

**A starship journeys light years to explore a newly discovered solar system.
On the way they pass through a time warp and find more than they could ever imagine.**

Planet Hell

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**Let me introduce myself, I am Captain James A King.
Air Space Command, Astronaut Division for space
research.**

**The story I am about to tell you is true, .
June tenth twenty eighteen .**

**I had just got out of bed and had taken my shower.
I was getting dressed when I received a phone call
telling me to come to the General's office at once.
I finished getting dressed and went down and got in my
car.**

**Then I went to the Headquarters Building.
After parking my car I went inside and took an elevator
to the forth floor.**

**I walked down the hall and went into the General's
secretary's office.**

I told her, " I am Captain King here to see the General."

**" Yes Sir the General has been asking about you, I will
tell him you are here ."**

"Thank you very much."

She pressed a button on the intercom.

" Sir, Captain King is here to see you."

"Well send him in."

" The General will see you now Captain ."

**" I open the door to the General's office and went
inside."**

**I walked up to his desk, stood at attention , saluted him
and said,**

" Captain King reporting as ordered Sir."

He returned my salute and said, “ Sit down Captain.”

I sat down.

He said, “ We have a lot to talk about Captain.

First of all you know we had that mission to return last month.”

“ Yes Sir I knew that.”

“ Well it went just fine and we got a lot of good information from it.

But that’s not what I want to talk to you about today.

You see they saw something else on that journey also.”

“ What’s that Sir?”

They saw Another solar system identical to our own that we didn’t even know existed until now.”

“ How could that be Sir?”

“ Well it’s over two million light years away.”

They took pictures of it and one even looks like our world.

That’s right Captain, it’s another big blue marble.

“ That’s fantastic news General but what does it have to do with me?”

“ You will command a mission to that planet Captain.

“ Yes Sir when do we leave?”

“ As soon as you can get your crew together and we can get a ship ready.”

“Do I get to pick my own crew?”

“ Yes, I want you to have the crew of your choosing, you will all be together for at least four years.“

“ Yes sir, I can have a crew together in thirty days.”

“ Fine, You will be taking the Explorer.

It will be ready by then.”

“ I’ll start looking for my crew today Sir.”

“ I knew I picked the right man for this mission, so don’t let me down.”

“ No Sir, I won’t.”

“ O K Captain, unless you have some questions, that will be all for today.”

I stood up and said,“ Not at this time sir.”

Then the General dismissed me and I left his office.

I returned to my car and went straight to personnel to search for a crew.

Second in command would be easy.

If I didn’t choose my best friend Captain Jerry Jordan I would never hear the last of it.

I have known him about ten years now.

we went to the academy together.

I got my Captain’s commission one month before him.

So it was O K for me to be his Commander.

My navigator would be Staff Sergeant Crisp Beers.

He came highly recommended and had been on five other missions in space.

My Pilots were Warrant officers Barton Craft and John Smith.

They had flown the explorer before and I was told that they worked very well together.

For Security I selected two Special Forces Sergeants Steven T Kessing and Larry More.

I didn't know a thing about them, I just liked the way they talked.

I also enlisted two civilians that helped design the ship.

Miss Shelly James age 29 and Albert Heart age 35

I wanted someone who knew the ship from top to bottom.

Of cores they had to volunteer but they couldn't wait to go.

I was impressed by that.

I had orders cut for all of them and had them come to my office.

Star Command had treated me well.

I had all of the fifth floor of one of the buildings at Star Command.

There would be plenty of room for all my crew.

If they wanted anything all they had to do was ask for it.

Needless to say my friend Jerry took full advantage of that.

He ate like a king.

They were all there Within ten days.

everyone had arrived and were settled in.

Plenty of time for all to get acquainted with each other.

There was no idle time for the next two weeks, we were in training.

They made sure that we had plenty to do to occupy our time.

Still time went slowly but it did pass and it was time to leave.

It was all televised and we had to all talk to the news media before getting on the ship.

After going through a check list it was time to leave. We got clearance from Space Command and took flight. The ship was designed to leave the ground like a helicopter.

then take off in mid air.

It could land and take off in a very small area.

In a short time we were in space and on our way.

The trip would take about two years to get there.

We were equipped with voice transmitters and weapons.

After we were well on our way Shelly James came up beside me.

“Captain.”

“ Yes Shelly?”

“ What do you think we will find on this planet?

Do you think there will be people like us?”

“ It’s hard to say Shelly, but that is very possible.

They say it is just like our world.”

“The question is what stage is it in.”

“ What do you mean?”

“ It could be prehistoric.

it could be the same as our home planet.

or it could be anything in between.

Anyway that’s what we are going there for, to find out.”

Anyway the flight went well.

There was only one bad section of space turbulence.

we thought it was going to shake the ship apart.

But after we got through it there was no damage to the ship.

The only thing wrong was the time monitor had went crazy.

It was off over twelve thousand years.

