

# Fighting Females of the Forty-Fourth

## Episode 68 – No Turn Unstoned

Cast

Announcer

Lieutenant Mitzi Bates

Captain Lilly Palmaid

Cher Chez La Rouge

Mademoiselle Mustar

Fisherwoman

Operator

Prime Minister of England

Dramatic music swells

### **Announcer**

And now, it's time for the thrilling adventures of your favorite group of women, the Fighting Females of the Forty-Fourth! Tonight, Episode 68 – No Turn Unstoned!

Previously, on the FFFF we learned that Lieutenant Mitzi Bate's boyfriend, Brad, had been kidnapped by the evil and cunning Cher Chez La Rouge, a dangerous vamp who one weekend once single-handedly seduced the entire French Foreign Legion.

Le Rouge's sidekick, Mademoiselle Mustar, posing as a mechanic at the Aerodome, sabotaged all the attack planes, leaving the squadron with only a blimp to use to track down their nefarious foe.

Undeterred, Mitzi and her commander, Captain Lilly Palmaid, set off across the countryside, at full blimp speed.

### **Mitzi**

Dang!

### **Lilly**

Lieutenant! Watch your mouth! You're in uniform.

**Mitzi**

Sorry, Captain Palmaid. It's just that this blimp is so slow.  
(Sound of bird passing by)

**Narrator**

At that moment a seagull passes them.

**Lilly**

(Tender) I know, Mitzi. You're worried about Brad.

**Mitzi**

It's just that... Well, he's only a man, and so helpless.

**Lilly**

They are all, Lieutenant. But that's why they have us around.

**Narrator**

At that moment Mademoiselle Mustar appears holding a wrench.

**Mustar**

Mon Dieu! I found this in the works!

**Lilly**

Someone put a monkey wrench in the works? No wonder we're going so slow. But who could do such an evil thing?

**Mustar**

Who indeed? (Laughs maniacally)

**Mitzi**

Mechanic, why are you laughing maniacally?

**Mustar**

Um, eh, well... It is the monkey wrench joke. That's a good one, boss. Well, I need to go back to the engine room to rip out... um, to fix up a few more things.

**Lilly**

Lieutenant, you go with her in case she needs some help.

**Mustar**  
Curses!

**Lilly and Mitzi**  
What?

**Mustar**  
I mean, I, eh, well, I need to work on my curses, in case I should skin my knuckles, mon capitan. I will be off! (Sound of very heavy footsteps as she exits)

**Lilly**  
I tell you Mitzi, there's something strange about that Englishwoman.

**Narrator**  
Meanwhile, deep in the recesses of her hidden hideout high atop the Blue Mountain ridge, Cher Chez La Rouge is gloating over her captive.

**La Rouge**  
Ah ha! My dear Bradley, you are mine to do with what I will. What is the matter? You have nothing to say? Ah, perhaps it is that gag that I have placed in your mouth that so effectively silences you. Still, I am sure that if you could talk you would be telling me that I was mad, and that I could not get away with this.

Get away with this? Of course I will get away with this. My fortress here is impregnable, the heavy metal doors that surround us could withstand any blast known to womankind. The only opening is a small one at the top of the mountain, and there is no possible landing place for any plane.

And you'd probably go on to say that my plans for ruling the world will be foiled by the Fighting Females of the Forty-Fourth. The Forty-Fourth?! How dare you mention their name! They have been the bane of me since their existence. And yet even they do not know of my secret weapon, a ray that will warm the sea even from afar.

I know – you'd say that this is impossible, that no one could invent such a device. I don't have to stand here and listen to you talk like this. You have no idea what you are saying. Shut up! I am leaving before you can say one more thing!

**Narrator**

At this very moment the blimp was landing at the small village of Bodgea Bay, which rested at the foot of Blue Mountain.

**Lilly**

Well, let's drop anchor here. (Sound of dropping anchor). Making those repairs to the engines got us going again quickly, but I'm afraid we've lost the trail. Not only that, but I don't understand why we started losing altitude.

**Mitzi**

Look, Captain Lilly| Up at the side of the ship! There appears to be a series of punctures.

**Lilly**

Yes. I wonder what could have caused those...

**Mitzi**

Oh, here comes our mechanic, perhaps she will know. (Heavy footsteps as she walks up). What are those huge needles you have in your hand for?

**Mustar**

What? Oh, eh, er, these? I am talking up the knitting, don't you know, mon ami.

**Lilly**

Well, those will come in handy to sew up the holes, at least. Let's see if these good fisher folk here can help us. Good miss, do you happen to have about 1000 yards of very strong nylon thread?

