

# CAPTAIN SCARLET

AND THE

# MYSTERONS

"SPECTRUM IS MAROON"

CAPTAIN SCARLET AND THE MYSTERONS

"Spectrum is Maroon"

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Teleplay based on the mini-album  
*Captain Scarlet versus Captain Black*

FADE IN:

**EXT. CORNISH COAST - DAY**

It is very sunny. Along the fields of grass, we see a small figure running for his life. He isn't too far from the coast - the brink of death.

Captain Blue hides beneath a tree stump, using binoculars and his cap mike.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Here he goes! Over that rise, about 300 yards right on my position. Can you see him, Captain Ochre?

CAPTAIN OCHRE (V.O.)

I see him, Captain Blue, and he's trapped. There's nothing on his back, but the sea. And he'll never make it down the cliff faces in a sheer drop. He'll have to give up.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Give up? Don't you believe it, you've had field experience. Have you ever known a Mysteron agent who'd give himself up?

CAPTAIN OCHRE (V.O.)

Will you call in the Angel strike?

CAPTAIN BLUE

No. You have the new electro-ray rifle, and this is your chance to give it a real test. The Spectrum scientist claimed it'll be effective on Mysteronised subjects, and you're gonna see if you're right. Can you get a clear shot of him?

CAPTAIN OCHRE (V.O.)

SIG, Captain.

We reveal Captain Ochre, holding a long futuristic rifle, but feeling nervous at the same time. He positions himself behind a rock, and aims at the figure.

CAPTAIN OCHRE  
Range 100... there.

He fires. The figure trips and begins to lose his balance.

CAPTAIN OCHRE  
Got him!

The figure screams, as he falls off the cliff into the water.

Ochre reacts in horror to what he has done.

CAPTAIN OCHRE  
Oh no! Oh, that's awful!  
Awful! I never thought...

Blue approaches.

CAPTAIN BLUE  
Good shooting, Captain. Hey, what's the matter? You look real beat.

CAPTAIN OCHRE  
(stammers)  
The effect of this rifle, it's... it's frightening. He... he just wasn't a man anymore. It just... just...

He puts the rifle down, feeling ashamed.

CAPTAIN BLUE  
Captain Ochre, get one fact very firmly fixed in your mind. We are not fighting against men, we're fighting against Mysterons. And although they may look like men, they are completely inhuman. They have no feelings, no minds of their own, they're just puppets. What you killed was already dead, he died when the Mysterons took over. Remember that, always.

CAPTAIN OCHRE  
(realises)  
Yes. Yes, you're right, Captain, it was only that for a moment...

CAPTAIN BLUE

Forget it. It's a tough job, Captain, but it has to be done. Now, let's get back to the SPV and report that the electro-ray rifle works. It'll be standard equipment in all patrol and pursuit vehicles, from now on.

STACCATO CUT TO:

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

Captain Black stands underneath a damp tree, right by the gates, making telepathic communication with the Mysterons.

MYSTERON (V.O.)

This is the voice of the Mysterons. Captain Black, explain the failure of agent in Cornwall.

CAPTAIN BLACK

The Cornish agent was eliminated by members of Spectrum. They used a new weapon. A rifle which can immediately destroy, even a subject possessing the power of the Mysterons.

MYSTERON (V.O.)

The weapon the Earthmen plan to use against us shall be turned on them. You will obtain one of these weapons. It will be a new tool in our campaign against Earth.

CAPTAIN BLACK

(laughs evilly)

TITLE: "SPECTRUM IS MAROON"

STACCATO CUT TO:

EXT. FARM

Situated on an open field of the countryside. We see a middle-aged farmer tossing corn at his chickens. He puts a few eggs inside a basket.

FARMER

There, my dears, easy now. I'm just gathering your eggs.

He turns round, noticing Black who is wearing his Spectrum outfit.

FARMER

Allo then. What can I do for you, stranger?

CAPTAIN BLACK

Spectrum. SPV required, urgent.

FARMER

Oh, aye. Identification then.

HUMAN HAND: Black shows his Spectrum pass.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Yeah, and I'm in a hurry.

