

Version 0.1

# COGITTO



An ENDEAVOUR Adventure by Wesley Roberts



## Acknowledgements

Much of the look and feel of ENDEAVOUR is derived from its art, all of which was created by **sveklod**. This art was assembled from multiple collections available online at shutterstock.com and then modified by Michael Purcell.

## Playtesters

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## Design Tools

The following tools were used to create this document:

- LuaLaTeX: Typesetting and layout.
- TikZ: Diagrams and art.

The fonts used are **TT Mussels Bold Italic**, Futura, and TeX Gyre Schola (cf. Century Schoolbook).

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## Cogito

**Captain's Log:** *Paradoxically, the oldest vessels that a spacefaring civilization sends into the void tend to be those that remain closest to their planets of origin. Indeed, despite having begun its journey nearly four hundred years ago, Voyager 1 — humanity's first interstellar probe — has only reached as far as the icy Oort cloud that orbits Sol.*

*Astronomers have recently identified debris that threatens the ancient probe. As such, we have been assigned the task of recovering Voyager 1 so that it might be preserved in perpetuity. Accompanying us on our mission is Excellency Tamimi — the Terran Coordinator for Culture — who will be documenting our recovery efforts.*

## Arrival

At first glance, your viewport shows that you have arrived in a dense starfield, but soon you sense the chaotic dance of these innumerable jewels against the blackness of space.

The proximity alarm sounds, warning you of a spacecraft nearby. It's a centuries-old Terran ark, equipped with neither weapons nor a faster-than-light drive.

**Oisín, captain of the Cogito** contacts you using an archaic communications device. He claims salvage rights to the Voyager 1, which has crashed into a nearby asteroid.

## Close Encounter

- *Will you try to convince Oisín to work together and cooperate with you to investigate the crash site?*  
**Leadership & Negotiation** vs. **Oisín.**
- *Or will you try to establish a stronger claim by sending a team to the crash site before Oisín can do the same?*  
**Strategy & Tactics** vs. **Oisín.**

## Trials

### Journalistic Ethics

Excellency Tamimi sees the presence of the Cogito as an opportunity to add a layer of depth to the story they are telling about the recovery of Voyager 1. *Can you convince them to find a nonexploitative way to tell their story?*

**Leadership & Negotiation** vs. **Tamimi**.

### The Dig

Voyager 1 lies partially entombed under a large pile of rubble. It cannot be lifted remotely. *Can you excavate the crash site so that Voyager 1 can be safely recovered?*

**Operations & Engineering** vs. **The Crash Site (2d10)**.

During the operation, Oisín suffers a broken leg when he loses control of the rover that he is operating.

### Persona Non Grata

While treating Oisín's injury, you discover that his genome is modified in ways that would preclude him from being granted citizenship anywhere within the Interstellar Confederation.

*Can you discover a way to neutralize Oisín's dangerous genetic modifications?* **Science & Medicine** vs. **Oisín**.

## Crisis

Oisín asks that the crew of the Cogito be placed back into stasis and allowed to continue their journey alongside Voyager 1. Tamimi asks instead that that Voyager 1 be returned to Earth and the crew of the Cogito be "rescued".

- *Will you side with Oisín?* **Threats:** Oisín suffers an adverse reaction to being put back in stasis. Tamimi's broadcast contains evidence of Oisín's abnormal genetics.
- *Or will you side with Tamimi?* **Threats:** Oisín destroys Voyager 1 in protest. The fate of the Cogito becomes the focal point of a populist movement on Earth.

## Characters

- **Tamimi (d12):** Terran Coordinator for Culture (d10), Powerful (d10), Persuasive (d10), Loyal (d8).

- **Oisín (d10):** Captain of the Cogito (d10), Determined (d10), Indefatigable (d10), Cunning (d8).

## Places

- **The Oort Cloud:** A sparse cloud of rocks and ice that orbit far from Sol in a spherical shell around the system.

- **The Cogito:** An antiquated ark. Designed to support twenty-seven people, the Cogito is approximately two hundred years old and bears numerous battle scars. On board are Oisín's wife, Niamh, and their three children.

- **The Crash Site:** A crater on a large asteroid in which Voyager 1 lies partially entombed by a large pile of rubble.

## Mysteries

- **The crew of the Cogito are political refugees.**

They fled from Earth to escape persecution that they suffered because of their genetic modifications. Oisín is curious whether the modern Terran Civilization is more open-minded than it was in his time. *How have the crew of the Cogito been modified? Why were those changes made?*

- **The Cogito followed Voyager 1 to this place.**

Oisín believed anyone who could recover Voyager 1 would welcome his crew into their civilization. The Interstellar Confederation, however, has outlawed the kinds of modifications that affect the crew of the Cogito. They will be unwelcome in any of its member civilizations. *Why are prohibitions of these genetic modifications so ubiquitous?*