**Fisherwoman**

Aye, it's all very good for you to ask me that, you with your fancy uniforms and all, why we struggle here trying to make a living, now that the herring have all gone.

**Mitzi**

The herring?

**Fisherwoman**

That's what I said, woman, are you deaf?! The herring have all fled the waters, because they've gotten too warm.

**Lilly**

Too warm?

**Fisherwoman**

Yes! The waters here are warm enough to take a sauna in, ye bloody git.

**Lilly**

But we're so near the arctic circle. How could the waters be so warm unless...

**Mitzi**

Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

**Lilly**

I'm thinking La Rouge may have something to do with this. She once warned us that she would destroy all the herring in the world, and this may just be the start. Tell me, fisherwoman, when did this start?

**Fisherwoman**

It was just a few nights ago – there was a beam of light coming from the top of Blue Mountain and it aimed down at the bay and stayed there for a few minutes. Then the water got very warm in the bay and all the fish died. Other than that I have no idea what happened.

**Lilly**

That certainly sounds suspicious. Perhaps we should investigate.

**Fisherwoman**

Ach, you'll be havin' no way of getting up there. There nae be no passable roads nor any way of climbing there. You'd need some kind of airship or something in order to be flying that high.

**Mitzi**

But you see here? That's exactly what we do have! This is our blimp!

**Fisherwoman**

This blimp here?

**Mitzi**

(Triumphantly) Yes!

**Fisherwoman**

The one that's sitting on my boat, crushing it into the water?

**Mitzi**

(Less sure) Yes?

**Fisherwoman**

The one that's sinking the only thing I have left in the world, that's causing my husband and family to be drowning even as we speak?

**Mitzi**

(Slowly) Yes...

**Lilly**

Come, Lieutenant, I think we should be going now...

**Mitzi**

But the holes...

**Lilly**

We'll fix them on the way there. Well, it's been a pleasure meeting you, my good lady. (Sound of anchor being raised and airship taking off)

**Fisherwoman**

(Fading in the distance) Come back here! Wait until I get me hands on the two of ya! I'll tear ya limb from limb, I will, you great ugly gits...

**Narrator**

At this moment, in Number 10 Downing street, the Prime Minister is receiving a very important transatlantic call that could alter the fate of England and the free world!

**Operator**

(Identifying self) Operator. Is this the Queen Mother?

**PM**

No, you dolt! This is the Prime Minister of England.

**Operator**

Oh, good. I have a person to person call from Cher Chez La Rouge to the Prime Minister of England.

**PM**

Good, good. Put her through.

**Operator**

The call is collect, guvenor.

**PM**

What?! Oh, well. (Thinks about it quite a while) All, right, I guess that's okay. Could you let me know what the charges are when we're done.

**Operator**

(Condescending) Of course, guvenor

**PM**

It's just that I have to get the Cabinet to approve things...

**Operator**

I understand, guvenor (not understanding)

**PM**

Look, if **you** had to run a country...

**Operator**

Maybe if you put a little aside each month...

**PM**

Would you **just** put her through!!

**La Rouge**

Is this the Prime Minister with whom I am speaking?

**PM**

La Rouge! You scoundrel!! You fiend!!!

**La Rouge**

Ah, it is my own enemy, the famous Prime Minister of England. So, at last I have you on the phone...

**PM**

(Changing tone, conversationally) You know, speaking of that...

**La Rouge**

What?

**PM**

Could you not call collect next time?

**La Rouge**

What do you mean...

**PM**

It's a little embarrassing to have to ask the cabinet for the money...

**La Rouge**

Well, maybe if you put a little aside each month...

**PM**

(Exasperated) Look! **You** try running a country!

**La Rouge**

Funny you should say that. That's **exactly** what I'm calling about.

**PM**

You don't mean!



**La Rouge**

If you don't turn over the keys to the country by midnight tonight I will unleash my heating ray on the waters of the North Atlantic and destroy the entire herring population of the world!

**PM**

(Con conversationally) You mean by midnight tonight your time or my time?

**La Rouge**

What time are you guys on again? I keep forgetting

**PM**

Well, it's almost 3 O' Clock here now...

**La Rouge**

3 O' Clock? Really? Is that A.M. or P.M?

**PM**

In the afternoon.

**La Rouge**

That's amazing. It's nearly 8pm here and the sun went down over an hour ago. I can never get used to the time difference.

**PM**

(Back to enemies again) Well, you'll never get away with this, La Rouge!!

