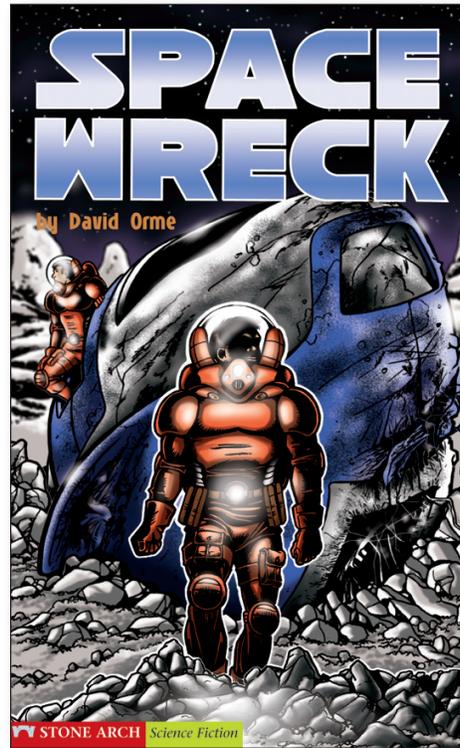




READER'S THEATER



Space Wreck **by David Orme**

Characters: **Sam, an astronaut**
Simon, an astronaut
Man 1, a space traveler
Man 2, another space traveler
Narrator

Genre: **Science Fiction**

Ages: **10-15**

Space Wreck page 1

- Narrator:** Sam and Simon were private astronauts who explored space and hunted for valuable crystals. During one of their flights, their ship, the *Cobra*, crash-landed on an asteroid.
- Sam:** Quick get your space suit on! We might be losing air!
- Simon:** Both computers are dead!
- Sam:** I thought I saw another ship when we were coming down. Maybe someone else is on this asteroid. Someone who could help us.
- Simon:** Maybe someone else is looking for crystals. They won't be happy when we show up, but it's our only chance.
- Narrator:** Sam and Simon made their way across the asteroid looking for the other ship. They had to walk slowly because of the lower gravity. If they moved too quickly, they might fly off the asteroid and go floating into outer space.
- Sam:** Woo-hoo! There it is!
- Simon:** There's a name on the side. The *Lion*.
- Narrator:** When they got closer to the ship, it was strangely quiet. Inside the *Lion*, they found two dead astronauts and a computer.
- Sam:** I wonder what happened to them.
- Simon:** It looks like their engine failed. But everything else works.
- Sam:** Their computer works?
- Simon:** Yes! We could bring the computer back to the *Cobra*. It's the same kind we use!
- Narrator:** Sam and Simon lifted out the computer and brought it back to their ship. But when they started up their ship's engines, the computer blew.
- Sam:** Looks like we've had it.
- Simon:** Maybe not. I've got a plan.

Space Wreck page 2

- Sam:** Yeah? What is it this time?
- Simon:** If we move our engine across to the *Lion*, we would have a working ship.
- Sam:** Move an engine? But it's huge!
- Simon:** Yes, but it hardly weighs anything here.
- Narrator:** Sam and Simon managed to remove their engine and carry it across the asteroid to the other ship.
- Simon:** Hey, look at this!
- Narrator:** Simon saw a small rock that was covered in green crystals.
- Simon:** Sam, we're rich. There are hundreds of crystals here!
- Sam:** Woo hoo!
- Narrator:** Sam and Simon first buried the two dead astronauts. Then they connected the new engine, powered up the ship, and took off.
- Simon:** Next stop, Mars.
- Narrator:** But then the engine stopped.
- Simon:** Great!
- Sam:** Now we're stuck floating in space forever.
- Simon:** Use the radio.
- Sam:** I can't. The *Lion's* old radios are broken.
- Narrator:** Then they heard a knocking at the spaceship door.
- Simon:** How could someone knock out here?
- Narrator:** Outside, there was a spaceship and two men in space suits. The men did not look friendly.

Space Wreck page 3

- Sam:** We're glad to see you!
- Man 1:** We're from Cosmic Salvage. Looks like your ship is in trouble.
- Man 2:** Space law says half your ship belongs to us if we help you.
- Narrator:** Sam did not want to give up half of the ship to the men.
- Man 1:** We'll just wait till your air runs out. Then we can claim the whole ship.
- Narrator:** So Sam and Simon agreed to have the men tow the *Lion* back to Mars.
- Sam:** I hope they don't find our crystals. If they do, we'll lose our fortune.
- Simon:** I know. Just one crystal will pay for a brand new ship. And when we go back to collect the rest, we'll never have to work again!
- Narrator:** Someone will go back to collect the crystals on that lonely asteroid. Will it be Sam and Simon, or will it be the two salvage men?

THE END