the window-wall at the scene below. Electra stands between them, looking worried and uncertain.

Caption: Electra had to think fast – and she tried a desperate remedy –

<u>Electra</u>: It's up to me now – the others can't help. I've got to take a chance. This may not work, but –

37. Electra has now raised her hands and is flashing electricity at the control panel. Flames and sparks shoot out all over as it begins to disintegrate. Grel watches in amazement, while Valdor looks furious.

Hercula: Whew - that's better!

<u>Electra</u>: Come on, we'd better get down to the jetty, and see if Helen's managed to land the ship. The city's stopped sinking.

38. The control board is now completely wrecked. Valdor gazes dismally at it, while Grel once more cranes his neck to look down from the window.

Hercula comes forward, rubbing her aching shoulders. Electra has a look of relief on her face.

<u>Helen</u>: I've been in touch with Base and there's an emergency mission already on the way at full warp. I hope you've got your story ready – and it had better be a good one!

39. Down on the jetty. Helen is standing outside the space-ship, confronting Valdor. Hercula and Electra stand a little way behind him.

In the background, Fauna can be seen, supervising some of the guards as they free the slaves from their chains, and Grel is running towards them, waving to his friends.

Caption: The Leader doesn't seem quite so arrogant now.

<u>Valdor</u>: The Masters could not help themselves. We had to leave our planet in search of a new home. Our scientists told us that our sun was about to explode in less than fifty years' time.

<u>Helen</u>: Then don't worry – you'll be given refuge. The Galactic Council never refuses to help people in trouble.

40. Close view of Helen, Valdor, Hercula, and Electra, with the spaceship in the background.

<u>Helen</u>: A new planet will be found for you, where you can start a new life. But if there's any work to be done, you'll have to do it yourselves – without slaves.

<u>Hercula</u>: Because there's one Galactic Law you'll have to learn. No people, however primitive, may have its freedom taken away by another.

* * * * *

Note: Just the copies of the first 13 frames survive, the rest of this story was reconstructed from the notes.

THE MAMMOTHS OF MARANDRA

1. Spaceship "Lynx" speeding through space, background of stars, and the planet Marandra shown with radio waves beaming out from it.

Caption: Life was hard and grim for the Zends of Planet Marandra – until Earth scientists found a way to end the ice age that had gripped their world for hundreds of years.

Better times seemed just around the corner. Then a puzzling message reached the SUPERCATS – a message that sent them zooming to investigate –

Voices from spaceship:

- 1) Weapons! Why should the Zends ask for weapons?
- 2) Powerful ones, too.
- 3) And quick!
- 2. Inside "Lynx", Fauna and Electra shown opening the hatch, ready to leave the ship, while Helen has a word with Hercula.

<u>Helen</u>: Well, now we're here we'll soon find out. Keep an eye on things till we get back, Hercula.

3. The SUPERCATS shown looking at a large area with the remains of once orderly rows of trees, now broken, twisted and flattened, as if tanks had driven over them.

Caption: It wasn't long before they saw signs of strife.

<u>Fauna</u>: Those trees this must have been a beautiful orchard once!

Electra: Looks more like a battlefield now -

4. Helen looking at a small stone-built house with one corner knocked clean out of it.

Caption: In the Zend village it was just the same.

<u>Helen</u>: It's all very strange. The Zends have never been a warlike people and they've no enemies, that we know of –

5. Heads of the three girls, Fauna with her hands over her ears. Sound of a bell across the top, of the picture – DANG! DANG! DANG!

Caption: Suddenly . . .

Fauna: Help! - what on earth -

Helen: Sounds like an alarm bell . . .

6. Several women, with fear showing on their faces, rushing frantically past the SUPERCATS. One or two carrying children.

<u>Voice from off-picture</u>: To the cave! Women and children to the caves!

7. More women running, some of them catching hold of the girls, trying to pull them along.

1st Woman: Hurry - come with us -

2nd Woman: Everyone must take shelter!

Electra: But we -

<u>Helen</u>: Better go along, Electra. We don't know what danger there. may be.

8. Long shot – a cliff-face, with two or three cave openings a short way up it. The SUPERCATS, along with Zend women and children, shown clambering up a rocky path towards the caves.

Some of the women have already reached the caves and are crowding in, pushing their children in front of them.

Caption: The terrified women scrambled into the caves.

<u>Helen</u>: They're expecting an attack, that's for sure.

Electra: Well, now we'll see who the enemy is!

9. View of the Zend village from above, the girls shown looking down on it from a ledge in front of the caves. Small houses with gardens cluster in the village.

A number of huge, shaggy mammoths approaching rapidly, and some of the Zend men are shown banging sheets of metal together, or hitting them with sticks, with noises like PANG! CLANG! CLASH!

Other Zends are throwing stones, and hurling flaming torches at the beasts.

Caption: Next moment a deafening clamour broke out.

Fauna: Mammoths! Dozens of them!

<u>Electra</u>: They're stampeding – they'll wreck the village!

10. Close-up – one of the Zends brandishing a flaming torch in front of a mammoth, which backs off, trumpeting. As it backs it knocks down part of a wall, and sends a couple of Zends flying.

Caption: Slowly the Zends drove the huge creatures back.

11. Two or three of the Zends shown helping or carrying wounded comrades. Piles of rubble in the background.

Caption: – But not without great damage – and many casualties –

12. The SUPERCATS shown on the ledge outside the caves, looking downwards. An old woman stands close beside them.

Electra: So that's why the Zends want weapons!

Helen: But where have the creatures come from? It's a

mystery! None of the scientists reported seeing them – <u>Woman</u>: They come from the caves of ice.

13. The old woman by herself, one arm outstretched, indicating some drawings vaguely visible on the wall inside the cave.

Caption: "Long, long ago, before history began, the great beasts roamed our world. The men of those days were but simple people, and writing was unknown to them, but their deeds are recorded on these walls – "

14. View of the cave paintings. Crudely drawn, the first shows a mammoth surrounded by the small figures of a number of cavemen.

In the second, the mammoth is shown on its knees, its mighty head lowered, and some of the cavemen clambering over it.

One stands in front of it with his arms raised, as if in a gesture of triumph.

Caption: "They were mighty hunters. See how they beat the monster to its knees!"

15. The SUPERCATS shown looking at some of the other cave paintings, which the old woman points to as she speaks. No detail needed in these.

<u>Woman</u>: When the Age of Cold began, the beasts sought shelter in the mountain caves. There the ice trapped them – <u>Fauna</u>: But they must have survived, frozen – for hundreds of years! It's incredible!

<u>Electra</u>: And now the ice is melting, they're coming alive again – to cause havoc on Marandra!

16. In the foreground, the old woman talking to Helen and Electra. Fauna in the background, still studying the cave paintings.

<u>Woman</u>: Alas, we Zends are no longer a race of hunters. Without help, we are powerless to defend our homes.

Electra: Looks as if they've got a case, Helen.

<u>Helen</u>: Yes. I'll radio Base, and ask permission to issue laser guns.

17. Head and shoulders of Helen and Electra in the foreground. Some way ahead of them Fauna shown walking with head bent, and a sad look on her face.

Caption: Helen saw the sad look on Fauna's face.

<u>Helen</u>: Poor Fauna – she's upset. She's so soft-hearted, she can't bear to think of any animal being hurt.

<u>Electra</u>: I know – but what else can we do? We can't let those creatures destroy everything the Zends are trying to build up!

18. Helen and Fauna talking, with the "Lynx" in the background.

Caption: Back at the ship -

<u>Fauna</u>: Mind if I take the shuttle, Helen? I'd like to do a survey. Maybe we can come up with some other answer to the problem –

Helen: We-ell – all right, Fauna. But take Electra with you.

19. Helen watching as the shuttle zooms into the sky. <u>Helen</u> (thinks): It's a bit of a forlorn hope – but how could I say no?

20. Aerial view, showing the shuttle flying over a mountainous region.

Caption: The shuttlecraft circled over the mountains of Marandra.

Voices from shuttle:

- 1) The ice layer's still quite thick in these parts.
- 2) Let's land and take a look.
- 21. Long shot, the two girls shown as tiny figures in front of a towering mountainside covered with ice. Through the ice can be seen some lofty cave entrances, and within them are vague dark forms.

Caption: Inside the ice caves, huge dark forms were visible. <u>Fauna</u>: There could be hundreds more mammoths here all ready to emerge when the ice melts. The problem's even bigger than we thought –

22. Slightly closer view, Electra pointing towards a huge mammoth, seen in silhouette at one side of the picture.

Electra: And even closer – look, Fauna!

23. The mammoth seen head-on, approaching. Electra's running off, but Fauna hasn't moved.

<u>Electra</u>: It's heading this way – quick, make for the shuttle!

24. Electra, now at some distance, half turns and sees Fauna still standing there as if rooted to the spot. She starts to raise her hand, ready to fire a bolt of electricity.

<u>Electra</u>: (thinks) – Fauna hasn't moved. She must be petrified with fright! (Calls): Run, Fauna, RUN! I'll try to slow it down

25. Electra, now with her arm almost fully extended, aiming at the mammoth which is shown entering the picture at one side. But she hesitates as Fauna turns her face towards her and calls urgently.

Caption: Electra prepared to launch a bolt of electricity – <u>Fauna</u>: No, no, Electra – DON'T! I know what I'm doing . . . <u>Electra</u> (thinks): Oh, Fauna – be careful.

26. Close view of Fauna and the mammoth. Fauna has her arms raised in a commanding gesture, like the caveman figure shown in the cave painting. The mammoth has got down on its front knees, like a trained elephant.

Caption: Fauna's deep love of animals gave her courage.

27. The mammoth is now kneeling on all fours, head lowered, like the one in the cave painting. Fauna has raised the creature's huge ear with one hand and pulled herself up to stand on its curving tusk, while with the other hand she reaches up to pat its head.

Electra has come closer, but still keeping her distance. <u>Fauna</u>: There – he's as gentle as a lamb! I just knew he meant no harm. He was hurrying to greet me like a long-lost friend! <u>Electra</u>: Er – well – I'll take your word for that . . . But we've still got to convince the Zends –

28. Fauna and Electra talking, with the mammoth, or part of it, towering in the background.

<u>Fauna</u>: And I think I know how! Listen, Electra – there's something I remembered, something about the cave paintings . . .

29. Electra shown clambering out of the shuttle, while Helen stands on the ground below, looking a little worried.

Caption: Soon afterwards -

<u>Helen</u>: Electra! – where's Fauna? Is something wrong? <u>Electra</u>: Fauna'll be along later. She's got her own transport now! 30. In the Zend village. Indicate a crowd of Zends assembled. In the foreground, two older men speaking to Helen and Electra.

Caption: Electra explained Fauna's plan, and later on in the Zend village –

<u>1st Zend</u>: Where are the weapons you promised? Have you brought them?

<u>Helen</u>: You shall have them – if they are really needed. But first – tell me, what were the weapons of your ancestors – spears? bows and arrows? Think! – what do the cave paintings show?

31. As above, but Electra now shown pointing to something off-picture.

1st Zend: Weapons? Why, they - they -

<u>Helen</u>: They had none! You have misread the story. The cavemen were not hunters, they were men of peace, like you. They trained the great beasts and made them friends of man. That is why they came to seek you out.

Electra: LOOK!

32. Long shot. Fauna appears, triumphantly riding on the mammoth's head. It's shown curling its trunk up slightly towards her.

Helen and Electra stand watching along with the Zend men. Some of the women have drawn back a little in alarm, clutching their children.

<u>Fauna</u>: Come on now, Rex don't forget that little trick I taught you –

Zend woman: She has east a spell on it! Another Zend woman: It's witchcraft!

33. The mammoth has stopped, lifted Fauna with its trunk,

and set her down gently on her feet in front of the wide-eyed Zends.

<u>Fauna</u>: There's no witchcraft – he only wants to be friends. It was fear that made the others stampede – the fear of noise and fire shared by all animals .

34. Helen, Electra and Fauna shown talking with some of the Zends, including the two older men.

<u>1st Zend</u>: You are wiser than we. The strength of the great beasts will lighten our tasks.

2nd Zend: We need their help, for we have much to do.

35. View through the porthole of the "Lynx", showing the heads of the SUPERCATS as they look out. Outside they see the mammoth, kneeling.

Some of the Zend children have fetched a ladder and are gleefully climbing up on its back for rides. It's stretching out its trunk towards a Zend woman who's offering it an apple. **Caption:** Soon afterwards "Lynx" was ready for takeoff.

Helen: They're not afraid now.

<u>Electra</u>: Not a bit. In fact, Rex looks like being thoroughly spoiled!

36. Inside "Lynx", Fauna in the background standing gazing down through the porthole, a little wistful. In the foreground, Helen with Hercula.

