

CAPTAIN SCARLET

AND THE

MYSTERONS

"CONCERT COMPLEXITY"

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"Concert Complexity"

Written by
Richard O'Neill

Adapted by
Andrew Hsieh

Teleplay based on the mini-album
Captain Scarlet is Indestructible

FADE IN:

EXT. SHANNON AIRPORT RUNWAY

A passenger jet touches down on the runway.

CUT TO:

EXT. SHANNON AIRPORT TARMAC

AIRPORT TANNOY (V.O.)
(through speakers)
Shannon Airport announces the arrival of Flight 15 from Salzburg. Passengers and luggage will check in at baggage reception in 5 minutes.

Two Irish Baggage Handlers are loading heavy baggage from a cart to a bag belt.

BAGGAGE HANDLER 1
Er, will you move this big crate next?

BAGGAGE HANDLER 2
Okay, but be careful them instrument cases.

They place both their arms underneath the instrument crate, and struggle together to move it out of the way.

BAGGAGE HANDLER 2
(grunts, while moving crate)
Take your hand over...
(still struggling, continues grunting)
...not too much.

They lift it up.

BAGGAGE HANDLER 2
(gives a big shove)
Steady.

Baggage Handler 1's foot steps on a violin case, causing it to smash. They put down the crate for a moment.

BAGGAGE HANDLER 2

(annoyed)

Oh, be bothered - look what you did, right on that fiddle case!

They lift it up again and move away from the instruments.

BAGGAGE HANDLER 2

So...

(grunts)

...easy now.

The green Mysteron rings slide over the smashed violin.

Baggage Handler 2 looks on in surprise as he sees there is another violin, intact, right next to the destroyed one.

BAGGAGE HANDLER 2

Well, I'll be, will you look at that! I could have sworn there was only one fiddle under it, not two.

He picks up the destroyed case and hands it to his companion.

BAGGAGE HANDLER 2

Here, get that smashed one out of sight. Nobody will ever notice it's missing.

CUT TO:

INT. SHANNON AIRPORT RECEPTION

Members of the Salzburg Symphony Orchestra are loudly chattering, and waiting for their instruments.

AIRPORT TANNOY (V.O.)

(through speakers)

Flight 15 baggage from Salzburg, now at reception.

The Orchestra Leader, bearing the likeness of composer Barry Gray, interrupts the chattering.

ORCHESTRA LEADER

Gentlemen, gentlemen!
Remember, you are the Salzburg
Symphony Orchestra, not a
bunch of tourists. Yes, all
our instruments are here.
Come, we have one more
rehearsal before the concert.
The hall has been arranged for
us.

TITLE: "CONCERT COMPLEXITY"

STACCATO CUT TO:

INT. BALLYGLASS VILLAGE HALL

Various musicians tune their
instruments. The Orchestra
Leader is at his lectern,
calling them to order.

ORCHESTRA LEADER

We are all ready? Good. First,
the string section. Violins,
ready? One, two, three!

They start playing a composition
originally heard in
Thunderbirds.

HUMAN HAND: The violinist, with
the instrument resting on his
shoulder, places the bow on the
strings.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALLYGLASS VILLAGE HALL

BOOM! The building explodes.

STACCATO CUT TO:

MAIN TITLESMYSTERON (V.O.)

This is the voice of the
Mysterons.

We know that you can hear us,
Earthmen.

We shall take revenge for your
attack on our martian city.

(MORE)

MYSTERON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
We shall destroy the World
Cultural Council.

STACCATO CUT TO:

EXT. CLOUDBASE - DAY

A Spectrum Passenger Jet lands
on the platform.

CUT TO:

INT. CLOUDBASE SPECTRUM CONTROL

Lieutenant Green at his console.

Captain Blue sits opposite
Colonel White's desk.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Colonel White, Dr. Brodski of
the World Cultural Council has
just landed. She'll be along
in a few minutes.

COLONEL WHITE

SIG, Lieutenant Green.

He turns to face Blue.

COLONEL WHITE

Now, Captain Blue, 20 minutes
after the Mysteron message was
received, the Salzburg
Symphony Orchestra was
destroyed by an explosion in
the village hall at
Ballyglass.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Ballyglass, Colonel?

COLONEL WHITE

Two miles from the Athlone
Entertainments Complex, where
the World Cultural Congress is
to open tonight. If the
orchestra had not been
destroyed, prematurely, the
explosion would have wiped out
the World Cultural Council at
tonight's gala concert. You
will proceed immediately to
Athlone.

(MORE)

COLONEL WHITE (CONT'D)

We can't give the Mysterons any encouragement by cancelling the congress, but we can take all precautions possible against Mysteron action.

