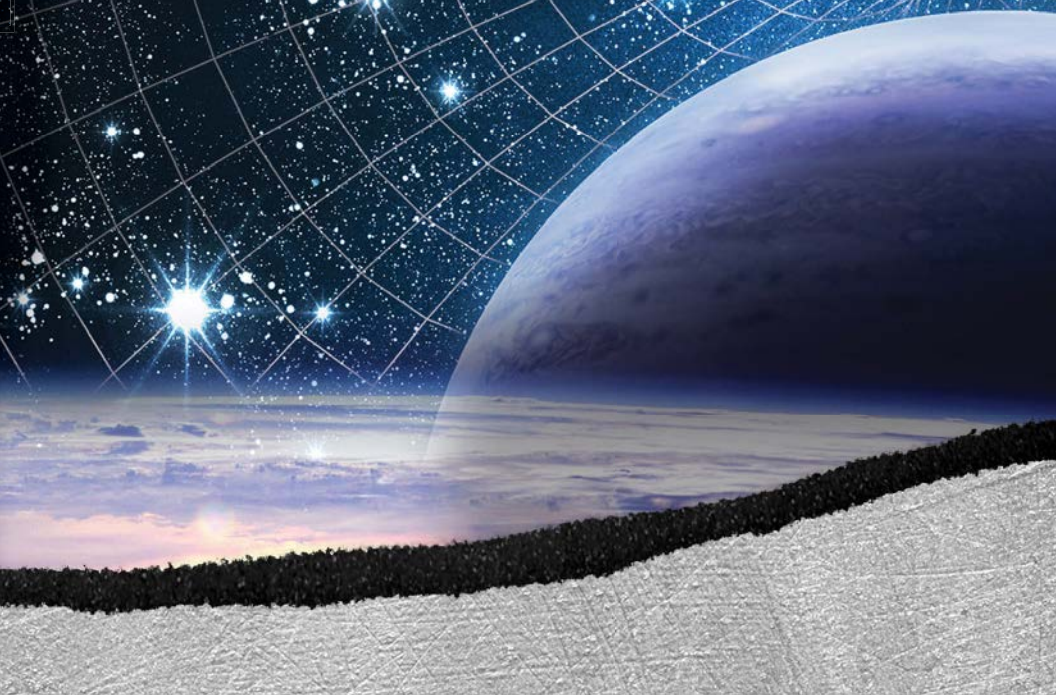


WORMHOLES

JOHN PERRITANO





Chapter 1

A GALAXY FAR AWAY

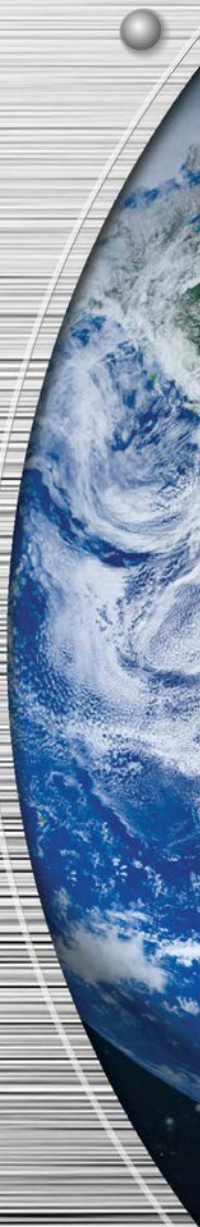
Three! Two! One!
Blast off!
The rocket roars.
Slowly it climbs into the sky.
It rattles.
It shakes.

Upward.
Higher!
Faster!

The sky turns colors.
First blue.
Then violet.
Now black.

Outer space is dark.
Stars shine above.
Earth spins below.
The rocket soars.
Astronauts sit inside it.

Where are they going?
They are off to another **galaxy**.
It's two million light years away.
A light year is the **distance** light
travels in one year.
That is six trillion miles.
Light is the fastest thing we know of.
It travels 186,000 miles per second.
Nothing can move as quickly.
Not even a rocket.
So how can this one travel two
million light years?





MAD SCIENCE

Light travels seven times
around Earth in one second.



The trip will last only a few seconds.
Surprised?
It's all due to a *shortcut*.
One that is just up ahead.



Space travel made easy

There it is.

A *wormhole*.

Its opening is near Earth.

Where does it *exit*?


Next to the other galaxy.

The astronauts make the trip.

They smile.

The wormhole made space travel easy.





There are many things in space.
Planets.

Comets.

Asteroids.

How do we know?

People have seen them.

But no one has seen a wormhole.

We don't know if they are real.

Some say they are.

Are they correct?

If they are, wormholes could
change our lives.

We might travel quickly across
the *universe*.

Or even through time.