

WEEK12 Part 2: Space Station

The topic of space stations is of great interest to me, as a fan of the futuristic sci-fi genre myself, I have seen many space stations designed by game authors, most of which operate as human alliances (a union of all humans on Earth, regardless of race or gender). But it has to be said that most of these united forms of space stations are designed with the backdrop of a great threat to humanity. For example, the Human Alliance in Halo, the Empire in Warhammer, etc. But we can see that in this context people's differences are not embraced, but erased, and people no longer have a sense of belonging, but are simply used as individuals as people. I can understand why this happens, in a crisis of racial survival, humans are united and this requires them to be able to ignore differences, so it is only natural that differences are erased. But I don't really like this feeling. I saw a Japanese film called HARMONY before, in which all people have a controller implanted in their heads, a controller that allows people to live happier lives, but under such control, people lose everything and eventually their spiritual differences are lost, everyone is unified, is this happiness still happiness? So in my novel, the differences must be there, but the conflicts that the differences induce are what we need to work out.

This novel is set in the worldview of Halo and offers a different way of thinking.

In the year 2175, the UNSC launches a new type of space station into other galaxies via leapfrog technology, a space station designed to explore the colonisable planets in this unexplored galaxy. Unlike other exploration-based space stations before it, this one was transformed for the great goal of studying the human community, a space station that embraced difference rather than erasing it.

The space station is technologically state-of-the-art and designed with accessibility in mind. Every aspect of the station, from the living quarters to the control room, has been designed to be fully accessible to people of all physical abilities. Ramps replace stairs, adjustable work surfaces, and voice control devices, while intelligent AI assists people with the different needs of the controls.

The crew selection process is also different from past space missions. Instead of prioritising physical ability, the selection committee looks for a variety of skills, experience and perspectives. Crew members are all accomplished in a variety of fields, while people with disabilities in certain fields are encouraged to become active participants. The committee wanted a crew that reflected the diversity of humanity, not just a narrow range of physical abilities

The crew that eventually made it onto the station consisted of people from all over the world, with a wide range of physical abilities, backgrounds and experiences. Some had visible disabilities, some had invisible disabilities, and others had experience working with people with and without disabilities. Everyone has undergone rigorous training to ensure they are capable of performing their duties in space.

The technology on board the space station allows everyone to work together seamlessly. There are assistive technologies that help disabled crew members to perform tasks that would otherwise be impossible. Non-disabled crew members are trained to work with disabled crew members, learning from their expertise and experience.

Communication is also highly valued by the crew, everyone is encouraged to speak up and share their opinions and there are regular meetings to ensure everyone's needs are met. The crew also spend time socialising, getting to know each other and building a sense of community, which is essential for such a long mission.

These special experiences are all different from previous experiences on a space station where they are not simply working, they are all valued for their unique perspectives and abilities, rather than being expected to fit a narrow definition of what it means to be an astronaut. This will greatly enhance their sense of belonging.

In this atmosphere, they are well on their way to discovering colonisable planets and establishing new human metropolises, they are accomplishing incredible things in space, but they are also showing the world what can happen when differences are accepted rather than erased, which paves the way for the great goal of a community of human destiny to be realised in the future.