

The Heroic Squirrel

The year is 2028, and you're driving your car to get to class at Centreville High School. A squirrel runs out into the middle of the road, but you swerve to the side and avoid hitting it. The squirrel comes to you and - in perfect English - tells you that he owes you his life. Years later, you are in the darkest moment of your life, and the squirrel comes to your aid. How does the squirrel save you?

Can't figure out what your darkest moment might be? Try one of these suggestions, all of which the squirrel will have to save you from:

- You are jet skiing in the ocean when you suddenly get ambushed by sharks
- A mysterious group of criminals kidnap your family
- You're 16 hours into a Netflix binge and notice that the remote is just a bit too far
- After waking up, you realize that you've been turned into a pineapple, and now you must return to normal
- You are experiencing emotional hardship, so the squirrel becomes your therapist

Phase 1 - Planning: To make this story work, you must first do some planning! **Fill in each box below with one complete sentence.** Use the content you create in this section to guide your thinking in the writing portion of this assignment. **We will not grade any assignment that skips any part of this planning process**, so fill everything in (unless you like seeing "Missing" pop up in StudentVue... hey, maybe the squirrel saves you from failing our class?). [Click here to see an example of both Phase 1 and Phase 2.](#) You may use the ideas from your personal plot chart to complete this section of the assignment!

1.) Exposition: Every story has a beginning. The exposition is how you start your story. Describe the setting and the point in time (aka: the year) your story begins. This will form the first sentence(s) of your story. **(Important: DO NOT EXPLAIN HOW YOU SAVED THE SQUIRREL IN 2028.** We already provided that information!)

It's 2042 and I just finished the document of the theory of big bang and blackholes, the greatest theory of all of human history, and I saved it in a flash drive, ready to submit it to the professors and the public.

2.) Initiating Event: A story without a problem isn't interesting. An initiating event introduces the conflict, or main problem, of the story. In the box below, identify the conflict (which is the "darkest moment") of your story below. **(Important: the squirrel *must* save you from, or entirely end, this conflict later in the climax of the story!)**

One day I woke up on the bench of a huge park next to the university and I didn't remember anything besides passing by to deliver the flash drive to the professors. I started looking for the drive, but my pocket was empty and it was nowhere in sight.

3.) Rising Action: The rising action is where most of the story takes place. For the boxes below, describe some of the ways that the squirrel is going to help you solve your problem.

#1: The squirrel suddenly appeared when I was about to explode in frustration. He talked to me and we decided to make a tracking device based on the drive's metal attributes.

#2: We discovered the signal was the strongest near a tree hole and only the squirrel could get in.

#3: The squirrel betrayed me and took the drive itself, soon captured by the guards when he ran away.

4.) Climax: This is where the story's problem is officially solved. To properly write in the climax of the story, use the box here to show the exact moment in your story that the squirrel is going to solve your conflict.

Suddenly the drive tracker in my pocket started ringing from nowhere in a corner of the building. The flash drive was there!

5.) **Falling Action:** Now that there's no more conflict, this is when the characters of your story can finally take a quick break. Describe what you and the squirrel do as soon as your conflict is solved.

Squirrel was captured and I successfully escaped back to Earth, submitted the research, and got famous. The world was changing, and I finally realized that the squirrel saved me.

6.) **Resolution:** The conclusion of the story. Make sure to go into detail about what life looks like for you and the squirrel now that his life debt to you is paid. (**Hint:** the resolution can take place only a few moments after the falling action, or it could be as far as several years into the future!)

10 years later, I and other scientists became famous and honored, the world changed because of the research, billions of people and trillions of creatures benefited. I realized what the squirrel had done and went back to save him, but he was dying and didn't want to escape. I continued my science career, and he peacefully lived in space jail.

7.) **Vocabulary:** We're learning how to use complex words in class. Choose one word that is new to you, then you will define - and then correctly use - that word in your story. You may use an online dictionary to help you with this part. (**Hint:** your word can be whatever you'd like, but if you get stuck, I suggest looking for adjectives that will help you describe your setting better. Try using Google to search for synonyms to simple words, such as mad, sad, good, bad, angry, evil, and so on.)

