

Saturn Oddity

By

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NARRATION

On May 20th 2112, Captain Stars and the Science Advisor of the ESA (Earth Spacial Agency), Ms Rocketfuel, are going to Montréal. They will visit the ship that will take Captain Stars and his crew to Saturn for the first time in human kind history.

SCIENCE ADVISOR ROCKETFUEL

Isn't she a beauty Captain?

CAPTAIN STARS

She certainly is Ms Rocketfuel!

SCIENCE ADVISOR ROCKETFUEL

My team has worked for several months in other to create the first ship that will be able to travel at the speed of light.

CAPTAIN STARS

You probably know this ship better than anyone and I am still looking for a science officer in my starfleet. Would you be interested to joining on this historic expedition?

SCIENCE ADVISOR ROCKETFUEL

Oh, Captain Stars, I thought you'd never ask!

NARRATOR

Several months after...

Aboard the ship, getting ready for departure, Captain Stars is meeting with his crew.

THE CHEF

Captain Sir, I will be preparing lunch,
about how long will the trip take?

CAPTAIN STARS

Ms Rocketful?

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

At speed of light, it will take us a
little over an hour to travel the 1300
million km to Saturn.

THE CHEF

Great! I'll plan a picnic!

CREW MEMBER 1

Well, that is not such a good idea.
Saturn is principally composed of gas.

THE CHEF

GAS!

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

Yes, hydrogen and helium

THE CHEF

Helium? Like the stuff we put in bal-
loons!?

CREW MEMBER 1

Exactly.

THE PILOT

Captain Sir, if the chef wants to have
a picnic, we could land on Titan, Sat-
urn's largest moon?

CREW MEMBER 2

Largest? You mean there is more than
one!?

THE PILOT

Oh yes, there is a total of 53 natural satellites orbiting Saturn.

CREW MEMBER 1

We would still need to wear space gear. Even though there is a Nitrogen atmosphere on Titan, it so far away from the sun, that it is very cold out there.

CAPTAIN STARS

It is a good idea. We can walk around because the surface is made of rock and ice.

NARRATOR

The crew is now ready for liftoff. They take their seats and buckled up.

At takeoff, the crew members are pressed into to their seats. And once they have passed the Earth's atmosphere, they release their seat belts and perform a beautiful weightless dance.

But there joy would not last long...

NARRATOR

One hour later...

CAPTAIN STARS

This is your Captain speaking, please prepare to land on Titan.

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

The current high is -179C, I hope you all brought your tuques!

THE CHEF

Well, let's be quick if we don't want to have frozen dinners...

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

Captain, I am picking up a strange reading.

THE PILOT

It looks like an alien life form Captain.

CAPTAIN STARS

Ms. Rocketfuel, is this possible?

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

Anything is possible in our vast universe. How exciting of the possibility of meeting a new life-form.

CREW MEMBER 1

Exciting or not, we should bring our photon tasers.

NARRATOR

The ship lands

CAPTAIN STARS

Members of the crew, we will be postponing our picnic until we know this planet is safe.

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL
Just think, we could be the first humans to meet alien lifeform.

CREW MEMBER 1
First or not, I don't like this at all.

NARRATOR

As the crew exits the ship to explore the surface of Titan, they see three giant alien creatures.

ALIEN 1
We are the Titans, you are not welcome here!

ALIEN 2
Shoot them!

ALIEN 3
With a pleasure!

NARRATOR

The three Aliens open fire. The crew members fight back with their photon tasers.

There is a laser gun fight.

The crew members barely make it back to the ship!

NARRATOR

Back on the ship.

CAPTAIN STARS

Mr. Pilot, let's leave now. Destination Saturn.

THE PILOT

Yes Sir.

Sir, to go on Saturn from here we will have to go through it's rings.

CREW MEMBER 1

It could be a dangerous trip

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

Dangerous indeed! The rings are 70,000 km wide and they are made of chunks of dirt and ice.

CAPTAIN STARS

We have no choice. We have to find a safe place to hide before the Titans come after us.

