

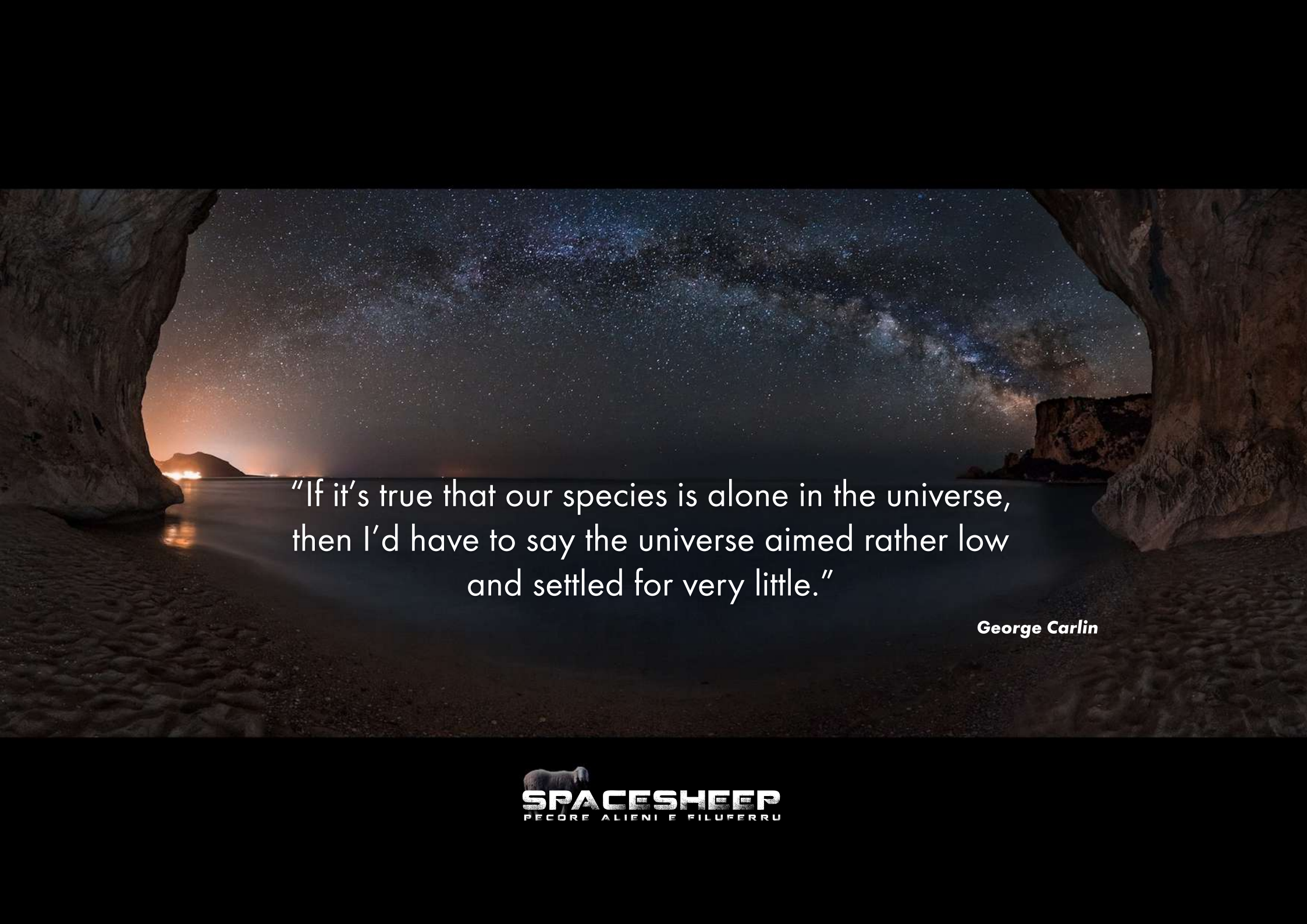
CREATED BY
IGOR BIDDAU



SPACESHEEP

ALIENS, BUMPKINS AND CHEESE





"If it's true that our species is alone in the universe,
then I'd have to say the universe aimed rather low
and settled for very little."

