

First Contact, Fourth Attempt



Intergalactic Space-Time Council President Morph Zagprim chose the Planktonians to live among and observe Earth's human population because he figured that their physical appearance would least arouse suspicion. It was true that a Planktonian, when at rest, did resemble an implement that Earthlings strapped to their bottom appendages when traversing snow roads. However, no one ever told President Zagprim that the Planktonians were seldom at rest. Due to their abnormally high metabolic rates, Planktonians were prone to carousing all but 46 klipnods of a typical Earth day. And when they *did* finally lapse into quiescence, they did so in identical groups of 106 and in formations that snow road bottom appendage implements seldom assumed. So it was only by virtue of humanity's inherent inattention to detail that the Planktonians weren't discovered until they had been embedded for, coincidentally, 46 years. And then, of course, all hell broke loose.