TALK ABOUT TEXTS

Something Weird is Going on



Written by Peter Millett
Illustrated by Melanie Matthews

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Contents

Chapter 1: Strange Sights at Night.....3

Chapter 2: Unidentified Objects.....10

Chapter 3: The Encounter.....14

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Chapter 1

Strange Sights at Night



"What do you think, kids? Peaceful, isn't it?" Mrs Marinos said softly. Sean, Kayla, Maya and Chris were bored – really bored. They were in the middle of a holiday with their parents near a desert and they were counting down the days until they returned home.

Their father and mother were scientists and loved astronomy. Once a year, the family came to a hotel that hugged the edge of the desert to go stargazing.

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The lights of the stars blinked above them.

"This is so much better than being in the city, isn't it?" exclaimed Mr Marinos. "I can see for kilometres without any pollution or lights from the city to spoil the view."

"I guess so," replied Sean, "but I'd rather see the new Scott Adams movie that's opening this week back home."

"Me, too," Kayla added. "All my friends are seeing it today."

"I can't see this holiday getting exciting any time soon," Maya sighed.

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"Don't be so cranky," Mrs Marinos said. "How can you even think of going home when you have such a wonderful opportunity to spend time in the serenity of the desert?"

Sean sighed and looked down at his phone. Then he picked up a pair of binoculars but, instead of glancing up at the sky, he scanned the desert's unwelcoming horizon. Suddenly, he saw a sight that made his jaw drop.

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