

RECORDING SCRIPT #11



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RANKIN/BASS PRODUCTION

"MUMM-RA LIVES"
PART I

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Tunderests Ho!

LEONARD STARP

THUNDERCATS TEASER OPENING For Episode #71

SEQUENCES FROM EP #71

NARRATION

FADE IN:

1. The destruction of MUMM-RA (recycled from "THUNDERCATS-HO!").

When Mumm-Ra the Ever Living was consumed by the eruption of Fire Rock Mountain, Third Earth looked forward to an age of peace and prosperity.

- 2. In CATS' LAIR, CHEETARA suddenly GROANS, holds her head in her hands.
- CHEETARA (existing dialogue)
 "Mumm-Ra!"
- 3. MUMM-RA's bony hand thrusts itself up through the wreckage of FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN.
- NARRATOR
 But Mumm-Ra did not perish!
- 4. MA-MUTT enters FRAME, rubs his head against MUMM-RA's hand and begins to scrabble at the rocks.

MA-MUTT (existing sfx)
(whines hideously)

- 5. Carrying MUMM-RA, MA-MUTT enters THE DARK PYRAMID.
- NARRATOR

6. WIDE SHOT: THE LUNA-TICS (encased in lava). Suddenly, the lava in the channel surrounding them ignites the grotesquely shaped rocks in which they are encased. There is a brilliant, multi-colored explosion and the screen FLARES OUT.

He survived! ... restored to the pyramid to plot the release of the most fearsome of all The ThunderCats' opponents to date:

THE LUNA-TICS OF PLUN-DARR!

Stay with us all week as THE THUNDERCATS fight for their very existence in this special five part adventure!

MUSIC UP AND OUT.

FADE OUT.

END TEASER OPENING

TIME: :30

PART ONE

FADE IN:

EXT: THIRD EARTH - CATS' LAIR - DAY ESTABLISH CATS' LAIR

and CLOSE IN ...

LION-O (OC)

Here's to Third Earth ...

INT: CATS' LAIR COUNCIL ROOM - DAY

THE ORIGINAL THUNDERCATS, LION-O, PANTHRO, CHEETARA, TYGRA, WILYKAT and WILYKIT are seated around the table.

THE NEW THUNDERCATS, LYNX-O, BEN-GALI and PUMYRA stand back from the table.

SNARF is in his usual position at the window.

LION-O

... and to peace at last!

CLOSE ON - PANTHRO

gloomy.

PANTHRO

Peace. Huh. That's going to take some getting used to ...

ANGLE ON - SNARF

at the window.

SNARF

Snarf ... I don't know how I'm going to handle being an unemployed warrior.

CLOSE ON - LYNX-O

turning to SNARF.

LYNX-O

Keeping the peace can be as difficult as winning it ...

ANGLE ON - CHEETARA

gloomy, chin on her hands.

CHEETARA

Mmmmm ... I suppose there's always fire drill and routine maintenance ...

ANGLE ON - TYGRA

TYGRA

... and Mutants, Cheetara. We can count on them to make trouble.

TWO SHOT - WILYKIT & WILYKAT

-- enthusiastic.

WILYKIT

We could teach our ThunderCat technology to all our friends --

WILYKAT

-- and turn this whole planet
into a model of peace and
prosperity!

SNARF springs down from the window, suddenly cheerful again.

SNARF

We'll throw a great feast and invite all our friends to meet ...

He gestures expansively to the new THUNDERCATS.

INSERT CLOSE UP - PUMYRA

SNARF (contd OC)

... Pumyra ...

INSERT CLOSE UP - BEN-GALI

SNARF (contd OC)

... Ben-Gali ...

INSERT CLOSE UP - LYNX-O

SNARF (contd OC)

and Lynx-O -- the new Thunder-Cats!

LION-O turns and smiles at PUMYRA.

LION-O

How about that?

PUMYRA

Sounds good to me!

SNARF turns to go, rubbing his hands and smacking his lips.

SNARF

I'll work up a menu and go over to the Berbil Village for provisions.

He leaves.

CLOSE ON - BEN-GALI

smiling.

BEN-GALI

Sounds like we'll have our hands full -- even with Mumm-Ra gone.

CHEETARA (OC)

(gasps, distressed)

Mumm-Ra!

BEN-GALI Reacts, alarmed, looks across at CHEETARA and SEES:

CHEETARA GROANS, her head in her hands.

CHEETARA

(groans)

Mumm-Ra ...

LION-O and PANTHRO rush to her side, put their hands on her shoulders.

PANTHRO

Are you OK?

LION-O

What is it, Cheetara?

CHEETARA looks up, her eyes glazed, and stares into the distance.

CHEETARA

I-I don't know ... I'm not sure ... I guess I just can't believe that Mumm-Ra's finished once and for all!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT: LION-O'S BEDROOM - DAY

LION-O enters, shaking his head, musing.

LION-O

I know just how Cheetara feels: Mumm-Ra really gone? I can hardly believe it myself ...

JAGA materializes behind LION-O.