Fauna: He's a dear old thing. I'm going to miss him . . .

<u>Helen</u>: Get us spaceborne, Hercula – quick! Or Fauna might decide to bring her friend along . . .

COMPANY FOR CYBELA

Part I

1. General view inside "Lynx", showing Electra studying the scanner, while Helen is at the transmitter, the other girls in the background.

The scanner shows a small ship out in space.

Caption: Out in the depths of space, a small ship showed up on Lynx's scanner – a ship that seemed to be drifting helplessly. And the Supercats' signals went unanswered – Electra: Looks like a ferryship of some kind –

<u>Helen</u>: I'll try once again. Lynx calling, Lynx calling – please identify yourself –

- 2. Closer view of Helen, with the others in the background. <u>Helen</u>: Still no reply. Something's very wrong!
- 3. Hercula shown getting into her spacesuit, while Fauna stands by holding the helmet. Helen shown helping Electra to zip up her suit.

<u>Hercula</u>: We'd better investigate. Give me a hand with my suit, Fauna.

<u>Helen</u>: I'll help you, Electra. But be careful, both of you. There's no knowing what you may find . . .

4. Close-up view of part of Lynx at one side of the picture. Out in space, two figures in spacesuits with helmets and back-packs, using the jets from the packs to steer themselves

towards the drifting ship, which is shown some distance away.

Caption: Hercula and Electra jetted across.

5. Wide view, inside the ferryship. Hercula and Electra, in spacesuits, gazing round.

Caption: After a thorough search of the ship -

Hercula: No sign of damage anywhere!

Electra: And not a soul on board! What can have happened?

6. Closer view – Electra looks startled, while Hercula is pointing to the hatch, which is shown almost closed.

Caption: Suddenly -

Electra: Listen - what's that noise?

Hercula: LOOK - the hatch - it's sliding shut!

7. Head and shoulders view of the two girls, Hercula holding up her communicator.

<u>Electra</u>: And the ship's starting to vibrate – we're moving! <u>Hercula</u>: I'd better contact Helen –

8. View in space, showing Lynx fairly close up, and the ferryship far in the distance – almost a dot in space.

Caption: As the ferryship zoomed off at incredible speed, Helen and Hercula frantically tried to communicate –

<u>Radio from Lynx</u>: Hercula – what's happening? Come in, please, come in . . .

<u>Radio from ferryship</u>: Hercula to Lynx – do you read me? – please answer...

9. Inside the ferryship – wide view, showing Electra at the control panel, trying to work some of the switches, while Hercula stands holding her communicator.

Caption: - but to no avail -

<u>Hercula</u>: It's no use, we're out of range already. Can you find out how this hardware works, Electra?

Electra: I've found out something and it's not good news

10. Closer view of Electra on her own, indicating the rows of dials, switches, etc., on the panel.

<u>Electra</u>: All the controls are locked in position! We're being carried off in a remote-controlled ship – and there's nothing we can do to stop it

11. Inside the ship, the hatch shown fully open. Electra is just taking off her helmet, while Hercula is busy unfastening hers.

Caption: The Supercats could only wait . . . At last the braking jets fired, and they touched down – on an unknown planet –

<u>Electra</u>: The air's breathable – at least we can get these helmets off.

Hercula: Just as well - oxygen tanks are nearly empty!

12. Part of the ship shown at one side. The two girls have just climbed down and are gazing at a scene full of flowers, birds, etc.

Caption: Outside the scene was breathtaking.

Electra: Beautiful! Like a dream-world!

Hercula: And the perfume of the flowers - heavenly . . .

13. The girls shown walking along a flower-bordered path. Jets of fountains soar above low trees and flowering shrubs; in the distance the palace, with turrets, etc.

Caption: The Supercats set out to explore.

<u>Electra</u>: Flowers – fountains – a fairytale palace – what IS this place?

<u>Hercula</u>: Whatever it is, someone's brought us here on purpose – but who?

14. Cybela appears from among some trees – beautiful, strange-looking, dressed in exotic robes, holding out her hands in greeting.

Caption: Hercula's question was soon answered -

Cybela: Welcome, my guests! I am so happy to see you.

<u>Hercula</u>: What do you mean – guests? Nobody asked us if we wanted to come!

<u>Electra</u>: And we'd like to know just why we're here – and who you are –

15. Close view of Cybela on her own.

<u>Cybela</u>: I am Cybela, and I live alone here on Ceres. It was I who sent out the ferryship – programmed to return as soon as someone boarded it –

16. Cybela and the two girls.

<u>Cybela</u>: Please don't be angry! I am so lonely, and I hoped the ship would bring me friends.

Electra: I'm sorry, Cybela - but you see, we can't stay -

<u>Hercula</u>: We're on duty – and our friends will be getting worried.

17. Cybela has now moved away a little from the girls. With one hand she points to the palace, shown in the background, while with the other she makes a gesture inviting the girls to follow her.

<u>Cybela</u>: But you can't go just yet! Let me show you my palace – please! – it won't take long. Afterwards you shall leave – if

you still wish to . . .

Electra: We-ell

Hercula: Why not?

18. Inside a large hall – pillars, hangings, furniture, plants – all very impressive. Hercula and Electra looking round admiringly. At one end, a large telescope, Cybela standing beside it.

Caption: Cybela led them into a magnificent hall.

<u>Hercula</u>: Wow! <u>Electra</u>: Fabulous!

Cybela: Come, you shall see my lost home – the great planet

ruled by my mother, the tyrant Queen Thalama -

19. Picture shows the field of view of the telescope, with a large beautiful ringed planet in the centre.

Caption: "Jealous of my achievements, she banished me to live alone on Ceres. Each month she sends the ferryship with all I need, every luxury – all except human company. That she forbids me."

20. Hercula and Electra beside the telescope. Hercula's taking her turn to look through it, while Electra's eyes are fixed on Cybela, who stands a little apart with a strange, cruel expression on her face.

<u>Cybela</u>: But I have been too clever for her – as she will learn

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): There's something strange about Cybela – almost sinister –

21. Wide view of the hall. Cybela shown imperiously clapping her hands. The girls are looking towards the far end of the hall, where some figures are vaguely visible through

an arched doorway.

Caption: Next moment - Cybela smiled charmingly.

<u>Cybela</u>: But you must have refreshment. Let my guests be served!

<u>Electra</u>: Then you have servants? – but you said you were alone –

22. Some of the servants have now approached, and Cybela indicates them with one hand, while the girls look at them in astonishment. The androids move stiffly and mechanically, and have fixed expressionless faces.

They all wear tunics, and close-fitting headdresses that cover all their hair, making them look more un-human. They are carrying things like bowls of fruit, trays with goblets, vases of flowers, and some of them are setting things out on a table.

<u>Cybela</u>: Look more closely! They are not people – they are androids. They obey my voice, but have no speech or will of their own.

Hercula: It's incredible they look almost human!

23. The table now set, looking very elegant and inviting. Prominent among the decorations is a vase holding large, showy, orchid-like blooms. Androids filing out in the background. Cybela is moving off as she speaks.

Caption: The androids set out a splendid feast.

<u>Cybela</u>: Please help yourselves. I shall return in a few moments.

24. Closer view – Hercula looking at the table as if trying to make up her mind what to have. She's standing right next to the vase with the orchid-like flowers.

Electra makes a warning gesture.

<u>Hercula</u>: M'm'm – looks delicious, doesn't it? <u>Electra</u>: Don't touch anything, Hercula – this could be a trap! I don't think Cybela's all she pretends to be –

25. Head and shoulders view. The flower-heads are bending close to Hercula, almost touching her. Electra looks alarmed. Hercula: Yes, you could be right. Now you mention it, she seems – she seems . . .

Electra: Hercula what's the matter?

26. Full-length view – Hercula reeling dizzily, perhaps knocking something off the table. Electra moves forward to catch her.

 $\underline{\text{Hercula}}$: Those flowers – the scent – it's overpowering . . . I – I feel dizzy . . .

<u>Electra</u>: Yes, it's making me a bit light-headed too . . . Somehow I get the feeling we've run into trouble –

27. Electra supporting Hercula, helping her away from the table.

<u>Electra</u>: Come on, Hercula, we're getting out of here – and whatever you do – DON'T PASS OUT!

End of Part I

COMPANY FOR CYBELA - Part II

Introductory picture shows a recap of the scene in the hall the table – Hercula standing next to the vase of flowers, one hand to her head as the scent overcomes her, Electra moving forward with a look of alarm.

Two or three of the androids with their expressionless faces standing in the background. Perhaps an inset picture of Cybela, with an enigmatic smile on her face?

Caption: Welcomed to Planet Ceres by the beautiful and mysterious Cybela, invited to a feast prepared by weird android servants – for Supercats Hercula and Electra it was a strange sequel to their voyage in a ship they found drifting in space. But Cybela's hospitality left something to be desired – as the Supercats soon found out . . .

28. Electra shown helping the half-conscious Hercula along. **Caption:** With Electra's help, Hercula stumbled from the room.

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): Cybela meant those flowers to overcome us! I've got to get Hercula into the fresh air –

29. Cybela confronting the two girls, with some of the androids behind her.

Cybela: What, my friends – why such haste to leave me? <u>Electra</u>: Order the androids to open that door, Cybela – and don't try to stop us!

30. Close view of Cybela and Electra.

Caption: Cybela's smile was mocking.

<u>Cybela</u>: Open the door? – ah, but I dare not! Darkness draws near, and there are dangers in the night of Ceres. The great doors must remain fastened.

Electra; I don't believe a word of it! You – you . . .

31. Cybela shown moving off as she speaks. Two of the androids are picking up Hercula, who has slumped to the floor. Electra's shown reeling dizzily, while another android approaches her.

Caption: Electra felt her senses reeling.

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): The flower scent's affected me too – but more slowly. Somehow I've got to keep awake – got to think ... got ... to remember

<u>Cybela</u>: So you have changed your minds – you do not wish to leave me after all. Make them comfortable, my servants. I shall attend to them later.

32. In the background, the androids laying Hercula down on a pile of cushions. In the foreground, a couple of them are half-carrying, half-draping Electra in the same direction.

Caption: Dimly, as blackness overwhelmed her, Electra knew there was something she must do –

Electra (thinks): . . . in . . . my belt . . . medikit . . .

33. Closer view of Electra, eyes half-closed, fingers fumbling at her belt.

Caption: Her fingers fumbled to release the catch.

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): . . . green capsule . . . antidote . . .

34. Electra, now awake, shaking Hercula, and holding a small capsule to her lips.

Caption: Electra swallowed the capsule and next minute – <u>Electra</u>: Hercula! wake up!

<u>Hercula</u>: No . . . no . . . leave me alone . . . must . . . sleep . . . <u>Electra</u>: No, you mustn't – here, swallow this!

35. Electra and Hercula shown in front of the massive doors of the palace, which have a large ornate lock. Electra's raising her hand ready to fire at the lock.

Caption: Hercula quickly recovered, and the Supercats made their way cautiously to the great door.

<u>Hercula</u>: You were right about Cybela. She meant to keep us here, for some reason of her own. Think you can melt this lock, Electra?

Electra: Just watch me -

36. Electra shown firing a discharge of electricity at the lock. Sparkle fly as it begins to melt.

Caption: Using her amazing powers, Electra launched a bolt of electricity.

37. Electra still firing. At one side an android has appeared and is walking forward mechanically, unaware that it's heading into the path of the discharge.

Hercula is making a move towards it, but plainly won't reach it in time to stop it.

Caption: At that moment -

<u>Hercula</u>: Hey – look out there! Stop, you dope . . .

38. The android's lying in a crumpled heap on the floor, its face hidden. Heads of the two girls in the foreground looking at it.

Caption: The force sent the android flying.

Electra: Looks like I've scrambled its circuits!

<u>Hercula</u>: Never mind, Cybela won't miss one! Let's go –

39. Hercula has pushed open the great door and is vanishing through it. Electra, in the act of following, pauses and look back.

Caption: But -

Voice from off-picture: Ohhhh . . .

Electra: Wait, Hercula what was that?

40. The android's tight-fitting headdress has fallen off, and the fixed expression has gone, revealing him to be a young man. Electra's kneeling down, supporting him, while Hercula stands gazing in astonishment.

Hercula: Why, he - he's human! But what - how -

Lieutenant: Wh-what happened? What hit me?

<u>Electra</u>: It's all right, take it easy. You'll feel better in a minute.

41. Wide view in space, showing a very large spaceship, and some distance from it, the ferryship.

Caption: In a few minutes the young man was able to tell his story.

