

MARTIN COSGROVE PRESENTS

CURIOSITY

A FIRST-CONTACT SCIENCE FICTION SERIES

8,000 LIGHT YEARS / 200 YEARS OF SIGNAL / ONE COMPLETE STORY



THE SIGNAL WAITED 200 YEARS

TWO BOOKS. ONE COMPLETE STORY.

REAL ASTRONOMY / SMALL CREW / DEEP-SPACE MYSTERY

SPECIAL SERIES GUIDE

THE CROSSING + THE DESCENT

CURIOSITYNOVELS.COM

BOTH AVAILABLE NOW

OPEN THE FILE



They crossed eight thousand light years to answer a signal.
It had been waiting for someone to come.

A dying star has been transmitting for two hundred years, and nobody answered. *Curiosity* follows an unlikely crew, an ageing research ship and a message official institutions would rather leave alone. At its heart is a first-contact mystery about whether humanity can listen before fear decides what the unknown must mean.

THE SERIES AT A GLANCE

8,000

LIGHT YEARS

53

DAYS TO CROSS

06

CREW ABOARD

02

COMPLETE NOVELS

INSIDE

01 THE STORY

02 THE BOOKS

03 THE SHIP

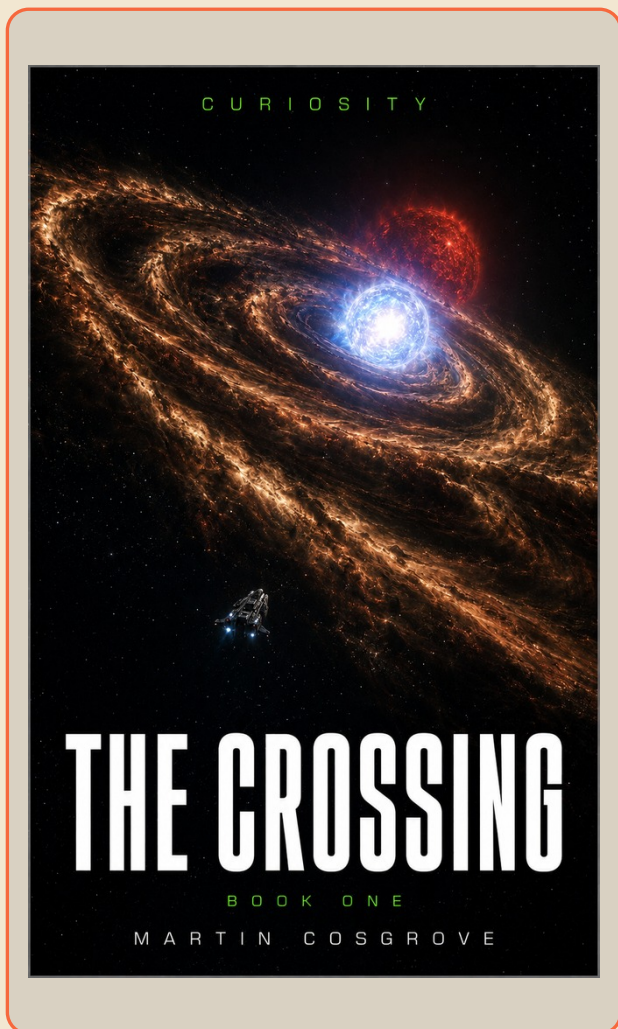
04 THE CREW

05 THE SCIENCE

06 THE AUTHOR

READ THE FIRST CHAPTER FREE[CURIOSITYNOVELS.COM/READ](https://curiositynovels.com/read)

THE CROSSING



BOOK ONE / THE JOURNEY OUT

RECORD 01 / FIRST CONTACT

NOBODY ON EARTH WANTS TO ANSWER.

Jennifer Starzek lost her ship - and two hundred and fifty-three of her crew. The United Earth Agency wants her back to take a twenty-five-year-old research vessel across the galaxy and learn who is calling. Nobody aboard is a first choice; they have fifty-three days to cross, while pirates close over the outpost behind them.

