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High Above Earth

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HIGH ABOVE EARTH - YEAR 1113...

BY ADAM POTTER

WHOOOSH!
WASHINGTON, D.C....

SIR, I'M PICKING UP SOME SORT OF ANOMALY ON RADAR.

IT APPEARS TO BE SOME SORT OF UNIDENTIFIED CRAFT.

WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS SIR?

I'VE GOT IT OVER HERE TOO, SIR!

GET A MESSAGE TO DIRECTOR FOX IMMEDIATELY, HE'LL WANT TO HERE ABOUT THIS.
DIRECTOR FOX!

I HATE TO INTERRUPT, BUT THERE'S AN URGENT MESSAGE FOR YOU FROM THE PENTAGON.

THANK YOU. LET ME SEE IT.

PLEASE EXCUSE ME, GENTLEMEN.

THANK YOU CAPTAIN. LET'S GO.
RIGHT THIS WAY SIR.

GET ME UP TO SPEED...

WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE DEALING WITH HERE?

WE'RE STILL NOT TOTALLY SURE.

IT APPEARS TO BE A SPACE CRAFT FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED RACE OF INTELLIGENT BEINGS.

BUT WE'VE BEEN UNABLE TO CLASSIFY IT.

DR. JOHNSON HAS MORE INFORMATION WAITING FOR YOU

TELL ME MORE....

SHOW ME

THIS WAY, SIR.

IN THE COMMAND CENTER

SIR, WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE AN ALIEN SPACE CRAFT HAS CRASH LANDED IN WINTER RIVER, CONNECTICUT.

MOBILIZE UNITS TO WINTER RIVER IMMEDIATELY. WE NEED TO GET THIS THING UNDER WRAPS BEFORE THE PUBLIC PANICS.
WINTER RIVER, CONNECTICUT...

STILL WORKING ON THAT MODEL...

SO HOW'S IT COMING ALONG, ADAM?

OH, HEY BARBARA. NOT TOO BAD.
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ON THAT THING ALL NIGHT.

DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD TAKE A BREAK?

DON'T WORRY, I'M ALMOST DONE.

JUST GO AHEAD AND TAKE A SEAT. I'LL ONLY BE A MINUTE.

ALMOST DONE... THERE, FINISHED.

YOU KNOW I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO FINISH THIS.

3 MORE DAYS AND WE'RE OUTTA HERE.
I know. I can't believe it's been 125 years.

Huh?!?

What on earth could that have been?!
COME ON, ADAM!

CALM DOWN, BARBARA...

...I'M SURE IT'S...

LOOK!

...NOTH!

OH MY GOSH!!!
IT'S AN EXPLOSION ADAM. WHAT DO WE DO?

UMMM...BARBARA... LOOK...

MY GOSH, THERE'S SOMETHING FLOATING UP FROM THE FLAMES...

WHAT COULD IT BE?

I'M NOT SURE, BUT WE'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH... 'CAUSE IT'S COMING THIS WAY.

SCANNING LANDSCAPE...
ADAM...I THINK IT'S IN THE HOUSE...

I HEARD SOMETHING! COME ON!

BARABARA, SLOW DOWN!

HURRY UP ADAM!

YOU NEED TO SLOW DOWN. YOU CAN'T GO IN THERE ALONE

WAIT UP!
STAY CALM HONEY.

SHHHH...

IT'S RIGHT IN HERE.

OH MY....

......

-----ADAM-----WHO IS THAT?

WHAT'S HE DOING?
Excuse me... who are you?

Greetings.

What do you want with us... why are you here?

I have come to your planet to find Jenny Hayden.

... did you say... our planet???

Do you know her? Do you know Jenny Hayden?
Am I in Wisconsin, I must see Jenny Hayden.

I am afraid I have veered off course. My ship has been destroyed.

Barbara, this guy is insane.

I have come to your planet to meet with Jenny Hayden.

Do you know her? Where is she?

I'm sorry, why do you keep saying our planet?

I'm sorry, we don't know who that is.

I'm sorry, but if she was alive in 1984, she would be long dead by now.

Will you help me find her? I came to your planet in 1984 to observe. Now I am here to follow up with Jenny Hayden and complete my research.

"Dead?" Define "dead".
UM... "DEAD" MEANS NO LONGER LIVING... NO MORE ENERGY... UM... BROKEN FOREVER, LIKE YOUR SHIP.

YOU WILL NEVER SEE HER AGAIN. I'M SO SORRY.