<u>Voice of Lt. from off-picture</u>: I was on duty on the bridge of the freighter Andromeda, when –

<u>Voice from Andromeda</u>: Lookout reports ship adrift, Captain – quadrant four.

42. Inside the control room of the Andromeda. Several crewpersons at work in the background. The Captain in his chair, speaking to the Lieutenant – the young man telling the story.

<u>Captain</u>: Alert the shuttle crew, Lieutenant. Someone may need our help.

Lt.: Ay, Captain.

43. Picture split diagonally. Top part shows ferryship in space, two space-suited figures clambering aboard, while a shuttlecraft hovers nearby.

Lower part shows scene on Ceres, the palace in the background, Cybela welcoming two men in space uniform.

Top Caption: Two of us boarded the drifting ship – and then

Bottom Caption: Yes – the Supercats knew just what happened after that!

44. Electra and Hercula talking to the Lieutenant.

<u>Electra</u>: We were lucky to escape, Cybela must have used the flower scent to gain control of your mind.

<u>Hercula</u>: And that shot of electricity broke the spell – drastic, but effective!

45. Close-up of Hercula on her own.

<u>Hercula</u>: The other androids – they must be people too – lured to Ceres, just like us! We've got to rescue them –

46. A view of the ferryship, standing among the flowers and trees and fountains.

Caption: After a quick confab, the Supercats split up, and Hercula made for the ferryship.

<u>Radio from ferryship</u>: SOS SOS CERES CALLING SOS SOS <u>Hercula's voice from ferryship</u>: Come on, somebody – ANSWER!

47. Inside the ship. A screen has lit up and shows the face of an older woman, who is Queen Thalama.

<u>Caption</u>: – and somebody did – Thalama: Who calls from Ceres?

48. Slightly different view of above scene, showing Hercula looking up at the screen. Thalama's face now with a sorrowful expression.

Caption: Hercula quickly explained, and the woman's face grew sad.

<u>Thalama</u>: So my daughter has learned nothing from her punishment?

Hercula: Your daughter - you mean -?

49. Close-up view of the screen with Queen Thalama's face. Hercula's head is the foreground.

<u>Thalama</u>: Cybela was a brilliant scientist, but guilty of cruel experiments on human beings. The penalty was death, but I loved my daughter, and I had mercy. I sentenced her to see no human face until she changed her ways. My kindness was mistaken . . .

<u>Hercula</u> (thinks): This must be Queen Thalama – and somehow what she says sounds like the truth –

50. An open space outside the palace, part of the palace building visible. At one side – Electra, with the Lieutenant behind her, still wearing his android tunic but minus the headdress.

At the other side – a row of androids, drawn up like soldiers, with indication of other rows behind them. Cybela stands in front of them, pointing imperiously at Electra.

Caption: Meanwhile, at the palace, Electra was in danger – <u>Cybela</u>: Seize her! Now she shall join your ranks – <u>Electra</u> (thinks): Androids – hordes of them! What's Cybela trying to do?

51. The androids advancing towards Electra, who is raising her hand, ready to fire off a discharge of electricity.

Cybela stands in a dramatic pose.

<u>Cybela</u>: My android army grows, and soon we shall march. Queen Thalama's downfall draws near – Cybela shall rule the Great Planet!

Electra (thinks): She's mad: I'll have to act fast -

52. Electra shown firing her discharge, which fans out over the ranks of the approaching androids.

Those inside the field of the discharge are already losing their fixed expressions and instead look human, bewildered, hands to foreheads, dazed.

The Lieutenant is moving towards them. Cybela looks furious and astonished.

Caption: Electra's power crackled among the ranks of the androids.

<u>Electra</u>: Gently does it – don't want to harm any of them – <u>Lt.</u>; I'll take care of them when they come round. They won't know what's happening –

53. Hercula and Electra talking. In the background, Cybela, proud and defiant, surrounded by an angry crowd. Perhaps also the Lieutenant helping one or two of the people who haven't completely recovered.

Caption: Soon afterwards Hercula appeared.

<u>Hercula</u>: Good work, Electra. Queen Thalama's promised to see they all return safely to their home planets. And she'll send a guard to take Cybela back for trial.

<u>Electra</u>: A guard? – maybe that won't be needed. Her victims will see she doesn't get up to any more mischief!

54. Inside the ferryship, Hercula and Electra busy with charts and instruments.

Electra's gazing thoughtfully into space.

Caption: Later, on the ferryship, the Supercats got down to plotting their course for home.

<u>Electra</u>: What a waste! With her brilliant brain, Cybela could have done so much good –

<u>Hercula</u>: There's only one thing that'll do ME good – and that's getting back aboard dear old Lynx!

* * * * *

THE TOWER OF THALOS

1. Inside Lynx. Helen shown fanning herself with a sheet of paper, Electra loosening the collar of her tunic, while Hercula hastily draws her hand back after touching an over-heated panel.

Caption: On patrol in a distant region of space, the Supercats suddenly found things becoming decidedly uncomfortable on board Spaceship Lynx...

Helen: Whew - anyone feel a bit warm?

Electra: I can hardly breathe . . .

Hercula: Ouch - this panel's hot enough to fry an egg on!

2. A view of Fauna's "garden" – a collection of exotic-looking plants. Fauna, with a look of dismay, is indicating some of them – tall lilies which are beginning to droop, and another plant which is also looking rather sad.

Caption: Fauna gazed in dismay at her beloved plants. <u>Fauna</u>: Something's gone wrong! My Venusian lilies are wilting – and just look at my Arcturian moonflowers . . .

- 3. Electra has removed a section of panel and is tinkering with some wires inside, while Helen stands watching her. <u>Helen</u>: Electra's checking it out. Can you find the fault, Electra?
- 4. Wider view Electra looking round as she speaks to the other girls while still working at the wiring.

Electra: Cooling system's on the blink! Have to put down

somewhere for repairs -

<u>Hercula</u>: According to the charts, we're not far from Planet Volta.

5. View in space, showing the shuttlecraft zooming from Lynx down towards the planet's surface.

Caption: The girls left Lynx circling in a parking orbit.

Voices from shuttle:

- 1) Shouldn't be too hard to find a landing-place this seems to be an earth-type planet . . .
- 2) Not many signs of civilisation, though -
- 6. Inside the shuttlecraft. Fauna steering, while Helen stands beside her. Hercula and Electra are watching the screen of the scanner.

<u>Electra</u>: Wait – coming up on the scanner – a building of some kind. It looks colossal!

<u>Helen</u>: Could be part of a city. Steer towards it, Fauna.

7. View from above the shuttlecraft, showing it flying over a stretch of sea, with a rocky coastline approaching.

Caption: The shuttlecraft glided high above the ocean.

Voices from shuttle:

- 1) All that cool blue sea! Anyone fancy a swim?
- 2) Hold on a minute! Switch the scanner to close-up, Electra
- 8. Hercula shown bending over the scanner, whose screen shows a picture of the girl, Mera, chained to a pillar of rock, in the midst of a rough sea, the waves lashing up almost to her shoulders. Helen looks round enquiringly as she speaks.

Helen: What is it, Hercula?

Hercula: Look - in the sea a girl, chained to a rock!

9. Helen and Electra gazing anxiously into the scanner, while Hercula unwinds a rope ladder from its fixture on the wall. <u>Helen</u>: The water's almost reached her shoulders – she'll drown!

<u>Hercula</u>: Not if I can help it! Take us down as close as you dare, Fauna –

10. Hercula starting to climb down the rope-ladder from an opening in the underside of the shuttle. Helen's face shown peering out of the opening.

Caption: As the shuttle hovered –

Hercula: Hold her steady, Fauna!

Helen: Be careful, Hercula!

11. Hercula now dangling at the end of the rope-ladder, one arm hooked through the rungs, while she breaks Mera's chains.

Caption: Clinging perilously to the swaying rope-ladder, Hercula, the Supercat with amazing strength, snapped the girl's chains.

12. Hercula climbing up the rope-ladder with Mera, who is struggling and pushing against her. Helen and Electra watching from the opening in the shuttlecraft, Electra stretching out her hand to help Hercula.

Caption: But -

Mera: No - no don't take me away! Leave me alone!

<u>Hercula</u>: Hold still – don't struggle. We're friends!

<u>Helen</u>: Poor thing – she's so scared, she doesn't realise we mean to help her.

13. Inside the shuttle, Helen giving the girl a jab, while the others look on. Hercula holding the girl steady.

Caption: Helen was ready with a shot of tranquilliser.

Helen: This'll calm her down.

Mera: No - no - please . . .

14. Mera now lying back half-asleep, while Electra makes her comfortable.

<u>Electra</u>: It's inhuman! Who could have done such a thing? <u>Helen</u>: We'll soon find out. Set us down at the nearest village, Fauna,

15. The shuttle in the background, half-seen behind a small hillock. Hercula is carrying Mera as the girls walk through some fields. Show a broken gate, and /or a tumbledown hut. **Caption:** Leaving the shuttle out of sight, the Supercats made

their way through the fields.

<u>Helen</u>: This must be a very backward planet. Everything's so poor and neglected –

Fauna: And the fields are choked with weeds . . .

16. At one side of the picture, a group of old people, thin and dressed in rags, are hurling stones at the Supercats. At the other side, the girls shown holding up their arms to protect themselves and shield Mera.

Caption: Suddenly -

<u>Hercula</u>: Hey – this wasn't the script!

Fauna: What do they think they're playing at?

17. Electra on her own. She has stepped forward, raising her hand ready to fire off a bolt of electricity.

Electra: Don't worry, girls. I know how to handle it -

18. Electra's firing off flashes of electricity into the ground in front of the villagers, who cower back in alarm. The other

girls shown behind Electra.

Caption: As electricity flashed from Electra's fingertips, the villagers drew back in alarm.

<u>Helen</u>: Don't scare them too much, Electra. They're all old people – and they look half-starved!

Fauna: But why should they be so hostile?

19. Helen has now stepped forward in front of the villagers, holding out her hands to show she is unarmed.

<u>Helen</u>: Do not be afraid, we come in peace. See – I am unarmed. Please send one of your number to speak with me.

20. Close view - Helen and an old man.

Caption: An old man stepped forward.

Old Man: The girl, Mera, must not enter the village. She was given to Thalos. You did wrong to set her free.

Helen: But why? What has she done?

21. The old man makes a gesture of despair as he starts to turn away. Helen and the other girls watch him in surprise. Electra: Whatever it was, she doesn't deserve such a dreadful fate!

Old Man: You do not understand. By your action, you have doomed us all!

22. The girls talking together, with the shuttlecraft in the background. They've laid Mera down on the grass.

Caption: The baffled Supercats retreated to the shuttlecraft. Hercula: What was all that about? I don't get it . . .

<u>Electra</u>: And why are there no young people – except Mora? <u>Fauna</u>: Shhh – she's coming round! Now maybe we'll get to the bottom of all this –

23. Mera has started to run off, and is struggling with Hercula, who has grabbed her.

Caption: Next minute -

Helen: Stop her!

Mera: Please let me go! Please! I must return to the rock -

Hercula: Calm down, Mera. We only want to help.

24. Close view of Helen and Mera, with Hercula shown behind Mera.

<u>Helen</u>: You say you must return to the rock – but won't you tell us why?

Mera: It is to save my people from the wrath of Thalos, god of the sea.

25. A scene on the rocky sea-shore of Volta. Two men are shown chaining Mera to the rock pillar. The tide is out, and the water is only lapping round their feet.

On the shore, a crowd of people watching, while Xor stands out in front of them, in his High Priest's robe, with his arms raised in a dramatic gesture.

Caption: "When Thalos invades our land, he brings death to many. To turn aside his fury, Xor, the High Priest, chose me as a sacrifice . . ."

26. The girls and Mera shown getting ready to board the shuttlecraft.

<u>Helen</u>: Maybe we'd better have a talk with Xor! Where can we find him, Mera?

Mera: He is at the Tower of Thalos.

Electra: Must be that building we saw. Let's go!

27. Inside the shuttle. Helen talking to Mera. while Electra is at a window, pointing excitedly out.

Caption: As the shuttle soared into the sky –

<u>Helen</u>: Tell us more about this invasion of Thalos, Mera – <u>Electra</u>: No need, Helen! Look out of the window, girls –

28. View through the window of the shuttlecraft, showing a wide expanse of sea below, and the tidal wave advancing. Heads of the girls, and Mera, clustered at the window as they look at the scene below.

<u>Hercula</u>: A giant tidal wave: So that's what Mera meant! <u>Electra</u>: We've got to warn the Voltans fast – but fast!

End of Part I

THE TOWER OF THALOS - Part II

Introductory Caption: Crew of Spaceship Lynx of Cat Patrol, the Supercats, are in the business of helping anyone in danger. But they couldn't believe it when the girl they rescued from the sea on Planet Volta pleaded with them to put her back . . .

