Uranus

by

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A SPACEMAN (30) in a spacesuit sits in a leather chair. Inbetween his legs is a joystick which is held in a constant position with one hand. Containing him is a small spherical pod, the front of which is made completely of a glass-like material. Electronic writing is displayed on the glass, along with a radar, showing a planet. In front of the ship is a blue planet getting closer and closer. Stars are all around. A slightly distorted voice is heard from a speaker.

BASE COMMANDER

Ok Flicking, you should be ok with entering the planet now...

ASTRONAUT

Can you stop calling me Flicking?

COMMANDER

But that's your nickname we all decided upon...

ASTRONAUT

Because it rhymes with 'chicken'?

COMMANDER

No, no, no. No. No. Not at all.

ASTRONAUT

Listen there's nothing chicken about not wanting to be sent to Uranus, when the last three missions have been complete jokes. What's going to happen this time? I'm going to see lots of anuses?

A fart noise is heard.

ASTRONAUT

What the HELL was that?

COMMANDER

Baaahaaha! It was a fart effect played from the base! We've been looking forward to playing that!

ASTRONAUT

I'm going back. I'm going back right now!

The ASTRONAUT forces the joystick to the left, turning him away from the planet.

COMMANDER

Ok, ok! I apologise. It won't happen again. I promise.

ASTRONAUT

Ok. I'm sorry.

The ASTRONAUT turns back.

COMMANDER

Good man. The mission will be really great.

The writing on the glass flickers on and off. The radar shows two planets overlapping.

ASTRONAUT

Hm. Thats funny...

COMMANDER

What?

ASTRONAUT

The electronics seem to be malfunctioning...

COMMANDER

Oh no...

ASTRONAUT

The radar shows two planets overlapping... It looks like a bum...

The COMMANDER tries to control his laughter.

COMMANDER

Just a coincidence. The team back home are sorting the problem out right now.

New writing shows on the glass in massive fonts. It says 'POWNED'.

ASTRONAUT

Now that's the last straw! I'm going back, I mean it this time!

COMMANDER

No, please!!

The planet is now very close.

COMMANDER

Look, you're nearly there now. I know you want to know what's in Uranus just as much as me.

The ASTRONAUT enters the planet. The sky is blue, as is the flat ground which the MAN and his craft lands on. The same kind of scenery is all around. A lone, blue, one foot tall and sad looking ALIEN is seen a few metres away. He carries a sign saying 'Stop the jokes'. He walks to and taps on the glass and mouths the words 'I want to speak with you.'

ASTRONAUT

Oh my word. I think I've spotted an alien...

COMMANDER

It's all being recorded...

ASTRONAUT

He looks so lost... So distant...

COMMANDER

I'll turn on the amplifiers so you can hear him. Don't leave the ship. It's too dangerous.

The ASTRONAUT gives a thumbs up to the ALIEN as the ADVENTURER talks to him.

ASTRONAUT

You can speak, I can hear you!

ALIEN

Great. I've been waiting a long time for this moment.

ASTRONAUT

Me too!

ALIEN

Uranus aliens are dignified and honourable folk, and we simply cannot take another of your scatological gags that you seem to be so fond of.

ASTRONAUT

How in the world do you know about them?

ALIEN

That's not important.

ASTRONAUT

It is...

ALIEN

Look, I want you to turn back right now, and spread the word. I don't want to hear from your kind ever again. Understand?

ASTRONAUT

Please give me at least some of your technologies...

ALIEN

How would you like it if us Uranuses had a word pronounced 'Earth' and it meant bumhole?

ASTRONAUT

Not very much...

ALIEN

Exactly. Not very much. Now go back home and spread the word, or I'll invade you.

ASTRONAUT

Errr...

ALIEN

Let me in your spaceship. I'LL spread the word for you.

COMMANDER

On second thoughts, let him in and bring him home. We can't miss this opportunity.

The ASTRONAUT taps on the glass, slowly opening it up like a convertible car. The ALIEN jumps on the ASTRONAUT'S lap. The glass then gets closed.

ALIEN

This could be a fun trip...

The ALIEN farts.

ALIEN

Haha.

ASTRONAUT

I'm going to ignore that.

The spaceship slowly leaves Uranus. It's now in space and facing the distant sun. The ALIEN farts again.

ASTRONAUT

Can you please explain what your goals are to me? I thought you hated farts?

ALIEN

I hate other people's farts.

ASTRONAUT

So you're going to Earth to end the so called myths about your planet and then you're going to fart all the time?

ALIEN

No, actually I'm going to enslave everyone...

ASTRONAUT

What?

ALIEN

Joking! I have no plans!

The ALIEN farts again.

ASTRONAUT

But you said you wanted to save your planet's reputation...

ALIEN

Yes, I changed my mind! I'm mentally ill!

The ALIEN does a brief, funny dance.

ASTRONAUT

Oh God.

COMMANDER

Does the alien have a name?

ALIEN

James!

COMMANDER

My word. You might want to get that changed...

ASTRONAUT

Right. You're NOT like HIM.

ALIEN

Who?

ASTRONAUT

Never mind.