CAPTAIN BLUE

SIG, sir.

Dr. Brodski, blond hair with a heavy Eastern European accent, late 40s, wearing a forest green jacket, moves along the walkway.

COLONEL WHITE

Lieutenant Green, I want an Angel flight on red alert for the next 24 hours. And have Captain Scarlet and Rhapsody Angel report to me immediately.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Yes, sir.

She stops in front of Colonel White, and begins to snap in his face.

DR. BRODSKI

Colonel White, am I to have an explanation of your conduct? An unfortunate accident involves an orchestra, and I'm dragged to your Cloudbase under guard and told some fantastic tale of a conspiracy. You're ridiculous policemen!

COLONEL WHITE

(reassuringly)

My men are not policemen, Dr. Brodski. They are picked men; the world's finest. Chosen and trained for one task...

DR. BRODSKI

Yes, to combat these aliens. These so-called "Mysterons" who nobody has ever seen!

COLONEL WHITE

Captain Scarlet, Rhapsody Angel, come in now.

Captain Scarlet and Rhapsody Angel enter, and move along the walkway. They stop right next to a displeased Brodski.

COLONEL WHITE

You know your assignment.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Yes, Colonel.

COLONEL WHITE

Dr. Brodski is the head of the World Cultural Council. If the council should be destroyed, the whole of the world's leisure organisation would collapse. And in our modern world, where people have little labour to take of their time, and that could lead to widespread unrest; even riots, and general panic. You will guard Dr. Brodski at all times.

DR. BRODSKI

(scoffs)

This is a waste of time.

COLONEL WHITE

With due regard to Dr. Brodski's feelings, Rhapsody Angel will share your assignment, Captain Scarlet. Perhaps the feminine touch...

DR. BRODSKI

Bah!

No reaction to Brodski's attitude from the Spectrum personnel.

Rhapsody makes an effort to help her.

RHAPSODY ANGEL

Maybe we should be on our way now, Dr. Brodski. There's your luggage to be picked up at your hotel before we go onto Athlone.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HOTEL - DAY

A Saloon Car stops outside the entrance.

CUT TO:

INT. BRODSKI'S ROOM

Brodski removes her jacket, not paying full attention to Scarlet or Rhapsody.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Should I bring down your baggage, Doctor? We should be on our way; it'll take us about an hour to get to Athlone.

DR. BRODSKI

First, I change and take a shower. I trust Captain Scarlet, you will not insist on accompanying me.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Well, I erm... I'll wait here.

RHAPSODY ANGEL

And I'll wait outside your room, Doctor.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM

We see only a silhouette of Brodski* inside a bathtub - curtains fully closed. She is feeling relaxed, and happy for the first time.

* (No naked puppet will be made visible.)

DR. BRODSKI

(sighs; hums)

Oh, how relaxing the water is.

(continues humming)

Oh, how very relaxing.

(yawns)

I feel so tired.

The green Mysteron rings slide over her unconscious body.

Captain Black stands at the door.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Dr. Brodski. This is Captain Black, relaying instructions from the Mysterons. The water of your shower contained a quick-acting poison. Tonight, at the concert, you will trigger a bomb that will destroy the Athlone Complex. The charge has been planted, but you will wait until the members of the World Cultural Council are all present.

We reveal a Mysteronised Brodski, fully clothed.

DR. BRODSKI

I understand.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOTEL

Rhapsody stands next to the Saloon, as Brodski approaches.

DR. BRODSKI

Angel, or whatever you are, if we are in such a hurry, where is Captain Scarlet?

RHAPSODY ANGEL

Er, well Captain Scarlet had some, umm, urgent business to attend to. He'll rejoin us at Athlone.

They both get into the car. Rhapsody starts the engine.

DR. BRODSKI

Good. Very good. Let us go then, hmm? Just you and I.

It drives off.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR

Scarlet, not noticing, has his eye on something else, as Captain Black discreetly slips out of Brodski's room. Scarlet turns round to see him walking away - no contact.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

I'll swear that was Captain Black. Oh, well, I lost him now. But I had that feeling. I better check Dr. Brodski's room, just in case it was Black.

CUT TO:

INT. BRODSKI'S ROOM

Scarlet walks through, gun drawn from his pocket. Seems to be very suspicious so far.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Okay... And that only leaves the bathroom.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM

We only see his reaction to what he discovers, as he walks through the door.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Great space! I'll have to contact Rhapsody. No, no, I can't do that; Brodski will hear.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOTEL

Scarlet, in a hurry, finds a hotel clerk.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Quickly, the lady and girl I was with, when did they leave?

