

★ TRAITORS IN SPACE ★



BUSTER BOOKS



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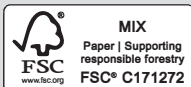
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WAKE UP!

Your spaceship's emergency alarm is sounding.

Something has gone badly wrong.

Now YOU must work out what's happened and how to survive.

Start on **page 6** and follow the instructions at the bottom of each page. You'll soon have to make decisions that will lead you to doom or safety. They might also lead you to some fiendish puzzles.

If you find yourself meeting a disastrous end, don't worry. Just go back to the start and try again.

Good luck. And be careful who you trust ...

THE CREW



?

YOU, a brilliant young geologist on your first ever mission. You'd never have joined if you'd known what was about to happen ...



Maya
Captain



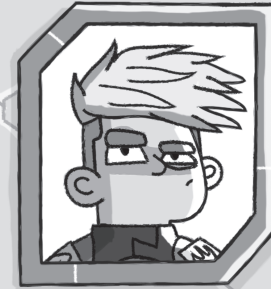
Kenji
Medical officer



Claudia
Chief engineer



Jai
Engineering technician



Mike
Computer engineer



Liam
Executive officer

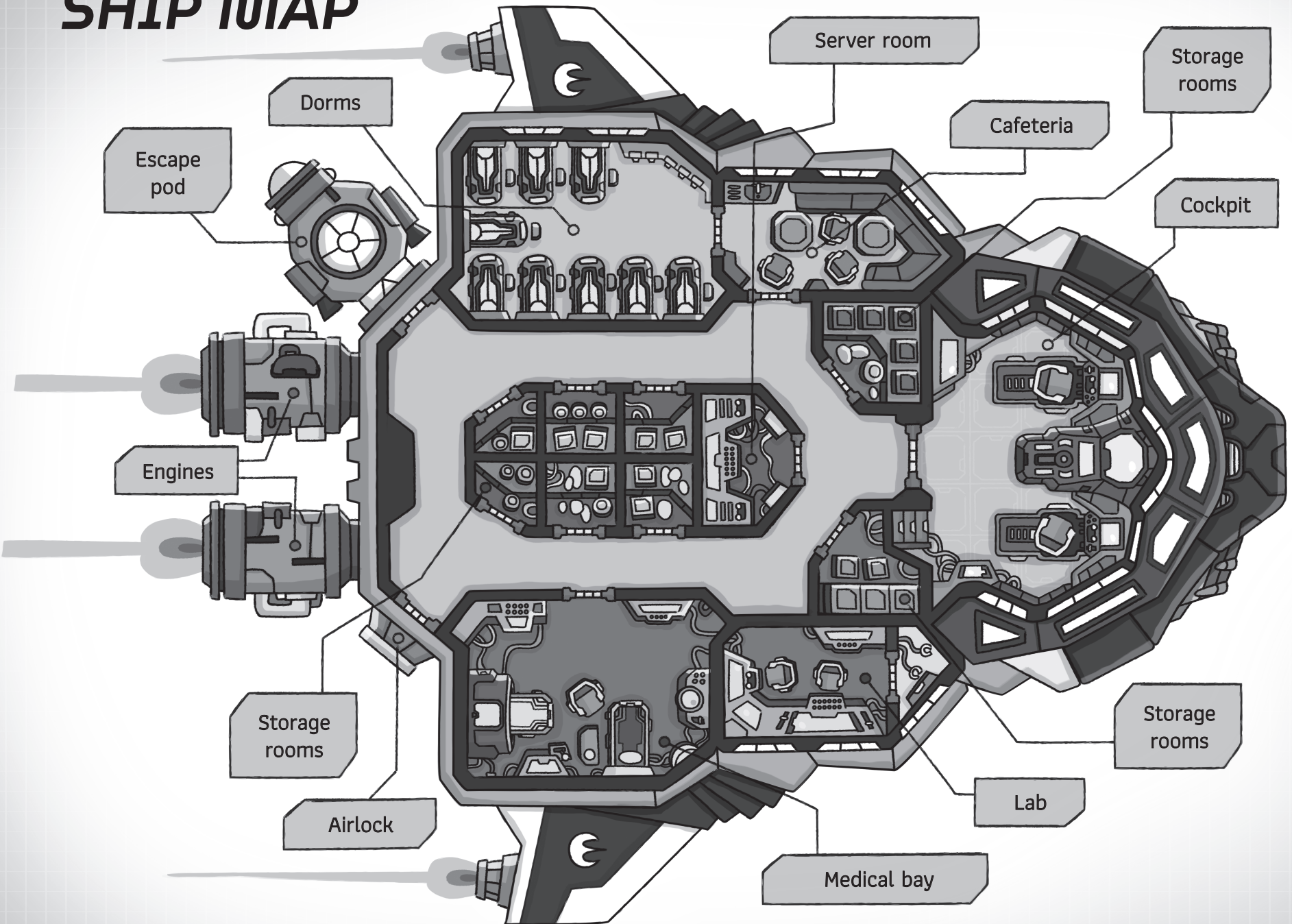


Nate
Pilot



Katerina
Chief geologist

SHIP MAP





PROLOGUE

The door to your ship closes and you take your helmet off. Everything in your mission has gone according to plan.

You blasted off from Earth, went into cryosleep, landed on the rocky moon Titan, and helped the crew collect samples from its surface. Now all that's left to do is to go back into cryo for the journey home.

Katerina and Jai are carrying metal boxes full of rocks into the storage rooms.

"Need any help?" you ask.

Jai points to a box at the side of the corridor.

"Take that if you can," she says. "Then I can get on with the final engine checks."

You grab the handles of the box and hoist it up. You can hear the rocks rattling around inside.

"Careful," says Katerina. "I went deep into a cave for those and I don't think we've had any like them before."

You follow her to the storage room next to the cafeteria, walking slowly to keep the precious rocks safe.

Claudia steps out of the server room as you pass it.

"You might need to speed up," she says. "Nate wants to take off while the conditions are good."

You enter the storage room and place the box gently on the floor.

Continue to the next page.



Out in the corridor, you see Kenji coming from the direction of the medical bay.

