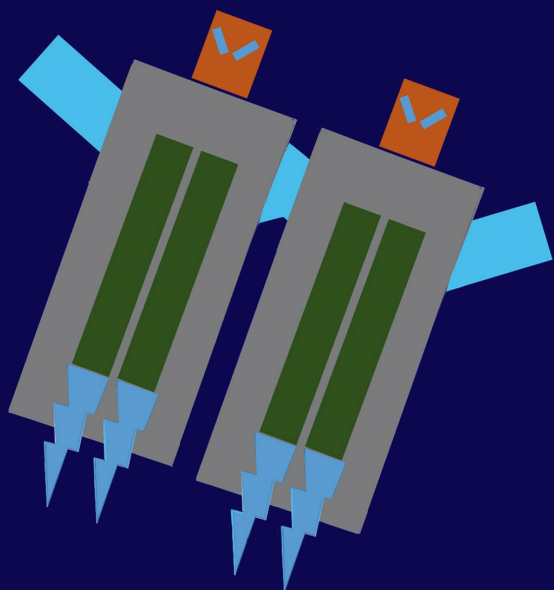
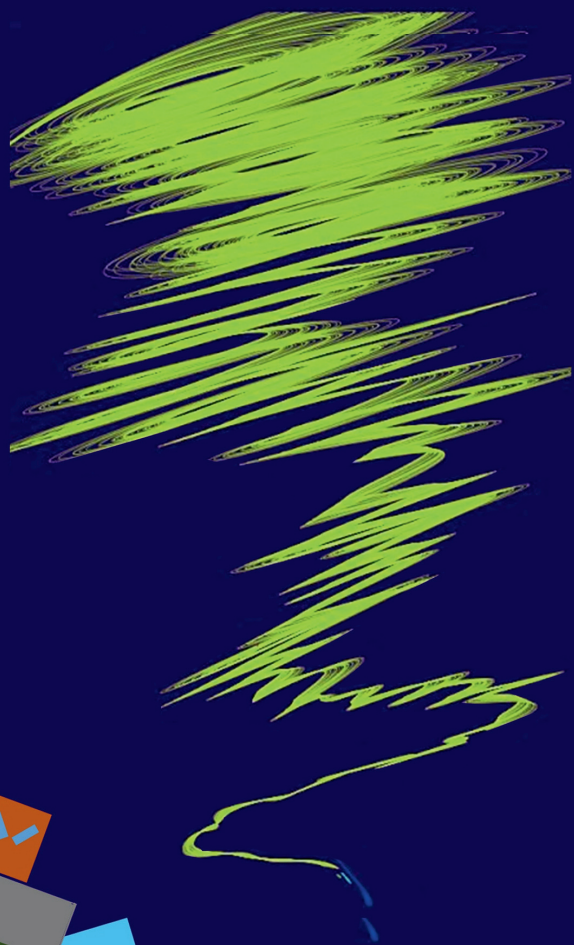


# SAM'S JOURNEY AROUND SPACE

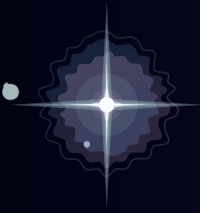


Turbo  
Phantratanamongkol



# Sam's Journey around Space

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*Vachiravich (Turbo) Phantratanamongkol*  
*(Year 4 Bangkok Patana School)*

# Sam's Journey around Space

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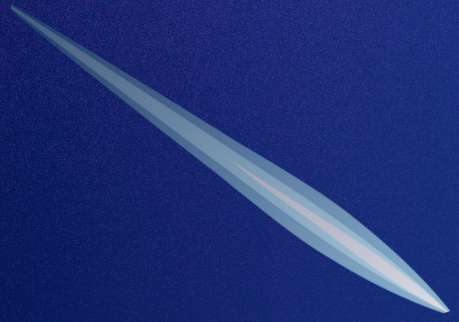
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# Chapter 1 The Tentobots

In a small town called Beaufort in North America, there lived a meek boy named Sam Spaniel. He was 8, but surprisingly, he was small, like a 4-year-old child. He was only 2 kg at the age of 1, 4 kg at 2 and only 9 kg at 5. However, he could say words at around 5 months old and read newspapers at 1.

