

📖 The Book That Saved the Earth – Claire Boiko

Class 10 English – Supplementary Reader (Footprints Without Feet)

Genre: Science Fiction 🛸📖

🧬 Setting & Context

- **Time:** 25th century
- **Place:** Museum of Ancient History, Earth (focus on the 20th century)
- **Main Theme:** A humorous misunderstanding between Martians and humans, showing how books and communication are vital.

👤 Main Characters & Traits

👑 Think-Tank

- **Role:** Leader of Martians
- **Traits:** Arrogant 🤔, foolish 😂, insecure 😞, egoistic
- **Quirk:** Loves being flattered, pretends to know everything
- **Change:** Becomes terrified of Earth books and cancels invasion

🍝 Noodle

- **Role:** Think-Tank's apprentice
- **Traits:** Intelligent 🧠, polite, tactful, humble
- **Contribution:** Helps Think-Tank save face, gives clever suggestions

👤 Captain Omega, Lieutenant Iota & Sergeant Oop

- **Role:** Martian crew members
- **Traits:** Obedient, confused 😞, comically literal-minded
- **Actions:** Try to “read” a book literally, misinterpret it hilariously

📖 Plot Summary (Bullet Style)



- 🗣️ A historian in the 25th century tells children how a book saved Earth from Martians.
- 🛸 Martians plan to invade Earth.
- 🧑‍🚀 A Martian team is sent to Earth to gather info.

- 📖 They find a book (a nursery rhyme book!) in a library and try to interpret it.
- 😂 Misinterpretations:



- "Mothers Goose" = Earth's ruler
- "Humpty Dumpty" = Earth's powerful commander
- "King's horses and men" = Earth's military
- 🏠 Think-Tank believes Earth is technologically superior and dangerous.
- 🚀 Cancels invasion in fear of human power based on rhymes.
- 🌿 Earth is saved thanks to... a book!

📌 Themes & Messages

- 📖 Power of books – misunderstood but influential
- 🤪 Humor & satire – shows how arrogance leads to foolishness
- 🌿 Peace over war
- 🤝 Importance of proper communication

🌟 Important Quotes

- “Elementary, my dear Omega.” – Think-Tank (pretending to know it all)
- “Books are... sandwiches?” – Martians confusing books with food
- “Earthlings are preparing for war!” – Think-Tank panicking over nursery rhymes

💡 Moral / Takeaway

- Don't judge what you don't understand.
- Arrogance can lead to comical (and disastrous) consequences.
- Books and knowledge are powerful tools – even when misread!