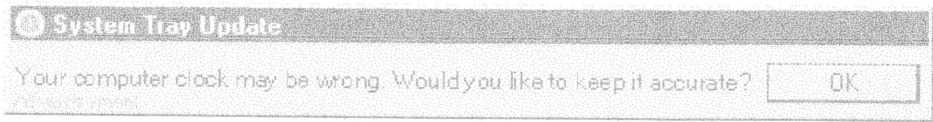


Suzi
?? an observation.
Thu May 29 13:57:09 2003
203.10.55.11

Hi everyone,
I was just wondering, where did Maria get a photograph of her real father King Fleeed to hang it in her bedroom (ep70)?
If she had left Fleeed as a child in a rushy escape, and fires everywhere, then when and where did she get that photo, and why not one of her mother too?

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Gerdha
Re: ?? an observation.
Thu May 29 21:47:31 2003
57.67.17.3

HiHi Suzi, it's so funny to see how we are very often bothered by the same things... ;-)

Okay, for me it's a small plot hole. But if we want to play a bit with theories (which is funny, isn't it ^_^) we could say that the picture was a gift from Daisuke to his sister - he may have kept one from Flead and gave it to Maria-Grace who continuously complained for not recalling anything about Flead. And the fact the picture is about their father only... well, again playing with theories (the real explanation for me is that the scenarist wanted to underline the link to the main topic of the ep) we could suppose that this was the only picture DF was able to save in Flead for some reasons.

Anyone else would like to play with theories too? ^_^

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Suzi

Well...

Fri May 30 13:12:13 2003

129.94.6.30

Well Gerdha,

Daisuke would have hardly had the time to save himself, leave alone a photo of his father.

If this was the case then why weren't we told about the existence of this photo before (at least in ep 32)?

You see, what I realised is that there are so many unexplainable events (what I might call plot holes) related to Maria more than to any other charcter in the anime.

If she was a last minute insert, why didn't her developers think of a "more consistant logical" events for her rather than "spur of the moment" ideas?

What I mean, in ep50, we were told that she had psychic powers, so why were her psychic powers useful in only ep50 (i.e. psychic power for knowing that Koji and Daisuke wanted milk and bread- yeah right! and the attacks on Koji) and very few events in consequent episodes, yet these powers did not tell her that Daisuke was her brother (ep49), or that she was being deceived by the vegans in ep70 into thinking that father was still alive?

The funny thing I noticed was even in ep72, in the balcony scene when they asking Daisuke who did he speak with, and when Daisuke said Rubina, she said Vega's daughter and looked at Hikaru.

Now Maria knows Rubina and the proposed engagement between her and her brother! She who could hardly remeber Fleed and her partents! And if I were to believe what the japanese said that she was 14 (far out!) and that it took 8 years from the destruction of Fleed until ep72, so assumingly she was 6 at the time she left Fleed could remember Rubina and not her parents! Dear oh dear..... (Mashima wrote this episode too as well, I believe, didn't he?)

Could someone help me understand this contradiction, please?

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Gerdha
Maria-Grace's memory holes
Fri May 30 19:30:50 2003
80.116.19.218

But Suzi, you cannot expect from people working with 2 weeks in advance of the airing to be perfect in coordinating scripts, especially when they are forced to add a last minute main character and producer asks to replan the whole anime on target plus change the main focus of the story from Actarus to Alcor (it's what happened for eps 49-61). Sorry, but I don't understand your surprise. Do you have an idea about how the poor team at Toei worked at that time?

Maria was added to addict boys, that's a fact, Grendizer was watched only by male kids (see my previous mail). A story devised in a certain way was forced to be changed for rate purposes. The Authors used Maria to steer up ratings, then when they stabled once again at a decent level they came back to the old storytelling. Of course a similar operation, if not previously organised, get plot holes and so on, it's normal. I find these plot holes funny, and I am amused by the fact that the Authors really "used" Maria character without paying much attention to her development, at least in the first set of her eps (if you notice it, Maria becomes a real character only in the final arc): it means she was introduced as a "device" to save the show and nothing more, but later she became the trick to justify some choices of her brother in the final arc.

About the memory holes in Maria, it's not strange at all that people suffering of a big trauma recall things with a low level of importance or details and erase from their minds events or people who had a big role in their life. It's a psychological well known process. So Maria could recall Kein and not her parents, that's nothing strange to me in this. About Rubina, it's not true Maria recalled of her, she only knew she was the Princess of Vega and she was engaged to Duke Fleed, because probably Daisuke talked only with her about this after ep70 trying to help his sister remembering Fleed (out of screen of course). Otherwise, her question to Daisuke about the identity of the girl he met at the flowered grass has no sense: Alcor saw Rubina there and probably described her to Venusia and Maria, but Phenicia could not help in the identification, so they all went to Daisuke for having the final word. Nothing in ep72 let me suppose Maria recalled Rubina, until she saw her at the death scene.

Oooops, we are entering TTOTC again... ????

