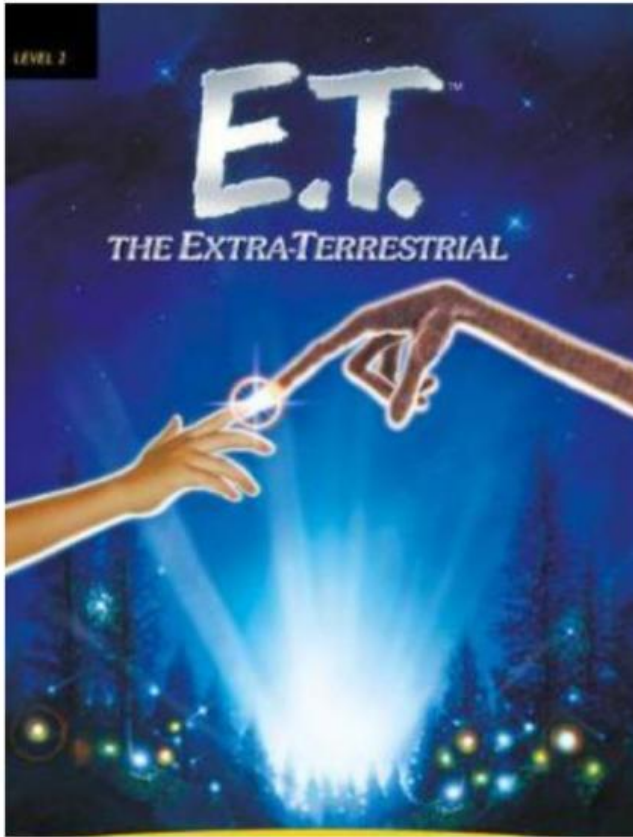


CHAPTER 1. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL



The spaceship came slowly down to Earth. It was round and beautiful, and its lights shone warmly in the night. The door opened and the extra-terrestrials walked out. They were small and fat so they couldn't walk fast.

They looked around them at the plants. The extra-terrestrials often came to Earth. They loved plants. They talked quietly to them, and then they took them home.

The night was dark. The spaceship stood in a forest and the visitors worked quietly. But some men heard the spaceship come to Earth. They were scientists and they wanted to find it. They got in their vans and drove to the forest.

One extra-terrestrial spoke some kind words to a small tree, and then pulled it from the ground. He loved Earth. He was millions of years old and he knew the plants well. He wanted to know the people, too. But that was difficult. Earth people didn't really understand extra-terrestrials.

The old visitor walked away from the spaceship. When he walked past a friend, warm red lights shone from their hearts.

The extra-terrestrial walked to the end of the forest. The yellow lights of a small town shone through the trees. Who was inside the houses? What did Earth people do in them? This was the extra-terrestrial's last night on Earth and he wanted to know. On the trip back through space, he could tell his friends about Earth people.

He found a road and walked across it. It felt strangely hard under his feet and he couldn't walk fast. Then, he heard his friends in the spaceship.

"We're leaving. Come back," they called.

The extra-terrestrial listened. No, he had more time. He was near the town now and his heart-light shone again. He felt excited. He could talk to the Earth people. He could teach them.

Then, his friends called again from the spaceship.

"They know we're here. It's dangerous! It's dangerous! Come back! We're leaving now!"

The old visitor felt it, too—he had to go. He couldn't run fast. He turned back, but there were a lot of cars on the road. They went very fast and their lights shone in his eyes. He couldn't see. He ran into the forest, through the trees.

"This way, this way ...the plants told him.

There was the spaceship. A friend stood in the open door. The extra-terrestrial ran as fast as he could. He could see his friend's heart-light.

"Where are you?" it called.

"I'm coming, I'm coming ..." he answered, and he ran out of the trees.

Then, the little extra-terrestrial felt something in his heart. He was afraid. He ran quickly. He



saw the beautiful lights of the spaceship—above him, in the dark night sky. It flew up and up.

He looked sadly at it. His friends were in that spaceship, and he was a long, long way from home.

Mary sat in her bedroom. She read her newspaper, and she listened to her two sons, Elliott and Michael. They were in the kitchen with some friends. The boys sat at the table and played a game. They made a lot of noise.

"I run down the road," Elliott said excitedly.

"They come after me, and they're really near ..."

Mary felt unhappy. "No husband," she thought, "and I can't understand my children. What are they talking about? but they're excited and happy. When am I excited? When am I in love?"

1. *Let's learn some words from the text you provided. I'll give you a word, and you need to choose the correct definition from the options (A, B, or C).*

2. **Spaceship**

- A) A type of car
- B) A vehicle from another planet
- C) A boat used for fishing

3. **Extra-terrestrial**

- A) A person who likes to travel
- B) A being from another world or planet
- C) A type of tree

4. **Forest**

- A) A large, natural area with trees and plants
- B) A type of bird
- C) A kind of flower

5. **Scientist**

- A) A person who studies and experiments with plants
- B) A person who explores outer space
- C) A person who conducts research and experiments in various fields of science

6. **Excited**

- A) Feeling calm and relaxed
- B) Feeling happy and full of energy
- C) Feeling sad and tired

7. **Heart-light**

- A) The light produced by a vehicle's headlights
- B) A special light that extraterrestrial beings have in their chests
- C) The light from a campfire

8. **Husband**

- A) A male friend
- B) A married man's wife
- C) A type of food

9. **Unhappy**

- A) Feeling sad or not pleased
- B) Feeling very excited and joyful
- C) Feeling hungry

10. **Affinity**

- A) A strong feeling of dislike
- B) A deep liking or connection
- C) A type of animal

11. **Noisy**

- A) Very quiet and peaceful
- B) Making a lot of noise, loud
- C) Dark and scary

2. Read the following statements and decide whether they are true or false based on the information in the text you provided.

- True/False: The extraterrestrial spaceship came down to Earth very quickly.
True/False: The extraterrestrial beings loved cars more than plants.
True/False: Scientists in vans were not interested in finding the spaceship in the forest.
True/False: The extraterrestrial being who explored Earth was young and had never seen plants before.
True/False: The extraterrestrial's heart-light shone with excitement as he approached the town.
True/False: Mary, the woman in her bedroom, was excited and happy because of her children's noise in the kitchen.
True/False: Mary felt disconnected from her children's excitement.
True/False: The extraterrestrial being successfully caught up with his spaceship before it left.
True/False: The spaceship took off without the extraterrestrial, leaving him stranded on Earth.
True/False: The extraterrestrial felt fear as he saw the beautiful lights of the spaceship in the dark night sky.

3. Below are the main ideas from the text you provided. However, they are not in the correct order. Your task is to rearrange these main ideas into the correct sequence to create a coherent summary of the story.

- A. Mary reflects on her life and her desire for excitement and love.
- B. The extraterrestrial beings land on Earth, explore, and communicate with plants.
- C. Scientists in vans investigate the spaceship's arrival.
- D. The extraterrestrial being becomes excited about visiting a nearby town.
- E. The extraterrestrial being is called back to the spaceship by his friends.
- F. The extraterrestrial being loses sight of his spaceship and feels fear.
- G. Mary listens to her noisy children in the kitchen.
- H. The spaceship takes off without the extraterrestrial, leaving him stranded.
- I. The extraterrestrial attempts to catch up with his spaceship.
- J. The extraterrestrial beings depart Earth.
