

Gameplanets The Movie Script by Brett Cabot 2004

OUTLINE: A technical breakdown in the Gameplanets studio sends two players and the host on an adventure to remember...Lost in the machine... As a virtual reality game show turns into a REALITY nightmare. Controlled by the Ultimate machinist The Game Controller... A wild quest to satisfy the maniacal Game Controller, a fantastic journey for Rowan, Michelle and Officer Tom as they take on the, crazy cyber, Game Controller. In each world they visit they find clues and items which over time help them to finally escape back to reality. In the real world, Ruud the programmer and his nephew and niece, Bruce and Karen manage to hack into the VR world and leave clues and help. assisting our heroes to escape from the Game Controller and make their way back to the studio, back to safety, back to the real world....

INT. FAMILY LOUNGE ROOM 4PM AFTERNOON

CAM: pulls out from a domestic TV screen showing the last few seconds of a commercial, then Station Ident, followed by GP leader...child voice off screen calls out

KAREN

(calls out from off screen)

Hurry up Bruce! Its Michelle and Rowan's day to be on GamePlanets!..

BRUCE

(answers from off screen)

OK I'm coming (followed by sound of toilet flushing)

CAM: reveals family's lounge room. We see feet sliding, and bums plopping into position on the couch. Two kids sitting watching the start of GamePlanets on TV...

OFFICER TOM V/O

Imagine a universe where only oxygen and brains are required, a place of mystery, fantasy, games and challenges. Then welcome travelers to that universe. The universe of GamePlanets....

MOTHER

(from off screen)

Your not watching mtv again!?

KAREN

No Mom, just Gameplanets.

INT. GAMEPLANETS - PRODUCTION STUDIO - 4PM AFTERNOON

CAM: pulls out from a monitor, this time in the blue/green screen television studio where GP is being produced... The end of the pull reveals 2 players standing behind podiums in a blue/green room surrounded by cameras, crew, a host and an audience; they are in the middle of production. The same production of GP that Karen and Bruce are watching at home in their lounge room...

OFFICER TOM

Lets give a big welcome to todays contestants.. Michelle and Rowen.(applause) Michelle tell us all a little about yourself.

MICHELLE

My names Michelle Harrison, I'm 12 years old and I go to Hillstop primary school. I love swimming and playing on my computer.....

OFFICER TOM

Great! Sounds like you have a busy life. Whats your favorite computer game?

MICHELLE

Gee I don't know, umm probably Sims

OFFICER TOM

OK!.. Good luck to you today. Now Rowan tell us about yourself

ROWAN

Well I'm almost 12 and go to the same school as Michelle. I really like football and playing my PSP

OFFICER TOM

Fantastic, two computer freaks. Here's hoping that all your computing will help you to the top today! Come on lets head to our first planet and see who's got the right stuff.

The players fly through a worm hole and arrive on the first planet...Questions are asked and answered.

INT. GAMEPLANETS - STUDIO EDIT SUITE - AFTERNOON

Busy control (online) suite, director calling shots, and

operators in position in front off monitor screens typing on keypads or wobbling a joy stick.... In all monitors the show is running as normal we see images of the individual composites as well as the final mix. The director interrupts his flow and asks an assistant for a cup of coffee.

DIRECTOR

Beverly, would you be a dear and get me a cup of coffee, please.

BEVERLY

okey dokey, anyone else?

VISION SWITCHER

Urr Yeh, black two sugars.

RUUD COMPUTER OPERATOR

Ahh I'm OK, thanks...

BEVERLY

Back in a tick...

INT. GAMEPLANETS - PRODUCTION STUDIO - AFTERNOON

Beverly making her way to the coffee machine.

OFFICER TOM

Ok lets head off to our next planet, Hold tight and have a pleasant flight...

We see the Players fly through a worm hole and arrive on a new planet... as show goes on... dynamic and hype full. The idea of a Kids virtual studio TV game show production is established both from the Viewers side and from the Studio broadcast side.

INT. STUDIO TEA ROOM - COFFEE MACHINE - AFTERNOON

Beverly pours two coffee, adds sugar to one then leaves.

On the wall in the background a monitor shows Gameplanets production continuing.

INT. GAMEPLANETS - PRODUCTION STUDIO - AFTERNOON

Beverly makes her way back with the coffees'. Walking through the Blue-screen studio, she is trying to be careful, but trips over a cable and spills some of the coffee over several cables lying on the studio floor. Various crew members look at her as though to say "What are you doing!?" The Floor Manager turns around and gestures "Shhhssss"... the show goes on...