When We got through it and the ship settled down. Jerry said, "Commander this time monitor has gone crazy."

I said "What do you mean??"

It's off over twelve thousand years."

Well It's just a malfunction of some kind.

Maybe Shelly or Albert can check it out later.

When we went into orbit around the planet We knew that it was not up to our standard because there was no sign of radio waves.

It was amazing that the continents were shaped the same as on our home planet. The oceans were the same. From space you thought you were looking at the same planet that we had left just two years earlier.

Barbra said, "Where will we land Captain?"

"Well Barbra we left from Space Command so lets see if we can land there also."

As the ship went through the clouds we saw a lot of green and blue.

Jerry said, "Sure is a lot of vegetation Commander."

I said "You are right about that. "

Barbra fly around awhile and see if there is any sign of human life.

we flew for at least three hours but found nothing that looked human.

we covered every continent and found no human life, there was no trace of humanity anywhere. I said, " O K find us a clearing to land in and lets take a look around."

Once we found a landing place we set the ship down and settled in for the night.

During the night while we were sleeping.

There was something going on outside the ship. There was movement, creepy crawling movement.

The jungle itself seam to come alive.

Each plant and each tree and each vine seam to take on a life of its own

Jerry's voice woke me up.

" Commander you need to come to the bridge right away."

I jumped up and got dressed and headed to the Bridge.

" What's up Jerry?"

" Take a look." Pointing at the front view screen.

" My God what is that?"

The jungle had closed in all around us.

The vines had rapped all around the ship. There was no sign of animal life anywhere.

We could still see movement in all the vegetation and it was closing in on us.

Jerry said, " Commander that stuff is alive and it looks hungry."

we could hear noises in the ships hull.

Jerry said, I think it's trying to crush the ship."

I said " Jerry are you trying to say that stuff is intelligent."

" No I'm trying to say I think it's trying to crush the ship."

I got on the intercom and told everyone to come to the bridge. "

Ok get the outside camera's going, find out the source of these vines."

Barbra start the engines and give it a blast and see how it likes that."

She gave the engines a blast and the vines retracted from the back end of the ship.

Barbra said," It turned us loose back there Sir."

The ship begin to move as if being dragged or carried.

Jerry said," Its pulling us in Commander."

" Can you see it yet?"

" No Sir just vines so far."

" Try to turn the ship toward the direction of the drag."

" We did it sir, at least we can see what's coming."

" You may not want to see it Jerry."

" You could be right Sir."

" Get those forward missals ready to fire."

" On the ground Sir?"

" Anybody got a better idea."

Jerry said, There it is Commander, strait ahead about two hundred yards."

I said," My God, it's like looking into the gates of hell. That thing is as big as the superdome."

John Smith said," Missals are ready Sir."

" Fire at one hundred yards Mister Smith."

“ Yes Sir.”

“ We only have one shot at this so make it good.”

“ Coming up on one hundred yards sir.”

“ Fire when ready Mister Smith.”

“ Fire one, Fire two, all fired Sir.”

Both missals hit their target and exploded,

The plant was on fire and the vines released them and were retracting to it.

I said,” Ok now, get us the hell out of here.”

We left the ground just a little and turn the ship around.

It had been dragged until it was under some trees so we had to make our way back to the clearing.

When we got to the clearing we flew away.

Jerry said,” I’m ready to get the hell off of this planet.”

I said,” Not yet, find us a safe place to land.”

“ You must be kidding Commander.”

“ No Jerry I’m not kidding, we have to inspect the outside of this ship for damage.”

“ But to land on that planet again is crazy.”

I said,” What is our mission here?”

No one said anything.

“ To explore this planet.”

Crisp said,” Open range ahead Sir.”

“ Fine Crisp, find us a place to land.”

we moved around over it for a little while then lowered the ship down for a landing.

I said,” Security get a couple of flame throwers. That seemed to affect them more than anything.

Shelly this is your expertise so you will come with us.

Is everyone ready?"

All were ready.

They opened the door and it lowered down and made a ramp to the ground.

The air was a little rich but breathable for humans.

I said Alright Shelly do your thing and everyone stay together.

They moved around the ship as Shelly looked it over.

It had some dents in the hull and a small hole in one of the wings.

" I'll have to fix that hole Commander or it may just get bigger on us.

" How long will it take Shelly?"

" Not long Commander."

" Do you have what you need to fix it?"

" Yes Sir it's called liquid iron, I brought some along."

" O K Get right on it."

" Yes Sir."

She went back into the ship to get what she needed.

While they were waiting they heard a loud noise come from the jungle.

Steven said, " That was Animal Sir."

" Yes Steven and it sounded real big.

You men keep them flame throwers ready and keep a share look out.

At that time Shelly came back with the liquid iron.

" What was that noise Commander?"

" I don't know Shelly and I hope not to find out."

She went right to work on the wing and had it fixed in a matter of minutes.

“ There Commander that should be dry in about two hours and we can take off.”