FARMER

Alright then. That grain silo's got what you want.

(beat)

Here, hold on a bit? Let's see that identity again. I thought...

CAPTAIN BLACK

Too slow, Earthman.

Starting to realise that this is all a ruse, he recognises the identity of the Mysteron agent.

FARMER

You're Captain Black!

Black punches him to the ground, knocking him unconscious.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Good. Very good. This should bring Spectrum to me, but I'll need protection. I think I know how...

We hear engines roaring, coming from the silo. Grain scatters all over the place, revealing the SPV. It drives off, right onto the road.

The farmer watches in horror.

CUT TO:

**EXT. CLOUDBASE**

Establishing.

CUT TO:

**INT. CLOUDBASE SPECTRUM CONTROL**

Lieutenant Green at his console.  
Colonel White stands next to  
him.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Colonel, an urgent message.

FARMER (V.O.)

Vehicle Base 60E to Cloudbase,  
report theft of SPV.

COLONEL WHITE

Position of Base 60E, quickly.

On the console video screen, we  
see footage of the stolen SPV -  
from satellite perspective. Next  
to it, an illuminated chart  
displaying a map covering Devon.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

North Devon, England. Video  
tracker in clear focus, sir.  
One subject only. Moving south  
from Exeter area.

COLONEL WHITE

Prepare to launch Angel  
flight, Lieutenant. And get me  
Captain Blue, I'll speak to  
him direct.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Wait... subject's stopped,  
Colonel. Unless the video  
tracker's out of commission,  
he's in the middle of Bodmin.

COLONEL WHITE

Hold Angel flight.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

SIG, sir.

He flicks a switch and begins to speak through the mike.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Captain Blue, report your position.

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)

Blue, here. Captain Scarlet and I are at Southampton Heliport.

COLONEL WHITE

Captain Blue, a stolen SPV, driven by Captain Black, is now in the centre of Bodmin, Cornwall. All available agents, take position on the Tamar Bridges. And you and Captain Scarlet, get into Cornwall and after him. You have the new rifle. This may be our chance to dispose of Black, once and for all.

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)

SIG, Colonel.

STACCATO CUT TO:

**EXT. BODMIN COUNTRYSIDE**

Three children, Timmy, Betty, and Robert, see the SPV stopping on the road.

TIMMY

Gosh, what a smashing car. I bet that can really move.

BETTY

But there ain't no windows. How does the driver see where he's going?

Its door opens. Black exits from his seat.

ROBERT

Cor, what a crafty uniform. All black.

BETTY

'Ere, mister. Would you tell us how you drive your car?



CAPTAIN BLACK

(eagerly)

Well, my dear, it's pretty difficult to explain. It's a special kind of car.

TIMMY

I'll say it is. Would you... would you let us take a look inside, mister?

CAPTAIN BLACK

Well, I'm not sure...

BETTY

Please, mister.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Well, I'll tell you what I'll do, since you're such nice children. I'll take you for a short trip.

TIMMY

Super.

BETTY

Fab! Come on, Robert.

ROBERT

No, I can't. Supposed to be home by now. I ought to.

TIMMY

Alright, baby. You run on home, but I'm not missing the chance.

BETTY

Nor me.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Alright, quickly now. Up you come.

Betty climbs into the SPV, Timmy follows.

CAPTAIN BLACK

That's it. Now you, son.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Right, we'll be on our way.

Black positions himself on his seat, it automatically moves back inside the vehicle.

ROBERT

Betty, Timmy, don't go...

The SPV drives off.

CUT TO:

**INT. CLOUDBASE SPECTRUM CONTROL**

White and Green as before.

LIEUTENANT GREEN

Subject moving again, Colonel.

COLONEL WHITE

Captain Blue, what's your position?

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)

Just crossing the Tamar River, Colonel. All roads out of Cornwall now covered.

COLONEL WHITE

Good. Black's heading for Truro across Bodmin Moor. Get after him.

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)

SIG, Colonel.

CUT TO:

**EXT. PENGENNY COTTAGE**

A small and quiet cottage, situated near the roads.

