

Space Queer Station
by Charlotte O. Thomas,
Last updated: December 5th, 2023

Chapter I.

Part 1

ring ring ring

Yul awoke at the sound of her old school vintage alarm clock, today was the day, she graduated from the Federation Space Science Academy yesterday she was officially Dr Yul Klid, PhD in Astrophotometry.

Officially ? Well no she was Dr *deadname* Klid, PhD in Astrophotometry, and it was exhausting, she didn't looked like a girl so she never outed herself to the government and changed name. She was worried, why? No idea bigots were a thing of the past and the Federation had all the necessary medical technology to transition she just... never got the guts to do it and now she will be trapped on a space station more than ten thousands light years from home and will not be able to transition...

Anyway, she had a transport to catch, she listed her checklist for the last time in their head. Her clothes? Check. Her cute clothes she never worned? Check. Diploma? Check. Health supply? Check. Everything is okay and she's ready to take her station at the **cough** the *Deep Space Station for Scientific and Engineering research Alpha-Kappa-Two* it's really a mouthfull.

One suitcase, that's all, all her memories, stories, personnal belongings, clothes, for a *lifetime* was in *one* suitcase. She would like to say goodbye to someone but... no one was left on earth. She had no friends from the Academy, her parents died more than a decade ago, no family, no one. She could leave Earth and no one would miss her there. She hoped the station was better...

* * *

She had her own shuttle, a gift from the government for young graduates who don't have families anymore. She had the pleasure of naming it and she chose the *USS Ada Lovelace* after an old earth woman who was considered to be the first programmer more than three hundred years ago. It was a class-5 private shuttle but attached to the Federation Fleet, and thus have an official number, *USS Ada Lovelace, FSN-657κ*. It was capable of achieving speed up to 50 light years an hour at cruising speed, the transit will be a bit over 8 days.

Vessels of the Federation uses a kind of FTL travel called "Space Distorsion Transportation" she was not an engineering but she roughly remembered it warped space in front of the vessel and generates a pathway out of micro-worm hole to slip through space thousands the time of speed of light without being subject to relativistic effects.

Being alone in the shuttle meant all role but piloting was up to her, the computer will pilot, she was a good but fairly inatentive pilot, thank to ADHD. she began the pre-launch sequence start and contacted Paris air control, who was the station for this side of earth. She was in vacation in a family home a few dozens kilometers south of Bordeaux.

- Lieutenant Klid to Paris Air Control, this is the Lovelace FSN-657 κ my flight path was uploaded to your server this morning requesting permission to lift off in a path to low earth orbit
- Paris Air Control, request granted, flight vector uploaded to your flight computer, please keep following it until you achieve low earth orbit and then switch to the Earth Space Control frequency.
- Lovelace here, copy that, thanks.

Yule then pressed the button to launch the vessel, she felt the launch thrusters gently lift the vessel off the floor and gently follow the flight vector to low earth orbit. The flight shield automatically raised and the vessel weapons activated on standby. The flight plan had portion outside Federation space. So the computer activated automatically the low alert.

* * *

The flight was pleasing until achieving low earth orbit, it was a bit over an hour, and she could see Earth becoming smaller and smaller, she always marveled at the view, nothing could be so magical. When low earth orbit was achieved a *bip* could be heard inside the cockpit.

- USS Ada Lovelace FSN-657 κ to Earth Space Traffic, in low earth orbit 500 km above Earth, request permission to switch to sublight, leave the planetary system and activate SDT drive.
- Earth Space Traffic, you can leave the system on the σ route and activate SDT drive once you've cleared the orbit of the moon, EST out.
- Copy that, see you on the other side.

Yule pushed the coordinates for the σ route and activated sublight. A few minutes later she passed the orbit of the moon and said "Activate SDT, authorization Yule-Kappa-Delta-673". She felt the reaction of the shuttle as the space was constricted, mangled and distorted and the shuttle slipped on the first wormhole. The exterior was familiar, everything was as seen through a fish eye lens.

Chapter II.

Part 2

The *Ada Lovelace* dropped out of FTL in the Layoidora system, where the *Deep Space Station for Scientific and Engineering research Alpha-Kappa-Two* is located, at the edge of Federation Space, doing front of the line new research about science. Yule was really excited to be there, after 8 days of boring travel she was on the verge of arriving at her new assignment, Junior Researcher in Astrophotometry.

- This is Lieutenant Klid, Aboard the *USS Ada Lovelace FSN-657κ*, a new arrival in the Astrophotometry laboratory hailing the *Deep Station Alpha-Kappa-Two* to request docking clearance.
- Lieutenant! You can dock your shuttle in the staff bay. Activating tractor beam.
- Copy that.

* * *

A few minutes later after she docked her precious shuttle in the staff bay she was in the main lobby of the station. It was *not* like she thought it would be, she was awaiting a white futuristic immaculate station and not this homey station. The main room was maybe a hundred metre wide circle with some cafés, sofas, chairs, observations decks, all with colours, and marked with utilisation over time, mood lighting over some reading areas with plants were here and there, and finally, *Flags*, just *Flags*.

There were flags, *everywhere*, she spotted the trans flag at least thrice, the non binary flag, the intersex flag, the pansexual flag, polyamorous flag, etc. A lot of flags, this station was.... Open-minded.

Yule did not hear someone walking up to her.

- Hey lieutenant!

Yule was surprised and quickly threw a salute to the officer which seems to be the captain of the station

- No need this much formality lieutenant, I'm Captain Flaik but you can call me

Aria, of the station, on behalf of the crew welcome to *SQS*. The *Space Queer Station*. As you've seen we're very... queer here and you're welcome to explore your gender and sexuality here, we have doctors on board and people to talk about. Your section is special, you will see!

- Okay, captain, Aria, it's not what I imagined but this is **fantastic** I think I'll be able to transition here, she finished mumbling in her own voice.