FROM THE AUTHOR OF

THE LOSST SHIP POTEO3 HENRY

CREATED BY DAN BARKER

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Main typeset in Rokkit by Vernon Adams Logo typeset in Porta by Alejo Bergmann

Cover created in Adobe Photoshop, © Adobe.

Written and produced in Microsoft Word, © Microsoft and in Google Docs, © Google, and formatted to file type of Portable Document Format, © Adobe.

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THE LOSIF SHIP CREATED BY

CREATED BY DAN BARKER Part One: Epitale Three:

"HENRY"

Written by

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IN THE PREVIOUS EPITALE

After the dark mysterious figure battered his way through Jodie's sleeping quarters, she passed out. When she woke up she felt dizzy, she was drugged. Just as she was coming to, her heart rate increased and she was not in good shape.

Her heart rate slowed down and slowed down until she couldn't open her eyes anymore.

Is Jodie alive?

The heart monitor continued to beep at a steady and consistent tempo. Jodie is alive. She's alive, but it didn't look good for her. She wasn't stable, not yet at least. Her brain was still active though, in and out of dreams and an empty black void.

Something like twenty-four to twenty-six hours later, Jodie woke up. She was very dizzy and not feeling well at all but she was okay, at least that's what she thought. After taking a minute to get her brain back on track she realised she was still on the ship, why she thought she had left in the first place she didn't know, but she recognised the room. Unsurprisingly but somewhat surprising to a disoriented Jodie - it was the medical bay. Whoever took her door down and drugged her obviously wanted to keep her alive. *But why?* Jodie thought to herself. *What good am I? I'm just an engineer*, the little voice in the back of her head whispered.

Suddenly, the door opened, making an electronic, swooping noise - all the doors on the ship made this sound. - Jodie could just about see where she was from the left and to the right but the blinding light that was still above her was obscuring her vision dramatically and she couldn't see who came in.

"Just stay calm, you need to rest." A very deep voice ominously spoke to Jodie.

"What do you want with me?" Jodie asked stumbling over her words and trembling with fear.

"Nothing, calm down, it's okay."

"You drugged me! Beat down my door!" Jodie was getting agitated as the man walked closer and closer to her.

"Jodie, I can expla-"

"How do you know my name? Who are you?!" Jodie bellowed at the man before he moved the light out of the way and leant forward revealing his face.

"Henry?" Jodie was taken aback, she knew this man - well, seen him around at least - it was Henry Jones, he was part of the defence team, a field officer. He was a tall, six-foot-five man with a bald head, dark skin and biceps bigger than Jodie's head. He was a gentle giant, from what she heard, so *why would he do all this?* She thought.

"Yes. You see, when my sleeping quarters door unlocked I thought lock-down was over and everything was okay, it turns out it was a malfunction, after what happened it wasn't safe to have the doors open so I needed an engineer to fix the door and keep us safe, apparently, you're the best on the ship so I came to find you but you fainted. I brought you to the medical bay and Doctor Jefferies put you on the drugs to help you get better but with the system down he wasn't able to see what drugs you were allergic to, you went into level 5 anaphylactic shock before the Doc brought you back around." Henry said, his voice slightly trembling as he rushed his words out, as if he felt an urge to explain everything within thirty seconds.

"But why didn't you talk? Why didn't you answer me and why did you break my door down?" Jodie interrogated the muscular field officer.

"I didn't shout back at you down the corridor because we shouldn't make noise, it isn't safe, especially with those things roaming around!" Jones explained.

"And my door?" Jodie challenged.

"I needed to get to you but you locked your door!"

"What happened to being quiet? and knocking normally?"

"I was acting frantically." Henry paused, there was a slight look of fear in his dark brown eyes. "It isn't safe to be out with those things roaming free!" Henry continued.

"What things?" Intrigued by the fact that Henry seemed to know what happened.

"I don't know what they are. They're alien we know that much. You don't know what actually happened do you?"

"No? Is the captain still alive?" Jodie wondered.

"Captain Coly is long gone. She went when they came."

"Who came?"

"We don't know, all we know as that this ship is turned upside down, several systems and hardware are malfunctioning and the corridors are looming with disgusting, horrifying creatures."

"Who else is alive?" Jodie asked.

"Since the doors unlocked and made everyone vulnerable, so far, we only know of me, you and the Doc-"

Interrupting Henry was a deep *boom* sound that shook and rattled the room, as if something struck the entire ship with a huge amount of force. "Shh... they're here." whispered Henry as he placed his hand over Jodie's mouth, shaking.

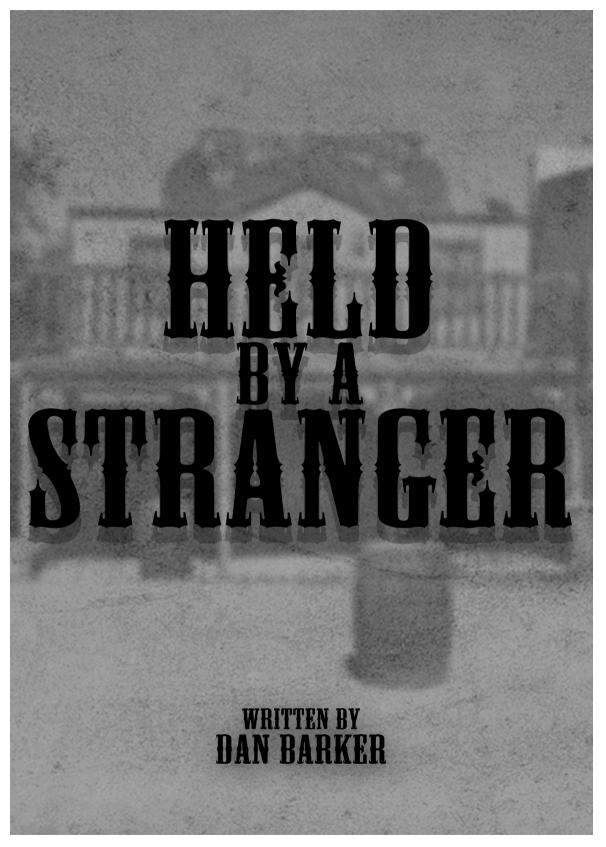
TO BE CONTINUED

Who is in the medical bay? What actually happened to the ship and crew? What will happen if these creatures get their hands on Jodie, Henry and Doctor Jeffries?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dan Barker was born in Nottingham, England on January 4th 1999. Dan has always been imaginative and creative but it wasn't until he discovered writing that he was able to actually create the worlds and characters he wanted. Dan started as screenwriter and still remains, though writing stories and books are his main focus right now. Dan writes many short stories and books a year with the help of his editor and partner, actress and writer, Somalia Carty.

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