**Josh Halerin**

**Protagonist**

**2020**

**Description**

* Around 100 years of age, which in our timeline makes his still relatively young.
* Father is Captain of the Deidre.
* Educated on ship and home world by family.
* Did mandatory Military service on Sartagius – Became a space pilot and xeno-biologist (Something he does not really advertise)
* Has been the companies main Exploration team leader for 35 years now, member of the team for 60 years.
* Is of course ship rated on all positions. (Captain’s son you know.)
* A few previous relationships, 5 to 10 year kind, no kids, nothing serious yet. (With extended lifetimes these things take on different roles.)
* He is looking to get out of the ship life for a while, maybe a wife and some kids at this point in his life.
* Is attracted to Wendy. (Large age gaps don’t matter so much when everybody stays fairly young for a long time. Average human lifespan up to 900 years, young and child bearing years, up to 600 years (for females).

History

In his voice

I was born in a small cabin in the woods, okay, that’s not true at all. I was born on the Deidre in route to a new colony, my mother was one of the colonists. My parents got together during the prestaging of the mission and I was the result. It was decided that a new colony planet, especially ‘New Delhan’, was no place to raise an infant, so I became a ship baby. That meaning that the whole crew and later the planet based part of the colony all took over the raising of an incorrigible young boy.

Most of my younger life was spent on Sartagius, I didn’t really return to ship board life until I could pass my crew physical, which I did at 15 standard years. (Everything is counted in standard Earth years or the galaxy would be a mess.) I started as a cargo monkey, moved up to cook/housekeeping, engineering, and finally to bridge sitter. (A Bridge sitter watches consoles but has no real authority.)

When I turned 25 years old I was left on Sartagius to serve my mandatory 5 years of service. I improved my piloting (become officially licensed instead of just ship licensed) and learned Xeno Biology – also picked up the standard acumen with hand weapons and am a licensed carrier anywhere in the Association of Worlds.

As for my personality, I guess I’m what my dad calls a smart-ass, never took anything super serious, and still don’t in a way, but the events on Devante III changed my way of thinking a little bit. I may not take myself anymore seriously but I definitely take the well being of those I command or work with a great deal more seriously. I lost three people, I won’t make that mistake again. We all say that right, but with the extended life spans, we all know that we’ll make the same mistakes over and over.