

The Back Story of Galaxy-One

Set in the year 2525, this is the drama, laughter and stories of the crew aboard an enormous space ship christened the Galaxy-One.

In the early 21st Century...

Since the dawn of humanity, thousands of humans have claimed to have been abducted by the inhabitants of Unidentified Flying Objects or UFO's as they became commonly known. Extraterrestrials, dubbed the *Grays*, were said to perform terrifying experiments on the human abductees, leaving many with scars, reoccurring nightmares and psychological damage.

The world's governments did nothing but look on helplessly, labeling the abductees as "crazy" and shrouding themselves in denial to cover the fact they were powerless to stop the abductions. Humanity didn't have even a chance to fight back until the early 21st century, when a UFO was actually captured, shot down by an American Air Force pilot over the desolate flatlands of west Texas. Just as it was claimed in the Roswell account, the two *Gray* occupants died in the crash. The saucer and bodies were quickly recovered and sent to a secret military facility.

Months were spent deciphering the *Gray's* language and finally, a "Rosetta Stone" of the *Gray's* alphabet allowed a computer translation of their true mission. The scientist listened in disbelief as the soft female voice of the computer narrated the *Gray's* plan for Earth's occupation. In 61 months, an invasion fleet would be sent to overcome any defense Earth could offer and imprison the entire population for use in their experiments. We had less than 10 years. They had to be stopped.

Discovery of the *Gray's* plans for Humanity was kept hidden from the public at large, shared only at the top levels of the world's governments. Nations quickly realized differences would have to be put aside and formed a secret global task force with each nation sending their top scientist to analyze the alien technology. Eventually, after around-the-clock reverse-engineering of system after system, the majority of the alien technology became understood. A new branch of physics was born that allowed the construction of Earth's best chance for survival.

The *Galaxy*, a hybrid of human and *Gray* technology. A city-sized space craft, fabricated on Earth and assembled in orbit. Known to the world as the first manned craft to explore beyond the solar system. In reality, it was the space version of a colossal aircraft carrier, loaded with hundreds of individual fighter craft and flanked with weapons. Equipped with NLS drive (near light speed) it was a battleship in space and Earth's only hope for survival against the *Gray* invasion.

Most of the Earth's population was glued to their televisions, watching the mighty ship and her crew bid farewell to their home planet on their first mission - the "exploration" of space just outside our Solar System in the Kiper Belt. But the *Galaxy's* true mission was to prepare for the inevitable invasion that most of the television watchers knew nothing about.

For months the crew endured the rigors of battle drills, honing their skills for a war that would decide the fate of humanity. Then, right on schedule, the *Gray* invasion fleet approached. The *Galaxy*, hiding behind a planetoid, surprised the invading fleet and engaged them in battle.

The *Galaxy* and her fighters fought valiantly, destroying thousands of enemy craft, but those thousands were quickly replaced. It became evident it was only a matter of time before the Earth ship would be outnumbered and overwhelmed. Attempting to regroup, several fighter squadrons were ambushed, leaving the *Galaxy* vulnerable. The *Gray* feet closed in.

Just as a crippled *Galaxy* was sure to be destroyed, a new fleet of alien ships join the battle, but these triangular craft fire on the *Grays*, not the *Galaxy*. Several break formation and fly in circular orbits around the Earth ship forming an energy shield, protecting it from the continuing blows of the *Grays* weapons, while the rest of their fleet attack the retreating *Grays*. Before long, the entire *Gray* fleet had been driven away or destroyed.

Mysteriously as they had appeared, the defending fleet of vessels vanish, save one. It parks along side the damaged Earth ship and offers assistance. They call themselves the **Banjee** and are very human-like. The **Banjee** claim that once they too had been accosted by the *Grays*, their people abducted, their planet attacked. When they discovered Earth was the new target of the *Grays* interest, they decided it was time to intervene.

Impressed with the ingenious spirit of humanity and the crew of the *Galaxy*, the **Banjee** asks Earth to join the Galactic Coalition of Planets, planetary governments united in promoting peaceful exploration, the sharing of knowledge and protection of its members from hostile or invading forces. However, although the people of Earth were a promising species the planet wasn't considered "quite ready." We would need a period of "training" before our indoctrination.

