

CONCEPT PAPER

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Introduction

"An Unpolished Gem with a Tragic Backstory" is the first time I have ever written a story with a heavy emphasis on characters and the plot. Even though I am not the most creative person, I used my experience from my previously played visual novels and other games to (hopefully) create an interesting storyline and characters.

My goal was to test out both, my creativity in terms of writing, as well as my ability in everything else needed to produce a visual novel. Therefore, I tried to create everything in the novel myself, which was a bigger task than I initially expected. Because of this, I had to cut out some things from the story, mainly interaction between the different characters. As a result of that, the characters mainly interact with the protagonist, but not with each other.

If I had more time to invest into this part of the novel, it would have been a more pleasant experience, as the journey would have felt less linear, but I am still happy with the final result.

All images are all self-made and even though I'm terrible at drawing, I tried my best with the characters (emphasis on "tried"). The backgrounds are photographs of my hometown, which are then edited using Adobe Illustrator.

The music is either recorded myself, or arranged by me using default plugins in FL Studio. As for the songs you can hear in the novel, all of them are cover versions of "real" songs, which are mentioned in the credits tab.

The title of the novel is a direct reference to the song of the same name: <u>"An Unpolished Gem With A Tragic Backstory"</u> by the indie-band Real Fake Flowers.

The story was written before I found this song, but since I like both the song, as well as the title, I chose this as the name of the novel, as it also fits to the plot. The different eye colors represent different gems and... yea, I think the metaphor is obvious.

As for the plot, it is inspired by the game <u>"Spiritfarer"</u>, one of my all-time favorite games.

Even though the novel didn't turn out the way that I initially imagined, I am still very happy about the final outcome. I learned a lot about storytelling and asset creation and I can confidently say, that this has been the project that I have had the most fun with in my entire time I have been at the HFU.

I hope that everyone has some fun playing the novel, and can overlook the goofy looking character sprites. :)

Criteria

| Nr. | Bezeichnung | Inhalt |
|-----|-------------------------|---|
| | Titel | An Unpolished Gem with a Tragic Backstory |
| | Name & Matrikelnummer | Alexander Reiprich 263006 |
| 1 | Konzeption | Inhaltsangabe, Steckbriefe, Storyboard, Skript |
| 2 | Charakter-Konzeption | Realisiert in Form von Steckbriefen. |
| 3 | Auswahlmöglichkeiten | Der Spieler wählt in der Novel öfters zwischen |
| | | verschiedenen Entscheidungen, welche den Spielverlauf wenig bis drastisch beeinflussen. |
| 4 | Branching Paths | Basierend auf den Entscheidungen des Spielers, trifft er verschiedene Charaktere. Durch manche Entscheidungen schlägt der Spieler verschiedene Wege ein, welche den Spielverlauf, die Interaktionen mit den anderen Charakteren sowie das Ende verändern. |
| 5 | Transitions | In der Novel wurden selbsterstellte Transitions benutzt: Beim Wechsel des Standorts, Umsehen innerhalb des Standorts, beim Öffnen und Schließen der Augen, sowie für den Beginn und Ende eines Flashbacks. |
| 6 | Novel-Pages | Novel-Pages wurden in Form einer Zeitung im ersten |
| | | Chapter genutzt. |
| 7 | Audio | Musik wurde selbst erstellt, Effekte wurden entweder selbsterstellt oder von verschiedenen copyrightfreien Quellen benutzt (siehe Credits). |
| 8 | GUI | Gamemenü mit Inventar, Speichern, Laden und Credits, sowie ein Interface für die Benutzung des Walkmans. |
| 9 | Input-Feld(er) | Genutzt beim Input des Namens und des Studiengangs. |
| 10 | Punkteverteilungssystem | Für jedes befreite Tier bekommt der Spieler einen Punkt. Das Ende der Novel basiert auf der erreichten Punktzahl. |
| 11 | Inventory-/Item-System | Im Laufe der Story findet der Spieler zwei Items, welche bei |
| | | Besitz neue Features und neue Dialogoptionen freischalten. |
| 12 | Animation | Animationen wurden genutzt, um die Tiere innerhalb der Szene in oder aus dem Bild zu bewegen. |
| 13 | Styling | Alle Elemente (Textbox, Gamemenü, Entscheidungsboxen, Novelpages und Walkman-Interface) wurden mit CSS bearbeitet. |
| 14 | Enden | Das Ende der Novel ändert sich basierend auf den befreiten Tieren. Sollten nicht alle Tiere befreit worden sein, gibt es in der letzten Szene einen Hinweis auf die verpassten Charaktere. |
| 15 | Alleinstellungsmerkmal | Walkman, welcher der Spieler aufnimmt. Mit diesem kann zu jedem Zeitpunkt Musik abgespielt werden. |

Short Summary of the Story

The story revolves around the protagonist/the player taking a relaxing walk through a forest to clear their mind after stressful weeks of exams. The plans get disrupted though, as the protagonist encounters animals that they can talk to. Depending on the choices the player makes, they can meet up to four different characters.

His travel buddy is Tommy, a small cat with green eyes. The protagonist describes him as a little kid, still excited about everything, with a ton of energy.

In the forest itself, the player meets June, a fox with blue eyes. June is a rather quiet being, who cares about their surroundings and the impact that humans have on nature.

In the forest as well, but deeper inside, lives Olivia, a deer with purple eyes. Olivia has a sweet and caring personality, combined with an ambitious view on life itself – a combination that might not be all that healthy.

Lastly, you can meet Richard, a turtle with yellow eyes, down at the lake. Richard is wise and old with a lot of stories from when he was younger. It might be worth giving them a listen.

While not being the way that might be the most interesting, it is completely possible to not meet any characters at all, and just have a peaceful walk in the forest.

After meeting certain characters, the protagonist realizes why they are able to talk to the animals, and what happened to them, but it is left to the player to decide which paths to take and what to make out of the situation.

Additional Information

Easter Eggs and References

The novel features a reference to the visual novel "shattered pieces" by Daniel Meisler.

In chapter 3, when the player meets Richard, the turtle, he talks about his past and the lake. At the beginning of the story he mentions his then-girlfriend and him having picnics at the lake, which is then followed by a flashback sequence where you can see a girl sitting on the grass. This girl is a young version of Yuko, the mother of one of the main characters in "shattered pieces".





Young Yuko in "An Unpolished Gem with a Tragic Backstory"



Yuko, now older in "shattered pieces"

The cat, Tommy, also makes an appearance in "shattered pieces" – he can be seen sleeping on the sidewalk.



Characters

The Protagonist

The Protagonist

- Age: 20

Sex/Gender: UndefinedArchetype: The Explorer



- Description:

The protagonist is an intentionally undefined character. The player should identify with the protagonist, which is why age, gender and sex are not mentioned in the novel. The name is decided upon the first interaction with any animal.

They go to university, and just finished their final exams, which is where the game starts. They are open and friendly towards the characters they meet, but can be rude, depending on the choices the player makes.

The archetype "Explorer" fits to this person, as they are not afraid to interact with the unknown and are not dependend on other characters (see: decision to continue without cat).

Tommy – The Cat

Tommy - The Cat

- Age: 7 - Sex: Male

- Archetype: The Jester- Eye Color: Green- Searches: His Mother

- Description:



Tommy is a small cat, that the protagonist meets outside their house. Since Tommy represents a small child, he is often playful, doesn't take things serious and doesn't think about his circumstances, unless specifically asked about.

Only hinted towards at the beginning, Tommy turned into a cat after dying in a car accident with his mother. His desire to meet his mother again is mentioned once, but doesn't play a role until the final chapter.

Tommy joins the protagonist on their journey if he chooses so in the beginning of the novel.

June - The Deer

June - The Fox

- Age: 17 - Sex: ?

- Archetype: The Innocent

- Eye Color: Blue

- Searches: Their music collection

- Description:

June is a fox, living in the forest. The protagonist meets them after noticing their eyes underneath a bush. This character represents a teenager, overwhelmed by the impending problems of the world, while simultaniously dealing with finding themselves.

Why June died is not mentioned directly, but by them mentioning their difficult time in school, as well as their young age, it hints towards suicide.

This character is intentionally kept vague. The player is supposed to think about June's backstory themselves, which is also why June is referred to as "they".

Richard – The Turtle

Richard - The Turtle

- Age: 83 - Sex: Male

- Archetype: The Sage- Eye Color: Yellow

- Searches: Somebody to talk to

- Description:

Richard is the person that the player meets in the third chapter of the novel. He is an old turtle, living by the lake. He has experienced a lot of things in his life, which he tells the protagonist all about (unless they interrupt him).

Richard died of old age, a couple of years after his wife, who he still holds in his heart.

This character is designed to be a bit annoying, with the slower pace of speaking and the long monologue. However, if the player listens to what he is saying, he has the most documented backstory out of all characters.



Olivia – The Deer

Olivia - The Deer

- Age: 46

- Sex: Female

- Archetype: The Caregiver

- Eye Color: Purple

- Searches: Peace and relaxation

- Description:

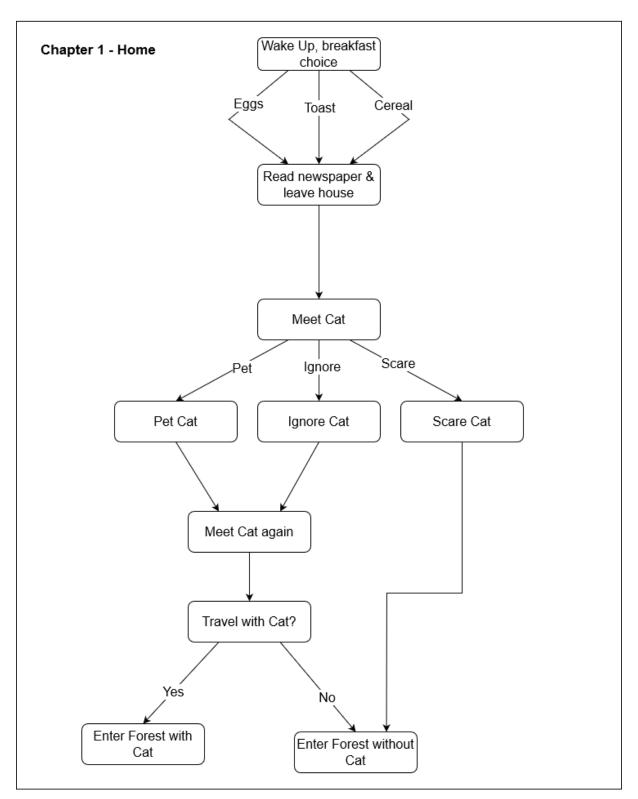
Olivia is the last animal the player meets on their journey. She is a deer, found at the clearing in the last chapter of the novel. Olivia is a single mother, struggling with the balance of work and personal life. She is the mother of Tommy, which is the plot twist of the story.

