



*Zena*  
**CARDMAN**

1  
00:00:12,011 --> 00:00:16,483

[ MUSIC ]

2  
00:00:16,483 --> 00:00:17,050

>> I KNOW YOU HAVEN'T BEEN

3  
00:00:17,050 --> 00:00:17,884

ABLE TO TELL MANY PEOPLE YET,

4  
00:00:17,884 --> 00:00:18,551

BUT DO YOU THINK PEOPLE WILL BE

5  
00:00:18,551 --> 00:00:20,053

SURPRISED THAT YOU ARE

6  
00:00:20,053 --> 00:00:21,554

REALIZING THIS DREAM?

7  
00:00:21,554 --> 00:00:22,689

>> I-- I THINK EVERYONE'S

8  
00:00:22,689 --> 00:00:23,923

GOING TO BE REALLY EXCITED.

9  
00:00:23,923 --> 00:00:25,058

I DON'T THINK ANYONE WILL BE

10  
00:00:25,058 --> 00:00:26,993

QUITE AS SURPRISED AS I AM.

11  
00:00:26,993 --> 00:00:27,727

IT'S JUST--

12  
00:00:27,727 --> 00:00:29,429

IT'S ABSOLUTELY UNREAL.

13  
00:00:29,429 --> 00:00:33,867

[ MUSIC ]

14

00:00:33,867 --> 00:00:35,301  
I GREW UP IN WILLIAMSBURG,

15

00:00:35,301 --> 00:00:37,370  
VIRGINIA, AND RIGHT NOW I LIVE

16

00:00:37,370 --> 00:00:38,638  
IN STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA,

17

00:00:38,638 --> 00:00:39,572  
BY WAY OF CHAPEL HILL,

18

00:00:39,572 --> 00:00:40,740  
NORTH CAROLINA.

19

00:00:40,740 --> 00:00:41,441  
I'M CURRENTLY

20

00:00:41,441 --> 00:00:42,475  
A GRADUATE STUDENT.

21

00:00:42,475 --> 00:00:43,777  
I'M WORKING ON MY PhD

22

00:00:43,777 --> 00:00:46,012  
IN THE GEOSCIENCES DEPARTMENT.

23

00:00:46,012 --> 00:00:51,351  
[ MUSIC ]

24

00:00:51,351 --> 00:00:53,253  
I THINK I STARTED SAYING

25

00:00:53,253 --> 00:00:54,421  
I WANTED TO BE AN ASTRONAUT

26  
00:00:54,421 --> 00:00:56,289  
SOMETIME LATE IN HIGH SCHOOL,

27  
00:00:56,289 --> 00:00:57,390  
BUT I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE

28  
00:00:57,390 --> 00:01:00,059  
A CONCRETE REASON WHY OR HOW

29  
00:01:00,059 --> 00:01:01,027  
I WAS GOING TO DO THAT.

30  
00:01:01,027 --> 00:01:02,529  
IT JUST APPEALED TO ME IN

31  
00:01:02,529 --> 00:01:04,397  
SOME KIND OF FUNDAMENTAL WAY.

32  
00:01:04,397 --> 00:01:05,698  
BUT THEN AS I WENT THROUGH

33  
00:01:05,698 --> 00:01:06,599  
COLLEGE AND I STARTED

34  
00:01:06,599 --> 00:01:08,568  
FOLLOWING PEOPLE WHO

35  
00:01:08,568 --> 00:01:10,103  
INSPIRED ME JUST BY,

36  
00:01:10,103 --> 00:01:11,237  
YOU KNOW, DOING COOL THINGS,

37  
00:01:11,237 --> 00:01:12,639  
TRAVELING TO AMAZING PLACES,

38  
00:01:12,639 --> 00:01:14,240

AND I WANTED TO FOLLOW

39

00:01:14,240 --> 00:01:16,242  
THAT PATH, ALL WITH

40

00:01:16,242 --> 00:01:17,911  
AN INTEREST OF MICROBIOLOGY

41

00:01:17,911 --> 00:01:19,078  
AND EXTREME AND

42

00:01:19,078 --> 00:01:20,180  
UNUSUAL ENVIRONMENTS.

