

10

ESCAPE TO EVERYWHERE

SOPHIE LINK: 2017 Book Week Community Write Award

Written and Illustrated by Sophie Link

Publisher:St Mary's Cohuna Author:Sophie Link Illustrator:Sophie Link Date of print:20.6.2017 It was 2023 and Nasa had encountered it's greatest discovery in centuries. "Dr Moon what is the discovery that you are all talking about," yelled the sunrise TV reporter. Chase turns off the TV and walks over to the answering

machine. It was on the desk in the living room. He had five missed calls, four from his mother and one from work.

"Hello, it's your mother here. I would like to talk to you about why you have not been answering my calls lately," she sounded like she was worried. The



next three calls were about the same thing. But the work one was different, it was about the Nasa discovery. Chase put on his modern black glasses and wrote down want his boss was saying. " Hey Chase, I'm calling you because Dr Moon would like you to go to Uranus and find the living Oxter plant," the voice disappeared into the beeps.

## He had a MISSION!!!!!

Day One:

That night Chase had done all his research on the plant and the myth behind it. They say that people use to live on the far far away planet, but it was diverted into black hole. No one survived but a plant called Oxter. "Chase your late," said his boss" AGAIN!" Chase was knackered from a long night.

"Chase you don't look very pretty today." His voice echoed around the big room that was full of researchers, scientist and agents. The room was maximised with desks all on different levels, and on one of the huge walls that had a lot of computer screens, that had different information about the Mission to Uranus. Chase was the only astronaut going to this unknown planet.

When Chase got off the modern white lift, all of the lady cats were looking his way. Chase was a good looking cat, he had dark black fur that shone in the light, but his eyes were the real statement. They were ice cold blue, the sort of blue that you would see in the Atlantic. He was wearing a black suit and red heart sunglasses. He walked right over to where his boss, Kevin was seated. "Hey, Kevin," yelled Chase with a little bit of an awkward smile.

Everyone looked at their boss (they did this because they knew him as BD, it stands for Big Dog) not knowing his name was Kevin. "It's just an inside joke we have," BD yelled hoping all



(that heard) heard him. Everyone laughed a 'I don't get it' laugh. "How many times do I have to tell you DON'T CALL ME THAT!!!!!"BD was going as red as a tomato.

As he wanted to keep his a name a secret.

Day two:

Chase was finding it hard to think straight, in the large lab room. He had around 10 people talking at him at once. "You use this gadget for this and this....."

"Make sure you turn the engine off when you are sleeping or on the toilet.." "Inform us of your every move.."

"If anything happens use this..."

"ONE AT A TIME, Please" Chase shouted this as load as he could, to make the room go quiet. As all who was talking faced the angry cat.

Everyone after a minute or two went back to work. The whole room was white but the tapes and Chase's cool sunnys. There were desk everywhere that Chase looked .

"Chase come to launch pad immediately," this came out of the loudspeaker in the corner of the large room.

As Chase walked down the long yellow corridor. Every cat in the room looked and cheered him on, as if running a race. He started to walking like a nerd and then he started to walk with confidence. The Big Doors swing open and he saw it. The massive rocket, sitting there ready to take off. It's orange jets getting fueled up, its white body had windows on it and the NASA logo on the side. It was like a dream Chase had had one night, the rocketship sitting there waiting for someone to take it on an adventure. "Everything is inside ready to go," said BD. He looked not himself. His doggy humour had gone and his black and white fur stood on end ( if you are wondering he's a border collie). "What's wrong boss," Chase said kindly and in a way it meant no harm. "I'm just.....going to feel a bit you know..."

"Lonely!" Chase butted in like he felt his boss would never finish his sentence. "Yes lonely," muttered BD under his breathe.

"But you have so many things to do when I'm gone." Chase said this in an excited tone. "And you have your wedding you have to plan that."

"Yes, you make a good point."

"OK Bye..." Chase and Kevin did their handshake,

"KERVIN!" BD gave him a kick to the bottom, as Chase ran into the rocket ship. "I'll see you on the other side" Chase said this as the doors closed and did it with a salute. It was quiet in the rocketship, their was no one to talk to, NO ONE! He was alone. And the mission was going to take a year and half.

