Trouble with Bits and Bites

By Leanna

Chapter 2

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"Umm, guys…A little help here would be greatly appreciated," Leanna said quietly trying not to flinch, "I would like to keep both my head and my hair".

Lion-O grabbed the sword and got to his feet, "Panthro…let her go," He said calmly as he slowly walked over.

Panthro growled and push the lioness down onto her knees. Leanna bit her lip as she felt his sharp claws dig into her scalp. "Careful Lion-O," Tygra said watching the panther closely.

Slowly and carefully Lion-O moved so he was directly in front of Panthro who wasn't moving or loosening his grip on the lioness from the submissive hold he had on her. Lion-O raised the sword in front of the panther's vacant eyes, "I said. Let her go," He ordered, the sword growled snapping the panther out of the hypnotic daze.

"What the…" Panthro said shaking his head in confusion, he looked at who he had in his grasp, "I'm sorry," he said releasing her, "I hope I didn't hurt you. If I did I didn't mean too," Panthro said unwinding her long braid from his wrist.

"I know," she said quietly standing.

"Lion-o where's Cheetara," Tygra asked looking around for the cheetah.

"Tygra, Lion-O ..Over here," Panthro said pointing to the ground.

The two men looked down and saw Cheetara's cuff lying on the ground, "They have taken her inside with them," Tygra said looking towards the sealed doors of the lair.

"I've had enough of this," Lion-O growled and stormed towards the lair's entrance.

"Lion-O wait," Tygra said, "If we try and break our way in they might harm Cheetara".

"He's right," Panthro nodded, "We need to come up with a plan".

"Lets go to the tower of omens," Lion-o said.

"How we getting there," Leanna asked.

"We walk," the Lion nodded.

Once they reached the berble village, Lion-o called Bengali to pick them up in the Thunderstrike. It was a tight fit but all managed to get in the Thunderstrike and head to the tower. “Alluro,” Luna screeched as amok strode into the control room, “I want the defense systems up and running”.

“We’re working on it now,” Alluro said as he worked on the laser control panel.

“Good, the Thundercats will be back and try to take back their home,” Luna cackled, “I want to make sure were ready for when they do”.

“Luna,” Tug mug called on the communicator, “what do you want me to do with this she-cat”.

“Take her down to the lower levels and lock her up,” Luna replied, “We will use her as leverage”.

“You won’t get away with this,” Cheetara spat.

“We have so far,” Luna smirked, “Red eye, find the armory and take what ever weapons you can find…also I want the lunatacker loaded with as much thunderillum as you can find…. Then you and Tug Mug go and bring Skytomb here and we’ll take what ever else we can find”.

“What the sense of fixing things if we’re going to take them,” Chilla asked.

“I want the defense systems up and running incase the Thundercats come back before we’re done,” Luna said shaking her head, “you can begin searching each level for anything that we might be able to use”. Two of the Thundercat vehicles flew towards home. Kit, Kat and Snarf were on their way back from their short trip to the unicorn forest.

“Wiley Kat,” Kit said from the Hovercat, “Look,” she pointed to smoke coming from the direction of the Lair.

“Looks like trouble,’ the young man said, “We better hurry,” Kat replied speeding up in the thunderclaw.

“I had the feeling something bad was going to happen today,” Snarf said as the fur on the back of his neck bristled; he clung to Kat as they sped towards the lair.

“What on third earth is going on,” Kat said as they got close enough to the lair to see the damage that had been inflicted.

They saw the smoke coming from the shattered eyes of the fortress’s head, “Where’s Lion-O and the others,” Kit asked, “Surely he would have summoned us “.

“I don’t like this,” Snarf whined from behind Kat.

“I don’t either Snarf,” Kit said, she reached for the radio and tried to call the lair.

