Dear Student,

Thanks for picking up my book, *The Lost Planet!* Are you ready to zoom across the galaxy, meet some creepy aliens, and dash alongside my characters as they race for their lives? Then hold onto your hat! I wrote this book not only because I enjoy fast-paced adventure with lots of twists and turns, but also because I love stories about tough, smart kids who are survivors. What kind of stories do you love?

Maybe you picked this book up because you’re already a science fiction fan. If so, hooray! Science fiction is something really special, because it contains not just imaginary people and places but also an element of possibility. Writing a story set in the future allows me to write about things I believe might possibly exist some day. Travel to other planets? Could happen! Meeting alien life forms? Maybe! Fancy gadgets that make life simpler via insanely complicated technology? Almost certainly! I like to wonder what life might be like ten or fifty or one hundred years from now, and the question “What if?” is the most important tool in my writer’s kit.

I hope you enjoy reading about Chase and Parker’s adventures through the galaxy, and that you let your imagination run wild with all the possibilities of the universe as well.

Happy reading!

Your humble author,

Rachel Searles

p.s. If you have a question or a comment or just want to say hi, I’d be happy to hear from you! You can email me at rachelsearlesbooks@gmail.com, or send me a good old-fashioned letter at New Leaf Literary & Media, Attention: Rachel Searles, 110 West 40th St. Suite 410, New York, NY 10018.