

***A Place for Pluto***  
**Written by: Stef Wade**  
**Illustrated by: Melanie Demmer**

Parts (in order of appearance):

- Narrator
- Saturn
- Jupiter
- Pluto
- Mercury
- Mars
- Halley's Comet
- Gem the meteoroids
- Ida the asteroid
- Eris the Dwarf Planet
- Earth
- Sun
- Venus
- Neptune
- Uranus

[Narrator]: For the better part of forever, Pluto was a **planet**. One of the \*Famous Nine\*.

He was the smallest and the farthest from the sun, but he was proud just the same.

Then one day, Saturn, with her rings flashing, and Jupiter, with his entourage of moons beside him, told Pluto the WORST NEWS EVER!

[Saturn]: (*caringly*) You're not a planet anymore.

[Jupiter]: (*distantly*) You're just not big enough. Sorry.

[Narrator]: Even though Pluto orbited around the sun and was mostly round, the creatures on Earth decided he was TOO SMALL.

[Pluto]: (*distraught*) But I'm in all the schoolbooks!

[Mercury]: (*studiously*) Time to rewrite history.

[Mars]: (*busy, can't be bothered*) I don't have time for this. I've got visitors to prepare for.

[Narrator]: Pluto was CRUSHED. He tried to PROTEST. But it was no use.

Feeling sad and rejected, Pluto left with Charon and his other four moons by his side to find his place in the galaxy.

As Pluto moved along, his friend **Halley's Comet** streaked past

[Pluto]: (*excited*) haven't seen you in awhile!

[Halley's Comet]: Yeah, I get that a lot.

[Narrator]: Halley was a comet and still part of the solar system. But comets have tails and Pluto did not.

Pluto wasn't a comet or a planet. HE WAS A NOBODY.

(*sad*) Feeling more blue than brown, Pluto kept moving.

When Pluto saw **Gem**, Persi and Ori crashing in as dusty, rocky comet tails, he wondered if he could join them.

The meteoroids were always having fun and clowning around. This time, they were trying to smash into Earth.

**[Gem]:** (*having fun*) You should try this, Pluto!

**[Pluto]:** (*nervously*) No, thanks. Earth is kind of like a mother to me.

**[Narrator]:** Then **Ida** the asteroid orbited by Pluto and Ida were nearly the same size. Pluto thought he'd finally figured out his true identity.

**[Pluto]:** Hey, Ida! Do you mind if I join you for a spin in the asteroid belt?

**[Ida]:** (*dismissive*) Wish you could, Pluto! But the rulebook says rocks only. You know asteroids are rocks, right?

**[Narrator]:** Pluto wasn't a planet or a comet or an asteroid. He missed being a planet. He missed his old friends. He missed feeling like he BELONGED.

**[Pluto]:** (*sad and lonely*) Too small to be a planet, too big to be a rock. I used to fit in here, but now I do not.

**[Narrator]:** No one in the solar system was a match for Pluto.

He spun around the sun like everyone else, but he wasn't a planet or a comet or an asteroid or a meteoroid.

Pluto had nowhere to turn. He was about to give up when he saw someone he'd never seen before. He felt like he was LOOKING IN A MIRROR.

**[Pluto]:** (*confused*) Pardon me if I sound rude, but what are you?

**[Eris]:** I'm a dwarf planet. My name is Eris. And these are my friends. Haumea, Makemake, and Ceres.

**[Narrator]:** Pluto stared in wonder at the four dwarf planets. They were too small to be planets but too big to be rocks. They were not planets or comets or asteroids or meteoroids. They were...

**[Pluto]:** (*excited and happy*) JUST LIKE ME!!!

You're just who I've been searching for.

**[Eris]:** (*excited*) Really? Then you should join us!

**[Narrator]:** Pluto felt more like himself than ever before. He couldn't wait to tell his old friends about his new ones. Turns out, his old friends missed him too!

**[Saturn]:** We're sorry Pluto!

**[Earth]:** Just because you're not a planet anymore doesn't mean we don't love you!

**[Narrator]:** Pluto was over the moon. He was part of the solar system with his friends, both old and new. He smiled an intergalactic smile that was out of this Milky Way.

**[Sun]:** You all make me dizzy!

**[Venus]:** I can feel the LOVE

**[Mercury]:** These feelings warm me to the CORE.

**[Mars]:** Let's celebrate with some chocolate!

**[Uranus]:** Glad you're not feeling blue anymore – not that there's anything wrong with that.

**[Halley]:** 'Til we meet again!

**[Jupiter]:** Way to go, little man!

**[Eris]:** Dwarf Planets rock!

**[Neptune]:** Neighbors forever!

**[Saturn]:** Dwarf planet has a nice RING to it.

**[Earth]:** I'm so glad you are making friends, honey!