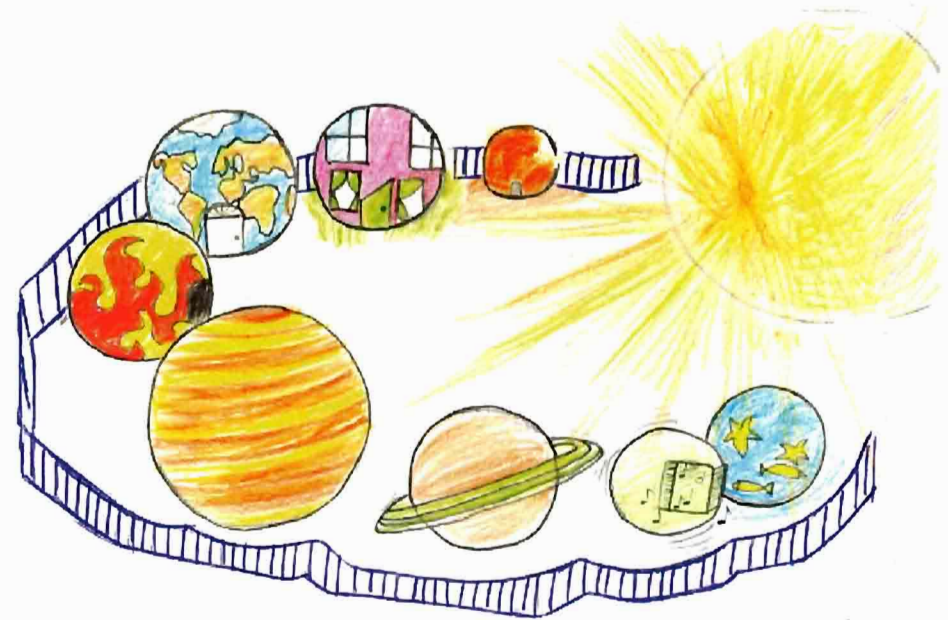


A **GREEN** STORY



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Written by: Ana Krce-Ivančić
Tea Kuzek
Anton Krasnić

Illustrated by: Lukra Širok
Marko Zelenković

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INTRODUCTION

ECO BOOKWORM:



„ In a galaxy far , far away there is a city called Universe.
The smallest street in this city is Milky Way Street.

There are eight houses.

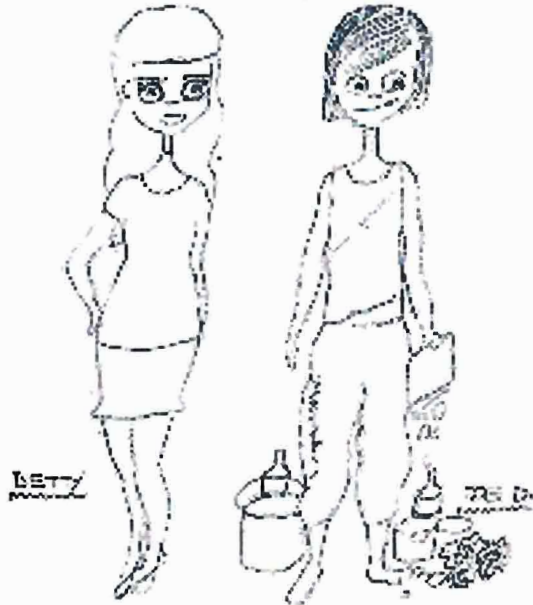
Merky the Midget lives in the smallest house. He is unemployed and so desperate because his house is the smallest one in the neighbourhood.



A few galactic meters away there is another house. **Lady Venus** lives in this house. She is a TV reporter and she always knows what is happening in the city.



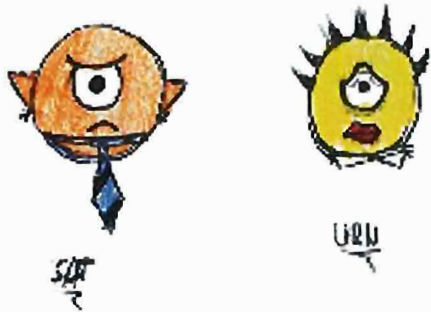
Then, there is this blue house shared by two persons. **Betty Green** lives in the eastern part and **Joe Dirty** lives in the western part of the house. They always argue about whose part of the house is dirty. Can you guess?



On the other side of the street, a little bit further away, there is a red house. **Mr Martian** who lives there, works for UCSP (Universe City Special Police). Betty Green often calls him for help. Joe Dirty is so untidy that the smell coming from his part of the house is sometimes unbearable.