Mera explained she was a sacrifice to save her people from the fury of the Sea-god, Thalos. And the Supercats soon learned just what the Voltans had to fear

29. Planet-wide view, showing the rocky coast, vast stretch of sea, and the tidal wave in the distance. The shuttlecraft is hovering over the scene, with the girls' faces visible, looking out.

Caption: The huge tidal wave surged forward relentlessly. <u>Electra</u>: It's moving with terrifying speed! The Voltans won't stand a chance –

Hercula: How long have we got, Helen?

30. The girls shown inside the shuttlecraft.

Caption: Helen's quick brain made the necessary calculations.

Helen: I reckon it'll hit the coast in half an hour -

<u>Electra</u>: Rev up those motors, Fauna! We need every ounce of speed!

31. The shuttle shown hovering. On the ground below, a scene of great activity. Teams of men and women painfully hauling blocks of stone with ropes, others pushing them over

rollers which their mates are laying down.

Caption: Soon afterwards, an astonishing scene met their eyes.

Voices from shuttle:

- 1) What on Earth -?
- 2) It's like the building of the Pyramids!
- 32. The shuttle shown zooming past the Tower, which is a huge ugly building stretching up out of the top of the picture and supported on thick pillars.

Some of the workers on the ground could be shown looking up at the shuttle.

<u>Voice from shuttle</u>: Except that the Pyramids are impressive – but this is the ugliest building I've ever seen

33. Close-up view of the shuttle, showing the girls and Mera seated inside.

Mera: By command of Xor, all who are fit must labour here. Only the old are left to tend the fields.

Fauna: That explains a lot of things!

34. Long view, showing Fauna and Mera standing beside the shuttle, which has landed, while the other girls are moving off.

<u>Helen</u>: Take the shuttle, Fauna, and warn the village people. The rest of us will try to find Xor.

35. Helen, with Electra and Hercula behind her, speaking to Xor, who is wearing his High Priest's robes.

Caption: Helen's warning left Xor unimpressed.

<u>Xor</u>: You speak foolishness, strangers. The people must not leave their toil. They work for the glory of Thalos!

36. Closer view of Helen and Xor.

<u>Xor</u>: The Tower must rise ever higher and higher, until it reaches the clouds. Only then will Thalos cease to punish us

Helen: All right, if you won't warn them - WE WILL!

37. Helen standing on a slight rise in the ground speaking to the people. They drop their ropes and straighten their backs to listen.

<u>Helen</u>: People of Volta, a great wave approaches your shores. There is but little time to save yourselves. Take to the hills, and you will not be harmed!

38. Xor now standing beside Helen, addressing the people. At one side Electra shown aiming at a huge block of stone. Xor: Do not heed them, my people. No one can foretell when Thalos will strike.

<u>Helen</u>: We can – we have power to see beyond the horizon. And we have other powers too . . . (aside) Come on, girls, do your party pieces!

Caption: As Helen spoke, Electra took careful aim at a huge block of stone –

39. Electra launching a flashing bolt of electricity, splitting the stone in half. Some Voltans shown gazing unbelievingly. **Caption:** A sizzling bolt of electricity split it from top to bottom –

40. Hercula shown lifting one of the giant blocks single-handed, watched by Xor and a few more of the Voltans.

Caption: Then it was Hercula's turn -

41. The Voltans abandoning their ropes and rollers and beginning to run off.

Caption: It was more than enough to convince the Voltans! <u>Voices from the retreating crowd</u>:

- 1) They are more powerful than Thalos!
- 2) And wiser than Xor! To the hills!
- 3) To the hills!
- 42. Wide view. At one side of the picture, the shuttle, from which Fauna has just alighted. Helen stands near her. At the other side, part of the Tower shown, with Hercula standing beside it, hands on hips, head thrown back as she gazes to the top of it. Electra stands next to Hercula.

Caption: Fauna returned with the shuttle.

<u>Fauna</u>: Mission accomplished – everybody's safe! Pile aboard, girls –

<u>Helen</u>: What's Hercula up to? Hercula: Now I wonder – ?

43. Electra moving off, while Hercula lingers, waving an arm towards the Tower.

<u>Hercula</u>: This thing's a blot on the landscape and it's blighted the Voltans' lives for far too long –

<u>Electra</u>: Come on, Hercula! This is more than even you can tackle!

44. Hercula shown getting a grip on one of the pillars, with her arms round it, putting out her strength.

Hercula: Want to bet?

45. Long view, showing Helen, Fauna, and Mera watching from a distance, view of part of the Tower with Hercula still gripping the pillar.

Xor stands gazing at Hercula, while Electra beckons him to come away.

Caption: Using all her amazing strength, Hercula shook the massive pillar.

Helen: She's done it! The Tower's swaying.

Electra: Come on, Xor - run for it!

46. View of Hercula and Xor, with Hercula hurrying him away from the Tower.

Xor: No - no - the Tower of Thalos cannot fall!

<u>Hercula</u>: It can, you know! – and we don't want to be around when it does –

47. Long view – the shuttle zooming steeply up into the sky, while the Tower collapses spectacularly in ruins.

Caption: Fauna slammed the shuttle into the sky.

Voices from shuttle:

- 1) Wheee!
- 2) What a sight!

48. Mera running to her parents, her mother holding out her arms to her.

Helen speaks to Mera's father. One or two of the other Supercats also shown, and indication of a crowd of Voltans in the background.

Caption: In the hills -

Mera's Mother: Mera!

Helen: Your daughter is a very brave girl!

49. Long shot, showing the tidal wave breaking over the rocky shore, and the hills covered with figures, shown small and distant, and at one side, the shuttlecraft with the Supercats beside it.

Caption: Minutes later, a vast wall of water crashed on the shore.

<u>Voices of the Supercats</u>: Here it comes! We made it just in time . . .

50. In the hills, Helen and Hercula shown talking to Mera and her parents.

<u>Mera's mother</u>: Our lives are safe – but our homes lie in ruins

<u>Helen</u>: We'll send help – and a team of weather experts. The floods are caused by freak tides, not angry gods!

51. Close-up view of Hercula and Mera's father, with Helen, Hera, and Mera's mother in the background. Hercula looks thoughtful.

<u>Mera's father</u>: We have laboured all our lives, bringing great stones to build the Tower of Thalos – and all for nothing . . . Hercula: H'mm – could be not –

52. The Supercats in a group beside the shuttlecraft.

Caption: Helen was anxious to get back to Lynx.

Helen: Come on, girls - we've got work to do!

<u>Hercula</u>: Think you can manage without me, Helen? Maybe I can help the Voltans –

Fauna: Good idea, Hercula!

53. The shuttlecraft high in the sky, with a view down below of the Voltans at work on their sea-wall.

Caption: A couple of days later, the Supercats returned to collect the missing member of their team.

Voices from shuttle:

1) What's going on down there? Everyone looks very busy .

- 2) They're building a sea-wall with the stones from the fallen Tower! Must be one of Hercula's brainwaves –
- 54. At the sea-wall, Hercula lifting a huge block of stone to place it on top of another. The other Supercats watching her, and a few smiling Voltans in the background.

Hercula: I'm having fun! Reminds me of nursery school -

- 55. Hercula as a toddler in rompers, with a couple of others, all happily playing with building blocks as big as themselves. Helen's voice from off-picture: I can imagine it! But it's time to go now, Hercula –
- 56. Lynx shown zooming off into the depths of space. Voices from Lynx:
- 1) You've shown the Voltans how to tame old Thalos!
- 2) And there'll be no more need for sacrifices -

* * * * *

WINGS OF FEAR

1. View from inside Lynx. Through one of the large windows, a beautiful planet with swirling cloud-bands is seen floating in space. Fauna at the window, gazing at it thoughtfully, chin on hand, while the other girls are busy at various tasks.

Caption: Heading back to Moonbase 4 after a tour of duty, SUPERCATS found themselves passing Planet Serena, the beautiful nature reserve world – a favourite haunt of Fauna's

<u>Fauna</u>: Wonder how my old friend the Warden's getting on? Haven't seen him for ages

2. Fauna at the video set, with her fingers on the controls. The set is shown sideways so that we don't see the screen. Helen looks up from whatever she is doing as Fauna exclaims.

<u>Fauna</u>: I'll give him a call on video. Maybe he'll invite us to drop in . . . Lynx calling – Serena come in, Planet Serena – OH!

Helen: What's wrong, Fauna?

3. View of the video-screen, showing the Warden's face. He's an older man, and looks drawn, haggard, a bit wild-eyed. Fauna's face shown in profile as she looks at the picture with concern.

Caption: Fauna was shocked by the old man's appearance. Fauna: He's changed! He looks old and – and worried . . .

almost ill - What can have happened?

4. Longer view, showing Fauna bending forward to speak into the set. The other girls have come round to stand behind her while they have a look.

<u>Fauna</u>: Fauna here, Warden! Are you all right? Anything wrong down there?

<u>Warden's Voice from Speaker</u>: Wrong? – no, no, everything's fine, just fine . . . Can't talk now – busy – got to . . . got to look after a new Piranian flying-fish –

5. Helen in the foreground, puzzled look. Fauna looks round and up at her from her seat in front of the video, which now shows a blank screen. The other girls behind Fauna.

Fauna: Screen's gone blank - he's cut contact!

<u>Helen</u>: Piranian flying-fish? – what's he talking about? Pirania's a planet of deserts – with no fish! Everybody knows that . . .

6. Fauna dashing off towards the Skimmer, a small vehicle with a transparent dome, shown in the background. Helen's putting out a hand to try and stop Fauna, while Hercula makes a move to follow her.

<u>Fauna</u>: Poor old man, he IS ill – he's delirious! I've got to help him –

<u>Helen</u>: Fauna – wait – there may be danger –

Hercula: I'll go with her, Helen . . .

7. Part of Lynx shows at one side of the picture, with the Skimmer zooming off.

Caption: Fauna and Hercula squeezed into the Skimmer, a small all-purpose vehicle.

Hercula: Move over, Fauna! Bit cramped in here, isn't it?

<u>Fauna</u>: Quieter than the shuttlecraft, though. Mustn't go scaring the animals . . .

8. The Skimmer shown high above the surface of the planet. Hercula leaning over to gaze down at the scene below, which is a sort of plain dotted with various kinds of animals, herds grazing, etc. In the distance a number of birds flying. Fauna, at the controls, is peering ahead, looking for landmarks.

Caption: On Planet Serena -

<u>Hercula</u>: Fabulous! All those fantastic creatures – and the birds . . . Beautiful!

<u>Fauna</u>: H'mm, that's funny! No sign of the Warden's compound –

9. Longer view – the Skimmer shown some distance off, flying over a lake, cliffs suggested beyond it. Some of the birds shown, at the opposite side of the picture to the Skimmer.

Voices from the Skimmer:

- 1) Don't recognise this lake either or the cliffs . . . How come I've got off course?
- 2) Hang on, Fauna compass seems to be acting up Let's see if I can fix it –
- 10. View from maids the Skimmer. Hercula has her head bent over a piece of equipment, but Fauna is gazing out in alarm at the approaching birds.

They're flying in V-formation, heading towards the Skimmer in a threatening way.

Caption: Suddenly -

<u>Fauna</u>: Hercula – the birds – they're heading this way! Looks like they mean mischief, too . . .

11. The Skimmer shown in the midst of the flock of birds, buffeted about. Several of them are diving on it, wings stretched, beaks curving.

<u>Hercula</u>: They're buzzing us! It's an attack! But why –?

Fauna: Hold tight! Taking avoiding action NOW!

12. Closer view – a large bird shows zooming past close to the dome, others in the distance. Down below, on the ground, the edge of a forest shown a short way off.

Caption: Fauna dived and twisted, but to no avail.

<u>Fauna</u>: Can't shake them off! We'll have to think of something, quick – or else –

<u>Hercula</u>: The trees, Fauna make for the trees! It's our only hope –

13. The Skimmer on the ground near the forest – tall, palm-like trees, lower bushes with large leaves. Fauna's shown running for the trees, while Hercula remains near the Skimmer.

Caption: At the edge of the forest -

Fauna: Run for it! We'll have to abandon the Skimmer -

Hercula: Not if I can help it!

14. Hercula dragging the Skimmer in among the trees. Fauna is preparing to climb one of the tall palm-trees.

Caption: Hercula, the Supercat with super strength, dragged the Skimmer to safety under the trees.

<u>Fauna</u>: Well done, Hercula! I'll climb up and spy out the lead.

Hercula: Take care, Fauna!

15. Fauna near the top of the tree, gazing upward. Having camouflaged herself, she appears as an outline against the

broad leaves. Some of the birds shown above in the sky.