After the death of Tommy, she overworked herself until she died of cardiac arrest due to all the stress in her life.

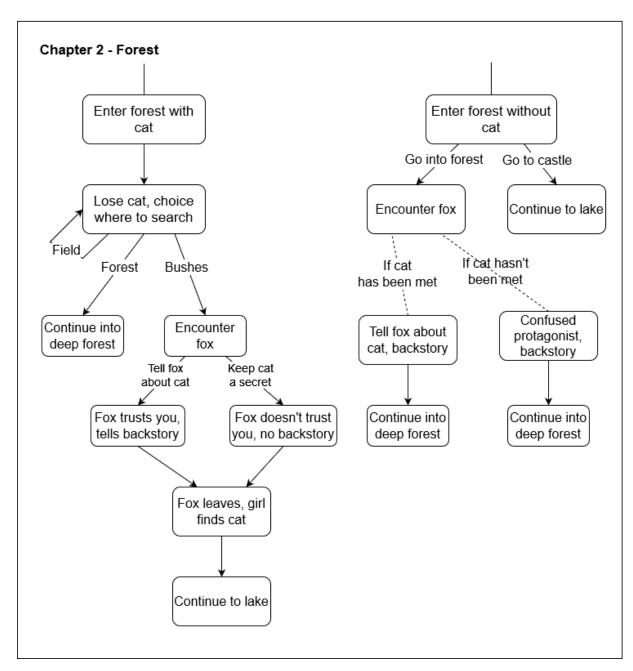
She is the only character that can be freed in two different ways. You either reunite her with Tommy, or lead her to the lake, where she is finally able to relax and find peace.



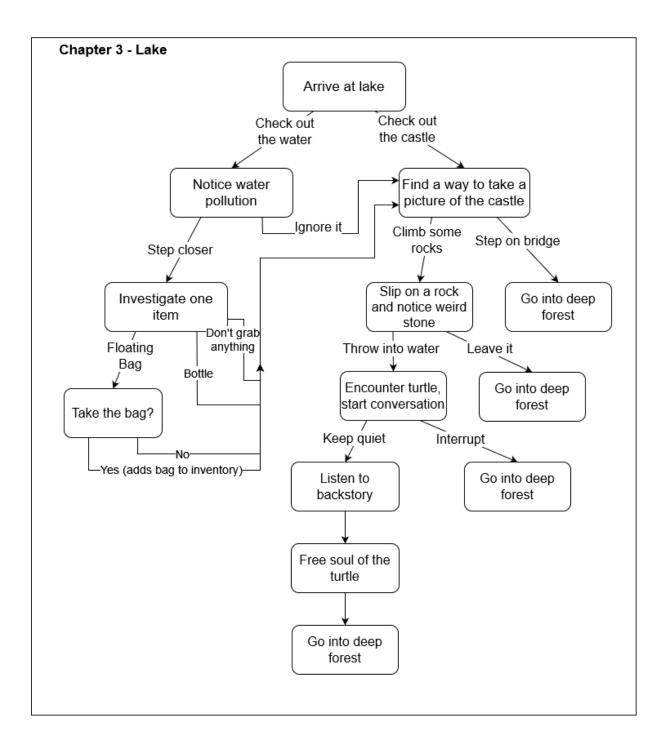
Storyboard
An Unpolished Gem with a Tragic Backstory



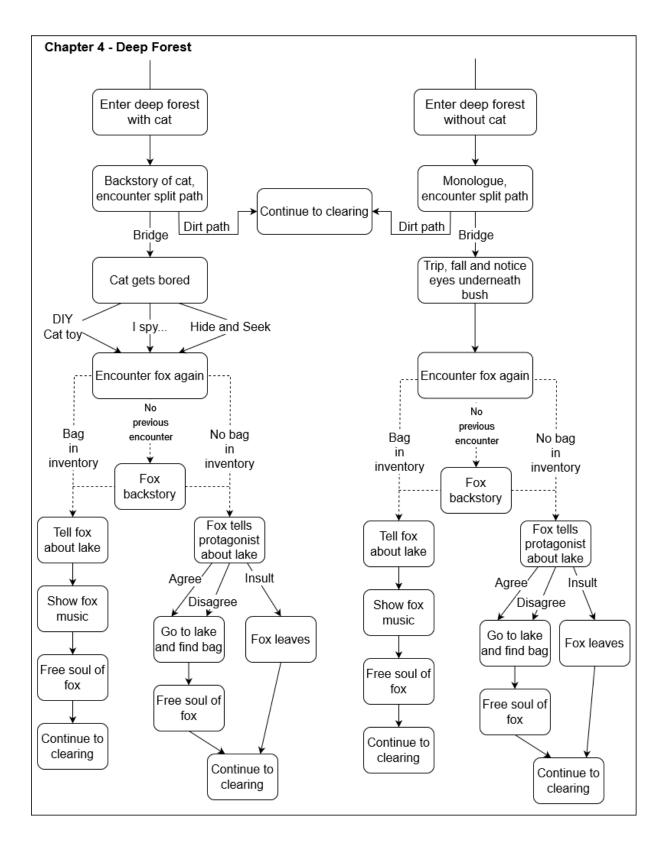
Storyboard An Unpolished Gem with a Tragic Backstory



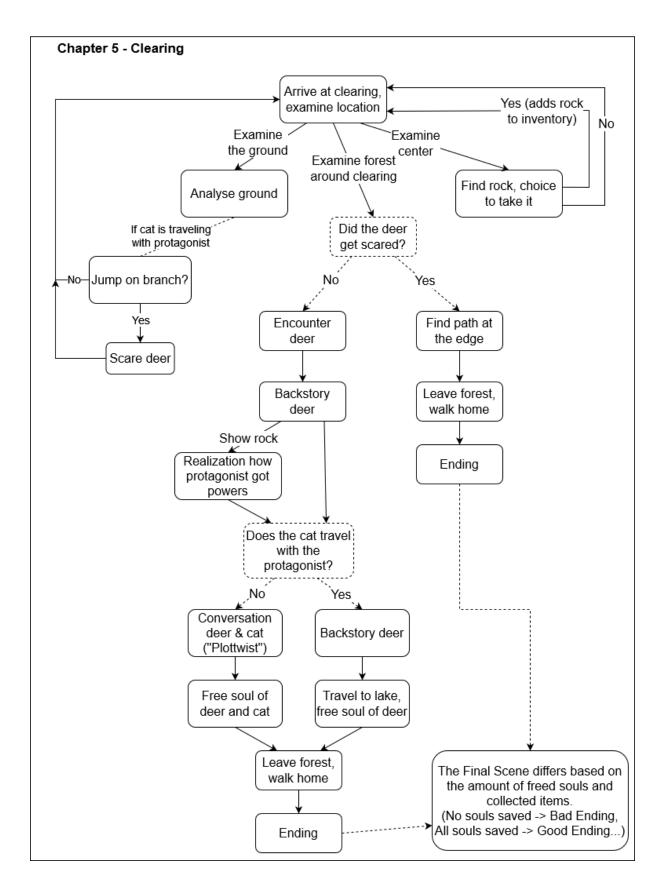
Storyboard
An Unpolished Gem with a Tragic Backstory



Storyboard
An Unpolished Gem with a Tragic Backstory



Storyboard
An Unpolished Gem with a Tragic Backstory



Script

An Unpolished Gem With A Tragic Backstory

Scene 1 - Waking Up

Text:

You open your eyes. The sun is already up and shining through your window. It is warm outside and not a single cloud obstructs the beautiful blue sky on this summer morning.

As you hear the birds chirping outside of your window, you begin to realize: the school year is over, all exams are behind you and you don't have any responsibilities for the next three months.

Slowly you start getting out of bed and begin thinking about breakfast. As you arrive in the kitchen, you face the inevitable question: What am I going to eat?

[Cereal with Milk]

[Toast]

[Scrambled Eggs with Bacon]

Text:

As you crunch away on your breakfast, you read a bit through the news of today. Besides the boring sports stuff and questionable claims of politicians, one headline caught your eye.

"Mysterious dust raining on earth"

"Huh, I guess the aliens started with their chemical warfare" you thought to yourself, before skimming through the article.

"Small particles raining from the sky this night..."

- "... scientists are not sure where if comes from..."
 - "... no explanation what it is or what it does..."
- "... citizens are advised to keep windows closed..."

Well, it might not have been a good idea to keep the window open all night, but well, it is what it is. It is summer after all, and the temperature is rising every day.

Since the weather hasn't been this good in days, you decide to go for a little walk after eating. After all, you spent the last 4 weeks doing nothing but studying all day. Some fresh air after all this time should be refreshing.

It's also a great opportunity to use the new Bluetooth headphones you bought a while ago. I hope you remembered to charge them!

As you put your shoes on, you notice a small cat through the small window in your front door. It seems to be snooping around in your front yard, which is nothing out of the ordinary. Cats aren't exactly a rare sight in this part of your town.

You shut the door, turn around and see the cat curling up at your feet.

[Pet the Cat] -> Scene 2.1
[Scare it away] -> Scene 2.2
[Ignore the Cat] -> Scene 2.3

Scene 2.1 - Petting the Cat

Text:

You bend down to pet the cat, which now lays with its belly up in front of you. The first thing you notice however are the bright green eyes of the cat. They are so shiny, they look almost fake. It must be a special breed or something.

After giving the cat a few belly rubs, you continue your trip. At last, you didn't even get three meters away from your front door. Grooving with the sound of the music coming through your headphones, you carry on - your destination: a forest, roughly two kilometers away from your home.

Scene 2.2 - Ignoring the Cat

Text:

You continue your trip. Grooving with the sound of the music coming through your headphones, you carry on - your destination: a forest, roughly two kilometers away from your home.

Scene 2.3 - Scaring the Cat

Text:

With a "hush" and a sudden move of your hands, the cat gets scared and scurries away. With the cat gone, you continue your trip.

Grooving with the sound of the music coming through your headphones, you carry on - your destination: a forest, roughly two kilometers away from your home.

Scene 3 - Meeting again

Text:

Just as you turn the corner onto a dirt road leading into the forest, the music suddenly stops - ...you forgot to charge your Bluetooth headphones...

Slightly annoyed you continue walking. The annoyance slowly subsides, however, as you notice the wind blowing through the leaves, making soft but distinct rustling sounds.

Suddenly, the peaceful quiet gets disrupted, as you can hear movement coming from a bush on your left. As you peek through the leaves, you can see two bright green eyes staring back.