He got into the driver's seat and pushed a few buttons. Then he radioed through to home base. "I'm ready to go," said Chase with confidence and a bit worried. The countdown started "5.....4.....3......1!" The massive rocket started up and smoke started going everywhere. The jets turned on and it was time for Chase to go. "May the force be with you, Chase," said the only friend Chase had, BD.

The rocketship left the ground with immense speed, up he went , into the foramen clouds. "Bye Chase," muttered BD, as the gust of smoke hit his window.

Around 93 km from Earth:

This was the part of his job that Chase liked, seeing all the stars and planets all allowen, up in the sky, miles of feet from Earth. It was an amazing feeling, being up in the stars.

"Are you starting to head to Uranus." This scared the living day lights out of Chase, as he was daydreaming." Yes I'm doing that.....

right.....now, Violer," Chase was trying to

find the button that makes all the information pop up on the screen in front of him. The driving room was small compared to the rest of the rocketship. The front of the room has covered in windows, that looked out into outer space. Under that was a big black desk that had a lot of buttons on it. On the ceiling there was as many buttons as you could imagine. Everything was set up nicely.

And everything was going smoothly.

Day Three:

Chase woke up to see red lights flashing like crazy. "Darn it, I forgot to turn off the engine," muttered Chase. "Planet ahead,' said a robotic female voice. It was Sam a robot who tells Chase things. The best part about Sam was that you could talk to her and she would give you her opinion on the subject.

"Oh no," shouted Chase over the alarms and beeping." Yes! O NO," screamed Sam. " Radio though to HQ," Chase yelled. "Ok," said Sam.

"Hello," this was a voice Chase knew off by heart.

"This is no time for HELLOS," Chase said this with a bit of a sneer."What is happening? It says that you are heading towards a unknown planet!" BD was screaming this through the radio. "I forgot to turn off the engine when I was sleeping." Chase said this knowing that the next thing that came out of BD's mouth was not going to be good. "I told you, more than a thousand times, to t-u-r-n o-f t-h-e e-n-g-i-n-e when you're s-l-e-e-p-i-n-g." BD said this angrily, but Chase could hear him flapping his arms around." Calm down, and tell me what to do," Chase tried to sound calm but was actually screaming his head off inside."I'll get through to Dr.Jake's, he can tell you what to do," you could hear BD looking for Dr.Jake's number. "Here it issss!!" BOOM!!!

"Hello......BD......Are you there!" Chase was now screaming through the radio. "Sorry, I fell off my chair," said BD, sounded a bit dizzy. "You ok!?" Chase said this with concern, that he might have hurt himself. " I'm great, how are you," said Kevin. " I'm not great actually. I'm about to crash into an unknown planet, and I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO DO!!!!"

"Well, that sounds nice," now BD sounded crazy. "Just put me through to Dr.Jake," yelled Chase. "Oh yes, that's what I was doing," again Chase could hear BD going through his messy desk in scratch of Dr.Jake's number. " Five minutes until we get to planet Doo-Doo,"said Sam. " Planet what."

"Hello this is Dr.Jake."

"Hi, this is Chase, and I'm about to crash land on an unknown planet," Chase was now sick and tired of telling people details." How far away are you."

" 4 minutes and counting."

" Ok, that's bad. Umm.....we could.....do this one."

"WHAT ONE!!"

"Listen to my every word ... "

"Hurry UP!!"

"Turn the engine off,"CRASH, BANG! There goes one of the orange rockets. "Done." The rocketship started to shake as it moved closer to the red planet. " Warning about to hit planet. Please get space suit on," Sam's voice came through the loudspeaker." You are going to have to do what she says," Dr.Jake didn't sound completely sure what could happen. Chase an over to where all the safety gear was. He opened up the huge cabinet that had a warning sign on it. There was a ton of gear that he had to carry, but he thought ' maybe I should just take the most important things.' "2 minutes and counting until landing." Chase grabbed the lava gun, the space suit, some food and a backpack. Chase then put on the suit and shoved the food into the backpack." 1 minute until landing." It was time. "Now or never," said Chase. Chase jumped out of the rocket ship just in time. Because that next second the rocket hit the ground with a bang and then it blow up.