Caption: As the birds hovered menacingly, Supercat Fauna changed the colour of her body, making herself almost invisible amongst the leaves.

<u>Fauna</u> (thinks): They're waiting for us to make a move. I don't understand it! None of the creatures on Serena have ever attacked humans before –

16. Fauna clinging with one hand to the top of the tree, shading her eyes with the other. Far off, the birds shown departing, flying in a V-formation.

Caption: Suddenly the birds formed up and flew off.

<u>Fauna</u> (thinks): It's almost as if they were answering a signal! But they could be back any minute . . .

17. Fauna and Hercula shown camouflaging the Skimmer with leaves and branches. Fauna on top of the vehicle, arranging branches on the dome, while Hercula is on the ground, holding a leafy branch in her hand as she stands back a little to admire their work.

Caption: Back on the ground, Fauna had an idea.

<u>Fauna</u>: Nothing like a bit of camouflage! Pass me another branch, Hercula –

Hercula: Very artistic, though I say it myself!

18. The Skimmer moving away from the trees, with its covering of leaves, etc. The girls could be visible inside through some gaps in the camouflage.

A few odd animals around, raising their heads to look at this strange creature.

Caption: The girls set out in the disguised Skimmer.

<u>Fauna</u>: We'll move slowly and keep to the ground. That way they won't spot us so easily.

<u>Hercula</u>: At least the compass seems okay . . . Course 10° north, Fauna!

19. Fauna and Hercula inside the Warden's hut. Signs of a struggle, chairs overturned, books scattered, etc.

Caption: At the Warden's compound.

Hercula: What a shambles!

<u>Fauna</u>: The Warden's gone: This is getting more and more mysterious –

20. The girls shown dashing out of the hut towards the Skimmer.

<u>Fauna</u>: He must be somewhere on Serena! We'll have to risk an aerial survey. Keep your eyes open, Hercula –

21. Long view. A number of large birds, carrying a giant net between them, have swooped and scooped up the Skimmer, which is shown tossed about in the net.

Caption: But as the Skimmer rose from the ground –

Voices from Skimmer:

- 1) Ouch! Help!
- 2) What's happening?
- 22. Closer view of the Skimmer, showing the girls inside, part of the net, and the claws of some of the birds holding it. Below is the lake, with the cliffs shown in the distance.

Caption: Swinging dizzily in the huge net, the Skimmer was carried across the lake.

<u>Hercula</u>: It's uncanny! The birds must have developed some kind of intelligence of their own!

<u>Fauna</u>: Or else someone's controlling them – Either way, we'll soon find out . . .

23. A large room inside the cliffs. An opening in the roof through which the Skimmer has just been lowered is closing. The girls have just stepped out of the Skimmer, folds of the net lying at their feet.

It's a control room with panels, etc., and a large viewing screen, on one of the walls. In a corner, the Warden lying unconscious. Hercula is gazing round, while Fauna makes a move towards the Warden.

Caption: The Skimmer was lowered into an opening at the top of the cliffs.

<u>Hercula</u>: This can only be a control room! Looks like your guess was right, Fauna –

Fauna: The Warden! What have they done to him?

24. Hercula holding up her communicator, in the background Fauna beading over the old man. Behind Hercula the figure of an alien has appeared, human in form, but with a bird's head. He's stretching out a claw-like hand towards the communicator, unseen by Hercula.

Caption: Hercula whipped out her communicator.

<u>Hercula</u>: Hercula to Lynx – Helen, do you read me? Bring the ship down – we need reinforcements! Make for the cliffs beyond the lake. Over –

25. The alien has snatched the communicator from Hercula's hand. She looks startled and indignant. Helen's voice comes from the communicator in the alien's hand.

<u>Hercula</u>: Hey – what the –?

<u>Helen's Voice</u>: Helen to Hercula – message received. We're on our way!

<u>Alien</u>: The help you call for will never reach you. The birds will see to that –

26. Wider view of the control room. Hercula is making a threatening move towards the alien who took her communicator. Fauna calls to her warningly.

Fauna and the Warden are surrounded by more of the aliens, with weapons in their hands.

Caption: Hercula reacted furiously -

Hercula: Look – just hand that back, or I'll –

Fauna: Hercula no! They've got us surrounded –

27. Two or three of the aliens working at the control panel. Another keeps his weapon pointed at Fauna, Hercula, and the unconscious Warden. The first alien stands next to the girls. He has laid the communicator on a small table nearby. **Caption:** The SUPERCATS watched helplessly as the aliens completed their preparations.

Voices of aliens at control panel:

- 1) Switch on the screen!
- 2) Arm the birds!
- 3) ATTACK!

<u>First Alien</u>: Our feathered fighters have one vital advantage – that of surprise. Do you not agree? Watch the screen – <u>Hercula</u> (thinks): Wish I could get my hands on that communicator! Daren't risk it, though –

28. The screen has now lit up and shows a view of the lake, with the birds zooming above it in fighting formation.

Heads of Fauna and Hercula looking up at the screen.

<u>Hercula</u>: They must be controlled by a magnetic field. That explains why the compass went haywire –

Fauna: Still, they're only birds – and Lynx is a big ship . . .

29. One of the birds shows on the screen in close-up, showing that it is carrying a small canister in its claws. The First Alien

is pointing this out to the girls, who gaze in horror.

<u>First Alien</u>: Allow me to explain. Observe that each bird carries something in its claws – an explosive device, small, but deadly!

<u>Fauna</u>: Oh, no! Lynx really IS running into trouble – <u>Hercula</u>; And there's no way we can warn the girls –

30. A computer voice speaks from a grille above the control panel. Aliens shown panicking, getting in each other's way. The screen covered with wavy lines of interference.

Caption: Suddenly panic broke out among the aliens.

Computer Voice from Grille: Alert! Alert! Radiation!

Aliens:

- 1) Magnetic field breaking down!
- 2) We are losing control! Step up the power!
- 31. Close-up view of the screen, now showing a picture again. The birds have broken formation and are shown flapping about in confusion. Some of the bombs have dropped and exploded in the lake below.

In one corner of the picture – Lynx is seen, distant view, zooming down surrounded by an outline of radiation.

<u>Voice of Hercula from off-picture</u>: Helen's using the screens against the magnetic field guiding the birds!

<u>Voice of Fauna from off-picture</u>: The birds seen to be thoroughly confused. The bombs are dropping in the lake –

32. Close-up of the communicator, lying on the table, with Helen's voice coming from it.

Caption: A few minutes later Helen's voice rang out from the communicator.

Helen's Voice: Stand clear, girls - we're coming in!

33. A gaping hole in one wall of the control room. Helen and Fauna are with the Warden, who is just coming round.

Hercula is roughing up a couple of the aliens, while Electra is knocking the weapon out of anther's hand with a quick shot of electricity.

Caption: Using her fantastic power of generating electricity, Electra quickly blasted a way into the control room.

Warden: My birds - don't let them harm my birds -

<u>Helen</u>: Don't worry, Warden, it's all over. The girls are taking care of this lot. Want to tell us what's been going on?

34. Head and shoulders view of the Warden.

<u>Warden</u>: The aliens planned to use my birds in warfare against their enemies. I was forced to send out reports, pretending all was well. They threatened to destroy other creatures on Serena if I disobeyed

35. Scene in the Warden's hut, everything in disorder. Two of the aliens are dragging the old man out, while a third is busy smashing his video transmitter.

Caption: "Then my message to Fauna aroused their suspicions – "

36. The four girls in a group with the Warden.

<u>Helen</u>: A message – I guessed it! Don't you see, Fauna, the Warden's words were meant to warn us there was something wrong – something "fishy" –

<u>Electra</u>: And something flying. When we saw the birds, we switched the screens on – just to be sure!

37. The aliens, securely bound, being marshalled on to "Lynx" by Hercula. The Warden stands watching, and beside him is Fauna, arms folded, eyeing the aliens in a way that

shows she'll stand no nonsense from them. In the foreground, Helen and Electra looking on at the scene.

Caption: Soon afterwards, the aliens were marched aboard Lynx, on their way to Moonbase 4 for trial.

<u>Electra</u>: Nasty-looking bunch, aren't they? Hope they won't try to start trouble –

<u>Helen</u>: With Fauna on guard? – they wouldn't stand a chance! Nothing makes her so mad as the thought of anyone harming wild creatures . . .





THE SUPERCATS EARTH ADVENTURES

... a series of complete stories with a common theme ...

SUPERCATS AND THE DEADLY CRYSTALS

1. Inside Lynx. Hercula, Electra, and Fauna are in the control room, while Helen is just coming in at the door.

Caption: The SUPERCATS, fabulous crew of patrol ship Lynx, were waiting to take off on their latest mission.

Hercula: Wonder where we're off to this time?

Fauna: We'll soon know - here's Helen with the briefing -

2. Closer view of the girls in a group, with Helen.

Caption: But, to their surprise -

Helen: Lift-off postponed, girls! We've to report to Base

Commander – all of us – immediately.

Hercula: What!

Electra: Oh - what's the panic, then?

3. A large room at Space HQ. The girls are shown coming in by a lofty doorway. At the opposite side of the room, across an impressive stretch of floor, is a long table. Base Commander seated behind it, an officer on either side of him, some papers visible on the table in front of him. At one end of the table, an official of some kind, standing to attention.

Caption: When the SUPERCATS arrived at Space HQ -

<u>Hercula</u>: Hey – everyone's very solemn! Fauna: Looks like we're facing a tribunal –

4. Closer view, showing the girls moving towards the table. Official: Crew of Patrol Ship Lynx – step forward, please!

Hercula: What IS this?

Electra: Maybe we're all up for promotion!

5. View of Base Commander, with his two officers, as he delivers his speech. The backs of the girls' heads shown as they stand in a row in front of him.

Caption: Electra couldn't have been more wrong -

<u>Base Commander</u>: I shall come straight to the point. Your service records have been reviewed – and found unsatisfactory! It is with regret that I must inform you of your dismissal from Cat Patrol.

Helen: Oh - no -

Hercula (thinks): I'm hearing things!

Fauna (thinks): This isn't really happening - it can't be -

6. Helen has stepped forward, and is shown in close-up with Base Commander.

Caption: Helen spoke up for the girls.

<u>Helen</u>: As Captain, I protest. My crew have been given no chance to prepare their defence.

<u>Base Commander</u>: No defence is possible. The records :speak for themselves. You are guilty of lack of discipline – something Space Service cannot tolerate!

7. Close-up view of Hercula, looking very angry.

Caption: Hercula exploded in fury.

<u>Hercula</u>: Lack of discipline: Maybe we HAVE cut corners and bent the rules – sometimes. But at least we've never failed a mission!

Voice of Official (off-picture): Silence!

8. A wider view, showing the girls standing in a row in front of the table. Base Commander has risen to his feet to address

them. Close to the girls stands the official, ceremoniously holding a small flat cushion on his upturned hands.

Caption: Base Commander was adamant.

<u>Base Commander</u>: SUPERCATS Helen, Hercula, Electra, Fauna – you are commanded to surrender your badges.

9. Front view of the girls, as the official passes along the row. Helen's badge already lies on the cushion, Hercula is just putting hers on it, while the others are shown unfastening theirs from their uniforms.

Base Commander with his officers is moving towards the door as he speaks.

Caption: In stunned silence, the girls obeyed.

<u>Base Commander</u>: A robot vehicle is waiting outside to convey you from Moonbase 4.

10. Outside Space HQ. The robocar drawn up in front. The girls are surrounded by a crowd of reporters with microphones, TV cameras, etc. Helen speaks as she gets into the robocar, but Hercula has paused as she addresses the reporters, while Fauna tries to hurry her away.

Caption: Video-reporters were waiting too .

Helen: Nothing to say!

<u>Hercula</u>: Well, I have! This is an injustice: And we won't rest till it's put right –

Fauna: Hush, Hercula that won't do any good . . .

11. The robocar moving along an avenue in Moonbase 4. Not far off the girls can see the shape of spaceship Lynx against the sky. All close to tears, but trying to be brave.

Caption: Then, as the robocar sped along -

Fauna: There's L-Lynx – oh . . .

Helen: Don't, Fauna! We - we mustn't break down now -

12. The robocar, with the girls shown inside, rising steeply into the air, with a view of Moonbase 4 below.

Caption: Suddenly -

Hercula: What's happening?

Helen: We're taking off:

Electra: Where are we going?

13. A view of the robocar flying over a rocky desert region, mountains, not a tree to be seen.

Caption: And soon -

Voices from the robocar:

- 1) What a desolate place!
- 2) Like the far side of the Moon!
- 3) Anyone know where we are?
- 14. View from inside the robocar, showing the mountainside looming close in front, as if the car was just about to smash into it. Fauna holding up her arm to protect her head as she speaks.

