

Stowaway Boys

By

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This story is dedicated to all those young minds across the planet filled dreams of being astronauts and going on space adventures.

It is also dedicated to all those young minds that want to design, build, process, and to launch all the rockets of the future for mankind's adventures into outer space.

This story was originally written as a screenplay with the intent it being an 3D animated movie.

Chapter 1

In a galaxy far, far away was the planet Stardonia.

On Stardonia, all the Stardonians resembled human beings, but they were different. They all had a light green skin complexion with blue, or brown or black eyes. The eyes of a Stardonian were twice the size, as compared to human eyes. They also had either fluorescent orange, or pink, or lime green, or purple, or red hair. All the elders of Stardonia had a full head of shiny silver hair.

The Stardonians were peaceful and intelligent species that developed advanced technologies. They traveled all around the universe and visited other planets for fact-finding missions.

Earth was one of the planets they often studied. They found Earthlings a primitive yet intriguing species.

On Stardonia lived young Scoota who was in his early adulthood. Scoota was small in height, as were all the Stardonians. He had a light green complexion, blue eyes with fluorescent blue crew cut styled hair.

Scoota was a Junior Grade Space Knight for the Stardonia Space Force. He wore their standard light purple jumpsuit.

He was home and finished packing for his much-needed vacation.

There was a knock on his front door.

He walked over and opened it, and his girlfriend, Litta, stood outside. She was the same age and had long flowing fluorescent orange hair with black eyes. They kissed then she stepped inside, and he closed the door.

"Are you sure you want to go out of our universe again?" Litta asked him.

"You bet Litta. I want to test out my new ride, and I also need more practice with navigation," he replied.

"In hundred-star years, I'll never understand why you bought that old spaceship. It has all that ancient technology that my great, great grandfather once flew," she said.

"I removed some of that stuff and upgraded the ship. It's now a sweet ride," Scoota replied with a sparkle in his eyes.

"Whatever, Scoota," Litta said while she rolled her eyes. "Please be careful and watch your speed around Neileon. You know their space cops love giving out speeding tickets," Litta said in a motherly tone.

"I know, they're nothing but a bunch of citation terrorists," he replied.

"Now, I want you to call me, so I know you're safe out there."

"I will," he replied. "Why don't you come along with me?"

"I told you I couldn't get off work. I don't have all that vacation time like what the Space Force gives you. I'll take a few days off when you get back," she replied.

Scoota looked disappointed. "Okay," he said then kissed her on the lips.

He walked him over to his couch, and he picked up his glass fishbowl helmet and gloves for his spacesuit.

He left his home with Litta and closed his door.

Seven days had passed.

A spaceship zoomed in from outer space and headed toward Saturn at lightning speed.

The spaceship zoomed over the rings of Saturn and headed toward Jupiter.

Hours later that spaceship zoomed past Jupiter.

Closer examination of the spaceship revealed it wasn't an Alien spacecraft. It was an old American spacecraft. I

It was the ascent stage of the Lunar Module from the Apollo 17 mission.

It departed the moon's orbit on December 14th, 1972. It was the last mission to the moon and the ascent stage designed to impact the moon. But instead, it flew off into outer space.

The modified Lunar Module had a strange engine.

It emitted a purplish flame from its odd-shaped nozzle. It wasn't an engine from planet earth.

It was an engine from another planet. It was from a planet millions of miles away from earth - Stardonia.

Affixed to the rear of the Lunar Module, above that strange engine was a label. It read "Scrappy's Used Spaceships – Planet Stardonia." The Lunar Module was in the same condition, as when it jettisoned from the Crew Service Module in the moon orbit.

Inside the Apollo 17, Lunar Module sat Scoota at the console. He bought this Lunar Module from Scrappy and enhanced it like he told Litta. His vacation was to take it out for a spin around the galaxies since he had thirty days off.

The inside looked the same from when it left the moon, back in 1972.

It had modifications like improved computers, music generator, navigational system, and Outer Space Positioning System (OSPS).

This was standard equipment for all spaceships in Scoota's neck of the universe. Plus he added a fancy seat installed with heaters.

