

Marty the Little Astronaut

Written by Tala Char
Illustrated by Rand Samara



There was once in the Big World a dreamer who had many wonders about fascinating things. His name was Marty.

One day at school, Marty's teacher was teaching his class about the solar system. Marty was filled with excitement and began to imagine what it would be like to go to space.

That night, Marty went to bed and after what felt like hours, he slowly closed his eyes and drifted off into deep deep sleep.

All of a sudden, Marty found himself floating in a big dark world, lit up by twinkling little lights.

'What were those lights?' you might ask. Those lights are stars. Marty was in space and he was wearing an astronaut suit!

“What a wonderful place!” Marty exclaimed.

Marty’s excitement was suddenly interrupted by a rowdy deep voice that said, “Oh, who do we have here?”

Surprised by the voice behind him, Marty slowly turned around.

To his surprise, a big orange planet with big eyes and a round face appeared.

“I am Marty, but who are you?” Marty asked suspiciously.



"I am Mercury!" answered the planet in a deep voice.

"Hi Mercury, I really like your color! Can I ask you a question?" Marty asked.

"Of course, go ahead!" Mercury replied enthusiastically.

"Why is it fiery here?" Marty asked while he started to sweat in his suit.

Mercury giggled and said, "Well Marty, I am the closest planet to the Sun, so I am hot but not as hot as my sister Venus! You'll meet her soon, I'm sure!"



“Did I hear someone call my name?” a very bright planet asked.

“I am Marty, which planet are you?” asked Marty curiously.

“Well, well, well, I heard the Solar System was having a visitor today,” the planet replied.



“I am Venus, I am the second planet closest to the Sun. Here is a fun fact for you, even though I am not the first planet closest to the Sun, I am the hottest planet in the Solar System!” Venus explained.

“That is very interesting!” exclaimed Marty bubbling up with excitement. “It is so nice to meet you Venus!”

“The pleasure is all mine,” replied Venus.



As he floated away, Marty found himself in space looking at a familiar planet.

“Hmmm, you look like a planet I have seen before,” Marty wondered, trying to remember where he has seen this very blue and green planet.

“Oh Marty, I have heard wonderful things about you dear!”

“How do I know you?” Marty asked, confused.

“Well, I am your home, silly!” the planet replied.

“My home?” Marty questioned.



“I am Earth, the third planet closest to the Sun and I am the only planet where life currently exists on!” said the green planet.

"Oh wow, that is so cool!" Marty shouted.

"Well kiddo, it was nice to meet you, but before you go, may I ask you to do something for me?" Earth asked shyly.

"Sure," said Marty.

"Take care of me, and try to always keep me clean because I'm getting very sick. If you keep me clean, that will help me get better," Earth said sadly.

"Oh no! I promise you I will!" Marty said reassuring Earth, "and I am going to ask all my friends to do the same thing!"

"Thank you, dear!" Earth said excitedly.



Once again Marty floated around in space, he kept meeting fascinating planets, but what planet was he going to see next?

“Hello Marty, glad to finally meet you!” said a red planet.

“Hello, which planet are you?” Marty asked, the curiosity bubbling up inside him.

“I am Mars. Some even call me the **Red Planet** because of my colour! I am the fourth planet away from the sun as well. Do you want to know a secret?” Mars asked.



“Yes please!” Marty answered with excitement.

“Scientists are still solving the riddle if people can live on me.” Mars explained.

“Well, is it true?” Marty asked.

“Hmmm, you will have to wait to know.” Mars said playfully.

“Oh well”, Marty sighed, “it is so nice to meet you, Mars!”

“The pleasure is all mine, now go on and meet my sister!” Mars said as he watched Marty float away once again.



Marty looked at a planet as big as a helium balloon. He even looked like an ant next to it!

"Hello," Marty said hesitantly.

"Oh now, Marty, I know I am big but I am not scary!" said the huge round planet.

"Which planet are you?" Marty curiously asked.



“Well, I am Jupiter. I am the fifth planet away from the Sun. As you can see, I am also the biggest planet amongst all my siblings!” Jupiter proudly said.

“Yes, I can see that,” chuckled Marty.

