

# The Cosmic

Written & illustrated by Saanvi Verma



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**Saanvi Verma**

To my friends and my family who've always been there for me!!

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# Chapter 1: The Dream

Aadhira floated around the silver-grey body made of rock. She had the whole trampoline to herself and she stopped, occasionally, to gaze at the blue marble that hung in the expansive, beautiful blackness.

“Aadhira, wake up!! Titan is lifting off, come on you slow coach!” shouted an oddly familiar voice. Her mind clicked back to reality, realising that she was still at her house, in her room and in her own comfy bed.

She sighed, yearning for more time in her cosmic adventure, and picked herself off of her bed – or as she would say – comfort zone.

Then she stopped and froze, overwhelmed with a mixture of confusion and surprise.

Did her sister say Titan was lifting off? She rushed to her calendar just to find that the Titan's launch was three days after. Ughhh. She got dressed, wondering why her sister would try to wake her up, still wanting to believe what Samaira said was real.

As she trudged downstairs, urging her mind to stay awake, she knew she had to get through Friday to earn her reward for the holidays!!

Excited, Aadhira squealed as they were going to travel to America with her friends (except for Florence, which was sad) to see the spaceship, Titan, blast off and journey to Mars . She was even more mesmerised as this was the first time people had gone to Mars.

Reaching the floor, she held onto herself trying to stabilise her every action. “Only 17 more hours to go,” she thought to herself.

"I'm afraid it's just toast today ladies," called her Dad as she stumbled into the kitchen. Her sister, who was leaning across the bar stand, was moaning about utterly stupid things, according to her Dad, such as, "Ughh, toast again. Seriously Dad!".

Her Dad, however, did not agree with her continuous complaints and had something else to say.

"Sammy, stop moaning, otherwise that concert of yours, which seemed so important to you that you would rather die than not go, will be cancelled. And I am not sitting here taking you to your silly concerts if you do not finish your homework like the other kids. I am not a fool and you should know that."

Aadhira, desperate to escape the awkwardness, walked toward the breakfast that lay forgotten in the mayhem of the argument.

She was feeling so entranced by the warm, delicious toast – though her reaction was hardly surprising as she had just been on a trip where she had to stay over at a farm and everything was bad quality (including the toast).

She gobbled it up with no care whatsoever for the mess she had made, as she was wondering what was in store for her today.

## Chapter 2 : The Plan

At school, Aadhira's group, The Cosmic, aka her best friends, Autumn Harper, Florence Granger and Stella Knight, were planning on how they would sneak Florence onto their trip to America.

The girls all wanted to be astronauts and they knew that their plan, even at the very best, was probably not going to work (except Stella who disagreed) .

Everyone knew that if they weren't going to see Titan lift off in America, their school bully (Valentina Beaumont) would bully them about that for the rest of their lives because **she** was going (of course she was!).

Though Stella didn't think that Valentina was a problem (she called Valentina, Dumbentina Bleughmont), she knew that Florence could stand up to her. The problem was that Stella wanted all of them to have that moment together and share the joy of watching Titan. They could always tell her Dad tomorrow that Florence was coming as well (he was buying the ticket). Stella had this idea she called the 'Master Plan'.

“So, in the Master Plan, we break into the main control room by turning off the security tech, with the help of Autumn’s amazing hacking skills, and get past the people in the room with no security guards to worry about. If there is, well you guys have got me, I mean you’ve already seen what I’ve done to the Dumbentina.

From there we turn off the security tech in the whole building, so that we can get to the ground control room to get a better view. I even have a blueprint of the place to be on the safe side.”

Everyone agreed with what Autumn suggested.

“Maybe we should concentrate on getting Florence there before thinking about some really bizarre things like breaking into the main control room, I mean seriously Stella...”

“Fine, but you have to admit, it’s pretty cool right?” Stella replied.

Nobody had the time to tell her, as they had to go inside and sit through their last lessons of the day. But they all agreed to text each other and go to the park if anything wrong, unusual or weird had happened. And you know when you have a feeling that something lucky and unusual is going to happen?

Well Aadhira was having that very feeling.



## Chapter 3 : Stage 1

“Why would they cancel it and do it a day before? That’s just so unscientific of them, especially since they are from NASA. I mean cancel it from a Monday to a Sunday. And Dad, Florence’s Mum is okay with her coming to America. In fact she’s okay for Florence to go on her own,” Aadhira exclaimed matter-of-factly.

Her Dad looked very unconvinced, especially as Madelyn (Florence’s mum) was very over-protective and she even thought sleepovers were unsafe.

Surprisingly, her Dad thought about it for a minute and said, “Well. if you say so, I’ll book her ticket but give me

Madelyn’s signature and a note just to be sure that you’re not lying...”

“Okay, Dad – you can trust me,” she said a little too confidently.

“Well, I need it today as we might go today, if I can find her ticket; otherwise we will have to go tomorrow and watch the recorded lift off, but we will have a tour of America and I will then take your friends to Disneyland and...”

“I get it, anyway I’m off,” she cut-in.