**La Rouge**

Ah, but I know you English people, there is no way you can live without your herring. You will give in, you have no choice! So, what I want...

**Operator**

Um, your three minutes are up.

**PM**

We aren't through yet!

**Operator**

It will be an additional charge from this point on.

**PM**

Yes, yes, I understand.

**Operator**

You were worried about the money...

**PM**

I **wasn't** worried! (To La Rouge) It's not like the money's a problem, La Rouge, it's just the cabinet...

**Operator**

So what do you want to do?

**PM**

I'll pay the extra! Just get off the line!

**Operator**

All right, it's your dime.

**PM**

Sorry about that, La Rouge.

**La Rouge**

Well, it's hard to get good help.

**PM**

They have a union.

**La Rouge**

Where was I?

**PM**

I think you were about to give me the ultimatum.

**La Rouge**

Are you sure? I thought I did that already.

**PM**

Yes, but you were clarifying what you want, I think.

**La Rouge**

(Remembering) Oh, yes! That's right. (Back to evil tone) So what I want is a complete and total surrender, signed by you and the cabinet...

**PM**

(Groans)

**La Rouge**

That's right, the cabinet, and I want it in writing sent to me no later than midnight, your time, tonight, or I will unleash my ray and end the culinary dreams of England once and for all! (Con conversationally) Do you have all that?

**PM**

Yes. Um, all but your fax number.

**La Rouge**

You can use the same one as last time. You know, when you sent me that funny picture of the French President on the beach.

**PM**

Wasn't that a riot?

**La Rouge**

He should never been seen in public in that swimsuit. (Back to business) Don't forget – midnight, tonight!!!

**Narrator**

As the zero hour approaches our intrepid heroines find themselves high in the air nearing the very pinnacle of Blue Mountain!

**Mitzi**

Captain Lilly! Look, I see a glow coming from the top of the mountain!

**Lilly**

Yes, it looks like some sort of opening or entrance.

**Mustar**

I don't see anything. I think we should be turning around. I'll go to the engine room...

**Lilly**

No, mechanic, I see our destination ahead! You stay here and keep the ship over the mountain top. Quick, Mitzi, get to the ropes, we're climbing down!

**Narrator**

Two ropes spill down from the hovering airship, and Captain Lilly and Lieutenant Mitzi start their downward descent.

(Wind noises)

(Exciting music starts)

**Lilly**

(Shouting to be heard) Hang on tight, Mitzi! It's certain death for sure if we should fall!

**Mitzi**

My hands are so cold I can barely feel the rope!

**Lilly**

Just keep climbing down! As long as our mechanic holds the ship steady, there's nothing to fear!

**Narrator**

At that moment the huge airship begins to rock back and forth.

**Mitzi**

What's happening, Captain Lilly?!

**Lilly**

We must be hitting some turbulence – there's no way the mechanic would let us down now!

**Mustar**

(Happily) Are you having some trouble down there, mon capitan?

**Lilly**

Mechanic! Can you hold the ship steady? If it keeps rocking back and forth we will fall to our deaths!

**Mitzi**

Captain Lilly? It occurs to me that it's odd that we let a mechanic pilot the ship.

**Lilly**

Quiet, Mitzi. I'm trying to get through to the mechanic. I say, can you hear me up there?

**Mitzi**

I mean, wouldn't it have been better to let the pilot take charge?

**Lilly**

Mechanic! Are you there?

**Mitzi**

Or even you. Maybe you should have stayed up there and the mechanic and I...

**Lilly**

Will you stop already! (To mechanic) I can see you up there, why aren't you answering?

**Lilly and Mitzi**

(As they sway back and forth) Ohhhhh! Oh, no!!!

**Mitzi**

The ropes are swaying too much, Captain. I'm afraid this is the end...

**Mustar**

Is it unpleasant for you down there, mon amis? Perhaps **this** will help...

**Narrator**

So saying, the evil Mademoiselle Mustar steers the ship directly down into the opening at the top of Blue Mountain. Further and further it plummets, as Lilly and Mitzi desperately cling to the ropes. The giant airship is completely out of control, with even Mustar unable to pull up and prevent certain doom.

**Mustar**

In retrospect, this was a bad idea.

(There is a sound of a terrific crash)

**La Rouge**

What was that? I thought I heard a tin can being dropped. Was that you, Brad? Ah, no, you still cannot speak, can you my little cumquat? Not with that gag. But if you could speak, I would think you would say...

**Lilly**

Hold it right there, La Rouge!