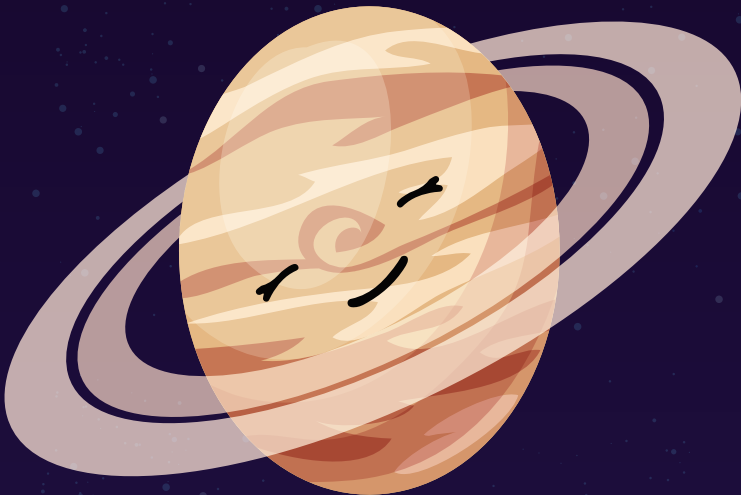
“You are in for a big surprise,” smirked Jupiter.



"Hello!" two voices said at the same time.

"Hello?" Marty replied back as he turned around to see them.

"WOW!" Marty exclaimed when he saw the two planets with beautiful rings around them.



“Well, I am Saturn, the sixth planet away from the Sun. As you can see, I have beautiful rings floating around me. Some even say that I am the most beautiful planet in the Solar System!” Saturn confidently replied.

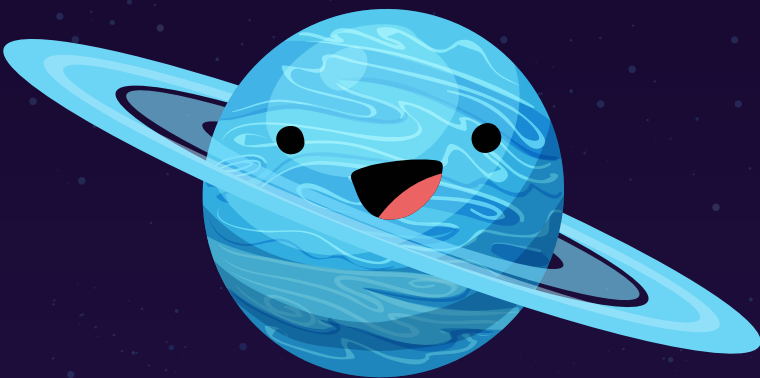
“Aha, you wish to be the most beautiful planet in the universe,” said the other planet.



**“Well it is nice to meet you Saturn, but who are you?”
Marty said, pointing at the planet next to Saturn.**

**“Well, I am Uranus. I am the seventh planet away
from the sun. I am sometimes called the “sideway
planet” because I am so lazy that I turn on my side.”
Uranus replied, turning sideways.**

“You’re funny,” said Marty, giggling.



Just like that, Marty started to float away waving goodbye. Yet, his excitement did not fade.

“How many more planets are there?” Marty wondered to himself.

He suddenly found himself facing another planet!



Hello Marty, I heard you met my twin," said the very bright blue planet.

"Your twin?" Marty asked confused.

"Yes! Uranus," Neptune replied.

"Oh yes I did!" Marty answered.

"Well it's your turn to meet me! My name is Neptune. I am the eighth and farthest planet from the sun. I was the second coldest planet until my brother Pluto decided to leave and play somewhere far away. So now I am the coldest planet! Do you feel cold?" Neptune wondered.



“Brrrr, I do!” Marty replied, shivering.

“Well now little one, you have met all the planets of the Solar System!” Neptune said proudly.

**“I can't believe I did !” Marty exclaimed in disbelief.
“This was amazing!”**

“It's time for you to wake up now Marty, but don't forget you can come visit us anytime you'd like” Neptune said as everything began to fade.





And just like that, Marty opened his eyes and realized what a wonderful dream he had.

Now what will Marty dream about next?

Will he ever get to meet the Sun?

The End

Tala Chaar
Education 218: Children's Literature
Dr.Amal BouZeineddine

Resources:

<https://www.kidzone.ws/planets/>

<https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/uranus/overview/>

Illustrated by: Rand Samara

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Adobe Illustrator