

LOST WORLDS

**SECRETS AND STORIES FOR
THE UNPRODUCED FOURTH SEASON OF
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's
THE LOST WORLD**

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I have wrought my simple plan

If I give one hour of joy

To the boy who's half a man

Or the man who's half a boy

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Dedication for *The Lost World*, 1912

The Story So Far...

ROXTON: It's been a belluva ride, George!

CHALLENGER: It's not over yet!

"INTO THE FIRE"

In January, 2002, New Line Television announced that the syndicated television series, *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World*, had been renewed for a fourth season.

Full of confidence, the three of us—Guy, Judy, and Gar, aka the writers—were given the go-ahead to write a cliff-hanger for the last episode of Season Three—after all, we were definitely coming back for an all-new season and the story would continue.

The result was the optimistically titled “Heart of the Storm, Part 1,” the final episode of Season Three, and, as it turned out, the entire series.

Season Two had ended in a different cliff-hanger—Challenger, Roxton, Marguerite, and Veronica crashed into a cliff in a blazing dirigible while Malone plunged to certain death, struggling with Captain Askwith for control of a single parachute.

For Season Three, the stakes were upped and now each member of the Challenger Expedition, including newcomers Finn and Arthur the Beetle, faced a different life-or-death situation. Veronica's life-or-death situation seemed to hinge not only on her survival, but the survival of the entire Plateau... perhaps even the universe itself.

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Around May, 2002, Executive Producer Jeff Hayes asked the three of us to start thinking about Season Four stories and the resolution to the cliff-hanger.

Fortunately, we writers had already been thinking of the future. Much earlier in the third season, we'd started discussing future developments in what the three of us had begun to call "The Big Story." That is, what was the true nature of the Plateau, what were the main characters really doing there, and—the \$64 billion question—would any of them ever get home.

On June 6, 2002, we sent Jeff Hayes a story memo describing not only "Heart of the Storm, Part 2," but sixteen other stories for Season Four.

Not all the stories would have been used. Some of them were hold-overs from Season Three and, no doubt, inspiration for new and unexpected stories would have struck us during production—but it gave the new season a direction which Jeff approved.

Not included in our memo was the story arc that would lead to a resolution of the entire series. We left those stories out not because we didn't know what they were, but because we had good reason to believe that Season Four would lead to Season Five. (The television syndication business of the time generally meant that any series that had survived three seasons would almost automatically be cleared for five.) So, we planned to wait to see how the Season Four ratings played out, and if that season was going to be the end, then we'd resolve the series in Season Four. If another season seemed likely, then the series would be resolved in Season Five.

What this document provides then, is our final revelation of what might have been in store beyond Season Three.

We will never know all the details of what might have happened, because so many other people were involved in the creative direction of the show, from Jeff Hayes—who set the tone for the series and was its guiding spirit—to the cast, the directors, and everyone else who took part in the show's production and who, in their enthusiasm made exciting and insightful suggestions for new developments.

Since this document is merely a glimpse at what might have been, we hope no fan will allow anything in it to interfere with his or her own vision

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of different futures for the Challenger Expedition and the Plateau in personal fanfiction writings.

Everyone involved in the production of *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World* had a wonderful time bringing sixty-six stories to life. Nothing would please us more than knowing that the characters and situations live on in the hearts and minds and imaginations of the fans.

After all, why should we have all the fun?

Without further delay, here's one way the story might have gone...

Guy Mullally & Judith Reeves-Stevens & Garfield Reeves-Stevens
Roraima, Venezuela, October 15, 1912

The Big Story

Guy Mullally & Judith Reeves-Stevens & Garfield Reeves-Stevens

CHALLENGER: *Do you have any idea where the Ouroboros comes from, Marguerite, or who made it?*

MARGUERITE: *Legend says it's as old as the two fundamental forces of creation.*

CHALLENGER: *The fundamental forces of creation... electromagnetism and gravity.*

MARGUERITE: *No, George – good and evil.*

“LEGACY”

First things first, Roxton and Marguerite aren't related.

