

# The Lost Astronaut

“Three, two, one blastoff!” The rocket Alpha 2 launched into the sky with such speed that it almost immediately broke the sound barrier right after it got off the ground. Everyone was hoping that everything would go nicely and that the one person in the rocket, Michael Finnly, would be safe, especially after the Alpha 1 accident occurred. The goal for the Alpha 2 is to go to Mars, land there, stay there for a day, then come back to earth. It also was the year of 2094. On Mars there is an extreme amount of radiation because of the atmosphere so he will have to stay in the rocket for most of the time or make a quick Mars base that NASA gave to him in this pack thing. You would think it would take months to get to Mars. That is what was predicted before. Now scientists have found out a new technology that lets them use fuel very efficiently and go very fast. The estimated time to get there is ten days.

When Michael was looking out the window adoring the view of the earth in the distance he decided he should check on the system to make sure nothing went wrong unlike the Alpha 1 where everything went wrong. First he made sure the engines were off so he didn't go flying off in the rocket. After that he went to the cargo bay where a lot of the engine and fuel stuff were. And then he saw it. He saw gas coming out of one of the fuel tanks from outside the window. That could be very dangerous since it could light the whole ship up. “Houston we have a problem,” said Michael. “What is it?” said the mission controller. “There is a leak in the fuel tank and it might blow the ship up but it's not that bad. How do I...” The mission controller heard a boom and then the line went dead.

The next day NASA received a transmission from Michael. They had no idea how he survived it. “Need...help...” said Michael. The day after that NASA launched another rocket with a very well trained astronaut. The rocket launched. It wasn't as fast as Alpha 2 but it was still fast. It was called the Argo 5. Also the name of the astronaut that's going on the rescue mission is named Bob. When Bob got into orbit he had to wait until he got to his apparatus so he could start his burn towards Michael Finnly. The apparatus is the highest point of your orbit. Once he got there he started his burn and he aimed up since the scientists looked at Michael's position and calculated that he would be halfway to the moon. The reason he is that far out is since while the rocket was flying it was flying up and it's really fast so then when the explosion happened it still went the same direction and Michael traveled with its orbit. Once Bob got to the spot he had to do a bit of looking. Then he finally found Michael. He was squirming around for some reason. “Probably because his suit is low on oxygen and that must be painful,” said Bob. Soon after he said that he opened the airlock and floated after him. He was successful in getting him back in the ship safely. Bob also had to learn how to use first aid and trauma kits in his training so he just strapped Michael up into a bed and then hooked him up to a breathing thing. After that he went back into the pilot's seat and prepared for re-entry. They had a pretty smooth re-entry at 3000 degrees fahrenheit or 1649 celsius. In the year 2096 as you probably already know the technology is way better so they can land right in the place where they launched. Once they walk onto the ground there was already a mob of people waiting for their return. That night they had a huge party but sadly Michael was not able to join because as you know he was low on oxygen and in pain. Everybody had fun at the party and a few people got drunk and passed out, but thankfully nobody got in car crashes. because they had so much fun. In a couple of years a new rocket was invented. The Alpha 3. And this time it was successful. The End.