JAGA

Can you be sure he has gone, Lion-0?

LION-O turns ...

LION-O

Jaga! What do you mean? How could Mumm-Ra have possibly survived?

FLASHBACK OPTICAL:

RE-CYCLE THE DESTRUCTION OF MUMM-RA FROM "THUNDERCATS-HO!"

LION-O (contd OC)
The Star of ThunDERa tore Fire
Rock Mountain apart and destroyed
Mumm-Ra along with it!

FLASHBACK OPTICAL:

LION-O faces JAGA.

LION-O

There's no way he could have lived!

JAGA shakes his head sadly.

JAGA

The forces of evil can never be entirely destroyed, Lion-O -- only held in check by those with strength and courage. With an evil power as great as Mumm-Ra's, who can say that he is gone forever ...

JAGA begins to dematerialize.

LION-O

Jaga! Wait!

But JAGA has gone.

LION-O (contd)
It's just not possible!

LION-O shakes his head.

LION-O (contd)
MUMM-RA COULD NOT HAVE SURVIVED!

ZIP PAN:

EXT: WRECKAGE OF FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN - DAY

Rocks continue to fall into the smouldering Thundranium pit. Molten lava flows. Smoke obscures the scene.

A LOUD GROAN IS HEARD, reverberating eerily around the pit.

CLOSE IN ON - A MASSIVE ROCK PILE

Suddenly, MUMM-RA's bony hand thrusts up through the rocks.

ANOTHER LOUD GROAN.

Now MA-MUTT enters FRAME, whining hideously. He rubs his head against MUMM-RA's hand, then begins to scrabble furiously at the rocks, pushing them aside and tugging at the bits of MUMM-RA's robe which he reveals.

Finally, MUMM-RA is fully revealed -- tattered, torn, scorched ...

(NOTE: this is MUMM-RA I, the mummy form.)

MA-MUTT YELPS in reaction to this sight.

MUMM-RA

Ma-Mutt ... Ma-Mutt ... my faithful Ma-Mutt ... I am weak ... take me to my pyramid!

MA-MUTT YELPS with pleasure, then swells and expels his noxious green vapor cloud. Now, eyes glowing fiercely, he inhales the cloud, growing larger and stronger all the time.

Gently, he takes MUMM-RA's robe in his mouth and then rises from the ground, carrying the frail MUMM-RA away.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT: MUMM-RA'S PYRAMID - DAY ESTABLISH MUMM-RA'S PYRAMID

... then CLOSE IN as MA-MUTT approaches.

Lightning flashes from the obelisks to the pyramid tip.

MA-MUTT, carrying MUMM-RA, enters the pyramid through the top opening.

CUT TO:

INT: PYRAMID - DAY

MUMM-RA staggers into his open sarcophagus ...

MUMM-RA

I have survived, Ma-Mutt, because I am Mumm-Ra the Ever Living!

He stoops to pet MA-MUTT.

MUMM-RA (contd)

But I am weak and powerless.

He stands, holding MA-MUTT up before his face.

MUMM-RA (contd)

So, while I regain my strength, you must take my place ...

MUMM-RA's face begins to glow ... then his hands (holding MA-MUTT) begin to glow ... and then MA-MUTT himself glows, pulsating eerily.

MUMM-RA (contd)

... You must become Mumm-Ra!

MA-MUTT is now transformed into a somewhat transparent holographic reproduction of MUMM-RA.

THE REAL MUMM-RA examines MA-MUTT/MUMM-RA closely, walking around it.

MUMM-RA (contd)
Hmmmmm ... a bit transparent -but you will have to do.
Certainly, you should fool
the Mutants. Listen carefully
to my instructions, Ma-Mutt!

WIPE:

EXT: BERBIL VILLAGE - DAY

SNARF faces RO-BER-BIL. He has a long, curled sheet in his hand and reads from it. He has boxes and sacks stacked around him.

SNARF

Twelve bushels of those mushrooms with the fat, juicy stems ...

RO-BER-BIL checks a box.

RO-BER-BIL

Mushrooms ...

SNARF looks from his list to a sack of violently colored peppers.

SNARF

What're those?

He grabs one and, before RO-BER-BIL can stop him ...

RO-BER-BIL

NO!

... He pops one in his mouth. His eyes bulge. Flames shoot from his mouth and smoke from his ears.

RO-BER-BIL shakes his head sadly.

RO-BER-BIL (contd)

Pow-Pow Peppers! They're very hot.

SNARF is jumping up and down in agony, getting redder and redder -- steam and smoke erupting from his ears. But then he looks up -- and instantly stops jumping.

SNARF

What is that?

RO-BER-BIL looks up.

THEIR POV:

MA-MUTT flies overhead ... clearly recognizable.

SNARF & RO-BER-BIL (OC)

Ma-Mutt!

SNARF looks at RO-BER-BIL, alarmed.

RO-BER-BIL

He's in an awful hurry, Snarf ...