"Get plenty to drink," he says. "You'll be in cryo for a long time."

"Yes, doc," you say.

You follow him into the cafeteria. It's a large, bright room with two circular tables, a freezer and a microwave.

You step over to the drinks machine, place a paper cup under it and press the button for 'rocket fuel', the nickname you all give to the space agency's protein drink.

The cup fills with bright orange liquid and you take a sip. You wince at the bitter chemical taste beneath the fruity tang.

"Take off in ten," says Nate over the cafeteria speaker.

You dash to the nearest table and take a seat next to Liam and Mike. The captain, Maya, takes the one next to you and looks down at her scanner.

You hear the engines firing up and feel the rumble in the floor as the ship rises up. In just a few minutes, you'll climb into your pod and sleep until you're back on Earth.

Your first mission is over and it's been a great success.

Continue to the next page.





START

You shield your eyes against the bright lights. You sense movement and hear the distant hum of the ship's engines.

You're still moving.

You wonder if something has gone wrong. A shrill, high bleep confirms that it has.

The emergency alarm.

You climb out of your pod and lean against it, waiting for your strength to return. The metal floor is cold beneath your bare feet and your legs are quaking.

Kenji and Claudia are already up and dressed in their neat blue uniforms. Kenji presses a button on the wall, and the door to the cafeteria swishes open.

You pull your uniform on and follow them in. Mike is sitting at one of the tables, hunched over his laptop.

"Code 141," he says. "Alien life form detected on the ship."

Maya is pacing around and holding her scanner in the air.

"We're the only life forms on the ship according to this," she says. "The computer must be wrong."

You hope so. Then you can all go back to sleep. But what if the computer is right? What if something followed you on to the ship on Titan? What if it's lurking in one of the dark corridors, waiting to leap on you?

Continue to the next page.



You tell yourself to stop worrying. There have been over 30 trips from Earth to Titan. None of them ever found signs of life.

Well, *maybe one* ...

Just a rumour, really. Mission 13, eight years ago. The ship exploded, supposedly due to the engine overheating. But you read a different story.

