

## Mars Mission Madness

By Romilly M

“5, 4, 3, 2, 1!” The brilliant blue rocket was blasted into a world of pitch-black space. I had left my picturesque, honeysuckle covered cottage in the idyllic, verdant countryside hoping to fulfil my dream of being a fantastic, famous space explorer. How I wanted to be like my great, great grandfather’s great grandfather, who had discovered Mars. And that, readers, is why I decided to be start being an astronaut in the first place.

While I knew my job on the mission would not be lead explorer, little did I know that as the most junior crewmate, I was stuck with the most tedious jobs, such as powder coffee making. Not much to explore in that dull task!

“Bam!” The powerful rocket landed on the red, rusty surface of Mars that reminded me of a roasted tomato. After I had found a secluded nook in the camp, I set off trailing behind the wonderful Captain and my crewmates, carrying bags of coffee and bum-numbingly boring baked beans.

Suddenly, I found myself alone in a desolate plain. I had lost the crew! After ten, long, dreary minutes of blaring out ear-splitting “Help!” messages, I gave up. I drowned in my melancholy. Dreams were crushed. Tears filled a crater in this lonely world. I was inconsolable. “Whoosh...” I stumbled on a landslide like a clown. I was taken to a cave of nothingness. “Hang on...” my feet were wet. I shone my blinding torch in the eerie darkness – WATER (not just my tears)! I had found the possibility of life on Mars! My dream had come true. Ecstatic thoughts filled my brain which was overflowing with glee, that then inundated my body with happiness. My family would be so proud.

Then I heard the call of my beloved Captain. I rushed out, buzzing to share the news. The Captain congratulated my warm heartedly and directed the crew to collect samples. On return, the team trekked thought the abominable treacherous heat that I did not feel because I was so HAPPY!

The sapphire blue lever was pressed down heavily, and the rocket rumbled when it took off into space, back to the green planet of Earth. "Ahh, life is a lovely place to be," I thought, while fabulous visions of being famous and dreams coming true filled my head.

Back home at the press conference, my Captain stood at the glittering microphone and said, "On my Mars mission the senior crew and I found water on Mars, which opens up the possibility of life on Mars!" At that moment the reporters all rushed to his side asking question after question. Cameras flashed till the crowd was a flurry of bright white light. In the middle of the stage stood my proud Captain, taking all the credit.

"How dare he not mention that I was the finder? HOW DARE HE!" I thought. I went to speak but was pushed out of the room by the Deputy Captain. And just like that, my dream became a nightmare.