SNARF

(grim)

And I'll bet the Sword of Omens to a Pow-Pow Pepper that he's headed for Castle Plun-Darr. Sit tight, Ro-Ber-Bil -- I'll be back!

SNARF gallops after MA-MUTT.

ZIP PAN:

EXT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY ESTABLISH - CASTLE PLUN-DARR

... and CLOSE IN as MA-MUTT enters via a high window.

CUT TO:

INT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

S-S-SLITHE, VULTUREMAN, MONKIAN and JACKALMAN are seated around a table, playing cards, as MA-MUTT drifts in through a window behind them and transforms into the HOLOGRAPHIC MUMM-RA.

HE CHUCKLES, evilly.

THE MUTANTS whirl around (reacting to the ghastly CHUCKLE) and SEE HIM.

S-S-SLITHE

Mumm-Ra!

MONKIAN

But ... but ...

JACKALMAN

It's impossible!

VULTUREMAN

You're alive!

MA-MUTT/MUMM-RA holds his arms out wide and LAUGHS.

MUMM-RA

Fools! Did you think Mumm-Ra the Ever Living could perish?

CUT TO:

EXT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

SNARF is trying to cross the moat. He yanks a vine down from the top branches of a sapling. He lines it up with the window through which MA-MUTT entered PLUN-DARR and ties it down to the ground. The sapling is now bent back like a bow or slingshot.

Then SNARF climbs into the sapling and sits astride the trunk, near the top where it is tied down by the vine. His back is to the castle and he peers around over his shoulder, squinting up at the window.

SNARF

About 2 degrees to the right should do it!

He realigns himself on the tree then leans forward and, with one bite, CHOMPS through the vine.

The sapling is released ...

... and SNARF is fired up across the moat, headed for the window.

SNARF (contd)

Whoaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!

CLOSE ON - THE WINDOW

as SNARF drops toward it. It seems he must miss it but, at the last moment, his tail manages to loop around a tiny spike sticking out from the wall, beneath the window. So now SNARF is hanging from his tail below the window, out of sight.

SNARF (contd)

(relieved)

Snaaaarfff!

MUMM-RA (OC)

... not even the ThunderCats
will be able to resist the Moon LUNATICS
Demons of Plun-Darr!

SNARF reacts, astonished.

SNARF

Mumm-Ra?!

CUT TO:

INT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

THE FOUR MUTANTS react in horror to "MUMM-RA".

The Mood-Demons? LUNA. 1977.

MONKIAN

They're here?

VULTUREMAN

Alive?

MUMM-RA

(laughs)

They're here -- but hardly alive. You see, long before you Mutants arrived here, the Luna-Tics tried to overthrow me.

(wild laugh)

A fatal error of judgement!

JACKALMAN

(incredulous)

You destroyed the Luna-Tics?

MUMM-RA

To destroy them would have been too easy a punishment! No, Mutants, I encased them in molten lava!

He points dramatically at THE MUTANTS.

MUMM-RA (contd)

You will now release them!

VULTUREMAN reels back, beak gaping, aghast.

VULTUREMAN

No, Mumm-Ra! We will do anything you command -- but we cannot release the Luna-Tics of Plun-Darr!

CUT TO:

EXT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

SNARF struggles to peer in through the window -- but keeps falling back, swinging, like a pendulum, from his tail.

(NOTE: at no point does he actually succeed in looking into the room -- therefore never realizes that MUMM-RA is MA-MUTT.)

MONKIAN (OC)

Let them stay encased in molten lava forever!

JACKALMAN (OC)

They're too vicious even for my liking!

CUT TO:

INT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

MUMM-RA grins fiercely.

MUMM-RA

Exactly, Jackalman! Vicious enough to take care of the ThunderCats forever!

S-S-SLITHE

But the Luna-Tics cannot be controlled, Mumm-Ra!

MUMM-RA

Nonsense, S-S-Slithe! I have already defeated and entombed them once -- and I will do it again ... after they have crushed the ThunderCats!

JACKALMAN

But ... but where are the Luna-Tics now, Mumm-Ra?

MUMM-RA

On Darkside!

MONKIAN

(aghast)

The forbidden territories!

THE FOUR MUTANTS look at each other in horror and fear.

VULTUREMAN

Even if we can find them, Mumm-Ra ... how do we free them?

MUMM-RA gives VULTUREMAN a withering look.

MUMM-RA

That, Vultureman, is up to you. You are the technician, after all ...

With that, MUMM-RA whirls and dives through the window ...

CUT TO:

EXT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

MUMM-RA/MA-MUTT explodes through the window in a burst of spectacular energy -- just as SNARF is about to peer in. SNARF drops back ...

SNARF

Snaaaarrfff!

... swinging wildly from the end of his tail.

SNARF'S POV:

(swinging and upside down) -- MA-MUTT speeding away from PLUN-DARR.

SNARF (OC)

Ma-Mutt! But I heard Mumm-Ra in there!

He struggles to peer into the window once more -- climbing up his own tail.

CUT TO:

INT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

THE FOUR MUTANTS are huddled around their table.

