

The Official Prequel to Disney's highly anticipated film JOHN CARTER

Disney
JOHN CARTER
WORLD OF MARS



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LIMITED SERIES
1 of 4

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MY NAME IS JOHN CARTER. I AM BETTER KNOWN AS CAPTAIN JACK CARTER OF VIRGINIA.

ONCE I WAS A NORMAL BEING, AN INHABITANT OF EARTH, ALTHOUGH I USE THE WORD "NORMAL" IN A FAIRLY LOOSE SENSE...

I APPEAR TO BE ABOUT THIRTY YEARS OF AGE, ALTHOUGH I BELIEVE I HAVE LIVED MUCH, MUCH LONGER THAN THAT.

THROUGH A RATHER...UNUSUAL...SERIES OF EVENTS, I FOUND MYSELF WALKING UPON ALIEN SOIL THAT NO HUMAN HAD EVER TROD, NAMELY THE PLANET MARS...

...OR, AS ITS NATIVES CALL IT, BARSOOM.

OH YES, NATIVES, THEY HAVE, AND IN ABUNDANCE. NATIVES SUCH AS...

DEJAH THORIS.
PRINCESS OF THE
CITY OF HELIUM.

HOW LITTLE
YOU KNOW OF
OUR WORLD, JOHN
CARTER, OR THE
CIRCUMSTANCES
THAT SHAPED IT.

YOU ACT
AS IF NOTHING
OF IMPORTANCE
COULD POSSIBLY
HAVE OCCURRED
BEFORE YOU
ARRIVED HERE.

I THINK
THAT'S MORE
HOW YOU SEE ME
THAN THE WAY I
ACTUALLY AM. BUT
WHO AM I TO
DISAGREE WITH
A PRINCESS?

PERHAPS
YOU WOULD DO
ME THE SERVICE
OF EDUCATING
ME AS TO WHAT
I SHOULD
KNOW?

IT WOULD
BE MY
PLEASURE.

AND
MINE AS
WELL.



AND THEN THERE'S TARS TARKAS, JEDDAK OF THE THARKS.

GENERALLY SPEAKING, RED MEN AND GREEN MEN OF BARSOOM GET ALONG ABOUT AS WELL AS RED-SKINNED AND WHITE-SKINNED MEN OF EARTH DO.

PERHAPS WE'RE NOT SO ALIEN AFTER ALL.

WHY ARE YOU SO UNLIKE OTHERS OF YOUR RACE, TARS TARKAS?

AM I?

I WOULD BE DEAD WERE IT NOT FOR YOUR COMPASSION. AN UNUSUAL TRAIT FOR THARKS IN GENERAL AND JEDDAKS IN PARTICULAR.


AND YOU WOULD KNOW WHY, DOTAR SOJAT?

IF IT WOULD INTEREST YOU TO TELL IT.

AND WHY NOT? IT IS A PLEASANT ENOUGH DAY, AND WE HAVE A LONG RIDE AHEAD OF US.

IN RETROSPECT, IT IS AMUSING THAT TWO OF THE MOST IMPORTANT INDIVIDUALS IN MY LIFE HAD A TALE TO TELL IN WHICH THEY WERE BOTH PARTICIPANTS IN EACH OTHER'S NARRATIVE...
...BUT WERE UNAWARE OF IT.

THIS IS THE STORY THAT THEY TOLD ME, ALTHOUGH IT BEGINS NEITHER WITH HELIUM NOR THE THARKS, BUT INSTEAD WITH EVENTS TRANSPILING SOMEWHERE ELSE ENTIRELY...



WITH ALL DEFEERENCE TO THE LATE, GREAT MR. DICKENS, IT WAS BOTH THE BEST OF TIMES AND WORST OF TIMES AND--AS YOU MIGHT HAVE SURMISED THIS IS A TALE OF TWO CITIES.

ALTHOUGH, HOW MUCH BETTER OR WORSE IT WAS DOUBTLESS HAD TO DO WITH WHICH MAJOR CITY YOU HAPPENED TO DWELL WITHIN.

IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE, THERE WERE TWO GREAT CITIES, OLD BEYOND ANY HUMAN IMAGINING CAN CONCEIVE. HELIUM, I HAVE ALREADY MENTIONED, BUT LET US NOW FOCUS INSTEAD ON ITS CENTURIES-OLD RIVAL, ZODANGA.

SITUATED IN BARSOOM'S SOUTHWEST HEMISPHERE, ZODANGA WAS COVERED BY SENTRIES WHO PATROLLED JUST WITHIN THE WALLS AS OUR METROPOLITAN POLICE PATROL THEIR BEATS.

IT RESEMBLED A WALKING REFINERY: GREASY, SMELLY, SMOKY, SOOTY, BLACK AND GRAY, STEEL AND LIFELESS.

BARSOOMIANS ARE INSANELY LONG-LIVED BY EARTH STANDARDS; THEIR WARS WERE LIKEWISE.

A THOUSAND YEARS HAD ZODANGA BEEN LOCKED IN HOSTILITIES WITH ITS SEEMINGLY ETERNAL RIVAL, HELIUM, THE JEWEL OF BARSOOM.

AND THERE WERE SOME...



SAB THAN!
SAB THAN!