Sam loved to assemble, break apart, fix and invent things. Although Sam was super-smart, at school, Sam did not impress teachers as he always daydreamed about his next inventions in class. At times, he was punished and had to stand outside the classroom, but he spent this free time usefully figuring out how his inventions would function properly.

One starry night, Sam was in the backyard looking at the full moon. "What is that big bear in the sky? It's spectacular...I need to find out!" thought Sam.

Sam eagerly returned to his bedroom and searched on Google for the group of stars in the shape of the big bear. Sam muttered to himself, "Oh...I know now. It's the third largest constellation in the sky, called Ursa Major the Great Bear."

Ursa Major is in the north, containing a group of seven bright stars and planets. Sam, becoming curious, was madly inspired by its beauty: so much so as to invent something and travel there.

As brilliant as he was, he made an extraordinary spaceship in an old run-down, abandoned garage near his house, the only private place where he could make his inventions. The ship was even better than the NASA rockets he was inspired by.

It was called Tentobot-a robot with tentacles. It had everything needed to be used in space, even a super-condensed TNT bomb and a laser gun. The condensed TNT bomb could release the energy of 0.02 megatons which could destroy even a large island, while the 3,000 kilowatts laser gun would blast cars a mile away! Its tentacles would help to grab any objects coming to attack the ship.

"This is extraordinary!" declared Sam.

"It's time to ask Pete to come along," thought Sam. Pete Pomeranian was Sam's beloved neighbour.

They always played together after school. Pete was a genius at computer programming.

The next day, Pete walked into the garage, stunned and amazed by the Tentobots.

"This is super- amazing! I need one for myself too," said Pete.

Pete and Sam helped build the second Tentobot, and the two Tentobots combined to make a spaceship fit for space exploration.

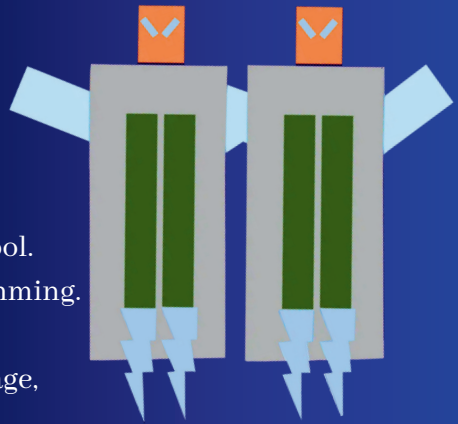
"So, what is our plan?" asked Pete.

"We will explore our solar system and beyond. I think it should take us no more than 1 week for the whole trip as our ship is one of the fastest spaceships ever!" said Sam.

"What should I tell my mum then?" mumbled Pete.

"Oh...I know. I'll tell her I'll go to a summer camp...hahaha," laughed Pete.

"Perfect idea! I'll do the same then," agreed Sam.



## Chapter 2 To Mercury

**Day 1** The day had come. It was a clear blue sky in the morning. Sam woke up early, had a quick breakfast and gave his mum a goodbye kiss.

"Take care of yourself. Hope you have a great time with your friends and teachers, Sam," said Mum.

"Absolutely, I will. Bye, mum," responded Sam.

Sam rushed to the garage and saw Pete was there already. Both boys excitedly jumped into their Tentobots. The timer went 10... 9...8...7...6...5... 4...3...2...1...0... "BLAST!" and off went the Tentobots. After 3 seconds, it was a whole billion km away in space.

First, Earth looked like the 20th most enormous asteroid in the world. Ten seconds later, it appeared as the 4th smallest. After 7 minutes, Sam saw Mercury, the smallest and closest planet to the Sun in the Solar System. It was so small. It looked like a pebble.

Next, the screen showed that Earth was 70 million km away, and they suddenly landed on Mercury.

Unfortunately, a big crashing noise came from outside. Pete screamed through the control panel, "It's a huge asteroid!"

Sam shouted, "We'd better leave." The engine rumbled and roared, and the ship flew up high. Sam immediately turned the ship back towards Venus, the second planet from the Sun and the second brightest object in the night sky after the Moon.

One of the Tentobots announced, "We have travelled for 240 million km". A few minutes later, there was an even louder roar and a shot in space, and the ship finally landed on Venus.

