

# ***Alpha III***

The new world



**A space adventure**

**\* Alan Little \***

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The new world - a space adventure

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## INTRODUCTION

People all over the world celebrated the millennium, the year 2000 with much joy, delight, and enthusiasm as for what the 21<sup>st</sup> century might bring them. Technology had advanced beyond all inventors' dreams during the previous one-hundred years, and many scientists wondered about where things would go, or lead to.

After the fireworks and parties had fizzled out though, the main world issue was global warming. Some people took the attitude that it wasn't going to get too serious during their lifetime, so why should they change their lifestyle, or even worry about the subject. Others, on the other hand, became fanatical about it and protested with huge demonstrations in their capital cities for their governments to 'clean up their act'.

Some scientists said that there wasn't a lot actually happening to the world to suggest that it was definitely getting hotter. They also stated that in the past, the globe's temperature had regularly altered a few degrees either side of the norm. Others argued that the polar ice caps were melting and they believed that the impact from that would be devastating, with a rise in the sea level of over two meters which would result in many countries and capital cities disappearing under the waves.

For centuries there have been many natural catastrophes, with droughts in Africa, yearly flooding on the Ganges River basin, many volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes as well, so were the climates of many countries actually changing?

On December the 26<sup>th</sup> in 2004 a massive earthquake under the Pacific Ocean caused a huge tsunami which hit Southern Thailand and its neighbouring countries. Was it due to climatic changes or simply the fact that the Earth's crust was still cooling down.

Again in 2011 another quake under the Pacific caused a tsunami to hit Japan. Thailand's monsoon season that year was so intense that it caused the worst floods in Thailand's history.

For the next seventy-three years the world's climate continued to change. Many feature films were produced on the topic of 'the end of the world'. Were they just movies or someone's prediction for what was actually going to happen?

Along the Equator the summer temperature soared to over fifty-degrees Celsius. Sea levels had risen by over three meters. The coast lines around the world were receding on a yearly basis, and Manchester England recorded the lowest ever winter temperature of minus thirty-five degrees. This was caused by cold water from the melting north-pole pushing the warm waters of the Gulf Stream further south. Our planet Earth was slowly becoming an uninhabitable place for the human race. A war broke out between China and Russia over food and oil supplies because neither of them was prepared help each other.

A Japanese scientist and astronomer Dr. Hoshinoto stunned the world's press when he published his findings, which proved the Sun was actually turning into a Super-Nova, and that, in-fact was the real cause for the world's climate to change and not a hole in the ozone layer, as previously believed to be caused by pollution and the burning of fossil fuel.

## CHAPTER ONE; THE FIRST WORLD'S CONFERENCE.

All of the world's leaders from every country were invited to attend a conference in Geneva Switzerland, to discuss Dr. Hoshinoto's findings. Europe's President chaired the meeting, he started with,

"The entire world is in danger of complete destruction. French, German and British engineers have started the construction of a city under the waves of the English Channel for them to escape from the extreme weather conditions, and I now fear that their combined efforts will in the end become a waste of time, money and resources, however can I firstly call upon the leaders of China and Russia to come to an agreement and stop this unnecessary war between them. Gentlemen...", he paused, "Now is the time for the world to work together in peace and on one goal and directive, and that is to find another planet somewhere out there in space for the human race to continue its survival. British and American scientists have confirmed Doctor Hoshinoto's research and findings. Please welcome him to this conference, Doctor, if you please."

"Thank you Mister President. Our Sun has been consuming itself for millions of years, and now, because of that, its mass has been reduced. This causes the Sun's gravity to decline and the Sun has now started to expand, which is the first stages of a Super-nova. As it expands the Sun's heat emissions increase. We have been for years blaming a hole in the ozone layer for global warming; however I now do not think that to be the case. I believe that the world's temperature will continue to increase by about two-degrees Celsius per year from now on, and we are powerless to prevent that from happening."

The room fell into silence as the doctor's words were translated through the leader's earphones. The president thanked Dr. Hoshinoto, and said,

"These are the facts..., proven facts, and not some crackpot scientist's dreams. It is my belief that we need to delegate the

world's leading scientists to get their heads together. America, China and Russia have built huge space stations, and the British have put a microwave telescope on the surface of Mars. I'm an old man Gentlemen..., but tonight we have to think about the future for our children. Think about this, if you please..., money, gold and diamonds are not going to be of any use to you when the surface of this planet starts to boil in twenty years time or so. The world's banks must open their vaults and finance this venture without any delay. I shall adjourn this meeting until nine o'clock tomorrow morning to give you the time to think about my proposal. Thank you very much, gentlemen."