OFFICER TOM

The score is very tight at the moment with Rowan on 4 and Michelle with 6 points. Ohh its time to head to an interactive planet. A chance perhaps for Rowan to catch up as it's... Football planet!. Lets make you a little smaller. Standing by? here comes the first ball...

Michelle and Rowan click madly on their desk buttons as they play the interactive game football. Rowan wins a point then Michelle wins a point. But Rowan wins the game.

Special FX: We see a small blue static explosion erupt where the coffee was spilt. then an electric like lightening sfx runs along the cables...

We see the electric SFX run alone the cables all the way to the players podiums and the hosts desk, subtly lighting up the players the desks and host, a subtle blue halo engulfs the players and host then disappears.

INT. GAMEPLANETS - STUDIO EDIT SUITE - AFTERNOON

The vision switcher notices the subtle halo effect on a monitor in front of him.

VISION SWITCHER

Hey did u guys see that!?

DIRECTOR

Yeh strange. Probably a glitch in the system

VISION SWITCHER

(mutters to himself)

Mmmm... No worries then...

DIRECTOR

Yeh, the home viewers wouldn't have noticed a thing...

INT. GAMEPLANETS - PRODUCTION STUDIO - AFTERNOON

OFFICER TOM

Well done Michelle thats totally correct, Ok onto the next question... Which pop singer had a hit in 2007 with Dance to the music was it A. Kylie, B. Madonna, C.

Beyonce or D. Missy Elliot.

MICHELLE

B. Madonna.

OFFICER TOM

correct! that's another point for
you...Well done. Ok ready for some
tunnel traveling, lets go!

The host and the players still in action start to very slowly dissolve away, gradually disappearing from the studio, fading away from all in the studio watching. The crew and audience look on dumbfounded... Also from the point of view of the players and host the studio starts to cross fade to the 3D VR world... The players sense themselves dissolve away from reality into virtual reality...in realization of the fact they start to panic, waving their arms around and calling out.

ROWAN

Hey! What's happening!!

MICHELLE

(turns to Rowan)

Are you seeing what I'm seeing?

ROWAN

Officer Tom! Officer Tom! where is
everyone going! Whats happening to
the studio?

MICHELLE

Officer Tom, everything is becoming
a little bit too real... I can
barely see the cameras anymore, but
I can see you OK...

Officer Tom, preoccupied with his script and running the show, doesn't immediately notice at this point in time, that the studio is fading away...

INT. GAMEPLANETS - STUDIO EDIT SUITE - AFTERNOON

In the online edit suite the numerous TV screens flicker out leaving only one monitor with a composite image on it. That being, 2 players flying their pods through a worm hole, the host is also seen tumbling along. All out of control heading through a worm hole....

DIRECTOR

What on earth is happening! Roger
stop messing about..This is going

out live, Get those kids back on screen!!

VISION SWITCHER

I haven't done a thing, could be the computers.. Ruud!

RUUD COMPUTER OPERATOR

Some things taken control of my system, nothings responding to my commands!!! (clicking feverously at his keypad)

INT. GAMEPLANETS - PRODUCTION STUDIO - AFTERNOON

Finally Officer Tom, Rowan and Michelle disappear altogether from the studio, much to the continuing disbelief of the floor manager, crew and audience.

SFX. FANTASY CAMERA - VIRTUAL SET

From the Players and host point of view they are now totally immersed in the 3D fantasy world... Zooming along, with no control tumble through a wormhole... Then spat out the other side. They all Land in a foggy green world normally known as the Green Planet or Alien Planet. Their flying pods disappear on landing, the players stagger around then sit down, disoriented and confused... Officer Tom is seen sitting, still holding his question and answer script, but now without a chair. So on landing immediately topples over, his Q&A script falls out of his hands and flutters to the ground... As he lies there a strange light begins at his feet and makes it way up and over his body. Where once was jeans and shirt transform into a mechanical robot. The human host becomes totally covered and now looks like the virtual Robot Roll-in host...

INT. FAMILY LOUNGE ROOM 4.15PM AFTERNOON

Bruce and Karen in the lounge room... Kids stupefied in front of the screen. Mouths slightly opened... Then they react...

BRUCE

Hey! What's happened, I've never seen them get off their flying pods before!? Something to do with the Green Alien Planet I reckon...

KAREN

Yeh! and what's Officer Tom doing

lying on the ground, hey he really
is a robot!