The music generator was cranking. Scoota listen to a techno song from the popular band "The Dim Stars" from his home planet Stardonia.

The Lunar Module zoomed toward Mars.

Once the Lunar Module got closer to Mars, Scoota pressed a button on the OSPS.

"You are one hundred and twenty-five million miles from your destination," a female voice said from the OSPS.

Scoota removed his hologram camera and snapped a picture of Mars from the windows.

He pressed the "Playback" button, and a 3-D hologram of Mars appeared.

He hit the "Save" button and placed his camera back in his flight suit pocket.

He kicked back and placed his boots up on the console. He cranked up the volume of the Dim Stars song and relaxed. His boots moved in rhythm with the song.

The Lunar Module zoomed past Mars and headed toward earth.

It wasn't too long before the Lunar Module zoomed to the moon by earth.

"You are two hundred thirty-eight thousand, eight hundred and fifty-seven miles from your destination," the female voice said from the OSPS.

Scoota sat straight up and reached in his suit pocket and removed a small device. He opened it up and pressed a button. A 3-D hologram image Litta, emitted from the device called a Space Pad with a half-eaten orange icon.

"Hi baby," Scoota said to Litta's hologram.

"Hey, honey. Where are you now?" she asked.

Scoota looked out the window and watched while he zoomed past the moon. "I'm getting close to the planet earth," he said.

"When are you coming back home?" she asked.

"I'm going to make a quick trip around earth. I picked up on signals yesterday that they're launching their new Magellan five rocket. I want to see it," he replied.

"You've been gone for almost two weeks now. I miss you," Litta said. Then it dawned on her. "Wait, did you say earth?" she asked.

"Yes, earth."

"Please don't go there. If they catch you, they'll dissect you," she pleaded and looked fearful for his life.

"I'll be okay. Those earthlings won't even know I'm watching them," he replied with a look of confidence.

"Please hurry home. That species scares me," she said with a worried tone.

"I'll head home tomorrow," Scoota said then he reached up and pressed the Space Pad button on the console. Litta's hologram disappeared.

At the rear of the Lunar Module, the flame from the engine got smaller. The craft slowed down when it got closer to earth.

Scoota kicked back.

He pressed the Space Button button.

The Space Pad hologram of Litta reappeared.

"I forgot, when you get home, I thought we could take a cruise on the Royal Galaxy Space Cruise Ship to Beonlian. I want to relax on their beaches for a few days," she said.

"For sure," he replied and didn't notice a piece of space junk that zoomed past his windows.

"Good. I'll go ahead and make our reservations," she said.

"Don't get the expensive cabins. Remember I'm still a Junior Grade Space Knight and still receive a small paycheck."

"I won't," she said.

Scoota looked up at the windows. He saw his craft heading straight toward a huge piece of space junk - an old satellite. He panicked and dropped his Space Pad, and it turned off. Litta's hologram disappeared.

He jumped up and grabbed the control stick. He swerved the Lunar Module to the left. There was a loud bang, and the Lunar Module shook while it smacked into the satellite.

Scoota didn't realize that that satellite stuck to his Lunar Module.

Scoota swerved the Lunar Module to the right when he came upon another piece of space junk - an old rocket part. The previous piece of junk that stuck to the Lunar Module smacked into the old rocket part. They stuck together as one.

The Lunar Module flew with the attached pieces of space junk.

The Lunar Module smacked into another piece of space junk - another old satellite, and it stuck to the module.

Inside the Lunar Module, Scoota was in a panic trying to get his craft under control. He couldn't since the pieces of attached space junk affected the maneuvering capability.

Out in space above earth, the Lunar Module ran into a vast debris field of space junk. It smacked into many pieces, and they all stuck to a module.

Scoota's craft smacked into many pieces of space junk during its orbit. Space junk attached to other space junk with the old Lunar Module out in front. It started to grow into a small asteroid of space junk.

Chapter 2

Meanwhile, it was May 2018.

It was nighttime on earth at the space coast area of Florida.

There was a substantial residential neighborhood built in the 1960s called Atlantis. They had the expectation the space program would be a booming industry.