Caption: All at once the robocar swooped towards a mountain side –

Fauna: Help . we're going to crash!

<u>Helen</u>: This thing's out of control! Do something, somebody

15. A concealed door has now opened in the mountainside, and the robocar is shown gliding inside.

Caption: But a moment later -

<u>Hercula</u>: Whew – I've never been so scared before in all my life!

Electra: Space has nothing on this -

16. View from inside the hideaway. The girls are shown entering, and through the doorway behind them, part of the robocar is visible. Very modernistic furnishings, guitars hung on the wall, a table set out with a sort of futuristic game, troughs of flowers, and a TV set.

Caption: Inside, the girls gazed round in amazement.

Helen: Just look at this! Guitars! Three-dimensional chess –

<u>Electra</u>: A TV set. Fauna: Flowers –

17. Electra now shown strumming one of the guitars, while Fauna admires the flowers.

Electra: Looks like we're all set for a long stay -

<u>Helen</u>: But why? Surely they – they don't mean to kelp us prisoners –

Hercula: Just let then try!

18. Closer view – the girls in a group as Fauna points to the TV set. The screen has lit up, showing a long code number in computer figures.

Fauna: Wait, girls - look - the TV -

Electra: What is it, Helen?

Helen: Top security code! But what -?

19. View of the TV screen, showing the face of a man, the girls' contact.

<u>Contact</u>: This is a top secret transmission. Some time ago, a strange videotape, of alien origin, came into our hands. Experts have succeeded in partly deciphering it. This is what we have learned so far –

20. The girls shown watching the TV. Screen shown the inside of a spaceship, with two aliens looking out of a

window, seeing the Earth and Moon in space. The aliens are human in form, and not repulsive.

Caption: "For many years we, the people of Krull, had fled through space, seeking refuge from our enemies. Then – " $\,$

1st Alien: A Krull-type planet!

2nd Alien: So our long journey is over at last –

<u>Helen</u>: It's Earth!

21. Inside the control-room of the alien ship. The Commander seated in his control chair, studying a report just handed to him by a scientist who stands beside him.

Caption: "But, when our scientists analysed the planet's atmosphere – "

<u>Commander</u>: Oxygen! But this is a deadly poison! We cannot survive on such a world –

<u>Scientist</u>: There is a remedy, Commander – the xandium crystals. They will destroy the oxygen in the planet's atmosphere, making it safe for our people.

22. View in space, showing the large alien ship, with a small landing-craft leaving it, heading for Earth.

Caption: "An advance party set out with the container of xandium crystals – "

23. Inside the aliens' landing-craft, showing a number of aliens. The warning message comes from a speaker grille. Kador stands beside a large container as the Leader speaks to him.

Caption: "But scarcely had we landed when – "

Speaker Grille: Red Alert! Red Alert! Enemy approaching! Leader: We must return at once – every man will be needed. Kador, you will remain to guard the crystals. When we have beaten off the enemy, we shall return.

24. View of the alien spaceship exploding in space, wreckage flying in all directions. Two or three enemy ships shown hovering nearby.

Caption: "Then, as I watched from my shelter - "

25. Inside a tiny shelter, Kador, now dressed in heavy, warm, fur-trimmed clothing, is speaking into the mike of a taperecorder.

Caption: "I leave this record of my story, in case others of my kind should ever reach this world – "

<u>Kador</u>: My ship – my comrades – all are gone! Life has no more meaning for me. Now I shall open the door of my shelter, letting in the deadly, oxygen-laden air . . .

26. The girls now shown watching the TV. The face of their contact has appeared on the screen.

Fauna: What a sad story!

Helen: Shh - listen -

<u>Contact</u>: All this happened many years ago. The xandium crystals are still on Earth – but no one knows where! They MUST be found –

27. Closer view of Helen and Hercula.

<u>Hercula</u>: Wow – I'll say! Supposing they were accidentally released – life on Earth would cease to exist!

<u>Helen</u>: Or in the wrong hands, they could be used to hold the world to ransom'

28. The TV screen again shown, with the face of the contact. Hercula's head in the foreground.

<u>Contact</u>: This task can only be entrusted to a crack team – a team that has never yet failed a mission . . .

Hercula: Hey - that couldn't mean US - could it?

29. The girls shown in a group, gleeful.

Caption: Suddenly, light dawned!

<u>Helen</u>: Now I get it! A top secret mission – under cover –

Electra: So that's what all the drama was about!

Hercula: Yippee - we're back in business:

30. Hercula comfortably installed on a settee, with her feet up. Fauna stands beside her. In the foreground, Electra shown with head bent, fingers to her temples as if listening to something, while Helen speaks to her.

Hercula: Well, I guess we can relax for the moment -

Fauna: How about some supper, girls?

Helen: What's wrong, Electra?

31. Another view as above. Electra shakes her head looking a little puzzled.

Electra: I - I don't know . . . just a funny feeling -

<u>Hercula</u>: Yeah, I know – claustrophobia! Comes of being coped up inside mountains . . .

32. Electra now examining the TV set, while Helen stands watching her.

<u>Electra</u>: No, it's not that, Hercula . . . There's some sort of radiation, I can sense it. Seems to be coming from the TV set

Helen; But it's switched off!

33. Electra holding up a tiny object between her finger and thumb, while the other girls crowd round to examine it.

Caption: Electra wasn't satisfied, and next minute -

Electra: Look at this!

Fauna: A bug!

Helen: A miniaturised transmitter!

34. Electra has laid down the device, and a flash of electricity comes from her finger as she points to it. Helen watches.

Caption: With a quick flash of electricity, Electra destroyed the device.

Electra: There - that's got rid of that!

<u>Helen</u>: It's too late though, Electra. Someone else knows about the crystals now –

35. A view of all the girls.

<u>Hercula</u>: AND our mission – not to mention our hideout! <u>Electra</u>: Maybe not, Hercula. The bug could have been planted BEFORE the set was brought here. That means they don't know who – or where as we are . . .

36. Close-up of Helen.

<u>Helen</u>: So we start level? Right, girls, this is it! This is a race that we've just got to win . . .

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SUPERCATS IN THE MAZE OF TERROR

Introductory Caption: Stripped of their badges, dismissed from Cat Patrol in disgrace – the Supercats' downfall made the headlines everywhere! But, behind the cover story, the girls were on a top secret mission to find a container of deadly xandium crystals, left behind on Earth by an alien ship.

Released, the crystals could destroy all life on Earth. And, in the wrong hands, they'd be the perfect weapon to hold the world to ransom.

Then the girls discovered a security leak! Someone else had learned about the crystals – and the Supercats just had to get there first . . .

1. N.B. – The girls are shown without the "cat" badges they normally wear on their uniforms.

Inside the secret hideout, as shown in Episode 1. The Supercats are having a little conference. Fauna looks as if she's just had a bright idea.

<u>Hercula</u>: We've got to act fast – but where do we start? <u>Helen</u>: The boffins promised to come up with more clues – <u>Fauna</u>: Wait a minute – the videotape –

2. Same view as in Frame 25 of Episode 1 – Kador the alien inside his shelter, speaking into the microphone of a tape recorder, and dressed in heavy, warm, fur-trimmed clothing.

Caption: "Remember, girls? – that shot of the lone alien left to guard the crystals – "

Voices from off-picture:

- 1) All wrapped up in furs, wasn't he?
- 2) Yeah like he expected it to turn chilly . . .
- 3. Inside the hideout again. Helen and Fauna in the foreground. In the background, a large map of the world hung on the wall, which Electra and Hercula are gazing at as they speak.

<u>Helen</u>: So the aliens may have landed in a very cold region of Earth?

<u>Hercula</u>: The North Pole? Electra: The South Pole?

4. Helen leading the way towards a doorway, beyond which part of the robocar can be seen. Hercula is holding a peculiar-looking gadget, and Electra gazes at it in amazement as she speaks.

<u>Helen</u>: It's worth a try. Let's go – <u>Electra</u>: Hercula – what on earth –?

<u>Hercula</u>: Metal detector! Could help us to pinpoint the container –

5. View from outside, showing the opening in the mountain, and the robocar zooming out and up from it

Caption: The Supercats zoomed off in their robocar -

6. The girls shown inside the robocar. Below, a landscape of snow and ice.

Caption: Over the bleak polar landscape – Sound from the gadget: bleep . . . bleep . . .

<u>Hercula</u>: It's registering! There's some kind of metal object down there –

Helen: We'll land and take a closer look.

7. Wide view from above. At one side, the robocar shown parked in the snow. The other Supercats, dressed in Polar outfits, shown strung out across the landscape – Hercula in front with her gadget, Electra close behind her, Fauna straggling a bit behind.

Caption: Leaving Helen in charge of the robocar, the other Supercats struggled through the biting wind and cold.

<u>Fauna</u> (thinks): Why didn't the aliens pick a nice tropical island?

Hercula: Over here, girls! Signal's getting stronger -

8. Fauna in the foreground. A short way off, Hercula and Electra shown vanishing down a crevasse, their arms thrown up.

Caption: Suddenly -

Fauna: Hercula! Electra!

9. Fauna gazing down into the crevasse. The others shown down below, calling up to her.

Fauna: A crevasse!

Hercula: Come on down, Fauna - the snow's lovely!

10. At the bottom of the crevasse. The opening of a tunnel shown. Hercula and Electra have ventured inside, while Fauna is moving to join them.

Caption: Fauna slid down to join the others.

<u>Electra</u>: There's same sort of tunnel here, under the ice. How strange!

Hercula: At least it's warm -

11. Inside the tunnel. Several others shown branching off. Hercula and Electra have shed their polar suits and left them in a heap, Fauna is busy getting out of hers. Hercula and Electra are moving towards one of the branch tunnels.

Caption: Leaving their polar suits behind, the girls advanced cautiously.

Electra: It's like a kind of underground maze -

Hercula: Nobody around, though . . .

<u>Fauna</u>: I don't know – I get a nasty feeling someone's watching us . . .

12. Hercula has darted into one of the tunnels, followed by the others. Perhaps a shadow could be seen at the far end.

Hercula: Quick – along here! I saw something moving –

Electra: Careful, girls -

13. Inside the tunnel. A thick, heavy metal grille has slammed shut behind the girls. They look round, startled.

Caption: Next :minute -

Sound from the grille: CLANG!

Hercula: A trap!

Fauna; This could be the metal the detector registered –

Electra: Think you can bend it, Hercula?

14. Hercula putting out her strength as she tears a hole in the grille.

Caption: Hercula, the Supercat with super strength, went to work –

Hercula: Chicken-wire! No problem at all -

15. Once again a space with several branching tunnels. Electra makes for one of then, but Hercula points to another. Fauna spreads her hands in a gesture of despair.

Electra: Let's get out of here. This way, girls -

Hercula: No, Electra - THIS way -

Fauna: We're lost! We don't know which way to turn -

16. Inside one of the tunnels. Electra is ahead, and in front of her two huge, black pumas have appeared, snarling, looking ready to spring on the girls.

Electra: How about this one then - Oh!

Fauna: H-help -

17. Electra now shown aiming a bolt of electricity at the pumas, bowling them over.

Caption: Electra's reaction was instant. Electricity flashed from her fingers –

Hercula: That's frizzled their whiskers!

18. The girls now shown entering a room. The pumas seen snarling in a corner. On one wall is a monitor screen and a panel with a few switches.

Caption: The snarling creatures slunk back –

Electra: They seemed to be guarding this doorway.

<u>Hercula</u>: This must be the centre of the maze. <u>Fauna</u>: I think I'm going to vanish – just in case!

19. Only a faint outline now indicates Fauna's presence against the wall. Hercula and Electra look startled as Malpais appears. She is a striking figure, rather evil-looking, dressed in a very modern style – perhaps a catsuit of some kind? – and as she speaks, she makes a commanding gesture towards the pumas.

Caption: Using her amazing camouflage power, Fauna merged with the background. Then –

Electra: Wh-who are you?

Malpais: (to the pumas): Back, my beauties!

(to the girls): I am Malpais. No need for YOU to introduce yourselves, my dears –

20. Malpais shown in the foreground, with a mocking look as she points dramatically to Hercula.

<u>Malpais</u>: You are Hercula, the strong one. The other must be Electra. Then there is the one who pretends she is not here –

21. Malpais shown with her hand stretched-out to touch the switch panel. Opposite her, the wall has changed colour, leaving Fauna clearly outlined against it.

Caption: As Malpais flicked a switch, the walls changed colour...

Malpais: Fauna, I believe?