Other characters are, but we'll get to them later.

The other most important revelation is that Challenger got it wrong, and Mordren was right.

By the end of Season Three, Challenger, if you recall, believed the Plateau was a gathering point, for lost worlds, lost time, and lost lives.

Mordren knew better. As he put it, the truth is that the Plateau is not a collector of life, it is the source of *everything*.

Where the Plateau came from, well, that was never a question to be answered in this series. But it is related to what Marguerite called the two fundamental forces of creation.

She called them good and evil. Challenger would come to see them as order and chaos. No one would ever come up with an exact description, or even an exact understanding, because the power of the Plateau is something that, for our time at least, is truly beyond our minds to comprehend.

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The important thing is what the line of Protectors know: The Plateau is a powerful force of creation. Left to itself and its unfathomable cycles of renewal, every time the power of the Plateau bursts forth, it can mindlessly overwhelm, and even destroy, whatever it had created the last time. So, the line of Protectors—who dwell in a place out of time called Avalon—learned how to focus and control the Plateau’s power.

When the Plateau reaches the end of one cycle of creation—as it did at the end of Season Three—the Protector guides it to the next cycle, preserving and protecting what has gone before. Think of controlled burns of the brush in the Australian Outback in order to avoid horrendous conflagrations that can blaze out of control, devastating vast areas of land. That’s the role of the line of Protectors—control.

The line of Mordren wants to usurp that power for themselves, so that the positive power of the Plateau will benefit only them, leaving its destructive aspect to lay waste to all those who oppose them.

In other words, the Protectors are responsible for maintaining the balance of the cycle of natural creation and destruction.

The line of Mordren is dedicated to upsetting that balance.

Balance.

There’s the key to everything percolating in the background of the Lost World.

Two forces. Let’s call them good and evil for now.

Two forces in balance.

But, if two forces are in balance, if they’re perfectly matched, then how is change possible? How is it possible that one side could ever hope to overpower the other?

That brings us to the trilithon, from the Greek word, *trilitbos*, having three stones.

It’s a form of ancient construction seen, among other places, in the standing stones of Stonehenge—a doorway of sorts, with one stone set across two others. As everyone familiar with the Lost World knows, the world’s largest standing-stone site is . . . all together now . . . Avebury.

You might also try saying “trilithon” as fast as you can, over and over, and imagine several thousand years have passed.

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It becomes “trion” quite nicely.

To recap... two opposing forces in balance. For one side or the other to have a hope of winning, they need something to break the balance... a third “stone.”

Since we’re dealing with good and evil, let’s call that third stone “free will.”

By now, the pattern should be clear.

The power of creation is being fought over by the forces of good and forces of evil, represented by Veronica and Mordren. (The new Mordren would have shown up in Season Four. Just as Veronica had an uncanny resemblance to her mother, Abigail, you can be sure that the new Mordren would have an equally uncanny resemblance to his father, whom Veronica killed.)

For either side to win, they need help. Someone of equal power and ability, yet who is not born to one side or the other... someone who must make a *decision*... someone who has the ability to *choose*.

A long time ago, that third player in the great game was given the opportunity to decide which side she wanted to be on.

She chose the line of Mordren.

Her name was Morrighan.

Now the game is being played again, between the descendants of the Protectors and the line of Mordren.

And, of course, the line of Morrighan.

That brings us to Marguerite.

Sometime, a long, long time ago, a Protector and someone from the line of Mordren had a child. That child gave rise to the third line which would be so critical in deciding which side would win, at least for a time, in the neverending struggle to control the power of the Plateau.

That means that Marguerite and Veronica are related. Symbolically, they’re sisters, though genetically, they’re more like cousins.

But it also means that Marguerite is related to the line of Mordren, which makes choosing sides difficult.

That’s why the Protectors have established a unique strategy.

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When the time approaches for the Plateau to cycle through another act of creation, the players assemble, from the line of Protectors, the line of Mordren, and the line of Morrighan.

