



BY

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INTRODUCTION

The Nigerian National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA) in collaboration with the Russian Federal Space Agency (RFSA a.k.a ROSCOSMOS) and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) embark on a mission to make planet Mars habitable for earth life. On getting to Mars, they encounter National Aeronautic & Space Administration (NASA) crew and experience an adventure, which will give birth to the future of Mars inhabitants.

This book is written in a script format. It uses similar elements with a screenplay/stage play script. However, it is a science fiction, Fantasy and adventure. This method is used so that a clear picture of events can be seen in the mind of the reader.

TEASER

YEAR 2140

{EXT. KADUNA, NIGERIA - DAY}

There are eight large spacecraft having Russian and Indian engineers working on them. Armed Nigerian soldiers surround the area. The eight spacecraft have the following serials on them; the first – NG115M, second – NG216M, third – NG341M, fourth – NG419M, fifth – NG568M, sixth – NG629M, seventh – NG703M and eighth – NG894M respectively.

Broadcasters are standing around a man outside the protected area with their recording equipment.

FEMALE REPORTER

(to the man in front of the broadcasters)

MR IBRAHIM, you are the one supervising this programme, can you tell us what is going on here?

MR IBRAHIM

Yes, thank you. Well, what you are seeing here today is the first of its kind in the world. The National Space Research and Development Agency in collaboration with the Russian Federal Space Agency and Indian Space Research Organisation is on a mission to making planet Mars habitable to humans. Russian and Indian engineers build these crafts here in Kaduna, however, the whole programme is funded by the Nigerian Government. These crafts will be able to reach Mars in just ninety days.

MALE REPORTER

(to Mr Ibrahim)

Sir, may we know why the Nigerian government is so much interested in this programme?

MR IBRAHIM

Well, it's something we all want to experience in the universe. However, Nigerians will not be on board alone, one Russian and one Indian astronaut will also be on board as part of our agreement for this programme, and the rest of others will be Nigerians. Our astronauts will head the mission. In other words, Nigerians, Russians and Indians will be the next countries to journey to Mars after the United States. However, this is Nigerian research scientists' mission, which is why the federal government is so interested...

FEMALE REPORTER

(to Mr Ibrahim)

Sir, why eight spacecraft, wouldn't one be enough?

MR IBRAHIM

Yes, one will not be enough. According to the National Space Research and Development Agency, we need some large equipment that will handle sophisticated tasks on Mars.

{ABUJA CITY}

Armed droids in the Nigerian army uniform surround the city. Mobile police vehicles are patrolling around the city filled with busy individuals.

{INT. ASO ROCK}

SIX OFFICIAL MINISTERS are sitting around a table with the NIGERIAN PRESIDENT. They sit and face a wide flat-screen television.

The television is displaying the RUSSIAN PRESIDENT and INDIAN PRESIDENT; both at different locations but are projected on the screen divided by a black line.

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT

(over the television)

Mr President, we Russians wish you great success on your journey to Mars.

INDIAN PRESIDENT

(over the television)

You have done something great for accepting to include one of our scientists on your mission to Mars.

NIGERIAN PRESIDENT

(to the men on the television)

I'm grateful to you for helping us build those crafts. This mission is so important to my country and I must make sure your scientists that will be on board will be well taken care of.

END OF TEASER

MARS 2140

{EXT. SPACE - DAY}

Eight spacecraft are flying toward planet Mars in few distances away from each other.

{INT. FLIGHT DECK, NG115M}

AARAV, MARK and BOLAJI are viewing planet Mars through the windscreen of the spacecraft.

AARAV

(sings)

Hallelujah, he's the Lord, all the people praise his name, Hallelujah praise the Lord!

BOLAJI

(to Aarav)

Christian?

AARAV

(stops singing)

Nope, I just like the tune, Dr Boji.

BOLAJI

Bolaji!

AARAV

Oh, Bolaji

AARAV

You know, we Indians love music.

MARK

Christian music perhaps

(Bolaji giggles)

AARAV

No, Mark.

BOLAJI

Hindi?

AARAV

Jesus Christ!

MARK

He's a Christian

BOLAJI

I knew it.

AARAV

Hey! You can't prove that.

MARK

Alright, what's the meaning of your name; Aarav?