



MV Geography 5.2 Avatar Summary

In the year 2154, there is demand on Earth for a mineral named “unobtainium”, a mineral that is in abundance on the planet of Pandora, particularly in the area around a particular tree.

The people of the Na’vi tribe that lives there, believe that the tree is sacred, and the centre of life, including all Na’vi memories. They live in harmony with nature and their nature goddess is called Eywa.

Science and technology have made inter-planetary travel easier, and an American corporation, the Resources Development Administration (RDA), has established a base on Pandora to mine and transport unobtainium back to Earth, where it can be sold for great profit.

As well as the corporate executive in charge at the base, there are scientists, engineers and ex-US military who have state-of-the-art fire power. The Na’vi oppose the corporate venture that would violate their beliefs and change their lives for the worse. Land and life are sacred for the Na’vi people, so their resistance to corporate take-over is based on their religious beliefs as well as their physical wellbeing.

Among the personnel at the base is a young ex-Marine, Jake Sully, whose mind and personality are transferred to a laboratory-created Na’vi avatar to infiltrate the Na’vi and help to persuade them to allow mining. Sully begins to feel guilty about his role, and questions the ethics of his mission. Eventually he joins the Na’vi.

The Na’vi resistance is brutally suppressed by overwhelming hi-tech fire power against their bows-and-arrows defences, but they eventually defeat the earthlings, who leave.