

ALIEN INVASION

2016
edition



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You choose
your
adventure!

at ÉCOLE VARENNES

A gamebook by the students of
Mme François' Grade 3 ELA class.

JUNE 2016...

It is a warm spring day at École Varennes as you run outside with your friends for recess. You are all very happy because it's your grade's turn for the tire swings! You and your friends take turns pushing each other on the swings as the other students play tag and build forts in the forest.

Suddenly, the sky darkens over the schoolyard. At first you think it's just another cloud, but then you hear a whirring sound. Looking up, you are shocked to see a giant spinning disk! Lights begin flashing along the edges of the UFO as it slowly descends onto the field. Several Grade 5 students run out of the way just in time.

The entire schoolyard is quiet. A door opens out of the side of the spaceship. A tall, blue-skinned, white-haired creature walks out and starts speaking. "Greetings humans! I am Brack, of Metaluna. We have been watching your planet for millions of years. We have decided that you are ready to learn the secrets of the universe. We require a volunteer for the journey to our home. Who will come with us?"

No one in the schoolyard dares make a sound. Brack waits for one very long minute before resuming. "I must warn you: If no one volunteers to come with us we will simply TAKE one of you."

"I'll go!" says Monsieur Hardman, who is on recess duty that day. He steps toward the spaceship.

ZAP!

Monsieur Hardman is hit by a beam of light from the UFO! The beam forms a green blob around the teacher, stopping him in his tracks. "Hey!" yells Madame François, "You can't just come over here and..."

ZAP!

Now Madame François and every other grown-up in the field is covered in gooey, green jelly.

Brack is speaking again: "Don't worry about the larger humans. They are still alive. The blob will dissolve in an hour or so, but your teachers will smell like cabbage for at least one week." A Grade 4 student laughs but quickly stops herself. "We require a child volunteer," the alien continues, "We find that children are better space travelers than adults. They are also cheaper to feed."

Behind Brack, another, smaller alien peeks out at the students. The smaller alien's eyes lock on yours. You realize in that instant that the small alien is a friend. You find it hard to look away.

“Will no one come with us?” asks Brack, “Very well, I will choose for you.” Brack scans the schoolyard. Some of the Grade 1 children are crying near the play structure. They look tiny and scared. You can’t let Brack take one of them! Maybe you should volunteer, you think.

If you go with the aliens, will they bring you back? You could be gone a very long time. What if you never get to see your parents again? Or your video games? Or your best friend?

You look at the small alien. It hasn’t stopped watching you this whole time. Maybe a trip through space wouldn’t be so bad after all. You think you can trust these aliens. Or can you?

Should you go with Brack and the smaller alien or should you let them pick someone else?

IF YOU GO WITH THE ALIENS, TURN TO PAGE 3.

IF YOU LET BRACK PICK SOMEONE ELSE, TURN TO PAGE 4.

YOU GO WITH THE ALIENS:

Trembling, you raise your hand. “I’ll go with you,” you croak.

Everyone in the schoolyard, including Brack, is now staring at you. Brack looks you up and down. There is a smile on the alien’s lips. “You will do nicely,” says the alien.

“Exeter,” yells Brack, “bring our honoured guest onboard. Make sure our guest’s every need is attended to.” The smaller alien runs up to you. Exeter – that must be the little alien’s name – takes your hand and leads you aboard the spacecraft.

Exeter is grinning. “I’m so glad you’re coming with us! I was so lonely before I met you. We’re going to have so much fun!” adds the little alien. The door to the spaceship closes and you hear the hum of the engines. We’re taking off!

You look through one of the ship’s windows. École Varennes and all the students in the schoolyard are getting smaller and smaller. You shed a single tear before asking “Where are you taking me?”

“Well, that is up to you,” says Exeter. “Would you like to go to the Andromeda Galaxy? Or would you like to meet our leader, The Monitor?”

“What’s the Andromeda Galaxy like?” you ask.

“Oh! It’s full of very rare stars and solar systems! You can see all sorts of amazing things there. But it’s very dangerous, as space pirates like to hide there,” adds Exeter.

“How about The Monitor? What’s he, or she, like?” you continue.

“I’ve never met The Monitor,” says Exeter. “I’ve never even seen our leader. I know that The Monitor is all-powerful, something like the gods from ancient Rome and Greece. So, where do you want to go?”

IF YOU GO TO THE ANDROMEDA GALAXY, TURN TO PAGE 6.

IF YOU MEET THE MONITOR, TURN TO PAGE 5.

YOU LET BRACK PICK SOMEONE ELSE:

You decide that going with the aliens isn't worth the risk. Brack is walking toward a group of Grade 2 students. The smaller alien rushes to meet Brack and whispers something in the leader's ear. The little alien points at you!

Brack turns and gazes at you. "Yes, that one will do nicely," is all you hear before there is a blinding flash and you are surrounded by green goo. You've been blobbed! You can still see and breathe, somehow, but you are unable to move as the aliens load you onto their spaceship. You glimpse your classmates as you pass. Some of them are crying as they wave goodbye to you.

The door to the spaceship closes and you hear the hum of the engines. We're taking off! You can just glimpse École Varennes through one of the ship's windows. The students in the schoolyard are getting smaller and smaller.

The little alien grabs your gooey green hand. "I'm Exeter," says the alien. "I'm so glad you're coming with us! I was so lonely before I met you." Exeter is grinning. "We're going to have so much fun!" adds the little alien.

Exeter says something in a language you don't understand. The green goo begins to dissolve around you. You can move again! "Where are you taking me?" you ask as soon as your lips are free.

"Well, that's up to you," says Exeter. "Would you like to go to the centre of the galaxy? Or would you like to visit my home planet, Metaluna?"

"What's the centre of the galaxy like?" you ask.

"Oh! There's a black hole! You can see all sorts of amazing things there. But it's very dangerous, so we can't get too close."

"How about Metaluna? What's that like?" you continue.

"I find my planet boring," sighs Exeter, "but I don't think you would! Metaluna is beautiful, but we have to pass through a dangerous sector of the galaxy to get there. We may run into our enemies, the Zagons. So, where do you want to go?"

IF YOU GO TO THE CENTRE OF THE GALAXY, TURN TO PAGE 8.

IF YOU GO TO METALUNA, TURN TO PAGE 10.