George Carlin


SPACESHEEP
PECORE ALIENI E FILUFERRU

SPACESHEEP A SCI-FI COMEDY

PROLOGUE:

Eliseo is a strange thirty-year-old, astrophysicist, nerd, and son of emigrants. His parents moved from Sardinia to Belgium when he was a child. Eliseo was strange even as a child: from a very young age he had demonstrated uncommon mathematical aptitudes. A solitary child who never integrated himself in school, bullied for his intelligence and his bizarre passions, like spending time looking at the stars and dreaming of "new and strange worlds". He took refuge for hours and hours in the old episodes of Star Trek and the cult movies of the eighties, such as ET and Close Encounters of the third kind, dreaming of being the protagonist. One day, after the umpteenth beating of his classmates, he decides to go to school dressed as Spock to take revenge, but his Vulcan grip is not as effective as the original. So the years of his youth pass and finally, despite the marginalization and harassment, Eliseo obtains a prestigious degree in astrophysics. He participates in a competition organized by SETI Institute (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) and wins it. SETI executives, considering his Sardinian origins, thinking well to do him a favor, assign him to the Sardinia Radio Telescope of San Basilio, in the remote hinterland of southern Sardinia, while he wanted to retrace the exploits of Jodie Foster in Contact. He reluctantly returns to Sardinia, where he finds hospitality from two distant uncles who live in San Basilio. The elderly uncles, who had no children, welcome him with open arms. The aunt cooks for a regiment and tries to stuff him because she finds him too thin while the uncle would like to teach him how to hunt wild boar and produce filuferru.*

*



The filu 'e ferru' or fil'e ferru (extended name in Sardinian: filu de ferru) called in Italian "acquavite di Sardegna" is a Sardinian brandy whose name, literally translated, it means "iron wire". In some areas of Sardinia is also called abbardente (or acuardenti) which means "water that burns, that catches fire, very strong".





SETI, an acronym for Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence), is a program dedicated to the search for extraterrestrial intelligent life, evolved enough to send radio signals in the cosmos. The program is also responsible for sending signals of our presence to other civilizations that are able to capture them.



The Sardinia Radio Telescope **in photo** (often abbreviated to SRT) is a radio telescope located in Pranu 'e sànguni, in the municipality of San Basilio, in the province of Cagliari. The radio telescope scans deep space in search of signals such as pulsars, quasars and nebulae. It also searches for signs of extraterrestrial life. It is essential to maintain contact with interplanetary probes, such as the Voyager 1, which has officially crossed the boundaries of the Solar System.



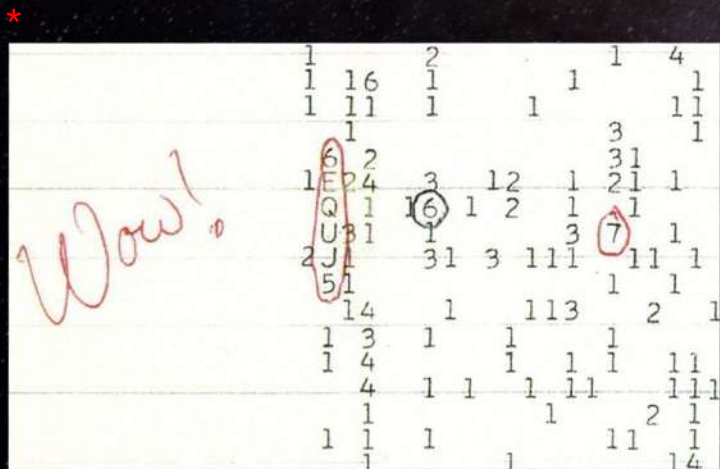
CHAPTER 01

OUR DAYS: Eliseo, despite himself, establishes a routine: home, bike ride to work, activities at the radio telescope and return with a stop in the village square to buy magazines but above all to meet Miriam, the sales clerk, with whom he secretly fell in love from day one. Every time he stops by the girl, however, he exposes himself to the danger of the bar, frequented by the "balenti" (bandits) of the village, who try in every way to hook the stranger, so Eliseo is forced to escape without ever being able to exchange a word with the girl. Miriam is also attracted by the strange boy with funny and awkward manners, but she treats him with detachment anyway, because she is engaged for a long time and close to marriage with the best party in the country. Her boyfriend, however, is always traveling for work and when he's there he doesn't act like a gentleman.

