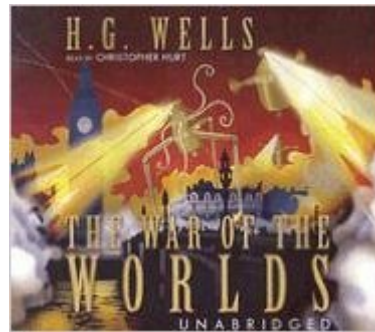


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# War Of The Worlds



## Synopsis

Soon to be a major motion picture. "No one would have believed in the last years of the nineteenth century that this world was being watched keenly and closely by intelligences greater than man's and yet as mortal as his own's;" So begins *The War of the Worlds*, the science-fiction classic that first proposed the possibility that intelligent life exists on other planets. This spellbinding tale describes the Martian invasion of earth. Following the landing in England of ten huge and indefatigable creatures, complete chaos erupts. Using their fiery heat rays and monstrous strength, the heartless aliens threaten the future existence of all life on earth. This classic chiller, when adapted for radio in 1938 by Orson Welles, was realistic enough to cause widespread panic throughout the United States.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Today H.G. Wells is chiefly recalled by the general public as the author of three seminal science-fiction novels: *THE TIME MACHINE*, *THE INVISIBLE MAN*, and most famously *THE WAR OF THE WORLDS*. But these are only three of the more than one hundred books Wells published in his lifetime, and it is worth recalling that Wells himself was a socio-political and very didactic writer, a determined reformer with distinctly socialist leanings. And his point of view informs everything he wrote--including these three famous novels. In each case, Wells uses the trappings of science-fiction and popular literature to lure readers into what is essentially a moral lesson. *THE TIME MACHINE* is essentially a statement on the evils of the English class system. *THE INVISIBLE MAN* addresses the predicaments of the men and women to whom society turns a blind eye. And *THE WAR OF*

THE WORLDS is a truly savage commentary on British imperialism and colonialism. This is not to say that it isn't science-fiction--for it most certainly is, and moreover it is science-fiction well grounded in the scientific thinking of its day: intelligent life on Mars was believed to be entirely possible, and Wells forecasts the machinery and weapons that would soon become all too real in World War I. Set in England about the beginning of the 20th Century, the story finds a strange meteor landing near the narrator's home--and from it emerge Martians, who promptly construct gigantic and powerful killing machines and set about wiping the human population of England off the face of the earth. The Martians and their machines are exceptionally well imagined, the story moves at a fast clip, and the writing is strong, concise, and powerful.

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