

Bad News Pluto

By Peter Keel

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Character List

Mercury

Venus

Earth

Mars

Jupiter

Saturn

Uranus

Neptune

Pluto

Ceres

(The planets are sitting in a crescent shape awaiting the imminent arrival of Pluto at the annual planetary meeting. They are sitting left to right in the order of which they are nearest to the sun. There is one chair vacant at the end of the row. Pluto arrives and sits.)

Earth: Planets, thank you all for coming to our annual planetary meeting. Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and of course Pluto.

Jupiter: Annual? It might be once a *year* for you Earth, but these are not annual for me. I have around two hundred of these meetings in my year.

Venus: I don't think we have enough of these meetings.

Earth: Apologies, I know some of us get around the sun a little quicker than others.

Mercury: Yes apologies to our slower planets, some of us are just faster.

Pluto: We know. Your wife is pretty vocal on the issue! Boom.

Jupiter: Great verbal asteroid.

(Pluto high fives Jupiter and Mars.)

Mars: That will leave an emotional crater.

Earth: Please, today is a difficult day. The International Astronomical Union has made an announcement regarding one of us. The IAU has decided to reclassify Pluto.

Neptune: To what? A planet comprising of mostly ice and methane to a wet fart?

Earth: Please Neptune, we all know you two have had your problems. Pluto it's with deep regret that I must inform you that you are no longer a planet.

(All planets gasp in response to the news.)

Pluto: What! What do you mean no longer a planet?

Earth: The IAU has reclassified you. You are now a dwarf planet.

Pluto: A dwarf planet!

Earth: Yes. You can no longer come to these meetings. You will have to go to the dwarf planet meetings.

Pluto: Dwarf planet meetings! Why?

Earth: There are concerns over your orbit.

Pluto: Absolute rubbish.

Neptune: Long time coming.

Pluto: This is all because I cut off your orbit and was closer to the sun. Get over it Neptune, sometimes I go in your orbit. Deal with it!

Earth: Pluto, I can understand you are very upset. But it's official. There is nothing we can do.

Pluto: This is crazy. I have moons to support. I've been a good planet, haven't I? I didn't complain when Disney named a dog after me while you all got Greek gods named after you.

Uranus: I never had a Greek god or a Disney character named after me.

Pluto: Disney was going to name something after you Uranus but they decided to call it Euro Disney instead.

Uranus: What do you mean?

Jupiter: He means Euro Disney stinks.

Uranus: I don't understand.

Pluto: No one has told you this before.

Mars: Don't do it Pluto.

Earth: Pluto!

Pluto: Humans have things called Anuses that poo comes out of. Newsflash Uranus. Your name is associated with shit. No one will name anything after you. Ever!

(Neptune pulls out a phone and begins to browse the internet.)

Saturn: Bit harsh.

Pluto: It speaks! Saturn, you just might be the most boring planet here. Rings are not a substitute for a personality.

Neptune: Could I just interject for a second. Uranus is the name of a Roman god, and has a completely different meaning in Latin. I just checked on the phone.

Earth: There you go.

Pluto: Brill, you just need to get every English speaking person to learn and start speaking Latin. Easy!

Uranus: I'm changing my name.

Mars: What about Rectumus?

Earth: Shouldn't be any problem there.

Uranus: From now on I will be known as Kronos II.

Jupiter: Great change.