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**Opening Extract from...**

# Thing Explainer

Written by Randall Munroe

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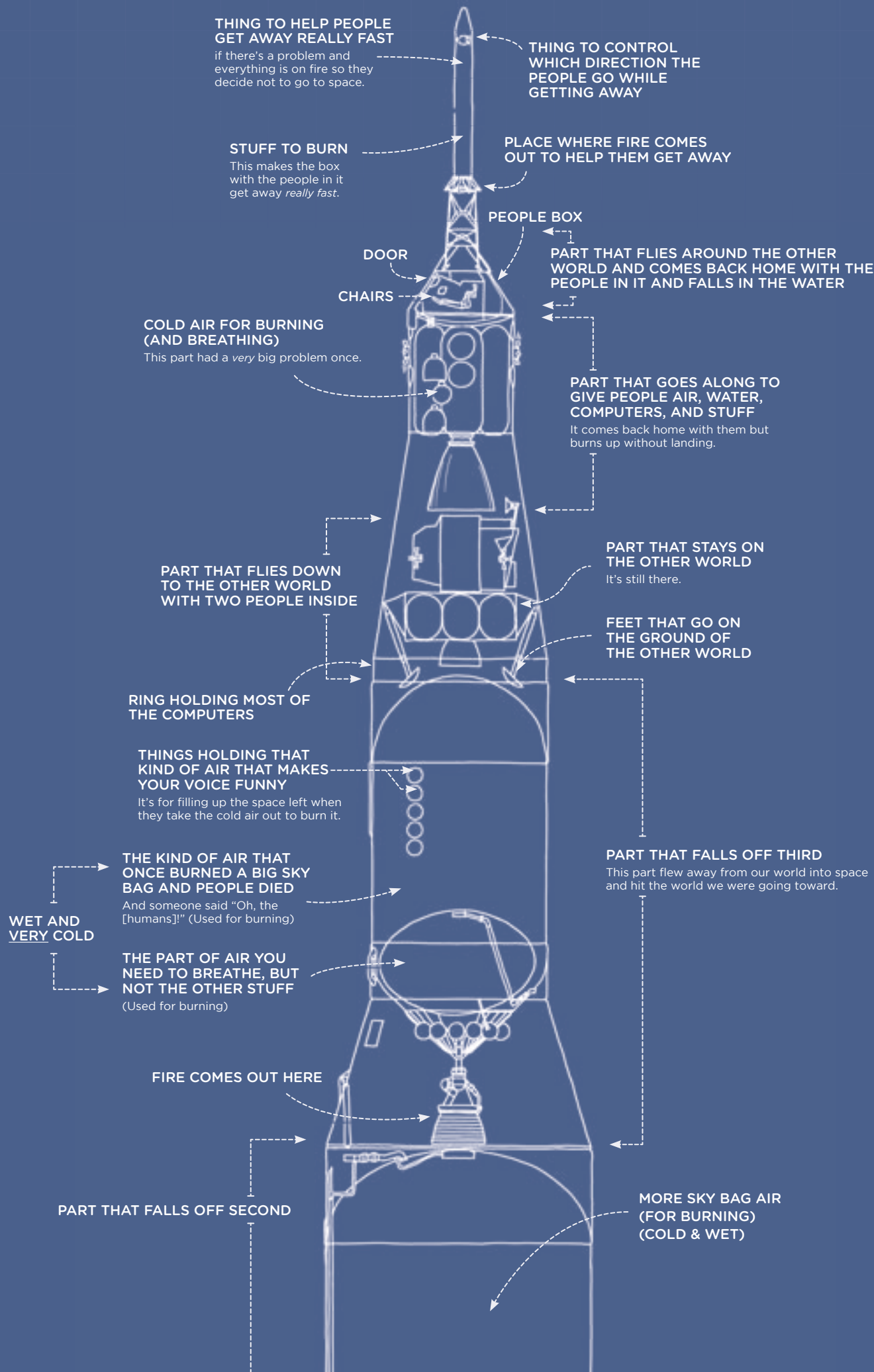
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# US SPACE TEAM'S UP GOER FIVE

This is the only space boat that's landed people on another world. People landed on the Moon with it six times, all about half a hundred years before this book was written.

After those visits to the Moon, we stopped using this space boat to go to other worlds. The US Space Team used the boat, one last time, to send up their first space house.

After people visited the house a few times, it fell back down. Pieces of it landed in a small town. The town told the US Space Team to pay a fine for dropping stuff on the ground.



THING THAT  
BRINGS IN COLD  
WET AIR TO BURN

MORE OF THE KIND  
OF AIR WE BREATHE  
(FOR BURNING)  
(COLD & WET)

FIRE COMES OUT HERE

MORE OF THE KIND  
OF AIR WE BREATHE  
(FOR BURNING)  
(COLD & WET)

MORE FUNNY-VOICE AIR  
(for filling up space)

OPENING FOR PUTTING  
IN COLD WET AIR

THIS IS FULL OF THAT  
STUFF THEY BURNED  
IN LIGHTS BEFORE  
HOUSES HAD POWER  
It goes together with the  
cold air when it's time to  
start going up.

PART THAT FALLS OFF FIRST

LOTS OF FIRE  
COMES OUT HERE

THIS END SHOULD POINT TOWARD THE  
GROUND IF YOU WANT TO GO TO SPACE.

IF IT STARTS POINTING TOWARD SPACE YOU ARE HAVING  
A BAD PROBLEM, AND YOU WILL NOT GO TO SPACE TODAY.