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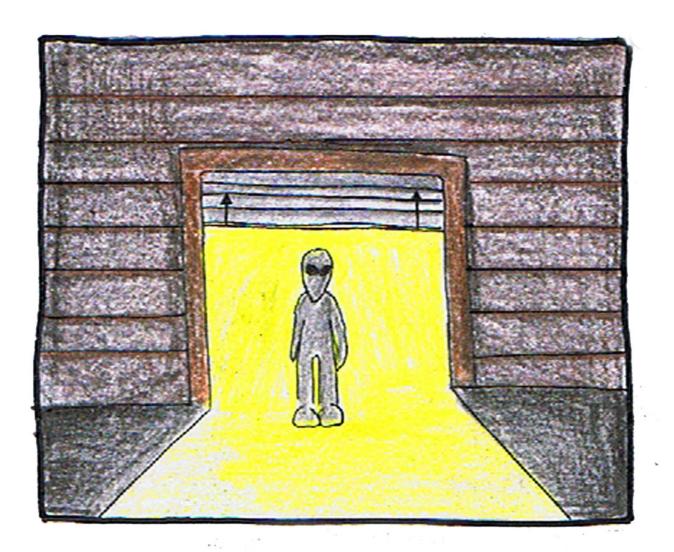
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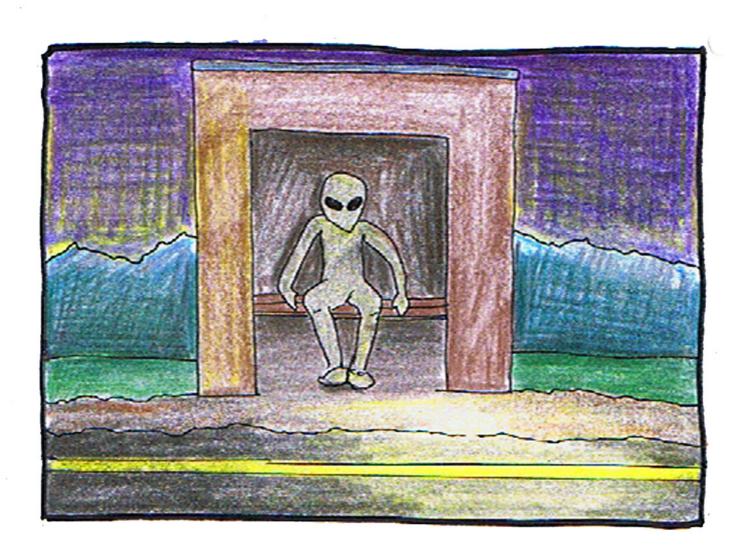
## LOVING THE ALEN By M. P. Bronstein



As the door lifts up on our main character, they are leaving their home.

They are an alien which means that they don't look like you, they speak a different language and their culture might seem strange sometimes.

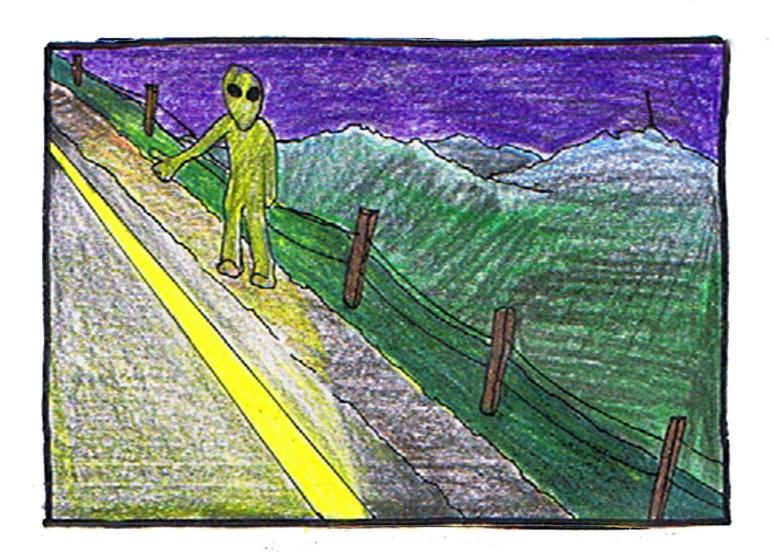
Venturing out into the world outside, into the unknown, it is no longer safe for them stay here.