Mrs. Pengenny, Betty's mother, mid 30s, wearing an apron, opens the front door.

MRS. PENGENNY

(calls out)

Betty! Betty, teatime! Betty? Betty, where are you?

Robert suddenly appears, completely out of breath.

ROBERT

Mrs. Pengenny, Mrs. Pengenny!

MRS. PENGENNY

Robert! Where... where's Betty? I thought she was with you and Timmy.

ROBERT

They've... they've gone off...  
a funny kind of car with a man  
in a black uniform.

Mrs. Pengenny is horrified.

MRS. PENGENNY

Car? Black uniform? Oh my  
sakes! Oh dear, I hardly... Oh  
quick, Robert, me love, you  
come with me. We're going to  
the police as fast as us knows  
how!

CUT TO:

**EXT. COUNTRYSIDE**

The SPV continues driving along  
the roads, at a crucial speed.

CUT TO:

**INT. SPV**

Betty and Timmy sit opposite  
each other, with Black at the  
wheel.

BETTY

We are we going, mister?

CAPTAIN BLACK

Not very far. Don't worry,  
think of it as a mystery tour.  
(laughs evilly)  
A "mystery" tour, or perhaps a  
Mysteron tour!

STACCATO CUT TO:

**ACT BREAK**

FADE IN:

**EXT. COUNTRYSIDE**

Another SPV races along the  
roads.

CUT TO:

**INT. SPV**

Captain Scarlet at the wheel,  
with Captain Blue by his side.

**CAPTAIN BLUE**

Keep your foot down, Captain  
Scarlet. We're still a few  
miles behind him, even after  
that stop he made. I'd like to  
know what game he's playing.

**CAPTAIN SCARLET**

An unpleasant one that much is  
certain. I... what? What on  
Earth?

On Scarlet's monitor, he spots a  
police roadblock in the way.

CUT TO:

**EXT. COUNTRYSIDE**

The SPV stops. Its door opens  
and both Captains Scarlet and  
Blue exit. A policeman watches  
them impatiently.

**POLICEMAN**

Alright, you're covered. So  
don't try anything. Now, where  
are they?

**CAPTAIN BLUE**

What are you talking about?  
Why have you stopped us? We  
are Spectrum officers in  
pursuit of a stolen vehicle!  
Your superiors have been  
notified.

**POLICEMAN**

You're not...  
(realises)  
I see, you don't know!

**CAPTAIN SCARLET**

Know what?

**POLICEMAN**

That fella in the car you're  
after, got two kids with him.  
Kidnapped them or some such...

**CAPTAIN BLUE**

(furious)  
Children?! That dirty...

They sit down again, and the door closes.

The SPV's engines roar and drives off, crashing through the barriers.

CUT TO:

**INT. SPV**

Blue reacts with frustration, but still feels determined.

**CAPTAIN BLUE**

We're gonna get Captain Black this time, Captain Scarlet. And when we catch up with him, have that electro-ray rifle ready.

**CAPTAIN SCARLET**

SIG.

STACCATO CUT TO:

**INT. WAREHOUSE**

The stolen SPV parks by the doors of the disused building. Its door opens; Black exits first, then Betty and Timmy.

**CAPTAIN BLACK**

Right, move.

**TIMMY**

You let us go, do you hear?

**BETTY**

Oh, come on, Timmy, we can't do anything.

(to Captain Black)

You wait till the police find out!

**CAPTAIN BLACK**

I'll wait, but not for the police. If I know Spectrum never might trail right now. How that I have the electro-ray rifle, I only hope Scarlet tries to stick his nose in...

CUT TO:

**EXT. COUNTRYSIDE**

Scarlet and Blue's SPV continues racing along.

CUT TO:

**INT. SPV**

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Approaching Truro now, Captain Blue. I wonder...

LIEUTENANT GREEN (V.O.)

Cloudbase to Spectrum Pursuit Vehicle, video tracker indicates Black's vehicle has halted undercover on outskirts of Truro. You are approaching his position now.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Undercover? I wonder... Look!