S-S-SLITHE

Well, Mumm-Ra is right about one thing -- if anyone can wipe out the ThunderCats, it's those crazy Luna-Tics --

He is interrupted by a LOUD CREAK at the window.

JACKALMAN whirls around.

JACKALMAN

What was that?

CUT TO:

EXT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

SNARF has at last gained the window, peering in to SEE: THE FOUR MUTANTS rushing toward him.

SNARF (OC)

Oh-oh!

ANGLE ON - SNARF

as he looks around and down.

SNARF

I'm out of here!

HIS POV:

the vertical walls of PLUN-DARR leading down to the vile moat.

ANGLE ON - SNARF

as he springs away from the wall.

SNARF

Snaaaaarrrrrfffffffffff!

HIS POV:

the moat spinning up toward him.

CUT TO:

INT: CASTLE PLUN-DARR - DAY

THE FOUR MUTANTS are crowded at the window.

CUT TO:

THEIR POV:

SNARF splashes into the moat -- and scrambles for the bank.

MONKIAN (OC)

Over there!

JACKALMAN (OC)

It's that wretched Snarf!

ANGLE ON - THE MUTANTS

turning away from the window.

VULTUREMAN

He must have overheard us!

S-S-SLITHE

Well what are you waiting for? Get him before he warns the ThunderCats! ALL FOUR MUTANTS dash for the door -- fight each other to get through it first (VSFX).

WIPE:

EXT: BERBIL VILLAGE - DAY

LION-O and RO-BER-BIL are at the village, with a couple of BERBILS nearby.

LION-O

You mean Snarf just took off after Ma-Mutt?

RO-BER-BIL

I couldn't stop him, Lion-O!

LION-O

When was this?

CLOSE ON - THE EYE OF THUNDERA

in THE SWORD OF OMENS. It snaps open and GROWLS.

WIDER

as LION-O whips the sword up to his eyes ...

LION-O

The danger signal! Sword of Omens ...

The sword's quards curl into eyepieces.

LION-O (contd)

... GIVE ME SIGHT BEYOND SIGHT!

At first, only the SOUND of SNARF's desperate breathing is heard.

Then the picture clears and, through the SWORD's matte, LION-O CAN SEE:

SNARF, running for his life. He looks around and SEES:

S-S-SLITHE in THE NOSEDIVER ...

JACKALMAN and MONKIAN in SKYCUTTERS ...

VULTUREMAN in his strange flying machine ...

... ALL CHASING HIM.

ANGLE ON - LION-O

as he whips THE SWORD from his eyes and thrusts it high in the air.

LION-O

Thunder -- Thunder -- Thunder -- THUNDERCATS-HO!

As LION-O'S ROAR echoes across the fields, THE THUNDERCAT SIGNAL zooms up into the sky.

ZIP PAN:

INT: CATS' LAIR/CAT'S HEAD - DAY

WILYKIT and WILYKAT are on watch, with PANTHRO at the control console.

WILYKAT points.

WILYKAT

Look! Lion-O's in trouble!

PANTHRO springs up from the console.

PANTHRO

Get the others! I'll fire up the ThunderTank!

WIPE:

EXT: THIRD EARTH - DAY

LION-O runs through the countryside ...

ZIP PAN:

SNARF gallops through the countryside, PANTING and distressed. As he runs, he looks around and up.

HIS POV:

VULTUREMAN, on his flying machine, dives toward SNARF.

VULTUREMAN'S POV:

SNARF is dodging in and out of cover -- the countryside is heavily wooded.

ANGLE ON - VULTUREMAN

at the controls.

VULTUREMAN Blast! There's too much cover!

ZIP PAN:

AT CATS' LAIR, THE CAT'S PAW rises ... and THE THUNDERTANK comes ROARING OUT. PANTHRO and TYGRA are in the front and CHEETARA (as yet unseen) in back.

ZIP PAN:

SNARF barrels along. Suddenly an arm appears from behind a tree and whips SNARF off the ground ...

(NOTE: the arm is shaded so that it cannot be identified.)

SNARF Whoaummppphhhhh!

... AND OUT OF FRAME.

The action is lighting quick -- one minute SNARF is running along, the next he has disappeared.

FADE OUT.

END PART ONE

TIME:	

PART TWO

FADE IN:

EXT: THIRD EARTH COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

NOTE: EXISTING ANIMATION AND DIALOGUE IS REPEATED HERE TO BEGIN SEQUENCE.

SNARF barrels along. Suddenly an arm appears from behind a tree and whips SNARF off the ground ...

SNARF

Whoaummppphhhhh!

... AND OUT OF FRAME.

NOTE: END EXISTING ANIMATION.

ANOTHER ANGLE

the undergrowth where SNARF disappared.

SNARF'S (OFF CAMERA) MUFFLED STRUGGLES CAN BE HEARD.

ANOTHER ANGLE

TO REVEAL that LION-O has grabbed SNARF and is now standing, hidden, back against a large tree, with SNARF in his arms, his hand across SNARF's mouth.

