It's an unknown planet, yet it seems strangely familiar: Deep canyons and crevices scar the landscape, rugged mountain ranges tower over vast plains, humid jungles and acidic lakes hide creatures unknown to most—ferocious predators, peaceful grazers, cunning quick-change artists. But this alien planet is not from outer space. This planet is you.

edbugs, fleas, lice and ticks are among the few visible inhabitants of Planet You. Worse, we can also feel their presence. When they drill through the outer layers of our skin, they inject itchy anticoagulants, infectious bacteria and sometimes deadly blood parasites. Some of them even have influenced human history on a huge scale. Insect-borne diseases like typhus and the bubonic plague have determined the fate of empires and societies.

But even if we are lucky enough to avoid the most gruesome of parasitic creatures there is still a lot of extraterrestrial life on this human planet. An awful lot. At any

given moment, we are the human habitat of 100 trillion organisms, almost all of them hidden from our naked eye. The average human plays host to four pounds of alien creatures that inhabit every nook and cranny of our body.

Scientists are just beginning to understand the real dimensions of this biodiversity. In an ongoing survey, they already found more than 1,000 different species of bacteria, dozens of them previously unknown. Most of the creatures colonising the human planet prove beneficial—they actually keep us healthy. They break up or synthesize chemical components crucial for our metabolism. Some even produce substances to fight off other, less co-operative biological agents.

This extraordinary 3D-adventure takes us on a journey into an inner world of which few of us are aware. Specially developed electron microscope imaging reveals the dramatic interactions happening in our body tissues when microbes, parasites, cells and viruses fight and co-operate. We will combine images from the latest scanning electron microscopes with CGI to fly over micro-landscapes, travel through cells and organs as we explore what makes this amazing eco-system work.

So, the next time you're not feeling quite yourself—stop wondering. 90% of the cells in your body belong to someone else ...



