



FROM OUT OF SPACE CAME AN URGENT PLEA FROM THE BEATEN INHABITANTS OF THE PLANET MARS BEGGING CAPTAIN SCIENCE TO HELP THEM. BUT HOW COULD HE, EVEN WITH ALL HIS VAST INTER-PLANETARY KNOWLEDGE AND SCIENTIFIC KNOW-HOW, FREE A WHOLE WORLD FROM THE EVIL AND DEADLY GRIP OF

## THE MARTIAN SLAVERS...

ON A COLD, DISMAL NIGHT IN MARCH, 1931, A WHITE HOT BALL OF FIRE HURTTLES FROM THE SKY OVER NEW MEXICO...



... AND WITH AN EARTH-SHAKING THUD CRASHES INTO THE GROUND OUTSIDE OF CAPTAIN SCIENCE'S SECRET LABORATORY...

ART BY JOE ORLANDO  
AND WALLACE WOOD



STARTLED BY THE SUDDEN CRASH OF THE INCANDESCENT OBJECT, GORDON DANE, KNOWN AS CAPTAIN SCIENCE, RIP AND LUANA RUSH OUT TO SEE WHAT IT IS...

THERE IT IS, OVER THERE! WHAT CAN IT BE?

MAYBE SOMEONE IS ATTACKING US!

LOOKS LIKE A METEOR TO ME.

IN THE MORNING AFTER THE THE THING HAS COOLED, THEY DISCOVER IT TO BE A CYLINDER OF STRANGE METAL CONTAINING A MESSAGE FROM MARS...

WHAT DOES IT SAY, GORDON?

IT'S A PLEA FOR HELP FROM SOME MARTIAN SCIENTISTS. IT SAYS A GROUP OF EVIL, POWER HUNGRY EXPERIMENTERS ARE FORCING THE PEOPLE INTO SLAVERY.

WE'LL GO TO THEIR AID IMMEDIATELY AS WE HAVE SWORN TO DO!... RIP, GET THE FLYING SAUCER READY.

WITHIN THE HOUR, THE HUGE FLYING SAUCER ZOOMS THROUGH SPACE TOWARD MARS...

TAKE BEARINGS, RIP. THE TALUS METER SHOWS US A LITTLE OFF COURSE.

CRUISING FASTER THAN LIGHT, THEY SOON LAND AT THE MARTIAN POLAR CAP. THERE, THEY ARE GREETED BY AN EMBATTLED MARTIAN...

WELCOME, CAPTAIN SCIENCE! WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU. ONLY YOU CAN HELP US.

I HOPE SO. THESE ARE MY ASSISTANTS, RIP AND LUANA.

KEEP YOUR SPACE SUITS ON. AIR IS SCARCE HERE. AS YOU KNOW THE PLANET HAS LITTLE ATMOSPHERE. NOW WE HAVE ALMOST NONE.

BUT HOW DO YOU STAY ALIVE?

TAKEN INTO THE LAST REMAINING FORTRESS OF THE MARTIANS, THEIR LEADER TELLS HIS STORY...



BY MEANS OF A HUGE ATMOSPHERE PLANT. THIS HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THOSE WHO WOULD ENSLAVE US. BY CUTTING OFF OUR AIR THEY HOPE TO SUBDUCE US.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. IF THEY HAVE DONE THAT, WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE REST OF YOUR PEOPLE?

WE ANTICIPATED THEIR MOVE AND MANAGED TO DO SOMETHING THAT HELPED FOR A WHILE, BUT WE CAN NO LONGER HOLD OUT. I WILL SHOW YOU!

WE HAVE PUT MOST OF OUR POPULATION INTO A STATE OF *SUSPENDED ANIMATION*. BUT THEY CANNOT REMAIN THIS WAY FOR MORE THAN A FEW DAYS. WE MUST HAVE AIR SOON OR *ALL WILL DIE!* CAN YOU HELP?

I DO NOT KNOW. FIRST I MUST KNOW ALL THE FACTS AND STUDY THE SITUATION.

ALL THAT NIGHT CAPTAIN SCIENCE CONFERS WITH THE MARTIANS, PITTING HIS GIANT BRAIN AGAINST THEIR PROBLEM...

WE HAVE TOLD YOU EVERYTHING. THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR US TO DO BUT SURRENDER OR DIE!

I THINK I HAVE THE ANSWER! RIP AND I WILL CONSTRUCT A MACHINE THAT MAY SOLVE YOUR PROBLEM.

WE WILL BEGIN AT ONCE! WHEN IT IS FINISHED I WILL VISIT THE ATMOSPHERE PLANT AND INSTALL IT MYSELF.

YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU SAY! *NO ONE* CAN GET IN *THERE!* HOWEVER, WE WILL TRY ANYTHING, ONLY SAVE US!



WORKING LIKE DEMONS THE COMPLEX MACHINE DESIGNED BY CAPTAIN SCIENCE IS CONSTRUCTED IN RECORD TIME...

USING A MARTIAN FLYING MACHINE WHICH OPERATES BY ANTI-GRAVITY RAYS, CAPTAIN SCIENCE STARTS ON A JOURNEY WHICH MAY MEAN LIFE OR DEATH TO A WORLD...

IN THREE MARTIAN ZOADS CAPTAIN SCIENCE LANDS THE SPEEDY GRAVI-SLED NEAR THE GIGANTIC AIR PLANT...

SO FAR SO GOOD. NOW TO PUT THE PLAN INTO OPERATION.

EVERYTHING CHECKS, GORDON. NOW COMES THE HARD PART.

IF WHAT THEY SAY IS TRUE, YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL LEAVE FOR THE ATMOSPHERE PLANT IMMEDIATELY. TIME IS GETTING SHORT. HAVE THEM LOAD THE GRAVI-SLED.