EXCERPT / THE CROSSING / CHAPTER 1

"Life support down to thirty-eight per cent. Shields at twenty-three per cent. More torpedoes incoming." Tactical Officer LeBrahm barely had time to finish her report when another volley of plasma torpedoes crashed into the starboard hull.

91,558

WORDS

76

CHAPTERS

53

DAY CROSSING

EXPLORE BOOK ONE

FIRST IN THE COMPLETE DUOLOGY

THE DESCENT

RECORD 02 / THE STORY CONTINUES

SOMETHING ELSE CAME TO WR 104.

Four hundred years before Curiosity ever left dock, something else came to WR 104 asking the same question. It never left.

Now the crew must enter a structure the size of a world and decide whether the intelligence inside is offering contact, issuing a warning, or preparing something far worse. The conclusion turns a deep-space mystery into a test of what people do with knowledge nobody wanted them to find.

EXCERPT / THE DESCENT / CHAPTER 2

The overhead lights went from white to red, and everybody on the command deck was suddenly the same colour as everybody else, and the whites of their eyes were the only things in the room that were not.

77,678

WORDS

52

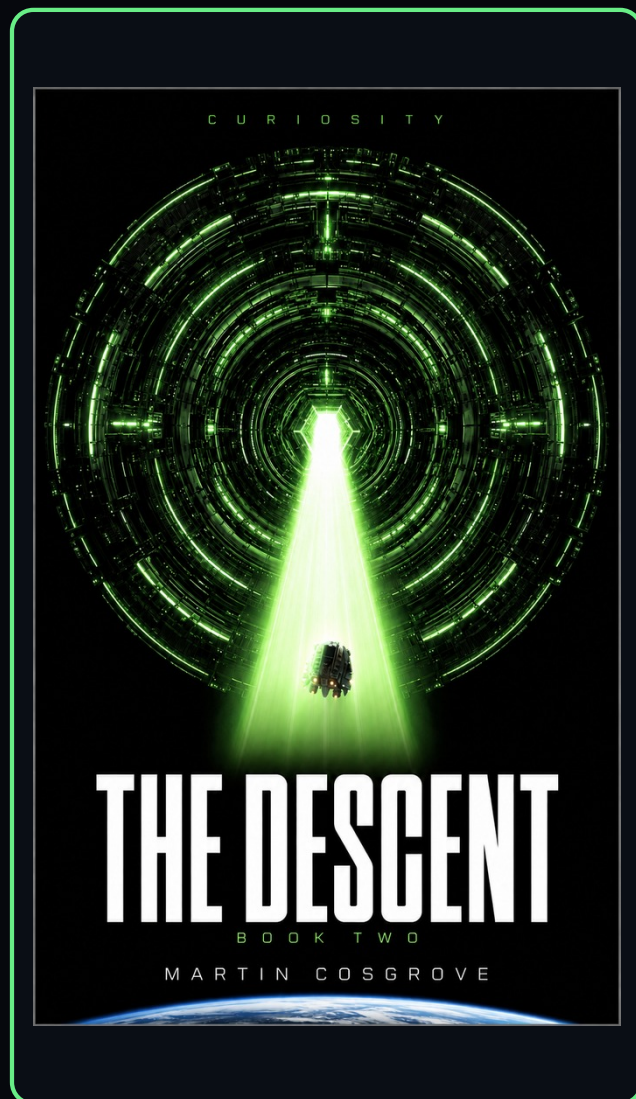
CHAPTERS

02

FINAL VOLUME

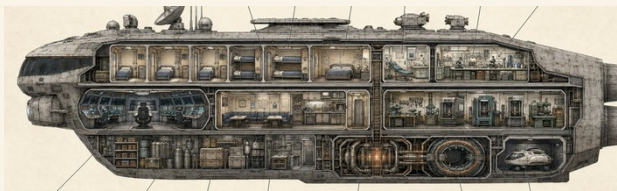
EXPLORE THE CONCLUSION

READ AFTER THE CROSSING



THE SHIP NOBODY WOULD HAVE CHOSEN

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OLD. THREE DECKS. 95 METRES. ONE IMPOSSIBLE DESTINATION.



