

A2: 21ST CENTURY STORY TIMELINE

A partial timeline of events leading up to this story:

- 1967: The Outer Space Treaty is signed
- 1969: First Lunar landing
- 1979: Moon Agreement reaffirms and expands Outer Space Treaty
- 1998: International Space Station assembled
- 2015: CRISPR technology enables DNA customization
- 2017: Synthetic DNA developed
- 2027: Artemis II mission lands on the Moon
- 2029: Lunar base construction
- 2034: First Mars landing
- 2038: Water Wars begin in northeast Africa and Southwest Asia
- 2041: Water Wars end after 2 tactical nuclear strikes
- 2044: Citizen's Rebellion in China, transition to democratic rule begins
- 2045: World Sovereign States Alliance (WSSA) is formed
- 2045: Average human lifespan reaches 82.5
- 2046: Global Space Administration (GSA) is formed by the WSSA
- 2046: Global nuclear disarmament begins
- 2046: Lunar base expansion project
- 2046: Lunar colony established
- 2047: Sub-quantum energy is developed into a power source for space flight
- 2050: Mars base construction
- 2053: WSSA Moons & Mars Directive regarding states' rights and uses of extra-Earth domains
- 2053: WSSA Lunar Administration office opens
- 2054: One-G propulsion (or low-light propulsion) developed, allowing for faster interplanetary travel
- 2055: Mars base expansion project
- 2056: Average human lifespan reaches 96.5
- 2057: Mars colony established for extra-solar staging
- 2057: New drive technology pushes speeds up to 0.15c making interstellar travel possible
- 2057: WSSA Mars Administration office opens

- 2058: GSA announces Alpha Centauri exploration mission for 2068. A new class of spacecraft, the Alpha Class spacecraft, will be commissioned, to be build on Mars.
- 2059: First landing on Saturn's moon Titan
- 2059: Centaurian Alpha Class spacecraft begins construction on Mars
- 2060: First official landing on Jupiter's moon Ganymede
- 2063: Titan research colony established
- 2066: World population passes 10 billion
- 2066: Lunar & Mars Settlement expansion plans in response to rising population density on Earth
- 2068: Average human lifespan reaches 110
- 2068: *Centaurian I* embarks on the first expedition toward the Centaurian system, setting out from Mars on what they expect will be a 29-year journey
- 2073: Photonic drive system perfected, enabling 0.9988c travel
- 2075: *Centaurian II* embarks from Mars to rendezvous with *Centaurian I*, retrieve its expedition crew, and continue on to Proxima b to complete the mission
- 2075: The *Intrepid* launches from a base on Ganymede and reaches Proxima b ahead of the *Centaurian II*