

Gorson Zebulon  
By Sarah Barnes

Logline: An alien crashes into a suburban family's backyard. The family does everything to get rid of him with no success.

Story:

The Smith family lives a normal existence in suburbia. The father, Bill, works as a bank accountant. The mother, Alice, is a stay-at-home mom. The son, Rick, is twelve and enjoys watching sci-fi movies in his free time outside of school. The daughter, Lily, is seven and enjoys music and playing outside with the family dog.

One evening a spacecraft crashes into the Smith's backyard. A small, unimposing creature comes out of the ship and immediately asks the family if they have any food to eat. The family is at first very surprised by the sudden appearance of the creature but eventually allow him to eat supper with them. The family is charmed by the creature's friendly nature and decides to let him stay until he can repair his ship to return home. The family tries to guess what name the creature goes by and find out that that his name is Gorson Zebulon and that he comes from a far-off planet called Bismuth. The family calls him Zeb for short.

The children become good friends with Zeb and enjoy spending time sharing stories about earth with him and listening to his stories about his adventures in space. The parents are not so enamored with him because he adds a substantial amount to their grocery bill and keeps making excuses for not being able to repair his ship. One night Bill wakes up in the middle of the night to find Zeb attempting to put the dog in the oven to cook it. This leads to the parents agreeing that they need to turn Zeb over to the government. The government comes for Zeb but they don't take him because he appears to just be a weird hybrid between a cat and a rabbit and puts up a front of animal-like behavior to fool them. The family then desperately tries to give him away as a pet with no success.

One day a whole army of aliens from Bismuth land in the woods by the Smith's house. They take over the house to use it for headquarters to implement their plans for taking over the earth. Zeb wasn't really a friendly visitor but was on a mission to find a planet that his species could conquer. Zeb finds out that his leader plans on destroying all people. Zeb has a change of heart about taking over the earth because of the kindness that the Smiths showed to him. He and the Smiths work together and defeat the army. The Bismuth army leaves earth. Zeb stays with the Smiths after promising that he will get a gastric bypass.