“Wiley Kit to cat’s lair… Come in cat’s lair”. The only answer she got was static.
“We better call the tower,” Kat nodded, “maybe they have an idea of what’s going on”.
“We should check out the lair first,” Kit said as she landed the Hovercat in the courtyard.
“Something’s not right,” Kat said landing the Thunderclaw beside his sister.
Kit looked at her brother and rolled her eyes, “of course something’s not right, it’s obvious the lairs been attacked”.
“What if their still in there,” snarf whimpered and clung tightly to Wiley Kat.
“Snarf’s right. We don’t know who could be in there,” Kat agreed.
“Are you ThunderCats. …Or Thundermice,” Kit snorted slightly at the two.
“That’s how that girl gets herself in trouble,” Snarf said as Kit ran up the steps to the main entrance.
Meanwhile at the tower of omens, Lion-o and the other Thundercats sat in the main observation deck of the tower.
“We need to get into the lair, find Cheetara and get those Lunatacs out of our home,” Lion-o said looking out the large bay window.
“I think our best bet would to be to go in under the cover of darkness,” Tygra nodded.
“We can get in the way Tygra did last time, through the shaft,” panthro replied.
“Can’t this time,” Tygra shrugged, “a new security measure has been add to the shaft, we’d get caught before we got in “.
“And who’s bright idea was that,” Panthro snorted.
Tygra looked at the panther, “it seems to me..It was yours”.
“Oh,” Panthro scowled.
Lion-O turned from the window and looked at his teammates, “Tygra you designed the lair, I’m sure you can figure another way in,” Lion-o nodded.
“Well if we can find away to get up to the cat’s head,” Tygra said kneading his chin in thought, “then we can get to the staircase there and down to the control room, they wouldn’t except us to come from above”.
“Good ..Then it’s agreed, we go in after dark,” Lion-o said.
The other Thundercats nodded in agreement.
With the use of his carbine gravity gun, Tug Mug took the helpless cheetah down to the lower levels of the lair and put her in one of the rooms that also doubled as a jail cell.

“There that should hold you,” he said releasing Cheetara after slamming the door shut.
Cheetara was able to land with a soft thud on the concrete floor, “you better make sure you and the other Lunatacs are long gone before Lion-O and the others get here, “she said looking through the small slot in the door that provided the only natural light in the room.
The Lunatac never said anything as he turned and started back up stairs.
Cheetara let out a sigh and began to examine the door, but she knew it was no good this room was escape proof; she pulled up a small empty crate and sat down, “Nothing to do but sit tight,” she said to herself.

“Kit…. Wait up.” Kat said quietly following his sister up the steps of the Lair.
Kit touched the doorplate and the large main doors slid quietly open, the trio slipped quietly inside.
“Someone’s definitely been here,” kit said looking around; she pointed to a few pictures that had been torn down and thrown down the staircase.
“Question is are they still here,” Kat said as the quietly made their way up the steps.
“No,” Snarf squeaked,” The question is who are THEY”.
Kit quickly put her fingers to her lips “shush you two”.
Snarf’s ears stood up listening for any sign of movement, he tugged on Kat’s leg, “someone is coming”.
The trio quickly hid in one of the storage closets as tug mug came up the hall.
“Lunatacs,” kit whispered peeking through a crack in the door.
“Great…just great,” Kat said rolling his eyes, “couldn’t have been the mutants”.
“Luna…that she-cat is secure,” Tug mug said into his communicator.
Kit and Kat looked at each other, “We have to find out who they captured,” Kit whispered.
“You two go ahead. I’ll just stay here,” Snarf said hopping up on a box that sat in the corner.
“Oh no you don’t Snarf,” Kit said grabbing the furry creature by the tail, “You may have to provide us with a distraction”.
Snarf’s eyes widened and his fur bristled, “oh no. You not using ol snarf as bait,” he said crossing his arms.
“Would you rather be hung from the clothes line and used as target practice,” kit said tapping her foot.

Snarf cringed at the thought, he remember all too well the embarrassment he suffered from the last time is accidentally got his tail caught and hung out to dry, the Thundercats never let him forget it, to make it worse they had it on video. Snarf looked at the pair and frowned, “ok,” he squeaked as his ears drooped.

“That a boy Snarf,” Kat smiled and patted the furry creature on the back, “Lion-O would be proud”.

A smiled lit on the Snarf’s face, “Let’s get these Lunatac’s,” he said with renew confidence.

Kit slowly opened the door and peeked her head out; she turned and signal to Kat and snarf that it was safe to come out. As they quietly kept down the hall Kat spotted something on the floor just ahead of them, “Kit,” he said tapping her shoulder, “look. Aren’t those Panthro’s nun-chucks,” he asked pointing to the floor.

Kit looked around before she tiptoed over, “Sure is,” she replied picking up the panther’s weapon.

Snarf suddenly lost what courage he had, “Panthro wouldn’t leave his weapon behind for anything,” Snarf said.

“He may have just been in a hurry and dropped them,” Kat shrugged.

“Sure..I would believe that if I were just a young snarf,” Snarf snorted.

“Come on guys,” Kit said, “let’s just keep moving”.

Once again the trio moved down the hall towards the lower levels. Bengali came up to the towers control room, “The Thunderstrike is ready to go,” the white tiger nodded.

“Good, thank-you Bengali, where are Pumyra and Leanna” Lion-o asked.

“Down in the infirmary,” Bengali answered

“Tygra…Panthro your with me,” Lion-o said, “we’ll climb up while Bengali and Pumyra stand by at the Lairs entrance, Leanna will stay here with Lynx-O and Snarfer”.