After the initial shock, you step back and the cat you saw earlier hops out the bush.

Cat:

"Oh, hi! I didn't know we would see each other again so quickly!"

Text:

Surprised and a bit scared you stumble back and fall on the ground.

Cat:

"Oh no, I didn't want to scare you, I'm sorry. Are you alright?"

You:

"What, eh, yes, I am alright, but I don't think you are. Cats aren't supposed to talk...?"

Cat:

"Hm, now that you put it that way... yeah you are right. Every other person I talked to just gave me sweet looks and petted me. I mean I don't complain, it feels great, but they all ignored what I was saying. You ignored me as well earlier. Oh, by the way, what is your name?"

[INPUT: Name]

Cat:

"NAME? Cool, nice to meet you, I'm TOMMY!"

Name:

"Uhh, nice to meet you too I guess. This is really weird. You are the first cat that actually talked back to me. Did you also talk to me earlier when I left my house?"

TOMMY:

"Well, there are firsts for everything right? And yes, I did, but you had headphones in, so you probably didn't hear me. Anyways, why are you here, in the middle of nowhere? Where are you going? It's so boring being alone, can I come with you?"

Text:

The Cat seems to be very happy that it finally found somebody to talk to. You, on the other hand, have a thousand questions floating around in your head.

Name:

"Okay, so, I think we have to clear up some things first. How are you able to speak? And if other humans ignored you, does that mean they can't understand you? Can you speak to other cats? And can you understand their meows?"

TOMMY:

"That's the weird thing. All the other cats I've met just meowed like normal cats. And they didn't understand me either."

Name:

"Wait, what do you mean with "normal cats"? You are a cat, you should also be normal right?"

TOMMY:

"Oh, I probably should have told you that before - I'm not like... really a cat? I was like you once! I had two legs, went to school with my friends, had parents and..."

Text:

The cat stops in the middle of the sentence. It looks like it just realized something.

TOMMY:

"Now that I think about it, nothing makes sense. I don't know what happened, I just... got here. All I remember is a bright red light and the next thing I know, I am walking around on four legs, doing cat stuff."

Name:

"So, just to clarify: You were a human, like me, and then suddenly you transformed into a cat? How would that even make sense?"

TOMMY:

"You tell me, I don't know either. It just happened. So, can I come with you now? It is so boring here, please let me come with you!"

Text:

You sigh. This isn't the way you saw this day going.

Decision:

[Say Yes and take the cat with you] -> Scene 4.1
[Decline and carry on alone] -> Scene 4.2

Scene 4.1 - Company

Name:

"Well, sure, you can come with me."

TOMMY:

"Thank you so much! It was so boring out here, I'm glad you came along. So, where are we going?"

Name:

"Uh, I was actually just going for a walk, nothing more. Just to clear my head. The past few weeks were pretty stressful, with exams and all that kind of stuff."

TOMMY:

"Oh exams? You're going to college? That's so cool, what do you study?"

[INPUT: College Major]

TOMMY:

"Whoa, that sounds so interesting! I always wanted to be an astronaut! Going to space is one of my big dreams!"

Text:

From the way the cat is speaking, to their interests, it reminds you of a young child, talking about their dreams and things that make them happy.

Name:

"So... you said you remember being a human? What was that like?"

TOMMY:

"It was really cool! Well, apart from all the school stuff I had to do. My mom told me to do my homework every day after school. And on the weekends, I always spent time with my friends. Now that I'm a small cat, I don't need to do homework anymore, so that's cool I guess."

Text:

The cat playfully jumps around you, making it hard for you to keep walking in a straight line without stepping on it.

Scene 4.2 - No company

Name:

"Hey, I'm sorry but I really don't want company right now.
I've just finished my exams and I need to relax on my own for a while, okay? Maybe we some other day, okay? I mean you know where I live."

Text:

The cat has a disappointed look on its face. It seems like it waited for a long time to finally have a friend.

TOMMY:

"Oh... okay, yeah, I understand. I'll just go now."

Text:

With a little hesitation, the cat turned around, looked at you one last time with their shiny eyes, and disappeared into the bushes. After a couple of seconds, everything goes quiet. You are alone again.

Scene 5.1 - The Forest and its friends

Text:

You reach the beginning of the forest. Large trees grow left and right of the small road that leads deeper into the forest.

The large shadows that are casted from the treetops provide a cool shade despite the sun being high up in the sky.

As you hear the birds singing you remember why you used to come here so often. This forest seems so magical, but you can't exactly explain why.

TOMMY:

"It is so much colder here than back there, I love it! The past days have been so hot, I have just been hiding inside bushes and trees to avoid the heat."

Text:

As soon as those words were spoken, the cat already took off, chasing a squirrel up a tree.

You continue walking, heading deeper into the forest. In the distance, you can see a deer, staring at you. As you get closer, it hurries away behind some bushes.

Name:

"TOMMY, where are you?"

Text:

It seems like TOMMY got so distracted by the squirrel that you lost $\mbox{him.}$

You stop and turn around. What would be the best place to look for a playful cat in this forest?

Decision:

[Deeper in the forest] -> Scene 6.1
[On the open fields behind the trees] -> Scene 6.2
[Underneath some bushes next to the path] -> Scene 6.3.1

Scene 5.2 - The Forest and you

Text:

You reach the beginning of the forest. Large trees grow left and right of the small road that leads deeper into the forest.

The large shadows that are casted from the treetops provide a cool shade despite the sun being high up in the sky.

As you hear the birds singing you remember why you used to come here so often. This forest seems so magical, but you can't exactly explain why.

You can see a squirrel, peacefully collecting some nuts near an old tree stump. As soon as it sees you, it freezes and watches you carefully.

You continue walking, heading deeper into the forest. In the distance, you can see a deer, staring at you. As you get closer, it hurries away behind some bushes.

After a few hundred meters, you reach a fork in the road.

The left path leads further into the forest. The right path seems to lead towards a small castle, near a little lake.

Where do you want to go?

Decision:

[Deeper into the forest] -> Scene 6.3.2 [Towards the small castle] -> Scene ??

Scene 6.1 - Into the deep forest

You didn't think that a cat this small can run all the way into the forest, especially after not keeping an eye on it for less than 3 minutes.

Name:

"Hey, TOMMY, where are you? You can stop chasing the squirrel now!"

Text:

You can hear a feint rustling of leaves and before you knew it, the cat jumps out of a small tree just in front of you.

Name:

"There you are! I thought you went way deeper into the forest.

Don't take off again, this is too dangerous, you don't know

what lives in there!"

TOMMY:

"Sorry... But the squirrel was so fast and I almost caught it..."

Name:

"Great, but imagine you got lost or something. I wouldn't be able to find you."

TOMMY:

"Hehe, were you worried about me?"

Text:

The cat jumps around playfully, as if it wants to taunt you.

Name:

"Yes. At last, you are a special cat. I don't want to lose a pet that can talk, you know."

TOMMY:

"Oh wow, so I am just a pet for you? I thought we were friends..."

Text:

Even though you can't see the cats face, you can sense that it is disappointed in you.

Name:

"Of course we are friends! I just have to get used to you not being a normal cat, you know?"

"Hey, you know what? Let's go this way, in the forest are more squirrels for you to chase! But don't run too far off again!"

TOMMY:

"Yes!! More squirrels!"

Scene 6.2 - Onto the fields

Text:

As you crouch through some low hanging branches and stumble onto the fields, you realize just how hot it is already.

You forgot to bring some water and you also don't have any sunglasses, which makes the search on the open field more difficult than you thought.

Name:

"TOMMY? Stop hiding!"

Text:

Just shouting these words already made you sweat. Before any more words leave your mouth, you begin to realize, that a cat wouldn't be here.

If cats enjoy one thing, then it is being comfortable, and a field with no shadows in 30°C is definitely not a place to be comfortable at, so you decide to head back.

Scene 6.3.1 - Cold Blue Eyes [Cat]

Text:

As you turn around, you notice a pair of bright blue eyes in one of the bushes a few meters away from you.

Name:

"Oh, there are you. Why did you want to come with me if you just disappear instantly?"

Text:

You crouch down and lift up a few branches. The blue eyes, that you saw earlier, watching your every move.

As you stretch out your arm to brush away some leaves, you suddenly hear a scream right in front of you.

Reflexively, you flinch and step back.

Name:

"Sorry, I didn't mean to..."

333:

"Don't come closer, or else I will bite you!"

Name:

"What? It's me, Name. What are you talking about TOMMY?"

???:

"I don't know what you mean, I don't know anybody named TOMMY."

Text:

Thoroughly confused, you stand up. Suddenly you remember the eyes. The cat also had bright eyes, but were they blue?

???:

"I will come out, but only if you swear that you will not hurt me." $\ensuremath{\text{me."}}$

Name:

"I won't hurt you, I promise. Why would I even do that?"

Text:

You hear the sound of cracking of branches and rustling of leaves.

Slowly, you can see the eyes moving closer, and a scared fox appears from underneath the bush.

Scene 6.3.2 - Cold Blue Eyes [No Cat]

Text:

As you turn the corner, you notice a pair of bright blue eyes in one of the bushes a few meters away from you.

Name:

"Huh, is this the cat that I saw earlier?"

Text:

You crouch down and lift up a few branches. The blue eyes, that you saw earlier, watching your every move.

As you stretch out your arm to brush away some leaves, you suddenly hear a scream right in front of you.

Reflexively, you flinch and step back.

Name:

"Sorry, I didn't mean to..."

???:

"Don't come closer, or else I will bite you!"

Name:

"What? What are you talking about?"

???:

"I said what I said, don't come closer. Step back!"

Text:

Thoroughly confused, you stand up. Suddenly you remember the eyes. The cat also had those shiny eyes, but were they green?

333.

"I will come out, but only if you swear that you will not hurt me." $\ensuremath{\text{me."}}$

Name:

"I won't hurt you, I promise. Why would I even do that?"

Text:

You hear the sound of cracking of branches and rustling of leaves.

Slowly, you can see the eyes moving closer, and a scared fox appears from underneath the bush.

Scene 6.4.1 - Another one of your kind?

Name:

"Oh, you really aren't TOMMY. Uhh... nice to meet you...?"

Fox:

"Don't step closer. Who is TOMMY?"

[Tell the fox about your encounter with the cat] \rightarrow Scene 6.5.1

[Keep the cat a secret for now] -> Scene 6.5.2

Scene 6.5.1 - Even more friends

Name:

"TOMMY is a friend of mine that I met earlier. It's a cat, but he ran away once we reached the forest.

For some reason, I can talk to some animals, which is really weird, because... that's not how it is supposed to be...?

