

LEAVING EARTH FAR BEHIND,  
WE SAILED THE UNCHARTED  
AETHER OCEANS OF EMPTY  
SPACE.

I DARE SAY I'M FAR FROM THE ONLY  
ONE PLEASED MY MODIFICATIONS  
ON THE SHIP TO MAKE IT AIR TIGHT  
WERE HOLDING UP PERFECTLY.

SO FAR,  
KNOCK  
WOOD.

\*BUTTONED  
UPP\* THAT'S  
WHAT YOU  
CALL IT?

COLLOQUIALLY, YES,  
BEST TO USE SIMPLE  
TERMS FOR SUCH A  
HODGEPODGE  
CREW.

A MORE ACCURATE  
DESCRIPTION MIGHT BE,  
\*SECURED AGAINST THE  
UNFORGIVING VOID  
FOR INTERPLANETARY  
TRAVEL.\*

EITHER  
WAY, IT'S  
REMARKABLE.

IN THE  
UNLIKELY EVENT  
WE GET BACK  
ALIVE FROM THIS  
ADVENTURE, I'LL  
REMARK ON IT  
OFTEN.





OWING PRIMARILY TO THE AMAZING TECHNOLOGY I'D LEARNED FROM MY TIME AS A PRISONER ABOARD THE RESOLVE, WE REACHED MARS IN A MATTER OF DAYS.



WE CAN OPEN UP HER HATCHES AGAIN AND BREATHE FRESH AIR.

I CAUTION YOU THOUGH. IT WILL SEEM THIN TO US.



UNTIL WE ADJUST.

IF WE'RE HERE LONG ENOUGH TO ADAPT TO IT, WE'VE PROBABLY FAILED IN OUR MISSION.



THIS IS SO... I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO DESCRIBE IT.

I FEEL LIKE--I DON'T KNOW--GULLIVER? BUT OF MARS.



JANE SEEMS UPSET AT YOU.

IT HAPPENS FROM TIME TO TIME, EVEN IN THE BEST MARRIAGES.

I'VE MADE MY MISTAKES, WITH HER AND WITH THIS CREW.



MANY TIMES CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE PUT ME IN COMMAND OF VILLAINS, COWARDS, OR THE FAINT OF HEART.

I DIDN'T MIND. NO MAN CAN CONTROL WHAT HAPPENS TO HIM. ONLY WHAT HE DOES ABOUT IT.



FOR ONCE IT WAS DIFFERENT. THIS TIME FATE PUT ME IN CHARGE OF BETTER MEN AND WOMEN.

BRAVE, NOBLE, AND SELF-SACRIFICING. ADMIRABLE, EACH ONE.



IN HINDSIGHT, I BELIEVE THE POTENTIAL OF SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY BLINDED ME TO ONE HARSH REALITY.



AS SATISFYING AS IT WAS TO COMMAND A CREW OF HEROES, IT TURNS OUT WE NEEDED HUNDREDS, RATHER THAN A FEW.

OR JUST ONE MAN.

IT WAS THE LONGEST SUSTAINED CONVERSATION I'D EVER HEARD FROM THE NORMALLY TACITURN MAN.

WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS, CAPTAIN?

FIND US A PLACE TO SET DOWN, JASON.

IT'S TIME.

IF NO ONE ELSE IS GOING TO SPEAK UP, THEN I AM.

THIS IS RIDICULOUS.

I DON'T KNOW WHY HE'S INSISTENT ON STRANDING US IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, BUT I'M CONFIDENT MY HUSBAND HAS REASONS FOR WHAT HE'S DOING.