43

00:01:20,180 --> 00:01:21,247  
AND SO THAT TOOK ME TO

44

00:01:21,247 --> 00:01:22,282  
PLACES LIKE THE ARCTIC

45

00:01:22,282 --> 00:01:23,850  
AND ANTARCTICA, AND

46

00:01:23,850 --> 00:01:25,785  
EVERYWHERE IN BETWEEN.

47

00:01:25,785 --> 00:01:26,953  
I WORKED A LOT ON SMALL

48

00:01:26,953 --> 00:01:29,222  
RESEARCH VESSELS AND

49

00:01:29,222 --> 00:01:32,091  
ITS ANALOG WORK WITH NASA.

50

00:01:32,091 --> 00:01:33,827  
AND ALONG THE WAY,

51  
00:01:33,827 --> 00:01:35,128  
I REALIZED THAT I HAD ACQUIRED

52  
00:01:35,128 --> 00:01:36,496  
A SET OF SKILLS THAT

53  
00:01:36,496 --> 00:01:37,897  
MIGHT ACTUALLY BE APPLICABLE

54  
00:01:37,897 --> 00:01:39,065  
TO THE ASTRONAUT PROGRAM.

55  
00:01:39,065 --> 00:01:40,366  
AND SO WHEN I FINALLY

56  
00:01:40,366 --> 00:01:42,469  
QUALIFIED FOR THE FIRST TIME

57  
00:01:42,469 --> 00:01:43,803  
THIS LAST SELECTION ROUND,

58  
00:01:43,803 --> 00:01:45,371  
I COULDN'T HELP BUT APPLY.

59  
00:01:45,371 --> 00:01:51,144  
[ MUSIC ]

60  
00:01:51,144 --> 00:01:53,012  
SO IT MAY BE A LITTLE CLICHE,

61  
00:01:53,012 --> 00:01:54,080  
BUT I WAS ACTUALLY WATCHING

62  
00:01:54,080 --> 00:01:56,082  
"APOLLO 13."

63  
00:01:56,082 --> 00:01:57,350

I HAD A FEW FRIENDS OVER

64

00:01:57,350 --> 00:01:59,619

IN THE MORNING, AND THEY COOKED

65

00:01:59,619 --> 00:02:00,954

BREAKFAST TACOS WITH ME.

66

00:02:00,954 --> 00:02:02,255

AND WE WERE JUST HANGING OUT

67

00:02:02,255 --> 00:02:03,389

IN THE LIVING ROOM.

68

00:02:03,389 --> 00:02:04,190

I HAD A BUNCH OF PEOPLE

69

00:02:04,190 --> 00:02:05,959

TO KEEP ME OCCUPIED.

70

00:02:05,959 --> 00:02:06,593

THEY WERE BASICALLY

71

00:02:06,593 --> 00:02:07,460

BABYSITTING ME AND

72

00:02:07,460 --> 00:02:08,461

KEEPING ME COMPANY.

73

00:02:08,461 --> 00:02:09,696

IT WAS JUST AWESOME

74

00:02:09,696 --> 00:02:10,797

TO HAVE THEM THERE.

75

00:02:10,797 --> 00:02:16,636

[ MUSIC ]

76  
00:02:16,636 --> 00:02:18,238  
EVERY STEM OPPORTUNITY THAT

77  
00:02:18,238 --> 00:02:19,672  
I'VE EVER GONE DOWN IS

78  
00:02:19,672 --> 00:02:22,108  
BECAUSE OF SOME MENTOR

79  
00:02:22,108 --> 00:02:23,843  
WHO INSPIRED ME OR SOME STUDENT

80  
00:02:23,843 --> 00:02:25,011  
WHO WAS AHEAD OF ME IN SCHOOL

81  
00:02:25,011 --> 00:02:26,012  
WHO INSPIRED ME.

