The Liar Martian

Once upon a time there was a Martian named Verdecin who played happily in space, jumping from asteroid to asteroid. It was very funny. In that galaxy there were many Martians. It was an asteroid field; Those little Martians were going to play, as if it was a park. Every afternoon a ship took the little Martians from the planet to have fun.

Verdecin knew he had to jump carefully. But he didn’t care. He jumped and jumped and didn’t notice. And since nothing ever happened, Verdecin did not take seriously the warning of the other Martians.

One day Verdecin was jumping very hard, as usual. But with such bad luck that he fell on a softer than usual asteroid and moved it. As he joked, he hit another asteroid. And, with the impulse, he hit another and another and another, and a very dangerous asteroid dance began.

All the Martians had to return to their planet, including Verdecin.

“Come on, Martians, you are in danger here” the ship’s driver called them. “You have to go home”.

When everyone was back, the chief of the Martians went to see the children and asked what had happened, but no one knew anything, and Verdecin, who was the only one who knew what had happened, didn’t open his mouth.

“We must know what had happened to be able to find a solution” the Martian chief insisted.

But Verdecin stayed tight lipped, without saying a peep.

That same night the Martians had to leave the planet. An asteroid, somewhat softer than usual, that grew large at the time, was heading to the planet. None of the usual defence measure worked, because that asteroid was different from the others.

If Verdecin had explained what had happened, the elders could have done something to fix it, but when they realised, it was too late. No one punished Verdecin, because no one ever knew what he had done. Instead, everyone was forced to leave their planet and live in spaceships for many years, until they found a safer place to live.