

# ONE HEAD! TOO MANY!

by  
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**Y**OUR NAME IS LOU BRIGGS ...  
YOU LIVE IN A PLAIN, FURNISHED  
ROOM IN AN ORDINARY APARTMENT  
HOUSE IN UPPER MANHATTAN!  
NOTHING UNUSUAL HAS  
HAPPENED TO YOU FOR A LONG  
TIME ---UNTIL ONE NIGHT A  
BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT  
WAKES YOU UP ...

A TALE OF  
MADDENING  
MENACE!

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**Y**OU LEAP OUT OF BED AND RUN TO YOUR WINDOW, NOT  
QUITE KNOWING *WHAT* TO EXPECT !!!

IT *COULDN'T* HAVE BEEN  
LIGHTNING ---THERE'S NOT A  
CLOUD IN THE SKY! AND I  
DIDN'T HEAR ANY EXPLOSION!

**T**HEN YOU HEAR IT! ON YOUR ROOF, DIRECTLY ABOVE  
YOUR HEAD---VOICES --- TALKING LOW IN A STRANGE,  
GUTTURAL TONGUE!

THERE'S SOMEONE - OR SOMETHING - ON THE ROOF!  
BUT WHO COULD BE UP THERE AT THIS  
TIME OF NIGHT?



IT TAKES YOU ONLY A MINUTE TO PUT YOUR CLOTHES ON ...



... AND TO WALK UP THE SHORT FLIGHT OF STAIRS TO THE ROOF...



... AND THEN, ON THE ROOF, BATHED IN THE LIGHT OF A FULL MOON, YOU SEE IT !!!

A FLYING SAUCER!!!



BUT EVEN AS YOU SEE THE SAUCER, UNBLINKING EYES PEERING OUT FROM A HALF-CLOSED VIEW-PLATE SEE YOU, TOO!

THEN THERE REALLY ARE SUCH THINGS!!



BEFORE YOU'VE HAD TIME TO COLLECT YOUR WITS, THERE'S A MIGHTY ROAR AND ANOTHER BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT!



AND YOU FIND YOURSELF ALONE ON THE ROOF --- SHAKING YOUR HEAD AND WONDERING IF IT REALLY HAPPENED!

IT'S GONE! AND I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO SAW IT! BUT WHERE DID IT COME FROM --- AND WHAT DOES IT WANT?



THEN A ONE-IN-A-MILLION CHANCE HAPPENS! YOU'RE ACCIDENTALLY LOOKING EAST, TOWARD CENTRAL PARK, AND YOU SEE ANOTHER FLASH OF LIGHT --- AND IN THE REFLECTION OF THE LIGHT --- IS THE FLYING SAUCER!

IT'S THE SAUCER AGAIN! IT'S LANDING IN CENTRAL PARK!





**YOU RACE DOWN THE STAIRS LIKE A MADMAN! YOU'VE GOT TO FIND OUT THE SECRET OF THE FLYING SAUCER!**

IF I CAN ONLY GET THERE BEFORE IT'S GONE! I'LL SNEAK UP ON IT THIS TIME --- SO THEY WON'T SEE ME!

**IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT IN THE WHOLE CITY OF NEW YORK YOU, LOU BRIGGS, ARE PROBABLY THE ONLY ONE WHO SAW THE SAUCER LAND!**

IT LOOKED AS IF IT CAME DOWN NEAR THE 86<sup>TH</sup> STREET ENTRANCE!

**YOU LOOK AT YOUR WATCH --- IT'S 3:35 A.M. --- THE WHOLE CITY IS STILL ASLEEP!**

IF ANYONE ELSE SAW IT, THEY'D PROBABLY FIGURE IT WAS JUST A SHOOTING STAR --- AND IGNORE IT!

I WAS *RIGHT*!!! THERE IT IS --- NEXT TO THOSE TREES!

**BUT THIS TIME YOU SEE *MORE* THAN JUST THE SAUCER! THIS TIME YOU SEE THE *OCCUPANTS* OF THE STRANGE CRAFT MOVING AROUND --- AND YOU REALIZE WHY IT HAS LANDED AGAIN!**

THEY'RE CLUSTERED AROUND THE SAUCER --- THEY'VE GOT QUEER-LOOKING TOOLS --- THEY MUST BE REPAIRING THE MACHINE!

**AND THEN, SUDDENLY, AN EYE TURNS YOUR WAY --- A LARGE, UNBLINKING, STARING EYE!!!**

THEY SEE ME! I CAN *FEEL* IT!!!