The Protectors send out a protector of their own: A knight, if you will, whose destiny is to stand at the side of the woman from the line of Morrighan, to protect her, to cherish her, to show her that when the time comes to choose, it is better to choose the side of good.

That, of course, brings us to Lord John Roxton.

What Season Four (or Season Five) would have revealed, is that Roxton and Marguerite were destined to be together from the beginning. Even when they were children together in Avebury.

Except... they never met in Avebury, did they?

That's because the line of Mordren saw what the Protectors were up to, and played a countermove of their own.

More on that later.

Fine details remain sketchy, but among other revelations that would have been made in Season Four (or Five), was that the increasing number of "shifting planes of reality" leading to the "reality storm" at the end of "Heart of the Storm, Part 1," were not part of the natural cycle of the Plateau. Something had happened that threw the cycle out of whack.

Okay, not "something," someone.

That brings us to Challenger.

If Roxton's a knight, then Challenger's the wizard. (Any resemblance to Merlin is intentional.)

Here, the exact moves become only generally sketched out. But believe it or not, one of the most important episodes which set up the resolution of the entire series is... "Tourist Season."

We pause a moment to allow for head-scratching.

To continue. "Tourist Season" established two important facts about the Plateau. The first was that one of the characteristics of the Plateau is that time travel is possible. This was further established by the third-season episode, "Finn," in which Challenger's attempt to teleport once again led to time travel. (Pay attention, that will be on the test.)

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The second important fact was that no one from the far-off year of 2000 knew anything about the Challenger Expedition or of the existence of dinosaurs on a plateau in South America.

Logically, that leads to three possible key outcomes for the series.

1. Everyone dies on the Plateau—no one returns.
2. At least some of the participants return, but keep their adventures a secret.
3. At least some of the participants return, *but they do so sometime after the year 2000.*

You're only allowed one guess which outcome is the one your trio of writers planned on, and if you don't get it right, you haven't been paying attention.

So, in a nutshell . . .

Ancient battle between good and evil . . . aka Veronica and Mordren.

Both need the help of a third party . . . aka Marguerite.

A knight is destined to bring Marguerite to the side of good . . . Roxton.

The bad guys disrupted that plan by keeping Marguerite and Roxton apart.

Looks like the bad guys are going to win.

Unless, somehow, instead of letting the key players be scattered and hidden across the globe, they could be brought to the Plateau where the final confrontation could take place.

Enter the Challenger Expedition.

Challenger, you'll recall, was led to the Plateau by Maple White's discoveries.

Maple White, you'll further recall, was sent to the Plateau by Shanghai Xan at a time when Challenger would be present nearby.

How did Xan know to send Maple White to the Plateau to search for the Ourorboros?

Somebody must have told him . . .

If you were watching closely, you saw the clue in Season Three . . .

As Veronica asked Challenger in "The Secret," "What's the symbol of the Xan dynasty doing in my parents' notebook?"

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For that matter, why did Abigail, a Protector, leave the Plateau (on the adventure during which she met Tom Layton)?

As would have been revealed, Abigail left to try to find Marguerite after whatever happened to Marguerite had happened. When Marguerite couldn't be found, a new plan went into effect—instead of looking for the descendants from the line of Morrighan and the line of Mordren, the Protectors would attempt to bring everyone to the Plateau.

Thus, Abigail is responsible for revealing to the Xan dynasty the location of the other half of the Ouroboros.

Xan sent Maple White.

Maple White told Challenger.

Challenger launched an expedition.

Marguerite, who wanted desperately to obtain the birth certificate that would reveal her true identity (and, for the audience, confirm the details of what had been done to her), funded the Challenger expedition so that she could bring the Ouroboros to Xan.

Think of it as a chain of dominos falling in a circle, just like the snake that eats its own tail.

The end result of this elaborate chain of events, to be doled out over many episodes, would be to have all the pieces in place for the final confrontation at the time the Plateau is ready to undergo a new cycle of creation.

