

# LEFT AT THE RED DWARF STAR

This book is available in PDF and ePub formats. It is written in Pages for optimal viewing on an iPad split screen. The authors themselves completed the book's artwork and editing. The illustrations are by Brian Injury Art **B'Art,** adding a personal touch that hopefully enriches the reading experience.

'Madness is to see the world as it is and not as it should be.'
- Miguel de Cervantes: Don Quixote.



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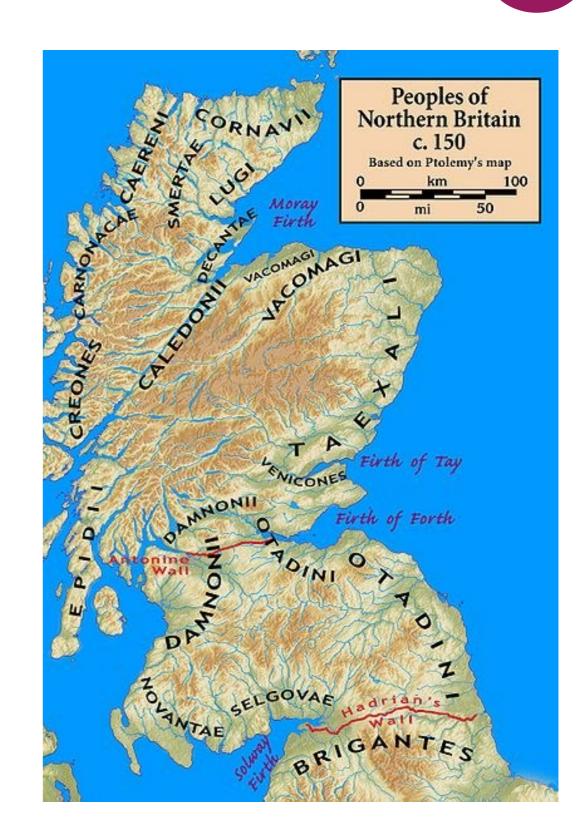
## **PROLOGUE**

Caledonia is a faraway place with tall, old trees and pointy mountains. In winter, it gets very cold and snowy. A long time ago, people called the Caledonians and Picts lived there. They were very proud of their way of life in this misty, magical land. The land was wild and tricky, with rocky hills and many squishy bogs.

In 79 AD, Roman soldiers came to Caledonia to fight the native tribes. They wanted the food the tribes had stored for the cold winter. The tribes had gathered their food in late summer. But the tribes were clever and knew the land well, so they used sneaky tricks to fight back. The Romans had strong soldiers and special fighting tools and methods to win. They had done this many times to build their Empire.

The tribes lived in round houses near big hill forts, but the Romans were too strong.

Then, some space travellers from a planet called Gliesa 12B came to Caledonia. They were similar to humans and were called Tagais. They started a new adventure in this new land.





#### THE BEGINNING

In the far-off year of 3009, Eoin is trying really hard to solve a secret message from a very important person named Commander Maxwell Armstrong. Eoin's friend, Commander Skoobie, is standing next to him, looking worried but also determined. She tells him how important it is to figure out the message and find any clues that might help.

Commander Maxwell Armstrong and his crew disappeared on New Year's Eve 2999 at midnight when on a journey to a planet called Earth. They were testing an early type of Time Machine. Eoin listens closely to the radio and hears a tiny, faint sound. He whispers, "I found it... a very quiet signal that's hard to hear."

The message is like a tricky puzzle from a spaceship, with lots of details and times. It was hidden really well in a big computer library so no one could find it. Eoin explains, "It's hidden behind lots of supersmart computer locks, each one harder to open than the last. Someone really wants to keep this secret, so they made the code really hard to break."



#### THE BEGINNING



#### **Broken down angel - Mission Log: Operation Time Stream**

#### Log Entry 001 - Pre-Launch (Gliese 12B Spaceport)

Date: Stellar Cycle 4582.17

Pilot: Maxwell Armstrong, Age 23

We're getting ready for our first big adventure through time! Our spaceship, called the 'broken down angel,' is all fixed up and ready to go. It's powered by something super cool called quantum plasma, and everything is working really well, except for a tiny bit that needs to be just right. Dr. Lyra Quanta and Professor Orion Vale are making sure all the clocks are set correctly. Our planet is getting too dirty, and if we don't find a way to fix it, it might not be a nice place to live in the future. I've been dreaming about this day for a long time! I'm holding the controls steady, even though my tummy is rumbling because I haven't eaten since breakfast.