On Scarlet's monitor - the entrance to the warehouse (and a glimpse of the stolen SPV).

CAPTAIN SCARLET

I saw it, Captain.

CAPTAIN BLUE

And if that wasn't an SPV inside, then I'm uhh... a Mysteron!

CUT TO:

**EXT. WAREHOUSE**

The SPV stops, just nearby the building. Its door opens, Scarlet and Blue exit.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Come on, and bring that rifle.

Scarlet collects the electro-ray rifle.

Both men walks towards the doors.

HUMAN HAND: Scarlet slides the door to the left.

Only the stolen SPV remains on the spot, no sign of Black or the children.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Can't see anyone inside. Could he have abandoned the vehicle?

CAPTAIN BLUE

But why leave it in full sight? He must have known we'd be tracking him. Well, there's only one way to find out. But just in case, I don't think we'll go in by the front door. Get the hover pack.

Scarlet makes some final adjustments to his flying gear.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Right, that's on. If you create a diversion, I'll get up to the roof. There should be a skylight, since there aren't any side windows.

CAPTAIN BLUE

SIG, Captain Scarlet. And if Black's in there, watch out. He'll have an electro-ray rifle too, remember?

Scarlet takes off and ascends towards the roof of the building.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Check, I'm on my way.

CUT TO:

**INT. WAREHOUSE**

Blue walks through the door, holding his pistol.

CAPTAIN BLUE

(calls out)  
Captain Black, I know you're in there! This is Captain Blue, I'm coming in after you. Do you hear me, Black?

Black, gripping firmly on the children's arms, steps out of the shadows.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Captain Blue, don't try anything, or these children will suffer!

CUT TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE

Scarlet hovers over the roof, carrying his pistol and the electro-ray rifle.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Right, let's hope this gives Black a surprise. Now!

He fires through the window. Bullets ricochet and glass shatters.

CUT TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE

The shattered glass falls, but misses Black and the children. He loses grip of Timmy, who then makes a run.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Scarlet! I won't miss this time. Stay where you are, Scarlet, or this child gets it!

He firmly squeezes Betty's wrist.

BETTY

Ow! Let go of me!

CAPTAIN SCARLET

You devil!

Scarlet descends from the broken window. He lands and raises both his arms.

CAPTAIN BLACK

You fell for it, Scarlet. This time you're finished! Drop that rifle, Scarlet.

He places the electro-ray rifle on the floor.



CAPTAIN BLACK

That's right. And now, wait it for it. Point blank range, Scarlet. I can't miss.

Black gets whacked from behind.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Ow! What the...

We reveal Timmy, carrying a hammer.

TIMMY

You let go of her!

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Good lad. Right, now to get rid of these rifles out of the skylight.

Scarlet and Blue throw the rifles out the door.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Now, Captain Black, we're both unarmed, and it's *you* that's trapped.

CAPTAIN BLACK

But I've still got the kid, Scarlet. I'm going out of here, and you're not going to stop me. And you better tell Captain Blue not to try either. Give me that hover pack. Quickly, or else!

He firmly squeezes Betty's shoulder.

BETTY

Oh, you're hurting!

CAPTAIN SCARLET

Alright, I've got no choice.

He hands his hover pack over to Black.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

There it is, but you won't get far.

CAPTAIN BLACK

You think not? Well, as a precaution, I'm taking the girl with me.

The hover pack switches on.  
Black and Betty begin to ascend.

TIMMY  
Betty!

CAPTAIN SCARLET  
Not if I can help it.

HUMAN HAND: Scarlet grabs onto  
Black's boots.

CAPTAIN SCARLET  
Got you! Now drop her!

Black loses grip of Betty. She  
lands on her feet.

CAPTAIN SCARLET  
Get clear, girl, get clear!

Scarlet attempts to cling onto  
Black's legs and he hover pack.

BETTY  
Hold onto him, mister!

Timmy walks over.

TIMMY  
Betty, Betty! Are you alright?

BETTY  
Alright.

TIMMY  
Look, look! They're both going  
up!

Scarlet and Black continue to  
ascend, flying through the  
window.