Now LION-O turns SNARF so that SNARF can see who has "captured" him. He takes his hand from SNARF's mouth.

SNARF

Lion-O! Thank Jaga!

The SOUND of a SKYCUTTER interrupts them. They look up and SEE:

JACKALMAN diving toward them. The SKYCUTTER's nose cannon opens up -- and blasts holes in the ground all around LION-O and SNARF.

SNARF

Snaaaarrfffff! Get me out of here!

ANGLE ON - JACKALMAN

pressing home his attack.

JACKALMAN

Kiss Third Earth goodbye,
ThunderCat!

(wild giggle)

He presses the cannon's trigger.

HIS POV:

THE SKYCUTTER's lasers hit all around LION-O and SNARF.

ANGLE ON - LION-O & SNARF

LION-O points.

LION-O

Through there, Snarf! FAST!

LION-O and SNARF dive through a tangle of vines and disappear from view.

ANGLE ON - JACKALMAN

in a near vertical dive at THE SKYCUTTER's controls. He reacts to their disappearance.

JACKALMAN

What?

HIS POV:

the ground and trees rushing up toward him.

JACKALMAN (OC)

Ooohhhhh ... nooooooo ...

ANOTHER ANGLE

THE SKYCUTTER plunges into the treetops. It becomes entangled in vines, bounces, then slowly tips over.

JACKALMAN falls from his seat (VSFX) and tumbles to the ground, landing with a LOUD THUD and lying there, winded.

ZIP PAN:

THE THUNDERTANK

ROARS into the scene, with WILYKIT and WILYKAT riding alongside it on their spaceboards -- like motorcycle escorts.

ANGLE ON - PANTHRO & TYGRA

in THE THUNDERTANK's front seats.

PANTHRO

Stand by, Cheetara -- we're about to elevate the rear cannon!

CHEETARA (OC)

Ready when you are, Panthro!

PANTHRO turns to TYGRA.

PANTHRO

Hit it!

TYGRA bangs a control lever.

ANGLE ON - THE THUNDERTANK

as the rear cannon rises up out of the back, CHEETARA at the triggers.

TYGRA (OC)

Here they come!

CHEETARA looks up and SEES:

MONKIAN'S SKYCUTTER and VULTUREMAN'S FLYING MACHINE diving toward them.

PANTHRO (OC)

And that's not all!

ANGLE ON - PANTHRO

pointing straight ahead.

HIS POV:

S-S-SLITHE, on the NOSEDIVER, broadsides into view.

ANGLE ON - WILYKIT

on her spaceboard.

WILYKIT

Come on, Wilykat -- let's go get that flying machine!

ANOTHER ANGLE

as WILYKIT and WILYKAT zoom up in formation toward VULTUREMAN.

ANGLE ON - CHEETARA

at the cannon.

CHEETARA

(grim)

Make mine Monkian!

ANGLE ON - TYGRA

eyes fixed ahead.

TYGRA

I'll take S-S-Slithe!

RAPID-FIRE CUTS:

CHEETARA swings the cannon, TRACKING MONKIAN -- then opens fire.

Lasers streak from the cannon to THE SKYCUTTER -- a direct hit.

THE SKYCUTTER loops the loop and MONKIAN falls out (VSFX).

MONKIAN falls into the treetops.

THE SKYCUTTER crashes out of sight.

THE THUNDERTANK's forward cannons emerge.

TYGRA lines up his sights -- and operates the trigger.

Lasers flash from THE THUNDERTANK's forward cannons and smash into THE NOSEDIVER.

THE NOSEDIVER skids left, slews right -- then crashes head-on into a stout tree.

S-S-SLITHE is jammed in the wreckage, his rear legs and tail sticking up into the air.

S-S-SLITHE

Help! Help ... Get me out of here!

ANGLE ON - WILYKIT & WILYKAT

as they zoom up toward VULTUREMAN. They move to fly either side of him -- and begin bumping him alternately ...

... so that THE FLYING MACHINE rocks and rolls.

CLOSE ON - VULTUREMAN

in the cockpit -- looking left and right as he is tipped this way and that.

VULTUREMAN

Two can play that game, Thunder-Kittens!

He moves the controls violently.

WIDER

as THE FLYING MACHINE tilts -- and its wingtip hits WILYKAT's board.

CLOSE ON - WILYKAT'S BOARD

as the wing hits it and WILYKAT is thrown clear off the board.

WILYKAT

Wooooowoooowwwwww ...

ANGLE ON - WILYKIT

veering away from THE FLYING MACHINE and swooping down toward the falling WILYKAT.

WILYKIT

I'll save you, Wilykat!

CLOSE ON - THE FALLING WILYKAT

as WILYKIT zooms in below him -- and catches him gently.

WILYKAT

Gee, thanks, Kit -- I thought I was a goner that time!

The board zooms from FRAME.

ANGLE ON - VULTUREMAN

climbing steeply, looking back and down at WILYKIT and WILYKAT ...

Suddenly, a burst of tracer-like laser fire stitches holes in THE FLYING MACHINE's wings.