The new Mordren would be present to battle the new Protector. The descendant of Morrighan—Marguerite—would be present to help one side or the other. You can be sure that however the details were finalized, Mordren would have the power of life and death over Roxton, so that if Marguerite wanted to save Roxton's life, she would have to choose the side of evil. Could that day get any better, indeed.

The Protector would not battle alone. She would have her wizard, Challenger, and her beloved, Malone. (That's right, we said, "beloved.")

Summerlee's involvement in the battle hadn't been determined. He was certainly going to be crucial to the resolution of "Heart of the Storm, Part 1," but whether he would survive those events or not hadn't been finalized.

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Which leaves just one member of the Challenger Expedition to be accounted for—Finn.

Let's look at some other clues, shall we?

Young Veronica had a stuffed toy lion called Edward.

About a century later, as the world was being destroyed in a nuclear holocaust started by Zoth, Young Finn had the same toy.

Veronica left the toy with the Amazons, and from the Amazons, Finn got it. One of the details to have been revealed in Season Four, probably when Finn saw a photo or drawing of Young Veronica with her toy, was that Finn got the toy from her grandmother, who had been given it by her mother . . . and to cut to the chase, remember that second-season episode, "Amazons?" Remember how Malone might or might not have had a, ahem, status-changing experience with an Amazon who looked remarkably like Finn?

Without ever knowing it, Malone became a father, and Finn is his descendant. That makes Finn an Amazon whose destiny is to defend "Our Lady, Protector." That also, eventually, might have made Veronica Finn's stepmother. If Finn had still been around at the time of the final battle. And she probably wouldn't have been.

Here's why.

Finn's world was devastated by Zoth.

Zoth and Bokra are one and the same.

Zoth is to the line of Mordren what Roxton is to the line of Protectors—a knight, albeit a demonic one.

The scientific knowledge that Zoth obtained from Challenger's notes gave him the idea and the ability for destroying the world and ruling it. Finn is from the timeline in which that happened. At the end of "Heart of the Storm, Part 1," that's the same timeline Challenger is in, in the year 4666. (A digression: That's why "Technology" wants to kill Challenger rather than send him back. Without Challenger in the past, Zoth's war will take place. In the long collapse that follows, thinking machines will eventually take over. But if Challenger is returned to his own time, then Zoth will be defeated, and that nightmare future will never come to pass.)

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One of the secondary storylines that would have been resolved in the run-up to the resolution of the series, would have been the confrontation with Zoth when, once again, he's let loose upon the Earth.

The first time Zoth was released, Finn didn't exist, he wasn't stopped, he destroyed the world, and into that world, Finn was born, eventually to travel back into time with Challenger.

When the cycle repeats, Finn exists, and now she's the key to defeating Zoth.

At this point, Finn has two possible fates, and no decision had been reached. One possibility was that Finn would die in her final battle with Zoth, defeating him. Most likely, she would have died protecting Veronica, fulfilling her destiny as an Amazon. A poignant moment.

The other possibility is that Finn would disappear into the killer time vortex (or whatever...) with Zoth, and wake up in New Amazonia—but a completely different New Amazonia... the one that exists in the timeline in which Zoth's war never happened. Finn would be in a clean house in a clean city, her stuffed lion toy on a shelf in her room, and her parents would be alive and calling her down to breakfast. A magical moment.

Meanwhile, back on the Plateau in the 1920s, since Zoth had been defeated, the stage would have been set for the final confrontation—at least, for this cycle—between the Protectors and the line of Mordren.

Shifting planes of reality would be everywhere as the ultimate reality storm got ready to erupt. Chances are, this battle would take place in Avalon—as a place out of time, it would be a safe harbor from the storm.

However it transpired, Marguerite, having at last acknowledged her love for Roxton and Roxton doing the same for her, would have made the heartrending decision—most likely at Roxton's insistence—to abandon him in order to help Veronica defeat Mordren.

Thus, Marguerite and Veronica—sisters united—would stand against Mordren to save the world, while Challenger and Malone saved Roxton.

With order restored and the next cycle beginning in peace, Veronica would remain in Avalon to prepare for the next generation of Protectors.

