One Day I Will Visit Space!

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# Comfort Zone

Alejandro is a boy in the fourth grade with a wild imagination. His friends often tease him because his teacher, Misses Lopez, often must call on him to snap him back to reality.

# Need or desire

One day when Misses Lopez called on Alejandro, he was so deep into his daydream that it took Misses Lopez calling his name three times before she was able to get his attention.

“Wha, what did, huh, did you call me?” said Alejandro.

“Alejandro, were daydreaming again? What was so important that you were not paying attention to the grammar lesson?” asked Misses Lopez.

“Misses Lopez, I was flying in space in my Areodactl spaceship helping Elon Musk remove space debris that was blocking the path of his Space X Dragon!” exclaimed Alejandro.

This caused all the other kids in Alejandro’s class to bust up into laughter. This in turn, caused Alejandro to sink into his chair.

# Unfamiliar situation

When Alejandro got home from school that day, he told his dad about what happened at school that day. Alejandro’s dad said, “If you want to go to space you need to build a spaceship.”

“Build a spaceship? How do I do that?” asked Alejandro. So, Alejandro and his dad went into the back yard to see what they could find to build a spaceship. They found an old trash can that was not being used. Alejandro’s dad suggested that the trash can could be used for the fuselage of the spaceship. Alejandro found some two by four lumber and put it on the top of the trash can. Then, hung some old blankets over them. “These are the wings,” said Alejandro. Alejandro’s dad put and upside-down bowl on top of the whole contraption and said this is the head. Alejandro got out his paint set and painted the fiercest pterodactyl face on to the bowl, that he could draw.

“Thank you for helping me dad!” exclaimed Alejandro. “It’s the best spaceship I’ve ever had!” Alejandro’s dad went inside to prepare dinner. While Alejandro stayed outside and played in his new spaceship.

It did not take long before Alejandro’s spaceship was noticed by an alien flying by Earth on his way to Alpha Centauri. When the alien saw the fierce pterodactyl shaped spaceship, he knew that he had found a kindred spirit and decided to land.

The alien’s spaceship was so quite that when it landed Alejandro did not even notice. As Alejandro worked on his navigation system, he sensed the shadow of another person suddenly behind him. When he looked up Alejandro saw an ant like creature that stood on two legs and was wearing a t-shirt and basketball shorts. Alejandro screamed when he saw the alien. The alien spoke “Hey man, don’t be scared, I saw your spaceship and thought I would stop by and see if you wanted to practice flying and shooting with me?”

# Adaption

When Alejandro decided that the alien just looked scary, he began to calm down. It was only at this point that he noticed the alien’s t-shirt had a picture of a piece of bacon on it and that he was holding a pizza pie in one had and eating a slice of pizza with the other hand. “Sorry Mr. Alien but my spaceship is just pretend, its not real” said Alejandro to the alien. “It looks and feels real to me,” said the alien as he knocked on the wings of Alejandro’s spaceship, “and my friends call me Bacon not Mr. Alien.” Alejandro then explained that, “Well, yes, it is real, but I mean it cannot fly or shoot.”

“I see,” said Bacon, “as he pulled a doohickey out of his pocket and pointed it at Alejandro’s spaceship. Bacon then pushed a few buttons on the doohickey and a light beam was emitted from the doohickey and the pretend spaceship slowly transformed into the Alejandro’s dream spaceship, the Aerodactl. Next Bacon pointed the doohickey at Alejandro and pushed a few more buttons. Suddenly Alejandro was wearing a jumper suit and holding a space helmet in his hands. He also felt a bit taller.

# Get what they wanted

Bacon then looked at Alejandro with the most serious face that an ant faced alien cold muster and said, “Are you ready to battle in space?” Alejandro looked back and said, “I am.”

Bacon and Alejandro both pun on their helmets and climbed aboard their own spaceships. Once inside his spaceship Alejandro could hear Bacon speaking to him over the radio. “Press the launch button to commence count down,” said Bacon to Alejandro.

As the spaceships quietly took off from Alejandro’s backyard a bird in the distance was slightly startled but other than that nobody noticed that they were gone. Alejandro’s stomach started to get a bit of the butterflies as he could see the clouds rushing by him and the ground moving farther and farther away. Alejandro thought to himself ‘this is really happening. I am going into space.’ As they leave Earths’ atmosphere the light of day fades into the darkness of space. Alejandro notices manmade satellites floating around him. He swerves his spaceship several times to avoid running into them. Alejandro must rub his eyes when in the distance he sees what he thinks is a Starman driving a red Tesla automobile. Alejandro speaks up, “Bacon, am I seeing things or is that a Tesla flying though space over there?” Bacon answer, “No kid, your eyes are not playing tricks on you, that is a Tesla.”

Bacon tells Alejandro, “Prepare for battle kid!” as he readies the weapons on his spaceship. Alejandro look around his control panel of his spaceship and sees a button that says ‘arm lasers’. He pushes the button and hears motor noises coming from the wings of his spaceship. Suddenly a red flashing lite on his control panel flashes and a voice from his spaceship announces, “One point for Bacon.” Alejandro grips the controls of his spaceship and begins to strafe and weave his spaceship while Bacon does the same. After battling for an hour Alejandro’s spaceship announces, “Round over! Alejandro wins!” Alejandro cannot believe it and starts screaming for joy. Bacon’s voice comes over the radio and says, “Good job kid, thanks for the battle but I have to be going on to Alpha Centauri now.”

# But pay a price

As Bacon flies away Alejandro realizes that he did not tell his dad that he was going into space. As he floats around the Earth alone in space, he realizes that he is missing his family and that he is hungry. He looks around his control panel and finally notices a button labeled, ‘Return to Home’. When he pushes the button the spaceship pitches towards earth and starts to descend. As the spaceship hits the Earths’ atmosphere it begins to shake violently, and flames start to appear around the windows of the spaceship. Alejandro becomes very scared and holds on tight to the controls. The butterflies return in his stomach as he feels the Earths gravity return and the sensation of falling towards earth. After a couple of minutes, the flames subside but the falling sensation does not.

# Return to comfort

Then Alejandro notices that he can see his house and that his spaceship is slowing down. The spaceship lands as quietly as it took off. When the cockpit of the spaceship opens Alejandro finds that he is sweaty, nervous, and tired and he instantly lays down on the ground and falls asleep.

# Having changed

When Alejandro wakes up an hour later, he looks around and cannot see the Aerodactl but instead see the trash can, bowl and blankets pterodactyl spaceship that he built with his dad. He also notices that he is no longer wearing his space suite. Next to him on the ground is a box of pizza. By now he is super hungry and digs into the pizza right away. Alejandro thinks to himself “Wow, what an amazing dream.” Then a few minutes later his dad comes outside to get him. When Alejandro sees his dad, he gets up and runs to him and gives him a great big hug. He tells his dad “Thanks for helping me build a spaceship and thanks for the pizza! I was so hungry.” Alejandro’s dad looks at him with a confused look on his face and says, “I didn’t get you a pizza, dinner is inside.” At the same time his dad is telling him this he reaches into his pocket and feels something that was not there before. Alejandro then pulls a piece of paper out of his pocket and opens it up. On the paper is written a note. “I can’t believe you beat me, here is your damn, pizza.” Signed Bacon the Alien. He also notices in his other pocket that Bacon has left him a contraption.