

Alien Mothers

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05.08.2265

“It is with great fanfare and celebration that Earth bids farewell to Alec Steel and Charlie Hayes. The first humans to travel through the Zeta wormhole. It has been almost a century since humanity first contacted the Haaravan culture on the other side of the anomaly yet we still know next to nothing about them. Communications have been slow due to the time dilation within the wormhole itself however one thing has been made clear; the Haaravan people need our help. Due to reasons, we are yet to translate this all-female species is unable to procreate among themselves but thanks to a quirk of fate, human males may be the key to saving their species. Thanks to the wormhole’s delay we likely won’t know the outcome of the pairing for many decades but we shall await word of our brave heroes and their offspring in the years to come with baited breath.”

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Alec awoke to the hiss of his cryopod opening, warm air brushed against his skin as his eyes fluttered open. It seemed like mere seconds ago he was closing them, ready for the voyage ahead and he felt that same boyish excitement builds in his chest. He blinked away the blur coating his vision and sat up quickly to glance over to the other pod, Charlie was stretching out his muscular shoulders and yawning. Their eyes met and the two men exchanged wide smiles.

When they had joined the United Space program, they had never dreamed that this would be their fate. Not only were they going to go down in history as the saviours of an entire race but they were going to do it by spending their days sleeping with beautiful alien women who were eagerly awaiting them. First contact had been made back when Alex’s grandfather was just a boy so he had grown up hearing tales of their alien friends his entire life. Every few years there were new breakthroughs in the translation of Haavaran’s language and texts. He, like all humans, eagerly awaited each new update with baited breath hoping to learn more about their new interstellar friends. The idea of an all-female race had captured his imagination and he wasn’t ashamed to admit he’d spent many a night as an adolescent imagining a green skinned beauty abducting him. When it had been announced the race was slowly dying out due to a degenerative genetic condition that prevented them from reproducing, he had felt genuine sorrow. A sorrow that had later turned to elation and then desire when he learned of the cure their combined races had devised.

It seemed humans and Haavaran’s shared several similar genetic markers, some even theorised that perhaps they shared a common ancestor. With the help of several human volunteers, they could cross breed. DNA and RNA could then be taken from said offspring and used to synthesised a cure for the Haaravan infertility, thus saving the race and forever combining their two species. Of course, that would mean human men would need to travel through the wormhole and due to its unstable temporal nature, likely never return.

Alex hadn’t hesitated for a second to volunteer.

Images didn't travel through the wormhole so they had only their translated descriptions but even they were enough for Alec. Haaravan's were a few feet taller than humans, bipedal, muscular with green skin and two long antennae that sprouted from their heads. In the weeks leading up to their departure Alec had dreamed of green skinned Amazonians every night.

"Not long now!" Charlie smiled before tapping at his temple, "Do you think these translation chips are going to work? From what I understood those guys in linguistics were still working out the finer details of Haaravan language."

"I'm sure we'll figure it out." Alec shrugged, "and if we don't well, they all know why we are here. I'm sure body language will suffice."

Charlie wiggled his eyebrows suggestively and they both laughed. It was a shame it was just the two of them; but due to time passing faster on this side of the wormhole than the other, few men wanted to give up their entire lives even if it meant living a life of luxury and sex. The dilation seemed to speed up and slow almost randomly, according to the communications they had received over the decades a month on earth could be a year on Haraa, sometimes more. Still, he was sure that after their reports arrived, more men would be on the way.

While it had passed in an instant for his mind, Alex's body felt stiff from the months of cryosleep. He stretched, gently working the knots out of his muscles form just as they had been taught. Once limbered up both he and Charlie made their way to the command console of their ship with baited breath.

According to their auto pilot, the shuttle had been directed to land in the courtyard of the Havaaran Central Authority building. The sensors showed a handful of lifeforms outside, no doubt awaiting their arrival. Alec opened one of the storage containers and was pleased to see his bags had survived the travel without issue. Using the reflective metal of his cryopod he quickly combed his damp brown hair back into place. With a satisfied smile he ran a hand over the stubble on his chin, he looked roguish if he did say so himself. Hopefully the Haaravan women thought so too; even if he was destined to be the father of many of their children, he wanted to make a good first impression.