With their destiny fulfilled, there is nothing more to hold Challenger and the others to the Plateau, and they are finally free to go.

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With the understanding Challenger has of the Plateau's energy lines, and the help of the Avatar Warriors, Challenger has perfected his teleportation device and is ready to send everyone back to Hyde Park in London.

As of summer, 2002, Malone was going to stay with Veronica in Avalon, to marry her and write the history of the Plateau's past cycle. But who knows how that might have transpired after an additional twenty-two to forty-four more episodes?

So, in this version at least, Challenger, Roxton, and Marguerite would say their farewells, and Challenger would throw the switch, and for once his invention would work perfectly and all three adventurers would be transported to Hyde Park, London.

Okay, so it wouldn't work "perfectly."

They turn up in Hyde Park, London. 2005.

After a few moments of confusion—how are they going to get out of *this* one—the explorers are met by a welcoming committee.

They've been expected.

Apparently, a letter written from South America long ago explained that the three of them would be appearing in London on this day. (The letter was written by Malone, years after Challenger, Roxton, and Marguerite left, when he realized from Challenger's notes that Challenger had made an error in his calculations).

The welcoming committee is led by a familiar young woman who looks just like Veronica, but who is actually the next Protector—Veronica's and Malone's great-granddaughter.

What happens next was never discussed, though ending with the wedding of Roxton and Marguerite would certainly be in order. And, we like to think, during the reception, some mysterious people from a government research agency would draw Challenger aside, show him some satellite surveillance photos of what appear to be dinosaurs wandering about in a desert terrain, and ask if he's ever thought of going to Mars.

We also like to think that everyone knows what Challenger's answer would be.

One adventure has ended.

But there's always another to begin. . .

The Paths Not Taken

Guy Mullally & Judith Reeves-Stevens & Garfield Reeves-Stevens

ROXTON: George, if you can believe that all the mysteries of the Plateau might have one answer, why can't we believe we've all been brought here for a specific purpose?

CHALLENGER: But whatever would that purpose be...?

"TAPESTRY"

XAN: It is never just about money, Miss Smith.

"THE SECRET"

"Heart Of The Storm, Part Two"

There were so many story threads to be resolved from Part 1, that the three of us realized one episode could not do them justice. So, Guy took great delight in planning to not resolve everything at the end of HOTS, 2. Instead, just when it looked like all was settled, something terrible would have gone wrong. What follows is adapted from our final Story Memo that would have paved the way for Season Four...

A moment after the implosion of the Lost World—the end of Season Three—there is an equal and opposite explosion that spits the world back out again. Everything is much the same, but there are a few changes (as we shall see throughout the season). Most of these changes are small or subtle, but they are often not without serious ramifications. These changes

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can and will be the source of new adventures and jeopardy for our heroes in Season Four.

In that moment of implosion/explosion, Veronica's role as Protector of the Plateau is realized. Though Veronica doesn't appear in the episode, Challenger knows that she is the only one who could have saved their lives and the world from destruction—in the white room of the 47th Century, Challenger is saved from the scalpel by a futuristic freedom fighter (*a red-haired young woman who could be Challenger's descendant*).

Marguerite is saved from the Druid sacrifice by Morrighan, her Druid priestess ancestor (*who's one of the robed figures surrounding her at the altar stone*).

Roxton is also saved by his ancestor, Captain John Roxton, the pirate who amassed the Roxton family fortune back in the 16th Century.

"Heart of The Storm, Part Two" is about their journey back to the Treehouse. Though Finn remains missing—her whereabouts unknown to the others, Malone returns from his travels of last season with a beautiful, but strange and potentially dangerous woman in tow.

The woman would probably have been revealed to be Malone's wife! Also, if scheduling concerns meant that we wouldn't be able to pursue the "mix-up" involving Roxton and his ancestor described below, the back-up plan would involve Malone acting stranger and stranger over the course of a few episodes, finally to be revealed as a demonic duplicate, which the real Malone would defeat.