**La Rouge**

What? Is that my old adversary, Captain Lilly Palmaid? How did you get in here?

**Mitzi**

The same way I did, you fiend!

**La Rouge**

(Imperiously) And who are you?

**Lilly**

(Con conversationally) I don't think you've met. This is Lieutenant Mitzi Bates.

**La Rouge**

Oh, how do you do...

**Lilly**

And Mitzi, this is Cher Chez La Rouge

**Mitzi**

(Con conversationally) I've heard **so** much about you...

**La Rouge**

(Modestly) Oh, you can't believe everything you hear..

**Mitzi**

No, really. They say you're the scourge of the seven continents.

**La Rouge**

Six, really. I haven't gotten out to Africa yet.

**Mitzi**

Oh, you must go. It's so lovely this time of year.

**La Rouge**

Well, perhaps some day... (Evilly again) Now! I have you both in my clutches. And perhaps you'll recognize this man...

**Mitzi**

Brad!

**Lilly**

La Rouge, you monster! What have you done to Bradley? Why isn't he saying anything.

**La Rouge**

I have gagged him quite thoroughly. He cannot say a word. (To Brad) Can you, Bradley Wadley?

**Mitzi**

I'm sure if he could talk he would tell you that you are an evil, treacherous woman!

**La Rouge**

I won't stand for that kind of talk from **any** man. You, Brad, you keep your mouth shut!

**Mitzi**

You can't order him about like that. He won't take that from you. If he weren't gagged he'd tell you that your days are numbered, that this is the end for you and all of your terrible plans.

**La Rouge**

Listen, Brad, one more word from you and I'll take care of both of your friends here. Ah, you don't like that, do you?

**Lilly**

What makes you think you are in charge here, La Rouge? There's two of us, and only one of you! And we have you covered.

**Mustar**

Ah, but I have the **two** of you covered.

**Lilly**

Mechanic! I don't understand. I thought you were on our side.

**Mustar**

Ah, cheri, but that is what I wished you to think.

**Lilly**

You mean you aren't an Englishwoman?

**Mustar**

No, of course I am English, n'est pas. My name is Mademoiselle Mustar. However, I am working for Cher Chez.

**Mitzi**

You don't mean to tell me you're... (significantly) **friends**?

**Mustar**

What?! No, no, of course not. Not that there's anything wrong with that. I have many boyfriends, as does Cher Chez.

**La Rouge**

Not all at the same time.



**Mustar**

No, I didn't mean to imply...

**La Rouge**

I'm basically in a committed relationship right now.

**Mustar**

I wasn't saying...

**La Rouge**

It's somewhat difficult right now, because it's kind of a long distance thing and I know those never work out, but I'm hoping to take over England soon and then...

**Mustar**

I'm sure it will be all right. (To others) Now, drop your guns! (Sound of dropping)

**La Rouge**

Good work, Mustar. Now, help me tie them up and then we will await the fax from the Prime Minister. And in the meantime we will ready the heat ray... just in case.

**Narrator**

As the midnight hour approaches we find our heroines tied tightly together, next to the equally tightly tied, and gagged, Brad.

**Mitzi**

Oh, Captain Lilly! I'm sorry I ever got you into this.

**Lilly**

Nonsense, Mitzi. Not only is it my job to take care of king and country, but you are also a close friend. I would never stop trying to rescue Bradley for you.

**Mitzi**

Oh, Brad. I had forgotten about him. Look, he seems to be trying to say something! He's signaling with his eyes! He wants us to do something – but it's hopeless. We're tied up just as he is. What can we do that he can't?

**Lilly**

But he's pointing with his head. What is it, boy? What do you want?

**Mitzi**

He seems to be indicating over there, by that large opening in the stone floor. It looks like some kind of cistern, perhaps they can raise water there.

**Lilly**

He seems very agitated now. Tell me, boy, what's the problem? Did someone fall down the well?

**Mitzi**

Perhaps if I could get to my feet (groans as they struggle upright).  
Now if I hop over there to the center of the room (hopping sounds).  
Uh oh.

(Sounds of water rising)

**Mitzi**

The water is coming up through the floor. It's going to flood the room!!

**La Rouge**

Ah ha, can you hear me through the speaker? I've decided to rid the world of you two once and for all. Oh, and Brad as well – his constant tirades grew tiresome. Goodbye and farewell!!! (Evil laugh)

**Lilly**

Brad seems to be motioning his head the other way.

**Mitzi**

I see it now! There is some kind of lever on the wall, but it's pretty high up, too high for me to reach with my hands tied behind my back.