Fox:

"So, you are telling me there are more animals that can talk?

Is this not a trap from you?"

Name:

"What? Why should it be a trap? I don't want to hurt you or anything, I am just as confused as you are."

Fox:

"Hmm. Alright, I trust you. But I swear, if you aren't as nice as you seem right now, bad things will happen to you."

Text:

While you think about how this cute fox will do anything bad to you, it crawled out of the bush and is now looking around anxiously.

Name:

"Hey, by the way, my name is Name, what abou-"

Fox:

"Shh, I think somebody is coming, don't move!"

Name:

"What? Oh, you mean these people back there?"

Text:

You point towards an elderly couple, that just turned a corner onto a path leading away from you and the fox.

Name:

"Yeah, they aren't coming this way. Why are you so cautious?"

Fox:

"I am always cautious, you never know who is out to harm you, you know. And to answer your question, my name is JUNE."

Name:

"Nice to meet you JUNE. You didn't happen to see TOMMY, or did you?"

JUNE:

"No, I didn't, sorry. But I am sure you will find him soon enough."

Name:

"Yeah, I hope so.

Okay, just out of curiosity, were you also once a human?

TOMMY told me that he was human once, but suddenly woke up as a cat?"

JUNE:

"Yes, I was a human. Until a few days ago. But to be honest, I almost prefer being a fox.

I have all the things I never had back when I was human - peace, silence, and a cute appearance."

Text:

You notice the fox chuckling a bit after the last words left their mouth.

Name:

"Really? Is there nothing you miss?"

JUNE:

"Okay, you know what? My life wasn't the best back then. The final year of school was pretty miserable.

People didn't like me for who I am. And just because of that, they decide to make your life worse. Humans are disgusting.

The only thing I really miss is my music collection. It helped me a lot when dealing with all that stuff.

But... what am I even saying. I can accept living without it. Now I am finally happy. Well, almost, but better than before."

Name:

"I'm so sorry that this all happened to you. But, you know what they say, it always gets better, and look at you now!"

JUNE:

"Yeah, I guess you are right. Actually, I-"

Text:

The fox stopped in the middle of the sentence, turning its head into the direction of a small family, that is approaching you.

Without any further more words spoken, and in the blink of an eye, the fox hushed back into the bushes.

Girl:

"Hey, look, we found a cat! Isn't it cute? Do you want to pet it?"

Text:

A little girl is running towards you. In her arms is a small cat that seems familiar to you.

Name:

"Oh, TOMMY, there you are! I was looking all over for you!"

Girl:

"It is your cat? Here you go! Goodbye small cat! I love you!"

Text:

The girl lowers the cat on the ground, which quickly walked towards you and into your arms.

Name:

"Thank you so much for finding him! Have a great day!"

TOMMY:

"*panting* that was very fun... but... the squirrel... it was too fast..."

Name:

"Why did you just run off? It is too dangerous here, there are so many wild animals around that could hurt you!"

TOMMY:

"I'm sorry, but... chasing squirrels is fun! Have you tried it?"

Name:

"...no I haven't, I think I am a bit too old for that kind of stuff.

Come on, let's head to the lake, so you can drink some water and refresh yourself."

TOMMY:

"Yes, the lake! I definitely need something to drink."

Name:

"Oh, I also met somebody. JUNE, a fox. Apparently, you aren't the only animal I can talk to."

TOMMY:

"Yes yes, very cool, now can we get going please, I am SO thirsty."

Scene 6.5.2 - Even more friends?

Name:

"Oh, nothing. I'm here with a friend of mine, we are playing hide and seek."

Text:

The fox looks at you suspiciously, almost as if it knows that you are hiding something.

Name:

"But what are you doing here?"

Fox:

"I am a fox, I live here, why do you think I hide under bushes?"

Name:

"Well... I guess you are correct. By the way, my name is Name, what about you?"

Fox:

"JUNE. Now, step back, you are way too close."

Name:

"Uh, yes, sure."

Text:

You take a step back, snapping a small twig in half, that was laying on the floor.

The fox flinches from the sudden noise.

Name:

"Oh, sorry, didn't mean to scare you."

JUNE:

"Can you be more considerate? Stop being to reckless, you might as well-"

Text:

The fox stopped in the middle of the sentence, turning its head into the direction of a small family, that is approaching you.

Without any further more words spoken, and in the blink of an eye, the fox hushed back into the bushes.

Girl:

"Hey, look, we found a cat! Isn't it cute? Do you want to pet it?"

Text:

A little girl is running towards you. In her arms is a small cat that seems familiar to you.

Name:

"Oh, TOMMY, there you are! I was looking all over for you!"

Girl:

"It is your cat? Here you go! Goodbye small cat! I love you!"

Text:

The girl lowers the cat on the ground, which quickly walked towards you and into your arms.

Name:

"Thank you so much for finding him! Have a great day!"

TOMMY:

"*panting* that was very fun... but... the squirrel... it was too fast..."

Name:

"Why did you just run off? It is too dangerous here, there are so many wild animals around that could hurt you!"

TOMMY:

"I'm sorry, but... chasing squirrels is fun! Have you tried it?"

Name:

"... no I haven't, I think I am a bit too old for that kind of stuff.

Come on, let's head to the lake, so you can drink some water and refresh yourself."

TOMMY:

"Yes, the lake! I definitely need something to drink."

Name:

"Oh, I also met somebody. JUNE, a fox. Apparently, you aren't the only animal I can talk to.

TOMMY:

"Yes yes, very cool, now can we get going please, I am SO thirsty."

Scene 6.5.3 - New friends

Name:

"I am sorry, I didn't mean to scare you. I thought you were the cat I met earlier.

For some reason, I can talk to some animals, which is really weird, because... that's not how it is supposed to be...?

Fox:

"So, you are telling me there are more animals that can talk?

Is this not a trap from you?"

Name:

"What? Why should it be a trap? I don't want to hurt you or anything, I am just as confused as you are."

Fox:

"Hmm. Alright, I trust you. But I swear, if you aren't as nice as you seem right now, bad things will happen to you."

Text:

While you think about how this cute fox will do anything bad to you, it crawled out of the bush and is now looking around anxiously.

Name:

"Hey, by the way, my name is Name, what abou-"

Fox:

"Shh, I think somebody is coming, don't move!"

Name:

"What? Oh, you mean these people back there?"

Text:

You point towards an elderly couple, that just turned a corner onto a path leading away from you and the fox.

Name:

"Yeah, they aren't coming this way. Why are you so cautious?"

Fox:

"I am always cautious, you never know who is out to harm you, you know. And to answer your question, my name is JUNE."

Name:

"Nice to meet you JUNE. I didn't expect another animal that I can talk with."

JUNE:

"Who knows, maybe you will find even more?"

Name:

"At this point, I wouldn't even be surprised.

Okay, just out of curiosity, were you also once a human?

TOMMY, the cat, told me that he was human once, but one day he suddenly woke up as a cat?"

JUNE:

"Yes, I was a human. Until a few days ago. But to be honest, I almost prefer being a fox.

I have all the things I never had back when I was human - peace, silence, and a cute appearance."

Text:

You notice JUNE chuckling a bit after the last words left their mouth.

Name:

"Really? Is there nothing you miss?"

JUNE:

"Okay, you know what? My life wasn't the best back then. The final year of school was pretty miserable.

People didn't like me for who I am. And just because of that, they decide to make your life worse. Humans are disgusting.

The only thing I really miss is my music collection. It helped me a lot when dealing with all that stuff.

But... what am I even saying. I can accept living without it. Now I am finally happy. Well, almost, but better than before."

Name:

"I'm so sorry that this all happened to you. But, you know what they say, it always gets better, and look at you now!"

JUNE:

"Yeah, I guess you are right.

You know what? It was nice meeting you. I am a bit hungry now though, so I'll better go and find something to eat.

I hope I'll see you again."

Name:

"It was nice meeting you too. Hope you find something good to eat."

Text:

The fox smiles at you, turns around and vanishes behind the leaves.

You look around and sigh.

Name:

"What is even happening today?"

Text:

Lost in your thoughts, you continue on your way deeper into the forest.

Scene 6.5.4 - New unusual friends

Name:

"Hey... I... what?"

Fox:

"Who are you?"

Name:

"Umm, my name is Name. Who are you? And why can you talk? Is this some sort of prank?"

Fox:

"Step back, you are too close."

Name:

"Oh, sure."

Text:

You step back, still rather confused from the whole situation.

Fox:

"My name is JUNE. You are the first person that can actually understand what I am saying."

Name:

"Well, you are the first fox that can understand what I am saying. I am still not sure if this isn't a prank. Am I on a TV show?"

JUNE:

"What, no? Listen, I have been looking for somebody that can understand me ever since I've became a fox. And finally, I have found somebody."

Name:

"Excuse me, what? You *became* a fox? Just like that? What happened?"

JUNE:

"It's a long story. But yes, I was like you. I just finished school actually. But I have to admit, living here is way better than anything I have experienced in my previous life."

Name:

"What? Why? Being a human is amazing. You have so much to do, endless possibilities, great people around you..."

JUNE:

"Yes, but now I have all the things I never had back when I was human - peace, silence, and a cute appearance."

Text:

You notice JUNE chuckling a bit after the last words left their mouth.

Name:

"Really? Is there nothing you miss?"

JUNE:

"Okay, you know what? My life wasn't the best back then. The final year of school was pretty miserable.

People didn't like me for who I am. And just because of that, they decide to make your life worse. Humans are disgusting.

The only thing I really miss is my music collection. It helped me a lot when dealing with all that stuff.

But... what am I even saying. I can accept living without it. Now I am finally happy. Well, almost, but better than before."

Name:

"I'm so sorry that this all happened to you. But, you know what they say, it always gets better, and look at you now!"

JUNE:

"Yeah, I guess you are right.

You know what? It was nice meeting you. I am a bit hungry now though, so I'll better go and find something to eat.

I hope I'll see you again."

Name:

"It was nice meeting you too. Hope you find something good to eat."

Text:

The fox smiles at you, turns around and vanishes behind the leaves.

You look around and sigh.

Name:

"What is even happening today?"

Text:

Lost in your thoughts, you continue on your way deeper into the forest.

Scene 7 - Refreshment

Text:

After a couple minutes of walking, you reach your destination. While everybody says it is a lake, it is actually more like a big pond.

On the left side is a path that leads around the lake.

On the right side you can find a short bridge, that leads to the courtyard of the so-called castle. Similar to the lake, it is actually just a rather big mansion.

Name:

"Alright, there we are, get down and drink something!"

