Preface

It is the year 2053. Amplax Carvatti, the world’s leading physicist, looks at his modified version of a pyranometer, used to monitor irradiance on planar surfaces from the Sun.

An alert had shown up on his screen a few hours ago and was only increasing in intensity of danger. He scans the screen for any sign of solar storms. There were none. This, in fact, was a problem that had never before happened in recorded history. The data showed that the Sun had started to heat up minutely, but the rate had started to increase rapidly. It started with an increase of 0.001 degree fahrenheit per hour. Now, however, it had rapidly increased to a rate of 10 degree fahrenheit per hour and still was increasing.

The weather channel dismissed this as a heat wave. But Amplax wasn’t so sure about that. He knew something else. The size of the Sun had increased, ever so slightly. Either that or the Earth’s orbit had become smaller. Since there was no way of proving the latter, he assumed that the Sun had expanded in size, thus causing the apparent increase in temperature.

Either way, Earth was going to reach a very high temperature very soon. And with its population 10 billion, It was not going to be easy for humanity.

He decided to call an emergency meeting of his organisation, the International Space Force. A 20 year-old organisation, it closely monitored space activities and immediately acted upon any unusual activity. It had become quite popular in 2045, when it stopped an asteroid from disfiguring the Moon and possibly the Earth after hitting it with a Vacuum Missile. The asteroid was reduced to fragments of 1 cm each after its contact with the Vacuum Missile.

He dialled the ISF’s meeting number and a group call of 5 started. The precautionary Identification measures ran.

<This is an ISF official emergency meeting. Please present your names and Designation>

‘Antonio Fernandez, European Space Agency Head.’

‘John Cartwright, National Aeronautical and Space Administration Head.’

‘Aryan Kumar, Indian Space Research Organisation Head.’

‘Edward Brown, International Astronomical Union Head.’

‘Amplax Carvatti, International Space Force Head.’

<All Voices recognised >

<Meeting Started>

‘ We have a huge problem.’

Chapter 1 – A Solar Expansion

‘The Sun is expanding at a very high rate, Antonio