VULTUREMAN

(an outraged squawk)

Whaaaaat?

He whips around to SEE:

PUMYRA and BEN-GALI, riding THE THUNDERCLAW, streaking in toward him ...

VULTUREMAN (contd)

This is getting out of hand ... we're outnumbered and outgunned! Back, Mutants! Regroup at Castle Plun-Darr!

THE FLYING MACHINE dives and flees.

LION-O and SNARF emerge from the undergrowth, looking up.

LION-O

Nice shooting, Pumyra!

INSERT - PUMYRA ON THE THUNDERCLAW

gives LION-O a victory salute -- then THE THUNDERCLAW zooms from FRAME.

ANGLE ON - LION-O & SNARF

LION-O

Come on, Snarf -- let's get back to Cats' Lair and you can tell us what you found out!

ZIP PAN:

INT: CATS' LAIR/CAT'S HEAD - DAY

ALL THE THUNDERCATS (LION-O, PANTHRO, CHEETARA, TYGRA, WILYKAT, WILYKIT, LYNX-O, BEN-GALI, PUMYRA and SNARF) are scattered around the CAT'S HEAD CONTROL ROOM.

PANTHRO, TYGRA and LYNX-O are seated at the control consoles. LION-O, with SNARF beside him, stands opposite them -- the focus of attention.

ESTABLISH

this set-up briefly then CLOSE IN as LION-O speaks.

LION-O

I can't believe Mumm-Ra survived!

PANTHRO

It sounds like we better prepare for some action!

SNARF

I don't care about Mumm-Ra, Lion-O -- at least we know him. But what about these ... snarf, snarf ... Luna-Tics? What in the name of ThunDERa are they?

ANGLE ON - LYNX-O

thoughtful.

LYNX-O

I have heard of some such ...

Everyone turns to LYNX-O and he becomes the focus of attention.

LYNX-O (contd)

Fearsome raiders from The Moons of Plun-Darr ... but they were before my time.

WIDER

TO SHOW PANTHRO, TYGRA and LYNX-O.

TYGRA

How can we find out about them?

LYNX-O

(thoughtful)

I could find out -- if I could touch the places they have been and interpret the information thus gained on a Braille Board ...

PANTHRO

A Braille Board? What is that?

LYNX-O runs his hands over the control consoles.

LYNX-O

(musing)

We have the technology ... we could build one ...

ANGLE ON - LION-O

taking command. Determined.

LION-O

If a Braille Board is what it takes to find about the Luna-Tics (MORE)

LION-O (contd)

-- then that's what we'll build.
Panthro and Tygra ... you work
on that with Lynx-O. The rest
of us will check every known
corner of Third Earth ... see
what we can find out. And if we
come up blank, at least our new
ThunderCats will know the territory!

ALL THE THUNDERCATS stand to go -- but before they do so, they give a clenched fist signal ...

ALL THUNDERCATS-HO!

WIPE:

EXT: FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN - DAY HIGH ANGLED ESTABLISHING SHOT

S-S-SLITHE aboard THE NOSEDIVER, MONKIAN and JACKALMAN on SKYCUTTERS and VULTUREMAN, riding THE FIST POUNDER are parked in the shadow of FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN.

BEN-GALI on THE THUNDERCLAW and PUMYRA on THE HOVER CAT, zip in to FRAME.

PUMYRA

Down there! Look, Ben-Gali! The Mutants!

BEN-GALI

We'll land behind that cliff ...

He points.

BEN-GALI (contd)

... find out what they're up to!

THE TWO VEHICLES make a rapid, curving descent.

ANGLE ON - THE MUTANTS

in and on their parked vehicles. They are all uneasy, scared -- look around apprehensively.

(NOTE: THE MUTANT VEHICLES are somewhat battered following their last encounter with THE THUNDERCATS. They are crudely patched and wired back together.)

JACKALMAN

If that's Darkside ...

He points beyond FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN.

JACKALMAN (contd)

... I don't like the look of it. It's scary ...

S-S-SLITHE rounds on him fiercely.

S-S-SLITHE

More scary than Mumm-Ra, coward?

JACKALMAN

Alright, alright ... let's g-g-g-go.

VILTUREMAN, atop THE FISTPOUNDER, is consulting a map.

VULTUREMAN

Mumm-Ra told us to look for three sharp mountain peaks ...

He looks into the distance -- reacts -- points.

VULTUREMAN (contd)

I think we're on the right trail!

THE MUTANTS' POV:

in the distance, way beyond FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN, are three jagged and sinister-looking peaks.

CLOSE ON - MONKIAN

shivering with apprehension.

MONKIAN

Let's get it over with!

THE MUTANT VEHICLES move off.

ANOTHER ANGLE

TO SHOW BEN-GALI and PUMYRA, screened by rocks and undergrowth, watching THE MUTANTS' departure.

PUMYRA

Come on, Ben-Gali -- we'll follow them!

But BEN-GALI holds her back.

BEN-GALI

No, Pumyra! We cannot pass Fire Rock Mountain ...