HOTEL CLERK

Oh, they checked out about 30 minutes ago, sir.

CAPTAIN SCARLET
 (to himself)
 That does it.

He activates his cap mike.

CUT TO:

INT. SPECTRUM SALOON CAR

Blue is at the wheel, driving through a countryside.

CAPTAIN SCARLET (V.O.)
 Captain Blue, come in, please?

CAPTAIN BLUE
 Captain Blue.

CAPTAIN SCARLET (V.O.)
 Rhapsody Angel left for Athlone with Brodski, 30 minutes ago. And Brodski is now a Mysteron.

STACCATO CUT TO:

EXT. CLOUDBASE

Establishing.

CUT TO:

INT. CLOUDBASE SPECTRUM CONTROL

Colonel White speaks through the microphone, addressing Blue, on his desk.

COLONEL WHITE
 Captain Scarlet is proceeding along the autobahn in an SPV, Captain Blue. I've instructed him to meet you at the main entrance to the complex. You must then carry out an immediate search for Brodski and Rhapsody Angel.

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)
 SIG, sir. I've been informed by the Athlone Complex security staff that Dr. Brodski and Rhapsody Angel have arrived, and are somewhere in the grounds.

He disconnects the mike.

COLONEL WHITE
Lieutenant Green.

LIEUTENANT GREEN
Yes, sir?

COLONEL WHITE
Launch Angel flight, and get
me Angel leader.

LIEUTENANT GREEN
Sir.

He turns to his console and
presses a switch.

LIEUTENANT GREEN
Angel flight, immediate
launch.

CUT TO:

STOCK FOOTAGE

Angel launch sequence.

CUT TO:

INT. CLOUDBASE SPECTRUM CONTROL

LIEUTENANT GREEN
All Angels skyborne, sir.

CUT TO:

INT. ANGEL 1 COCKPIT

Destiny Angel turns on her mike.

COLONEL WHITE (V.O.)
Destiny Angel.

DESTINY ANGEL
Yes, sir?

COLONEL WHITE (V.O.)
Mag course: 4-5-0 magnetic.
Objective: Athlone
Entertainments Complex. Circle
and observe. Further orders
will come from Captain Blue.

DESTINY ANGEL
SIG, Colonel.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKY

The three Angels continue flying, off into the horizon.

STACCATO CUT TO:

ACT BREAK

FADE IN:

EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK - DAY

We see people enjoying a whole load of rides and fairground activities. It is extremely crowded, but full of happiness and no sign of danger.

Scarlet walks towards Blue, who is waiting at the fairground entrance.

CAPTAIN BLUE

They're here, alright, Captain Scarlet, but finding them in this crowd.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Let's work our way towards the concert hall.

Elsewhere, Brodski feels tempted to distract Rhapsody.

RHAPSODY ANGEL

But, Dr. Brodski, we really must get to the concert hall. All these old fairground amusements are very interesting, but...

DR. BRODSKI

Oh, patience, my dear. Plenty of time. The council members will not have arrived yet. Do you know, some of these machines are over a hundred years old. Like this one, for instance.

She points at a scary-themed ride - "The Ghost Train".

RHAPSODY ANGEL

The - the Ghost Train?

DR. BRODSKI

(chuckles)

So amusing. Come I'll show you.

They take their seat in the small car.

It begins to move slowly, right into -

CUT TO:

INT. GHOST TRAIN RIDE

- the dark tunnel. We see a mixture of ghosts, skeletons, and zombies. We hear sounds of horrifying and wicked laughter.

DR. BRODSKI

Are you pleasantly scared, my dear, mmm?

RHAPSODY ANGEL

Really, Doctor, I hardly think I -
(gasps)
Oh!

She suddenly faints.

DR. BRODSKI

No, and you will not think for some time after that little injection. Wait here in the darkness, and by the time you come round and already discovered, my work will be done!

More laughter - all isn't good.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK

Brodski walks past the ride's exit. Rhapsody remains unconscious in her seat.

DR. BRODSKI

Now, to lose myself in the crowd for just a little longer.

Captains Scarlet and Blue are getting closer to the concert hall.

CAPTAIN BLUE

We have enough hope of finding her, it's like looking for one meteor in a universe. Captain Scarlet, what's wrong?

Scarlet begins to feel a slight headache.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

I ... I feel faint. It's ... it's ...
(beat)
Captain Blue, she must be ... near.

He feels fine again.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Of course! Whenever you come near a Mysteron, you - look there.

They spot Brodski in the distance. She doesn't notice them.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Yes, I see her. But we can't risk starting a panic.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Yes, she may do anything if she sees us. We can't risk innocent lives. We'll trail her.