The TV signal then starts to roll and flutter, finally
disappearing altogether in a haze of digital breakdown....

BRUCE AND KAREN
(In chorus Bruce and his
sister scream out) Mom! the
televisions packed it in!!!!

SFX. FANTASY CAMERA - VIRTUAL SET

Rowan, Michelle and Officer Tom at their landing spot in the
Green Planet, no longer in the real life studio but in an
unreal world which is exactly the same as the VR one but now
it's become reality... A transformed, Officer Tom is lying
on the ground. Rowan and Michelle are standing dazed and
confused. Officer Tom with his new robotic body looks lost
and forlorn. He looks up towards the children

OFFICER TOM
Whats happened! whats happened to
me? what is this? Where am I?
...Help me.

MICHELLE
Who are you! and where are we!

ROWAN
yeh and what are we doing here!
Where's the studio gone. Where's my
Mom and Dad and the rest of the
audience?

OFFICER TOM
Why I'm Mick Johnson... u know
Officer Tom. Cant you see...
Something must have gone really
wrong in the studio. Ive got no
idea what has happened.

Rowan and Michelle look at each other then back to Officer
Tom. Scrutinizing him closely they realize he, indeed, is
Officer Tom.

ROWAN
Oh yeh now I see....Officer Tom are
u Ok! You know you really look like
a robot now! Do u know what
happened?

OFFICER TOM

Um rrr mmm Robot, well no, I mean
sort of, I don't feel so good. And
hey your right!

(dazed and confused he looks around)
Where has the studio gone!? Its
very green here isn't it... Here
give me a hand up.

Michelle and Rowan help Officer Tom to get to his feet. The
kids are keen to know what's happening and look towards
Officer Tom for guidance.

OFFICER TOM
(Officer Tom peruses the horizon
and exclaims) What the ... Where
the, Why are we?.....

INT. GAMEPLANETS - PRODUCTION STUDIO - AFTERNOON

Mean while back in the studio there is total chaos,
teachers, moms and dad's are demanding where are the kids...
the crew can't believe their eyes and the Producer is beside
himself wondering what had happened... The Floor manager is
trying his best to contain the panic and confusion which is
running threw the floor crew and audience... the host chair
is empty as too are the contestant podiums

INT. GAMEPLANETS - STUDIO EDIT SUITE - AFTERNOON

The Director is barking at the operators, who all look like
stunned mullets...

DIRECTOR
You! what have you done!

VISION SWITCHER
not a thing, not a dam thing.. its
that computer glitch... blame Ruud.

DIRECTOR
Ruud explain this...

RUUD COMPUTER OPERATOR
It's out of my hands the system
seems to have grown a life of its
own. Ive got no control anymore but
the beast is still operating..
Look!

Ruud points to the only remaining monitor. On it we see
Officer Tom, Rowan and Michelle in the Green Alien Planet

DIRECTOR

turn up the sound.. can we hear
what they are saying?

SFX. FANTASY CAMERA - VIRTUAL SET

OFFICER TOM

I've got no idea... Hold on Ive got
an idea..

(he clicks a switch and speaks into his Madonna Microphone)
Edit, edit anyone there!!?

He waits a few seconds but receives no response. Then he
tries his mobile, he unpockets the mobile and types in some
numbers attempting to call for help...

my mobile doesn't seem to work here
either...

ROWAN

Yeh and where is here?...where's my
Teacher and class mates... Like u
know... you got us in here but...

MICHELLE

and why is everything so real now
and where is Mrs. Edgecliff and the
other kids!? ...How do we get out,
how can we get back to everyone
else....back to the studio, back to
reality!!!?

OFFICER TOM

I've got no idea!

ROWAN

and what about my points, I mean, I
was winning u know! well almost..

MICHELLE

Yeh, just cos u play more PSP
games, you think you're the
greatest. I was, like, ahead in the
quiz questions! Wasn't I Officer
Tom!?

(Looking to Officer Tom for reassurance... Then
condescendingly to Rowan)

Dead Head...

OFFICER TOM

Yep my mobile doesn't get a thing!

Bashing it against his leg then bringing it back to his ear.... then turning towards Michelle.

Ah what were u saying? Ahead in the point score!? Mmm I'm not sure...

All go silent for a while... All of them deep in thought... Mist swirls around them. The green landscape in every direction, alien, but familiar because they are stuck inside GamePlanets. Officer Tom breaks the silence exclaiming...