“Bengali go tell Pumyra we leave in half an hour,” Lion-o nodded to the white tiger.

Bengali nodded and left the room, “If I would have had the Thundertank they wouldn’t have gotten in,” Panthro grumbled, “those blasted Lunatacs better not touch my Tank”.

“I’m sure they won’t touch your baby,” Tygra smirked.

“Better not,” the panther snorted crossing his arms over his broad chest.

“I’m surprised you haven’t got that Tank programmed to follow you around like a puppy,” Lion-O chuckled. Panthro looked at him and scowled, “Sorry just trying to lighten the mood,” Lion-o

grinned.
“You know,” Tygra said, “Leanna won’t like being left behind”.
“Well,” Lion-O said scratching his chin, “She’s not ready for a full blown out battle,” The lion and turned to Panthro, “or is she”.
“No,” Panthro said shaking his head, “She’s a good fighter but she’s only been here a few weeks, she has a few more months of training ahead of her…but just to clear a few things up…. we did manage to get most of the computer systems up and running, until the Lunatacs showed up,” Panthro nodded.
“Once we get inside and get Cheetara and I can fix the computer system,” Tygra nodded.
“Good, We’ll handle the lunatics and you and Cheetara handle the defense systems,” Lion-O replied, “Well gentlemen time to fumigate the Lair”.
The three Thundercat males left and headed down to where Pumyra and Bengali waited in the Thunderstrike. Kit, Kat and Snarf quietly walked down the steps the led to the lower levels.
“It’s a good thing they can’t get into the hanger’s with out the pass code,” Kit said peaking around another corner.
“Yes, Panthro would be really peeved if they got in there,” Kat said from beside his sister.
“I wish he others were here now,” Snarf whimpered from behind Kat’s leg.
“Here Snarf,” kit said passing the panther’s nun-chucks to the furry creature, “now you got a weapon,” she grinned.
Snarf looked at the red and blue nun-chucks and gave them a spin, “I think these are more dangerous to me then them,” he said as the blue one hit him on top of the head.
“All you got to do is look like you know how to use them,” Kit smiled and patted Snarf’s sore head.
Kat stifled a chuckle and headed down the hall towards the storage room.
Cheetara sat on the crate thinking when she thought she heard voices, she got to her feet and peeked out the small slot in the door, “Kit,” she said spotting the young woman’s hair as she peeked around the corner.
“Cheetara,” Kit said as they ran over to the door.
“How did you guys get in here,” the cheetah asked.
“You kidding we’re the cunning ones remember,” Kit winked.
“Well miss cunning, can you get me out of here,” Cheetara asked.

Kit motioned to her brother, the two siblings looked at the door lock, “Sure…Stand back,” Kat said as he and kit readied themselves.
Cheetara backed up and covered her head as the twins lodged two pellets in the lock, Kit took another one and threw it, there was a loud bang and the door slowly creped open.
“Thanks guys. I owe you one,” the cheetah said,” now lets get out of here”.
“Best news I’ve heard yet,” Snarf said following the three Thundercats. The thunderstrike landed on top of the cliff that nestled the back of the Lair. “Looks like they haven’t made much progress,” Tygra said noticing that most of the lights in the lair were off.
“That’s a good thing,” Lion-O nodded as they exited the Thunderstrike, “Bengali, you and Pumyra get down there and wait at the entrance”.
“Good luck guys,” Pumyra waved as her and Bengali made their way down to the drawbridge.
“Time to take our home back,” Lion-O nodded.
“You sure your whip has the range,” Panthro asked as Tygra stepped to the edge of the cliff.
“Of course it does,” Tygra nodded drawing back his arm, with a flick of his wrist his bolo whip shot out and wrapped around the lower tooth of the cat’s head and formed a ladder.
“Good shot,” Lion-O grinned patting the tiger on the back.
“Not afraid of heights are you,” Tygra winked as he bound across the ready-made ladder.
“No,” Panthro snorted as he and Lion-O followed.
Once the trio made it over to the inside the cat’s mouth, Tygra undid the whip and put it back in his belt. Lion-O looked down and waved to Bengali and Pumyra signaling them to move in.
Tygra went over to the metal door and tried the lock, “there’s no power to the panel,” Tygra said, “We’ll have to figure how to get this open”.
“Easy,” Panthro shrugged and gave the door a hard sidekick.
“A man that takes the direct approach,” Lion-O chuckled as the door gave way under the force of the kick.
Tygra just shook his head, “you know your going to have to fix that”.
“I will don’t worry,” The panther nodded, “I’ll put it on my to do list”.
“Your to do list,” Lion-O asked
“Yeah after we get rid of our unwelcomed houseguests and I get something to eat,” Panthro replied.
“I pity help those Lunatac’s for interrupting your feeding time,” Lion-O laughed as he withdrew