CREW MEMBER 2

Why don't we go above or below them, the rings are only 10 meters high!

CAPTAIN STARS

Good point. Crew, brace yourselves!

NARRATOR

Skillfully maneuvering the ship all the way to Saturn's core, the pilot has saved the crew from the Titans.

THE CHEF

I am starving, can we have that picnic now!?

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

My sensors do not indicate any life-form, I think it's safe.

CAPTAIN STARS

Crew, welcome to Saturn. Prepare to be the first human to walk on this planet.

NARRATOR

Captain Stars steps out of the ship and immediately falls to the ground.

CAPTAIN STARS

A small step for man... led to a giant bump on my rump!

CREW MEMBER 1

Captain, what happened?

CAPTAIN STARS

I don't know, I feel so heavy...

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

It is because of the G Force.

The G force is the acceleration that keeps us on our planet. For example, on the moon, since the gravity force is weaker than on Earth, we have the impression of floating.

CREW MEMBER 1

Oh and because Saturn is 9 times bigger than Earth, the G force is also stronger?

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

Exactly.

THE PILOT

Captain, I think I see something over
there.

CREW MEMBER 1

Get your photon tasers ready!

NARRATOR

Out of the mist of hydrogen and helium some strange shapes start
to form.

As the crew prepares to defend themselves a soft voice speaks.

QUEEN OF SATURN

Humans, do not be afraid, we know of your troubles with the Titans. However, we are peaceful being. I am the Queen of Saturn, welcome to our planet.

KING OF SATURN

And I am the King. Please put your weapons away and keep your food for your journey home. Join us to the feast we have prepared for you.

CAPTAIN STARS

We are truly honored.

NARRATOR

As they were eating, the Queen and King answered the crew's questions about Saturn.

THE PILOT

If the G force is so strong here on Saturn, how come particles of the rings do not fall onto the planet?

QUEEN OF SATURN

The rings have been around Saturn for 100 million Earth years and they have never fell.

KING OF SATURN

They stay there because of the centrifugal force. We have a dance that explains it. Please join us!

NARRATOR

The King and Queen place a small object into a balloon and inflate it. The crew follows their lead. Then they rotate the balloon.

THE CHEF

This dance is fantastic! The food is not bad either!

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

Yes the centrifugal is the force that gives you the impression of being ejected of a car when it turns too fast.

CREW MEMBER 1

So the G force keeps the rings close and the centrifugal keeps them around the planet.

KING OF SATURN

Yes, exactly like what is happening in the balloon.

NARRATOR

And so the crew danced the Saturnian way.

NARRATOR

The crew was having a very pleasant time with the people of Saturn when...

CREW MEMBER 1

Captain, I see the Titans!

QUEEN OF SATURN

They must be here for their broken scepter again...

TITAN 1

We have expelled the humans from our moon so they don't do any damage like the Saturnians did centuries ago.

KING OF SATURN

We told you we could not repair the scepter broken by our people, we are very sorry.

CAPTAIN STARS

I have an excellent crew and a bright science officer, maybe we could help.

TITAN 2

Yes, and if you don't you will never see Earth again.

NARRATOR

One of the Titans present a strange object to the Captain.

TITAN 1

To be repaired, the ball has to stand on top. But you shall not touch it with your hands, the ball is sacred.

NARRATOR

The Captain gives the object to Ms. Rocketfuel

CAPTAIN STARS

Please, try your best.

NARRATOR

Ms. Rocketfuel started to spin the ball and slowly brought it upwards.

She did it!

Everybody was most content and they all danced the Saturnian way to celebrate.

NARRATOR

10 hours and 47 minutes later, or one Saturn's day later. The crew left the Saturnians and the Titans who were now living in peace.

On their way home the crew looked back at this beautiful planet.

SCIENCE OFFICER ROCKETFUEL

This planet is so beautiful.

CAPTAIN STARS

Yes. We are privileged to have travelled through the rings Galileo Galilei saw for the first time in 1610.

THE PILOT

Captain, maybe next time we could visit Jupiter.

CAPTAIN STARS

From here, everything is possible!

THE END