I WILL SHOW YOU.

YES, WE'RE VERY SORRY. WHO WAS SHE?

OH... NEVER AGAIN...

THIS IS JENNY HAYDEN.
THERE'S REALLY NOTHING WE CAN DO.

IF I CAN NOT SEE JENNY HAYDEN, THEN I MUST LEAVE IMMEDIATELY.

WELL WE KNOW HOW THAT FEELS, OUR EXISTENCE DOESN'T SIT WELL WITH PEOPLE EITHER.

SHE'S BEAUTIFUL. I'M SO SORRY.

YOUR LEADERS WILL COME LOOKING FOR ME, THEY WILL KILL ME.

YOU SEE, WE'RE GHOSTS.

DEFINE "GHOST".

IT MEANS THAT WE TOO ARE DEAD, BUT WE HAVE TO KEEP LIVING IN THE WORLD OF THE LIVING.

THEN YOU ARE LIKE ME, WILL YOU HELP ME? ARE YOU WILLING TO ABANDON YOUR HOME TO HELP ME RETURN TO MINE?

LIKE YOU, WE ARE THREATENING TO PEOPLE.

YOU SEE, IF I DO NOT GET TO RENDEZVOUS WITH MY SPECIES SOON, I WILL DIE IN THIS BODY. OR I WILL BE CAPTURED.
I say we do it, Adam.

Umm....Barbara?

You know we can't leave the house. Remember the sandworms? Remember what the handbook said?

Look: it's right here; we can check.

Let's see....

Wait!..."When the 125 year waiting period has expired, the deceased must perform an act of service to pass into the world of the dead".

"...Functional parameters vary from manifestation to manifestation..." Blah, blah, blah...

"...In the course of such an act, functional parameters may be expanded."

So in theory, we could leave the house to help. But...

Oh Adam, let's do it.
ALRIGHT... WE'LL HELP YOU

THANK YOU. I'M AM SORRY TO SEPARATE YOU FROM THE SAFETY OF YOUR HOMES, BUT WE MUST LEAVE RIGHT AWAY. YOUR STAR HAS ALREADY RISEN AND THEY WILL BE COMING FOR ME SOON.

WE'D REALLY BE GOING OUT OF OUR WAY... BUT I GUESS WE CAN HELP OURSELVES BY HELPING HIM.

WELL YOU'VE BEEN SEPARATED FROM EVERYDAY LIFE TOO. WE WILL HELP YOU GET BACK TO IT.

WE'LL GO GET THE CAR READY. YOU NEED TO PUT SOME CLOTHES ON. WE DON'T NEED ANY EXTRA ATTENTION.

OK. YOU GO. I WILL CONTACT MY SPECIES.

BEGIN TRANSMISSION.

EMERGENCY TRANSMISSION.

OBSERVATION CRAFT DESTROYED.

RENDEZVOUS THIRD DAY LANDING AREA ONE.
MINUTES LATER...

LET'S GO, LET'S GO!

HURRY ADAM. WE GOTTA GET GOING. HE'S ALREADY IN THE CAR.

EVERYBODY READY?

HERE WE GO!
WE NEED TO TAKE ACTION IMMEDIATELY COLONEL. WE CAN'T HAVE THIS ANOMALY FRIGHTENING THE NATCIN.

WE CAN HAVE OUR MEN THERE WITHIN TWO HOURS SIR.

WE KNOW EXACTLY WHERE IT CAME DOWN.

GOOD... MILLER - DISPATCH THE CHOPPERS AND SCIENTISTS.

YES SIR!
WINTER RIVER...

WE'RE HOVERING OVER THE SITE NOW.

ONCE THEY HOOK THAT THING UP TO THE CHOPPER, WE'RE OUTTA HERE.

ALRIGHT. IT'S ATTACHED.

LET'S GET THIS THING TO WASHINGTON.
PENTAGON HANGAR...

SIR, WE'VE GOT THE AIRCRAFT. OUR SCIENTISTS ARE INSPECTING IT NOW.

GOOD, GOOD. ANY SIGN OF ITS OCCUPANT?

ALRIGHT. ORGANIZE A SEARCH PARTY TO SCAN THE FOREST, AND SET UP A DRAGNET TO SEARCH THE SURROUNDING AREA.

NO SIR. NO OCCUPANT, LIVING OR DEAD.

YES. MOBILIZE ALL OTHER TROOPS TO WINSLOW, ARIZONA.