She zoomed straight to the park to inform her friends that stage 1 is accomplished. Now it was time for stage 2.

All of the members of Cosmic knew that it wasn’t stage 1 that was the hardest. It would be stage 2.

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## Chapter 4 : Stage 2 Accomplished

“What did you say!?!” exclaimed Florence, hardly believing her ears.

“Yes, it’s true! She did allow you to go on a ‘sleepover’ for a week,” replied Autumn, even more excited than Florence.

Aadhira, with the note firmly in her hand and her friends by her side, phoned her Dad who said he found a ticket for Florence and that all four should get their suitcases ready and show the note when Aadhira and her friends got home.

They had already packed so they rushed to Aadhira’s house and waited on the doorstep for her Dad to finish checking the note like it was a passport and he was the FBI.

## Chapter 5: The Trip

They arrived in America after a long trip on the aeroplane, filled with naming some funny universal jokes such as, why did the chicken cross the road, laughing with each other, playing games on their tablets and eating aeroplane food. The scrumptious and alluring food. She could smell the enchanting smell from miles away. The chocolate mousse was a haven of dark chocolate mixed with whipped cream and strawberry.

She felt like she was in heaven. There had never been an opportunity in her life to eat this much quality food.

Then, she remembered Stella's 'Master Plan'. She knew that Stella would go on and on about how Cosmic should do it together, because they had all four of the team in one place and that it would prove why they chose Cosmic for their Gang name.

When she thought about it properly, she decided it was daring but meaningful and maybe even possible. Walking through the streets it seemed as if they were all thinking the same thing.

What about Stella's plan? Should we do it? Is it a bit too wild? What are we thinking?

## Chapter 6: NASA

"Right, this is the blueprint for the place that we are going to!" Stella practically screamed.

"We are not going to break in as it's too dangerous, let's just calmly wait until we can go there and enjoy the view. That's what we're here for, am I right?" Autumn calmly sat down in a chair at the hotel looking at Florence and Aadhira expectantly. They both just nodded mutely.

They had all settled down and were currently in a hotel in America, waiting for Aadhira's Dad to tell them that the taxi had arrived and they were going to NASA headquarters to witness Titan for the first time, live in front of them (not on the TV). The only problem was her Dad was not walking up to them and telling them to come. Instead her Dad was pacing up and down the kitchen, waiting patiently for the phone to ring.

It felt like aeons until the phone rang, but as soon as it did, everyone had everything set and ready to go.

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“Guys, are you sure about this? I mean, well, it's a bit crazy isn't it? We have a delightful view from up here,” said Autumn.

They had gone to watch Titan from one of the tallest NASA buildings with a high view. They were all (except Aadhira's Dad), in the women's toilets planning their next move in order to reach the ground control room.

Everyone agreed what they were going to do, except Florence who was looking very anxious indeed.

“Florence, get your butt over here! We need to share this moment together and it will be fine. Seriously, nothing will happen,” called Aadhira, exasperated.

Florence edged closer, one tiny step at a time, whilst the others continued planning. They had everything covered except the laser room, which was a room full of lasers

which you couldn't turn off from any of the other rooms (without a code anyway).

However, Autumn, being the one and only genius in the group, said that she could hack into the system and figure out the code.

Everything was set.

Now it needed to be put in action.

## Chapter 7: The Door

“That was exhausting!” exclaimed Autumn. She had just done some heavy level hacking and she was sweating.

They were in the laser room and Autumn had just hacked into the server to find the code, which took hours, but finally she found it and the group were able to get past the laser room to reveal a vast hall with a white door (like the ones at the airport which connects the aeroplane with the airport).

The room was full of computers and other small and huge varieties of devices but empty of people.

Autumn was attracted to the computers whilst the others were more interested in either the rocket or the door.

“Do you guys know that Kayla Ansbro, Harriet Wessemen and Cammile Daykin are the astronauts on the spaceship?” Autumn squealed excitedly.

“Guys, I can hear people coming, let's hide behind the white door,” Aadhira whispered and they all ran towards the door, pulled it open and hopped inside.

“It's cold in here,” murmured Florence.

“Shhh, people are coming closer to the door, listen,” Stella half-whispered back.

“The lift off for this very spaceship is about to start,” an unfamiliar but manly voice spoke.

“And we will make the most of it, I hope” another voice boomed.

The group all looked at each other.

All of them were thinking the same thing.

Did that man mean what they were hiding in?

## Chapter 8: The Team

“How did you guys get in? You’re just regular kids!” asked Harriet Wessemen.

“Harry, they must be ‘really intelligent’ to have got in. Now go give them their uniforms to wear whilst we wait for a response on what to do about them,” scolded Kayla Ansbro.

The team was on a rocket. Not just any rocket, it was the Titan. Not one member of Cosmic would have dreamed this would happen to them at such a young age.

Even if it did, they would shrug it off and think that it was in their dreams.

But now they were on a rocket and were flying to Mars as part of the NASA group. And that was what surprised them the most.

“Well guys, the children stay, it’s too costly to withdraw the mission,” Kayla sighed.