On Abby Street lived Todd Peabody. He was a typical twelve-year-old skinny nerd. Todd loved everything about the human space program. Todd spent time reading books and watching movies about astronauts and space travel. It was his dream to travel up in space as an astronaut since he was six years old.

His father, Lester "Tater" Peabody was forty-two years old. He was once a technician at the launch pad during the space shuttle era. But Tater lost his job in 2011 along with thousands of others.

This happened when the space shuttle program retired. So he started the lawn service called "Tater – The Grass Assassin." Business was good after three years of a slow start.

Parked in the driveway was Lester's rusty 2009 Ford F-150 pickup truck. It had a trailer with a Troy-Bilt riding mower, a Snapper self-propelled push mower, an edger, and blower.

His wife, Lilly, owned her dog grooming shop called "Lilly's Pretty Paw's" located in downtown Cocoa. It was a thriving business that kept the family fed until Tater's company started showing a profit.

Todd decorated his bedroom with Space Shuttle, Saturn 5 rocket, Ares I, Ares V, Magellan V model rockets. The wallpaper had planets all over it.

In the middle of the bedroom floor, sat an empty big refrigerator cardboard box. Todd used a Sharpie and made hand drawings on outside of the box, and it looked like a NASA rocketship.

One end of the box had a makeshift door cut out and was a pretend hatch.

At the other end of the box, Todd placed a TV with its screen inserted in a hole he cut into the box. This was his computer monitor to the stars.

He called his makeshift spaceship "Magellan One."

On the inside, Todd also hand drew gauges, switches, knobs to make it look like the inside of a capsule.

Todd's best friend was Ricardo "Ricky" Mendez.

Ricky was a twelve-year-old nerd and wore thick glasses.

Ricky sat on the inside of Magellan One. Like Todd, Ricky shared the same dream of being an astronaut one day.

The TV showed a computer game with a full moon with an Apollo capsule and Lunar Module. The capsule/Lunar Module zoomed through the darkness of space to the moon.

Todd and Ricky sat side by side on pillows in front of the TV. They both wore fishbowls over their heads to serve as space helmets. Todd had a game controller in his right hand while they both concentrated on the screen.

"Are we there yet?" Ricky said.

On TV, the Apollo capsule continued to race to the moon.

"Are we there yet?" Ricky teased again.

On TV, the rear of the Apollo flew up then slammed back down. It came to a standstill in space. The engine idled.

"If you don't shut up Ricky, I'll turn this spaceship around and go back home to the launch pad. Do you understand?" Todd said in a parental tone.

Ricky gave a pouty lip and crossed his arms.

"Yes, Commander Todd."

On TV, the Apollo capsule and Lunar Module separated. The Lunar Module zoomed off to the moon. The capsule orbited around the moon.

"Are we there yet?"

Todd and Ricky both chuckled and pushed being playful.

On TV, the Lunar Module made a slow descent to the moon's surface.

"Come on, Todd, let me land!" Ricky cried out.

"No, Ricky! I'm the Commander," Todd replied.

"Okay," Ricky replied, disappointed. He then reached up and made fake click sound while he pretended to flip an overhead switch. He made a rocket engine sound to simulate landing on the moon.

On TV, the Lunar Module bounced on and off the surface. It flipped up and over in the air then slammed into the surface, and dust flew everywhere.

"Are you ready to walk on the moon and be heroes?" Todd asked.

"Every day since I was five!" Ricky replied.

Todd and Ricky both raised a hand and locked pinkies.

"Friends!" they both yelled out with pinkies locked around each other.

On TV, two astronauts walked and bounced on the moon's surface.

"I was peeing on the Moon one day...in the merry month of;" Todd sang. Lilly's voice outside the box interrupted his song.

"Sweetie, you have five minutes," Lilly called out. Lilly had black shoulder-length hair and was a little chubby but still a cutie.

Their eyes lit up with excitement, overhearing her reminder. Todd exited the game.

The "Apollo Moon Landing Adventure" logo appeared on the TV. It showed a full moon and Apollo Lunar Module behind it.