Either in this episode, or an episode following, Veronica would meet her dying mother in Avalon. Also in Avalon, we would at last discover Summerlee—Abigail and her Avatar Warriors had rescued him before he went over the falls, to thank him for the care and devotion he had shown to Veronica.

Because of Summerlee's injuries and the way they've been cured at Avalon, he cannot leave the city without succumbing to his fatal wounds. Thus, he has been attempting to communicate with his friends, as he did in "Man of Vision," and, more recently, by sending Arthur the Beetle to Challenger.

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Arthur is actually a biological machine, created in Avalon. In the first episode of Season Four, Arthur's cocoon would have opened to reveal that Arthur had been transformed into a map. The map shows how to find Avalon. Unfortunately, it's based on how the Plateau looked before HOTS, Part 1, and things are considerably different now... meaning it will take Challenger many episodes to figure out how to follow the map.

“Captain John Roxton”

This story line can be worked into the first episode. In helping Roxton escape from the Conquistadors, Captain Roxton manages to switch places in time with Roxton. In other words, he's the one who makes it back to the Treehouse to rendezvous with Challenger, Marguerite, and Malone.

Though Captain John Roxton looks every bit like our Roxton (both roles to be played by Will), he's a bloodthirsty pirate with an eye for Marguerite. With Challenger's help, Roxton finally breaks through the time barrier to confront his ancestor. In the final struggle, the pirate is sent back to his place in time, and our Roxton is reunited with Marguerite.

In the summer of 2002, we were toying with the idea that the first attempts to rescue Roxton from the past failed, meaning Captain John Roxton would actually stick around for a few episodes.

“Malone's Girl”

This story line can also be worked into the first episode, or it could be saved for the second. The woman that Malone brings back to the Treehouse is perfect in every way—too perfect in fact.

Marguerite is the first to see it. Beguiled and deceived by her wit and charm, Roxton and Challenger like Malone, are not so quick to judge her. The woman is, in fact, some sort of demon. She has used Malone to help her find the Treehouse. Once she's there she wants the Trion pendant that

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she knows Veronica must have left behind when she saved the plateau. The Trion can give this woman infinite power, and it will also expose her as the hideous monster that she is. Realizing the Trion medallion has to be replaced where Veronica found it, Challenger, Roxton, Marguerite, and a reluctant Malone join forces to defeat the demon.

This demon, and possibly the demonic Malone, would probably have been a set-up for the return of Zoth, to let us know he's still out there...

“The Huntress”

A beautiful English huntress arrives, saves Marguerite's life, and asks about Lord John Roxton. Why her interest? She's *his* wife!

This is where we explore more of Roxton's backstory, learn that the woman in question was from a nearby estate in Avebury, it was always planned that she and Roxton marry, and Roxton did marry her after his father's death, thinking it was his duty.

But Roxton quickly realized the marriage was wrong, made arrangements to annul it (or divorce) and went off to Tibet. However, the marriage wasn't ended—or was it?

This story could build up to the idea that Marguerite was originally the daughter from the next estate (and thus has a higher title than Roxton's), but she was switched with a changeling and put up for adoption, never knowing that her true destiny was to marry Roxton all along.

An alternate title for this episode was “The Changeling.” This is where we would have realized that the reason Marguerite and Roxton never met as children, as they were supposed to, was because Marguerite was spirited away from her family's estate and “replaced” by the woman who would eventually become Roxton's wife. The woman grew up with Roxton, married him in his moment of weakness after the deaths of his father and brother, and thus fulfilled the commands of the line of Mordren to keep Roxton from Marguerite. But nothing could...

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“Frankenstein”

Shelley’s original story had Dr. Frankenstein chasing his monster all over the world for years. So . . . naturally the chase brings them to the Plateau. In this case, the monster looks perfectly human and is a true innocent, while Frankenstein is the sociopathic, driven scientist who wants to destroy his creation. Good Challenger possibilities in this one re the role of the scientist.

The alternate title for this episode was, “The Modern Prometheus.”