IF MY INSTINCTS ARE CORRECT, THIS IS THE SAME SORT OF BEING THAT MY GRANDFATHER DEALT WITH A CENTURY AGO. IF I'M RIGHT THAT'S WHERE HE'LL BE HEADING.

GOT IT SIR. ANYTHING ELSE?

ALRIGHT SIR. I'LL KEEP YOU UP TO DATE.
Later that day, 100 miles west of Winter River...

So when exactly do you have to be there?

Wow, that doesn't give us much time.

We must arrive by the time your star rises for the third time.

I am sorry. There is nothing I can do.

Don't worry, Barbara. We'll be fine.

Yes, fine.
3 HOURS LATER...

IT'S GETTING PRETTY LATE ADAM.

KEEP DRIVING.

I DON'T KNOW. I'M PRETTY TIRED. MAYBE WE SHOULD STOP FOR SOME REST.

HAHAHA. SOMEBODY'S A LITTLE PARANOID.

NO. THEY WILL CATCH US IF WE STOP.

I GUESS WE'LL KEEP GOING A LITTLE LONGER.

WAIT!! WHAT LOOK BEHIND US.
OH MY GOSH!

GO BARBAR, GO!

NOW WE GO.

THEY WILL NOT CATCH US FOR SOME TIME. NOW WE REST.

WE'LL ONLY STAY THE NIGHT. ARIZONA'S ONLY ANOTHER 2 DAYS AWAY.
ARIZONA: ONE AND A HALF DAYS LATER...

I THINK WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT.

WE'RE ALMOST THERE YA KNOW!

HOW ARE YA DOING BACK THERE?

YES, WE ARE CLOSE.
ONLY ANOTHER 20 MINUTES OR SO...

OH NO! BARBARA LOOK! A ROAD BLOCK!

GET IN LINE!

STAY IN LINE FOLKS!

NOBODY GETS THROUGH UNCHECKED.

WE MUST DO SOMETHING. WE MUST DISTRACT THEM OR THEY WILL CAPTURE ME.

I THINK THIS ONE IS UP TO US, BARBARA.

YOU DON'T MEAN...

YES! I THINK WE MIGHT NEED TO CALL ...BEETLEJUICE.
...BEETLEJUICE...

HEH-HEH... I KNEW THEY'D CALL

BEETLEJUICE!!

ONE MORE TIME...

BEETLEJUICE!!!

IIIIIT'S SHOWTIME!!!
HELLO, KIDDIES!!

WHO IS THAT?!...ERR...WHAT IS THAT?!?

GET IT!!

GO! GO! GO!

MOVE! MOVE! MOVE!
Now's our chance Barbara! Go! Go!

They're not paying any attention to us.

The crater is only a mile or so ahead.

We will be there soon?

Soon order will be restored.

My species will arrive at the rendezvous point very soon.

Yep. It's almost over. You'll be home in no time.
10 MINUTES LATER: METEOR CRATER - ARIZONA

GOOD. IT'S NOT GETTING AWAY THIS TIME.

SIR, WE ARE MOVING IN TO INTERCEPT.

HERE WE ARE.

I MUST GO. MY SHIP WILL ARRIVE SOON.
I cannot thank you enough.

I did not believe that there were others in your species that could care like Jenny Hayden.

Your willingness to your yourselves in danger to save my life can never be repaid. I thank you.

It is no trouble at all. We're ghosts, it's not like we can die.

We really should be thanking you. If you hadn't needed our help, we would not have learned about our service requirement.

Because of you, we will be able cross over and have our final peace.

Then we have helped each other. I hope that we may both have peace.

Now I must go. My ship has arrived. You should go home too. Go now. Do not worry about me.

Take this. It will get you home. It is my thank you.
MY GOD...

........

THANK YOU MY FRIENDS...
WINTER RIVER, CONNECTICUT - MINUTES LATER...

WHOAH!

...I THINK WE'RE HOME...

OH ADAM, DO YOU THINK HE MADE IT.

WOW, WHAT AN EXPERIENCE.

I HOPE SO...

WELL, IT'S ALMOST 1:15 - 125 YEARS TO THE MINUTE SINCE OUR DEATHS.

I GUESS WE JUST WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.

HE MADE IT ADAM, I KNOW HE DID.

SO WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE WE DO NOW?

PEEENNS

DO WE GO THROUGH?
THIS IS IT.
THE FINAL STEP.

I LOVE YOU, ADAM.

I LOVE YOU
TOO, BARBARA.

THE END