The engines are on! The sky above our planet, Gliese 12B, turns a pretty pink as we zoom up and out into space. Below us, the clouds look a bit funny because of all the pollution. I can see the purple oceans getting smaller and smaller. Dr. Quanta gives me a thumbs-up, which means everything is okay. Professor Vale is talking about something called "temporal harmonics" and makes sure he's strapped in tight. Our next stop is the edge of our star system, where it's safe to try our first jump through time.

We've reached the spot where we can fly. Everything is working perfectly. The Time-Stream Module is spinning around, and the cabin fills with a soft blue light. There are cool holograms showing a swirling mess of Earth's time. One part, called Zone 25, is shining brighter than anything else. Professor Vale says this means there's a bit of a time problem, which is just what we need to test our new software. I think it looks like a sparkly whirlpool, and Dr. Quanta giggles. We start the countdown. My heart is beating faster than the spaceship's engines. 5... 4... 3... 2... 1... The stars around us twist and turn. For a moment, I see lots of different versions of our spaceship, all in different times. I hold onto the controls really tight. Then, everything goes black.

#### THE BEGINNING



They set the time machine to 83 AD because it wasn't too busy with polluting industry. But then, BOOM! There was a big explosion, and the ship got broken. They had to land quickly. Bruno, the copilot, got thrown out and landed near the Gulf of Mexico, heading towards the Amazon rainforest. The rest of the ship landed in a thick forest in Scotland.

Maxwell and five others were hurt, but they tried to fix the ship. Sadly, the two scientists didn't make it. The ship's control said they almost got to September 79 AD, but Bruno's pod said it was 1970 AD. It was a big puzzle!





#### A WEEKEND CAMPING TRIP

Commander Leannos Kos told Skoobie and Eoin to wait outside a big room where important people were talking loudly. After a little while, Commander Kos came out and gave them a secret mission. They had to quietly put together a special team to learn more about 'this Earth.'

For the next two days, Skoobie and Eoin set up a camp away from the big room. They thought about what to do, picked some people to help them, and ate yummy meals by the campfire. Even though some sneaky spies were watching them, they stayed calm.

Eoin, who is always happy and friendly, played music from a special radio station that wasn't allowed. This made a small group of people come and have fun with music and laughter. But Eoin was also very smart. While he danced, he watched the people and made a list of eight people to help with their mission.

Eoin loved the music and fun with everyone. He smiled a lot and enjoyed the weekend at the campsite. It was a perfect mix of fun and secret plans, full of excitement and hidden goals.







#### **GLIESE 12B**

On a faraway planet called Gliese 12B, there lived special people named the Tagais. They loved their home very much, but it was in trouble. Some greedy companies were making the air dirty, so it was hard for the Tagais to breathe. The sky was always grey and sad, and there wasn't much water left.

The Tagais were worried about their plants, animals, and families. They asked everyone to help, but the companies didn't listen and even got angry with those who wanted to help the planet.

Even though things were tough, the Tagais were very brave. They worked hard to take care of their home and keep it special. They wanted to make sure their culture and traditions would be there for their children and grandchildren.

Then, a big and scary Empire came with strong machines. The Tagais knew they were in danger, but they didn't give up. They were determined to protect their planet and their way of life, no matter what.

The Tagais hoped that one day, everyone would understand how important it is to take care of our planet, so we can all live happily together.



#### **EARTH BECKONS**

On a faraway planet called Gliese 12B, there are some very brave friends called the Svenie Tagais. They want to stop the bad guys who want to take over their home. Eoin is a young inventor who makes amazing things like solar panels and flying robots to help their planet. His friend Skoobie is super smart and helps them come up with plans to save everyone.

The scientists on Gliese 12B say that their planet is in big trouble and might not be safe soon. So, Eoin, Skoobie, and their friends make a clever plan to escape. They pretend to be part of a big pretend army to learn more about Earth and a special mission that will happen that year, in the year 3009.



3009 AD time travel flight to Earth 83 AD



## **LEFT AT THE RED DWARF STAR**

The crew sat around a warm campfire, their faces glowing in the light. They were getting ready for a big adventure. Eoin looked worried at Skoobie, who was thinking hard about her fears. The dark night seemed less scary than the feelings inside her.

