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Another day on Earth

Sulphur air stings my lungs as I stumble forward through the blistering heat. So, this is the end of the world, no zombies, nada. Just the impending doom of the sun engulfing earth. Yay! All that's left of society is some smouldering rubble and the wake of destruction. There is no hope for me here, all the escape shuttles left long ago for Pluto. 'Cos Some dude back in the 2340s discovered that you could live on Pluto and ever since people knew that the future for our soggy little planet was dark, they have been evacuating. Thanks for leaving me behind humanity!

Anyway, history lesson over! Heat hangs over me like a miserable swarm of mosquitoes as I carry on with this story. My ears prick and I hear the screams and shouts of what is left of human life; some hungry looking idiots. That's when I see it. The shuttle. Like a glass of lemonade after trekking through a desert, it is blissful. Until I remember that everyone else sees it this way too. Just like flies to a cow pat, the scrum of humans disperses. Leaving me in a heap, choking on dust. Unfortunately, it was bound to happen when the doors eventually open some ignoramus had to start a fight. Feet, hands and other body parts flail as humanity prepares to make itself extinct...again. Amidst the kerfuffle, I see a route and make a beeline for the shuttle.

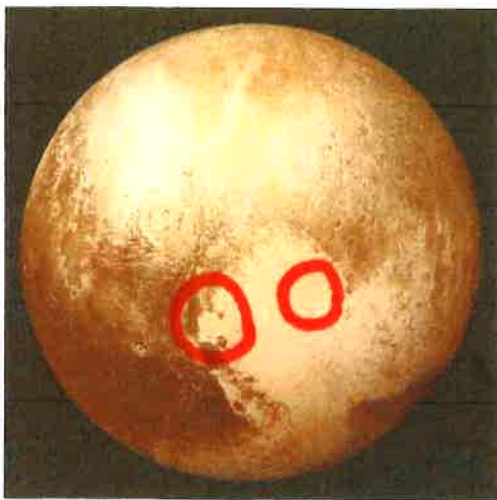
Cool air-conditioning swathes my body in comfort, I start to drag my sun-baked body towards a seat. Crisp darkness, I close my eyes and slip into glacial slumber.

I wake to find myself staring into two verdant eyes, the colour of life. Her name is Koala.

She smiles and I start my story from the beginning, her eyes hanging on to every word. Watching the shrinking red orb as the shuttle swings past the icy rings of Saturn, laughing past Uranus and crying as we confront our new home. Pluto. The fuzzy, felt planet where we would begin our new adventure.

I'm not afraid of death but I am in no hurry to die, I have so much I want to do first

-Steven Hawking



settlements on Pluto.