They start following her, discreetly.

Brodski slips past the entrance of a roller coaster ride - "Big Dipper". She takes a seat in a train.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Stay here and observe, Captain. I'm gonna take a ride.

Blue takes a seat, just right behind her, trying to avoid suspicion.

The train departs.

From a wide angle, we can see the train moving forward on a number of slopes; slow then fast, and repeat.

Blue holds onto his cap, making sure that it doesn't fly away.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Gee, give me a Spectrum Pursuit Vehicle, any day.

The train terminates at the finishing point.

Suddenly, he notices that Brodski has vanished.

CAPTAIN BLUE

What, where is she? Oh, she's gone!

He turns on his mike.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Scarlet.

CAPTAIN SCARLET (V.O.)

She jumped, Blue, on slow bottom stretch right where your view is obscured. And I've also found Rhapsody Angel lying unconscious; Brodski must've injected an anaesthetic to keep her quiet.

CAPTAIN BLUE

The devil she did!

CAPTAIN SCARLET (V.O.)

She's moving south, towards the concert hall.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Get after her, Captain Scarlet. I'll follow.

Brodski approaches the entrance to the concert hall.

DR. BRODSKI

Oh, I must shake them off! Now, almost there!

Scarlet spots the Angels flying overhead.

CUT TO:

INT. ANGEL 1 COCKPIT

DESTINY ANGEL

Destiny Angel to Captain Blue, what orders?

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)

Circle concert hall to south of complex. Further orders from Captain Scarlet.

DESTINY ANGEL

SIG, Captain.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKY

The Angels make a bank turn.

CUT TO:

EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK

Scarlet arrives at the concert hall entrance. It is a fairly large dome, like the Royal Albert Hall.

He activates his mike.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

I can't get a clear shot at her; too many people.

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)

Captain Scarlet, get that hall cleared - I don't care how. And as soon as it's clear, call in Angel strike. Brodski must be stopped.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

SIG.

CUT TO:

INT. CONCERT HALL

It is packed. Dozens of council members chatter as they wait. No sign of Brodski.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Might start a panic, but I've got to risk it!

He raises his gun and fires several shots in the air.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Everybody outside!

The members turn round in shock.

PANICKING WOMAN

(gasps)

Oh, it's a madman!

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Outside, move! Fast!

They all rush to the exits, screaming and yelling in fear.

PANICKING WOMAN

Outside! Outside!

PANICKING MAN

Get out, everyone! Get out!

The fleeing continues, then slowly fades.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Brodski, Dr. Brodski! You've failed! Give yourself up, maybe I'll...

Brodski reveals herself from behind the stage curtains. She is holding a remote detonator.

DR. BRODSKI

No, Earthman! The Mysteron threat will be carried out. As soon as I trigger the charge, this whole complex goes sky high!

She walks off.

CAPTAIN SCARLET
(through his mike)
Come in, Angel leader.

CUT TO:

INT. ANGEL 1 COCKPIT

DESTINY ANGEL
Angel leader, here.

CAPTAIN SCARLET (V.O.)
Concert hall - the north end:
destroy. You'll have time for
one run, it'll better be
accurate.

DESTINY ANGEL
SIG.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKY

The Angels make a turn. They
approach the concert hall, about
to begin their run-in.

CUT TO:

INT. ANGEL 1 COCKPIT

DESTINY ANGEL
Firing missile... now!

CUT TO:

EXT. SKY

They fire several missiles
directly at the complex.
Multiple explosions and debris
scattering everywhere.

CUT TO:

INT. ANGEL 1 COCKPIT

DESTINY ANGEL
Voila! Smack on!

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)
Captain Blue to Angel leader,
can you see Captain Scarlet
near the hall?

DESTINY ANGEL

No, Captain. I thought... I thought he was with you.

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)

Then, then he must have given the order to fire.

DESTINY ANGEL

(gasps)

From inside the hall? Oh no!

CUT TO:

EXT. CONCERT HALL

Blue is surrounded by flames and wreckage. The building is heavily damaged by the strike.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Break contact and return to -

DESTINY ANGEL (V.O.)

But, Captain!

CAPTAIN BLUE

Return to base, that's an order.

DESTINY ANGEL (V.O.)

(reluctantly)

SIG, Captain.

The Angels fly off.

Blue remains on the scene, worried about the whereabouts of Scarlet.

CAPTAIN BLUE

(calls out)

Captain Scarlet! *Captain Scarlet!*

(beat)

No, no one could have survived that blast. But the Doctor said, "indestructible". I wonder...

No sound, absolute silence.

FADE OUT:

END TITLES