

Martin Godfrey Young Writer's Award Entry Form

Presented by the Young Alberta Book Society

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**School Name:** CAPE School

**Grade:** 5

**Title:** Dreams of Memories

# Dreams of Memories

They're here. The scientists said they would come, but not this early. What is going to happen to me? What is going to happen to..... everybody?..... "Lucas!" "Time for school!" As I woke up in my space-ship themed bed, I wondered if it was just a nightmare. Although, I have no time to think about it now. I have to get ready for school. I'm a tall, skinny kid with blue eyes and brown hair. I like Star Wars, and I don't care what I dress like. I pulled on a plaid shirt and put on some jeans. I ran down the stairs, through the living room and plopped down by the kitchen table. I ate my breakfast unusually quickly, because I wanted to get to school early to work on my Star Wars fan club with my friends. I waved my mom goodbye, and jumped on the bus.

While on the bus, I saw my friend, Michael. "Michael!" I yelled. He acted as if he didn't hear me. "Michael!" He was still ignoring me. By that time the bus had already arrived at school. I went over to Michael and asked him "What's up? Why were you ignoring me?"

He jerked and shook his head as if he had woken up from some kind of trance. "I'm fine" he said."let's get to class, the bell has already rung!" I must have been so caught up in trying to get his attention, that I didn't notice that the bell rang.

We rushed to our class, that was on the third floor, and sat at our desks right before the teacher entered the room.

"Today's lesson is going to be about algebra," She said. I hate algebra. She wrote some questions on the board and started explaining them. I just couldn't stay awake. It felt like someone had tied a brick to each of my eyelids. The last thing that I saw were big, heavy curtains slowly dropping over my eyes.... so sleepy..... They've landed. I saw a large alien spaceship land about half a kilometre away on the red, rocky landscape. I don't know what to do. We've only lived on Mars for two years. Our community hasn't been able to set up a proper civilization yet. We don't even have a police force or army! "We should get underground and hide from them," I heard my wife suggest. We agreed on that idea and so it was settled. We went into a underground bunker, but it was no use. Twenty minutes later, they had found us. As I saw the small, wooden hatch slowly open, first it was just a crack open and then it swung wide open. The invaders of our planet climbed down the steps, slowly towards us. I was so embedded with fear, I didn't notice that they were armed with advanced-technology guns until they were right in front of me. Suddenly, a wave of pain radiated through my body, and everything went black..... "Lucas!" I snapped awake. "Did you fall asleep in my class again?" It was my teacher.

"Uuuuh..." I struggled to find an excuse, but I wasn't quick enough.

I heard my teacher say, "Stay with me after class young man, and we'll discuss it then." The rest of the day went by fairly quickly. After math class, was language arts, then gym, and then social.

Afterwards, when everybody went home, I stayed after class with my teacher. She gave me a long lecture about not falling asleep in class and stuff. When she was done, I said "Okay," and started heading for home.

When I got home I swung open the door and yelled, "I'm home!" I went into the living room, and plopped myself down on a sofa. When my butt hit the cushion, I saw everything turn blue for a second. The room flickered with blue light twice more, and then stopped. Suddenly, out of nowhere, my mom materialized right in front of me.

"What just happened?!!" I yelled.

"What do you mean, Lucas?" mom asked, "Nothing happened." Something was definitely wrong.

That night, I thought it over. The dreams, the room flashing, my mom appearing in front of me, everything. I couldn't make anything of it, except that it was weird. Although, the dreams seemed familiar, as if they had happened before. I climbed into my bed, and closed my eyes. It took a while but I finally fell asleep.

They forced me into a cylinder-shaped tank. As I saw the metal door slowly close, the last thing that caught my eye was that the machine they had just shoved me in was labeled "life simulator."

Everything went black....

In the morning when I woke up I got dressed, went downstairs, and ate my breakfast. When I waved goodbye to my mom, her face became blurry. She slowly turned blue with white lines running through her. Suddenly, as far as I could see, everything turned blue and fuzzy with white lines running through her. Out of nowhere, everything disappeared, and suddenly, the world turned black. I felt cold and hungry. I saw a crack of light open up above me. The crack grew bigger and eventually, light covered everything I could see. I felt cold hands firmly grip my shoulders.

I heard whoever held me say "We are sorry for the inconvenience. Your pod has broken down. We will erase your memory and put you in a new pod so you can relive your life."

Something was happening. something bigger than me... something bad. I heard a gunshot. The bullet from the gun wielder hit the monster in the middle of it's chest. It made a sickening scream that was more of a hiss that made me cringe. I climbed out of the cylinder-shaped piece of machinery and looked down at the creature lying on the floor. I couldn't help but to cringe again. I looked around the

room, it was filled with cylinder-shaped machines labeled "life simulator". At that moment, I noticed something that I hadn't noticed before, I felt taller! I looked down at my body. I yelled, "I'm an adult?!"

I heard a voice from the right. "Of course you are," I turned in the direction of the voice. I saw a large, muscular man holding a shotgun. "Let's go, we're burning daylight." I heard him say. He headed out of a large, metal door most likely leading outside, so I followed him. I saw a red, rocky landscape once I made it outside. When I looked up, I saw I saw a large, translucent dome surrounding the landscape. "Where are we?" I asked.

In a booming voice, I heard my rescuer say "We're on Mars."

"Who are you?" I asked.

He said "I am the leader of the Survivors' Organization, Benjamin." He hopped into a jeep and motioned for me to get in. I climbed into the dark red-stained jeep, and we were off. We drove half a kilometre, and went into an underground bunker. It was larger on the inside than it seemed from the outside. Benjamin led me into a room with a tv in it. He told me that the aliens had invaded our planet, and they put us in machines that simulated life. They would erase everyone's memory, and put them into a random life as a random person. I asked him "Why?" and he said it was because the aliens have to eat. Randomly, they would take people out of their pods, and butcher them. This all sounded horrifying to

me. I asked him, "What should we do?" Right away, I heard him reply "Kill the aliens." I asked him how and when, and he said he wasn't sure yet. But he mentioned that the aliens were getting ready to eat everybody today.

Desperately, I asked him if he had any weaponry besides his gun, and he answered that he had hundreds of bombs. I knew what I had to do. I said "Benjamin, sneak the pods down to the bunker. I'll plant the bombs across the city, and detonate them when it's time."

Later that day, I had everything arranged. The pods were safe, and the bombs were placed. I had my finger over the button that would set it all off. All at once, a wave of emotions, memories, and responsibility crashed down upon me. The more and more I thought about it, the more my hatred for the aliens grew.

Suddenly, an alien appeared behind me. "Drop the device or I will shoot" I heard it say. If I pressed the button now, while inside the dome, I would explode along with all the aliens. The fate of humanity rested in the palm of my hand, and as I felt the weight of responsibility weigh down on my shoulders, I knew what I had to do. As I pressed the small metal button, I saw a small explosion on the other side of the dome. This set off a chain reaction of explosions slowly coming towards me. When the explosions reached where I was standing, I felt all my nerves explode in pain as if they were all set on fire. As I felt myself become enveloped

in the bright white light, in the last moments of my life, I also felt a self-pride greater than I had ever felt before, for I had just saved all of humanity.

THE END