Fauna: Oh -

22. Malpais now points to the monitor screen, which shows the scene of Hercula tearing open the metal grille. Heads of the girls in the foreground as they look at the screen.

Caption: The girls feared their cover was blown -

<u>Malpais</u>: Your talents are truly amazing! See, I have recorded your progress –

Hercula (thinks): Hidden cameras!

<u>Electra</u>: Fauna was right – we were being watched all the time!

23. Hercula confronts Malpais indignantly. Fauna and Electra shown a little in the background, looking on.

<u>Malpais</u>: We seek the same thing, do we not? – but for different reasons. I wish for power. You, no doubt, desire revenge for the injustice done you. Why not combine our forces? Together we could rule the world!

<u>Hercula</u>: You mean YOU could – after you've made use of us!

Fauna (thinks); She doesn't know everything . . .

24. Malpais now shown leaving the room, accompanied by her pumas,, half-turned from the door as she speaks to the girls.

<u>Malpais</u>: You do not trust me? But you will change your minds. That is, unless you prefer to freeze into three statues of ice! Come, my beauties –

25. The door Malpais left by now shown closed with thick upright metal bars. Perhaps one of the pumas glimpsed snarling outside.

The Supercats are all shivering.

Electra: She's switched off the heat!

<u>Fauna</u>: It's getting c-c-colder already. D-do something, Hercula –

26. Close view of Hercula as she struggles with the bars, but to no effect.

Caption: But -

Hercula: My f-fingers - so numb . . . C-can't get a grip -

27. High up on the wall, a tiny TV camera is shown, and next to it a small speaker grille, from which Malpais' voice comes. Fauna is pointing it out, and Electra is raising her hand ready to fire off a bolt of electricity.

<u>Voice of Malpais</u>: Make up your minds, my dears! Time is running out –

<u>Fauna</u>: Malpais is watching us and gloating – <u>Electra</u>: Well, at least we'll put a stop to THAT –

28. Electricity streams from Electra's fingers, and a huge spark leaps across the ends of the broken power cable, high on the wall.

Caption: Electra's frozen fingers missed their target – <u>Electra</u>: Wow – I've hit a power cable! Everybody down –

29. View from outside. Snow and boulders shooting up from the underground explosion. The figures of the Supercats shown flying through the air.

Caption: Next minute -

Above the explosion: WHOOMFF!

30. The girls have now landed on the snow. Hercula is picking herself up, Electra and Fauna look slightly dazed. Hercula: The whole place went sky-high! Anybody hurt? Electra; T-too numb to tell! L-let's get back to the robocar –

31. Wider view. The girls are shown gazing at a heaped-up pile of snow and rocks.

<u>Fauna</u>: This is where we left it. The explosion must have brought down tons of snow and rocks –

<u>Electra</u>: And Helen's down there somewhere – underneath it all!

32. Hercula shown tossing aside huge boulders, several times her own size. Fauna struggling with a little one. Meanwhile Electra directs a discharge of electricity at the snow, and clouds of steam shoot up as it vaporises.

Caption: Hercula and Electra made full use of their superpowers.

Hercula: Exercise – just what we need to warn us up!

Electra: How about a sauna, anyone?

33. View of the robocar taking off from the snowy background.

Caption: And soon -

Voices from robocar:

- 1) I wonder if Malpais survived the explosion?
- 2) Somehow I'm afraid that's only too likely!
- 34. View showing the girls inside the robocar as it zooms through the sky.

<u>Electra</u>: It must have been Malpais who planted that bug, Helen.

<u>Fauna</u>: She fell for the cover story, though. She thinks we're out to get our own back for our dismissal!

Helen: That means we can still keep her guessing . . .

35. Inside the hideout. Electra is carrying a tray with four steaming mugs of coffee, which she offers to Hercula.

Meanwhile, Helen is examining a strip of paper she's taken from a machine next to the TV set. Fauna stands beside her.

Caption: Back in the hideout -

Electra: Here you are, Hercula.

<u>Hercula</u>: Great!

Fauna: Any news from the boffins, Helen?

Helen: There's a recorded message here. Oh, no!

36. Helen and Fauna in the foreground. Helen holds up the strip of paper as she speaks.

Hercula and Electra, in the background, looking round as they listen.

<u>Helen</u>: Seems the aliens came from a very hot planet, with a temperature of hundreds of degrees –

<u>Fauna</u>: So even in a tropical jungle on Earth, they'd still be shivering with cold!

37. General view of the girls.

<u>Hercula</u>: Something tells me we've been wasting out time! <u>Electra</u>: Not altogether: We've had a chance to see the opposition. And we know now just what we're up against.

* * * * *

SUPERCATS AND THE CITY IN THE JUNGLE

Introductory Caption: The Supercats were on a top secret, under-cover mission – to find a container of deadly xandium crystals, left behind on Earth by an alien ship. Released, the crystals could destroy the oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere.

The girls learned someone else was on the trail of the crystals – the mysterious Malpais. Her aim – to hold the world to ransom! The Supercats knew they just had to get there first . . .

Then an advance earthquake warning from a remote spot in South America sent the girls dashing to check the area for the container. Its accidental destruction could mean the end of life on Earth –

1. View inside the robocar, showing the four girls, and the automatic controls up front. In this episode the girls are once again shown without their Cat badges.

The robocar is flying slightly tilted, so there is a glimpse outside the window of the jungle and some buildings.

Hercula and Fauna are gazing out at this.

Caption: Over the South American jungle -

Hercula: Hey, girls - a city!

Fauna: Could have been there unchanged for centuries -

2. View from above, showing the robocar flying fairly low over the city, which is seen spread out below a city of small stone houses with one or two large buildings.

The inhabitants are shown running out of the houses, gathering in the open spaces, looking up and pointing.

Voices from the robocar:

- 1) Look –the natives are swarming out to watch us!
- 2) We seem to be causing quite a stir -
- 3. Inside the robocar, which has now landed. Helen shown holding a pile of maps as she speaks to Hercula. Fauna and Electra are standing near the open door.

Caption: The robocar was programmed to land near the earthquake zone.

<u>Helen</u>: To work, Hercula! Got to get these maps checked – <u>Electra</u>: Fauna and I fancy a stroll, Helen . . .

4. Long view. The robocar is parked in a sort of clearing in the jungle, and Helen is shown in the open doorway as she calls to the others. Fauna and Electra are wandering off in the direction of the trees, the edge of the jungle.

Helen: Fine, but don't go far – and keep together!

Electra: Will do!

5. In the jungle. Tropical trees, shrubs, creepers, parrots, monkeys, and whatever.

At one side of the picture, Electra shown in a listening attitude, but turning her head as she wonders what Fauna is up to.

At the other side, Fauna shown peering at something in among the trees.

Caption: In the jungle -

<u>Electra</u>: Shh – what was that? Did you hear something, Fauna . . . Fauna?

Fauna (thinks): A rare tiger orchid – how fascinating!

6. Fauna now shown darting off into the distance. As Electra makes to follow her, she goes flying, her feet tangled among the creepers.

Caption: Fauna darted off eagerly.

Electra: Hey - come back! Don't forget what Helen - oops!

7. Close-up of Electra, full-length figure, as she uses her electrical powers on the tangle of creepers.

Caption: A quick shot of electricity shrivelled the clinging creepers.

Electra: That's better; Now to catch up with Fauna . . .

8. A net has now fallen from the trees over Electra, and she's shown struggling in its folds.

Caption: But suddenly -

Electra: Help! Wh-what -

9. A number of natives have appeared from among the trees – sort of Inca-type people, armed with spears. Two of them are freeing Electra from the net, while a third, the leader, speaks.

Leader: Take her to Lord Ixmal. He will reward us.

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): They must be from the city. What do they want with me?

10. The party of natives, with Electra in their midst, moving along a jungle trail.

Caption: Electra was led off through the jungle.

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): Wonder if Fauna's all right? I'm sure I heard someone back there – someone who didn't move silently, like the natives –

11. A lofty room. Ixmal, richly dressed, wearing a feather cloak, is seated on a throne raised on a dais. In front of him the group of natives, with Electra in the middle.

The leader and another native have stepped forward, bowing to Ixmal as they speak.

Caption: In the city -

<u>Leader</u>: We have captured one of the sky-people, Lord Ixmal.

<u>Native</u>: Strange power flows from her fingertips. With our

own eyes we saw it!

Ixmal: Interesting!

12. Another view as above.

<u>Ixmal</u>: You have done well. The return of the sky-people has been long awaited.

Electra: What – I don't understand! We've never – we're not

13. View of Ixmal on his own. He makes an imperious gesture with his hand as he speaks.

Caption: Ignoring Electra, Ixmal continued.

<u>Ixmal</u>: Take the girl to the temple. At last the treasures of the sky-people shall delight our eyes.

14. Electra shown along with her captors.

Electra: Won't someone tell me what this is all about?

<u>Leader</u>: Many years ago, men came down from the sky, as you have done. When they had gone, we found a sealed casket. It is now in our temple.

15. Closer view, showing Electra with the leader.

<u>Leader</u>: Lord Ixmal desires the riches it contains. But no means of opening it has ever been discovered –

Electra (thinks): Until I happened along! Now I get it . . .

16. Electra shown in a sort of open litter, carried along on poles by the natives.

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): People from space – a sealed casket – that could add up to one thing – the xandium crystals! I'll have to handle this carefully till I can contact Helen . . .

17. A long shot, showing the temple and a large open space in front of it. Over the doorway of the temple is a heavy carved lintel. Ixmal and Electra stand close to the door, with the armed natives drawn up a little further back. A crowd of other natives, looking on from a respectful distance, could be indicated.

Caption: At the temple -

Ixmal: Proceed, girl! A demonstration of your powers -

Electra: Wait!

18. Closer view of Electra and Ixmal, with the armed natives in the background.

<u>Electra</u>: The casket could hold death, not riches. There is great danger. You must believe what I say –

<u>Ixmal</u>: We are not fools! Naturally, you hope to keep the treasure for your own people. Guards!

- 19. Electra now shown surrounded by threatening spears. Electra (thinks): I'm surrounded! This looks nasty . . .
- 20. Two men have now appeared, dressed in tropical gear of a futuristic style and wearing ray-guns. One has hold of their prisoner, a figure, veiled in a cloak.

He's rather inconspicuous, to one side of the picture, while the other man occupies the centre, one arm raised to command attention. The group outside the temple have all turned to look at him. Caption: Then -

<u>Man</u>: STOP! We too are of the sky-people. The girl is right. There IS danger . . .

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): Where on earth did THEY spring from –?

21. The prisoner, now unveiled and pushed forward, proves to be Fauna. The speaker makes a gesture with his hand towards her, indicating she is the intended sacrifice.

<u>Man</u>: The casket may not be opened until a sacrifice is made. Electra: Fauna!

22. In the background, a group of natives and Fauna indicated, round a large upright stone.

Head of Electra in the foreground as she watches the two men, who are disappearing off to one side of the picture.

Caption: As Fauna was fastened to an altar –

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): Where are those two creeping off to – as if I couldn't guess! But first things first –

23. Fauna shown tied with ropes to the stone. Behind and to one side, Electra is raising her hand ready to fire her electric charge.

Electra: (thinks): Hope Fauna catches on . . .

24. Electricity flashes from Electra's fingers, the ropes are shown falling away, and Fauna now shown as the faintest possible outline against the stone.

Caption: And Fauna did! As the charred ropes fell away, she used her amazing ability to change colour, blending with the background –

25. The natives, including Ixmal, shown bowing down to the ground, hiding their faces. Electra and Fauna are running off.

Natives: The girl has vanished!

<u>Ixmal</u>: The gods have taken her:

Electra: Come on, Fauna -

26. Fauna and Electra shown running into the temple.

Caption: The Supercats made a dash for the temple.

<u>Fauna</u>: Those two grabbed me in the jungle. What's this treasure they were on about?

treasure they were on about?

Electra: Something that could mean disaster for Earth!

27. Fauna and Electra inside the temple.

Caption: Electra quickly explained.

Electra: We'll have to search the temple -

<u>Fauna</u>: Nothing here, anyway . . .

28. Malpais has now appeared, dominating the foreground. The two girl in the act of dashing through another doorway, turn round as they hear her voice.

Caption: Suddenly -

<u>Malpais</u>: Greetings, my dears! You appear to be looking for something. What can it be, I wonder?

Electra & Fauna: Malpais!

29. Close-up of Malpais with a mocking expression on her face.

<u>Malpais</u>: Unfortunately, you are too late. What you seek is already in the hands of my agents. Excellent fellows! You have met them, of course?

30. The two girls shown with Malpais, who still has her mocking smile.

Electra: You won't get away with this, Malpais!