For the next 100 years the **Banjee** shared their technology and prepared humanity for its eventual important role in the Coalition. They were very patient and honorable beings, although few ever visited Earth. The *Galaxy* and the **Banjee** ship remained in Earth orbit serving as training facilities and became comforting fixtures in the night sky. Once the **Banjee** had arrived, the *Grays* and their saucer-like craft never again appeared in the blue skies of Mother Earth. Humans no longer feared abductions.

In the year 2125...

The Earth is ready. Through the years of guidance by the **Banjee**, The United Nations became **The United Nations Of Earth** and produced the finest of ambassadors, politicians, scientist, all trained in the intricate policies of the Coalition.

The Coalition was an ancient organization by Earth standards, hundreds of thousands of years old. Their interest in Earth had only been in recent years as all of the Coalition members and most planets with sentient life capable of space travel, reside close to the galactic core. Located on the outskirts of the Milky Way Galaxy, Earth was a rare exception and until now, considered too distant or too “primitive” to be considered as a Coalition member. But the **Banjee** had been exceptional mentors and humanity, very astute students. In a worldwide celebration the **U.N.O.E.** was officially indoctrinated into the Galactic Coalition of Planets.

As a Coalition member, one of Earth’s responsibilities was protection of its member planets. Immediately the **U.N.O.E.** began building a fleet of twelve starships, each named after a constellation and capable of FTL (faster than light) speeds. They became part of the Galactic Fleet, an elite group of space vessels and the military arm of the Coalition. It was the Galactic Fleet that had thwarted the *Gray’s* invasion attempt of Earth a century before and now Earth vessels had joined that fleet to protect others.

For nearly 400 years the Coalition explored the galaxy, discovering many new worlds, sharing and trading their expanding scientific and medical knowledge, offering protection for those wanting or needing it.

On Earth, all of humankind was united in its support of the Coalition. Humans had transformed from selfish, warring creatures, to thoughtful, peaceful beings through the practice of “The **Banjee** way.” Technology had finally made a difference socially, as basic human needs, food, clothing, shelter, medical attention, were now met on a global scale with the finest of accommodations for anyone wanting them.

Since joining the Coalition all the nations of Earth had been at total peace with one another and improving the Human condition had been the key. It was a time of Human Enlightenment, a time for improving ones mind, body and soul. It was a time to prosper and spread prosperity.

Then, one day, after over 400 years of peace, a scanner on a lonely outpost triggered an alarm. The ship configuration was different, no longer saucer shape, but the power signature made the identification positive. *Grays*.

In the year 2510...

The *Grays* are back. Without warning they attacked and invaded the Coalition planets closest to the galactic core. Harnessing the awesome power of the black hole commonly found at the core of every galaxy, they had created a giant hyperspace tunnel, allowing the passage of millions of ships between their galaxy and our Milky Way.

The *Grays* had planned it perfectly. At the time of the attack, more than half of the Galactic Fleet was responding to an emergency on the “rim,” the far most reaches of the Milky Way Galaxy. The rest of the fleet were on various missions, scattered among the stars.

Millions of *Gray* vessels poured through the hyperspace tunnel. Vastly outnumbered, one by one, the Coalition planets began surrendering.

But the *Grays* weren't interested in prisoners. After singling out those to be used in experiments, they sprayed the atmosphere with an airborne biological agent to selectively kill the planet's sentient life within hours of dispersal.

Once safe, the *Grays* would return and take over the abandoned Coalition military facilities and had commandeered many Coalition ships. By the time the remaining Galactic Fleet had been mobilized, the confusion of battle had become fierce and much of the Fleet found themselves firing on their own ships manned by *Gray Warriors*.

With stealth and accuracy the *Grays* had successfully overwhelmed what had been the most powerful force in the galaxy. However, by these times, the Coalition hadn't experienced a full blown war in centuries and had become complacent.

The Galactic Fleet was aging, the total number of ships dwindling as old vessels were decommissioned and scrapped with no replacements. Earth itself was down to half of its original twelve starships. The Coalition had maintained peace in the galaxy for so long, a war, one they might actually lose, was unthinkable.

