

Astronaut

Chapter 1

“Mmmmm! What’s that smell?” Abigail Forline asked her mother, Charlotte Forline. “*Somebody’s* birthday cake is coming out of the oven soon!” Ms. Forline replied. “Oh, right!” Her daughter exclaimed. Today was Abigail’s birthday, and her mother was preparing a double layered chocolate swirl cake with vanilla frosting on top. “It’s almost ready!” Charlotte said excitedly. At that moment, the doorbell rang. *Ding dong!* “Yay! Nana is here!” Abigail rushed to the mudroom and opened the door. “Abigail!” Holly Forline embraced her granddaughter in a tight squeeze. “It’s so nice to see you!” Holly said, handing her granddaughter a helium balloon with a picture of the solar system on it. Abigail wanted to be an astronaut when she grew up. She thanked her grandmother for the balloon, right when her mother shouted “Guys! Sit down! It’s time!” Charlotte slowly walked into the dining room carrying a beautiful cake. “Happy birthday to you!” Holly started to sing, and Charlotte joined in. Once the song was finished, everyone dug into the cake. Since Abigail was the birthday girl, she got to have two pieces of cake. After the cake, Charlotte and Holly each handed Abigail two presents. When she came to the last present, she carefully unwrapped the rectangular shaped mystery and found a cardboard box. Abigail undid the red bow wrapped around the box and opened the cover. “Oh!” Abigail squealed in a mix of shock and delight. “Just what I wanted! Thank you so much!” Abigail had just unwrapped a real astronaut suit, and it was just what she had asked for. “Both of us saved up enough money to buy you this suit.” Charlotte said, pointing to her mother and herself. “Wow! Thank you, thank you, thank you!” Abigail yelled, jumping up and down. “Try it on!” Her mother said. The young girl rushed to her bedroom to change her clothing. When she came out of the room, Abigail jumped around the room,

pretending she was on the moon. “Wow! It fits perfectly!” Holly exclaimed. Then, Abigail ran outside with her helium balloon, thought of a wish, and let it go.

Chapter 2

(20 years later)

“Three, two, one, blast off!” The loudspeaker roared. The rocket ship slowly rose from the ground. Inside the rocket ship, Abigail and her teammates heard a huge rush of air blow past them, as they flew off the Earth’s surface. The time has finally come! Abigail thought. She was wearing the exact same astronaut suit that Holly and Charlotte had gotten her for her ninth birthday. Suddenly, Abigail and her teammates rose from their seats and floated around the spaceship. “We have arrived!” Sally, one of Abigail’s teammates shouted. “Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!” Everyone chanted. Everyone flew around like crazy in the ship. Even Abigail did, too. “Okay, astronauts” The captain of the rocket said on the loudspeaker. “Time to get to work!” One by one, all the astronauts jumped out of the ship. Suddenly, Abigail spotted something shiny floating in the distance. She quickly told the others that she would be right back. The young astronaut silently floated towards the shiny spot. Once she got to it, Abigail gasped. What she saw was the exact same balloon she had let go on the day of her ninth birthday. She smiled as she remembered that day. She had wished to see this balloon in space when Abigail had let the balloon float up into the air in her astronaut costume. Her wish had come true!