<u>Malpais</u>: But I have, my dears! Admit it – I have beaten you! Tomorrow, I shall dictate my terms to the world's governments.

31. View from above, looking down on the city, showing the houses and some larger buildings, including the temple. The buildings are shown shaking, some starting to collapse, and a large crack has appeared across the open space in front of the temple.

Caption: At that moment

Voice from the temple: The earthquake – it's starting –

32. Inside the temple. The girls and Malpais shown dodging as the roof starts to fall in.

Fauna: Out of here quick, before we're flattened -

33. Outside the temple, showing the doorway with the heavy lintel stone partly dislodged from its position. Fauna and Electra are running for safety, but Electra has paused and half-turned as she points to the stone.

Caption: Outside the temple -

Electra: Wait, Fauna - that stone it's - shaken loose -

34. Show Electra's hand, with electricity streaming from it towards the stone, which has now fallen, raising a cloud of dust, blocking the doorway.

Caption: A well-aimed bolt of electricity helped the huge stone on its way.

<u>Electra's voice from off-picture</u>: That should slow Malpais down, anyway . . .

35. In the city, people fleeing in terror, stones and rubble showering down.

Fauna snatches Electra back as a statue topples.

Caption: Amid crashing buildings, the Supercats made their way out of the city.

Fauna: Electra - watch out!

36. In the jungle now. The girls shown scrambling over fallen trees.

<u>Fauna</u>: Can we be sure the casket really did contain the crystals?

<u>Electra</u>: We can't – but who's going to risk checking? Malpais could still use it to bluff the world!

37. Back in the clearing. The robocar seen in the distance. Fauna and Electra are racing towards it.

<u>Fauna</u>: Unless WE can come up with the real thing! Electra: Wait till Helen hears all that's happened!

38. Outside the robocar. Helen is standing beside it, while Hercula is visible inside.

Fauna and Electra have rushed up, breathless.

Caption: But -

Fauna: Helen - listen -

Electra: You'll never guess -

<u>Helen</u>: Later, girls! Just get aboard. There's been an important message – the boffins think they now know exactly where the crystals are hidden!

SUPERCATS ON THE ISLAND OF STEAM

Introductory Caption: Stripped of their badges – dismissed from Cat Patrol in disgrace! This was the cover story for the Supercats' top secret mission – to find a container of deadly xandium crystals, left behind on Earth by an alien ship.

Released, the crystals could destroy the oxygen in the atmosphere, ending all life on Earth!

The girls learned someone else was on the trail of the crystals – the mysterious Malpais. Her aim – to hold the world to ransom. The Supercats knew they just had to get there first . . .

Then an important message came through. The experts had come up with a clue –

1. Inside the hideout. Helen is studying a strip of paper with a coded message, watched by the other girls. In this episode the Supercats are once again shown without their badges.

Caption: At the hideout -

Electra: What's the message, Helen?

<u>Helen</u>: They believe the crystals are on an island – somewhere in the Pacific!

2. The robocar, showing the girls inside, emerging from the opening in the mountainside.

Helen: Let's go, girls!

Hercula: And quick - before Malpais catches up -

3. View from inside the robocar as it dives steeply towards the sea far below. The girls are gazing out in horror.

Caption: But, over the ocean -

Fauna: What's happening? We're taking a dive -

Helen: We seem to be out of control! I don't understand this

4. Distant view, showing the robocar just entering the water, at a steep angle.

Voice from robocar: Close the water-tight seals!

5. Inside the robocar, which is now under water.

Caption: As the robocar plunged ever deeper -

<u>Electra</u>: We're in trouble: There's no breathing equipment aboard –

Fauna: We'll all suffocate!

6. Fauna and Electra have now collapsed, unconscious. Helen on the verge of collapse. Hercula, looking a bit dazed, is peering out of the robocar as it continues to dive.

Below, blurred and wavery, is the vague outline of some underwater structure with lighted windows.

Caption: One by one the girls keeled over. Only Hercula remained half-conscious.

<u>Helen</u>: Can't – can't breathe –

<u>Hercula</u>: Lights – getting nearer . . . Am I seeing things?

7. The robocar is now inside the pressure-lock of the undersea station, which has watertight doors, like a submarine. The girls are climbing out of the robocar.

Beside the watertight doors stand two men dressed in lab coats.

Caption: A few minutes later -

Fauna: Whew!

Electra: Just in time!

Hercula: Where are we?

Scientist: This is an undersea research station. It is not often

we have the pleasure of such charming visitors!

8. Closer view – Helen and the scientist who spoke are shown in front of the doors. The scientist waves his hand towards the doors as he speaks.

<u>Helen</u>: Thank you – but we're in difficulties. Trouble with our transport –

<u>Scientist</u>: No problem! We have a mini-sub. Please come this way, ladies. We shall be delighted to help!

9. Inside the main part of the research station. On one side, a large window shows fish swimming past. At the other, a panel showing dials with pointers, and a swing door next to it.

At the far end, Hercula and Electra are being ushered through another door by the two scientists. Fauna has lingered to gaze at the fish, while Helen has stopped to examine the dials.

Caption: Helen's suspicions were aroused.

<u>Helen</u> (thinks): They're just a bit TOO helpful! And those dials – what do they need all that high-voltage current for?

10. Helen has pushed open the swing door, and inside the room she sees a large electro-magnet. A third scientist, who working in the room, swings round to shout angrily at her.

Caption: The Supercats' captain decided to investigate – <u>Helen</u> (thinks): A giant magnet! This explains everything – Man: Get out of here!

11. Helen shown running towards Fauna, who is standing by the window with the fish visible outside.

<u>Helen</u>: Fauna – I think we're in danger! This place isn't what it seems. Warn the others –

12. Outside the window, a transparent diving sphere is now shown floating, with Hercula and Electra inside it. Fauna and Helen gaze out in alarm.

Caption: For Hercula and Electra, the warning came too late

<u>Fauna</u>: Oh, no – they're prisoners!

Helen: I've a funny feeling I know who's behind all this . . .

13. Malpais has made a dramatic entry. Helen and Fauna shown in the background.

Caption: Next minute -

<u>Helen</u> (thinks): Malpais – I was right!

<u>Malpais</u>: You seem to be off somewhere in a great hurry, my dears. Could it be you have some information that I lack? We shall soon see.. Jarn – set the timing device!

14. A wider view, showing the sphere containing Hercula and Electra outside the window. Malpais waves her arm towards it as she speaks.

<u>Helen</u>: What timing device? What are you plotting now, Malpais?

<u>Malpais</u>: After three hours, a valve will open, flooding the sphere. Your friends will drown!

15. Another view as above.

<u>Malpais</u>: Of course, if the xandium crystals should be in my hands before then, I might spare their lives . . . It is up to you, my dears!

Fauna: Looks like we don't have much choice!

16. The robocar with Helen and Fauna inside shown zooming out and up from the undersea station.

Caption: Supplied with oxygen, Helen and Fauna set out for the surface.

Fauna: What are we going to do, Helen?

<u>Helen</u>: First – find the container! Then we'll think up some way of dealing with Malpais –

17. A view showing the ocean with some small islands, and the robocar zooming high above.

Caption: But -

Voices from robocar:

- 1) Hundreds of tiny islands!
- 2) And we only have three hours -

18. Helen's head shown, looking out of the robocar.

Helen: Wait Fauna – I've got a hunch . . . Take us down –

19. Helen and Fauna are standing beside the robocar, on the island. Nearby, one or two pools of bubbling mud. Jets of steam shooting up here and there.

Caption: At Helen's instructions, Fauna landed on an island covered with hot springs and pools of boiling mud.

Fauna: Phew - even the ground's scorching -

<u>Helen</u>: Yes – and we know the Krull people came from a very hot planet. This could be one of the few spots on Earth where they wouldn't have risked freezing to death!

20. The girls are shown among rocks and boulders. Fauna points to where the container can be half-seen, wedged under a large slab of rock.

Caption: Soon afterwards -

Fauna: Your bunch was right, Helen! Look – under that rock

_

Helen: I'll radio Malpais -

- 21. Half-length view of Helen, as she uses her two-way radio. <u>Helen</u>: Helen to Malpais Container located! Bring Hercula and Electra here. Then we'll see about an exchange.
- 22. View inside the research station, showing the sphere with the two girls, and Malpais in front of the window, also using a two- way radio.

Helen's voice comes from the radio.

<u>Malpais</u>: Very well – but no tricks, or it will be the worse for your friends!

<u>Helen's voice</u>: Don't worry, Malpais. Even the Supercats know when they're beaten –

23. Close-up view of Helen and Fauna.

Fauna: Helen! You didn't mean that, did you?

Helen: Calm down, Fauna! Listen -

24. Malpais has landed on the island, along with Hercula and Electra who are guarded by two of the "scientists" armed with some sort of ray-guns.

In the background appears the mini-sub, with several armed men on it. At one side Helen is appearing from among the puffs of steam rising from the mud.

Caption: Shortly afterwards, the mini-sub arrived.

Malpais: Where are you? I warned you to try no tricks –

Helen: Here we are!

<u>Electra</u> (thinks): We? I don't see Fauna . . . Helen's up to something –

25. Helen speaking to Malpais. A short distance away, Hercula and Electra seen with their two guards. Malpais makes an imperious gesture towards her men as she speaks, Helen: We'll need Hercula's help to free the container. Malpais: Bring her here: Watch every move she makes!

26. Hercula now raising the slab of rock, revealing the container. The two guards stand a little way off, their ray-guns pointed at her.

In the background, Helen, Electra, and Malpais.

Caption: Using her incredible strength, Supercat Hercula raised the huge rock.

<u>Helen</u> (thinks): They're not watching Electra – now's my chance:

27. Electra shown firing off a bolt of electricity at the rayguns in the guards' hands. Hercula has lifted the container, ready to run.

Caption: Helen rapped out her command -

<u>Helen</u>: Electra – disarm the guards! Hercula – make for the robocar!

28. Long shot, showing the group on the island, and the robocar floating far out to sea. Malpais is pointing towards it.

<u>Malpais</u>: Well tried, my dears – but it won't work! Look – <u>Electra</u>: The robocar – they've set it adrift!

29. Closer view, showing Malpais and Helen. Malpais stands with her back to the sea, looking very pleased with herself. Helen faces towards the robocar which, in the distance behind Malpais back, is starting to take off from the surface of the sea.

Malpais: It pays to keep one step ahead - does it not?

Helen: Too right, Malpais - WATCH OUT!

Caption: As Helen spoke, the robocar took off from the sea

30. The robocar now shown diving of speed on the island. There appears to be no one in it. Malpais' men are running, one jumping from the rocks into the sea to swim to the minisub, which is shown offshore.

Malpais holds up one arm as if to protect herself while stretching the other out towards her departing helpers.

Caption: And -

Guard: There's no pilot! It's going to crash!

2nd Guard: Let's get away from here -

Malpais: Stop - come back - I command you!

31. The robocar has now landed, and Fauna is half-visible inside it. Helen and Electra stand beside the robocar. Hercula is running and pointing off-picture.

Caption: A few minutes later, the robocar landed – and Fauna became visible at the controls!

<u>Helen</u>: Fauna was on board all the time – camouflaged –

Hercula: Quick - grab Malpais - don't let her get away -

32. A thick jet of steam shown gushing up from one of the mud pools. Dim figure of Malpais visible through it.

Caption: Suddenly a huge jet of steam shot up -

Malpais' voice: Aaargh!

33. Fauna, Hercula, and Electra shown gazing at the spot where Malpais vanished.

Fauna: The mud pool - she must have slipped -

Hercula: Or else she's bluffing!

Electra: Maybe we'll find out some day . . .

34. Helen shown standing beside the robocar, with the container at her feet, The others shown some way off.

Helen: Never mind that now, girls – pile aboard. Let's get this lot to Moonbase 4 before anything else happens!

35. The robocar shown seeming up into the air.

Voices of the girls:

- 1) Mission accomplished!
- 2) Lynx here we come!

36, In a room at Moonbase 4. On a table is set out the flat cushion (as seen in Episode 1), with the girls' badges displayed on it. There are also four large envelopes, each with one of the girls' names on it.

Hercula is making to pick hers up as she speaks.

Caption: At Moonbase 4 -

<u>Helen</u>: Look, girls – Electra: Our badges!

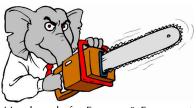
Hercula: And what's this?

37. Hercula has opened her envelope and taken out a large invitation card. Show lines of script, with the name "Supercat Hercula" about the middle, then a signature at the bottom.

The other girls are busy fastening on their badges.

<u>Hercula</u>: Dinner with Moonbase Commander! My, my – we ARE going in the world –

Fauna: Well – but for us, there might not BE a world!



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