Todd and Ricky turned around and crawled out of the box through the makeshift hatch.

They raced past Lilly and ran out of his bedroom.

The night sky had thousands of stars and a full moon.

All the neighbors stood out in their front yards watching the tree line on the horizon to the east.

They waited for the launch of NASA's Magellan 4 mission. The Magellan V rocket was like Saturn V rocket but more abundant in diameter and had an eight-man capsule.

This was the fourth Magellan launch, and the capsule had a flight crew for the first time. This mission would have the orbit around earth eight times then land in the Pacific Ocean.

The next mission was the Magellan 5 and would dock to the Multinational Space Station (MSS) in two months.

The front door of Todd's house slammed open, and Todd and Ricky raced out excited.

They ran to the front yard, stopped, and looked at the tree line.

An orange glow appeared on the horizon. The Magellan 4 rocket ascended into the night sky and lit up the neighborhood.

The neighborhood cheered and clapped. It was great to see more rocket launches.

"Go Magellan!" a male neighbor yelled out at the sky.

Todd and Ricky watched in awe while the Magellan V rocket ascended high into the night sky.

"One day, we'll be astronauts walking on the moon," Todd said while he stared at the sky.

"And Mars!" Ricky added while he stared at the sky.

The boys continued to watch the Magellan rocket's ascent. It wasn't long before it became a small fiery dot in the night sky.

All the neighbors walked inside their homes.

Todd and Ricky drooled at the sky with dreamy eyes.

Meanwhile, in outer space above earth.

The Apollo 17 Lunar Module continued to orbit earth and smacked into more space junk in its path. The pieces of space junk attached to other space junk and it tripled in size.

Inside the Lunar Module, Scoota was in a panic about why his spacecraft wouldn't respond to his control inputs.

He glances out a window. He saw the Magellan V rocket ascend into orbit from one of his windows.

Inside the Magellan capsule, the three astronauts didn't see the small asteroid of space junk.

In outer space above earth, the first stage of the Magellan V rocket separated. The engine of the Magellan second staged fired. It ascended into space while the first stage fell back down to earth.

The second stage of the Magellan V rocket separated. The engine of the capsule and payload module separated from the second stage. Its engine fired, and it started to orbit earth.

The second stage fell back down to earth.

The Lunar Module continued to smack into more pieces of space junk.

They all attached growing into a larger and larger asteroid.

Chapter 3

It was the next morning down at the space coast in Florida.

Tater drove his pickup truck down a street in Atlantis with his trailer full of his mower equipment. He was on his way to start his daily routine of cutting the grass but was first going to drop Todd off at school.

Tater had strawberry blonde hair with a reddish goatee and beer gut. He chewed tobacco while he drove his pickup down the street.

Todd sat in the passenger seat and read a book on the history of the Space Shuttle Program.

Tater glanced over at Todd with disapproval. He spat some chewing tobacco out his window at the same time a car headed toward him in the other lane.

A woman drove her car when Tater's chew splattered on her front windshield. She turned on her wipers, and the chew smeared all over her window, which infuriated her.

Tater glanced again at Todd while residual chew dripped off his chin.

"You know Little Tater. I have an excellent book on the fundamentals of fishing. My father gave it to me. I could get it out later tonight," he said.

"No thanks," Todd said while he rolled his eyes.

"How about playing a little ball tonight? batting practice?" he asked.

"I'm busy all night," Todd replied and looked disinterested.

Tater looked disappointed with his son. He felt Todd had reached the age where he wanted nothing to do with his father.

It remained a quiet drive in the pickup.

Tater drove to the Magellan Middle School and pulled in the parking lot.

He drove to the front entrance, where parents dropped off their kids. Tater stopped his pickup truck at the curb near the front entrance.

Todd grabbed his books and opened the door.

Fourteen-year-old Rocky Adams and fourteen-year-old Buster Wilson are the school Bullies. They have been for the past two years and wore black tee-shirts with black shorts.

They walked by the Tater's pickup.

"Later Little Tater," Tater said to Todd as he stepped out of his truck.

Rocky and Buster heard Tater's comment and snickered and pointed at Todd.