## Day four:

Chase woke up in a tree. He was about three feet up off the ground. And was scared to death what he saw next!!

There was these jelly like things that were a green colour. But it was not a grass green, it was more like an lime. But they didn't have feet, but they had eyes, mouth, and arms. "BD to Chase, over," this came through the walkie talkie that was attached to Chase's belt. This caused Chase to fall from where he was perched. He hit the ground with a thuded.

## 7 hours after falling from tree:

Chase couldn't remember anything up to this point. He was in a bed. A big light was in his eyes. He sat up in the bed and looked around to see one of

the aliens like things." It's ok, you just hit your head,"

this came from the alien thing

that was painting a mural on the big

wall in front of him. The room was a

huge bedroom, like a bedroom from a fairy tale. There was gold furniture everywhere around the

room. There was three beds, chester drawers, beauty stand, and all that other stuff that you would find in a castle. Something was strange about this alien thing. He was not a line colour like the others, he was more of a blue. "Where am I," Chase finally said.

"You are in the city of Planet Doo-Doo," shouted the alien."And who are you."

"I am Rob, the third son of the King of planet Doo-Doo."

" Why is your colour different to the others."

"It's royal blood that turns blue, and everyone who has green or lime coloring are normal."

"Are you like jelly."

"You could say that. Yeah."

" And how many others are there."

"The population in this city is around 3,000 and more."

" And royals."

"There is my two brothers, my dad and Granny."

"Your mum."

"She.....um......died in a space car crash."

"Oh, I'm so sorry." The jelly like thing went back to painting."What are you painting?" Chase said this to try and change the subject."The oxter plant, noone but me believes that it's still alive."

"OMG"

"What is it?" The alien turn around to look Chase square in the eyes. He had a puzzled look on his face." How long away is the planet Uranus." "Um, maybe a year or something like that, why do ask that."

" I'm traveling there to get the oxter plant so Dr.Moon can say 'I told you so' to everyone."

" I'm still standing. YEAAHHH. OH YEAH! I'M STILL STANDING! YEAH YEAH OH,"came a not so good singing voice from the hallway. Then two seconds later another blue alien came into the room. He looked like he had just been running.

"Who......What.....are you?" Said the alien from the door. He was slowly walking over to his bed, that sat next to the one Chase was resting on. " I'm.....I'm Chase."

"Who are you?" Chase said this in hope that he would wake up from this dream and be in the rocketship having a nap, but no, he didn't wake up from this dream. "I'm the second heir to the throne of Doo-Doo city and the planet."

" And your name is?"

"Dob."

"Nice to meet you Dob."

That was when Chase fainted.

12 hours later:

It was now dark when Chase woke, he was alone, in his room. He went over to the large ground to ceiling window and looked out over the lite up city. There were all different shaped buildings going high into the night sky. It was beautiful looking out. He turned to his right and saw a magically painted chest of drawers. He looked at himself in the mirror and saw a sign in the background, it said 'Land Of The Great.' I don't remember that.

Chase sat up in Rob's bed and saw three blue aliens looking at him." He's awake," said the one with a builders belt on. Rob was covered in paint and Dob was sweating like a pig."Where is the rocketship?"

"Oh, our best builders are building it."

"And you only have fuel to go back to where you came from."

"Great," Chase looked around and caught his eyes on the painting Rob had been painting." And the oxter plant,I can not get that," Chase said this with a worried look on his face.

"I'm sorry, but it is the only plant that is left in its species."

Dob's eyes at that very moment opened as wide as the Arctic Ocean." What is it Dob," said the third alien." I think I have a plan on how to fix that." Dob started to weirdly run [as he had no legs], the weird thing was that he was so fast. The others started to run after him, shouting."