**YOU FEEL YOUR BODY GO LIMP, OUT OF YOUR CONTROL, AS YOUR FEET CARRY YOU TOWARD THE SAUCER --- PROPELLED BY THE MAGNETIC FORCE OF THE THIN, GREEN RAY WHICH SHINES AT YOU FROM THE SHIP!**

I'VE *GOT* TO WALK TO THE SHIP --- I CAN'T HELP MYSELF! THAT GREEN RAY IS SAPPING MY WILL POWER! I'M TRAPPED!



AS YOU GET CLOSER TO THE WEIRD SAUCER, YOU STUDY THE SHAPES OF THE CREATURES FROM WITHIN IT... THEY SEEM TO BE FORMED SIMILAR TO HUMAN BEINGS...



EXCEPT FOR ONE DIFFERENCE --- THEIR ARMS AND LEGS DON'T BEND LIKE AN EARTHMAN'S --- THEY APPEAR TO BE RUBBERY --- LIKE A LIZARD'S!



AND INSTEAD OF ONE HEAD, EACH BODY HAS TWO!!! TWO UGLY, GROTESQUE HEADS --- EACH ONE CONTAINING TWO EVIL, DEEP-SET, PENETRATING EYES!



GREETINGS, EARTHMAN! LET US INTRODUCE OURSELVES --- I AM RO, LEADER OF THE 1ST MARTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE!

YOU --- YOU SPEAK OUR LANGUAGE!?!



NATURALLY! WE'VE BEEN STUDYING IT FOR MONTHS, WHILE WE CRUISED OVER YOUR LAND!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US?



ONCE AGAIN YOU SEEM TO HAVE NO CONTROL OVER YOUR FEET AS YOU FOLLOW RO INSIDE THE FLYING SAUCER ---

COME INSIDE AND SEE FOR YOURSELF! IT IS TIME FOR US TO DEPART NOW --- BEFORE WE ARE SEEN BY OTHERS!

BUT --- I --- I DON'T WANT TO GO WITH YOU!!!



YOUR HEAD SNAPS BACK UNDER THE EXPLOSION OF A STINGING BLOW BY ONE OF RO'S SNAKE-LIKE ARMS! A BLOW YOU ARE POWERLESS TO RESIST!!!

NEVER REFUSE TO OBEY A MARTIAN'S ORDER, EARTHLING!



I ORDER THE SHIP TO DEPART!!!

VERY WELL, SIR!

STATIONS! THE ORDER IS --- DEPART!



THROUGH THE TRANSPARENT VIEW-PLATE, YOU WATCH THE GROUND FALL AWAY AT AN AMAZING RATE OF SPEED!

THE ORDER IS EXECUTED, SIR!



AS THE EARTH SEEMS TO GROW PERCEPTIBLY SMALLER, YOU'RE CONSCIOUS OF NO FEELING OF FLYING --- IT FEELS, INSTEAD, AS THOUGH YOU ARE MERELY FLOATING THROUGH SPACE!

I---I FEEL LIGHT AS A FEATHER! AND I DON'T HEAR ANY MOTORS!



WE DON'T USE MOTORS, STUPID! OUR SHIP IS PROPELLED BY MAGNETIC-GRAVITY FORCE! WE ARE HUNDREDS OF YEARS AHEAD OF YOU EARTHLINGS!

--- AND NOW I SHALL ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS!



WE, THE 1ST MARTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, HAVE COME TO CONQUER EARTH --- BEFORE YOU DEVELOP SPACE-SHIPS OF YOUR OWN, AND CAN CONQUER *US*!

BUT HOW CAN ONE FLYING SAUCER CONQUER ALL OF EARTH?



WE HAVE HUNDREDS OF OTHERS, THE SAME AS THIS ONE --- READY TO STRIKE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE! *THIS* IS THE FLAGSHIP! I, RO, WILL ISSUE THE ORDER TO ATTACK!

WELL... WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?



WE HAVE BEEN WAITING BECAUSE YOU EARTHLINGS ARE TOO STRONG! YOU HAVE ATOMIC WEAPONS --- RADAR --- AND MANY OTHER SCIENTIFIC DEVICES WHICH WILL ENABLE YOU TO DEFEND YOURSELVES AGAINST US! WE WOULD WIN EVENTUALLY, OF COURSE, BUT BOTH OF OUR FORCES WOULD BE SADLY DEPLETED --- BOTH OUR PEOPLES WOULD SUFFER GREAT LOSSES!!!

--- AND SO I DECIDED TO CAPTURE AN EARTHLING, AND GIVE HIM A MESSAGE TO DELIVER TO HIS PEOPLE --- AND *YOU* ARE THAT EARTHLING!