BETTY  
Wow!

CUT TO:

**EXT. SKY**

Black tries to resist Scarlet,  
as they fly out of control.

CAPTAIN BLACK  
Let go! Let go, Scarlet!

CAPTAIN SCARLET  
Not on your life!

CUT TO:

**EXT. WAREHOUSE**

Blue and the children exit the building. They can spot Scarlet and Blue from a good distance.

CAPTAIN BLUE  
Good grief! Captain Scarlet, can you hear me?

CAPTAIN SCARLET (V.O.)  
I... hear you... oof!

CUT TO:

**EXT. SKY**

Black still struggles with the hover pack and Scarlet.

CAPTAIN BLACK  
Shake... you... off!

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)  
I'll follow you. Can't you bring him down?

CAPTAIN SCARLET  
(struggling)  
I can't... reach controls. Got to... hang on... no you don't! Did you... pick up... rifle... Captain Blue?

CAPTAIN BLUE (V.O.)  
I sure did.

CAPTAIN SCARLET  
Then... shoot! Don't worry about...

Black knocks the radio. It falls to the ground.

CAPTAIN BLACK  
There! That's your radio fixed. There's nothing your Captain Blue can do to stop us.

CAPTAIN SCARLET  
You won't... get away.

CAPTAIN BLACK

No, I've got... a boat...  
waiting. Maybe I didn't...  
kill you, but you're as good  
as trapped... when we reach  
the sea.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSECAPTAIN BLUE

If only I can get in a shot,  
but I can't risk killing  
Captain Scarlet, not with this  
rifle. I need something open!

He spots an old motorbike,  
leaning on a disused shed.

CAPTAIN BLUE

An old motorbike. It'll do  
fine for this job.

On the motorbike, Blue turns to  
the children.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Wait by the SPV, I shouldn't  
be long.

TIMMY

Alright.

He starts up the engines. The  
motorbike roars and departs onto  
the road.

STACCATO CUT TO:

EXT. SKY

Scarlet and Black, both still  
struggling to fly, are  
approaching a dock.

CAPTAIN BLACK

Nearly there, Scarlet. There's  
the... sea.

CAPTAIN SCARLET

I'm hanging on, Black. Staying  
with you... till Captain Blue  
catches up.

CUT TO:

**EXT. CLIFF ROAD**

The motorbike approaches the dock and screeches to a halt. Blue is thinking of what to do next.

**CAPTAIN BLUE**

If only I can hit the hover pack, but I've got to risk it!

He picks up the electro-ray rifle and aims at the two figures in the sky.

CUT TO:

**EXT. SKY****CAPTAIN BLACK**

Not far... now, Scarlet.

**CAPTAIN SCARLET**

I'll get you, Black!

CUT TO:

**EXT. CLIFF ROAD**

Blue fires.

CUT TO:

**EXT. SKY**

They are both hit. The hover pack explodes, causing Scarlet to lose grip and fall. Black flies out of control.

**CAPTAIN BLACK**

(screams)

CUT TO:

**EXT. SEA**

Scarlet crashes into the water.

A small boat sails along. Blue is on the lookout, as a skipper steers.

**SKIPPER**

Er, back here, you said, Captain?

CAPTAIN BLUE

Yes, this is where they fell, alright.

SKIPPER

I'm sorry, Captain, but I don't see nothing. Maybe er...

Blue spots Scarlet's uniform.

CAPTAIN BLUE

There! Look there! That patch of red.

SKIPPER

Ah, I see him. Nearly there.

The boat continues moving, then stops. Both men drag Scarlet's unconscious body onboard.

SKIPPER

Boy, 'tis a man. Been pretty knocked about.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Captain Scarlet! Don't worry, he'll survive okay.

SKIPPER

But I don't no sign of t'other fella. I fear he be drowned here for certain.

CAPTAIN BLUE

Drowned? I wish I could think you were right. But, somehow, I don't think we've seen the last of Captain Black. Not yet...

We focus on Scarlet, all bruised but still able to move slightly.

FADE OUT:

**END TITLES**