

# Black Hole High

## Asteroid

### Teaser

It is night inside Mr. Pearson's office. Everybody from the science club is studying for an exam but Josie is more interested in looking in the telescope. She loves to watch the International Space Station in the sky whilst her friends want her to stop and come and study with them because her marks will suffer. When she is just about to give up, she sees something disturbing in the sky. She says that an asteroid is coming towards the space station at an incredible speed and though it looks too small to hurt the Earth, it is big enough to do serious damage to the space station. When she announces her discovery, no one believes her. Also, how could she have guessed just like that the trajectory of an asteroid, she cannot be that good. So she jumps on a computer and after some calculations she reaches the conclusion that this asteroid will hit the station.

### Act One

- Josie suffers from a lack of confidence because her friends don't believe in her aptitudes. This is echoed by Vaughn who says that they should vote her out of the science club.
- All of them argue that if an asteroid is coming towards the station, Nasa would know about it and they would already have come up with a plan to prevent that.
- Josie is not so sure, she calls Prof Z who immediately confirms that this is serious. There are too many asteroids in the sky for Nasa or any other observatory in the world to track.
- Better be safe than sorry, they contact the right authorities.
- Another discussion ensues about the fact that Josie is considered poorly by her friends. She is soaking in her corner.
- Lucas tells her how sorry he is and that it is true she is perceived differently even though there is no reason for this. He talks with the others and they agree that in the future they will be more considerate. She has other worries on her mind, things that she will not discuss with the others.
- Nasa calls back, they are very pleased they call because no one reported that asteroid and yes it is going to hit the space station. They need to devise a plan.
- As it is late everybody goes back to their room, Josie being very depressed.

### Act Two

- Back in their room Josie and Corrine discuss some more. Josie finally admits what is the real problem in her life. Her mother abandoned her and she is now working for Pearadyne Labs. Today she is closer to her mom but she suffers a lot from not being able to communicate that well with her mother. She always wanted to prove to her that she was intelligent and could do something with her life. This is big pressure.
- Josie knows she is different and that she is not the brain her mother wanted her to be. Her results in class are not that great and perhaps this is not as important as the others claim it to be.

- Corrine points out though that Josie is the one who most of the time brings back the others on Earth. She is much more practical because she had to find her own way in life. She is perhaps the most resourceful person in the group. That cheers Josie up a little.
- Josie blames Vaughn for suggesting that she should not be in the science club, but Corrine convinces her that she deserves to be in the science club, after all she found that asteroid and that is very serious. She could be saving lives and a very expensive International Space Station. They finally go to bed.
- The next day Vaughn comes to Josie to say that he is sorry for saying that they should vote her out of the science club. He feels he was wrong and that she is obviously a great contributing member of the club.
- The journalists arrive and everybody follows on TV the space station dealing with the asteroid. They have sent some nuclear missiles to destroy the small asteroid and we see on TV that they have been successful.
- The journalists are asking questions to Josie who says on TV that despite the incredulity of her best friends, she decided to pursue her hunch further and she is very pleased to have saved the station and perhaps some lives. She adds that now she feels part of the science club and she is happy to have the respect of her friends.

### **Tag**

- That evening Josie is studying at the table in the science club room. All her friends are around her and invite her to go and look at the sky to see if any more asteroids are about to hit the International Space Station. We can see a big smile on her face.

### **The End**

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