Text:

The cat jumps from your arms to the ground and runs towards the edge of the lake. From the distance you hear intense slurping.

```
[ Check out the Water ] -> Scene 8
[ Check out the Castle ] -> Scene 9
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Scene 8 - Think of the turtles!

Text:

You walk along the edge of the lake. Since it has been this warm for a couple of days already, you can see and hear the mosquitos buzzing everywhere.

Of course, you forgot the bring any kind of protection.

You spot a pile of indistinguishable things a few meters away in a shallower spot of the lake. A strong smell comes from there that really messes with your head.

[Examine the smell]

[Go back]

Scene 8.1 - Bitter reality

Text:

As you step closer to the origin of the smell, you see where it comes from.

Somebody has dumped a ton of garbage into the lake. You see a lot of things floating around, all of which definitely do not belong into a body of water.

Some things peak your curiosity.

[Grab a small bag lying next to the water]
-> Scene 8.1.1

[Inspect one of the bottles floating on the surface]
-> Scene 8.1.2

[Don't touch anything, as it is unhygienic]
-> Scene 8.1.3

Scene 8.1.1 - Music

Text:

The bag is heavier than you thought. Surprisingly, it hasn't been in the water at all. Whoever dumped everything here, was probably too stupid to litter correctly.

Inside the bag is an old Walkman, as well as a couple of old cassette tapes. You remember most of them from your childhood.

Name:

"Oh wow, these albums look pretty new, some are still sealed. This is too cool to throw away. But... would it be stealing if I just took it?"

[Take the bag with you]
[Leave it there, you are no thief]

Scene 8.1.2 - Bottles

Text:

You fish one of the bottles out of the water.

As soon as you hold it in your hand, you realize that this is where the horrible smell came from. Out of reflex, you throw the disgusting bottle back into the water.

Some things are better left untouched.

Scene 8.1.3 - No garbage for me

Text:

With the horrid smell still stuck in your nose, you make your way back to the castle.

Scene 9 - A small kingdom

Text:

You haven't been here often in the past few years, so you completely forgot how beautiful the scenery is.

The big mansion, the small bridge leading to it, the lake around it, all those statues... It radiates an almost dreamy feeling, like a small little kingdom in the middle of the woods.

This would be a great opportunity to take a picture, but your current position isn't that optimal.

[Climb some rocks to get a higher position] -> Scene 9.1 [Step on the bridge for a better angle] -> Scene 9.2

Scene 9.1 - Higher, higher!

Text:

You carefully step on the loosely stacked stones next to the edge of the lake. Some of them are a bit wet, which is why you are extra careful. Once you got around 1 meter higher, you pull out your phone. Just as you want to press the shutter button, it happens.

You slip, fall and land on your back. Thankfully, not on any stones, but the soft grass.

Name:

"Ugh... why am I so stupid ...?"

Text:

Still, it hurts, and this is something you should've seen coming. As you get up, you see that, after your short-lived climbing adventure, all stones are scattered around.

[Pick them up and clean up the mess] -> Scene 10
[Leave them be] -> Scene 11

Scene 9.2 - Bridge

Text:

Standing on the bridge, you can get a better view of both, the lake and the mansion. You take a few pictures and sit down in the shade.

A few minutes pass, and by now, the cat made itself comfortable on your lap.

TOMMY:

"*yawn*"

Name:

"Seems like somebody didn't get enough sleep, huh. What did you do all the time?"

TOMMY:

"I was drinking, then I got sleepy and fell asleep on the bridge. All the chasing made me tired."

Name:

"Yeah, I can imagine, I'm also a bit tired. To be honest, I kinda want to go home now."

TOMMY:

"No!! I still want to see the actual forest, we haven't been there yet!"

Name:

"Ugh, okay. Let's go then. Don't run off again!"

TOMMY:

"Noo, I won't!"

Scene 10 - It's not just a bolder

Name:

"Well, there is nobody that cleans up nature, so I guess, I have to do this."

Text:

Slowly starting to sweat in the heat, you begin gathering the stones and stacking them on top of each other again.

In the corner of your eye you notice a bigger, oddly shaped stone. Has it been there before?

Name:

"Okay, this is the last one, here we go..."

Text:

As you lift it up, you notice how heavy it is, when suddenly...

???:

"Well, hello there."

"What?"

Text:

You freeze. Have you gone insane or did this rock just talk to you?

???:

"Oh, apologies, I didn't want to scare you. People tend to overlook me, hahaha."

Text:

You turn the stone around and you see a small head with bright yellow eyes poking out of the presumed rock. You just picked up a turtle.

Name:

"Well... you really did scare me. I'm sorry, I didn't want to...
take you?"

333.

"Haha, no problem youngling. I've seen a lot of rude people in my life and you are certainly not one of them.

My name is RICHARD, pleased to meet you."

Name:

"Nice to meet you too, my name is Name. Have you been lying there all this time?"

Scene 10.1 - Long Time

RICHARD:

"Oh, please, just because I am an old lad doesn't mean that I have been here for decades. I actually remember being young like you...

Back then I used to come here all the time to admire this amazing lake... I have probably been here for longer than you are alive hahaha.

I remember coming here with my girlfriend when I was your age... we had picnics here every week, it was a great tradition. Oh, it was fantastic..."

[Interrupt]

[Listen]

RICHARD:

"This was also my go-to place when I eventually broke up with her... oh man... The only things comforting me were the calm chirping of birds and the splashing of the water.

There is just something to calming about this place. I also came back here when my wife died a few years ago. Maybe this is the place that I am destined to be, haha.

Aw, it was too early for her to go, you know. She was still so young and happy... I remember meeting her for the first time back when I used to work at the bank. She was the one with the gorgeous smile, haha, I remember like it was yesterday."

[Interrupt]

[Listen]

RICHARD:

"I asked her out on a date on a sunny summer afternoon. We got some ice cream and then went to watch a movie. Exactly there I knew that I wanted to marry her. And I did... our marriage was amazing, there wasn't a single boring day.

We used to surprise each other with small gifts every once in a while. I kept those gifts all my life, every single one of them.

Even the ones I didn't really find a use for. But that is not what matters. It is the fact that we kept this tradition going for so long.

Once I got her the most beautiful ring I could find, and you couldn't imagine what her face looked like when she saw what I got her, hahaha."

[Interrupt]

[Listen]

RICHARD:

"But it all vanished when she got diagnosed with cancer... It was a horrible sight to see. Every day became a struggle. But I loved her every single day, until she passed away.

I still think about her every day. I just hope that she is happy in heaven and that I can join her someday...

•••

Oh my, I am sorry, I haven't had anybody to speak with for years. I just needed to get all of this out, you know.

I've just... been so lonely... without my wife..."

Text:

The turtle stops talking, as if it just realized something. Suddenly you notice, that the previous yellow eyes, slowly fade to black.

After a minute or two, you put the turtle down.

Without another word to say, it turns around and robs back into the water.

Name:

"...what just happened? RICHARD? Did I just imagine all of this? What happened to him?"

Text:

There are a ton of questions floating around in your head. You have answers to none of them.

Name:

"This must have been... No, this was definitely real. I... I need to clear my mind."

Text:

Still confused, not knowing what just happened, you start walking along the path next to the lake, leading deeper into the forest.

Scene 10.2 - Interrupted

Name:

"Hey, uh, that's a great story, but I kinda have to get going now..."

RICHARD:

"Huh, you young people are all so stressed and entitled. Back in my days we listened to the elderly... So rude... Let me down, right now."

Text:

You put the turtle down on the ground and without continuing his story any further, the turtle turned around and swam away.

Name:

"Wait, I'm sorry..."

Text:

Feeling a bit guilty and confused, you call for your cat and continue your walk along the path next to the lake, leading deeper into the forest.

Scene 11 - They are just stones

Name:

"Ouch, that hurt... why was I so stupid? My god ..."

Text:

Still a bit in pain, you get back to your feet and go back to bridge to sit on the small wall next to it.

A few minutes pass, and by the time the pain has faded away, the cat made itself comfortable on your lap.

TOMMY:

"How was the fall? Hehe"

Name:

"Very funny. Yeah, I think I am fine. What did you do all the time?"

TOMMY:

"I was drinking, then I got sleepy and fell asleep on the bridge. All the chasing made me tired."

Name:

"Yeah, I can imagine. I kinda want to go home now."

TOMMY:

"No!! I still want to see the actual forest, we haven't been there yet!"

Name:

"Ugh, okay. Let's go then. Don't run off again!"

TOMMY:

"Noo, I won't!"

Scene 12.1 - What's up with the cat?

Text:

As you walk deeper and deeper into the forest, you start to be more and more curious.

"Hey TOMMY, I can't help but to wonder, what is even happening today."

TOMMY:

"What do you mean? It's been a great day so far!"

Name:

"Yeah, but I mean the whole talking-to-animals-thing."

TOMMY:

- "Oh, right. Hmm, yea that is really weird. I couldn't even talk to animals when I was still in school!
- I always tried to talk to Daisy, that's the neighbor's dog. She was so fluffy! But she never understood me..."

Name:

"I mean, I don't think it's normal to talk to cats or dogs. I couldn't do it yesterday, so something must have happened."

TOMMY:

"Well, I guess sometimes things happen that we can't explain.

I once failed my math test even though I studied all week for it, can you believe that?"

Text:

The cat hisses, as if it is still angry about the failed test.

Name:

"If I'm allowed to ask, what was your life like before your cat-transformation? What about your family?"

TOMMY:

"Hmm, so my mom has always been working a lot. My dad left when I was little, so I don't really know much about him. My mom and my dad used to fight a lot, but that's all."

Name:

"Oh, I am sorry to hear that. It must be hard without a dad."

TOMMY:

- "No, I am happy with my mom! I love her so much! I haven't seen her since I became a cat though...
- But she always had so much work to do, so maybe she is just working a lot and has no time or something, I don't know..."

Text:

The cat slowed down, jumped, and climbed onto your shoulder.

TOMMY:

"But now I have you!"

Name:

"Hah, yeah, I guess so."

Text:

You reach the end of the path.

To your left is a small bridge leading over a small river. It leads to the edge of the forest.

To your right is an even smaller path, surrounded by tall trees. While it seems like there is no sunlight, you can see a clearing at the end of the path.

[Cross the bridge] -> Scene 13

[Turn towards the dirt path] -> Scene 14

Scene 12.2 - What's up with myself?

Text:

As you walk deeper and deeper into the forest, you start to be more and more curious.

What is happening today?

Why is today such a weird day?

There are so many questions but you simply do not know the answer.

You reach the end of the path.

To your left is a small bridge leading over a small river. It leads to the edge of the forest.

To your right is an even smaller path, surrounded by tall trees. While it seems like there is no sunlight, you can see a clearing at the end of the path.

[Cross the bridge] -> Scene 18

[Turn towards the dirt path] -> Scene 14

Text:

You cross the bridge and reach a dirt path. After a couple of meters, more light shines through the trees, until you step out of the forest.

You are now on the side of the field, at the edge of the forest. The sun is still shining, but it isn't as hot as when you entered the forest.

TOMMY:

"Wow! You can see so far!"

Name:

"I mean, yes, this is a field and there is no town or anything in sight. Have you never been here before?"

TOMMY:

"Well, not at this height of course."

Text:

The cat jumps from your shoulder onto the ground.

TOMMY:

"Okay, and what do we do now?"

Name:

"Are you bored or what?"

TOMMY:

"Yes. Very."

Name:

"Hmm, okay..."

[Use a stick with a leaf on it as a cat toy] \rightarrow Scene 13.1

[Play "I spy with my little eye"] -> Scene 13.2

[Play "Hide and Seek"] -> Scene 13.3

Scene 13.1 - DIY Toys

Name:

"Well, this could work..."

TOMMY:

"What are you doing?"

"Just wait."

Text:

You grab a long stick with a couple of leaves at the end of it. As you pluck every single leaf off the branch, aside from one, the cats eyes begin to light up.

TOMMY:

"Ah, I see where this is going!"

Name:

"Aaaand, we're done. Enjoy your new DIY cat toy. It's like one of these rods with a feather at the end, but... with more nature."

TOMMY:

"Yes! Come on, come on, let's play!!"

Text:

You play with the cat for a couple of minutes until suddenly...

TOMMY:

"Whoa, what is that?"

Text:

The cat is crouching beneath a nearby bush. It seems to have spotted something interesting.

Name:

"What is it?"

TOMMY:

"...eyes."

Name:

"Huh?"

Text:

Abruptly, the cat jumps back, and you can see a fox crawling out of the bush.

Scene 13.2 - I spy...

Name:

"Alright TOMMY, I spy with my little eye... something red."

TOMMY:

"Hmm, okay... ah, yes, it's one of these flowers!"

Text:

The cat points to a couple of red roses growing at the side.

Name:

"Yep, that's it. Okay...

I spy with my little eye... something bright blue."

TOMMY:

"Oh... okay... let me see..."

Text:

Half a minute passes with the cat walking up and down the path, looking around.

TOMMY:

"Oh, I found it! Crazy how you saw that from up there!"

Name:

"Uh, what did you find?"

Text:

The cat wasn't even close to the bright blue bottle opener that somebody lost a few meters away.

Suddenly you hear a loud scream.

TOMMY:

"AHHH!"

Name:

"What? Are you okay?"

Text:

As the cat jumps back, a fox comes crawling out of the bush, it's blue eyes shining bright in the sunlight.

Scene 13.3 - Hide, Seek and Find

Name:

"Alright, I'll count to 10 and you have to hide. Ready?"

TOMMY:

"Yes! I love hide and seek!"

Text:

You turn around.

Name:

"Perfect. Let's go! 10... 9... 8..."

Text:

Ten seconds pass, and you hear the rustling of leaves behind you. It couldn't be hard to figure out where the cat has hidden.

Name:

"Zero! Come out, come out, where ever you a-.

Okay, wow, TOMMY, you had plenty of time to hide."

Text:

The cat is halfway crouched underneath a bush - The first half is visible; the other half isn't.

TOMMY:

"Uh, I think I found something... or rather, someone."

Text:

The cat slowly backs away from the bush, with their eyes fixated on whatever still hides in the bush.

Name:

"What did you find?"

Text:

Before the cat could answer, you can see a fox crawling out of the bush.

Scene 14.1 - Sounds familiar

Name:

"Oh, is that you JUNE?"

Text:

The fox turns around and looks at you with their shiny blue eyes.

JUNE:

"Oh, it's you! I knew we would meet again."

TOMMY:

"Is that the fox you told me about?"

Name:

"Yes, it is. JUNE, meet TOMMY.

I feel like half of my friends are animals now."

JUNE:

"Nice to meet you, TOMMY."

TOMMY:

"Nice to meet you too! Why did you turn into a fox and I turned into a cat? Foxes are so much cooler..."

Name:

"I don't think you have to envy somebody because of the animal they became. I mean you are a cute cat, that is also cool!"

TOMMY:

"Yeah, I guess you are right. Anyways, do you know why you turned into a fox?"

JUNE:

w..."

Text:

It seems like this topic is a bit sensitive, as the fox ducks around and wants to avoid the question.

JUNE:

"Well, I... um..."

Name:

"It's okay if you don't talk about it, no pressure."

JUNE:

"No, it's okay... Well, honestly, I never liked my life as a human. Humans aren't accepting people, and if you don't fit into certain criteria, you get excluded.

It sucks. And you can't do anything about it. Of course, there are people that stand up for you, but it doesn't change anything in the long run. It's a systemic problem.

And it is just really... frustrating and sad. That, in addition to the disregard in terms of the planet and its resources is just depressing."

"Yeah, I totally understand. Have you seen the lake? There is so much garbage in it."

JUNE:

"Oh, really? What kind of garbage?"

Scene 14.2 - What does the fox say?

Name:

"TOMMY, come here, stay away from the fox!"

Fox:

"Hey, I don't want to hurt you, I'm just curious!"

Name:

"What?"

TOMMY:

"Huh?"

Fox:

"...what?"

Name:

"I can hear you. Can you understand me?"

Fox:

"Oh... yes, I can. What, how can you hear me?"

Name:

"Uh, to be honest, I have no idea."

TOMMY:

"He can also talk to me! Can we be friends?"

Fox:

"I... think so? I am a bit confused."

Name:

"Me too. Well... my name is Name, and this is TOMMY. I found him this morning and I can also talk to him."

Fox:

"Well, looks like you unlocked a new talent or something overnight. My name is JUNE, nice to meet you."

(Continue -> Scene 14.1 at "Nice to meet you too!")

Scene 14.3 - Doesn't sound familiar

Name:

"Oh, is that you JUNE?"

Text:

The fox turns around and looks at you with their shiny blue eyes.

JUNE:

"Oh, it's you! I knew we would meet again."

TOMMY:

"Is that the fox you told me about?"

Name:

"Yes, it is. JUNE, meet TOMMY.

I feel like half of my friends are animals now."

JUNE:

"Nice to meet you, TOMMY."

TOMMY:

"Nice to meet you too! Why did you turn into a fox and I turned into a cat? Foxes are so much cooler..."

Name:

"I don't think you have to envy somebody because of the animal they became. I mean you are a cute cat, that is also cool!"

TOMMY:

"Yeah, I guess you are right. Anyways, do you know why you turned into a fox?"

JUNE:

``...''

Text:

It seems like this topic is a bit sensitive, as the fox ducks around and wants to avoid the question.

JUNE:

"Well, I... um..."

Name:

"It's okay if you don't talk about it, no pressure."

JUNE:

"No, it's okay... Well, honestly, I never liked my life as a human. Humans aren't accepting people, and if you don't fit into certain criteria, you get excluded.

It sucks. And you can't do anything about it. Of course, there are people that stand up for you, but it doesn't change anything in the long run. It's a systemic problem.

And it is just really... frustrating and sad. That, in addition to the disregard in terms of the planet and its resources is just depressing.

I mean, have you seen the lake? It was so beautiful but now there is nothing but garbage in it."

[Agree] -> Scene 16.1

[Disagree] -> Scene 16.2

[Complain about activism] -> Scene 16.3

Scene 15 - Music makes you feel free

Name:

"Look what I found! Why would anybody throw this away?"

Text:

You pull out the bag with the Walkman and the cassette tapes.

TOMMY:

"I remember these things, my mom told me she had one back when she was younger!"

JUNE:

"Oh wow, I love cassettes, let me take a look!"

Text:

The otherwise calm and collected fox seems really happy and excited all of a sudden.

You spread all tapes out on the ground, with the fox looking at every single one of them carefully.

JUNE:

"Ohh... I remember this one. This one is also a classic... and this one, wow, I haven't heard this in ages... Look at all of the-"

Text:

Suddenly the fox stops in front of one tape with an almost completely burgundy red cover image.

JUNE:

"Hey, does the Walkman still work?"

Name:

"Well, I haven't tried it, but let's give it a go."

Text:

You lay the tape into the player and put the headphones over the fox's ears.

Name:

"...so, is it working?"

Text:

You get no response. Instead you see the fox staring blankly at nothing, completely sunken into the sounds coming from the headphones. Slowly, the previously bright shining blue eyes fade into black.

After around 10 seconds, the fox seems surprised, as if it doesn't recognize you, shakes the head, and runs away into the forest.

Name:

"Well... I guess it did work after all..."

TOMMY:

"What was that?"

Name:

"I have no idea. Come on, let's go into the direction that they went, maybe we can find them again?"

TOMMY:

"I doubt that, but yes, let's go."

Scene 16.1 - Agreed

Name:

"Yeah, I heard about it. It's disgusting."

JUNE:

"Exactly! I used to go there and pick up what I could so that it could be disposed properly. I haven't been there in a few weeks though, so things might have changed?"

TOMMY:

"Oh, I know a short cut, follow me!"

Text:

The cat runs away back into the forest, with the fox and you trying to keep up. After a few minutes you reach the lake.

Scene 16.2 - Disagreed

Name:

"What, really? I never thought it was that much of a problem?"

JUNE:

"Not that much of a problem?"

Text:

The fox sighs.

JUNE:

"You know what, follow me, I have to show you something."

Text:

The fox hurries away back into the forest, with the cat and you trying to keep up. After a few minutes you reach the lake.

Scene 16.3 - Complained

Name:

"Hey, you know what? I don't think that it is that much of a problem."

JUNE:

"...what? Excuse me?"

Name:

"Humans have been using the nature for years already. What does it matter if you throw some stuff away?

I really dislike people that feel like they are better than others, especially when they pretend to care about the environment.

You are really annoying with all this nature crap, you know that, right?"

Text:

The fox seems really taken aback by all of that. The previously friendly face first turns into a disappointed, then an angry expression.

JUNE:

"Wow... People like you are the reason why millions of animals died and will continue to die. All of this is avoidable and fixable, but some people are too selfish to realize that.

I really thought you were actually a decent human being with some common sense, but I guess I was wrong.

I might be annoying but at least I am not an asshole."

Text:

The fox hisses, turns around and runs away into the forest.

TOMMY:

"Wow, Name, what was that? You were kinda rude..."

Name:

w..."

Text:

In silence, you both head back into the forest the way you came from. When you arrive at the bridge, you suddenly hear a loud noise coming from the small dirt path, surrounded by tall, dark trees.

Scene 17 - Pollution never sounded that good

JUNE:

"Look at this. Who throws all of this away?"

Text:

You stand in front of a heavily polluted area of the lake. A lot of trash floats around in the river - empty bottles, various electronic devices, or just regular trash.

