

The Yukonians



“They’re awake again,” said Enid to the mayor and his staff of advisors, “and they don’t sound happy!” Enid was referring to the two ice cube-like beings from Planet Yukon that had landed in Boise last week. They were mad because a malfunction in their universal translation software had led them to expect a world in the throes of global *cooling*, which would have been a perfect vacation destination for the Yukonians. Instead, they got hazy, hot and humid conditions that had already melted half of the expedition. They were so mad that they threatened to vaporize all of Idaho until Enid calmed them down with some prune gelato. The former Baskin-Robbins greeter was apparently the only human on Earth who could communicate with them. She did so by placing the aliens on her temples and listening very hard. Sometimes she just got one of those ice cream headaches, but other times, like now, she actually heard alien voices. “*You ... are ... getting ... sleeeepy,*” they said. And no matter the mayor himself had just poured her a cup of hot coffee, darned if she wasn’t starting to feel drowsy! Next thing she knew, a week had passed, glaciers were spawning in the Arctic, a huge ice shelf covered part of Manitoba, and her forehead ached from freezer burn. Would life on Earth ever be the same again?!