WHAT HE UNDERTAKES IS MAD! HE IS A GREAT MAN TO RISK HIS LIFE LIKE THIS.

THERE IS NONE GREATER!



NOT A SIGN OF LIFE. ACCORDING TO OUR FRIENDS THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF MARTIANS INSIDE THAT SPHERE.

I DON'T LIKE THIS! THEY MUST HAVE SEEN ME. THERE MUST BE GUARDS OF SOME SORT.



WELL, IF I...

TAKE HIM, BUT TAKE HIM ALIVE! HE MUST BE QUESTIONED!







YOU WON'T TAKE ME, YOU VILLAINS! YOU'LL HAVE TO KILL ME FIRST!

YOU'LL BE TAKEN, ALL RIGHT!



HE IS A WILD BEAST, THIS ONE! WHO CAN HE BE?

HE IS THE EARTHLING THEY SENT FOR TO DEFEAT US. THE FOOLS!...TAKE HIM AND HIS MACHINE INTO THE 'ATMO'PLANT.



WHAT IS THIS STRANGE THING? IT MUST BE A WEAPON OF SOME SORT.

I DO NOT KNOW, BUT WE WILL SOON FIND OUT. HAVE WE NOT THE BEST BRAINS ON THE WHOLE PLANET?

IN THE ATMOSPHERE PLANT THE EVIL SCIENTISTS PUZZLE OVER THE STRANGE APPARATUS AS CAPTAIN SCIENCE TAUNTS THEM

SO THESE ARE THE GREAT SCIENTISTS OF MARS. YOU WILL NEVER LEARN WHAT THAT MACHINE IS, AND I WILL NEVER TELL YOU!

NO? BUT YOU WILL, EARTHLING... BRING THE ELECTRIC WHIP!

PUT TO TORTURE, CAPTAIN SCIENCE FINALLY SURRENDERS THE INFORMATION THE TREACHEROUS MARTIANS DEMAND...

HOW DO YOU LIKE OUR PERSUADER, EARTHLING? HAVE YOU HAD ENOUGH?



STOP!

STOP! TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW!

THIS IS A WEAPON THAT CAN DESTROY ANYTHING! PUT YOUR STRONGEST MATERIAL BEFORE IT AND I WILL SHOW YOU.

VERY WELL. GUARD, BRING A BLOCK OF URBINIUM. NOTHING CAN DAMAGE THAT. IT IS THE STRONGEST METAL KNOWN.





A HUGE BLOCK OF URBINIUM IS PLACED BEFORE THE STRANGE MACHINE...

NOW, EARTHLING, PROVE WHAT YOU SAY. IF YOU ARE TRYING TO TRICK US, YOU WILL LEARN THAT THE ELECTRIC WHIP IS MILD COMPARED TO WHAT WE CAN DO TO YOU.

VERY WELL. PRESS THE BUTTON ON THE WEAPON'S SIDE AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR METAL.



PERHAPS IT WAS LUCKY FOR US YOU CAME ALONG. IF THIS DOES WHAT YOU SAY, NONE CAN WITHSTAND US! EVERY PLANET IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM WILL BE OURS!

LOOK! NOTHING HAPPENED! HE LIES!

AS THE MARTIANS TURN ON CAPTAIN SCIENCE, A JAGGED STREAK OF LIGHTNING CRACKS THROUGH THE DOME ABOVE THEM ACCOMPANIED BY A TREMENDOUS CRASH OF THUNDER.

WE WILL TEACH YOU TO PLAY TRICKS WITH.... AIEEE! WHAT HAPPENS?

CRACK!!



MY MACHINE IS NOT THE WEAPON YOU THOUGHT. YOU HAVE TRAPPED YOURSELVES! THIS DEVICE WILL CAUSE A DELUGE THAT WILL WIPE YOU OFF THE PLANET!

I'LL TAKE THAT! NOW IT'S MY TURN!

FLEE! FLEE! RUN BEFORE THE ATMO-PLANT FALLS AND CRUSHES US





WHILE PANDEMONIUM REIGNS ABOVE, CAPTAIN SCIENCE FIGHTS HIS WAY TO THE ATMOSPHERE MACHINES DOWN UNDER THE SPHERE.

ACCORDING TO THE PLANS, THIS IS THE VALVE THAT WILL RELEASE THE AIR OVER ALL OF MARS.

AND THIS WILL SET UP A PROTECTIVE FORCE FIELD THAT WILL PREVENT THE FLOODS FROM RUINING THE MACHINE... WONDER WHAT I WOULD HAVE DONE IF THEY HADN'T FALLEN FOR MY TRICK AND TAKEN THE MACHINE AND MYSELF INSIDE! WELL, NO USE WORRYING ABOUT THAT NOW.

AS THE LIFE-GIVING AIR SPREADS OVER THE PLANET, THE DELUGE BEGUN BY CAPTAIN SCIENCE'S MACHINE SWEEPS AWAY THE EVIL SLAVERS AND LEAVES MARS A BETTER PLANET...



A FEW DAYS LATER, AMID WILD REJOICING, CAPTAIN SCIENCE, RIP AND LUANA TAKE OFF FOR THE TRIP BACK TO EARTH...

MARS WILL HONOR THEM FOREVER.

AYE! WHAT THEY HAVE DONE WILL STAND AS A MONUMENT TO FREEDOM FOR ETERNITY.



AND ABOARD THE FLYING SAUCER...

HEAD FOR HOME, RIP! WE'VE GOT THINGS TO DO.

YES SIR, CONTROLS ARE SET AND --- MISSION COMPLETED!



The end