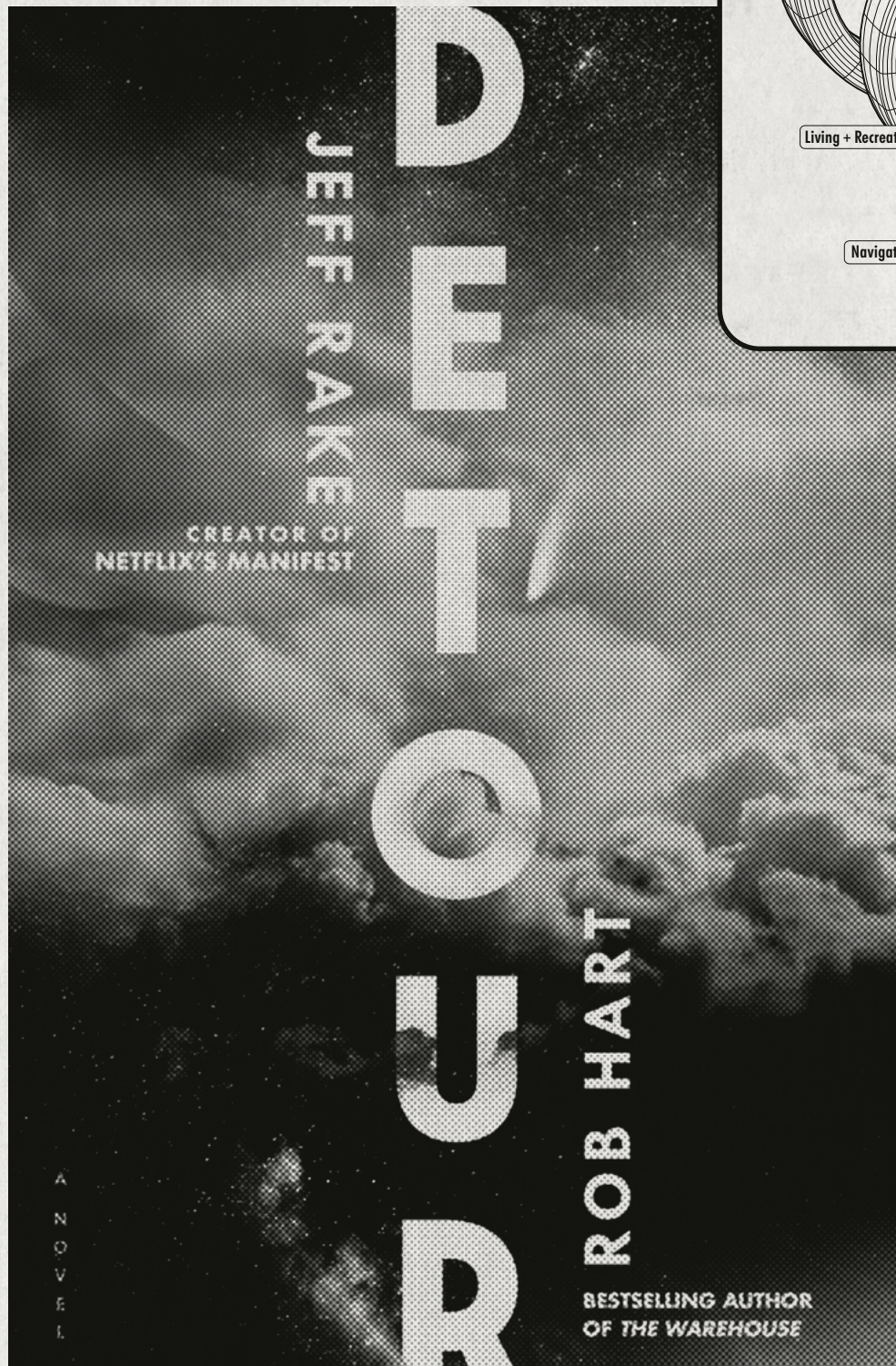
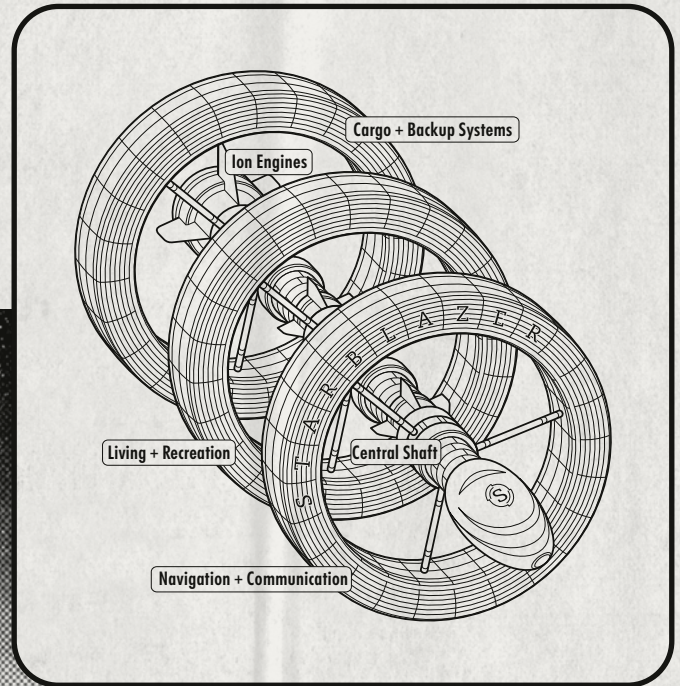


