

# Tales from Solaris: Anorthite

Anorthite was flying around the Wastelands one afternoon, when he suddenly noticed an asteroid that wasn't marked on his map. Curious, he landed on its rocky surface to explore. After walking for a few kilometres, he finally spotted a small, strange building in the distance.

As Anorthite approached, the smooth doors inched open, sensing his arrival. Immediately, chaos reigned! A drone emerged, pelting sharp space pebbles and broken pieces of rusty metal at Anorthite. The explorer quickly dove behind a large boulder, readying his trusty lasso. With a flick of his feelers, Anorthite looped the drone soundly, preventing its limbs from reaching for its pebble ammunition. Gingerly coming closer, Anorthite could hear the drone repeating something to itself: "Protect. Protect. Protect."

Something wasn't right!

"I'm not here to hurt you," Anorthite said, coming in front of the drone. "What or who are you trying to protect?"

The drone's gaze darted past Anorthite, towards the small metal cabin. Now that Anorthite wasn't hiding from falling debris, he could see other rusted, broken drones inside, that were of the same make and model of the drone that attacked him.

"Is this... your family?"





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The drone gave a sad beep of affirmation. As Anorthite looked at the deactivated drones, he realised that they had been exploration robots, sent on a mission to understand more about the Wastelands. However, they had gone so deep into the Wastelands that they had lost contact with the Solaris space station, and had had to fend for themselves. Looking at the lassoed robot and its silent siblings, Anorthite said, “Okay, I have an idea! But first, you have to promise—NO MORE THROWING PEBBLES.”

And so Anorthite loaded up all the robots into his spacecraft and flew home to Solaris. There, he saw to it that all the robots were repaired, recharged, and updated to the latest software. With his newly operating robot exploration team, Anorthite discovered one of the greatest treasures of all: finding new friends to share his adventures with.