When the sun started to rise, their spaceship began to wake up with a soft hum. The cockpit was full of excitement as the engines roared to life. The spaceship zoomed away from their once beautiful planet called Gliese 12B, which had shiny lakes and glowing plants.

The spaceship's blue light shone like a lighthouse in space, guiding them. Eoin looked out the window, searching for other ships. Skoobie, the pilot, gave a clear command: "Turn left at the red dwarf star!" Her calm voice made everyone feel safe. Eoin followed her instructions, feeling excited about the journey ahead.

When the hyperdrive started, the spaceship shook loudly, and everyone cheered as stars zoomed by, making the dark sky bright with streaks of light.



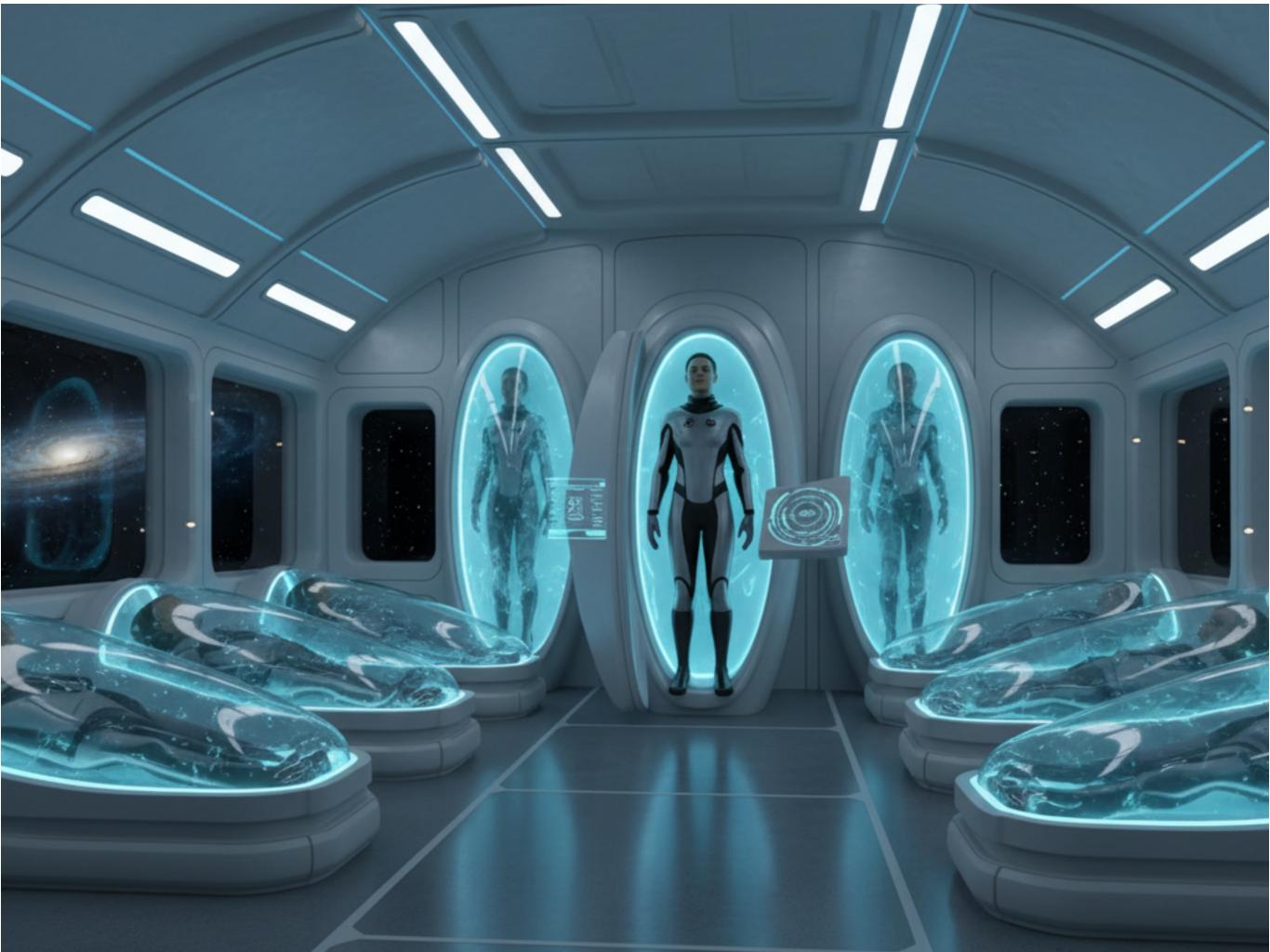


#### THE LONG SLEEP

Once upon a time, there was a brave group of space explorers. They had a special map made by a smart explorer named Maxwell Armstrong. This map helped them travel from the far-off future, the year 3009, all the way back to the year 83! Their big adventure was to find Maxwell and his seven friends.