his sword.
“What…” Panthro said innocently, “I get grumpy when I’m hungry”.
Tygra was going to make a comment but decided not to. The three men quietly started down the small staircase. Cheetara, Kit, Kat and Snarf were almost to the front entrance when Luna appeared around the corner on top of Amok, “How did you escape,” she screeched. The small Lunatac reach for her communicator. Kit looked at her brother and nodded, the twins reached into the pocket and grabbed itching power and threw it at Luna.
Luna began to screech as the itching powder took effect, “Amok, do something,” She squealed. Amok nodded and ran for the main entrance, Bengali and Pumyra were startled as the door slid open and Amok ran out with a unhappy Luna scratching like mad on his back. “Amok, what are you doing,” Luna yelled as he headed for the moat.
“Help Luna,” Amok replied as he jumped off the drawbridge into the water below.
“Well…. that was easy,” Pumyra said as the two Lunatac’s went over the side.
“Two down. Four to go,” Bengali said shaking his head.
As the two Thundercats went inside they met up with Cheetara, Snarf and the twins as they were coming out.
“Where did they go,” Snarf asked.
“You don’t want to know,” Bengali chuckled, “Lion-O, Tygra and Panthro are up top, they’re going to make their way down from the staircase in the head”.
“Good,” Cheetara nodded, “let’s go give the boys a hand shall we”. Lion-O made it to the bottom of the staircase first and looked around, he signaled to Tygra and Panthro it was all clear. The three men quietly kept the control room.
Alluro was working on the computer, silently cursing to himself as he tried to get access to the computers main frame. He didn’t hear anyone come up behind him until he felt something grab him from behind, he went to reach for his club, Tygra quickly wrapped his whip around the Lunatac and gave it a tug, Alluro found him self on the floor with his arms pinned at his side.
The Lunatac looked up at the three big Thundercat males, “Now, we can work this out guys….
No need to be rough,” Alluro said trying to use his hypnotic voice against them.
“Rough…I’ll show you rough,” Panthro snarled and grabbed Alluro with one hand and lifted him off the floor.
“Easy friend,” Alluro cringed as he was tugged roughly off the floor.

“Friend…. Your no friend of mine,” Panthro growled and drew back his fist.
“Panthro,” Lion-O said patting the panther on the shoulder, “Not yet…where are the other Lunatac’s,” he asked.
“There down stairs, “Alluro said. “You wouldn’t let him hurt me,” He asked eyeing Panthro.
“Well,” Lion-O said, “it is passed his suppertime and he’s a little on the cranky side”.
“You wouldn’t harm an unarmed Lunatac…Would you,” Alluro asked.
“I should rip off you head for what you made me do,” Panthro growled.
“Easy Panthro,” Lion-O said trying to calm the irate panther, “ put him down”.
Panthro scowled and snarled as he dropped the Lunatac on the floor. Lion-O looked at Tygra who just shrugged. The three turned at the sound of the door opening, they were expecting more Lunatac’s but where pleasantly surprised when Cheetara and the others arrived, “You okay,” Lion-O asked the cheetah.
Cheetara smiled and nodded, “The twins found me and freed me,” she nodded.
“Good work guys,” Lion-O smiled and passed the cheetah her weapon, “I do believe this belongs to you”.
Cheetara grinned and placed the cuff on her arm, “We never seen Chilla, Redeye or Tug mug as we came up”.
“Did you see Luna and Amok,” Lion-O asked.
“Yep, seen them as they ran past us,” Pumyra chuckled.
“They ran past,” Lion-O said cocking a brow.
“Yes straight into the moat,” Bengali laughed.
“Let me guess,” Lion-O smiled, “you two had something to do with that,” He said looking at the twins.
“Just a bit of itching powder,” Kit shrugged innocently.
“Looks like your friends left you Alluro,” Lion-O laughed picturing Luna and Amok going for a swim, “Tygra call Mandora, she can take care of him…you and Cheetara get to work on the lair’s defense systems while we take a look around to see what damage they done”.
As Lion-O and the others left the control room Lion-o noticed the direction Panthro was going, “I though you were hungry,” Lion-O smirked.
“I’m going to give Bengali and Pumyra a lift back to the Thunderstrike and then go to the tower to pick up Leanna, then I’ll eat when I get back,” He nodded and walked down the hall.

“Panthro,” Snarf called after him. Panthro turned around, “Here we found this in the hall,” Snarf said passing Panthro his nun-chucks.

“Thanks Snarf,” Panthro smiled and once again headed down the hall towards the hanger.