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Suzi
Re: *Maria-Grace's memory holes*
Fri May 30 20:35:53 2003
129.94.6.30

Do you really want to start this?

In the arabic (and I think the Japanese too). Maria explicitly said "Vega's daughter!" not "Princess of Vega" and gave Hikaru some worried looks knowing what effect the meeting between her brother and his ex-fiance would have on Hikaru. This means that she really knew their relationship.

If your theory is right that DF told Maria about Rubina to help her remember Flead(and I know Agnes is going to love this) then that indirectly indicates that Rubina still had some "important" place in his mind and heart, because Daisuke's phrase "Maria I met Rubina" was said in a way that the listener knew who she was.

He did not say I met Vega's daughter. Maria identified her from the name.

I don't think that Koji had enough time to see her closely in the grass field to give a good description of her to the others. He was coming from a fair distance mainly to defend DF against Zuril.

During Rubina's death, Maria was mainly affected by the fact that Rubina lost her life defending her brother (Rubina's father worst enemy), which is a normal reaction.

I do not think that she wanted to go and be with them because she "remembered" and probably "liked Rubina" as you and maybe Agnes said. She was merely touched by her heroic sacrifice and wanted to be with her brother at this tragic moment.

As for the memory plot holes, I know about that Gerdha, but I can't believe that she couldn't even remember how her house or her parents vaguely looked like. Even those who have traumatic amnesia have irregular vague flashbacks of past events and familiar faces.

I can imagine the nightmare that Toei team were passing through, but I think that the audience as young as they may seem deserved a bit more coherency and logic in the storylines relating to Maria.

Just a small question Gerdha, was there no one to review the scripts properly before they were applied to make sure that is at least not as many irritating plot holes?

OK maybe I am a perfectionist.

Why would DF tell Maria about Rubina, unless.....???? (I am sure Agnes will jump at this suggestion now)

What do you think?

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hm hm :-)))

By the way, in the French version, her reaction to the identity of the girl Actarus met shows extreme surprise. What follows is from memory. She looks very concerned, and her voice is concerned and pleading when she asks him who he was talking to. If I remember correctly, she says: "Petit frère, avec qui parlais-tu tout à l'heure?" and then insists and says something like "Dis le moi!" or "Dis nous!"

Actarus then says, in a very quiet voice (the type of non-committal voice one uses to cover up a state of deep emotional distress): "Je parlais avec Végalia."

Ciao, ciao,

Agnes

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Gerdha
TTOTC-Maria & Daisuke at the balcony
Fri May 30 22:31:24 2003
80.116.19.41

Actually I don't want to start this, Suzi, because ep72 discussion means TTOTC, and rules to apply. So, dialogues and particularly dubbers intonation cannot be used to prove anything at the balcony scene as they are different. You trust the arabic, I trust the italian, Agnes probably would trust the french.

- But anyway, I need to underline a couple of important thoughts of mine about ep72
- 1) I stress once again what I have already written more than once: I have never said DF had bad sentiments towards Rubina, I only dispute that he loved/loves her. Of course Rubina had a role in DF life, he was intended to marry her to save his planet, and the plan went wrong (and you know my theory about why). Of course talking about her was not meaningless for Duke Fleed.
 - 2) I would add, that if the dialogues of the italian and arabic versions are right, they reinforce my theory DF told some details about his past to his sister between ep70 and 72 to help her to recall something about Fleed. In ep70 Maria seems to have no clue at all about her family, and in ep72 she remembers about Rubina, at least she knows who she was/is. Nobody other then Daisuke could have tell her about Rubina, and probably it was between ep70 and 71, when he still thought to be sentenced to death very soon and worried probably Maria could have never had any possibility to know something about her past if he died. It's natural that, seeing how Phenicia was desperate to know something and was so confused about her family, Actarus decided to tell her details about the royal family and about himself, including about his engagement with Rubina.
 - 3) I can tell you that amnesia due to traumas can have the most different and strange affection to memory
 - 4) I never said in no post that Maria probably liked Rubina. Agnes did, not me. I agree instead with your opinion.
 - 5) You are a perfectionist, Susi ^^ It's difficult for Hollywood serials productions to hire somebody who checks plot holes in the scripts (for example, The X-Files had a lady doing it for the first 7 seasons, then she was fired for cost reduction and we have seen the results.. :-(Sorry I am digressing). Go figure if it could have existed at Toei in the 70s, when 5-6 series were produced at the same time! The role of "process responsible" as far as I know was related to a coordination of the design itself, not for checking scripts.

Gerdha

PS: just for everybody information, the italian dialogue is "I met Rubina" "What? The Princess of Vega?" Out of TTOTC, if this is right, for sure Maria does not underline the engagement factor - she does not say "What? Your girlfriend?" or "What? Your endless love?". No, she underlines instead Vegalia's role. For me, and I am telling this at the coffee machine ;-) this means that DF told to his sister he had been engaged with Rubina, The Princess Of Vega, and never talked to Phenicia about any possible deep feeling for her.

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