"Well, Robert," (The President of the United States of America), said Harvey the American Military delegate as they walked out of the conference hall,

"I think we need to call a meeting with the British, because their crackpot scientist's always seem to come up with a lot of ridiculous ideas that actually work."

"Ha-ha Harvey," the American President laughed, "you're always straight to the point. Let's invite them to lunch and talk to them, shall we?"

"Do the Brits have lunch, Robert..., I thought they only ate dinner?"

"I'm not sure about that," he said, "but I'll invite them anyway."

After the conference most of the delegates went to their hotel rooms to freshen up and ponder over what they had listened to. George had just come out of his bathroom when the phone rang.

"George?" a voice asked.

"Yes, Prime minister," he answered.

George was the head of the United Kingdom's Space Research Center as well as the commander in chief of the Royal Air-Force.

"The American's have invited us to join them for lunch," the prime minister told him.

"Really, where's the venue?" he asked surprised.

“The Lakeside Restaurant is where they have suggested.”

“What time do they want us to be there?” George asked.

“They’ve mentioned around two o’clock.”

“Hmm...,” George paused for thought, and then he commented, “We need Stephen here, don’t we?”

“Yes..., I was actually thinking along the same lines. Do you know where he is right now?”

“No, I’m sorry, I don’t.”

“I’ll give him a call then, shall I?”

“Well..., if you don’t mind doing that, instead of me, Sir..., because he never seems to answer his phone when I want to talk to him.”

“I don’t actually think that Stephen not answering his phone would have been intentional at the time, to be truthful, George. He’s always in the middle of an experiment of some sort. He’s a very busy man, you know. I’ll give him a call and let you know how I get on.”

“Okay, Sir, good luck then, and I’ll get dressed and come to your room straight away.”

The prime minister took out his cell-phone and he called Stephen.

“Hello,” Stephen answered.

“Good morning Stephen, it’s John speaking.”

“John,” Stephen asked, “John who?”

“The British Prime Minister that is whom I am.”

“Oh..., I am sorry Sir, because I honestly didn’t recognize your voice.”

“Isn’t your video working?”

“Sorry again Sir, this is an old phone and it doesn’t have that function.”

“Well..., never mind that, Stephen because it doesn’t matter at all. Tell me please, if you would, what are you working on at the present?”

“A new drive system, Sir..., that converts space dust into propulsion energy.”

“Hmm..., that’s very interesting. Where are you, by the way?”

“I’m in a hanger at RAF Stratton.”

“Good. I’d like you to join us for luncheon, if you don’t mind?”

“Well..., I’m very busy at the moment, Sir.”

“I don’t care Stephen, because it is a matter of great urgency that we have a small meeting and I insist that you are present.”

“Where are we going to eat?” Stephen asked.

“In a restaurant at the side of the lake Geneva in Switzerland, ask the wing commander to give me a call straight away, will you..., please?”

“Yes...,” Stephen answered quite surprised, “yes of course.”

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“Hello Sir, Wing Commander Johnson speaking.”

“I need you to fly Stephen straight away to Geneva for an urgent meeting to be held at fourteen-hundred hours this afternoon. I’m sure you can do that?”

“I’ll have to get clearance for a military flight though, Sir.”

“Don’t worry about that as I shall see to it. Just get him here Commander. Use one of those new fighters that cost me sixty-five million pounds.”

“I’ll have to get approval from flight headquarters to take one of those birds for a spin..., Sir.”

“Wing Commander Johnson, listen to me will you, who am I?”

“You’re the present British Prime minister, Sir.”

“Yes, that’s right, and I have George, your commander in chief, sitting next to me. Stop wasting valuable time talking to me about red tape and procedure, and get into an aircraft.”

“Yes, of course Sir..., and without any delay.”

John switched off his phone. He turned to George and said,

“Really George, there’s no sense of adventure in our boys today. Organize his flight clearance, will you.”

“Ha-ha,” he laughed, “I already have John.”