CHAPTER 02

So Eliseo spends his nights dreaming about Miriam and watching Star Trek on his old VHS, checking from time to time the radio telescope terminal in his room. And it's on one of these nights that her terminal captures an extraterrestrial signal "Wow! * (In astrophysics jargon is the name generally given to radio signals that could be of extraterrestrial origin). He jumps on his bike and runs through the night to the radio telescope, but his colleagues belittle the importance of his discovery, being too short the duration of the signal he picked up. Eliseo, however, does not give up and in the following days, calling in sick, manages to decipher the signal and discovers that it contains coordinates: longitude, latitude and time for a close encounter of the third type. Everything he had always wanted.

So he decides to go secretly to the appointment.



The Wow! signal is the name given to a strong narrowband radio signal that was detected by astronomer Jerry R. Ehman on August 15, 1977, while working on the SETI extraterrestrial life research project, with the Big Ear radio telescope of Ohio State University. The characteristics of the signal suggested that it came from outside the Earth and the Solar System. After 72 seconds, the signal was never detected again. Ehman, amazed by the intensity of the signal, looked for it in red on the printout of the computer printout and noted next to it the comment "Wow!", expression with which later the signal became known.



CHAPTER 03

The coordinates take him to a pre-nuragic altar nearby. (See next page)

At 00.00 a.m. on a Friday night in spring, when Elisha is at the top of the altar and peers at the sky, the "contact" takes place. The aliens, however, do not manifest themselves physically but through a space-dimensional wormhole that, emitting a ray of light, strikes Elisha and makes him fall unconscious to the ground. What he had intercepted in fact was not an invitation to a rendezvous but the landing coordinates of an alien soldier who, during the contact, managed to take control of Eliseo's body, hibernating his consciousness. The undercover mission of the spy "42" consists in landing on earth, finding a native and taking possession of his body to learn the customs and habits of the place, in order to prepare the ground for a warlike invasion.

CHAPTER 04

Sunrise. Eliseo/42, who wanders aimlessly, is arriving at the gates of the village and meets his uncle who leaves the house to go hunting. Happy to see him and convinced that Eliseo/42 has finally decided to join him, he drags him to the cellar to equip him with a rifle and boots. While they are there, Eliseo/42 is attracted by the scent coming from the kitchen where his aunt is as usual cooking food. He sits down at the table without saying a word, his gestures are mechanical, he moves like an "ultra-body" out of the pod and eats everything she puts on his plate. The aunt is ecstatic because it is the first time that the nephew eats everything she puts on his plate. Stunned by the binge, he is accompanied to his room to take a nap. Once on his own he can look around to see who is his "shell".

After a day and a night spent in Eliseo's room to rummage around, look through and acquire all the possible notions and data, he finally feels ready to go out and make a survey of the planet.

CHAPTER 05

He walks and arrives in the village square, where he finds the bar's dancing dancing people who invite him to drink and socialize with them. Enthusiastic that Eliseo/42 has finally accepted, they launch into an epic drink to test its value.

Eliseo/42 obviously never tried alcohol, so he drinks to the point of losing all inhibition, going so far as to put on a show with tests of physical endurance and also transforming himself in appearance, a bit like Clark Kent and Superman. Even Miriam, who witnesses the scene, begins to look at him with different eyes, amazed by the radical change.

The performance at the bar made Eliseo/42 so popular that the next day her new friends, including Miriam, show up at their uncles's house. They want to take him around. The aunt, finally seeing her nephew in company, doesn't miss a chance to stuff them with food. After the "light" breakfast they can take him with them and show him all the wonders that surround him: beautiful beaches, breathtaking views and almost untouched nature. For the first time Eliseo/42 sees a planet still rich in life, unlike his own, now consumed and exploited by a very advanced and hyper-technological civilization, which, however, did not respect the fundamental balance of nature that housed it, reaching the point of having to look for new planets to invade and colonize. For Eliseo/42 it is a completely new experience.