DESIGN ARCHIVE / THREE-DECK CUTAWAY

95M / CLASS TWO / RESEARCH VESSEL

Curiosity is a twenty-five-year-old, 95-metre class-two research vessel carrying six people towards WR 104. Its curved command centre, rounded armoured midsection and swept SLS nacelles give the vintage ship the bulky silhouette Colin Truman likens to a winged tortoise diving for its prey.

FIRST INSPECTION / COLIN TRUMAN

"As the two approached, Truman could see that many of the hull plates were damaged or rusted or both and that a lot of the scientific instrumentation had seen better days."

'BUT I ALSO THINK SHE IS BEAUTIFUL.'

BUILT TO LOOK, LISTEN AND ENDURE

Paired searchlights flank the command deck. Sensors, telescopes, particle detectors and a central antenna array crowd the hull. Inside: physical controls beside touchscreens, a spherical fusion reactor and the Alc drive at the ship's core.

UEA

RESEARCH

03

DECKS

95

METRES

53

DAYS

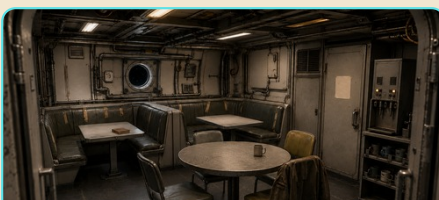
WR 104

DESTINATION

BEHIND THE BUILD / INTERIOR STUDIES



COMMAND DECK



MESS / COMMON ROOM



MED BAY

THE MISSION CREW

Six people. One ageing research vessel. Fifty-three days of crossing - and nowhere to put anybody who breaks. Their skills may get Curiosity to WR 104; their private histories will decide what happens when it arrives.



JENNIFER STARZEK

CAPTAIN

A highly experienced former UEA captain who once commanded the *Destiny* and swore never to command again. She reaches Kappa-5 carrying survivor guilt and a damaged faith in her own judgement. Curiosity gives her another crew to protect - and another impossible decision to own.



LIBORIO ROMERO

UEA LIAISON / EXECUTIVE OFFICER

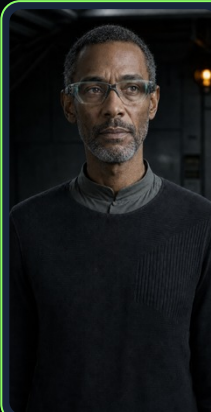
A Mexican civil servant, family man and experienced negotiator who helped shape Kappa-5's independence agreement. He has never served aboard a starship, yet must assemble the crew and represent the UEA. His real strength is keeping six incompatible people moving in one direction.



COLIN TRUMAN

CHIEF ENGINEER

A towering, quiet engineer from Luther Island, Georgia, with a gift for making failing machines work. He built UEA research ships before wartime designs replaced laboratories with armour. Curiosity's twelve-day refit is the challenge that brings him back to the work he loved.



TRAVIS HARRISON

OPS / COMM / LINGUISTICS

A Kent-born autistic linguist of Algerian and Ugandan heritage who grew up speaking four languages. His eidetic memory, VoK'Chim research and working translation prototype make him uniquely qualified to question the WR 104 signal - and the institutions trying to control it.



MONIQUE LEVINE

PILOT

A French-Canadian pilot with seven years' experience, cutting humour and formidable nerve. She has already pushed a ship beyond its limits and flown through an asteroid belt to save lives. Her refusal to value rank above people makes her brilliant at the helm and difficult to command.