AND JUST WHAT *IS* THE MESSAGE?





YOU ARE TO TELL YOUR PEOPLE ABOUT US, AND TELL THEM THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY MIND ABOUT ATTACKING EARTH! INSTEAD, I WANT AN AUDIENCE WITH THE LEADERS OF EARTH... TO DISCUSS WAYS OF OUR TWO PLANETS EXISTING IN PEACE!



YOU MEAN I CAN GO BACK WITH A MESSAGE THAT CAN PREVENT A WAR BETWEEN OUR PLANETS?

YES... YOU WILL GO BACK TO EARTH IN THIS LITTLE SPACE-RAFT! IT WILL BE ALL THE PROOF YOU NEED THAT YOUR STORY IS TRUE... FOR YOUR SCIENTISTS WILL KNOW THAT IT WAS NOT MADE ON EARTH!

HOW WILL I COMMUNICATE WITH YOU, TO GIVE YOU YOUR ANSWER?



YOUR SPACE-RAFT'S CONTROLS ARE SET TO RETURN TO THIS SHIP IN 24 HOURS! YOU ARE TO BE ON IT WHEN IT RETURNS!

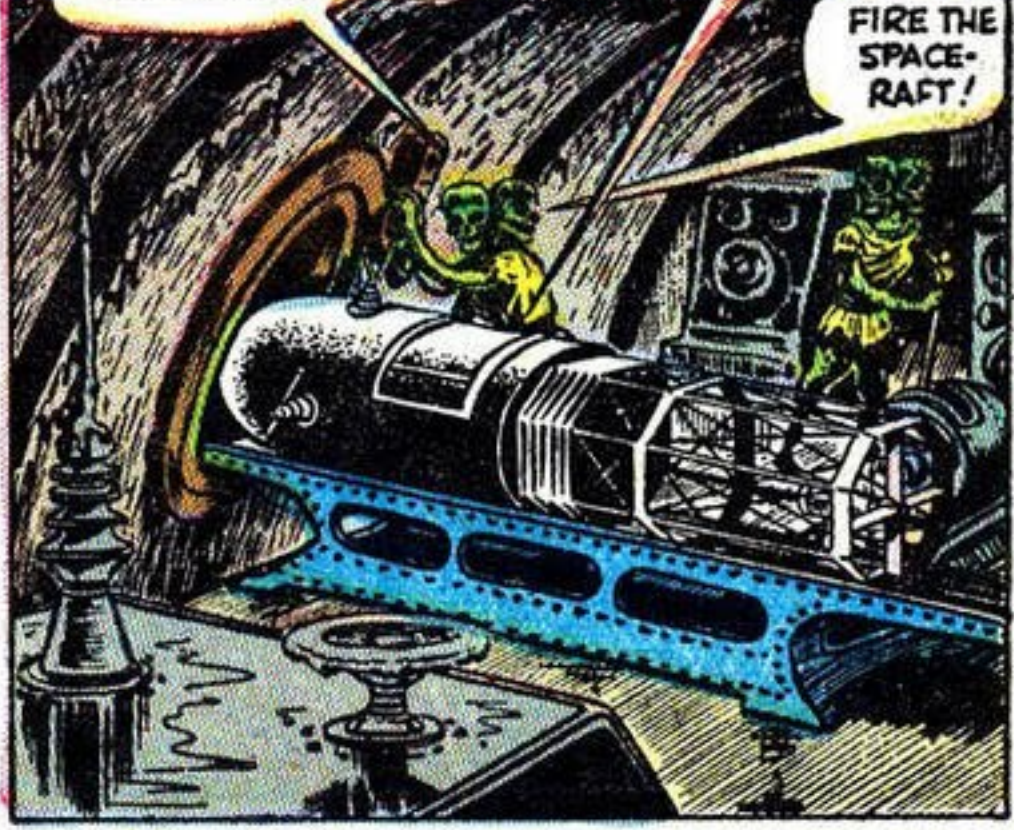


AND IF I'M **NOT** ON IT???

OPEN THE ESCAPE HATCH!

IF YOU ARE **NOT** ON THE SPACE-RAFT IN 24 HOURS... I WILL GIVE THE ORDER TO ATTACK THE EARTH!

THEN IT ALL DEPENDS ON **ME!**



FIRE THE SPACE-RAFT!

IN AN INSTANT YOU ARE HEADING BACK TO EARTH AT UNIMAGINABLE SPEED...



... EVERY CONTROL ON THE SPACE-RAFT IS AUTOMATIC... YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO BUT SIT ...