At the end of the day Eliseo/42 says goodbye to his friends. For him it is clear: he must inform his superiors that this planet is perfect for invasion, full of resources and harmless inhabitants, even on the edge of pathetic.

MONTE D'ACCODDI



Monte d'Accoddi, sometimes written Akkoddi, is an important archaeological site, attributed to the Culture of Abealzu-Filigosa, of pre-Nuragic Sardinia. Due to the concentration of different types of construction, the monument is still considered unique not only in Europe but in the entire Mediterranean basin, so unique that it is morphologically similar to a Mesopotamian ziqurat and represents the oldest example in Europe of this architecture typical of Mesopotamia.

The monument would represent the religious conception of the Mesopotamian people, who were persuaded that heaven and earth were united - by means of a mountain - while a deity descended among men. The altar on the tower was therefore considered the meeting point between human and divine and it is believed that a large number of animals - surely sheep - were sacrificed to regenerate life.

CHAPTER 06

Eliseo/42's mission requires him to make telepathic reports every night to his superiors to keep them informed of his progress. The contact must take place at midnight, in an open field oriented towards the star of origin. Eliseo/42 does not know that the colossal hangover taken the previous day has compromised his ability to communicate telepathically.

The incredible truth is known: aliens look like sheep. So, believing to interface with his superiors, every night he talks to his neighbor's sheep, but without getting any answer, behavior that leaves him rather puzzled but that does not make him give up his task.

These nocturnal chats of his don't go unnoticed to his friends who, a little bit to mock him and a little bit fascinated by the speeches that this strange boy makes to the stars and to the sheep, give him the nickname of "Cabbu di brebei" (in Sardinian "sheep's head").

CHAPTER 07

Time passes and Eliseo/42 becomes more and more immersed in the local reality and habits, determined to carry out his mission successfully, he doesn't realize that little by little he is becoming more and more similar to humans, feeling empathy for these strange creatures of which until a short time before he felt enormously superior. One day, as is now routine, friends go to pick him up at home to hang out, but strangely enough Miriam is not with them.

The girl is in fact with her boyfriend, who has just returned from the "continent". After a day spent together with her future husband, however, she realizes that she is no longer the person she wants to marry and understands that she has feelings for Eliseo/42. She argues with her fiancé, leaves him on his feet and joins the group of her friends who are enjoying the sunset on the beach. She gets up the courage, approaches Eliseo/42 and without telling him anything she kisses him, after the evening with her friends the two of them get together and make passionate love.

That night, at the moment of intercourse, Eliseo/42 is upset. All his certainties begin to waver, he doesn't realize what is happening to him. The determination that had accompanied him up to that moment turns first into anger, then into disappointment and finally into acute sadness for having never felt such strong and poignant emotions. All this leads to a sometimes delirious, amusing and philosophical monologue, in which Eliseo/42 tries to explain to the sheep, who he still believes to be his alien superiors, the beauty and complexity of human nature, which perhaps does not deserve to be exterminated.

His words are of little use, because Eliseo/42 continues to get no answer, and he knows that unfortunately the invasion of the military of his species is now imminent.

For their part, the alien generals, having never received any report from Earth, think that 42 has been captured or killed by the Earthlings. The mother ship with the chosen military elite is en route to Earth, the date had already been decided and coincides with the summer solstice. It is time to act. On the other hand they are military.



CHAPTER 08

Eliseo/42, who became a Sardinian by adoption, understands that he must do something to prevent the conquest of the land. His relationships become more and more agitated and angry, he tries to convince his superiors to stop the invasion but they still do not respond, the real sheep stare at him and remain motionless making him more and more angry.

