

An Adventure in Space

By Jessica Haffer



A burst of fear quickly went through me while a flow of excitement filled my thoughts. The door of the aircraft slammed shut with a loud BANG followed by locks and bolts being slid into position. I plopped down into my seat, the weight of the space suit immense. A woman in a navy blue running suit walked up to me. She reached for a large belt and lock to the left of me. Because of my helmet,

I couldn't see what she was doing but I could feel her hands work quickly. She entered the last buckle into the fastener with a swift motion.

"Good luck," she said with a warm smile.

I smiled back and nodded.

I almost missed the take-off because I was imagining my upcoming journey. All of a sudden a change in elevation occurred and butterflies filled my stomach. A short rumble, and the rocket lifted itself off the ground. My heart was pounding so hard against my chest that I could feel the thumping in my knees. I heard people around me saying something but their voices were drowned out with the sound of the engine. I closed my eyes and remembered what the commander had told me about a week ago.

"Our last rocket we sent into space about a month ago left with a team of six, and came back with a team of four. The two that didn't come home are stranded on Mars under some rocks. I'm sending you, Becky and a crew I have put together to go find them if alive."

"Yes...yes sir," she said astonished.

My mind was going over our conversation over and over again until bright colors flew through the shuttle. I looked out the front window and was almost blinded by the sight of the planet before me. The shuttle slowly went down and landed on something on Mars.

"Come on people. let's move," said a commander.

One by one the crew and I filed out.

"You go this way O'Connor," the commander said to me.

"I found them!" I yelled loudly. The two people were injured but O.K. When I returned I got a medal of honor. My life will never be the same.