

Cue music – ‘**Also Sprach Zarathustra / 2001 A Space Odyssey**’

(Stage is black and we have smoke – gradually we have a blue-ish light and 3 White group Narrators enter in silhouette – music plays underneath their speaking and fades)
(All below to be played very mysteriously)

(Note: 4 Green Group students (Peaceful bunch) are seated in audience from beginning for later press conference scene)

White Group

Narrator 1: This is a tale of what might have been.....

Narrator 2: What will be.....

Narrator 1: Or what is!

Narrator 3: The universe is a huge and inspiring place!

Narrator 2: But is it big enough?

Narrator 1: What happens when the world we think we know - changes?

Narrator 3: And how will we adapt?

Narrator 1: These are the questions we hope to answer.

Narrator 2: (ask audience) Do you know the answer?

Narrator 3: Thought not. Does anybody?

Narrator 1: Never mind. Just remember.....

This is a tale of what might have been.....

Narrator 2: What will be.....

Narrator 1: Or what is!

Cue music – White Group Dance - ‘**Million Miles Away**’ – Akira

(Dance is about longing for home, anger, frustration, acceptance – as these earthlings are now on Mars) – others join Narrators who begin Dance

Cue music – ‘**Rule The World**’ – Take That (over blackout)

(After dance we go straight to black on end of track – all White group leave except for 5 older characters reminiscing about earth – Stage manager bring two boxes & 4 glasses on for C/S/L & R arc)

2
White Group

(lights up to find 4 of the group of 5 reminiscing about home (with plastic champagne flutes) and looking at the sky and back at earth. 2 sit on boxes and 2 stand – when Ted enters fade music / they look quite sad)

(Ted enters from S/L)

Ted: What are you doing?

Phil: Oh. Just thinking?

Ted: About what?

Phil: Oh. You know. Home.

Ted: But this is our home now.

Les: We know – it's just nice to think of HOME home.

Jean: Don't you miss it Ted?

Ted: All the time. But we have to make the best of it.

Jim: Do you know what I remember?

Les: Go on Jim. Tell us.

Jim: Colours. (pause) Mainly green. I can't believe how much I miss them.

Ted: But there are colours here.

Jim: I know. It's just - they're not - the same.

(long pause while everyone looks and thinks)

Phil: What do you miss Jean?

Jean: The smells. I know it sound silly, but I miss smelling things.

Les: Like what?

Jean: I don't know. Fresh bread, cut grass, glossy magazines.

Les: You miss the smell of glossy magazines?

Jean: Yeah. I don't know why. It's just something I remember.

Ted: I know what you mean. You just don't know what you'll miss until it's gone.

Phil: Life's not so bad here though is it.

Jim: Could be a lot worse. Don't you remember the accident?

Phil: How could we forget?

(pause and look at each other)

Jean: Not sure how welcome we are though.

Jim: Most of them are ok aren't they?

Jean: Just as long as we don't interfere.

Phil: I just wish there was some way we could go back.

Les: I don't know if that will ever be possible. But it's ok to dream.

Jean: I Just can't see it myself.

Jim: Let's just wait and see. You never know.

Les: Exactly. Positive thinking. That's what we need.

Phil: It's a long way back. In distance and time.

Ted: Look. We're here now. Let's try and be positive.

Les: We must get used to it.

Phil: Ten years on Mars. I'll never get used to it.

Jim: Look. It's New Year's Day 2021. Let's make a resolution.

Phil: I've got one.

Ted: What is it Phil?

Phil: To never forget where we came from.

Jean: And make a vow to return.

Jim: A toast everybody! (raise their glasses) To earth – our one true home!

Everybody: Earth! Our one true home!!!

(raise their glasses and freeze – cue music '**Rule The World**' – Take That (over slow fade to blackout- they leave boxes)

(cue music - White group song '**Pretty Amazing Grace**' – Neil Diamond)

(Singing note - White Group appear from all sides of stage equally for song)

(Blackout and cue music – '**Rule The World**' – Take That (over blackout)

(white Group exit S/R after song)

(Green Group Martian / Earthling Haters enter during blackout from S/L)

Green Group

Barsoom: Is there something seriously wrong with those pathetic earthlings?

Calot: (imitating song badly) 'Pretty Amazing Grace is what you showed me – I was an empty vessel!!!'

Dusar: Too right. They're all 'empty vessels' if you ask me!

Hastor: (quoting) 'Empty Vessel' – A container with nothing inside.....

Kadar: Sounds like the O2 Arena when David Essex is playing.

Marentina: What do you mean? I like David Essex.

Hastor: Sold more records on Mars than any other artist.

Calot: You'd have thought Cliff Richard would have been more popular.

Dusar: No. Nobody likes Cliff Richard. Not even on Mars.