82  
00:02:26,012 --> 00:02:28,214  
SO EARLY ON, IN HIGH SCHOOL

83  
00:02:28,214 --> 00:02:29,315  
ACTUALLY, I HAD A REALLY

84  
00:02:29,315 --> 00:02:30,416  
EXCELLENT HIGH SCHOOL

85  
00:02:30,416 --> 00:02:31,684  
BIOLOGY TEACHER.

86  
00:02:31,684 --> 00:02:33,253  
AND THAT SENT ME ON THE PATH

87  
00:02:33,253 --> 00:02:34,420  
OF BIOLOGY WHEN I WENT

88  
00:02:34,420 --> 00:02:34,988

TO COLLEGE.

89

00:02:34,988 --> 00:02:36,756  
I KNEW RIGHT AWAY, FIRST DAY

90

00:02:36,756 --> 00:02:37,524  
OF FRESHMAN YEAR, THAT

91

00:02:37,524 --> 00:02:39,459  
I WANTED TO BE A BIOLOGIST.

92

00:02:39,459 --> 00:02:41,394  
AND THEN GOING THROUGH

93

00:02:41,394 --> 00:02:42,495  
THE BIOLOGY PROGRAM,

94

00:02:42,495 --> 00:02:43,763  
THERE WERE STUDENTS AHEAD OF ME

95

00:02:43,763 --> 00:02:45,732  
WHO HAD DONE RESEARCH

96

00:02:45,732 --> 00:02:46,766  
IN THE MARINE SCIENCES

97

00:02:46,766 --> 00:02:47,834  
DEPARTMENT WHO HAD ACTUALLY

98

00:02:47,834 --> 00:02:48,768  
GONE TO ANTARCTICA

99

00:02:48,768 --> 00:02:50,136  
AS UNDERGRADUATES, AND

100

00:02:50,136 --> 00:02:52,005  
I JUST THOUGHT THAT WOULD BE

101  
00:02:52,005 --> 00:02:53,439  
SUCH A COOL OPPORTUNITY.

102  
00:02:53,439 --> 00:02:54,674  
AND SO I STARTED TO CHASE

103  
00:02:54,674 --> 00:02:56,442  
THAT AND TO KIND OF PATTERN

104  
00:02:56,442 --> 00:02:57,544  
MY LIFE OFF OF PEOPLE

105  
00:02:57,544 --> 00:02:58,811  
WHO INSPIRED ME.

106  
00:02:58,811 --> 00:03:02,515  
[ MUSIC ]

107  
00:03:02,515 --> 00:03:03,950  
MY FAVORITE VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

108  
00:03:03,950 --> 00:03:05,885  
OF LATE IS TALKING IN LOCAL

109  
00:03:05,885 --> 00:03:08,021  
SCHOOLS, WHICH ACTUALLY REALLY

110  
00:03:08,021 --> 00:03:08,955  
EXCITES ME ABOUT

111  
00:03:08,955 --> 00:03:10,523  
THE ASTRONAUT JOB, THAT

112  
00:03:10,523 --> 00:03:11,391  
THAT'S PART OF THE GIG, IS,

113  
00:03:11,391 --> 00:03:12,525

YOU KNOW, GOING OUT

114

00:03:12,525 --> 00:03:13,927  
AND TALKING TO STUDENTS.

115

00:03:13,927 --> 00:03:15,461  
THEY'RE JUST-- IT'S AWESOME

116

00:03:15,461 --> 00:03:16,462  
TO TALK TO KIDS WHO ARE

117

00:03:16,462 --> 00:03:17,330  
REALLY EXCITED ABOUT

118

00:03:17,330 --> 00:03:18,498  
SCIENCE, AND THAT MAKES ME

119

00:03:18,498 --> 00:03:20,033  
EXCITED ABOUT SCIENCE.

120

00:03:20,033 --> 00:03:32,779  
[ MUSIC ]