

Director's Notes

1000 years in the future, following the depletion of Earth's natural resources, the planet's systems depend upon a key component: the Blue Crystal. When this crystal is stolen by the Zarcons, a warrior race from a distant and dying planet, the Earth people look to Captain Tor to recapture the crystal and save the human race from extinction. Along with an eccentric robot and four amusing clones, Captain Tor fights the aliens until he is confronted by the Zarcon princess - and a dilemma! Can they work together to save both of their planets?

CAST

Main Characters

Captain Tor	Classic hero, but thoughtful with it	(Solo singer)
Zed	Earth boy. Part of Tor's crew. Lively joker	(Group singer)
Thea	Earth girl. Part of Tor's crew. Confident, practical	(Group singer)
Aravis / Princess Aravis	Zarcon princess, at first in disguise as an earth person	(Solo singer)
Codot the Robot	Robotic speaking and movement, slightly eccentric	
Grammy	A hologram, newsreader and technical assistant, humorously sardonic	
Warrior Leader	Zarcon leader, helps change the course of things at the end of the play	

Earth speaking parts

Earth Child 1, 2 (3, 4)	Small speaking parts
Scientist 1, 2, (3, 4, 5, 6, 7)	Small speaking parts – long word users! (<i>Only appear in Scene 2</i>)
Earth Adult 1, 2	Small speaking parts

Zarcon speaking parts

Warrior 2, 3 (4, 5)	Tough guys! Group singing (<i>opt.</i>) – very small speaking parts
Zarcon Adult 1, 2, (3, 4)	Small speaking parts
Zarcon Children 1, 2	Small speaking parts

Other speaking parts

Clones 1, 2, 3, 4	Comic characters, who speak and act exactly the same. (Group singers)
Aliens (<i>optional</i>)	Any number, to speak in ad lib gobbledegook! (<i>one appearance, p. 23</i>)
Smallest child	Small Earth child (<i>one appearance, p. 30</i>)

Non-speaking chorus parts

Earth & Zarcon people	Any number to form chorus - Earth to Stage Left, Zarcon to Stage Right
Robots	Any number, to do robotic movements (<i>one appearance, p. 14</i>)

Options for smaller casts

Scientists only appear in Scene 2, so could double as extra Zarcon people or Aliens thereafter.
Grammy only appears at the beginning and at the end, so could double as a Zarcon.

PROPS

A Blue Crystal! This needs to be of a size that is big enough to have impact, but small enough for Aravis to conceal in her costume.

Newsdesk notes for Grammy. Clipboards etc. for scientists.

'Laser guns' for Captain Tor and crew, and for Zarcon Warriors.

Tools for Clones if needed (*see p. 22*): spanner, screwdriver, blu tack, sticky tape.

Communication devices (strapped to wrists) for Scientist 2, Tor and Zed.

Mask for Aravis when she becomes the Zarcon princess.

COSTUMES

Earth People	Everyday clothes might not look futuristic, but a uniform colour scheme eg. blue T-shirts, black trousers, suggests a different dress code from today.
Zarcon People	These can be given a similar treatment to the Earth people, but in a contrasting colour. Alternatively, they could be interpreted as impoverished as they are from a dying planet, so dressed in rags. Blue lipstick is effective.
Scientists	White coats, oversize spectacles and backcombed hair for funny 'boffin' effect.
Tor & his Crew	Space age fabric for clothing would be good, but not essential.
Grammy	As Tor's crew, but with letter H on his/her forehead.
Zarcon Warriors	Same colours as Zarcon people, with extras such as sashes, visors, etc.
Robots	Either Android style costumes, based on catsuits, or 'traditional' robots using card and foil, metallic ironing board covers, etc.
Aliens	Children need to let their imaginations run riot. Incorporating gauzy material across faces is effective in removing traces of humanity!
Clones	All identically dressed. Tinsel wigs and plain white face masks are effective.

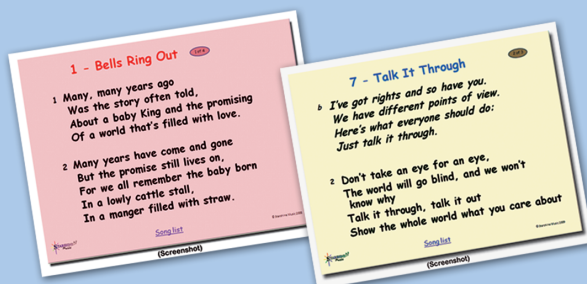
STAGING

Less is more! Scenery 'flats' might be used to indicate Planet Earth, the Spaceship and Planet Zarcon but, as the action is never in both planets simultaneously, it is probably best to keep the staging minimal, leaving the audience's imagination to do the work.

Directions in the script assume Planet Earth / Earth People are set Stage Left (with the Spaceship to far Stage Left) and Planet Zarcon / Zarcon People set Stage Right.

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Director's Overview

SCENE 1 ZARCON WARRIORS (p.7)

Song ZARCON WARRIORS

⦿ Track 1 / 15

On Earth, just after the song, the Blue Crystal is stolen by a shadowy figure (Aravis , cloaked). Earth Adults 1 & 2 set the scene.

SCENE 2 THE PROBLEM ON EARTH (p.8)

Grammy announces the news that Earth's most vital computer component, the Blue Crystal, has been stolen by an alien race from Planet Zarcon. Scientists explain what this means for the Earth's control centre. The human race will only survive if Captain Tor can recover the crystal.

Song DID YOU HEAR THE NEWSFLASH?

⦿ Track 2 / 16

Captain Tor begins to select a crew for his space mission.

Song TAKE ME TO THE STARS

⦿ Track 3 / 17

Aravis, Zed and Thea are chosen to join the crew. They try to cheer up the Earth People.

Song WHEN LIFE IS TOUGH

⦿ Track 4 / 18

SCENE 3 THE CREW CHOOSE A ROBOT (p.14)

Incidental ROBOT PARADE

⦿ Track 29

Song CODOT THE ROBOT

⦿ Track 5 / 19

Earth Children ask Captain Tor if he can save the world. He reassures them that even in the darkest of moments we can have the strength to win.

Song SHINE OUT!

⦿ Track 6 / 20

SCENE 4 THE SPACESHIP TAKES OFF (p.17)

Incidental TAKE OFF / FLOATING

⦿ Track 7 / 21

The crew appreciate the fragile beauty of Planet Earth, as viewed from space, except for Zed, who quickly becomes bored with the tedious journey.

Incidental ALARM / CRASH LANDING

⦿ Track 30

The spaceship malfunctions, crashing on Planet Zarcon. The crew explore.

Incidental PLANET ZARCON

⦿ Track 31

SCENE 5 ON PLANET ZARCON (p.19)

The crew soon find themselves under attack. Codot is hit, and Aravis is 'taken'.

Song THE FIRST BATTLE

⦿ Track 8 / 22

Four Clones help see off the Zarcons.

SCENE 6 THE CLONES (p.21)

Song PLANET NINE

⦿ Track 9 / 23

The Clones agree to help Captain Tor get back the Blue Crystal, in return for using the crystal's power to repair their ship. Captain Tor goes out to search for the Zarcons.

Incidental EXPLORING MUSIC

⦿ Track 32