But the Coalition had taken for granted the peace it had worked so hard to attain and paid a high price for its self-assuredness. The *Grays* now occupied every Coalition planet close to the Milky Way's galactic core and had murdered most of the inhabitants.

With their remaining resources, the Coalition decided to fight to the end and make their last stand on the little blue planet far away from the core - Earth.

In the year 2515...

A new Coalition headquarters was established in what had been the Capital of the old United States, Washington DC. Planetary defenses were shored up considerably across the Solar System.

The Galactic Fleet took up residence on an 'M Type' (Mars like) planet in the nearby Alpha Centauri system to have the element of surprise when the inevitable attack on Earth begins.

Even the *Galaxy*, which had become an orbital museum, was refitted and readied for battle. Like the Earth did nearly four centuries before, the Coalition prepared and waited. Then, by sheer luck, or maybe design, someone found it. The *Gray's* weakness.

It was discovered the *Grays* were once C.B.E.'s or Created Biological Entities brought to life to fight a war eons ago in another galaxy. The inhabitants of two neighboring star systems were locked in a stagnate war over a planetary system. Neither side seemed to be winning and both were suffering ever increasing casualties.

Rather than resolve their differences, they pooled their technologies and created the CBE's to do their fighting. But in doing so, they simply escalated the war. Without their own kind dying in battle, the war became more of a game, with each side equipping their CBE's with even better weaponry.

Soon, the planetary system that each had wanted so desperately was no more than a tattered war zone orbiting a now dying star. Each side blamed the other and each sent their CBE's to attack the other's home planet.

As expected, the CBE's annihilated both star systems with a weapon so powerful it eventually spread radiation throughout most of their galaxy. The CBE's, the sole survivors of a once great pair of civilizations, were now homeless, leaderless and being chased by a cloud of deadly radiation.

The CBE's began the exodus from their galaxy toward a new one, the Milky Way, scavenging star system after star system then moving on before the radiation caught up and destroyed whatever was left.

But their numbers were dwindling, as they had no reproductive systems, a safety factor built in by their creators. They were essentially clones and their stock of genetic material was becoming contaminated. Even a fresh supply would soon suffer the same fate. The CBE's realized they HAD to become a "real" species, through natural reproduction or face extinction.

The CBE's eventually settled on a planet outside the influence of the radiation cloud. This particular planet was chosen because of the abundance of a rare enzyme used by the CBE's to reduce the mutating effects caused by cloning.

They began scouting nearby planets, abducting the inhabitants and experimenting on them in a desperate search to overcome their reproductive inability, never with any success. Their creators had been very skilled at genetics.

During one of their scouting missions, the CBE's, now mutated into the familiar appearance of the *Grays*, discovered a planet that was "lost in space." The planet was drifting between star systems, slung from the orbit of its own star by some type of cataclysm.

The *Grays* found no life, only two highly advanced technological "cities" among the ruins unscathed by whatever catapulted it from its home. One of these "cities" served as the power source, the other was a gigantic time and space machine. A portal to anywhere in the universe, instant access to any galaxy, star system or even planet.

The *Gray's* pulled this smaller planet into orbit around their commandeered home world and converted one of it's cities into an outpost. They used the giant space / time machine to scout the Milky Way Galaxy, eventually finding Earth.

It was during Earth's late 20th and early 21st centuries the *Grays* discovered that humans, almost biologically identical to their creators, held the most promise for their salvation.

The *Grays* were created for one purpose, to make war and had no concept of diplomacy or negotiations. So instead of simply asking humans for help, they did what they were bred to do, scout by stealth, then invade and take the spoils of war.

But the *Grays* were taken by surprise when the Coalition's Galactic Fleet intervened and all but destroyed most of their invading forces nearly four centuries earlier.

Although humans held their best hope, back then, the Coalition protected Earth and was just too powerful. The *Grays* left the Milky Way and used the gigantic machine to look elsewhere.

For nearly four centuries the *Grays* searched outside of the Milky Way galaxy for a way to naturally reproduce and found none that worked. Then one day a *Gray* scientist re-discovered the mostly forgotten data on humans gathered almost four hundred years earlier.