Barsoom: Talking of not liking somebody. What about Pimalia and Ned?

Calot: Yeah. Still all loved up. It's not right.

Kadar: Well I heard some rumours anyway!

Marentina: Rumours? What kind of rumours?

Kadar: Rumours that the earthlings were spreading. About Pimalia.

Calot: Sounds juicy. But you can't believe anything that lot say.

Kadar: Doesn't matter. A rumour's a rumour.

Hastor: (sarcastic) Nobody could argue with that statement.

Kadar: Well it appears that Pimalia really does like the earthlings.

Marentina: But we know that already. Don't we?

Kadar: Well. There's liking and liking isn't there?

Hastor: Again. No arguing with that.

Barsoom: You mean there's more than one Ned?

Kadar: Several. Bound to be. Always smiling that one.

Dusar: Yeah. Sure sign of something that is. Always.

Marentina: Is it? I never knew that.

Barsoom: Gosh! That's astounding news Marentina!

Marentina: Are you being sarcastic?

Barsoom: Moi? I didn't think you knew what it meant anyway!

Marentina (upset): Oh! You're so cruel!

Barsoom (sings): 'Don't cry for me Marentina!'

(Marentina runs at Barsoom)

Marentina: Oh! I hate you.

Hastor: Mmmm! 'Hate' is a very subjective word.

Calot: Found next to 'hatchway' in the dictionary.

Dusar: Hatchway? What does that mean?

Calot: 'A large opening in the deck of a ship for lowering cargo etc.'

Marentina (threatening): And you three can give it a rest as well!

Dusar: So how are we going to spread these rumours then?

Hastor: That'll put a stop to this unhealthy alliance.

Barsoom: Well here they come now and those blue loonies so let's get to work!

Sab Than: Is everything ok here?

All: Yes! Our great and mighty leader!

Sab Than: Did I hear anything about spreading nasty, vicious rumours?

All: No! Our great and mighty leader!

Sab Than: Good. Because that wouldn't do. It wouldn't do at all.

And could you give me a slightly less formal title?

All: Of course! Our great and mighty leader!

Cue music – '**Careless Whisper**' – Green Group Song – rest of Green group enter for song – see note below)

Note for Singing – Song needs to tell tale of nasty rumour spreading and Ned & Pimalia falling out of love? – Ned & Pimalia end D/S/C)

(Ned looks at Pimalia)

Ned: I'm sorry Pimalia, but I have to go.

Pimalia

(to rumour spreaders): Get out of here you lot! You make me sick!

(Earthling Haters leave triumphant D/S/L – Pimalia's friends and blue campaigners remain on stage / blue campaigners in a huddle U/S/R)

Shador: Don't worry Pimalia. He'll come back.

Utan: Not sure about that. He looked quite determined.

Tario: I've never seen him like that.

Zodanga: He doesn't deserve you Pimalia. Believing all those rumours.

Shador: Maybe he didn't. Maybe he just needs time to think.

(Blue lobby pipe up)

Sarkoja: Yes. Well time is something we really don't have.

Odwar: We have to save this planet now.

Safad: No time for any 'luvvy duvvy' nonsense!

Notan: No point to any 'luvvy duvvy' nonsense either!

Hor Vastus: Maybe the earthlings leaving will be a good thing!

Pimalia: How can you say that? They're our friends.

Sarkoja: Using up valuable water.

Larok: Talking of water. My throat's dry. Can anybody help?

Odwar: You know you're not allowed water between 12 and 2. Wind pipe ban!

Tario: Don't you mean hose pipe?

Odwar: No. In his case – it's always wind-pipe.

Larok: I've heard a rumour that the earthlings are leaving shortly anyway.

Utan: Oh! Don't start any nasty rumours again.

Larok: I'm serious. It was on Channel five news.

Hor Vastus: You watch Channel five?

Sarkoja: So you're the one.

Hor Vastus: I prefer the syfy channel.

Safad: Why? Because of its pure fantasy and escapism?

Hor Vastus: No. Because it reflects everyday life and realism.

(Hor Vastus does a really weird alien action and sound – everyone stares)

Notan: Yes well. Moving on. What's the plan of action?

(Earthling Haters enter dragging Ned from D/S/L)

Barsoom: Plan of action? Ned had a plan of action.

Hastor: Disappearing to where he came from. No hint of a farewell.

Kadar: Good riddance I say!

Pimalia: Is that true Ned? Were you going without saying anything?

Ned: I'm sorry Pimalia. I don't know what I'm thinking.

Dusar: Typical selfish human. Leaving without saying good-bye.

(Ned & Pimalia stare at each other transfixed)

Calot: Too late for that I'd say.

(Cue music for Green Group Dance – '**Too Late To Say Good-Bye**' – Jason Donovan)