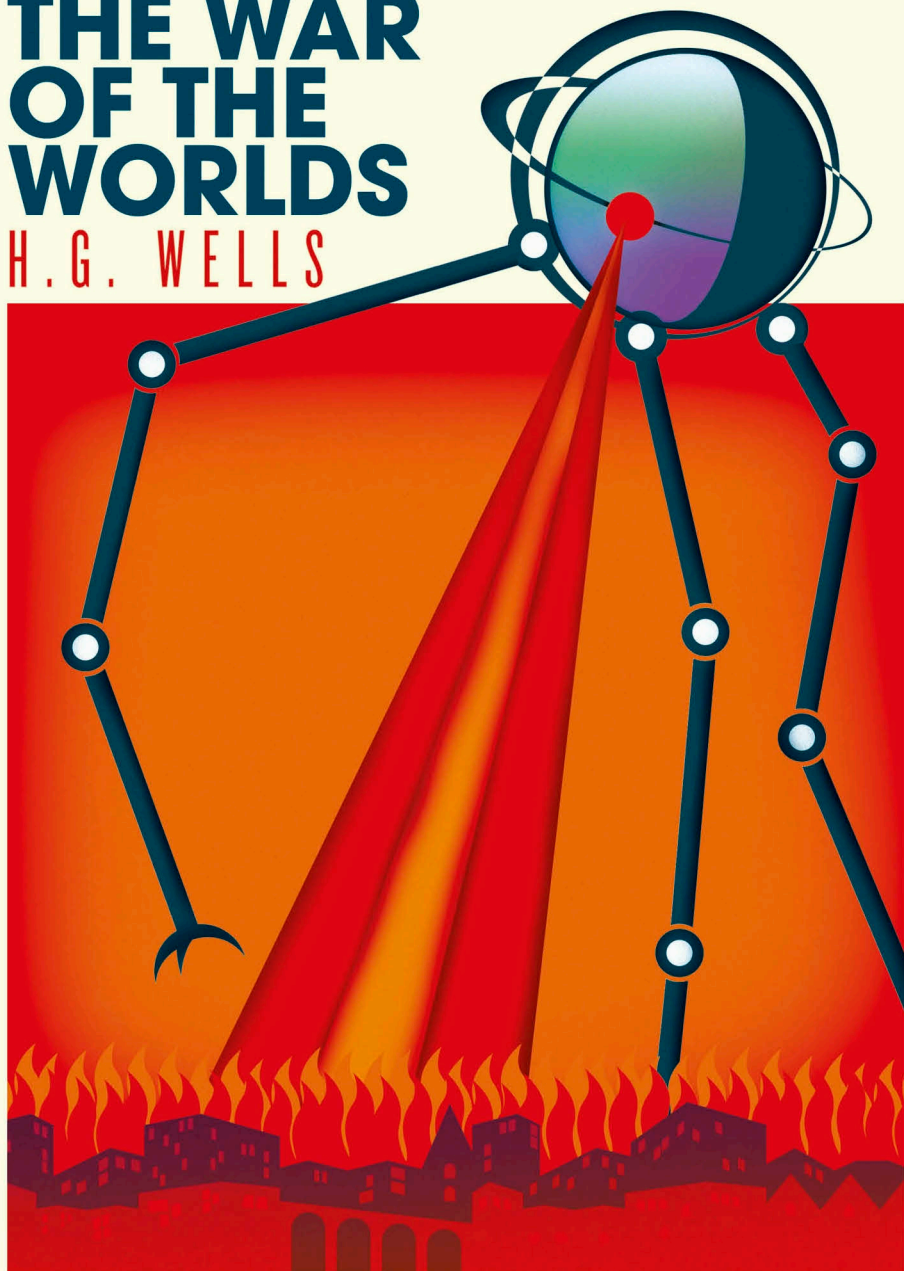


Penguin  Readers

THE WAR OF THE WORLDS

H. G. WELLS





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Note about the story

H. G. Wells (1866–1946) started *The War* of the Worlds* in 1895 and finished it in 1897. It was the first famous story about Martians – **creatures** from **Mars**. One of the people in the story is the narrator – he tells the story. The Martians come to **Earth** in 1900 and they have a war with the people on Earth. People liked *The War of the Worlds* and now there are many other stories about Martians. There are many films too.

Before-reading questions

- 1 Read the “Note about the story”. Where do the Martians come from?
- 2 Look at the picture of the Martians on page 4. Are these sentences *true* or *false*, do you think?
 - a The Martians can speak English.
 - b The Martians can make fire.
 - c The Martians are nice to people.
 - d The Martians do not wear clothes.
- 3 Look at the picture of the Martians on page 4 and describe them. Here are some ideas:

They have

They can / cannot

They are, I think.

*Definitions of words in **bold** can be found in the glossary on page 62–63.

CHAPTER ONE They came from Mars

Near London, 1905

The War of the Worlds is a story about Martians. They came to **Earth** and I saw them! Here's the story . . .