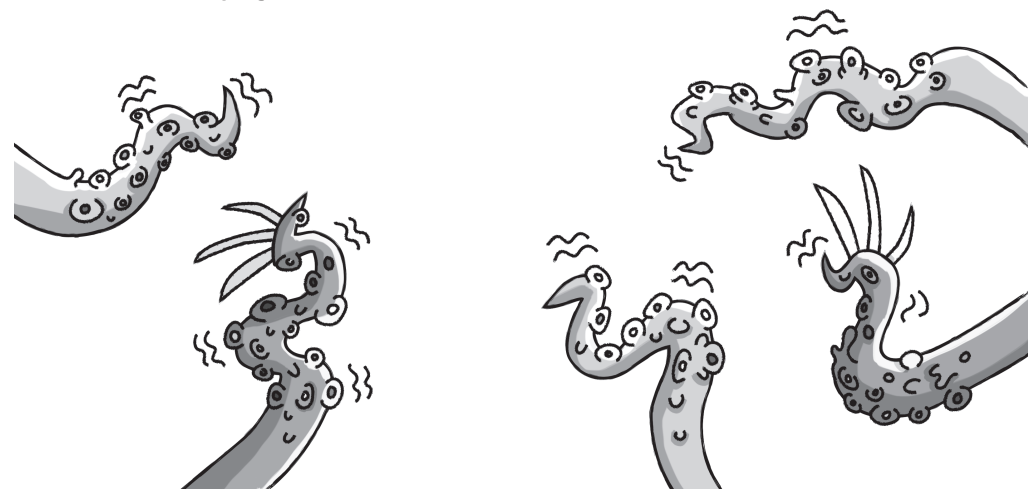
According to a classified report, the captain believed that an alien life form was taking over his crew one by one. He called anyone infected a 'traitor' and ended up pressing the ship's self-destruct button to stop the alien from reaching Earth.

People believe all sorts of things in space, of course. Interplanetary travel can mess with your mind.

But it would explain so much. The computer had said there was an alien life form on the ship, but Maya's scanner had said there were only the nine crewmembers on board.

What if the alien life form IS one of the crew?

Turn to page 17.



You follow Claudia from a distance. The strip lights flicker overhead as you tread on the metal floor.

She glances back and you duck into the doorway of a storage room. You think you got away without being seen.

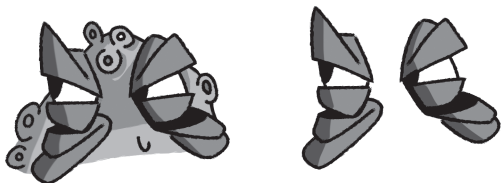
Claudia seems to have a more upright posture than before. You really feel like you're on to something.

She turns into the small bay that houses the ship's server. You wonder if it's safe to follow her in. If she's really been taken over, you don't want to get stuck in a confined space with her. Perhaps it would be better to go back to the cafeteria and talk to the others.

But letting her out of your sight could be just as dangerous. According to the reports about Mission 13, traitors passed on the infection by pressing their palms on to the foreheads of their victims. It spread around the crew until the captain was the only human left, leaving him with no choice but to destroy the ship.

If you want to enter the server room, turn to page 23.

If you want to return to the others, turn to page 18.



“Let me go!” you cry. “You’ve been taken over! You’re a traitor!”

Kenji stares at you. You feel his grip loosening.

“What did you just call me?” he asks.

“A traitor,” you say. “That’s what the captain of Mission 13 called infected crewmembers.”

Kenji lets go and takes a step back. You rub your neck.

“I know all about Mission 13,” he says. “I thought YOU’D been taken over.”

You want to believe him, but it’s hard to know if you should. The alien could be hiding inside him, copying everything you say.

“If you knew about it, why aren’t you scared?” you ask. “You wandered off casually on your own.”

Kenji holds up his hand and you see it’s trembling.

“I am scared,” he says. “See? And I’m sure you are, too. But we can’t show it. Whoever has been taken over mustn’t know we’re on to them.”

If you believe Kenji, turn to page 15.

If you’re still not convinced, turn to page 44.