This scientist found something the others had overlooked and was convinced that a *Gray* / Human hybrid was indeed possible, creating a new species of *Gray* fully capable of having babies.

The *Grays* were now more than ever obsessed with an invasion of earth and used the technology they'd garnished from the gigantic time / space machine to construct their hyper space tunnel, waiting for just the right moment to spring their trap.

This time, it was the Coalition that was taken by surprise. And now, the once greatest galactic fighting force in the known universe, huddles on their last remaining outpost – Earth.

Although the *Grays* had slowed down the genetic mutations considerably, their now frail bodies had become totally dependent on the enzyme native to their stolen home planet. Without it, they die. That was their weakness.

During the *Gray* invasion, shipments of the enzyme, via the hyperspace tunnel, was the only thing keeping the *Gray's* alive. Destroy the tunnel and the invading force will soon die off. That was the plan.

A single ship, the *Galaxy*, was sent to the galactic core while the rest of the fleet staged a diversion. Her mission was to uncover the tunnel's advanced technology, send that information to Earth for safekeeping and destroy the tunnel by any means necessary.

The *Galaxy* and her mission were successful. The technology of the hyperspace tunnel, first discovered by the *Grays* on the roaming planet some 400 years earlier, was now safely in the Coalition database.

But the victory was bitter-sweet. The *Galaxy* was lost with all hands as the only way possible to destroy the tunnel was to self destruct the ship while inside.

In a valiant display of bravery The *Galaxy* and her crew gave their lives to save the Coalition. The tunnel was destroyed and the *Grays* were locked out of the Milky Way, at least for now.

The plan worked. All the fleet had to do now was retreat, defend and wait. And it didn't take long. Soon the entire *Gray* fleet that had been trapped in the Milky Way, lay motionless in space, their occupants dead or dying.

Some lasted longer but all were eventually hunted down and "removed," sent to a planet "on the rim," a Coalition scientific research lab.

Many *Grays* endured a long painful death and began killing each other for the remaining stockpile of enzyme. Taking pity, Coalition scientist desperately tried to synthesize a substitute enzyme and even attempted to duplicate the *Gray* scientist's *Gray* / Human hybrid experiments without success. Within months, every *Gray* in the Milky Way Galaxy died a pitiful death.

As with the *Grays* most of the population of Coalition's member planets had also been annihilated, including the **Banjee** home world. The few survivors were those still being held in medical institutions, awaiting experimentation by the *Grays*. Practically all that was left of the Coalition's population was Earth and its people. So, in typical human fashion, they began to rebuild.

First, the Galactic Fleet to insure protection, including all twelve of the original starships, now designated “Stellar Cruisers,” each equipped with additional fighters and scouts. Then supply ships, to rebuild and repopulate the galactic core planets, Stellar Bases to keep watch for invaders, Energy Ore refineries to power it all and a new addition. A flagship. A symbol of protection and freedom.

In the year 2525...the present.

Ten Earth years of design and construction yielded the largest, most powerful Cruiser ever built. Determined to keep the Grays from ever again invading the galaxy, the Galactic Fleet, built the largest stellar craft ever constructed. The *Galaxy-One*. The hull of this ship would span shore to shore across the berth of Australia with miles worth of decks above.

Improving on the galactic tunneling technology the *Galaxy-One* is equipped with Trans-Galactic Drive, allowing it passage to practically any galaxy in the universe. Fully armed with multiple weapons and shields, she's the Flagship of the Fleet and the only one with the designation CIC – Coalition Intergalactic Cruiser.

Her mission - peaceful exploration of our neighboring galaxies, spreading word of the threat posed by the *Grays*. Protecting and supplying those in need and most important: scouting galaxies for civilizations to join and rebuild the Coalition.

Named in honor of the heroic starship that twice defended Earth, this mighty vessel was christened the *Galaxy-One*.

Space

Our ultimate destiny

On a mission of exploration, we embark on a voyage to the stars

To search for those like us, sharing power through wisdom and understanding

This is the 26th century. And these are the chronicles of the Galaxy-One.