## Chapter 3 To Venus

On Venus, they were excited to explore. They put space suits on and went outside. Immediately they could feel the boiling heat. “The temperature outside is 432 degrees Celsius,” reported the control panel. Even inside the suits, Sam could feel the terrible heat.

“Ohhh Noooo, HURRY UP, Sam. Let’s go in the rover,” shouted Pete. Sam pressed the green button at once, and the little rover picked them up and moved towards the ship across the planet. The rover took photos of volcanoes and surroundings while also grabbing some samples of stones and rocks, all within 10 seconds. Then they got back onto the ship.

“Go now.” commanded the Tentobots.

“Of course,” said Sam, and the ship went straight into space.

The system showed it went 200 million km in only 27 minutes.

“Hooray, I can’t believe we are safe from that crazy massive fireball, Venus. I thought we were going to be roasted chickens!” bellowed Pete.


Unfortunately, there was another crash as loud as the roar of a lion, and the Tentobots went as fast as they could. However, it was heading in the wrong direction towards the Sun.

In a minute, it passed Mercury and went through the Sun.

“I can’t believe that the Tentobots did that!” said Sam loudly.



At once, there was a muffled giggle from the storage room. It was Porsche Poodle. Porsche was a 7-year-old cousin of Sam. Although he was only 1 year younger than Sam and Pete, his



behaviour was like that of a 4-year-old. "How did you get up here?" asked Pete.

"I heard your conversation about this sooooo interesting adventure, but you didn't invite me, so I just sneaked in," chuckled Porsche.

"Goodness Gracious!" exclaimed Sam

"You played around with the computer. Do you know you almost killed us all?" yelled Pete.

"Sorry, I didn't do it on purpose. I was just being curious," explained Porsche.

"Stop playing around or you won't be in our team," threatened Sam.

Pete programmed the system, targeting Jupiter. Soon after, the ship passed Earth and Mars (everyone decided that Mars was overrated).



At around 700 million km from Earth, close enough to Jupiter, the largest gas giant in the solar system, they saw a humongous tornado that lasted for 600 years.

All of a sudden, there was a crash and a boom, and the Tentobots swirled and twirled in the tornado. A vast amount of gas around the ship rose the three boys up to the ship's roof.

"Help! Help! I'm stuck at the top here," cried Porsche.

They were stuck on the ceiling of the ship. Sam told Pete to pull one handle, and faster than a blink of an eye, one of the tentacles sucked the whole tornado in.

"Yeah! We are free now," cheered Porsche.

The ship was finally out of the atmosphere of Jupiter, the largest and the most massive planet in the solar system, and

flew off to Saturn, another gas giant. From out of nowhere, the Tentobots were pulled and spun into Saturn's ring, which was composed of ice, rocks and dust, moving at the wind speed of 1,800 km/hour.

"I know what to do," claimed Porsche



This time, Porsche was the one who controlled another tentacle, grabbing all objects around the ship. He struggled for a while but was successfully able to get the Tentobots out of the ring. "Hooray! Three cheers for Porsche" praised Sam.

"Our next target is Pluto," continued Sam.

"Great! Pluto is where I have always dreamed of", beamed Pete.



## Chapter 4 To Pluto and Eris

**Day 2** The ship passed Uranus and Neptune, the so-called ice giants and the most distant planets in the solar system. In just less than 15 minutes, they saw Pluto, a dwarf planet orbiting the Sun.

"Pluto is so so small," cried Pete.

"Yep, It's only half the width of the United States," added Sam.

Finally, the ship landed on Pluto, 5.71 billion km away from Earth. The three boys jumped off the ship, but they floated and couldn't really stand on the icy ground.

"Gosh! It's freezing cold here and how come we are floating?" wondered Porsche.

"The temperature here is 375 to 400 degrees Fahrenheit (223 degrees Celsius) below zero. Lucky that our spacesuits are designed for this terribly cold weather. Also, Pluto has only about one-fifteenth the gravity of Earth. That's why we float," explained Sam.

"Look further...what is that?" questioned Pete.


Sam answered, "It's Eris, the most massive and second-largest dwarf planet known in the solar system. Eris is also the furthest from the Sun. Let's go there."

The ship landed on Eris. Porsche opened the door; just a second later, he screamed, "It's cold here too!"

"Because it's -230 degrees," answered a shivering Sam.