DOB......DOB......where are you going." Chase got out of bed and ran out of the bedroom into the huge hallway. There was gold furniture everywhere he looked. There was beautiful paintings on the walls and there was murals everywhere. There were doors going into massive rooms. There were hallways coming off of hallway after hallway, after hallway. It was like a maze. Chase was lost in his world of hallways." Though here, Chase," came a voice that had disappeared into a room. Chase went over to a large wood door. That lead into a magical garden that was full with different flower species of plants. The thing that amazed Chase the most was not how they planted or kept them alive, but the fact that they were not like the

plants that planet Earth have. Some of them were glowing, somewhere rainbow coloured and some were making a weird gas that turn into whatever you wanted. The three brothers were already on the far side of the garden and were looking at each plant very closely. They also had a book which from Chase was standing had a picture of an plant in it. "What are you guys doing,"yelled Chase."Matching up one of these flowers with the oxter plant." They showed him the picture that was in the book. It was a blue steamed plant but had rainbow leaves that shone in the light [or so it looked]. It's flowers were a hot pink colour, the sort of pink you would find a toddler wearing. Chase started to look around for a plant that looked like the oxter plant. Chase saw nothing similar but then he saw it. It looked identical to the picture of the oxter plant. It had the same stem and leaves but it had different flowers. The plant had a more deeper blue flower and the nectar was sparkly gold with some parts silver. It was amazing. Not one of the boys had seen it. Chase thought that maybe that plant was the oxter plant. Then he thought back to the painting Rob had done he said "No one else believes it's still around" so why do the other brothers believe its around. "I thought you were the only person who believe the oxter plant was still around" Chase said this making it more towards Rob who was on his hands looking at a plant. "One: I'm not a person. I am a alien and two:I am the only one who believes that the plant is still alive".

"So why are your brothers helping".

"They want you...."

Bob interrupted Rob when he was talking and said what he was just about to say.

"Off this planet as soon as possible."

"Why?"

"Because as you are not used to this environment your body reacts to the different weather waves differently than us." "So if I stay what happen?" "You....um...will.....um," he sounded like he did know what was going to happen but didn't want to tell me.

"BANG," this made Chase jump

"Bang, like I'm going to expelled ."

"Yep"

"This one looks like the oxter plant," said Bob who was walking over to the plant that Chase has seen already.

"I cannot tell the difference between them," said Bob who was already over at the plant.

1 hour later:

They had collected the plant and Dob was taking it to a greenhouse, that was on the other side of the big house. Bob was going to check on the rocketship, and Rob and Chase were going back to the bedroom. Chase was so dirty from the crash landing that he felt like someone who hadn't had a shower in weeks and weeks. It was cold now, and the sun was going down. It was a peaceful evening. As they walked along the corridor no one spoke a word. Not a word. As they turned to walk into the room Chase could hear shouting coming from down the hallway. A women and a man were talking a foreign language.

"Who's that," Chase says at the same time trying to listen to what they are saying.

"That's my dad and grandmother, fighting again."

Chase could see that he was trying to hold back tears. " How long has it been like this?"

"A few months."

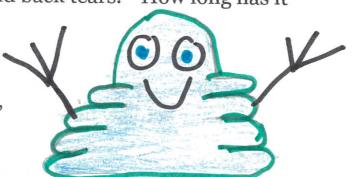
"What are they fighting about?"

"Who is the best alien to run the planet."

"Out of you three?"

"Yeah."

"But shouldn't it be the first son."



They were both in the bedroom now and Rob was showing Chase the bathroom. It was a modern bathroom with an air toilet that was in the air.

The shower had no doors and was all glass, there were all white tiles. The sink was a light grey colour and the vanity was a light wood colour.

3 hours later: 🧦

After Chase had a shower, he walked into the bedroom and saw the three brothers talking to each other.

"Your finished," said Bob

"It took me a long time to figure out how to turn off the shower."

"So I've got good news and bad news."said Bob

"Can I hear the bad news first."

"OK, so the bad news is that you can not leave now and the good news is that the rocketship is ready to go."

"So why can't I leave now."