MARTIAN



There are several more inhabitants there: **Jupi Jupi**, **Sat and Urn**, **U Ran**, **N-Tune**, a homeless tramp **Pluto** and **S Skywalker**. Mr S Skywalker lives in the biggest and the brightest house of all. He is so fat and big that you can't look at him. He is also the most powerful man in the

city. He can decide who stays in the city and who has to leave. He can be very cruel but he has a great responsibility: **KEEP THE CITY CLEAN!**"



CHAPTER ONE

One Saturday, at Lady Venus's home...

„Hi, come in Sat and Urn!“, says Lady Venus. „Welcome, U Ran! Please, sit down. I've prepared a nice cup of tea and some muffins.“

Every Saturday all the neighbours come to lady Venus's house to hear all the news and gossips about their street and its inhabitants.

Today there's everyone except Joe and Betty. No one ever invites Joe because of his bad habits. They feel sorry for him but angry at the same time.

„I really hope something will change now when Betty has moved in“, says Merky the Midget.

„Well, I'm not sure about that“, says Lady Venus, „but I'm sure that I won't be going there! It's so dirty and... uugh.... that awful smell!“



CHAPTER TWO

The same day, at Betty Green's...

That afternoon Betty was whistling cheerfully while tidying her new home. She did all the preparation work for her housewarming party. She was so thrilled she couldn't wait any longer to meet her new friends and show them how pretty her home was.

Betty liked Lady Venus the most. She seemed to be an interesting person. And that guy, Mr Martian, was very polite when she met him.

However, there was this little problem called Joe. A few hours earlier Betty noticed some strange smell while passing by his part of the house. At that time she wasn't very concerned but NOW she was!! That horrible smell was spreading to other parts of their house!!!

„What if my neighbours notice this smell! It will ruin my party! I have to do something about this dirty man!!!!, „ Betty was thinking nervously.



CHAPTER THREE

Next Saturday...

For seven long days Betty hasn't met anyone in the street. She was feeling so alone and disappointed. No one came to her party last Saturday. She decided to find out the reason why. She went to Lady Venus's house and knocked at the door.

Lady Venus opened but.... she wasn't alone. Betty was surprised to see everyone there: Merky the Midget, Sat and Urn, U Ran, Jupi Jupi and N-Tune. Even Mr Martian was there! She was at a loss for words! They invited her in to join them. They were embarrassed to see her, knowing that they didn't accept her invitation last Saturday. This was an opportunity to apologise and explain everything.

That afternoon, while slowly sipping her tea, Betty learned why Pluto became homeless. He wasn't always a tramp....



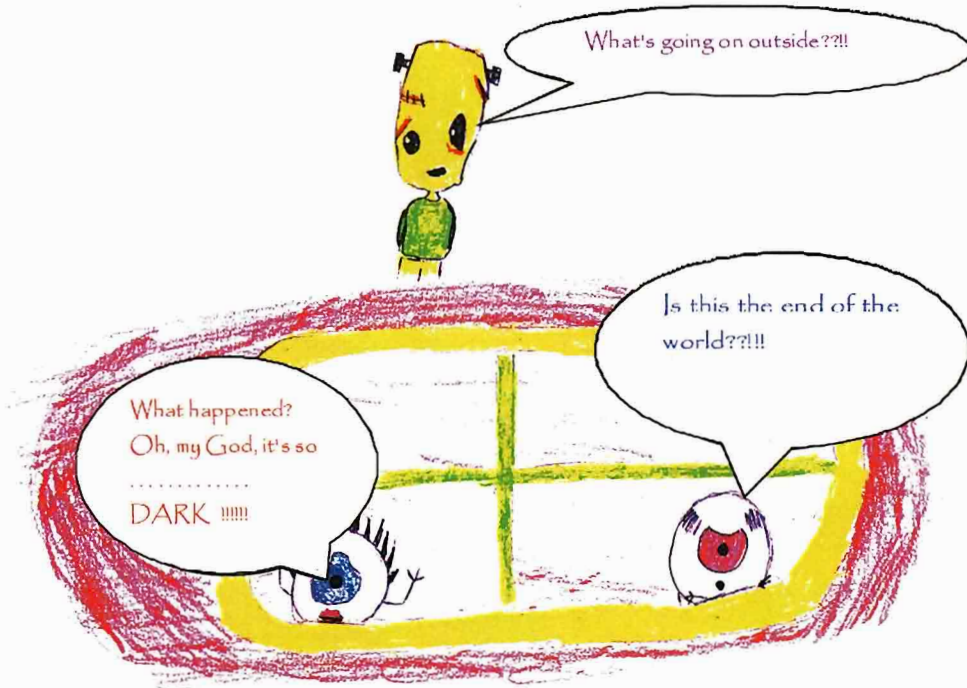
CHAPTER FOUR

Pluto was an eccentric scientist. He lived in the ninth house in Milky Way Street.

