

Space Holiday

Descending from the clouds, the craft that would take them to Raxx arrived. Obviously, it had done the trip a multitude of times: rust could be seen on the wingtips, corrosion around the windows.

Jina clapped her hands excitedly and nudged her taller, slimmer, more apprehensive brother standing beside her. Tomi - knowing that Jina's bravery was sometimes her curse - glanced her way nervously saying, "Jus' hope this thing flies better than it looks."

"OMG! So do I!" she winked back.

Lift off was smooth enough. Jina, Tomi and about one-hundred other space-holiday-makers were occupying themselves with their smart-glass pads when it happened.

"THUD!"

The craft jostled and wrestled with the unusual atmosphere of the new planet; air supply packs burst from above them releasing life-saving oxygen.

"C-ould b, be w...orse, I guess" Tomi managed between jounces.

Abruptly, everything came to a serene halt creating a moment of silence.

"Yep, true," Jina smirked, a cheer spontaneously erupted from the passengers, "Could've chucked up - all over you!"

As it happened, they had landed – successfully *and* cleanly.

Raxx - the 'planet of holiday dreams' - differed in the tourists' imaginations. Yet, in reality, it had two suns, a green sky and mountains made of pure crystal. Not a human in sight: the only 'living' creatures seemed to be a crowd of busy red-eyed, tri-wheeled robots leading people to their luxury rooms.

Jina turned to Tomi to crack another joke.... Tomi was gone!

Searching frantically, Jina turned the space hotel upside down – no Tomi! Out of the corner of her eye, she spied a red-eyed robot acting suspiciously. She chased; it 'ran'. Finding herself in the depths of the space hotel, she had no clue how to return to the surface. Yet this didn't faze her, she had her trusted instincts.

A familiar voice from behind a thick metal door cried out, "Jina! Someone! Help!" Unlocking the door from the outside was easy, getting Tomi out from the electric-blue force-shield would prove more difficult. A red-eyed robot appeared and zapped Jina in the leg, Tomi bashed the force shield, Jina grasped the robot by the wheel.

Using all of her strength, the bot was flipped on its head by Jina; with a tremendous burst of electricity both the bot and the shield clashed and momentarily ceased to function.

Tomi grabbed Jina by the arm and they both ran, ran at warp speed until they saw the glorious light of the two suns.

Retelling their story to the rest of the guests, the two young holiday makers warned of malfunctioning robots, they also smiled, realising they had already had the interplanetary adventure of a lifetime.