“Anniversary Party”

Marguerite wakes up one morning in a beautiful English country estate, and over the course of the day discovers that she’s married to Roxton, they’ve been back from the Plateau for three years, and tonight they’re having an anniversary dinner with their fellow Explorers!

Marguerite is devastated to realize she can’t remember the past three years—she has absolutely no recollection of leaving the Plateau.

That night, at dinner, her friends try to help her reclaim her memories. Eerily, among her friends is someone who doesn’t belong—could be Summerlee, or Tribune, or Maple White.

Tension grows through the evening, until the idea develops among the others that the person or thing claiming to be Marguerite isn’t really her—it could be a shapeshifter or evil spirit from the Plateau, seeking revenge.

Roxton is prevented from helping his beloved as the others turn against her and decide to subject her to a horrific ceremony to force her to reveal what she truly is.

This all turns out to have been an illusion, but the twist is that it’s directed at Roxton, not Marguerite. He’s actually being held captive in a cave on the Plateau by Maple White or Tribune, and he’s been subjected to hallucinogenic interrogation to get him to reveal some great secret from the war, about the Roxton family, or about the Plateau.

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“Challenger’s Son”

We start off with an Androcles and the Lion scenario in which Challenger does something noble and helpful for what turns out to be a dryad—a supernatural spirit of the jungle.

To reward Challenger for his selfless act, the dryad looks into his heart and promises she will give him something he’s always wanted.

Challenger doesn’t know what the dryad means until the next morning when Challenger’s son turns up! The son is a wonderful young man who has complete memories of being raised by Challenger and Jessie. The only problem is, Challenger and his wife never had children.

Everybody finds the “son” really creepy, but Challenger is slowly won over. Does the son die nobly to save the explorers? Does he turn into a supernatural monster? Does his devotion to Challenger endanger the explorers? Another good opportunity to explore Challenger.

“Sherlock Holmes”

This was one of the first stories Judy and Gar pitched when they joined the series in Season Two. It also turned out to be one of the most-often-pitched premises to the series over its entire three-year run.

After going off the falls, Sherlock Holmes tracks Moriarity to the Lost World. Here, the aging detective teams up with Challenger, Roxton, and Marguerite to work against his archrival. (Could tie Moriarity to Xan.)

“Chicago”

Returning to the portal that opens for two days every year, Challenger, Roxton, Marguerite, (Malone, Finn, and Veronica possible as well), find themselves in 1930s Chicago on the eve of the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre. They learn about the plan, they can stop it from happening, but Challenger

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knows that this could have a devastating impact on world history. A great opportunity to have Marguerite (and Veronica and Finn) in slinky gowns as torch singers in an after hours club.

Chicago... Enrico Fermi... atomic energy... need we say more?

“Invisible Man”

Challenger mixes up a new batch of emulsion for his photography experiments and is disturbed to see that his test photos reveal that the Explorers are being followed by watchers invisible to the eye. At first, when he tells the others what he’s discovered and shows them his photographs, they’re all concerned and try to help find and identify the invisible creatures. But, one at a time, his friends decide that Challenger is overreacting, that there really isn’t anything there.

That’s when Challenger notices that there are fewer invisible watchers in his photos—one by one, the invisible beings have been taking over his friends.

“The Secret of the Druids”

Marguerite’s true connection to the Druids is finally revealed.

During summer solstice, the longest night of the year, in the abandoned Druid cave, Morrighan (played by Rachel), the evil priestess of ancient days, reverses time long enough to momentarily escape the sacrificial altar to find Marguerite and warn her of the man who will track her through the ages.

He is the descendant of Warbek, the Druid who sacrificed Morrighan on the altar in the cave (in “Heart of the Storm, Part Two”). This man is determined to kill Marguerite at all cost before she realizes the dark powers she has locked inside her.

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Marguerite has never sensed these dark powers, but Morrighan assures her that one day they will manifest themselves.

Like Morrighan, Marguerite carries the seed of great destruction or great good, and it is that power that the Druids most feared—that’s why they sacrificed Morrighan.