ANGLE ON - FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN

still spurting occasional gobs of lava, and wreathed in sinister fumes.

BEN-GALI (contd OC)

... the Thundranium fumes would wipe us out.

TWO SHOT - BEN-GALI & PUMYRA

BEN-GALI

We must get back to the Lair and tell the others what we have discovered ...

ZIP PAN:

INT: CATS' LAIR/CAT'S HEAD - DAY

LION-O and SNARF have been listening to BEN-GALI and PUMYRA.

PUMYRA

What is Darkside, Lion-O?

LION-O

Forbidden territories, by local legend ...

SNARF

... full of weird creatures and monsters and ... snarf snarf ... stuff like that ...

LION-O

... Guarded by the Thundranium pits and Fire Rock Mountain. No ThunderCat has ever crossed into the Darkside ...

SNARF

... But I've got a nasty feeling we'll soon be breaking that rule, snarf, snarf ...

He shivers.

ZIP PAN:

EXT: DARKSIDE - DAY

The countryside is ominous and spooky -- very different from the rest of Third Earth. There are grotesque rock

formations, strange gnarled trees, ugly, fleshy plants and sinister fungi. The colors, too, are bizarre.

THE MUTANTS enter FRAME -- THE NOSEDIVER (S-S-SLITHE) in the lead, followed by THE FIST POUNDER (VULTUREMAN) with the SKYCUTTERS flying very low and close.

S-S-SLITHE halts, holds up his hand.

THE SKYCUTTERS land.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as THE MUTANTS gather in a huddle.

JACKALMAN

Are you sure we're going the right way?

S-S-SLITHE

(snaps)

How should I know? I've never been on Darkside before!

MONKIAN is looking around -- reacts -- stares at a point (OFF CAMERA). Without moving his eyes from that point, he fumbles for VULTUREMAN.

MONKIAN

How m-m-m-many peaks did Mumm-Ra say?

VULTUREMAN answers -- without bothering to look at the still-staring MONKIAN.

VULTUREMAN

Three ...

MONKIAN gulps and goggles -- shakes VULTUREMAN.

MONKIAN

L-1-1-1-100k!

He points. THE MUTANTS turn ...

MONKIAN (contd)

Ov-v-v-ver th-th-there!

THE MUTANTS react -- eyes wide, stepping back, fearful.

THEIR POV:

In the BACKGROUND are three jagged peaks -- clearly volcanic, with smoke drifting from their craters.

Occasionally, there is a minor eruption of brilliantly colored lava, which flows down the slope toward ...

THE SIX LUNA-TICS in FOREGROUND -- hideous figures distorted by the petrified lumps of lava in which they are encased.

MUTANTS (OC)

(awed; together)

THE LUNA-TICS!

CRAZY ZOOM IN TO FULL FRAME

of the horrible LUNA-TIC shapes.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT: NEAR FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN - DAY

THE THUNDERTANK roars toward FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN.

CLOSE IN TO FIND

LION-O at the controls, CHEETARA beside him, SNARF riding between them.

LION-O

We may not be able to go beyond Fire Rock Mountain -- but maybe we can catch the Mutants on their way out!

CHEETARA

There must be another way into Darkside, Lion-O!

SNARF

If there is ... I sure don't want to be the one to find it, Cheetara, snarf snarf ...

THE THUNDERTANK ROARS from FRAME.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT: LUNA-TICS' LOCATION - DAY

CLOSE ON - MA-MUTT

hidden in the shadows of a rocky cliff, watching something below him. He SNARLS and licks his chops.

HIS POV:

Working under VULTUREMAN's direction, THE MUTANTS have blasted a channel from the three smoking volcanoes (in BACKGROUND) to THE LUNA-TICS.

S-S-SLITHE, aboard THE NOSEDIVER, is completing the channel, making a complete circle around THE LUNA-TICS. (So the channel from the volcanoes leads into a circular channel around THE LUNA-TICS.)

JACKALMAN, aboard THE FISTPOUNDER, is parked right where the channel from the volcanoes meets the circular channel around THE LUNA-TICS.

MONKIAN, aboard a SKYCUTTER, is standing by for VULTURE-MAN's command.

S-S-SLITHE completes his work and parks THE NOSEDIVER next to VULTUREMAN.

S-S-SLITHE
This better work, Vultureman,
or Mumm-Ra will have your beak!

VULTUREMAN
Trust me, S-S-Slithe --

S-S-SLITHE (interrupts angrily)
I've trusted you before, feather-brain ...

ANGLE ON - MONKIAN

on THE SKYCUTTER.

MONKIAN

Quit arguing and tell me what to do, Vultureman!

VULTUREMAN

It's simple. You fly the Sky-Cutter up to the end of our channel ...

WIDE SHOT

TO SHOW THE SET UP: a single channel leads from the base of the three volcanoes down to the entombed LUNA-TICS.

VULTUREMAN (contd OC)
... then you blast a hole right
down into the heart of the
volcanoes. The molten lava
will flow down into ...