“Isn’t that great! I didn’t know we had extra duties, this stuff was enough for me and children aren’t my piece of cake. Plus if they’ve managed to get on the rocket, what else will they get up to?!” exclaimed Cammile Daykin.

“Well aren’t you the negative one,” chuckled Harriet (Harry).

“Harry, you really can’t say much!” exclaimed Cammile, who shoved Harriet onto her side.

“Guys take a chill pill. You guys are the ones acting like kids now. Anyway, we won’t be taking care of kids as we’ll pop them on one of the extra return ships that we stashed.

They're just staying for a few seconds, that's all. Ahaa, we have arrived and we will now send you on a return trip to Earth, otherwise your parents will be upset and so will our bosses. I'd call it a win-win," Kayla said (surprisingly) excitedly.

The four nodded mutely, barely moving, and floated over to the second rocket that was attached at the other end of the rocket they were in.

## Epilogue

"I do not want all four of you, any of you, going on 'missions' whilst you're under my control ever again. This is unacceptable. They have written your names in the Guinness Book of World Records for the youngest people in space. It is very unthoughtful going into space - especially as a child - as it can be life-threatening."

"Well, we are here in front of you, Dad and nothing has happened to us..."

"Girls, you have to hurry up if you want a last view of the sunset, we are almost out of time as Florence's mum has strict sleeping times. I still can't believe she allowed



Florence to come to ours for a sleepover after what happened in America!”

“Dad we’re off!”.

The four girls settled themselves on the grass, gazing up at the sky above. The smell of chocolate drifted over to their noses, each of them taking in the spectacular smell from the local bakery that was currently closing down.

The sky above them looked down on them, with its peachy Alpen glow. A tint of orange was hidden away between the extensive, puffy, cotton clouds that hung in the magical airspace.

Just by looking at it, staring it in its face, they understood the beauty the sky held in its palms.

They all looked at each other and hugged knowing they probably wouldn’t experience another adventure quite like this.

Suddenly, they saw a shooting star glinting in the vast distance and wished...

They all wished to experience more adventures like the one they had just had. But what they didn’t know was that the shooting star wasn’t a shooting star.

It was the spaceship that Kayla, Cammile and Harriet were on.

And it seemed to be crashing down to Earth.

**saronti**



We hope that you and your family and friends enjoy the book that you have created.

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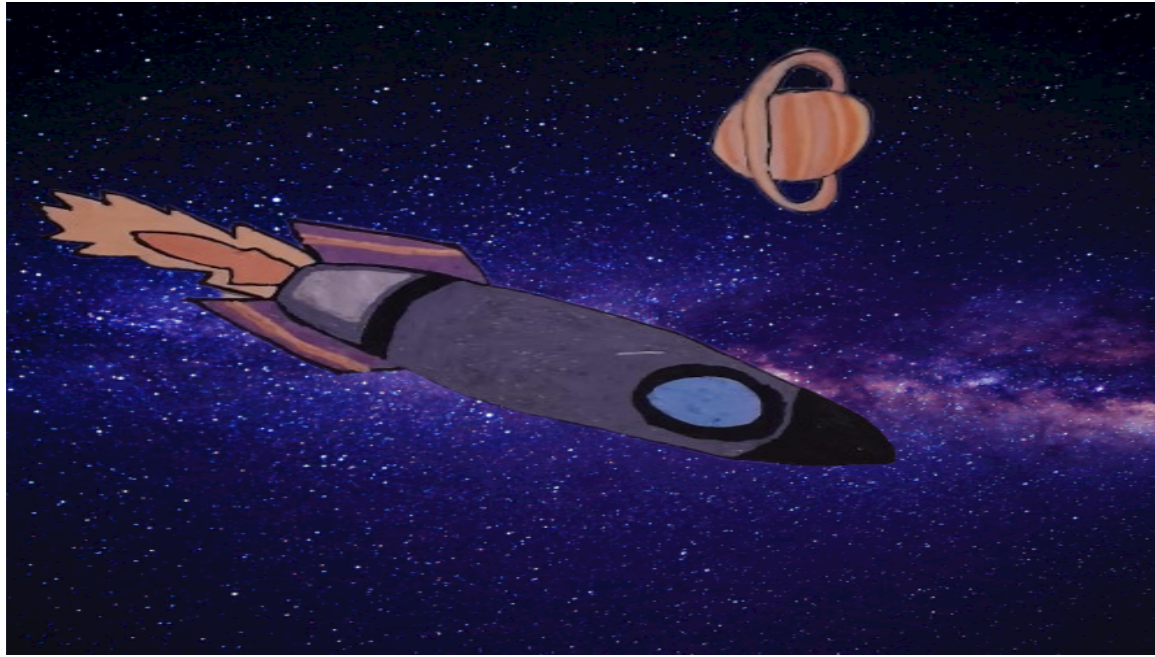
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Join the Cosmic team on their adventures as they get up to mischief. Not only do they sneak their friend into their trip to America they also get stuck inside a secret NASA room. Read on to find out how they escape and what other surprises await them.