"Oh yes but we are at the edge of the solar system now," continued Pete.

Right after the three boys got off the ship, they accidentally slipped into an ice cave. They tried to think of a way to get out of there safely.



They thought and thought until they started to dig through the cave, and finally, they made it. Without hesitating, they ran back onto the ship, and blasted off very quickly, 6,400 times faster than the speed of light.

"It's bedtime on Earth," remarked Sam.

"Does anyone want to go to sleep?"

"No, we're too pumped up to sleep," replied both Pete and Porsche.

"Okay then," said Sam, "You really should - there are many more adventures to come. I'll just go to bed alone then."



## Chapter 5 The Battle

**Day 3** The next day, the third day of the trip, everyone woke up at 5 p.m., Earth time. Sam saw Centauri A, the brightest star and the second closest to Earth in our Universe. Pete and Porsche were still sleepy, so they went back to sleep until the next day.

While they were sleeping, the Tentobots were beeping, reporting that the ship was actually 4.39 light-years (40.6 trillion km) away from Earth. When it got closer, Centauri A was so incandescent that Sam's eyes couldn't stand it, even with the special ray & light-proof glasses he made. He then headed to Rigel Kentaurus, the third closest star to Earth; however, this star was so hot that it burnt some part of Sam's Tentobot, causing the ship to go in the wrong direction. Instead of Rigel Star, it went to Wolf 359. The ship headed right towards the star.

Sam called, "Pete, fix the engine now. We don't wanna be grilled here. We have to pass it immediately!"

"Oh, I love it. This trip is so exciting." laughed Porsche

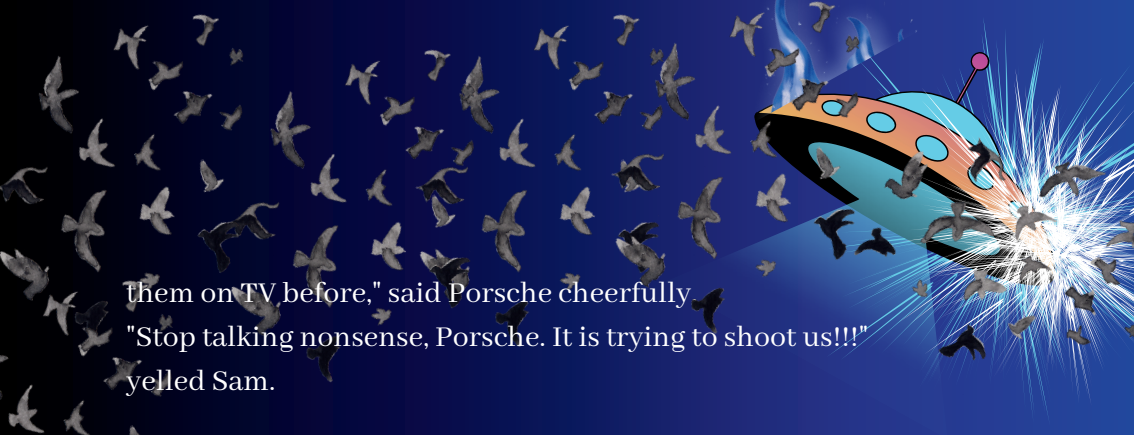
"This isn't FUNNY. Porsche, you got to help me," shouted Pete.

Pete and Porsche quickly programmed the damaged hand of Sam's Tentobot, using the tentacles to pull it back into place. Eventually, the fixed ship worked again, and they could return to the right path. It went at the speed limit of 60 trillion km per hour. It was going at a breakneck speed.

After they passed Wolf 359, they saw an enormous object coming towards them. A UFO was there!

"WOW! This is UNBELIEVABLE... It is a UFO. I've only ever seen





them on TV before," said Porsche cheerfully.  
"Stop talking nonsense, Porsche. It is trying to shoot us!!!"  
yelled Sam.

In just one shot, 20 canons and 40 vulture robots were catapulted by Sam's ship, but the UFO countered them at the same time. This caused a gigantic explosion and damaged both ships.

Yet, the Tentobots were not broken down. Sam had thought about this when designing it in the first place, that there might be explosions during his space trip, so he carefully designed his ship to be BOMB-PROOF!

