



Scene 1

(As **intro music** plays (**track 9**) the cast members enter and take their places for the opening song – see **staging suggestions p23.**)

Song **Out Of This World** (*tracks 1 & 10, lyrics p15*) (Whole Cast)

(As **intro music** plays again (**track 11**) the cast members sit. The main stage is empty, but has a ‘starry’ backdrop. To one side, on a separate stage, is the rocket, with four mechanics in attendance, and four stationary robots. On the floor in front of the rocket are six mission controllers, either sitting at computers or with clip boards.

See staging suggestions p23.)

Mechanic 1 I just need to make a delicate adjustment to the navigation dials. Pass me that hammer, mate. (*Mechanic 2 passes a hammer, and Mechanic 1 whacks the rocket!*) There, that should do it. And I just need to fine-tune the voice activation on this robot. (*S/he hits Robot 1, who lets out a robotic ‘Ouch!’*)

Mechanic 2 Take it easy! You’ll break something! A lot of time and money’s been spent on this mission, and we don’t want anything else going wrong!

Mechanic 3 Yeah. The whole thing’s already six months over schedule, because of technical hitches! This was supposed to be a summer mission into space, but here we are less than two weeks away from Christmas!

Mechanic 4 (*buffing the rocket with a rag*) Well, at last I think we’re just about done. Look at her, isn’t she fantastic?

(*They all stand back and admire the rocket.*)

Mechanic 1 The latest cutting-edge technology, designed to travel deep into outer space! To boldly go where no rocket-ship has gone before!

Mechanic 2 (*putting a hand on Robot 2’s shoulder*) And these robots! So life-like. There to attend to the astronauts’ every need. Amazing!

(*The action switches to the mission controllers.*)

MC 1 (*if possible into a microphone*) This is Mission Control. All maintenance personnel must now exit the launch site. I repeat, all maintenance personnel must now exit the launch site.

(*The mechanics leave the rocket and robots, and stand near Mission Control.*)

MC 2 OK team, we’re nearly ready. We stand on the brink of history! This will be the first ever manned-mission to explore the far reaches of our universe!

MC 3 I never thought we’d make it, what with all the problems we’ve had.
But here we are, just moments away from something spectacular!

MC 4 And at Christmas too! I couldn’t think of a better Christmas
present than seeing that beauty blast off!

MC 5 I just feel sorry for those poor astronauts. They never thought they’d
be millions of light years away from home at Christmas time.

MC 6 But they won’t be away for Christmas Day itself. They’ll be back in
time to open their presents and eat their turkey.

MC 2 OK team, countdown is only moments away. Call the astronauts.

MC 1 *(into a mic)* This is Mission Control. Would the flight crew make
their way to the boarding platform. I repeat, flight crew to the
boarding platform.

MC 3 Ooooh! How exciting!

*(To the **Astronauts’ Entrance (track 12)** four astronauts enter the main stage.)*

Astronaut 1 This is it then, everyone! How are you feeling?

Astronaut 2 Over the moon! Ha! You get it? Over the moon!

Astronaut 3 I’m scared stiff! I just found out how far we’re going!

Astronaut 4 *(holding up a sachet)* I’m more worried about the food situation. How
are we supposed to live on these tiny packets of dehydrated
rubbish?

Astronaut 2 I guess up in space everything we eat will be an unidentified frying
object! Ha! You get it? An unidentified frying object!

Astronaut 4 Yes, very funny. I’m just thinking of the lovely Christmas dinner
that’ll be waiting for me when I get back to earth.

Astronaut 3 That’s if we get back to earth in time for Christmas! What if
something goes wrong?

MC 1 *(into a mic)* This is Mission Control. Would astronauts please board
the craft. I repeat, astronauts please board the craft.

*(To the opening bars of the next song, the astronauts move to the rocket and each stand by
a robot. Mission controllers and mechanics stand centre stage to sing. The cast stands.)*

Song Back On Earth For Christmas Day

(tracks 2 & 13, lyrics p16)

(Mission Controllers and Mechanics, supported by whole cast)

(As the song finishes, the astronauts sit on the rocket and the Mechanics join The MCs.)

MC 1 (into a mic) Commencing countdown!

(The **countdown music** plays (**track 14**) and the whole cast joins in, 10..9..8..etc. On the words ‘We have lift-off’ the astronauts and robots lurch back. Everyone cheers.)

MC 2 A successful lift off! All the readings look good. They’ve done it!
They’re on their way!

(As **intro music** plays (**track 15**) the lights come down.)

Scene 2

(As the music fades, the lights come up. The Stars enter and take their positions on and in front of the main stage.)

Astronaut 1 (pointing at the stars) Wow! Look out there! What an amazing sight!
The Milky Way looks so different up here than it does from Earth!

Astronaut 4 Milky Way? Where? Can I have one? I’m starving!

Astronaut 1 Not that sort of Milky Way! I’m talking about the Galaxy.

Astronaut 4 Galaxy! Milky Way! I don’t care – it’s still chocolate!

Astronaut 3 S/he means the stars, you donut!

Astronaut 4 Donut! Even better! Where’s the donut?

Astronauts 2 & 3 (sighing) Oh, for goodness’ sake!

Astronaut 1 I know, let’s go out there for a space walk! It’ll be great fun!

Astronaut 2 Do you think? I prefer it in here. There’s more of an atmosphere!
Ha! You get it? Atmosphere....

Astronaut 3 Very funny. Seriously though, a space walk! Is it safe?

Astronaut 1 Of course it is. We’ll activate the robots to control the ship while we’re gone. It’ll be fine. Come on!

(The astronauts activate the robots, who sit down to control the ship. To the opening bars of the next song the astronauts cross over to the main stage and, mimicking the effects of zero-gravity, move around the stars. During the instrumental section of the song the stars dance with the astronauts.)

Song **Starry Night** (tracks 3 & 16, lyrics p17) (whole cast)

(After the song finishes, **intro music** plays (**track 17**) and the lights come down. The astronauts return to the rocket, and the robots move to allow them to sit. The stars resume their seats, and rocks and boulders are set around the main stage – **see staging suggestions/scenery p23**. As the music fades the lights come up.)

Scene 3

MC 3 They're maintaining good speed and direction. Everything seems to be going according to the flight plan.

MC 1 *(into a mic)* Mission Control to crew. Mission Control to crew. We are monitoring your progress and all readings are as they should be.

Astronaut 1 Hearing you loud and.....

(All astronauts and robots suddenly start shaking, trying to control the rocket!)

MC 4 Hang on! Something's not right! We're losing contact and according to my computer they're going 45 degrees off course!

MC 5 45 degrees! That's practically a U-turn!

Mechanic 2 *(quietly to Mechanic 1)* I told you to go easy with that hammer! Now look what you've done!

MC 6 We must re-establish contact and find out what's going on up there!

MC 1 *(into a mic)* Mission Control to crew. Do you read?

MC 3 It's no use! We've completely lost radio contact! And look! They're now 90 degrees off course and caught in the gravitational pull of some unknown planet! They're out of control! They're going down!

Astronaut 3 It's no use! We've completely lost radio contact! And look! We're now 90 degrees off course and caught in the gravitational pull of some unknown planet! We're out of control! We're going down!

Mechanics 2, 3 & 4 *(to Mechanic 1)* This is all your fault!

*(As the **crash** sound effect plays (**track 18**), everyone screams and the lights come down.)*

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