The crew was ready for their exciting trip. They were going to travel through space for five whole years! But don't worry, they had special sleep pods to keep them safe and comfy. These pods were like cosy beds that helped their muscles stay strong while they slept.

Two crew members, Skoobie and Eoin, were in charge of the ship while everyone else slept. They made sure everything was okay and then joined their friends in the sleep pods. Together, they drifted off to dreamland, ready for their amazing journey through time!



#### **EARTHS VIEW**

The spaceship made a soft humming sound, like a nice song, as it woke up after a long sleep of five years. Everyone on the ship was having a deep nap. A week before they woke up, the spaceship got everything ready, making sure the air was fresh and the temperature was just right. When the crew opened their eyes, they felt a bit sleepy at first, but soon they were wide awake and excited.

They looked out and saw Earth with its big lands and shiny oceans, all glowing in the warm, golden light of the setting sun. It was a beautiful sight that made them feel very happy. They watched the clouds float over hills covered with

bright flowers that glowed softly in the evening light. The most amazing thing was seeing the Grampian mountains from high up in the sky, with their tall peaks and colourful lands below.

Skoobie, the spaceship's pilot, carefully set the final directions to land on Rannoch Moor. They were going to a place that was almost the same as it was a long time ago, in the year 83 AD, for a new adventure. Eoin, who loved learning new things, found the directions hidden in the Space Archives.



#### A BUMPY LANDING

The spaceship slowed down while the crew made sure everything was okay. Suddenly, a big red light flashed, and loud alarms went off! The landing gear wasn't working right. Pilot Skoobie stayed calm and used her special training to help the spaceship land safely.

The spaceship shook and made loud noises as it landed in a beautiful place called Loch Rannoch. It stopped near a calm lake with tall green trees and snowy mountains all around. Everything was so pretty and quiet, which made the crew feel a little scared but also happy they were safe.

Skoobie and her friend Eoin thought maybe something outside caused the problem. They checked the spaceship and found out it wasn't too badly hurt. The crew was brave and ready to fix everything!



#### REPAIRING THE SHIP

Eoin was in the spaceship, feeling safe even though a big storm was outside. The rain was tapping on the window really loudly. The crew was helping him with a little scratch on his forehead. Eoin looked at the spaceship, called the 'Broken Down Angel.' It had some bumps and burnt spots from a bumpy landing. For four hours, everyone worked really hard to fix it. The damage wasn't too bad. When the sun went down and everything turned golden, the crew decided to hide the ship. Now that it was fixed, it could fly again!



#### 'MOTHBALL' THE SHIP

Eoin was making sure the air on the ship was just right and nice and warm. The crew was whispering quietly, waiting for Skoobie to tell them what to do next. Eoin kept checking things while Skoobie thought about what to do.

They were worried about their friends, Maxwell Armstrong and his team. Where could they be hiding? It felt like a big, heavy worry hanging over them.

Eoin spoke up in a calm and strong voice, "We are ready to turn off the ship. Make sure all the important things are taken off, like the communication devices and power cells. We might not come back for a while, so get ready to leave."

#### **REST BECKONS**

The wind stopped, and everything was super quiet. The Tagais watched their Spaceship slowly sink into the water. They knew it would go deep, but not too deep for them to swim to it.

Skoobie, the leader, said softly, "See you later," and turned away. The crew followed her, feeling both hopeful and brave. They left footprints in the cold sandy beach as they walked. The cold air felt nice on their faces as they took off their helmets. They smelled the earth, moss, and fresh water, which made them feel calm. Eoin looked at the trees nearby, remembering they needed food, warmth, and rest.

