

Alien Invasion!

Model text

A cruel, vicious wind whistled and screamed its way around the houses in the quiet cul-de-sac, causing the windows to rattle violently and the trees that lined the street to be stripped of their bright summer uniform. In the bruised skies above, storm clouds, which hung low in the sky, threatened to release their cargo and lightning frequently flashed a warning to the town below: the residents of Sleepy Willow had been advised to stay within their homes by the local weather station and now Bill could understand why. This was not your average storm and, even more surprisingly, it had appeared out of nowhere! “Where are my keys?” he muttered under his breath as his hands trembled in his coat pocket. He was determined to avoid Jenny seeing his worry as he knew she would mock him mercilessly. Bill had always been afraid of storms and today’s was even more terrifying: there had been no warning. One minute, everyone had been enjoying the hottest summer in the last decade and now they were being forced inside their houses to be kept hostage by a storm that didn’t belong. Something wasn’t right.

Suddenly, a booming clap of thunder interrupted Bill’s thoughts. He knew they needed to get inside and fast. Fumbling the keys in his hands, he attempted to unlock his front door but it was stuck. The keys wouldn’t move in the lock.

But how? They had worked last night when he had returned from work.

“Hurry up!” moaned Jenny, “If it starts to rain and my hair gets ruined, I’ll blame you.”

“Can’t you see I’m trying? All you ever do is moan,” retorted Bill as he rolled his eyes and watched as his younger sister attempted to use her cardigan to cover her hair; however, he too was concerned. They needed to get inside to safety before it was too late. Using his shoulder, he rammed the door but to no avail. Panic was

starting to set in now and Bill knew he had to think quickly if he was going to avoid being caught in the storm and whatever else might be out there.

Just at that moment, a deafening noise erupted from the clouds above, forcing the siblings to hold their hands over their ears. Looking up to the source of the sound, Bill thought he could see a dark shape within the clouds. It appeared to be some sort of foreign object soaring between the flashes of lightning. Were his eyes deceiving him or had he just caught a glimpse of something strange hovering within the murky shadows of the clouds? Surely his eyes were playing tricks on him?

“Jenny, can you see that?” he asked, his voice beginning to crack. “There, up between the clouds. There are lights on it and it seems to be moving closer to us. Please, just look. I’m not messing around here.”

“I can see it....Bill, what are we going to do?” stammered Jenny, not caring as her cardigan slipped to the ground.

The siblings stared, frozen in horror, as they watched the vague shape descend and come into focus. Their eyes widened and goose bumps erupted all over their bodies. Despite the heavy rain, which had been released from the storm clouds above, blurring their view, they could see the shape coming into focus. There was no doubt about it – they were witnessing a UFO landing on planet Earth.

“Run!” screamed Bill, snatching Jenny’s hand and dragging her towards the large hydrangea bush, which stretched along the front of their house. Without a second thought, he pushed his sister into the depths of the undergrowth and dived in beside her, his whole body shaking. The storm didn’t seem so bad now in comparison to this but was the hiding place going to be good enough when the

unwanted visitors finally emerged from their flying vehicle? Breathing heavily, Jenny and Bill peered out between the gaps in the leaves, straining to see more clearly in the gloom as their curiosity got the better of them.

“What do they want?” whimpered Jenny, “Why here? Why us?”

“I don’t know. We just need to keep still and not make a sound. Everything will be ok,” he reassured his sister. It was easy to sound like he was unafraid but in truth, Bill was terrified. In front of them, the UFO had landed right in the middle of the cul-de-sac but strangely, none of the other neighbours seemed to have noticed. Had the noise of the landing been hidden by the storm or was no-one else at home? Any hope of rescue slowly seeped away as Bill realised that he and his sister would need to face whatever was in the UFO alone.

They heard it before they saw it. The ear-splitting rush of air as the UFO doors opened. Time seemed to slow down. Bill’s heart stopped beating as he held his breath, waiting to see the terrible creature which would be sure to end their lives as they knew them. Through the steam, which was billowing from the spaceship’s door, the silhouette of an unknown creature began to take shape. Not wanting to see anymore, the siblings forced themselves deeper into the bush. They would be safe here. Or so they thought. Seconds later, a thin, slimy arm pushed its way towards their exact location. It seemed the aliens knew exactly what and who they wanted from this planet...