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AN ASTRONAUT'S NIGHTMARE

By

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FADE IN

INT.ROCKET SHIP.NIGHT

Fred is inside of a hypo-sleep chamber.

FRED

It's hard to believe that I volunteered for this mission. A one-man mission at that. A hypo-sleep chamber. Well, at least I can dream. I guess N.A.S.A. wanted to see if the computer can calculate a trajectory path with a live specimen on board. They wanted to test it out. Back on Earth, I slept for six months in one of those things just to get prepared for the trip to Mars. I dreamed of all sorts of Things.

While Fred was asleep in the chamber, the spaceship was approaching an asteroid belt. A meteor had hit the ship, and knocked it off course. Fred continues dreaming.

Fred's wife Elizabeth was typing away at her novel.

FRED

Honey, do you want any coffee while you work?

ELIZABETH

Not right now. I'm trying to get this chapter done,

while the story is still
in my head.

Fred went to look at the TV to see what was on the News. There was some talk about activities going on Mars that was spotted by one of earth's telescopes, but the weatherman said that it was cloud formation.

A knock was heard at the front door. Fred opened the door to see who it was.

FRED

Hey Jim, what brings you
over here?

JIM

Fred, I wanted to know
if you would like to
join some of your
neighbors over at my
house this Saturday for
poker night?

FRED

I would like to come,
but I've already promised
my wife that I would take
her out to dinner that
night. What time will the
game start?

JIM

We're not going to start
until 12 am.

FRED

12 am? I should be back
from dinner before that
time. Count me in.

JIM

You got it. I'll tell
the boys.

FRED

Ok, Jim. I'll see you

then.

Fred closed the door, and went back to look at the news.

EXT.SPACE.NIGHT

There was a black hole that had appeared in front of the planet Mars, and the spaceship was heading straight for it. Everything on board, the ship had slowed down to a stop, once it was pulled into the hole.

Fred was still dreaming inside of the hypo-sleep chamber.

FRED

Well honey, it's Saturday,
and I have something good
planned for you today.

ELIZABETH

You do? Is it my birthday?

FRED

No, it's not your birthday.

ELIZABETH

Then what's the special
occasion?

FRED

I love you. That's the
special occasion.

ELIZABETH

Oh you're such a dear.
Where are we going?

FRED

I'll surprise you.

The phone rang. Fred picked it up.

FRED

Hello. Yes. I'm on my
Way.

ELIZABETH

What's that all about,

Fred?

FRED

That was N.A.S.A. calling.
They want me to come in.

ELIZABETH

Oh no. Not now.

FRED

I know, honey, but they're
sending a car over as we
speak, but I promised,
when I get back, we'll go
on that date, ok?

There was a knock at the door. Fred opened it. There were two
military police officers waiting to escort him to headquarters.

Elizabeth ran over to kiss him.

NASA SECURITY

Sir, we have to go.

Fred left with them.

FRED

What's the hurry?

NASA SECURITY

It's top secret, sir.

Fred knew then that it was no use in asking any more questions.

EXT.SPACE.NIGHT

The spaceship came out of the black hole, and the computer had
woken up Fred from his hypo-sleep.

FRED

Wow, what a dream. That
sleep chamber truly puts
you under. I thought I
was seriously at home.
What a contraption. It
really does work.

Fred rose from the chamber, and took a deep stretch.

FRED

Boy that feels good. I
feel like I could have
an elephant walk on my
back.

Fred walked over to the console to look at the viewing screen.

FRED

There she is. Mars.
However, something's not
right. There's a satellite
orbiting the planet, but
How? Mars isn't supposed
to be inhabited. There's
no life on Mars.

Fred took over the controls.

FRED

I had better call N.A.S.A.
to let them know what's
out here.

Fred called NASA.

FRED

Galaxy one calling N.A.S.A.
Galaxy One Calling N.A.S.A.

The channel was open for a response.

VOICE

Who are you, and what do
you want?

FRED

This is Galaxy One,
N.A.S.A. I'm reporting in.

VOICE

Look, I don't know who you
are, but this is a no-fly
zone. We all agreed on the
treaty, and if you violate

that treaty, we will shoot you down. Now what is your con-pass?

FRED

I need help. I'm so confused. Please help me. I came from earth six months ago. I was sent on a mission to take pictures of Mars.

VOICE

I don't know what you are talking about. Earth was destroyed two thousand years ago. What year did you say you left Earth?

FRED

I left in 2017.

VOICE

This is the year 40,021. Show yourself on your viewing screen.

Fred opened up the viewing screen, and saw for the first time what a Martian looked liked.

VOICE

I can see you now. Yes, we do have pictures of humans that look like you in our museum. We mated with your kind thousands of years ago, until there were no more humans left. Only a cross between human, and Martian. We are the new pure race. I will bring you down, and put you in our zoo, and then add you as a special attraction. Don't worry, I'll place you

right next to the Saturn
species. We needed to
fill in that space before
our grand opening. So
sit back and relax. You
belong to us now.

FRED

Nooooo!

FADE OUT