



## The Space Adventure

Professor Astro was the nuttiest Loopie in Acersville. He would talk quickly and scatter his notes everywhere he went. Mango and Sherbet, the twins of Acersville would follow him all over and were always interested in his newest discoveries and latest inventions. This time he had interested them in his space ship. It was very big and could seat seven Loopies.

The Professor let the twins look inside his space craft.

"So when are you going to fly this thing Professor?" asked Mango excitedly.

"Oh yes!" exclaimed Sherbet, "Can we come too?"

"Uh..." Professor Astro looked frightened, "I never actually thought of flying the space ship. I just built it!"

The twins were very disappointed.

"What's the point in building a space ship if you're never going to use it?" asked Mango.

Sherbet looked as if she was going to cry. Astro looked nervous.

"If you can find someone to fly the ship, I will let you take it into outer space." He offered.

Mango and Sherbet jumped and laughed. They were so excited. "Thank you Professor Astro!" They shouted as they ran out of the university. Professor Astro rubbed his head, what had he gotten himself into? He'd never flown anything before, especially not in space!

Later that day Mango and Sherbet returned to the university with Pilot behind them.

"Professor!" they shouted as they ran inside to meet him. "Professor we have found someone to fly your ship!" they panted. "No one can fly better than Pilot can!"

"I suppose you are right." said Professor Astro, "Well Pilot have you ever flown a space ship before?"

"No I haven't, but I can try." he replied.

Professor Astro broke out in a cold sweat.

"What!" he gasped, "And you want to take my precious invention up into the sky, into space!" Astro began hyperventilating.

"Calm down Mr. Professor sir." said Sherbet rubbing his arm with her paw.

"Yeah Professor, give Pilot a chance. You don't get anywhere without a chance!"

Professor Astro sat down and had some tea. He looked up at Pilot, "I'll give you a chance if you promise to bring the twins safely back to Acersville." Pilot and the twins cheered.

"Thank you Professor!" chorused the twins.

"I won't let you down sir." said Pilot.

Astro smiled, "If you are going up in space," he said, "there are a few things you are going to need."

"Like what Professor?" asked Sherbet with wide eyes.

"First you are going to need space suits."

"That's easy!" said Sherbet, "Granny can knit them for us!"

Mango and Pilot smiled this was going to be fun!

"Then you will need space helmets!" continued the Professor.

"No problem!" said Mango, "I'm sure Wusky has a few big Brandy glasses he can lend us from his Beach Café for helmets!"

"Or even better, fish bowls!" said Pilot, grinning.

Mango and Sherbet giggled at the thought of wearing fish bowls on their heads!

"Then the last and most important thing of all." said Astro, very seriously. The Loopies looked intently at the Professor. "You will need four friends to go with you!" Pilot, Mango and Sherbet cheered again, this was going to be more fun than they imagined.

They said hurried goodbyes to the Professor and rushed off to Granny's house to ask her to knit seven space suits as fast as she could. Their next stop was Crumpet's Bakery. They asked if she could pack them a picnic basket to take with them into outer space. Then they stopped at Wusky's Beach Cabana Café to fit Brandy glasses onto their heads to use as space helmets. Mango's 'helmet' got stuck on his head and Sherbet and Pilot had to get it off. What a commotion!

Eventually they had collected all the goodies they needed for their outer space trip. Now all they had to do was decide on who to take with them. They decided to take Granny because she had knitted their space suits and she had never been on a big adventure before. They also chose Crumpet because she had packed them such a lovely 'Outer Space Picnic Lunch'. They decided to invite Wusky along too, because he had lent them Brandy glasses and fish bowls to use as 'Outer Space Helmets'.

"Professor Astro has to come too!" said Sherbet as they walked back to the university to board the space ship with all their friends. "Most definitely!" agreed the other Loopies.

They all boarded the space ship and waited for Professor Astro to begin the count down. The roof of the university opened slowly as the space ship turned and tilted toward the sky.

"Helmets on?" asked the professor, looking around the space ship at all the excited Loopies.

"Buckled in?" The Professor looked around again. Everyone was safely buckled into their seats and they were all grinning with excitement.

"Then away we go!" he said and began the count down.

The Loopies were so excited they began counting with him, "Five, four, three, two, one, BLAST OFF!" they shouted as their space ship shot through the sky and then hurtled through space. The Loopies gazed out of their windows in amazement at all the stars and planets they saw as they flew passed.

"I thought we could have our picnic on the moon." smiled the Professor.

Granny giggled. Crumpet squealed. They were so happy that the twins had chosen them to come along into outer space.

With a gentle bump they landed on the moon. The Loopies hopped out of the space ship in their new space suits onto the surface of the moon. They soon discovered that on the moon, gravity is not very strong! So they used moon rocks to weigh down their picnic blanket and laughed as their picnic basket floated in mid-air. The Loopies had fun for the rest of the day and spent their time picnicking and pretending to fly!

Soon it was time to leave the moon and go back to Earth. So the Loopies tidied the moon while Professor Astro took some pictures and gathered some moon rocks to take back to Acersville.

The Loopies had a great time, I'm glad we could go too, aren't you?

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