When the bomb was triggered, the Tentobots turned into an asteroid, and luckily, the hull of the Tentobots, which looked like the weakest part, was actually the most substantial part; this tricked the UFO who was shooting them there.

The Tentobots shot 69 cannons at the UFO, breaking it into tiny pieces of glass and metal. The Tentobots transformed back, from the shape of an asteroid, into their original form. It then blasted off into outer space to Sirius A, which was 8.6 light-years (81.3 trillion km) away from Earth. Sirius A is one of the biggest stars in space.

"Do you know that Sirius A is the brightest star and will increase its brightness in the next 60,000 years?" questioned Sam. But before anyone could answer him, its light was too bright for their eyes, and they needed to get the ship away from this star as fast as they could.

Sam sped up the ship until it reached Ross 154, a star that was too faint to be seen from Earth with the naked eye.

However, unexpectedly, that broken-down UFO reassembled some of its main parts to make a new spaceship. It had followed them.

"Oh my god, that UFO's still alive!" yelled Sam.

"It's unbelievable! How could they do it?" wondered Pete.

"Noooo...oh...I can't breathe now..." Porsche hyperventilated.

With no hesitation, Sam shot the UFO with 167 more vulture robots, an enormous lion robot and 2 hurricanes. The UFO was sucked into the hurricanes, and the aliens who controlled it were eaten up by the vultures and the lion. There were several flashes and bangs before it was silent. The aliens were all electrically shocked and died.

"Sam, you are brilliant!" commended Pete

"Yes, you are a star," added Porsche

"No, we all did it together," said Sam

## Chapter 6 The 2nd Battle

**Day 4** The ship moved on, targeting Luyten 789-6, 11.1 light-years (105 trillion km) away from Earth. At this moment, Sam started to miss his mum, and he wanted to see her on the space caller screen.

Sam ordered the Tentobots,

"Put my mum on the space caller NOW." In a second, a screen shot up, and, on it, appeared his mum.

Sam's mum saw three boys on her mobile phone and wondered, "Where are you, Sam??? It looks like you are in some kind of a high-tech machine."

"We are just doing some science experiments in the lab at the camp, Mum," replied Sam.

"I see. Looks like you're having great fun there," said Mum.

"I miss you a lot, Mum," uttered Sam.

"Miss you too, my dear," said Mum.

**Day 5** After all the aliens had been destroyed, the robotic vultures and the enormous robot lion could be seen shooting back towards the Tentobots.

"Look at our heroes. They miss us, so they're coming back to us," guessed Porsche

However, these animal robots uncontrollably acted crazy, and Sam knew it was trying to kill them.

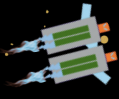
"It's not as you think, Porsche. They're malfunctioning now. They're against us!" argued Sam.

In a flash, Sam shot them with the laser gun. Still, instead of getting weaker, they gained more power; therefore, Sam ordered

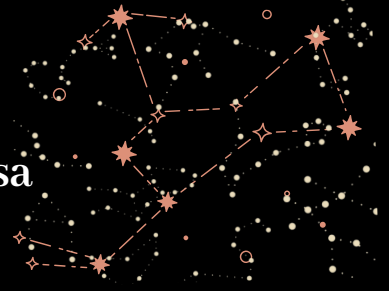


the 3 tentacles to grab the lion and another 4 to squeeze the vultures to death.





## Chapter 7 To Ursa



Day 6 Sam announced, "Guys, it's the sixth Earth day already. We only have one more day to go."

"Really??? Time flies! We better go back to Earth then. My mum's going to be VERY VERY worried and upset if I don't get back home in time," Pete pointed out.

"Not yet. There's one last place I have always dreamed for to visit," said Sam excitedly.

"Come on, Pete! This trip has loads of fun. I don't wanna think about a huge pile of homework at home. Let's explore more," begged Porsche

"What is the place you're talking about?" questioned Pete.

"You'll see...." smiled Sam

Sam continued the ship further to his last target, Ursa Major, the dream constellation he had longed to visit.

Within this constellation was Ursa, the greatest planet in the universe. An impressive planet, far away from Earth, which only a few people know about.

The planet is made out of rocks and a sea of liquid water; therefore, it was difficult to land. If the Tentobots rocket landed on the rocks, the Tentobots would break from the rocks, crashing and poking into the ship's metal walls. If the Tentobots rocket landed in the liquid water, the electricity would shock, and the Tentobots would burst into flames.

