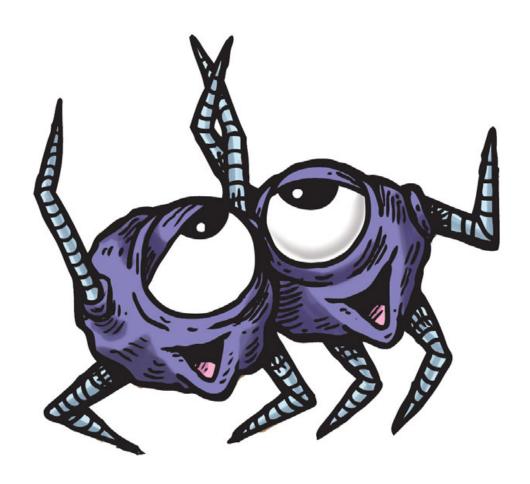


Rock Around the Clock

By Farah Farooqi Illustrated by Jerry Zimmerman

Table of Contents

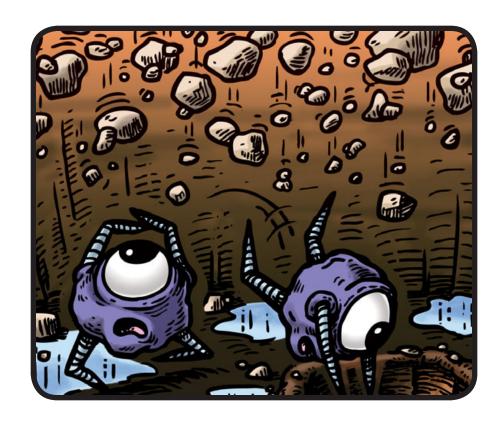
Chapter One Rumbling Roctune	1
Chapter Two Disappearing Disguise	4
Chapter Three Alien Astronauts	8
Chapter Four Music Marbles	12



Chapter One

Rumbling Roctune

Once upon a time, there lived two best friends named Boogie and Woogie. They did everything together. They played games, collected music marbles, and even ate delicious rocks together. Their favorite hobby of all was the Bop Bop dance. Whenever music played, they joined hands, rocked back and forth, then rolled in the dust.



On their planet, Roctune, music was a part of every Roctunian's life. In the morning, they awoke to singing Doowops. Doowops were robins that lived in the Rockin trees. When the clock struck noon, everyone strummed electric guitars, then rolled in the dust. At night, they hummed lullabies and rocked in their beds. Boogie and Woogie loved to rock around the clock!

One morning, Boogie and Woogie didn't hear the Doowops singing. They dashed outside to find the birds hiding in their nests. Just then, everything started to shake. A strong wind blew, and rocks flew everywhere. Boogie and Woogie leaped into a nearby crater until the rumbling ceased.



"What was that?!" hollered Boogie.

"I don't know," whispered Woogie. "Was it an earthquake?"

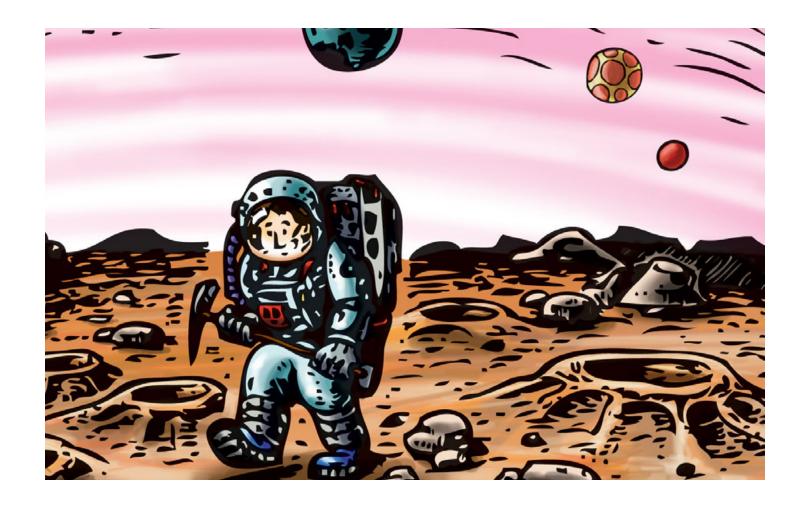
"Let's go out and investigate," decided Boogie.

They peeked out from the crater.

Boogie surveyed the area with his giant eye.

"I don't think it's safe out there," shivered Woogie.

Boogie patted Woogie on the head. "Don't worry. Let's take a look!"



Chapter Two

Disappearing Disguise

Boogie and Woogie climbed out of the crater. From far away, they could see something moving.

"Is it a robot?" whispered Woogie.

"I don't know, but it's heading this way!" yelled Boogie. "Duck!"

A huge figure thumped by, wearing a white spacesuit.



Woogie took out his binoculars.

"Oh, my," quivered Woogie. "That thing has two eyes! That's so scary!"

Boogie took out his binoculars.

"Plus, it doesn't have much fashion sense. It's wearing a fishbowl for a hat," smirked Boogie. The two started to giggle.

Suddenly, they heard thunderous footsteps. Boogie and Woogie jumped back into the crater. Two huge shadows hovered over the opening of the hole.

"They're looking into the crater, and now there are two of them" shrieked Woogie.

"We can handle this," whispered Boogie. "Let's do our magic invisibility dance. They won't see us then!"

