**Science-fiction text – Moon Seeds**

As the weighted rain patted against the dark windows, I stood waiting in nervous disbelief for the fanatical space explorer to make his return. As the moon rose outside, I stood in the darkness, waiting to be shown a life-changing discovery from far out in space. The candles flickered impatiently in the stuffy, dimly lit room. Suddenly, the door started to creak open and I knew that my life would change forever.

The exhausted man dragged himself into the room carrying what looked like a miniature scaled rectangular box. He looked cautious as he slowly exposed what his new discovery was.

“What is it?” I exclaimed.

He answered, “A mythical creature.”

I could not believe my eyes. How could I describe the thing I saw? Tiny lumps like little oval shaped bodies lay in his hand. Then expanded wide open and swelled and strained and opened with a jerk; thrusting out a coronet of red sharp tips with spiky thorny leaves and a frightening stinger. I could see a cup full of slimy stamens, a seed pod with little lumps and humps and a stem as long as any small child that I had ever seen before. Clatter sticks as small as a rubber began to appear along with rubbery, leathery leaves. It started shivering with fright and I knew that it was different to anything in the universe.

“I don’t believe it, is it real?” I asked. Before a reply it slowly started trudging towards me. I shouted, “I’ve seen enough, get it away from me!” But I then realised my mistake. It was too late for me. The stinger was already raised.