"Ready for this?" Charlie called; hand poised over the airlock switch.

"Born ready."

The platform lowered and Alec found himself momentarily blinded by sunlight as he stepped onto the Haavaaran home world for the first time. Blinking the glare from his vision he was greeted with a field of pale-yellow grass surrounded by white stone buildings. Before the pair stood several green skinned aliens and Alec felt his heart clench. The Havaaran's were indeed tall, muscular and possessed the distinctive antenna their reports had detailed however there was one big, obvious issue.

They were all *male*.

At least, that's what they looked like to Alec. With strong jaws, broad shoulders and solid bodies that were the exact opposite of the curvaceous forms he'd been imagining, it was a battle for him to keep his disappointment hidden. Oh well, so long as they were female in the way that counted, he could still enjoy himself. One stepped forward, his thick antae resting on his shoulders like dreadlocks.

"Welcome, we have been eagerly awaiting your arrival here." The voice had a slight vibration to it, whether that was normal or a result of his translation implant he had no idea.

"I am Alec." He responded, "This is Charlie, it is our honour to help your people in this time of need."

"I am Tendo." The Haaravan smiled warmly, "It was my research team which discovered the viability for cross breeding between our two species. We cannot thank you enough, you and the offspring you provide will go down in history as our greatest heroes."

Alec's chest swelled with pride as the rest of the group flocked around them. He could get over the Haaravan's masculine appearance in time, he was sure. Now that the initial disappointment was fading, he could even appreciate all the small details that had never made it through their correspondence. Their eyes were large and a variety of metallic shades and hues. Tendo's were a coppery bronze flecked with green that almost seemed to reflect the light. Their fingers also seemed an inch or two longer than their hands would suggest and possessed a fourth knuckle giving them even more dexterity. They shook his hands awkwardly in greeting, each giving their thanks and expressing fascination with both their physical appearance and culture.

"We use our antennae to greet one another." One explained, "I suppose without those appendages you will have to use your hands."

"that's just one of the usual human greetings," Charlie explained, "In some of our cultures we don't touch at all, we bow or wave to greet one another."

"Fascinating!"

Alec basked in the attention as they were lead inside one of the buildings, smooth stone shifting before his eyes to form a door. He could see more Haaravan's watching as they entered, all with the same green skinned, masculine build with thick antennae.

"We have prepared a party to celebrate your arrival." Tendo announced, leading them through the building to an open airy room decorated with a number of exotic looking plants.

"When we are done, we will show you to your new home here and we can discuss how and when to begin our experiments."

A thrill went through him at the thought of getting started; the Haaravan's weren't the green skinned Amazonians he'd been dreaming of but that was no reason to feel dejected. Tendo's eyes alone made her worth looking at, he couldn't help but wonder what they would look like filled with arousal. He wanted to ask if she would be volunteering to carry one of the many children he planned on siring here but decided against it. This was a sensitive topic still; he didn't want to risk offending his new host just yet.

The food they provided was interesting to say the least, a selection of brightly coloured sponge like cakes caught Charlie's attention. One of the Haaravan's immediately took him aside to explain how and what made them, she was looking at Charlie like a drowning woman looked at water. It seemed they needn't have worried about whether their alien friends would find them attractive or not.

Tendo came to stand by his side, offering a glass of something deep red and bubbling. Those coppery eyes raked over his form and Alec actually felt himself blush slightly. He could tell her appraisal was more than just scientific curiosity, she almost took him off guard with her boldness.

"It must have been hard, leaving not only your home but your entire planet behind." She said in a deep baritone, "We are truly grateful, I want you to know that."

Alec shrugged and took the glass, sipping at the oddly thick liquid.

"Honestly, I jumped at it. Ever since I was a kid I wanted to go into space, knowing there was a whole other planet with an alien species out there to meet, it was so fascinating. I never had the mind for science though, so I went the army training route and well, turns out being in good physical shape was a prerequisite."

Tendo chuckled and they clinked glasses.

"I too, grew up fascinated by humanity. I have always wanted to meet your people. It's what drove me into this field of genetic experimentation. That and my desire for a family of my own. When the doctors told me I was affected by the genetic degradation, I wasn't surprised, most of us are, but it was still painful."