Everybody knew he was a weirdo but nobody cared until.....

Several years ago.....

That morning Lady Venus woke up and noticed there was no light outside. Being a reporter she was curious and wanted to find out the reason for this strange phenomenon. She looked through her telescopic eye and, though it was quite dark, she managed to see Mr Martian and U Ran lying in the street. U Ran was going jogging as usual but he wasn't able to see well so he bumped into Mr Martian who was going to work. Luckily, they weren't injured. Jupi Jupi was standing in front of his house trying desperately to see through the darkness. Sat and Urn were peeking through the window. Lady Venus zoomed in and noticed a puzzled look on their faces....



Everybody was confused and scared.

Lady Venus decided to do something so she went straight to S Skywalker's office. Nobody was there. She knocked and knocked at the door of his house but nobody opened. It was very strange....She entered....

S Skywalker was lying down. His light was very weak. He was dying...



Lady Venus understood everything now. Pluto had invented a special robot to clean his house. However, this robot gave off too much poisonous gas into the air. It soon polluted the air and created a dark and dirty fog which prevented the light from coming through. This was why S Skywalker could not produce light any more..... It was poisoning him.....

„I have to do something! I have to prevent the spread of this danger! I've promised to S Skywalker!“ , she thought.

She called all her neighbours, told them about the danger and they reached this conclusion: they will give Pluto an ultimatum! Either he will destroy his clean-house robot or they will banish him from their neighbourhood and destroy his house.

Unfortunately Pluto didn't do anything. He was too proud of his invention. He was too selfish to realise the danger they were all in. He was irresponsible! There was no time to wait. S Skywalker was getting weaker every day.

There was only one solution. They destroyed Pluto's house and the robot inside it.

Pluto was homeless.



CHAPTER FIVE

After hearing the story Betty Green went home thinking about it. The next morning she went to Joe's and told him about the story and the danger they were in. At first he was confused and shocked but then he laughed.

Betty decided not to give up so she went to find Pluto.

Speaking from his own experience, Pluto convinced Joe of the danger of pollution. He spent several days living at Joe's house. They became close friends. In fact, Pluto was the best friend Joe has ever had. Pluto's story encouraged Joe to change and become a different person. His house was not dirty any more.



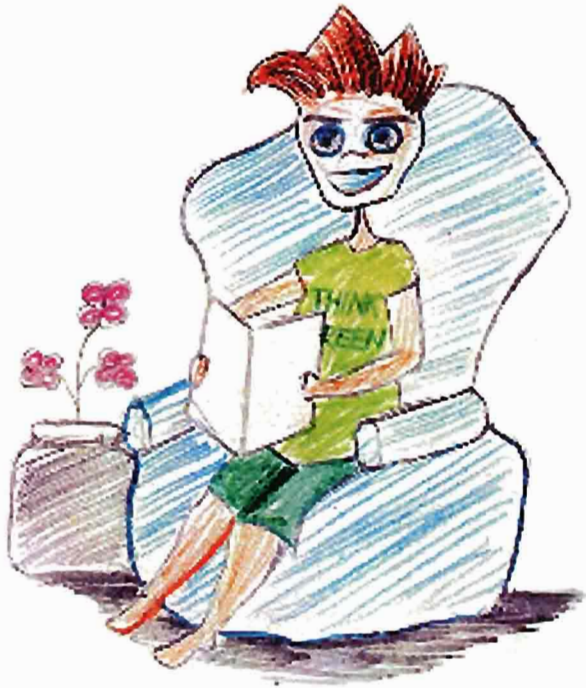
A HAPPY EPILOGUE

Soon, Joe founded an organization promoting ecological way of living and warning environmentally unfriendly people.

Everyone was surprised with Joe's new personality, including Pluto who was not homeless any more. He lived at his best friend's house.

Pluto changed, too. He decided to write down his life story which soon became a bestseller in the town called Universe.

Every Saturday the story was read by Joe, chapter by chapter, at Lady Venus's tea parties.



THE END

AND DON'T FORGET!

„TO TAKE CARE OF OUR PLANET
IS TO TAKE CARE
OF OUR OWN HOUSE!“

The Dalai Lama