... FINALLY, THE SPACE-RAFT DIVES TO A STOP AT THE SAME SPOT IN CENTRAL PARK...



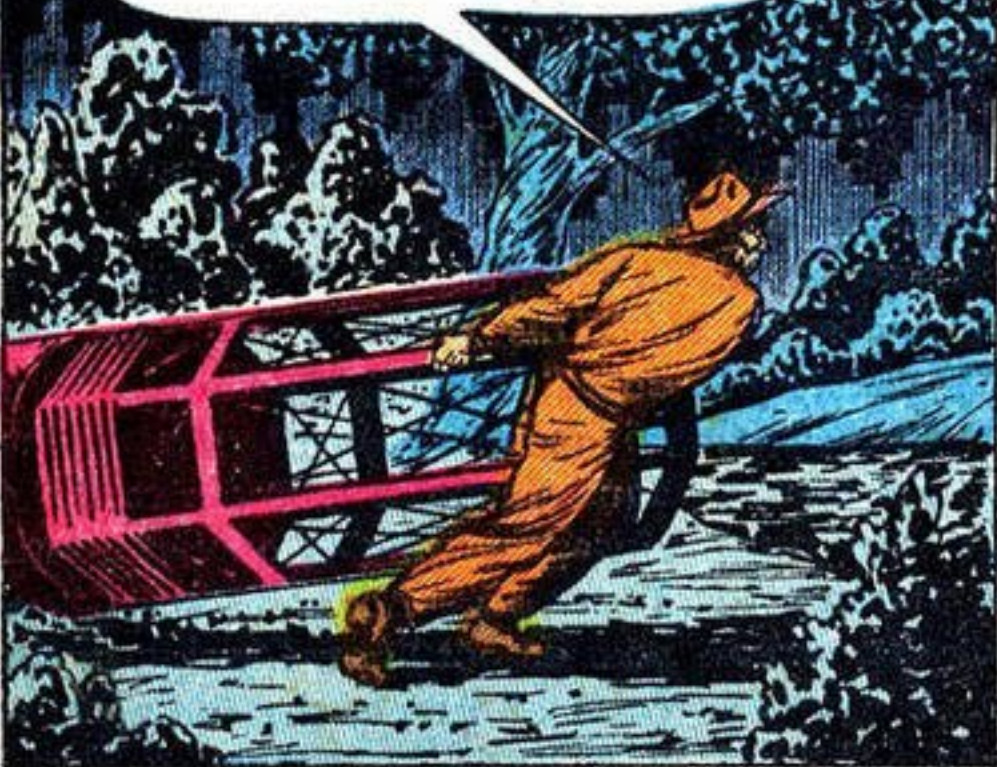
...AND AT EXACTLY 4:15 A.M., YOU STEP OUT ONTO EARTH AGAIN—FROM THE FLYING SAUCER!





THE FIRST THING YOU DO IS DRAG THE LIGHT RAFT TOWARD THE LAKE --- UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS!

THE ONLY PROOF THAT THEY REALLY *ARE* MEN FROM MARS IS THIS SMALL SPACE-RAFT---



AND, WITH A SIGH OF RELIEF, YOU THROW IT INTO THE DEEPEST PART OF THE LAKE, WHERE IT SINKS INSTANTLY!

THERE! NOW NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW!



THEN YOU RACE ACROSS THE MALL AT BREAKNECK SPEED -- AN IDEA GERMINATING IN YOUR MIND ...

I'VE GOT TO CALL JOE RIGHT AWAY!



BACK IN YOUR ROOM YOU PICK UP THE TELEPHONE, DIAL A NUMBER WITH TREMBLING FINGERS --- THEN---

HELLO, JOE? WE WERE RIGHT! THERE *ARE* MARTIANS IN THOSE FLYING SAUCERS!



IF THEY DON'T HEAR FROM ME IN 24 HOURS, THEY'RE GOING TO ATTACK EARTH!



WHILE YOU TALK, YOU KEEP SCRATCHING THE SIDE OF YOUR FACE --- AS IF TRYING TO PULL THE SKIN OFF!

DO YOU SEE HOW WONDERFUL IT IS? WE *LET* THEM ATTACK --- LET THE MARTIANS AND THE EARTHLINGS FIGHT AND DESTROY EACH OTHER---



--- AND THEN *WE MOON-MEN* CAN CONQUER THEM BOTH AFTER THEIR STRENGTH HAS BEEN SAPPED! IT'S THE CHANCE WE'VE WAITED A THOUSAND YEARS FOR!



**THE END**