Todd saw Rocky and Buster and wanted to die.

"Please, Dad! I hate that name!" he said while he glared at Tater.

Todd slammed the door shut. Tater felt terrible then leaned to the passenger window.

"Sorry Taaaa, Todd," he said, then stopped speaking.

Todd ignored Tater and ran to the front doors of the school.

Tater looked hurt while he drove his pickup away.

Todd got to the front door with Rocky and Buster hot on his tail.

Rocky and Buster jumped between Todd and the door.

"Look, Buster, its little Tater!" Rocky said with a chuckle.

"Why Rocky, he looks like a little nerd instead of a Tater," Buster added with a chuckle.

Other kids gathered around and looked anxious for a fist to start flying in the air.

Todd got mad. "Buster, at least they don't call me stupid for flunking," Todd called out at both Rocky and Buster. He soon cringed when he realized he opened up his mouth without thinking.

Buster got furious and clenched his fists ready to pounce on Todd. But he refrained since he was on school

property and didn't want to spend the afternoon in detention. After all, it was the last day of school for the summer.

Todd got scared when he saw Buster's fighting posture. He opened the door and rushed inside.

Inside his school, Todd ran down the hallway with Buster and Rocky hot on his tail. They screeched to a halt seeing Mr. Whipple. Mr. Whipple was the dorky school principal who stood at the other end of the hallway with his arms crossed.

"Get to your class, boys!" Mr. Whipple yelled out, and it echoed in the hallway.

Todd, Rocky, and Buster walked to their classroom and entered.

Later that day, Todd sat in class with Ricky to his right and Lucy Powell, a twelve-year-old cutie blonde to his left. She was the girl of his dreams and glanced over at her with love in his eyes.

She ignored Todd while she whispered with Betty Berry, a twelve-year-old tomboy in front of her.

The teacher was a thirty-year-old male who sat at the front desk with a flower Lei that hung around his neck. He had his feet on his desk and read a brochure on Hawaii. This would be his summer vacation.

The clock on the wall indicated 2:50 p.m., and was ever so slowly, as everybody in the classroom thought.

Rocky and Buster lay their heads on their desks and slept. They passed this year after the second time around.

All the other students watched the clock while it moved closer to 3:00 p.m.

Ricky noticed Todd while he glanced at Lucy with love in his eyes. He poked Todd in the arm and motioned for him to talk to Lucy.

Todd got nervous and shook his head and indicated there was no way he would do such a thing.

"It's now or never," Ricky said while he leaned over to Todd.

Todd looked at Lucy while she doodled in her notebook. He leaned over and opened up his mouth to say something. He chickened out.

Ricky looked disappointed with Todd.

The second the hands of the clock hit 3:00 p.m., the school bell immediately rang out.

The teacher jumped up from his desk at the same time all the students jumped up from their desks.

The teacher and all the students arrived at the classroom door at the same time. One of the students opened the door, and they all tried to squeeze through the opening at the same time.

The teacher pushed the kids out of his way and rushed out of the classroom and down the hallway.

The outside of Apollo Elementary School was quiet. Then a low rumble came from inside the hallways. The front doors slammed open, and all the students raced out of the building.

"School's out! For summer!" many kids sang out while they ran away from the school to their summer of freedom.

Todd and Ricky ran amongst the crowd of kids and ran down the sidewalk in front of the school.

Rocky and Buster strutted not too far behind them.

The two bullies picked up their pace and ran up to Todd and Ricky. They slapped the boys upside the back of their heads while they ran past them.

Todd and Ricky looked scared. They got relieved seeing Buster and Rocky run farther down the sidewalk.

A little while later, Todd and Ricky walked through some woods near the power plant. There was a dirt trail through the woods the boys used to walk to the Kangaroo convenience store. Those trips were for sodas and other sweets. The kids littered the trail with candy bar wrappings. They tossed the evidence so their parents wouldn't know they munched down on sweets all the time.

Todd and Ricky walked down that dirt path and came upon a grass field. In the center of the field was a large oak tree with a wooden treehouse painted black with a skull and

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