Because the alien looks and acts different, people don't always act so friendly to them.

They wait at a bus stop but all of the buses pass them by.

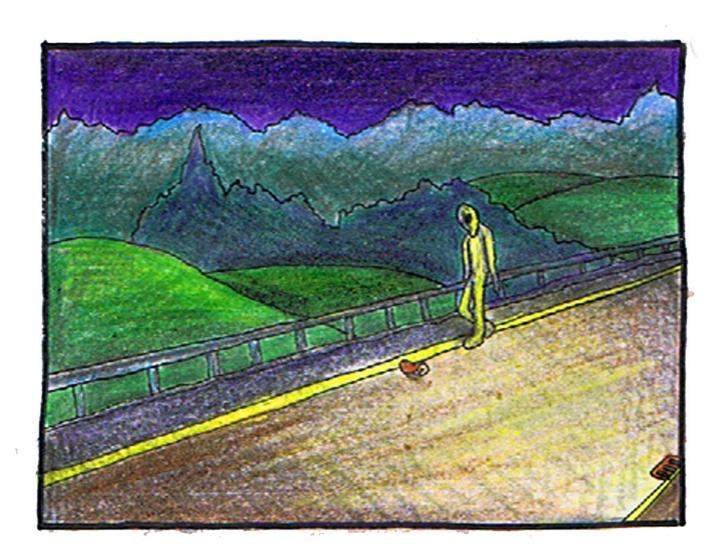
They wait and they wait but get no ride.



The alien tries to hitchhike, hoping to be driven away from here.

They extend their thumb towards the passing cars but nobody stops.

The alien is caught in the headlights over and over again, blinded and left alone in the darkness on the side of the road.



Feeling hopeless, the alien kicks a soda can as they begin to walk.

The humans don't want to help so the alien must get where they're going on their own.

Walking until the road disappears, the alien is looking for a new place to call home where they will be welcomed.



Walking over the hilly green landscape, the alien finds a strange human contraption of unknown purpose.

Though the contraption is weird, the alien is not scared of it but rather they are curious about it.

They investigate it by pushing, pulling, playing with and exploring the mysterious thing.



The alien ponders the potential purpose of the contraption as they continue walking deeper into the natural environment.

Finding a forest of very tall and skinny trees, our alien feels a sense of belonging.

The plants and animals in this place do not act as if the alien is a stranger, as the humans did.



Now, in the deepest part of the forest, the alien finds a place to live.

They build a temporary shelter out of the materials that they can find nearby.

It is not much but it will keep them warm and dry for now.

The alien feels that this new place will be safe for them and they will work hard to make it their home.

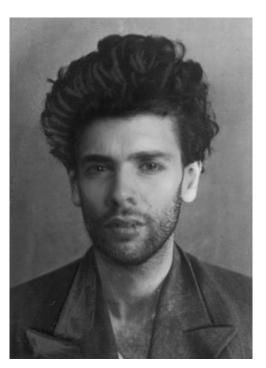


Waking up after their long journey, the alien walks to the top of the nearby hill for watching the sunrise.

The alien is alone here but does not feel lonely anymore, as they did when the humans rejected them.

This alien may look very different from us but they share our same hopes, dreams and feelings.

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**



Matvei Petrovich Bronstein (August 17, 1936 — February 18, 1988) was a Soviet theoretical physicist, a pioneer of quantum mechanics, author of works in astrophysics, semiconductors, quantum electrodynamics and cosmology, as well as of a number of books in popular science for children.

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