Sam was so excited to visit this planet that the challenge of landing was a risk he was willing to take. The Tentobots had been fitted with many powers and inventive tools, one of which was

a laser beam that could flatten rocks and smooth the edges of sharp objects. Sam fired the laser at the rocks, and they approached the ground to land.

The ship landed very gently in a diagonal direction which took them across many beautiful lakes and hills. As soon as they landed, the three boys jumped out of the Tentobots rocket with joy. They decided they wanted to explore this brilliant planet straight away. They walked, jumped, laughed and played around on the rocky hills.

Then, they heard a coughing sound from behind a rock. Sam looked at Porsche and Peak and signalled for them to be quiet, “shh..shh...” They heard the cough again and slowly tip-toed around to see who was coughing.

On the other side of the rock, the source of the sound was an alien. The boys were surprised, but they were not scared. The alien had tentacles resembling an octopus's and a friendly face with a smile that shone like a million sparkly diamonds. Its head looked like a helmet.

The alien was affable and immediately greeted with a “Hello.” “Hi, we are humans from Earth,” responded Sam politely, contemplating that this being must have had a translator in his brain to understand English.

My name is Sam Spaniel, and here are my friends, Pete Pomeranian and Porsche Poodle,” introduced Sam to the alien.

“I am Bombaulma. I live in a rock mansion nearby. Would you like to come for a drink of the famous Ursa red juice and a

Bamma sandwich?" invited the alien.  
"Absolutely!" replied Pete.

The boys followed Bombaulma to his mansion. Along the way, there were tons of trees; however, Sam noticed that there were no flowers or fruits AT ALL. Also, all the aliens who passed them coughed and sneezed.

It was a 200 floored hi-tech mansion. They took an invisible elevator up to the top floor.  
"This's extraordinary! Just a blink to get to the top," shouted Porsche.

When they stepped into the room, there was a sound of greeting from the computer system, and 3 glasses of Ursa red juice and Bamma sandwiches were automatically served on the table right away.

"Fabulous! It's like we're in the next millennium," added Pete  
"But this planet is dying. Everyone here's got a cold. A virus is spreading all over here, and all of us will die soon," cried Bombaulma.

"Oh nooo! It can't be," said Sam sadly. Thinking quickly, he felt for something in his pocket. "Why don't you try these? I brought them from home," convinced Sam as he handed a tablet of paracetamol to Bombaulma.

Bombaulma took it, and in just 20 minutes, he felt better.  
"This little thing is amazing, my headache has gone!" said a surprised Bombaulma.  
"But we don't have enough pills for everyone here," claimed Porsche.



Sam came up with a perfect idea.

“What about you all grow trees with fruits containing Vitamin C? Vitamin C helps to relieve a cold. It seems there’re no fruits on this planet! I have some oranges and lemons in my Tentobot. Let’s go get them now.” advised Sam.

Five minutes later, they were back at the Tentobots, and Sam gave Bombaulma an orange and a lemon.

“I have never seen anything like these before. I will take them to our lab to study and then hopefully we can grow them as soon as possible,” yearned Bombaulma.

“In the meantime, you can give my tablets to your people. I have lots of them,” continued Sam.

“Thank you so much,” smiled Bombaulma.



## Chapter 8 Our Hero

**Day 7** The next day, there was news about the three boys, especially Sam Spaniel as a Hero, and his fruits, around the planet. Even better, the lab confirmed with Bombaulma that they could grow these fruit trees on the planet without any problems (being habitable enough to sustain water).

“It’s time to go home now. Let’s say goodbye to Bombaulma,”-said Sam.

As the three boys stepped onto the ship, they saw the crowd of smiley aliens, shouting.

“Spaniel...Spaniel...Spaniel.”

Sam was very proud and would have loved to have stayed but he knew they would have to get home before their mums found out that were not on a school camp.

“We need to go home now, it will take around 1 hour to get home at the speed of 101,066 light-years per century, so we have to go now,” said Sam.