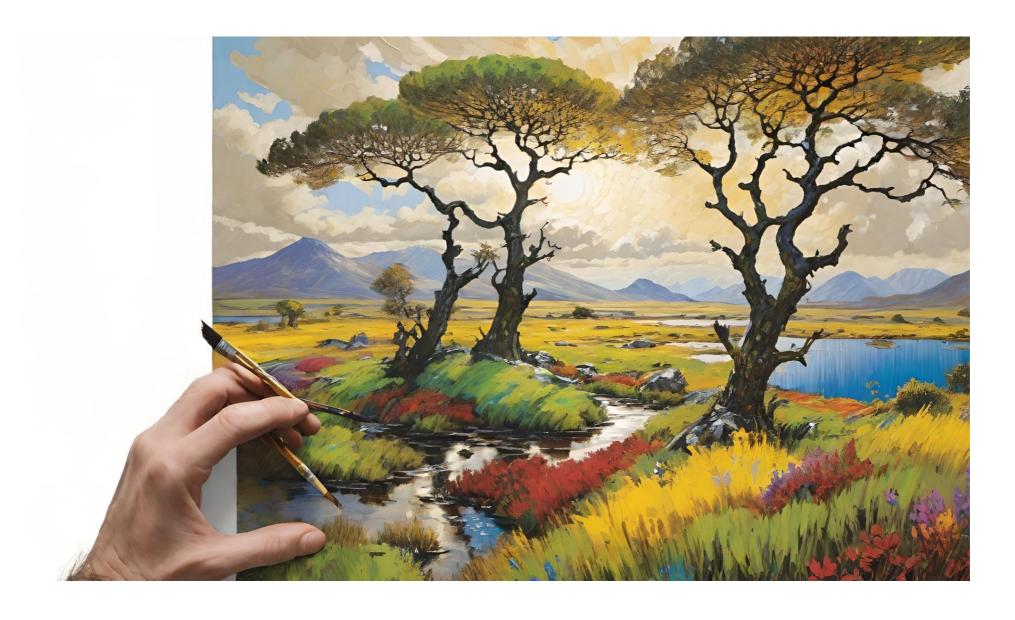
Skoobie told everyone her plan for the next day and said they would talk more in the morning. She reminded them of their training and said they were safe. Everyone was picked because they were really good at their job, which made everyone feel better. They walked along the beach until they found a way into the woods. As they got closer, they saw a shiny stream that looked very nice in the sunlight.





### AN UNNOTICED ARRIVAL

When the sun went down behind the mountains, the sky turned a bright orange. Eight Tagais figures came out from the trees, wearing shiny robes that sparkled in the last sunlight. They walked quietly into the woods, whispering secrets only they could hear. They looked around nervously, making sure no one saw them, and disappeared into the trees, adding to the evening's mystery.







#### THE BLACK WOOD OF RANNOCH.

The Tagais were in the spooky Black Wood of Rannoch. This forest was full of old trees that seemed to whisper secrets. They wanted to find a secret hideout, a special place just for them.

They walked in the dark for a long time, bumping into roots and branches, but they didn't give up. Finally, they found a bright, magical clearing. There was a sparkling pool next to a gentle stream, making everything look peaceful and calm.

Skoobie, the leader of the Tagais, said, "This is a good spot. Let's make a camp. I'll keep watch; don't make a fire until I say it's okay." So, they gathered dry wood and dug three holes in the ground. They made a small fire in the middle hole, with the other two helping the smoke go away quietly.

As it got colder, the warm fire made the Tagais feel cosy. They told stories and enjoyed the

warmth, feeling happy together. They found a deep pool to swim in and wash off the tiredness from the day. Eoin loved the cold water and felt a special bond with the wild beauty of their new home, Caledonia.



#### A FLYING MACHINE!

A group of Roman soldiers were feeling scared and confused. They stood on a rocky hill, looking down at something very strange. They wore shiny bronze armour and helmets with colourful feathers. They had short swords and shields with their special symbol on them. Even though they looked strong, they were worried because their armour was a bit damaged from a tough fight. They had just seen a big, amazing flying machine land nearby.

Suddenly, loud horns made a scary sound. It meant that the Caledoni and Cornavi warriors were coming. These warriors were tall and strong, wearing bright tartan skirts. They had long spears and bows ready to fight.

The Roman soldiers felt very nervous. They ran into the dark, thick forest to hide. The trees were tall and tangled, and they didn't know what dangers were there. They got ready for a big fight, even though they were tired and didn't have any help coming.



#### **SETTING UP CAMP.**

The Tagais crew woke up early and got busy. It was very cold, but they worked fast and did a great job. They laughed a bit to stay happy and friendly.

They gathered dry wood to make a big fire. The fire kept them warm and chased away the tiny bugs. They packed their things neatly. They put food in waterproof boxes and kept their science tools safe. They had bags with tools and a special first-aid kit for emergencies. They found a safe place near a pool to leave some of their supplies for other explorers.