Meanwhile, Miriam and her friends are more and more worried about Eliseo's nocturnal weirdness. They have eavesdropped on the last report and those speeches about an imminent alien invasion have deeply upset them. Her troubled state of mind is mistaken for mental neurosis, to the point that they decide to intervene. One morning they show up at his house and confront him, revealing that they spied on him every night he was delirious in the camp. Eliseo/42 feels betrayed and gets defensive, he begins to doubt the humans who are not as naive as he thought and thinks that maybe their friendship was just a strategy to keep him under control and weaken him. For fear of being discovered, he hurls himself against everyone by offending them gratuitously, in order to drive them away from himself. The friends, wounded and disappointed, decide to leave and not to look for him anymore.

Thus Eliseo/42 finds himself alone. The days pass.

Even if he doesn't want to admit it, he misses his friends and especially Miriam. He understands that what he found on earth has become indispensable to him.

CHAPTER 09

By now resigned to the idea of the imminent invasion of his fellow men, he matures the decision to betray his home planet. The calendar marks June 20, the invasion is scheduled for the next day. 42 decides to act. He is still a military man.

To sabotage the arrival of the mother ship, he devises a simple but effective plan: to build a homemade bomb, but with what? He has no explosives or sophisticated weaponry available in the village. But suddenly he remembers that his uncle in his cellar distills the filuferru and knows from direct experience that it is highly flammable and could be an excellent explosive. After having built his rudimentary device with a wooden barrel and the old VHS player, he secretly sets off to the time and place chosen for the invasion. In the meantime, Miriam and her friends, head towards Eliseo/42's house to reconnect and leave their differences behind because they miss her.

While they are arriving, they see him sneaking away and, worried, they follow him secretly.

In the darkness of the night, Eliseo/42 arrives at the top of the pre-nuragic altar and places the device. His friends, increasingly amazed by his behavior, spy on him from behind the bushes.



CHAPTER 10

The night is clear, the crickets break the silence, a flock of sheep graze the grass nearby; the wormhole opens in the sky and a flying saucer lands on the base of the altar.

Eliseo/42 triggers the bomb and makes it explode. The deflagration destroys one of the ship's engines, which floods the surrounding ground with radiation that affects the flock of sheep. The aliens manage to get off the spaceship and are shown for the first time, in backlight you can see some silhouettes, there are only four of them, they look like sheep, they stop outside the spaceship and stand upright: they are humanoid with a sheep's head covered by a thick fur. They are standing* in front of Eliseo/42 with a threatening look and are about to eliminate him, when something extraordinary happens: the real sheep, which were in the field next to the altar, irradiated by radiation, start singing. They do so with a "canto a tenore" (typical Sardinian a cappella song). Having witnessed all the nocturnal speeches of Eliseo/42, the singing sheep transmit with a poetic, magical and surreal crescendo all the human emotions acquired by him.

CHAPTER 11

The aliens are confused, they don't understand why there are aliens on this planet and they believe that Eliseo/42 has architected something together with the earthlings. They hurl themselves at him to beat him up, pushing him towards the spaceship.

The friends, who until now had been hiding behind the bushes, understand that their friend was not crazy and decide to intervene. Not at all intimidated and embodying the fighting Sardinian spirit (i.e. with several liters of filuferru in their veins), they throw themselves intent on starting a fight and inflict a sound sequence of warheads on the unfortunate aliens.

One of these warheads hits the face of 42 who, due to the blow, loses two teeth and dissociates from Eliseo's body, finding himself locked inside the teleportation capsule inside the spaceship.

The aliens, now defeated and literally with their tails between their legs, barely fly away with the last remaining engine running, leaving the earth and taking away forever 42.



CHAPTER 12

Friends and Miriam, stunned by what has just happened, see Eliseo's inert body on the ground and fear that he is dead; Miriam tries to revive him and after a moving declaration of love kisses him as the prince kisses Snow White. Our hero wakes up without having the faintest idea of what happened to him. At the sight of Miriam, who has just expressed her love for him, he shows off a huge smile that lacks incisors.

EPILOGUE

NINE MONTHS LATER:

It's night on the alien planet.

42 with its true appearance is on the shore of a tremendous, muddy, foaming sea. He is surrounded by some puppets that remind him of his earthly friends and speaks to him evoking the intense emotions he experienced in their company.

It is night even on earth.

