**Braidbar’s Travelling Book March 2016**

In deepest space a spaceship travelled through asteroid fields and sped past glittering stars. As it approached a mysterious planet orbiting two suns, it suddenly crashed.

Moments later a confused astronaut stepped out of his burning spaceship and looked around at this strange new planet.

**P1:** The ground was made up of thousands of craters and hot stones that glistened under the two suns. In the distance the astronaut could see something green lying on the ground so he decided to walk slowly towards this object.

**P2:** He walked closer and closer and he noticed that the object was in fact a baby alien. The alien froze like a statue, it looked so scared. The astronaut picked up the alien and gave it a cuddle. Suddenly, the ground began to shake!

**P3:** The astronaut looked around, only to see flaming meteorites crashing into the planet and make huge craters. He started to run, desperately trying to avoid each of the meteorites as they thundered into the ground. The baby alien was getting heavier and heavier and was screaming and squirming with terror! The astronaut couldn’t carry him any longer.

**P4a:** Suddenly the baby alien stopped crying, then BOOM! There was a gigantic meteor explosion which created another massive crater. The astronaut and the baby alien tumbled into the deep black hole which was as dark as the night sky. When they finally woke up they saw glowing yellow eyes in the cold, dark, gloomy cave. The luminous eyes were growing bigger as they walked slowly towards them. The astronaut and baby alien passed out in sheer terror.

**P4b:** Suddenly the baby alien, as cute as a pug, woke up with a yawn and remembered those eyes. They looked strangely familiar. He squirmed to get a closer look. The baby alien realised that the eyes belonged to his family. Next the baby alien’s family glared at the astronaut furiously, thinking that he had stolen the baby. Then the aliens stomped like a herd of elephants towards the unconscious astronaut and leapt on top of him. They flattened him like a pancake.

**P5:** The alien’s Mum, Dad, brothers and sisters grabbed the astronaut and tried to clamber out of the deep, dark hole. As the baby alien followed, he shouted “HAULT! SSTTTTOPPPP! He is my friend; he helped me when I was lost!” But it was too late. The alien family couldn’t keep hold of the astronaut any longer so they threw him like a Frisbee into the path of one of the flaming meteorites. The astronaut crashed into the meteorite like a charging bull…

**P6:** The baby alien ran as fast as a cheetah but his legs started to feel like dead weight. The baby alien took a leap of faith and managed to clutch the astronaut’s leg but it was trapped in the crack of the humongous meteorite. Nearly in tears, the baby alien hollered for help while grasping onto the astronaut. The baby alien was panicking as he could hear nothing but bare old silence. Nothing at all. His heart started beating faster as he could see his family running towards him. One after the other, the alien’s family arrived and formed a line to heave the astronaut away from the meteorite. As they pulled at his leg they heard a CRACK!

**P7a:** At first they thought the cracking was the astronaut’s leg but it was actually the planet imploding and splitting itself in two, like the opposing sides of a magnet, impossible to put back together again. The screaming baby and the astronaut were stuck on one side of all that was left of the eggshell planet and the rest of the family were screeching for their new born baby, who they feared they would never see again.

**P7b:** Suddenly, the astronaut woke up in a daze. Still feeling dizzy and unwell, he struggled to his feet. The weight on his back reminded him of his trusted jet pack, which he hoped had not been damaged by the aliens’ earlier attack. Immediately he sprang into action! He reached for the red button which he hoped would activate it. He pushed the button and felt resistance. He smelt burning fuel as thick smoke appeared around him; it shot out of the jet pack like a firework whooshing into the air. In the distance, the astronaut could barely see the despairing family and could just about hear their faint sobs. “I can do this,” he thought to himself. The astronaut hauled the jet pack off his back; it could only carry one person, it couldn’t carry both of them. He attached it to the baby alien. With a sense of fear and terror, he positioned the baby alien in the direction of the worried family and slowly flicked a small switch that ignited the booster. Shivering with nerves, he stood back and watched as the baby flew towards his howling family. It wasn’t long before he was reunited with them. The relieved astronaut smiled. He knew his spaceship was completely ruined but he was proud of the sacrifice he had made to reunite the young alien and his family. He could only hope he would see his own family again one day.