After finishing their tasks, they looked for a place to store things for a long time. Eoin used a special scanner to find safe spots and kept an eye on Skoobie, who was exploring nearby.

#### A SEARCH FOR SUPPLIES.

Eoin stood there, amazed, as the morning light coloured the Highland hills with pretty colours. The bright colours looked so cool against the dark shadows of the hills. All around him, he heard nice sounds and smelled sweet smells, making him feel like he was finding something new. This lively place was very different from his home, Gliese 12B.

Eoin loved the moors and mountains, with big rocky hills that looked like giant tombs. They made him feel like he was in a wild and lonely place, which was something he had never seen before.

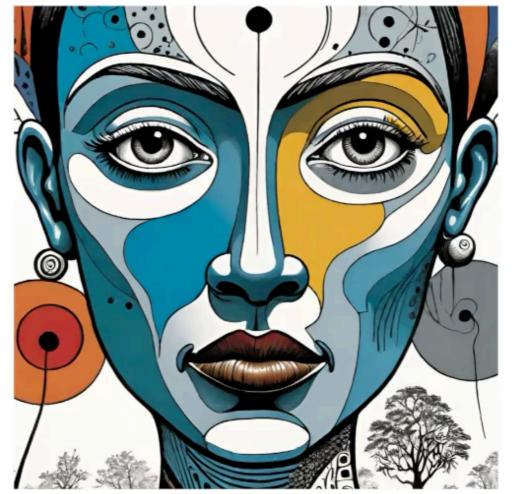
Eoin enjoyed his special travel bread from Tagais, called 'scrannos'. It was warm, sweet, and had a crispy crust, just like the recipe from a long time ago. He thought about happy times with his family and friends and wished he could be with them

again. He also thought about Skoobie, who always helped him feel calm and safe.

Eoin checked a small device on his wrist. He was hoping to find a Tagais food stash nearby. It looked like it was hidden near a shiny berry tree, just three kilometres away. Feeling excited, Eoin looked forward to finding it the next day, hoping it would have the yummy Tagais food he remembered.







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#### **SKOOBIE**

Skoobie came out of the dark, green woods quietly. Her eyes were bright with happiness. Even though she got a little hurt when she landed, she wasn't too grumpy because her friends were nice to her. Zack asked about a scratch on her face, but she just waved it off and looked for Eoin.

She went back to the Loch where the old ship was underwater, but Eoin wasn't there. Where could he be?

Later, she found him high up in the mountains, five hundred metres above the ground. Eoin was enjoying the moonlight, and the cool air was making his hair move. He pulled his light cloak closer and had a Scrannos energy biscuit and a Tagais wildflower drink.

As he watched the butterflies and leaves moving in the breeze, and played a sweet song on his flute, Eoin thought the night was very pretty.

Skoobie watched him and smiled more and more. She realised she really liked him!

#### THE ROMAN EMPIRE

A long time ago, there was a huge and strong place called Rome. It was like a giant city with lots and lots of people, more than a million! Rome was very powerful and had cool things like new ideas and a big army. By the year 83 AD, the Roman Empire was so big that over 60 million people lived there, which was a lot of the world back then!

Rome wanted even more, so they looked at a place called Britain. Britain was different because it had many tribes, which are like big families, and they had things that Rome wanted.

The Roman leaders, called emperors, liked to have big parties and gave out free bread to make people happy. But they also asked for things like soldiers and resources. Even though it seemed like a fun place, there was always a lot of secret planning and tricky stuff happening. Rome was like a big, hungry animal that always wanted more!





# **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

Sami-Collard and Susannah Pulham had big bumps on their heads. Some people might think they are different, but that's not true. A healthy brain helps us do things easily, but when it's hurt, it can be tricky.

A doctor told them to try new things to help their brains get better. They haven't healed completely, but they've done a lot of good work. They like a story called "Don Quixote," which says it's okay to dream big.

They met at a poetry group and decided to make a book together. One was a teacher, and the other was a builder. They became good friends and helped each other feel better. They wrote a fun book for kids with big letters and pictures. After their injuries, it was hard to remember words and simple things. But they want to help others too. They plan to give most of the money from their book to help people with brain injuries.

Their home website, branded as knaturalli-knutti , can be found at https://www.knaturalli-knutti.com.

Both believe that education is a lifelong journey.

All mistakes are their own. 

After all, they're two brain injury victims sharing a story.