**Lilly**

You can pull the lever with your mouth!

**Mitzi**

That's it! That's why Brad couldn't do it, poor thing. Let me see if I can (mouth sounds as she tries). There! I've closed it!

(Sound of saw)

**Lilly**

It's turned on that large table saw. Quickly, get over there and cut your ropes!

**Mitzi**

All right!

**Narrator**

As our intrepid Mitzi hurries to free herself and her friends from the ropes so they can escape the rising waters, La Rouge is busy adjusting her evil heating ray!

**Mustar**

Cher Chez! There is a call for you!

**La Rouge**

A call? But I was expecting a fax. All right, I'll take it.

**Operator**

This is the operator. Will you accept the charges?

**La Rouge**

Charges? Is this a collect call?

**Operator**

That's right.

**La Rouge**

Why that little... (Sighs) All right, I'll accept the call.

**PM**

La Rouge.

**La Rouge**

Prime Minister. You were supposed to fax me.

**PM**

There's been a little problem.

**La Rouge**

I don't want to hear about any problems! I have problems of my own.

**PM**

You?

**La Rouge**

You think it's easy keeping this place clean? I have airships crashing into it, soldiers shooting it up, and mildew in the shower.

**PM**

Did you try vinegar?

**La Rouge**

It never works. Listen, I'm rather pressed for time here, what with having to destroy the herring and all...

**PM**

That's what I'm calling about. I'd rather you wouldn't.

**La Rouge**

So you're ready to surrender?

**PM**

I can't get the cabinet to agree on anything. They're still steaming over the long distance charges.

**La Rouge**

It's almost midnight

**PM**

Can't you just hold off for another day or two?

**La Rouge**

(Reasonably) Now, how would that look? I tell you that you need to surrender by midnight, you call and ask for a couple more days, and I say, "Sure, no problem, take as much time as you need." Really. Do you think that's very menacing and all? Surely you see my position.

**PM**

But if you destroy the herring you won't have anything left to bargain with.

**La Rouge**

Today herring, tomorrow the cod.

**PM**

You wouldn't!

**La Rouge**

It's a tough world. (Sounds of battle being fought in the background)  
Look, could I call you back? I think your soldiers have escaped and are causing some problems.

**PM**

It's pretty late. I was going to go to bed.

**La Rouge**

(Battle gets closer and she's distracted) Um, I hate to just hang up on you, but I really need to go... How about if I call you in the morning? Around 8am?

**PM**

Is that 8am my time or 8am your time?

**La Rouge**

(Battle is now here) Um... I sorry! (Hangs up phone) So! The two of you have escaped!

**Mitzi**

That's **three** of us. Brad is here, too.

**La Rouge**

Well, Brad. What have you got to say for... (phone rings). Excuse me, I have to get this.

**Operator**

Would you like to know the charges?

**La Rouge**

What?

**Operator**

On the collect call. Do you want to know the charges?

**La Rouge**

Look, I'm kind of busy right now. Can you tell me later...

**Operator**

(Interrupting) It was 12.50.

**La Rouge**

...on and I'll... (beat) 12.50! But I was only on the phone a few minutes!

**Mustar**

Cher Chez! I have set off the self-destruct on the fortress!

**Operator**

I'm sorry, but those are the charges.

**La Rouge**

The self-destruct?! Why did you do that? (To operator) Operator, can I please speak to your supervisor?

**Mustar**

I thought we were losing!

**Self Destruct Timer**

You have three minutes before self destruct

**Operator**

Certainly. Please hold.

**Mustar**

We've got to get out of here!

**La Rouge**

I'm holding for the supervisor.

**Lilly**

Your time is up, La Rouge. You had better come with us, or face total destruction.

**La Rouge**

You win – this time! But we'll meet... (on phone) Oh, is this the supervisor.

**Operator**

I'm sorry, he's still busy. Can we call you back?

**Self Destruct Timer**

You have two minutes before self destruct

**Mitzi**

Let's get out of here, Brad and Captain Lilly!!!

(Music swells into closing)

**Announcer**

As the two heroines and Brad make their way out of the doomed facility, we bid farewell until the next exciting adventure of the Fighting Females of the Forty-Fourth when you'll hear...

**Lilly**

The entire mountain is breaking up! Quick, grab my hand.

**Mitzi**

And, Brad, you grab my hand.

**Mustar**

I will grab both of your hands.

**La Rouge**

Operator, you really can't expect me to pay 12.50 for just a few minutes!

(Music up and out)