Miriam is in the delivery room, Eliseo is holding her hand, the midwife is worried because the baby is breech. The doctor pulls out the newborn baby that starts bleating, it has the head of a sheep. Elisha faints.



 **SPACESHEEP A SCI-FI COMEDY**

MOVIE CROSS:



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SPACESHEEP
ALIENS, BUMPKINS AND CHEESE



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The aliens manage to get off the spaceship, we see them for the first time, in backlight we see some silhouettes, they look like sheep, they stop outside the spaceship and stand upright, they are humanoid with a sheep's head covered with a thick woolly fur.



THE LOCATION

We are the uninterrupted kingdom of the mastic, the waves that flow the ancient granites, the dog rose, the wind, the immensity of the sea. We are an ancient land of long silences, of wide and pure horizons, of gloomy plants, of mountains burnt by the sun and revenge. We are Sardinian.

(Grazia Deledda)



SPACESHEEP

Sardinia is a wonderful mother: she never abandons her children, wherever they go she will always remain in their hearts.



SPACESHEEP
ALIENS, BUMPKINS AND CHEESE



SPACESHEEP CHARACTERS

ELISEO DRENU (31):

It breaks with a breadstick, it has the appearance of a cockroach that has just come out of a pergola. Astrophysicist expert in telecommunications. He lives in his ideal dimension: surrounded by the nerd culture and the myth of the American lifestyle, despising what the Sardinian culture that surrounds him offers. The encounter with the alien 42 - who will take possession of his body - will open him to a universe of experiences beyond what he has lived until now and will bring him the love of his new neighbor: Miriam Cua.

You can tell how long he has been wearing the shirt by counting the circles of sweat under his armpits.

42 (Alien):

Military vanguard, all head and no heart. Through the possession of Eliseo's body, and the experience of life in Sardinia, he will know everything his race has given up: instinct, passion, dreams and... love. A knowledge that will enrich not only him but his entire lineage for centuries to come.

After the first filuferru of his life, he was never the same.

MIRIAM CUA (26):

The Barbie next door. Daughter of the shepherd and neighbor of Eliseo. Under her princess skin she hides herself: expert in boar hunting and passionate about technology and nerd culture. She has decided to wear a mask that makes her life easier, but meeting Eliseo/42 will teach her to accept herself and show herself for what she really is. It will give humanity the key to the salvation of the Earth.

Her apparently silly phrase will make the difference: "Everything is simple when it is not complicated."

MARIO E EFISIA BECCU (82-81):

Uncles of Eliseo. The head of the family can be found in the cellar, following in the footsteps of his dirty rubber boots that run through the clean house. **The wife can be found in the kitchen following the scent coming from the oven always on.** When she is not cooking for a regiment, she is cleaning on the clean: **"You never know that someone will come."**

BRINGIO (38):

Horse breeder and owner of the farm adjacent to the radio telescope. He has always had a diatribe with Uncle Bobbore about the boundary of the vineyards and who is the best filuferru distiller in the region. He had a brief experience in the Foreign Legion, despite his rough and menacing appearance he is an enlightened man cultured and dedicated to poetry. He is a great connoisseur of the Sardinian language and culture. He will act as Cicero at 42, making him discover the beauty of his land.

When he is drunk he speaks only Sardinian.

MANUEL (25):

Diploma obtained by giving lambs and piglets to teachers. Rich of family, he is Adriana's boyfriend. Very skilled in the game of morra pluri prejudiced awaiting trial for cattle theft, an activity that he practices only for sport. He learned last week to tie his shoes badly.

P.s. pulls the most powerful headboards in southern Sardinia.

ADRIANA (22):

Girlfriend of Manuel and best friend of Miriam. She is the classic strong proud and indomitable Sardinian woman. She beats like a man. Farmer, she loves the sea and always eats cakes but never gets fat. **Astemia that does not give up the correct coffee.**

ZIO BOBBORE (51, Shepherd):

Shepherd and bandit has a heart of gold. He is convinced that all foreigners must prove that they are able to hold the acool like he has been doing since the age of 7. He is a lover of challenges and when he drinks he becomes very dangerous. **He is the wrong person at the wrong time.**



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