"The air around the planet has been corrupted by the spaceship's fuel and it takes around a day to get it out of it's system." Chase was a little puzzled but got the picture, in the end. "So how long until I get outa here," asked Chase, hoping to hear a hour or maybe two. "Twelve hours" said Dob who was now on the treadmill that had been brought in by the housekeeper. "So what's the time."

"Around 5pm," said Rob who was not looking at the clock, but was looking at the sky. " How do you know that?" Asked Chase who was fascinated by the matter. "Well if you look at the sky, you ask yourself what colours do you see." said Bob who was seated on the bed reading a building magazine. "I see dark blue , peach, pink, lime, yellow and light orange." "How many colours are in the rainbow."

"Six"

"Oh, hang on. Are you counting the colours of your rainbow?No you have to count the colours of our rainbow. Which is ..." Rob was counting on his fingers,"24!"

"You have 24 colours in your rainbow!! WOW!!!" "Yeah , It's really cool." "Each colour is a time in your of day," this came from Rob, who was painting a flower on his bed side table."And how do you know the pm and am."

"Easy. The sun," Rob said this like it was the most obvious thing on planet Doo-Doo."I better get some sleep," said Chase with a tired look on his face."You're not hungry, at all,"said Bob who's tummy was grumbling."Not really."

"Sure."

"Yes."

"Ok, more for us." Bob said this with a cheeky smile on his face.

11 hours later:

Chase woke up to see a tray of food sitting next to him. It had toast and a glass of orange juice on it. He ate it and then got out of bed to find the three brothers eating breakfast outside on the balcony."You're up,"said Bob who was looking through a newspaper called 'Doo-Doo news'."Yes,I am," Chase

said this like he was not paying

attention to what was happening.

"What's on your mind," questioned Dob who was bouncing up and down in his seat, like he had been eating baked



beans for breakfast."Home.No offense but I would like to go home right now."

"None taken."

" So is the space ship ready for take off."

"Yes, it is."

"Can I see it? Can I go now? I mean.....um......you're

joking.....right."

"Yes, No and No."

"So,when can I leave."

"An hour or maybe two."

Chase had now zoned out. He was thinking of all the things he could do coming back early. He could go to BD's wedding, he could go out on that

date he had been planing."Chase! HELLO! DOO-DOO TO PLANET EARTH! COME IN PLANET EARTH," Rob was now shouting this in Chase's ear."Earth here, over."

"Did you hear what I was saying."

"Sorry I zoned out."

"Ok, well as you were lost in your chain of thoughts I was saying as you have lost all your food in the crash, we are going to have to give you some of our food. But there is a probable, we don't known what food you."

"You guys are eating toast with jam and cream, and you are drinking orange juice."

" Is that what you call it," said Bob with a bit of a puzzled look on his face."Yes."

"Oh, It's just that we call it compita and greene pushpit." "WHAT!!"

"Ok we will go tell the chef to cook the same stuff he always does." With that said Bob got up and went over to the door and disappeared into the room.

Chase was shone the way to where the rockship sat. He thought back to when he was getting ready to go on his mission and how if hadn't gone he would have never meet the three brothers and would have never have come to planet Doo-Doo."You're going to have to have to leave now," said Bob, who was talking to someone on the phone."What....like right now.....right at this very moment."

"Yes."

"What about saying Goodbye to everyone."

"Goodbye."

"Goodbye, "came a voice from the shadows."Goodbye, Rob," said Chase sadly." Where is Dob?"

"Here," he was walking through the weird space door."Group hug,"yelled Chase. The hug lasted around a minute and was broken up by a voice, "Portal open, Portal open," the voice repeated this a thousand times." See you again, hopefully," said the now crying Chase. "Goodbye," said the three brothers at the same time."Goodbye.Rob, Bob and Dob."

Chase woke up in his spaceship not heading towards a planet, no flashing red lights, just him heading for planet Uranus. He thought to himself for a moment and said" That was the best dream EVER!!" At that moment a rocket went by the front window. It looked a lot like the he had seen in his dream, and it had a painting of a flower on the back. From that day on Chase questioned what he had seen and what he had dreamed.

