

The Ugly Martian

"Marina! It's suppertime!"

"I'm not hungry," answered Marina, dawdling.

"If you sit down right now, I'll tell you a story while I cook."

A long, long time ago, in a far-off galaxy, there were three martian eggs that were about to crack open. In just a few days, three little martians would be born.

One of these martians was "The Ugly Martian".

The long-awaited day finally arrived. The three martian eggs cracked open.

A lovely little martian came out of the first one. He was tiny - like a delicate flower - and a pale, elegant yellow color.

A pretty little martian girl broke out of the second egg. She was just as tiny and yellowish as her brother.

But the little martian that came out of the third egg was very different from the others.

No matter how hard he tried, this martian was a very slow learner.

That was why his brother and sister started calling him the ugly martian and they didn't want to play with him. And the poor ugly martian grew sad and lonely and asked himself every day, "Where can I find someone to love me?"

At that time, a terrible monster lived on the planet who was feared by all the martians. Besides looking grumpy, he was very ugly.

"I'll go see the monster. He's so horrible, I'll bet he won't mind playing with me since I'm ugly, too."

So off he went. The little martian went to see the horrible monster.

But to his surprise, the monster was frightened by such an ugly little martian and he said:

"Get out of here, you ugly martian! You're so ugly I can't bare the sight of you! What an ugly color and you're so fat... You're pathetic!"

And once again, the poor ugly martian was left all by himself.

Time passed and the ugly little martian remained sad and lonely. He asked himself,

"Will people ever stop calling me the ugly little martian? What I want more than anything in the world is for someone to love me."

Sometimes when you want something very badly, it doesn't happen. But other times it does. And that's exactly what happened to the ugly little martian.

One day, the ugly little martian saw that a beautiful cape had grown down his back spreading out all around him. It was white and shiny, and very big. And it was magic because it could make him

fly.

He was so happy when he saw it spread out behind him!

"I'm a flying little martian! I'm a flying little martian! No one will ever call me ugly again."

The little martian used his magic cape to go find his brother and sister.

"Would you like me to take you for a ride through the galaxy next to ours? We'll have a great time!" he said to them.

Their mouths dropped open when they saw him with his cape. The first thing they did was to apologize for having laughed at him.

"We'll never laugh at you again," they promised.

"I know," said the little martian, "but, please, what I never want you to do again is to laugh at anyone who is different or who takes a little longer to learn things."

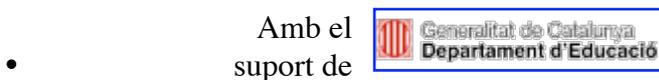
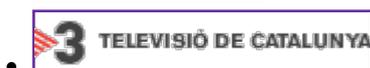
Wearing his magic cape, the little martian took his brother and sister on a fantastic journey through the neighboring galaxy. The monster also went along. He had grown tired of being so grumpy and lonely and had befriended the little flying martian and his brother and sister.

Marina's supper is on the table.

"I've torn the flying little martian's cape a little."

"That's alright," answered Marina. "I'm so hungry that tonight I'll finish supper... in a jiffy!"

Script: Eulàlia Carrillo



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