Marguerite doesn’t heed her ancestor’s warning until Warbek’s descendant arrives on the scene, and then she finds herself in a life-or-death struggle.

“Philadelphia Experiment”

Near the Inland Sea, some of the Explorers are captured by World War II-era U.S. Marines. They’ve come from the battlecruiser, *U.S.S. Eldritch*, now offshore.

The *Eldritch* is the ship supposedly used for the Philadelphia Experiment, in which an attempt to render a ship invisible caused it to be transported through time and space. Fun thing about this story is that the scientists on board the ship running the experiment are, indeed, Challenger’s close, personal friends: Albert Einstein, John Turing, and Nikola Tesla. There’s also an enemy agent on the *Eldritch*, determined to make sure the experiment doesn’t succeed. Challenger and the Explorers reveal the traitor and stop him, allowing the others to escape back to their own time.

Alternate title: “Albert, Nikola, and George.”

“Inspiration”

Challenger is overcome by a sudden and overpowering inspiration to build a new device in his lab, though he’s not quite sure what it is. When he turns it on, Zoth (the man who destroyed the world in Finn’s time—2015)

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comes through from the demon world, and this time he brings Salamine, the plague demon.

Since Zoth hasn't traded places with anyone to get here this time, there's no obvious way to send him back. This could be the episode in which Finn gives her life to defeat Zoth and thereby save the future.

“The New Amazons”

Since last we saw the Amazons (Episode Two, Season Two), they have changed their ways.

No longer at war with men, they have become craftswomen and traders, living in relative peace among their neighbors. But they are not without enemies. A group of local warlords fears their economic power and has organized an army to destroy wipe out the Amazons. When the Explorers arrive, the Amazon village is under siege. As our heroes set about ending the war, Malone discovers that he has a daughter by the Amazon he slept with in the first Amazon story. Moreover, this daughter is destined to be Finn's great-grandmother, which makes Malone Finn's great- great- grand-father.

“Troodon Killers”

One of the changes on the plateau this season is the emergence of a new dinosaur—the Troodon. Six feet tall, with opposing digits, and a large brain, this dinosaur is considered to have been the smartest of all dinosaurs; the animal that may have evolved instead of mankind had the dinosaurs not become extinct.

In the Lost World, the Troodons recognize mankind as their natural enemy—the dominant species. Though they carry no weapons, they understand the power of guns, and they can communicate and organize. The episode featuring the Troodons is a chase—the Explorers are tracked by a relentless band of Troodons and finally forced into a deadly confrontation.

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“Submarine”

Following a map drawn by the German Pilot from Season One, a U-Boat surfaces in the Inland Sea. Jeopardy from the past for Marguerite and Roxton—re: Marguerite’s dark history.

“Static”

Challenger’s radio experiments bring in a BBC news report referring to the new Lord Roxton. Roxton realizes that the “good” nephew/cousin he assumed would take over his title has died and that now his wastrel, gambling nephew/cousin is about to run through the entire estate in a year. The Explorers climb a forbidden mountain to transmit a message to London, and fight a yeti along the way. For once, Roxton is focused on himself.

MARGUERITE: *John... we're going home.*

"INTO THE FIRE"

One more little scene, and I have done. Last night we all supped at Lord John Roxton's rooms, and sitting together afterwards we smoked in good comradeship and talked our adventures over. It was strange under these altered surroundings to see the old, well-known faces and figures. There was Challenger, with his smile of condescension, his drooping eyelids, his intolerant eyes, his aggressive beard, his huge chest, swelling and puffing as he laid down the law to Summerlee. And Summerlee, too, there he was with his short briar between his thin moustache and his gray goat'sbeard, his worn face protruded in eager debate as he queried all Challenger's propositions. Finally, there was our host, with his rugged, eagle face, and his cold, blue, glacier eyes with always a shimmer of devilment and of humor down in the depths of them. Such is the last picture of them that I have carried away.

Edward "Ned" Malone

From the final chapter of *The Lost World*