MISSION OPERATION REPORT

DETOUR

By: Jeff Rake & Rob Hart



HERE PEOPLE
FROM THE
PLANET EARTH
FIRST SET FOOT
ON THE
STARBLAZER

MIKE SEAVER

ALONSO CARDONA

COURTNEY "STITCH" SMITH

Prelaunch
Mission Operation Report
Report No. 001-13-26

TO: A/Administrator

FROM: MA/Titan Mission Program
Directors

SUBJECT: DETOUR

Dear Reader,

Thank you so much for taking the time to delve into *Detour*. It's been a joy for us to write and we cannot wait for readers to embark on the journey.

Heads up that there's a lot of "big" going on in this story: space travel, the multiverse, government conspiracy, billionaire masterminds, and much more. All building to a tantalizing cliffhanger, leaving many a spinning wheel to be resolved in the books to follow.

But at its core, this story is a grounded, intimate one. About separation and togetherness, about love and longing, about family. As fathers, sons, brothers, and husbands, we have poured our hearts and souls onto the page in telling the story of everyman cop Ryan Crane and his colorful, flawed, relatable crewmates, whose once-in-a-lifetime mission to Saturn's moon, Titan, takes a shocking turn, forcing them to rethink everything they thought they knew about the most precious people in their lives. And challenging them to risk everything in order to restore the upended life they left behind.

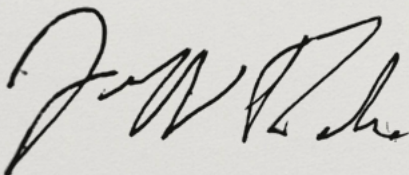
Our goal, in the end, is to provide our readers with an escapist adventure, even while reminding them of what, in our real lives, matters most. All told through the points of view of our various, all-too-human heroes and a few fresh-faced villains. There's laughter and tears, thrills and heartbreak, romance and bullet fire, and even a bit of quantum theory. Something for everyone, we like to think.

Hope you enjoy the adventure.

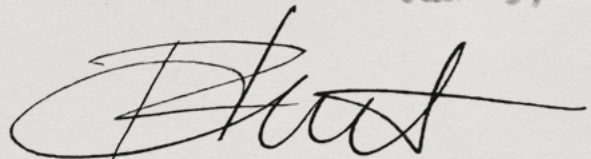
Gratefully,

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JAN 13, 2026



Jeff Rake



Rob Hart

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Discussion Questions

1. Which character did you find most compelling? Whose story did you relate to the most? Discuss.
2. If you were offered a chance to board the ship on its two-year mission, would you? Why or why not? If you could name your price, what would it be?
3. “You ever see a movie where people went to space and things went well?” Ryan’s friend Simon jokes. He has a point—but is it *all* bad? If you were to board any spacecraft from any book, film, or TV show, which would you choose and why?
4. In what ways does *Detour* follow certain genre tropes? In what ways does it, well, detour from those?
5. How do the characters deal with internal and external pressures to go to space, or to stay home?
6. To the outside world, Mike Seaver is a hero. Privately, he drinks to quiet his nerves—and his demons. How does this tension play out in the novel? Who else is struggling to reconcile their inner and outer lives?
7. As you read, were you suspicious about the true purpose of the mission? At what point did your doubts emerge? Where would you have made a different choice than one (or all) of the characters?
8. When the characters arrive in the mirror universe, it appears that their lives split at a particular inflection point—a time when they made a decision with major consequences, or took a different path. What do you think your life’s inflection point would be? What would your mirror-universe life look like following that choice?
9. Which scene or passage from the novel stands out to you the most?
10. What questions do you hope will be answered in *Detour*’s sequel?

DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

JAN 13, 2026

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PLAYLIST

1. WITHIN A MILE OF HOME — Flogging Molly
2. HOME — Edward Sharpe & The Magnetic Zeros
3. THIS MUST BE THE PLACE (Naïve Melody) — Talking Heads
4. IN THESE ARMS — The Swell Season, Glen Hansard, Markéta Irglová
5. MY HERO — Foo Fighters
6. SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW/WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD — Israel Kamakawiwo'ole
7. CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER WHERE I'M BOUND — Johnny Cash
8. WALKING ON SUNSHINE — Katrina and The Waves
9. NUMB — Linkin Park
10. EVERYTHING ZEN — Bush
11. STARMAN — David Bowie
12. HIGHWAY TO HELL — AC/DC
13. SPACE ODDITY — David Bowie
14. SPACE SONG — Beach House
15. ONCE IN A LIFETIME — Talking Heads
16. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN WE ARE FLOATING IN SPACE — Spiritualized
17. CLOSER TO HOME (I'm Your Captain) — Grand Funk Railroad
18. TAKE THE LONG WAY HOME — Supertramp
19. ROAD TO NOWHERE — Talking Heads
20. LEAVING HOME — Yo La Tengo
21. SATURN — SZA
22. FLOATING — Julee Cruise
23. SPACE AND TIME — Tyler Childers



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