OFFICER TOM

Well it looks like we have somehow found ourselves inside the game, u know like inside the machine, inside the real Gameplanets...

MICHELLE

Then maybe we can get out of here by playing the game, u know like lets try and play GamePlanets to get back to the studio...

OFFICER TOM

Answer enough questions and play the interactive games, get through the laser lane...

ROWAN

Yes ...what a good thought...Perhaps we can find some clue here on this planet..

OFFICER TOM

Yes great, now I think about it, I've been here on this planet before in a past episode.... Surely there is a way out or a way to move on to the next level!! Maybe this will help..

Officer Tom picks up his question and answer script from the ground.

GAME CONTROLLER V/O

WELL DONE travelers... You now seem to have a grip on your predicament"

Bellows an omnipresent voice.. The Controller of GamePlanets, the robotic Roll-in but this time he really is the grand master of it all... Rowan, Michelle and OT freeze on the spot in fear and awe... as a strong wind starts to howl and whip around them... The voice seems to come from nowhere and everywhere. Our intrepid three search the sky's for the source of the voice...

SFX - GAME CONTROLLER CAMERA - CONTROL CENTRE

The Game Controller is sitting in front of lots of monitors and a control desk covered in knobs and buttons In one of the monitors we see OT, Rowan and Michelle in the Green Planet.

GAME CONTROLLER

Let me introduce myself, I am the real Controller of GamePlanets... and as I was becoming bored with all this play and virtual indulgence...Well I decided to give myself a treat, have some fun for once... HHaaaaHHaaHHAA.... Virtual reality becomes reality!!!... So Welcome Travelers, welcome to my universe!!! Full of mystery, games, challenge and danger! AHAHAHaaHHAAA.... You are now Travelers in my Universe. My universe of GamePlanets...." AAAHHHAAAaa aaaa... Are you really good enough, can you get to the worm holes in time. Can u answer all my questions before a real dinosaur eats you...MMMM.... Tasty!!! Let's see if you've got the right stuff to find your way home this time!!! AHAHAHHHAAA....

SFX. FANTASY CAMERA - VIRTUAL SET

Rowan, Michelle and Officer Tom stand dumb founded for a few seconds. OT starts to nervously type on his mobile again... Rowan and Michelle look to him then to each other. Rowan begins...

ROWAN

Well we got to do something about this!!!... Which planet are we on!? What do u think the Controller will do next!

MICHELLE

It looks like we are on the Green Planet; you know that alien planet, some other kids were on it a month ago or so... What do u think Officer Tom.

Officer Tom startled out of his obsessive typing, looks up dazed and amazed...And answers

OFFICER TOM

UU... what... what are you talking
about?... Getting out of here...
ummm welll...? I thiiiiinnn...

Before he could really answer, the omnipresent voice
explodes once again all around them....

GAME CONTROLLER V/O

Firstly here are your flying pods.
note they are new and improved
models.

(Two pods appear beside the players.)
Get yourselves back on board...

(Rowan and Michelle get into there respective pods...)

OFFICER TOM

Butttt , ummm Controller What about
me???

GAME CONTROLLER

You'll just have to hitch a
ride.... Game starting in
5.4.3.2...

Officer Tom makes a mad dash for Rowan's Pod and climbs in
beside him.... A small grapple for who gets to hold the
controls... Rowan wins. The pods lift into the air then
hover a meter above the misty, green alien ground.

SFX - GAME CONTROLLER CAMERA - CONTROL CENTRE

GAME CONTROLLER

OK lets do it!!! It's the Alien
Planet ...so my first question is..
During the 1950's, in America there
was a UFO sighting at Boswell
Airbase. What does the F stand for
in UFO? Is it A:Floating?
B:Falling. C:Flapping? or D:Flying?

SFX. FANTASY CAMERA - VIRTUAL SET

As each possible answer is said huge panels fly onto screen
nearly knocking over Officer Tom, Rowan and
Michelle...Making the pods and players wobble about.
A...B...C...D... they duck, dodge and fall about avoiding
the massive answer panels.

GAME CONTROLLER V/O

Hurry UP! I don't have all day! Is
it A B C or D!... It's all pretty
simple! You dim wits!... Come on
you must answer NOW! Or suffer the
consequences..

OFFICER TOM
Hey I think I know this one.

MICHELLE
Me to.

GAME CONTROLLER
No conferring! type ABC or D.

OT and Michelle type D, the letter appears on the front of
their pods.

GAME CONTROLLER
Mmmmm OK so you knew that one.