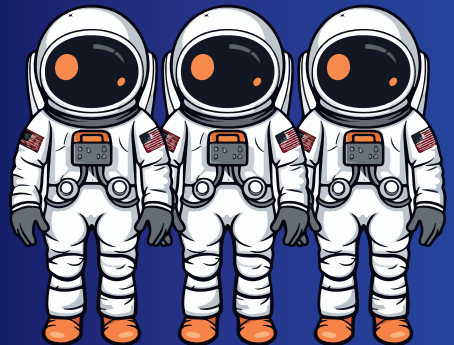
Pete and Porsche agreed with Sam, and they all got ready to blast off. The Tentobots flew into the sky.

“Look, Sam, look down there,” said Pete.

Down below, all the grinning aliens were holding discs with Sam’s name on them.

“That’s incredible,” said Sam with a big smile on his face. The Tentobots set off on their long journey home.

“Let’s go really quick and use our equalama,” said Pete and Sam together.



“What’s an equalama?” asked wondered Porsche.

“The equalama is the most powerful button ever in the Tentobots, and it will make us go really fast, at the same time as killing every unbelievably bad alien in our path,” explained Sam.

“Why did we not use it before then?” asked Porsche.

The boys looked at each other, shrugged and laughed.

The Tentobots flew through space extremely fast. The three boys looked out in amazement at all the planets and stars that they passed.

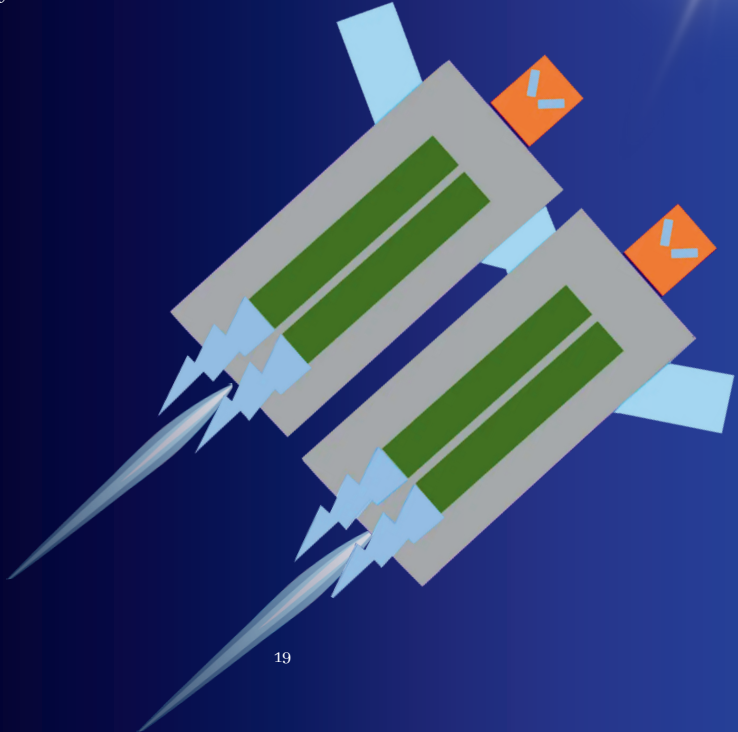
At 7 a.m., they landed by the garage on Earth, just in time for breakfast.

“Wow! That trip was probably the best trip ever,” said Sam.


“I can’t wait until next time. I’m gonna build us a rocket that takes us to the future.”


All three boys looked at each other and smiled.

The End







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Sam and Pete are two school boys who dream of travelling the universe. They invent the Tentobots that take them on this journey.

There are stars so boiling hot that you cannot imagine, constellations and planets that need help! Will Sam, Pete and their friend, Porsche, have a fun adventure? Will they be superheroes? Will they save the day? Will they survive?

Join three young space explorers as they travel through dangerous, alien infested and exciting galaxies.

### **About the Author**

Turbo (Vachiravich Phantratanamongkol) is a 7.5 years old Thai boy, who has been obsessed with space, planets and stars since he was 4 years old. He has spent hours reading, researching and day-dreaming about astrology. Sam's Journey around space is Turbo's first published book, however he has worked on and created many imaginative comic strips and stories. He studies at Bangkok Patana, enjoying literature, Maths and Science. His hobbies include playing piano, drawing, being creative and learning about space. One of his many goals in life is to be an accomplished writer. Thanks to all of his teachers who have supported him and made his dream come true.