"But we don't have any music! It doesn't work without music!" exclaimed Woogie.

"Then we'll just have to make our own music!" answered Boogie.

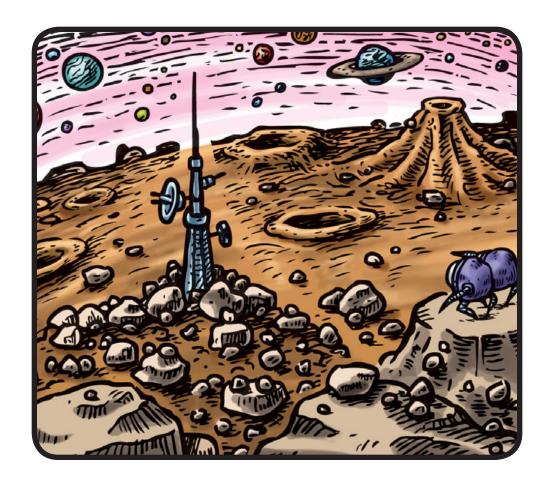




Boogie tapped his feet, and Woogie clapped his hands. Soon, the two started singing to the beat, rocking their bodies from side to side, and rolling in the dust.

"Move your feet. Clap your hands. Let's do the magic invisibility dance. Add the Bop Bop, close your eyes. Soon we'll be wearing a disappearing disguise!"

In a flash, they became invisible.



Chapter Three

Alien Astronauts

Boogie and Woogie returned to the surface safely, and scurried onto a big rock to examine the situation from afar. They noticed something sticking out from the ground.

"It looks like a spaceship. Perhaps that's how they arrived," said Boogie.

"Are they hungry aliens who will gobble us up?" asked Woogie.



"I'm not sure. Let's check for two-eyed creatures in our Alien dictionary," said Boogie.

While Boogie flipped the pages, Woogie kept his eye out for danger.

"I got it! Humans!" exclaimed Boogie.

"Ahhhh! Where?" cried Woogie, hiding between some rocks.

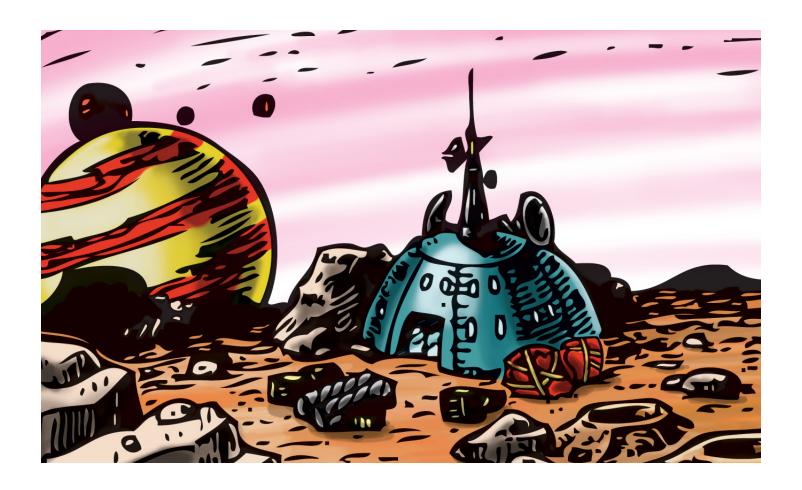


"In the book, silly!" laughed Boogie. "It says that creatures with two eyes and spacesuits are probably human astronauts. All that noise must have been their spaceship landing."

"But wait, do human astronauts eat Roctunians?" asked Woogie.

"It doesn't say in this book. Oh, no, here they come again. Hide!" yelled Boogie.

They watched the humans go into a steel tent.



"Maybe they're going to sleep," guessed Woogie.

"Excellent," whispered Boogie. "We have a job to do! We need to convince the humans not to eat us."

"But how?" asked Woogie.

"Through music, of course!" exclaimed Boogie. "All we have to do is get close enough to deposit a dream song into their ears as they sleep."

"Sounds risky, but it may be our only hope," said Woogie.



Chapter Four

Music Marbles

Boogie and Woogie waited until they heard snoring, and then tiptoed inside. They got close to the human's ear and began singing and dancing.

"Dream song, let's roll, and rock. Do not eat us, we taste like socks!"

Woogie paused.

"How do you know we taste like socks?" he whispered.



"I don't know," shrugged Boogie. "Who wants to eat socks anyway? Now let's go before they wake up!"

By morning, hundreds of Roctunians waited to see the humans. Finally, one astronaut emerged, sending the Roctunians running.

"Wait! Don't go," yelled the human. "I'm only here to collect rocks. I come in peace."

Everyone froze. Boogie and Woogie marched over to the human.

"We are Boogie and Woogie. You have landed on the planet of Roctune."

"My name is Lieutenant Colonel William Haley, but you can call me Billy. I'm from the planet Earth."

"Collect as many rocks as you like, Mr. Billy. How else may we assist you?"

"Well, it's a long way back to Earth. Does anyone have some music I can borrow?"

Boogie and Woogie smiled. They gave Billy a big bag of music marbles.





"Just hold one in your hand. It will play a song," said Woogie cheerfully.

Then Boogie taught Billy some Roctunian dance moves.

The astronauts rocked and rolled all the way home, the Doowops tweeted songs again, and Boogie and Woogie bopped until it was time for bed.