YORI KITA

SHIP'S DOCTOR

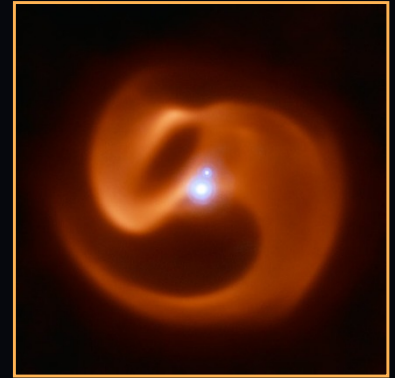
A calm, compassionate physician raised in the isolationist Shin Nihon colony on Mars. Personal loss drove her towards medicine and away from a community that rejected modern technology. Small in stature but authoritative under pressure, she is the crew's medical and moral centre.

THE STAR IS REAL

A REAL PINWHEEL IN DEEP SPACE

WR 104 is a genuine colliding-wind binary in Sagittarius: an evolved, carbon-rich Wolf-Rayet star in orbit with a hot OB companion. Both stars shed powerful winds. Where those winds collide, compressed material can cool into dust; the orbit winds it outward into the system's extraordinary infrared pinwheel.

Modern spectroscopy measures an orbit of roughly 242 days. Wolf-Rayet stars are massive stars late in their evolution, and some are studied as possible precursors of core-collapse supernovae and long gamma-ray bursts. The real WR 104 is not confirmed as aiming a burst at Earth. In the novels, the system becomes the apparent source of a structured transmission.



THE PINWHEEL NEBULA / WR 104

ASTRONOMY: NATURE 1999 / MNRAS 2024

REAL SKY / FICTIONAL MISSION

CURIOSITY VERSUS FEAR. COMPREHENSION BEFORE COMBAT.

The series sits between hard science fiction and space opera. Its most dangerous frontier is not simply distance, but interpretation: scientific truth versus institutional control, guilt versus second chances, and the moral cost of deciding that an unfamiliar voice must be a threat.

200

YEARS TRANSMITTING

242

DAY REAL-WORLD ORBIT

01

UNANSWERED MISSION



CHARACTER DOSSIER / VOCTUNE EXONAUT

GRYX-OLIK

EXONAUT / EXPLORER / ASTRONOMER

Gryx-Olik is Voctune, one of a hidden civilisation inhabiting immense caverns far beneath Earth's surface, where the planet's interior heat sustains their cold-blooded biology. An exonaut by temperament and calling, he refuses to accept that the world above - or the stars beyond it - should remain unknowable.

Patient, precise and radically non-human, Gryx brings geological knowledge, extreme longevity and a lifelong fascination with the sky. His curiosity turns the familiar history of Earth into one of the series' biggest mysteries.

MARTIN COSGROVE



MERSEYSIDE / ENGLAND

Martin Cosgrove writes science fiction and fantasy and is from Merseyside, England. He has been a secondary school teacher for twenty-two years and holds a BA (Hons) in Spanish.

He grew up on 1990s *Star Trek* and counts Ray Bradbury and Arthur C. Clarke among his favourite writers. *Curiosity* is his return to long-form science fiction: two novels written as one continuous story and published together, so the whole journey is ready now.

ALSO BY MARTIN COSGROVE / UNIVERSAL MATTER

01 THE DESTINY OF ETHAN KING / 2012

02 KARA / 2014

curiositynovels.com



BEHIND THE SIGNAL / FEATURE ARTICLE

THE SCIENCE-FICTION STORY THAT WAITED TEN YEARS FOR ME

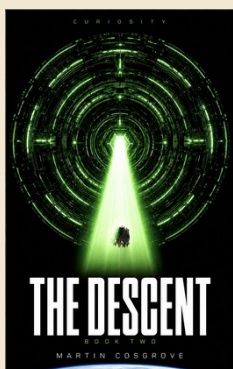
BY LIFE 2.0 ON MEDIUM / 14 AUGUST 2026

How an unfinished manuscript became a first-contact duology: Martin Cosgrove reflects on returning to the silent project, the science fiction that shaped it, and why one continuous story became two books.

■ READ OR LISTEN ON MEDIUM

MEDIUM.COM/LIFE2

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SCAN / SERIES SITE