

ALONE IN SPACE

written by

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The panel descriptions and the number of panels on each page present a basic structure for the story. If you wish to tweak them a bit, go for it. You are the visual artist, after all. I would, however, like to preserve the flow of the individual pages, the story beats on them, and what happens before and after a page turn.

PAGE 1 - PANELS: 6

PANEL 1

CLOSE-UP. We are looking at a framed happy family photograph. On it we see a mother, a father, and a little girl with a teddy bear. Since this story is a sci-fi, all the characters' clothing, as well as the frame itself, can have some sort of futuristic design.

PANEL 2

INTERIOR, BIG PANEL. We are in a children's room on a spaceship. Here we can see (among other things) a night desk with the photograph we saw in PANEL 1, and a child's bed that also substitutes as a sleeping pod for long space travel. In it we can see the little girl from the photograph: ANNIE.

PANEL 3

SMALL PANEL. The sleeping pod is opening (SFX).

SFX: TSSS

PANEL 4

SMALL PANEL. ANNIE is waking up after a long and deep sleep, rubbing her eyes.

PANEL 5

SIMILAR PANEL. ANNIE is looking around.

PANEL 6

SIMILAR PANEL. ANNIE is still looking around - now maybe in the opposite direction.

ANNIE Mom...?

PAGE TURN

PAGE 2 - PANELS: 6

PANEL 1

ANNIE got up from her bed and is now standing in her room, alone.

ANNIE Dad...?

PANEL 2

SIMILAR PANEL. The door to the room is now opened. We don't see the door itself, but we do see the light from the hallway that is now coming into the room, shining on the floor and maybe some parts of the wall. We also see a shadow of someone or something now standing in the door. It looks like a big bear.

TEDDY (OP) Annie?

PANEL 3

On the left side of the panel, we see ANNIE. On the right side, standing in the opened door, we see TEDDY, a small plush teddy bear (with a shadow enlarged by the lighting) that can seemingly stand, walk and talk all by itself.

ANNIE Teddy...?

TEDDY I am here. You have been asleep for **a long time**.

ANNIE But...

PANEL 4

ANNIE and TEDDY are now closer to each other, inspecting each other.

ANNIE You can **talk**?

TEDDY Of course I can.

ANNIE I guess I always knew that. I'm just **surprised** to really hear you talk.

TEDDY That is alright.

PANEL 5

ANNIE and TEDDY are stepping out of the room and into the empty hallway full of light.

ANNIE Where is mom and dad, Teddy?

TEDDY I am not sure, Annie.

I think **they left**.

PANEL 6

A more PULL-BACKED look. We still see ANNIE and TEDDY, but they are now further away, seemingly smaller against the empty hallway of the presumably abandoned spaceship.

TEDDY I think **they all left**.

PAGE 3 - PANELS: 6

PANEL 1

Now again a bit CLOSER look at ANNIE and TEDDY, with Annie crying.

ANNIE They just... they just **left me here?**
 They left me here and went away?
TEDDY I am sure they did not mean to. They probably just
forgot about you.

PANEL 2

SMALL PANEL, CLOSE-UP on ANNIE, still crying.

TEDDY (OP?) But I can help you **find them.**
ANNIE Really?

PANEL 3

SMALL PANEL, CLOSE-UP on TEDDY's paw, offered to ANNIE's hand.

TEDDY Just come with me.
ANNIE OK.

PANEL 4

PROFILE LOOK, ANNIE and TEDDY are walking down the hallway from right to left, holding hands. They are now on the right side, with an open door in the middle leading into a dark room. All we can see in the dark room are some sparks (SFX), seemingly from a power outage.

TEDDY They must have gone back to **Earth.**
ANNIE So why didn't they just change the course of the
ship?
TEDDY I do not know. Maybe they were in a hurry.
SFX: TZZZ

PANEL 5

SIMILAR PANEL, only ANNIE and TEDDY had now walked from the right to the left side of the panel, paying no mind to the dark room in the middle.

PANEL 6

SIMILAR PANEL. Annie and Teddy are off panel (OP) now, but a quick burst of light (SFX) in the dark room allows as to see what's inside. I leave the level of explicit imagery to you. There can be lots of dismembered bodies and lots of blood, or maybe just a suggestion of that. A person or two laying on the ground with a few blood stains... Your choice.

TEDDY (OP) But we can **follow them.** Even if a little slower.
ANNIE (OP) But how?
SFX: TZZZ

PAGE 4 - PANELS: 6

PANEL 1

ANNIE and TEDDY are standing at the end of the hallway and in front of a door leading to the bridge of the spaceship.

TEDDY You can tell **the computer** to take the ship back to Earth. If you really are the only member of the crew left, it will recognize your voice and obey.

PANEL 2

ANNIE and TEDDY enter the ship's bridge.

ANNIE That sounds **complicated**.. Can't you do it?

TEDDY No, I am just a bear.
But it really is simple.

PANEL 3

CLOSE-UP on TEDDY, a simple, innocent plush teddy bear with black eyes.

TEDDY Just tell the computer that you want to go to Earth.

ANNIE (OP?) Are you sure my parents are there?

TEDDY Yes.

PANEL 4

BROADER LOOK at the bridge, where all the lights, controls and monitors are now activated. One of the screens reads: "PROCESSING"

ANNIE **Computer**..
...could you take us to Earth... please?

PANEL 5

The screen now reads "ACCEPTED", while other screen reads "CHANGING COURSE" and there are various images of Earth on various monitors.

TEDDY Good.
Can you tell me about it?

ANNIE About what?

TEDDY **Earth.**

ANNIE But you've been to Earth, silly. Mom bought you there for me, remember?

TEDDY Yes... of course. But...

PANEL 6

EXTERIOR. Our first look at the spaceship itself, flying through cold and empty space to its new destination.

CAPTION **Tell me anyway.**

THE END