“ Shelly do you mean we have to stay here for two hours to let that dry?”

“ I’m sorry Commander I didn’t make the rules.”

At that time they all went inside to wait until they could take off.

Steven said,” I just wonder what that was that we heard out there.”

Jerry said,” Well you don’t have to wonder anymore.”

They all looked at the screen.

It was kind of like a tyrannosaurus rex.

It was about forty feet tall and it had noticed the ship.

It was bent down and sniffing the ship.

In a low voice I said,” Everyone be real quiet, he may go away.”

He then put his mouth on one of the wings and dint down on it.

It crushed the wing, he then spit it out and razed up and walked away.

Jerry said,” Well that does it, we will never leave this planet.”

I said,” Security get your flame throwers.

Shelly lets take a look.”

We opened the door and went outside.

Shelly took one look and said,” It’s done for Commander I can’t fix that.”

I said,” I understand Shelly.”

We went back inside and closed the door.

I said, “ Shelly do you think this ship will fly at all?”

“ No Sir it will spin like a top.”

I said,” Alright everyone fill your canteen with water and your backpacks with food, get you a weapon, I suggest a high powered rifle.

Security will carry flame throwers, one in front and one in the rear.

Jerry said,” Where are we going Commander?”

Pointing to the screen I said

“ To that rocky know over there.”

Commander there is at least five miles of jungle between us and that rock.”

“ That’s right so we will leave first thing in the morning.”

At daybreak we were all ready to go except Jerry.

I said “Jerry use your head this ship is not a safe place to be if that thing comes back.”

Jerry said,” Commander I have lots of food and water here. In a couple of years I will turn on the beacon and when they come to check on us they will see it and rescue me.

When they do I will have them check the rocks to see if you all made it there.”

“ O K Jerry, any one who is coming with me get ready for I’m leaving in five minutes.

When I left all went with me except Jerry.

“ Larry take the front and set the pace, we have to make that rock by dark.”

Just before entering the jungle they stopped to rest, it was mid afternoon.

When they got ready to start walking again, they heard the same sound that they heard the day before.

It was coming from the jungle.

They were about five hundred yards from the jungle, they started walking.

This time Steven took the lead and Larry took the rear. At that time they heard a scream.

They turned around to see Larry’s head sticking out of the ground and Crisp down to his waist, then both were pulled under and the dirt filled in over them.

Before they could react to that John Smith went down to his waist, he screamed and was pulled under. I said, “ Come on get the hell out of here.

We ran all the way to the edge of the jungle.

When we got there we noticed that Albert Heart was missing also.

Shelly said, Tom we’re not going to make it are we?”

I said, “ We’ll make it.”

we slowed the pace walking through the jungle.

we had gone about two miles when we saw the dinosaur again.

It was coming right at us but had not seen us yet.

we stepped behind a very large tree and watched him.

Just as we thought he had surely seen us the vines came alive.

They begin to rap around his legs and his tail.

He looked at them and tried to kick them off but they wouldn't come lose.

The giant dinosaur was pulled off of his feet.

When he hit the ground the vines attacked his front paws and his head.

They wrapped around his neck and jaws and tightened up.

Then the vines started dragging the big dinosaur into the base of the flesh eating plant.

It pulled and pulled until the dinosaur was all the way in the trap and the plant closed up.

I said," Come on while it's having its dinner. We moved by with no trouble.

We made our way through the rest of the jungle to the rocks.

The climb was long and steep but that was what we needed for protection.

Up near the top there was a small cave.

We decided to use it for shelter.

At that time back at the ship Jerry was eating and listening to music and feeling safe.

But below the ship the ground began to move away.

Slowly the dirt moved aside and the ship started to sink into the ground.

It was so gradual that Jerry didn't even notice it.

He started to get sleepy so he went to bed.

The next morning he awoke and went to the view screen to see what the day was like.

Just as he saw the creature that was in his view screen the ship was pulled apart.

No one heard Jerry's screams for he was forty feet beneath the ground.

Time passed and our food was running out. We knew that we would have to find a source of food. One day Steven and Barbra left the camp to hunt for food.

That was the last we ever saw of them, they never returned.

I went looking for them but only found one of the weapons laying in a path near one of the plants. Needless to say I left it there and went back and told Shelly what I found.

I built a trap for small animals and we managed to eat every so often.

I kept a calendar on a rock wall.

We had been there for almost two years.

We held out hope that some day they would send a rescue ship for us.

We had not caught anything to eat for almost a week.

We were both very hungry.

I decided that we would hunt in another valley that was behind us.

We walked through the jungle for a long way before we finely shot a small dear like animal.

I picked it up and we started back to the rocks.

What we saw just about knocked us over.

On the face of the rocks a short way from the top. carved in the rock was most of the face of. -----

**Abraham Lincoln, the rest had fallen away.
The time monitor on the ship had been right after all.
We were home, but twelve thousand years into the
future..
he End**