ANGLE ON - VULTUREMAN

pointing to the channel cut around THE LUNA-TICS.

VULTUREMAN (contd)

... this channel, surround the Luna-Tics, melt the lava around them -- and free them! Pure genius!

ANGLE ON - JACKALMAN

on the FIST POUNDER.

JACKALMAN

But what about me?

VULTUREMAN

You've got the most important job of all, Jackalman ...

JACKALMAN preens.

VULTUREMAN (contd)

... when the molten lava fills the channel surrounding the Luna-Tics, you and the Fistpounder have to cut off the supply!

S-S-SLITHE waves a ponderous fist at JACKALMAN.

S-S-SLITHE

And if you foul up, Jackalman, you'll end up as a bathmat in Mumm-Ra's Pyramid!

JACKALMAN

Oh, wind your neck in, S-S-Slithe ...

VULTUREMAN

LET'S GO, MUTANTS -- GO, GO, GO!

MONKIAN flies THE SKYCUTTER up to the mountain and dives down, blasting a hole in the channel's end.

Rocks and earth explode up out of the ground ...

Then, an ominous rumbling ...

Then a massive explosion of lava ...

ANGLE ON - MONKIAN

jubilant, in THE SKYCUTTER.

MONKIAN

T did it! I did it!

The lava pours into the channel -- and rolls in thick undulating waves down toward THE LUNA-TICS.

ANGLE ON - VULTUREMAN

supervising, the sour-faced S-S-SLITHE next to him.

VILTUREMAN

Stand by, Jackalman!

ANGLE ON - JACKALMAN

preening at his important role.

JACKALMAN

Standing by!

The lava fills the channel around THE LUNA-TICS, boiling and bubbling.

As it reaches the top and is about to overflow ...

CLOSE ON - VULTUREMAN

who looks across to JACKALMAN.

VULTUREMAN

Hold the lava, Jackalman!

ANGLE ON - JACKALMAN

who begins to operate THE FISTPOUNDER ... THE FISTPOUNDER bulldozes rocks into the channel and pounds them down, making a dam across the channel ...

... but the lava just continues to flow, bubbling up over the top of the dam.

TWO SHOT - VULTUREMAN & S-S-SLITHE

looking at each nervously.

VULTUREMAN turns back to JACKALMAN.

VULTUREMAN

I said SEAL IT OFF!

JACKALMAN frantically works THE FISTPOUNDER's controls.

THE FISTPOUNDER bulldozes and pounds rocks.

But still the lava overflows.

TWO SHOT - S-S-SLITHE & VULTUREMAN

-- S-S-SLITHE gripping VULTUREMAN's arm, lifting him half off the ground.

S-S-SLITHE

What happens now ... "pure genius"?

VULTUREMAN

We ... er ...

He looks around, anxious.

VULTUREMAN (contd)

We ... er ...

(suddenly panics)

TAKE COVER!

He and S-S-SLITHE dive to one side.

ANGLE ON - JACKALMAN

jubilant, atop THE FISTPOUNDER.

JACKALMAN

I did it! I did it!

PULL BACK TO SHOW:

that THE FISTPOUNDER has, indeed, created a dam which holds the lava back.

ANGLE ON - S-S-SLITHE & VULTUREMAN

flat on the ground, hands over their heads.

VULTUREMAN

Too late! It's going to blow!

WIDE SHOT

THE LUNA-TICS surrounded by molten lava.

Suddenly, the lava in the channel lights the grotesquely shaped rocks encasing THE LUNA-TICS and there is a BRILLIANT, MULTICOLORED EXPLOSION ...

... the screen FLARES OUT.

CUT TO:

EXT: NEAR FIRE ROCK MOUNTAIN - DAY

LION-O and CHEETARA stand atop THE THUNDERTANK, with SNARF, raised up on his tail, between them. In the very far distance, the glow of VULTUREMAN's explosion CAN BE SEEN.

CHEETARA

(awed)

Do you see that?

LION-O

Some kind of volcanic explosion!

He whips THE SWORD OF OMENS up to his eyes.

LION-O (contd)

SWORD OF OMENS ...

The eyepieces form.

LION-O (contd)

GIVE ME SIGHT BEYOND SIGHT!

LION-O SEES:

for a moment, the screen remains FLARED OUT ... then gradually, the images of THE LUNA-TICS form.

Their shapes move ... ominous ... sinister ... halfseen in the swirling smoke -- but fearsome and aweinspiring.

There are minor explosions and horrible CREAKINGS as THE LUNA-TICS' rocky coverings crack and fall away from their bodies ...

LION-O

(a horrified whisper)
THE LUNA-TICS! THEY'RE ALIVE!

LION-O drops THE SWORD from his face and turns to CHEETARA, horrified.

THE MUTANTS HAVE FREED THE LUNA-TICS.

(MORE)

LION-O (contd)
CHEETARA -- WE HAVE TO FIND A
WAY INTO DARKSIDE!

SNARF Oh, woe, snarf, snarf ...

FADE OUT.

END PART TWO

TIME	:			
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