Alec felt compassion bloom in his chest. Despite his volunteering for this position, he'd never been much of a family person. But he understood how hard it must be for Tendo and her people, slowly watching their numbers dwindle and unable to do anything about it.

"I must admit." Tendo said somewhat sheepishly, "You are not quite what we expected males to look like according to your descriptions."

Alec and Charlie shared a confused glance when his own alien companion nodded in agreement. Both of them were fit, nowhere near as muscular as the Haavaran's sure but still undeniably masculine in their physic. Charlie had that pretty surfer boy aesthetic with his shaggy blonde hair and blue eyes. Alec meanwhile, with his short dark hair and heavy jaw was the model military man.

"In what way?" Charlie asked finally and Tendo tapped away on a pad, clearly checking her notes.

"Well, your descriptions mentioned your males often wore their anten-ahem I mean hair long. And that the growths which you use to feed your young were of a noticeable size--"

Alec felt that horror that had first started growing upon their arrival starting to build as Tendo spoke. They couldn't possibly have mistranslated such an important thing, *surely*.

"Excuse me." He said with a voice that sounded panicked despite his effort, "But what you're describing are human *females*."

"Oh," Tendo laughed, "Silly me, there must have been some sort of mix up. Such terms are quite confusing for a Unisex species such as us, you understand. Even before we lost our ability to bare children, we never had this concept you call 'gender'."

Alec's heart felt as though it was going to burst from his chest.

"You mean before you lost your ability to sire children." Charlie corrected, sounding just as panicked. Tendo stopped laughing and looked at them both seriously.

“No, I meant bare. That’s why we need human males, to be impregnated so they may provide the fresh DNA needed to synthesise a cure and bring us our first new young in a generation.”

The words seemed to bounce around in Alec’s skull as realisation and terror crashed over him. His voice came out quiet and monotone as the shock seeped in.

“So, when you said Haavaran’s were all female species you meant...?”

“A species capable of siring young.” Tendo finished.

Alec was thankful Charlie chose to spoke; his voice seemed to be failing him.

“You mistranslated.” He whispered, “You-both of us, we’re all *male*.”

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It had taken several more minutes to get Tendo to fully comprehend the magnitude of their issue. When they finally did make him understand he’d excused himself and hurried out, no doubt to talk to the other scientists to figure out how such a monumental mistake could possibly have been made. Such a simple thing, a mix up between the word male and female and because of it here was stranded here.

“What are we going to do?” Charlie paced back and forth, “Even if we go back through the wormhole decades will have passed on earth! Everybody we know will have moved on; we’d have to start from scratch!”

“Not even that.” Alec groaned, “we’ll be laughing stocks. God, can you imagine what people will say when we come back after all that fuss?”

He thought back to the weeks leading up to the mission, how he’d bragged in every interview he’d given about how he was going to spend his life fathering children with nubile women. He could never go back to Earth after all that!

“Not to mention the poor Haraavans.” Charlie said sadly, “By the time we get a message back and prep a ship full of women volunteers decades, maybe even a century will have passed here and their numbers are already dangerously low.”

Alec felt a stab of guilt; he’d not even thought about the Haraavans. His pride may have been wounded and his prospects ruined but their entire species was at stake and he’d not even realised. The guilt was quickly washed away with anger though; it wasn’t his fault they’d mistranslated; it was Tendo and his team’s.

The door slid open and Tendo walked in wearing an awkward, apologetic smile. Alec’s first instinct was to yell, to demand how such a stupid mistake happened on such an important mission but he held back. Tendo and his team may have fucked up royally but they were still his ticket to fame, fortune and hopefully a future back on Earth.

“This certainly isn’t what we had planned but luckily, we have a solution!” He announced and Alec felt the tension begin to seep from his shoulders.

He knew from his mission prep that the Haaravan’s were experts in the field of genetic manipulation, perhaps they could use some their human dna to synthesize a partial cure, enough that at least one or two new babies could be born to create a full cure later. He and Charlie could go home and be welcomed as heroes. Then he’d have his pick of human women and he could put this whole mess behind him.

“So...what’s the plan?” Alec asked.

Tendo smiled proudly.

“You are both going to become the first ever Haavaran females!”