TOMMY:

"Eww, this smells horrible..."

Name:

"Yeah, you are right... This is disgusting. It's been so long in here that I can barely tell what all of these things are... What even is this...?"

Text:

You grab a bag, which wasn't fully submerged in water and open it up. Inside is a Walkman and a couple of cassettes.

Name:

"A music player? And... a ton of albums...? Why would somebody throw this away?"

TOMMY:

"I remember these things, my mom told me she had one back when she was younger!"

JUNE:

"Oh wow, I love cassettes, let me take a look!"

Text:

The otherwise calm and collected fox seems really happy and excited all of a sudden.

You spread all tapes out on the ground, with the fox looking at every single one of them carefully.

JUNE:

"Ohh... I remember this one. This one is also a classic... and this one, wow, I haven't heard this in ages... Look at all of the-"

Text:

Suddenly the fox stops in front of one tape with an almost completely burgundy red cover image.

JUNE:

"Hey, does the Walkman still work?"

Name:

"Well, I haven't tried it, but let's give it a go."

Text:

You lay the tape into the player and put the headphones over the fox's ears.

"...so, is it working?"

Text:

You get no response. Instead you see the fox staring blankly at nothing, completely sunken into the sounds coming from the headphones. Slowly, the previously bright shining blue eyes fade into black.

After around 10 seconds, the fox seems surprised, as if it doesn't recognize you, shakes the head, and runs away into the forest.

Name:

"Well... I guess it did work after all..."

TOMMY:

"What was that?"

Name:

"I have no idea. Come on, let's go into the direction that they went, maybe we can find them again?"

TOMMY:

"I doubt that, but yes, let's go."

Scene 18 - Watch your step!

Text:

You cross the bridge and reach a dirt path. After a couple of meters, more light shines through the trees, until you step out of the forest.

You are now on the side of the field, at the edge of the forest. The sun is still shining, but it isn't as hot as when you entered the forest.

Gazing over the fields, you realize how far you can actually see. You could run for hours and see nothing but grass, some trees and the occasional animal.

You start walking along the dirt path, lost in your thoughts, not noticing the huge tree root sticking out of the ground. Well, that is until you trip over it, resulting in you falling face first on the ground.

Name:

"Ugh... what was that?"

Text:

As you lift your head to look around, you notice two blue eyes staring at you from inside the bush you just landed next to.

Name:

"...hello?"

Text:

The eyes come closer, still staring at you, until a fox appears out of the bush.

Scene 18.1 - Sounds familiar [no cat]

Name:

"Oh, is that you JUNE?"

Text:

The fox comes out of the bush.

JUNE:

"Oh, it's you! I knew we would meet again."

Name:

"How was your trip to find food? I think you should be pretty respected among the other animals?"

JUNE:

"It went pretty good. I settled for some berries. I didn't eat meat when I was human and I want to avoid it as much as I can as a fox, if you understand."

Name:

"Oh, so you were a vegetarian? That's nice."

JUNE:

"I've been trying to take care of nature and everything the planet gave us as much as possible. It's crazy what modern societies do to the Earth."

Name:

"Yes, definitely.

It's really sad, why did you have to turn into a fox? The world needs more people like you. You are really inspiring!"

JUNE:

Text:

It seems like this topic is a bit sensitive, as the fox ducks around and wants to avoid the question.

JUNE:

"Well, I... um..."

Name:

"It's okay if you don't talk about it, no pressure."

JUNE:

"No, it's okay... Well, honestly, I never liked my life as a human. Humans aren't accepting people, and if you don't fit into certain criteria, you get excluded.

It sucks. And you can't do anything about it. Of course, there are people that stand up for you, but it doesn't change anything in the long run. It's a systemic problem.

And it is just really... frustrating and sad. That, in addition to the disregard in terms of the planet and its resources is just depressing."

Name:

"Yeah, I totally understand. Have you seen the lake? There is so much garbage in it."

JUNE:

"Oh, really? What kind of garbage?"

Scene 18.2 - What does the fox say [no cat]

Name:

"Hey, hey, stop, go away!"

Fox:

"I don't want to hurt you, no worries."

Name:

"What?"

Fox:

"...what?"

Name:

"I can hear you. Can you understand me?"

Fox:

"Oh... yes, I can. What, how can you hear me?"

Name:

"Uh, to be honest, I have no idea.

Neither do I. Well... my name is Name. This... feels weird."

Fox:

"Well, looks like you unlocked a new talent or something overnight. My name is JUNE, nice to meet you."

Name:

"Nice to meet you too. What are you doing around here?"

JUNE:

"I mean... I live in the forest. I was just looking for some food around here."

Name:

"Oh, yes... obviously you live here, apologies."

(Continue -> Scene 18.1 at "How was your trip to find food?")

Scene 18.3 - Doesn't sound familiar [no cat]

Name:

"Oh, is that you JUNE?"

Text:

The fox turns around and looks at you with their shiny blue eyes.

JUNE:

"Oh, it's you! I knew we would meet again."

Name:

"How was your trip to find food? I think you should be pretty respected among the other animals?"

JUNE:

"It went pretty good. I settled for some berries. I didn't eat meat when I was human and I want to avoid it as much as I can as a fox, if you understand."

Name:

"Oh, so you were a vegetarian? That's nice."

JUNE:

"I've been trying to take care of nature and everything the planet gave us as much as possible. It's crazy what modern societies do to the Earth."

Name:

"Yes, definitely.

It's really sad, why did you have to turn into a fox? The world needs more people like you. You are really inspiring!"

JUNE:

``...''

Text:

It seems like this topic is a bit sensitive, as the fox ducks around and wants to avoid the question.

JUNE:

"Well, I... um..."

Name:

"It's okay if you don't talk about it, no pressure."

JUNE:

"No, it's okay... Well, honestly, I never liked my life as a human. Humans aren't accepting people, and if you don't fit into certain criteria, you get excluded.

It sucks. And you can't do anything about it. Of course, there are people that stand up for you, but it doesn't change anything in the long run. It's a systemic problem.

And it is just really... frustrating and sad. That, in addition to the disregard in terms of the planet and its resources is just depressing.

I mean, have you seen the lake? It was so beautiful but now there is nothing but garbage in it."

[Agree] -> Scene 20.1

[Disagree] -> Scene 20.2

[Complain about environmentalism] -> Scene 20.3

"Look what I found! Why would anybody throw this away?"

Text:

You pull out the bag with the Walkman and the cassette tapes.

JUNE:

"Oh wow, I love cassettes, let me take a look!"

Text:

The otherwise calm and collected fox seems really happy and excited all of a sudden.

You spread all tapes out on the ground, with the fox looking at every single one of them carefully.

JUNE:

"Ohh... I remember this one. This one is also a classic... and this one, wow, I haven't heard this in ages... Look at all of the-"

Text:

Suddenly the fox stops in front of one tape with an almost completely burgundy red cover image.

JUNE:

"Hey, does the Walkman still work?"

Name:

"Well, I haven't tried it, but let's give it a go."

Text:

You lay the tape into the player and put the headphones over the fox's ears.

Name:

"...so, is it working?"

Text:

You get no response. Instead you see the fox staring blankly at nothing, completely sunken into the sounds coming from the headphones. Slowly, the previously bright shining blue eyes fade into black.

After around 10 seconds, the fox seems surprised, as if it doesn't recognize you, shakes the head, and runs away into the forest.

"Well... I guess it did work after all..."

Scene 20.1 - Agreed [no cat]

Name:

"Yeah, I heard about it. It's disgusting."

JUNE:

"Exactly! I used to go there and pick up what I could so that it could be disposed properly. I haven't been there in a few weeks though, so things might have changed?"

Name:

"Hmm... I think I know a short cut, follow me!"

Text:

You turn back into the forest and after a few minutes, you both reach the lake.

Scene 20.2 - Disagreed [no cat]

Name:

"What, really? I never thought it was that much of a problem?"

JUNE:

"Not that much of a problem?"

Text:

The fox sighs.

JUNE:

"You know what, follow me, I have to show you something."

Text:

The fox hurries away back into the forest, with the cat and you trying to keep up. After a few minutes you reach the lake.

Scene 20.3 - Complained [no cat]

Name:

"Hey, you know what? I don't think that it is that much of a problem."

JUNE:

"...what? Excuse me?"

Name:

"Humans have been using the nature for years already. What does it matter if you throw some stuff away?

I really dislike people that feel like they are better than others, especially when they pretend to care about the environment.

You are really annoying with all this nature crap, you know that, right?"

Text:

The fox seems really taken aback by all of that. The previously friendly face first turns into a disappointed, then an angry expression.

JUNE:

"Wow... People like you are the reason why millions of animals died and will continue to die.

All of this is avoidable and fixable, but some people are too selfish to realize that.

I really thought you were actually a decent human being with some common sense, but I guess I was wrong.

I might be annoying but at least I am not an asshole."

Text:

The fox hisses, turns around and runs away into the forest.

Name:

w..."

Text:

In silence, you head back into the forest the way you came from. When you arrive at the bridge, you suddenly hear a loud noise coming from the small dirt path, surrounded by tall, dark trees.

Scene 21 - Pollution never sounded so good [no cat]

JUNE:

"Look at all of this. Who throws all of this away?"

Text:

You stand in front of a heavily polluted area of the lake. A lot of trash floats around in the river - empty bottles, various electronic devices, or just regular trash.

Name:

"Yeah, you are right... This is disgusting. It's been so long in here that I can barely tell what all of these things are... What even is this...?"

Text:

You grab a bag, which wasn't fully submerged in water and open it up. Inside is a Walkman and a couple of cassettes.

Name:

"A music player? And... a ton of albums...? Why would somebody throw this away?"

JUNE:

"Oh wow, I love cassettes, let me take a look!"

Text:

The otherwise calm and collected fox seems really happy and excited all of a sudden.

You spread all tapes out on the ground, with the fox looking at every single one of them carefully.

JUNE:

"Ohh... I remember this one. This one is also a classic... and this one, wow, I haven't heard this in ages... Look at all of the-"

Text:

Suddenly the fox stops in front of one tape with an almost completely burgundy red cover image.

JUNE:

"Hey, does the Walkman still work?"

Name:

"Well, I haven't tried it, but let's give it a go."

Text:

You lay the tape into the player and put the headphones over the fox's ears.

Name:

"...so, is it working?"

Text:

You get no response. Instead you see the fox staring blankly at nothing, completely sunken into the sounds coming from the headphones. Slowly, the previously bright shining blue eyes fade into black.

After around 10 seconds, the fox seems surprised, as if it doesn't recognize you, shakes the head, and runs away into the forest.

Name:

"Well... I guess it did work after all...

No way that I will catch up to them. I hope we meet again though..."

Scene 22 - Place of origin

The path is dark and surrounded by tall pine trees, which let little to no sunlight come through. After a few minutes, you reach a wide-open area of the forest. The trees seem to be burnt, as they are ash-grey and have no leaves. The grass in this area looks brown and dead. In the middle of this clearing is a strange dark object that you can't really identify.

[Analyze the ground] -> Scene 23

[Check out the object] -> Scene 24

[Investigate the surrounding trees] -> Scene 25

Scene 23 - Burnt

Name:

You bow down and take a look at the ground.

The dirt is dry, and it seems that everything that ever lived in there, whether it was flora or fauna, has perished.

The closer you get to the middle of the clearing, the more burnt the ground looks.

TOMMY:

"Oh, look! This branch is GIGANTIC!"

Name:

"Do you want to climb on it?"

TOMMY:

"Hmmm... no. You should break it."

Name:

"What, why?"

TOMMY:

"It's fun. I love breaking stuff. I'm a cat, remember?"

[Jump on the branch to break it] -> Scene 23.1

[Don't break the branch] -> Scene 23.2

Scene 23.1 - Breaking the branch

Name:

"Alright, here we go."

Text:

You step a bit back to take a small run up and proceed to jump on the branch.

With a loud crack, it breaks in two.

In the corner of your eye you can see a deer running away, scared by the loud noise.

TOMMY:

"YES! That was fun!"

Name:

"Okay, enough playing around. This place is weird, I want to know what happened."

[Remaining choices of Scene 22, with the last option now leading to Scene 26]

Scene 23.2 - Not breaking the branch

Name:

"TOMMY, I think you played around enough today. Also, I really don't want to get a splinter or something."

TOMMY:

"Aww, you are no fun..."

[Remaining choices of Scene 22]

Scene 24 - The sky is falling, the wind is calling

Text:

You step closer to the ominous looking object in the middle.

It appears to be a giant rock.

TOMMY:

"Ohh, a rock! Hehe... OUCH!"

Name:

"Why did you touch it?!"

TOMMY:

"Why not?! But why is it hot?? My paws hurt!"

Name:

"I don't know... Perhaps because it was out in the sun all day?

Hmm..."

Text:

It seems like there are small cracks in the rock. Some parts of it chipped off.

[Take a part of the rock with you?] -> Rock added to inventory

[Remaining choices of Scene 22]

Scene 25 - De(e/a)r God

Name:

"What happened to these trees? It looks like they got burned, but why should there be a fire here?"

Text:

Sunken in your thoughts, you almost don't notice a deer with bright purple eyes staring right at you, only a couple of meters away.

Name:

"It could be a wildfire... or maybe..."

Deer:

"Hello."

Text:

You stop, torn from your thoughts, and hesitate.

"...hello? Did you just speak to me?"

Deer:

"I did. It is not often that I see a human here. Nice to meet you, my name is OLIVIA."

Name:

"Well... nice to meet you too, OLIVIA, I'm Name. Do you know what happened here?"

OLIVIA:

"No, I do not. I just got here, so I am just as surprised as vou."

Name:

"Oh, okay, I thought as somebody that lives in the forest, you might know something."

OLIVIA:

"Apologies. I'm also fairly new to all of this, so I still have to figure a lot out."

Name:

"I assume you were also once human?"

OLIVIA:

"Correct. I still miss being human. My friends, my job, and especially my son... I guess it's all gone now."

Name:

"I'm so sorry, I can't imagine what it is like to lose everything...

You must have really enjoyed your job, if you miss it so much?"

OLIVIA:

"Well... to be honest I don't really know if I enjoyed it so much. I worked a lot.

I barely had time for my son or myself, it was so exhausting. But it gave life meaning. I am just the kind of person that works a lot and forgets everything else."

Name:

"I understand... well, now you have the freedom to do whatever you want! No more work or any other responsibilities."

OLIVIA:

"I know... but I still feel like I have to do something. I don't think I really know how to do... well, nothing."

Name:

"What was your job, if I may ask?"

OLIVIA:

"I worked at a center for astronomy. My job was to analyze any potential meteoroids and check if they could hit our planet.

This job was so special to me, ever since I finished my geology studies."

Name:

"I see..."

Scene 26 - It might be time to go.

Text:

As you reach the outer trees, you see a small path leading out of the forest. It seems to be a short cut to the entrance. Do you want to leave?

[Yes] -> Scene 30.1/30.2

[No] -> Return to previous choices

Scene 27 - The mysterious dust

Name:

"I found this rock over there, could you take a look at it? It seems like you are the right person for this."

OLIVIA:

"Sure, let me see..."

Text:

The deer takes a closer look at the rock, flipping it around numerous times.

After a minute or two, it looks back up.

OLIVIA:

"Yes, this is a piece of a meteoroid. More specifically, it is part of the one that was scheduled to fly above earth last night.

This was the current project I worked on, before I... well, before all of this happened."

Name:

"Oh, is that what was in the newspaper this morning? This... stardust thing? I didn't really read the article to be honest."

OLIVIA:

"Yes, it was this one. We knew that is was coming, but we never figured out, what it really is. The elements in the rock where unidentifiable for us.

Name:

"So, this is something you have never seen before? And nobody had any idea what it could be?

OLIVIA:

"Correct."

Name:

"This might be a really stupid theory, but in the newspaper, it said that we should keep windows and doors closed overnight.

Was that because of the mysterious dust? Because nobody knew what it was and whether it was dangerous or not?"

OLIVIA:

"Exactly. I think they even announced all of that in the news on tv and the radio."

Name:

"I totally missed that. My window was completely open the whole night...

Could it be that some of the dust came into my room? Might that be the reason why I can talk to you?"

OLIVIA:

"As I said, we never knew what the dust and the meteoroid really are, it was all just speculation."

Name:

"Hmm..."

"Where is TOMMY?"

OLIVIA:

"YOMMY?"

Name:

"Yes, he is a cat that I found this morning. He has been travelling with me the whole day."

Text:

Looks like the cat fell asleep next to the mysterious rock in the sun.

Name:

"Hey, TOMMY, can you come here for a second?"

Text:

You can see the cat stretching and yawning before slowly getting up and trotting over to you.

TOMMY:

"Hmm?"

Name:

"TOMMY, meet OLIVIA."

Text:

Both, the cat and the deer freeze and look at each other.

OLIVIA:

"TOMMY, is that you?"

TOMMY:

"Mom?!"

OLIVIA:

"Oh, TOMMY, I missed you so much..."

Name:

"...have you already met?"

OLIVIA:

"No... this is my son, TOMMY...

He died a couple of weeks ago in a car crash. Somebody crashed into our car when we stopped at a red light.

I couldn't sleep after that… my life has been a mess…"

TOMMY:

"Mom, I missed you too... Why are you here?"

Name:

"Oh, it all makes sense now... the bright light you told me about when we first met... that was the car crash..."

OLIVIA:

"Ever since he passed away, I couldn't shut my eyes, I just kept seeing the accident in front of me...

I never really coped with all of this. I just... worked more. It just might have been too much..."

Text:

Both, the cat and the deer are now cuddled up underneath a big tree. You don't know how happy deer look like, but this is probably what comes closest to it.

OLIVIA:

"Thank you so much, Name. I haven't been so happy in a long time..."

TOMMY:

"Thank you, Name! I'm going to miss you..."

Name:

"Well, I'm not going anywhere, so feel free to come visit-"

Text:

You couldn't finish your sentence, as you see the bright purple and green eyes fade into black.

After another second, both seem surprised to see you.

The previously very talkative animals seem to not recognize you anymore.

Surprise turns into fright, and both take off into the forest, never to be seen again. It seems like their souls are finally free.

"You said you never really got your mind of work? And are new to the forest? Have you been to the lake yet?"

OLIVIA:

"Hmm, no, I don't think so."

Name:

"You might like it there, follow me."

Text:

After a couple of minutes, you and the deer arrive at the lake. The sun has already set, and the crickets are chirping.

With the water slowly turning more and more orange, and the leaves feint rustling, it truly is a relaxing sight.

OLIVIA:

"Wow... this is beautiful."

Name:

"It is. And since you live here, feel free to come here as often as you want to. You don't have to stress yourself over things that you don't have any control over anymore."

OLIVIA:

"...yes, you are right. I don't think I have anything to worry about anymore.

Honestly, what can I do anymore? Just relax and enjoy the moment. This is all I have ever wanted.

Thank you so much..."

Name:

"No problem, take care and-"

Text:

You couldn't finish your sentence, as you see the bright purple eyes fade into black.

After another second, the deer seem surprised to see you.

The previously very talkative animal seems to not recognize you anymore.

Surprise turns into fright, and it takes off into the forest, never to be seen again. It seems like their soul is finally free.

Text:

The sun has almost gone down completely, when you decide to head back home.

Name:

"What a day, huh. What was I even doing? I guess I helped people...

Were they even people? Were they animals?

Where are they now? Why me?

I have so many questions. Hopefully tomorrow is going to be a less stressful day. I just wanted to go for a walk..."

Text:

You laugh as you reach your home, unlock your front door and jump onto your bed, not knowing that this day might have just changed your life forever.

Scene 30.2 - Farewell

Text:

The sun has almost gone down completely, when you decide to head back home.

Name:

"Hey, TOMMY, do you want to come with me? I think I still have some space in my room for a cat."

TOMMY:

"Thank you very much, but I think I prefer being outdoors.

There is just so much more to explore!"

Name:

"Yep, sounds like just the thing you need. I'll visit you though, I promise!"

TOMMY:

"Yes please! That would be so cool!"

Name:

"I will definitely do that. But I think I will go home now. See you soon!"

TOMMY:

"Goodbye! Love you!"

Text:

As a sign of farewell, the cat jumps on your shoulder, licks a couple times over your face and jumps back down.

Name:

"And be careful out there!"

TOMMY:

"Yes, yes, of course!"

Text:

And with these words, the cat vanished in one of the nearby bushes. You are now alone again.

Name:

"What a day, huh. What was I even doing? I guess I helped people...

Were they even people? Were they animals?

Where are they now? Why me?

I have so many questions. Hopefully tomorrow is going to be a less stressful day. I just wanted to go for a walk..."

Text:

You laugh as you reach your home, unlock your front door and jump onto your bed, not knowing that this day might have just changed your life forever.