Word	Part of Speech	Definition
Betrayal	Noun	The action of joining the enemy and being unloyal to the previous friend.
Reluctant	Adjective	Unwilling or hesitate to leave.

Phase 2 - The Story: With a rough draft complete, begin using the ideas you have created in numbers 1 through 6 above, preferably in order (so that things actually make sense). **You may absolutely copy and paste your work from Phase 1 into this section;** however, we strongly encourage you to expand on any of your ideas with greater detail, *especially* in the rising action. **KEEP YOUR WRITING IN PARAGRAPH FORM!**

Requirements:

- ___/7 - A minimum of seven sentences (you can write more, of course)
- ___/2 - **Vocabulary:** the use of one new word, which is **highlighted** or underlined in the story, is used correctly
- ___/1 - **Grammar:** proper capitalization and end punctuation
- ___/1 - **Exposition** and **Conclusion:** There is a proper beginning and conclusion to the story
- ___/1 - **Initiating Event:** the story explains or shows what your darkest moment is
- ___/1 - **Rising Action:** at least three moments or interactions with the squirrel take place before the conflict is solved
- ___/1 - **Climax:** the squirrel helps you solve your problem
- ___/1 - **Falling Action:** immediately after the conflict is solved, you and the squirrel interact with each other without the stress of having to solve or fix the "darkest moment"



Begin writing your complete story under this line



Click. *The file is downloaded into the flash drive.* The computer monitor said. The year was 2042 and I had just finished working on a research document in the university. It wasn't just any ordinary document. It was the work of many generations and thousands of people working together for decades. And now it was all me. I had just finished the final inspection and proofread, and it was time to submit it to the professors and the public. So what's the big deal with this document? It was the theory that completed the knowledge of time, space, energy, multiverse, blackholes, big bang... and pretty much every modern science mysteries. It was the theory of everything in the universe, and by using its concept, people could build clean energy generators, teleporters, time machines, and every single device in sci-fi movies, and beyond. It was the most important research in all of human history. My mind was literally exploding from the excitement and satisfaction of our amazing work and the future of humanity we could achieve.

Because the professors only accepted in-person submission, I needed to head over to the huge majestic building next to the central park of the university.

I woke up on the bench in the park. My mind was blank for seconds, trying to remember what had happened. The last thing I remembered was walking into the park with me firmly holding the USB drive containing the document in my hand. Wait, the USB drive! It wasn't in my hands. My body suddenly froze and was overwhelmed by the anxiety of the flash drive missing. I searched through all my pockets, the bench, even inside the bushes, but all I could find was panic and breakdown and mad. Just as I was about to go insane, a brown thing moved from the right next to a tree. It was just a plain squirrel.

"Dude!" someone said behind me. I turned around but saw nothing.

"Remember me? You saved my life!" The sound said, sounded a little sharp and squeaky-like. Now I was officially crazy. No one was in sight. Until, finally, the squirrel came out of nowhere and started to speak!

"You aren't crazy and I'm the squirrel you saved 14 years ago!" The squirrel said.

"I don't know and I don't care about you because I have a more important problem than a stupid talking squirrel!" I yelled furiously, only thinking about the loss of the flash drive.

"No need to worry, Tony, I'm gonna save you from whatever problem you're facing!"

"You know my name?"

"Yeah, and I really appreciate that you saved my life, so I needed to pay back for you!"

"Sure, but you're not gonna be able to help me, because I don't remember anything on what happened to the flash drive!"

"I don't even know the problem, and you're already judging my ability? Give me a try!"

"Fine." I explained to him all the stuff, from how we started the research to meeting him.

He was a good listener, he didn't interrupt or say anything during my explanation.

"First of all, we needed to find the flash drive." *Duh*, I was starting to think the squirrel wouldn't be any help until he said, "You can organize a team with your other scientists and make a flash drive tracking device."

"It's actually not a bad idea! Welcome to the team, whatever your name is!" We got to work right away. I was beginning to feel some hope!

"Because the drive was specially designed for secured file storing, it has a unique element in it. We could build a tracker based on that element's traits and go to the park and search!" one of my friends said.

"So we need these: ..." We discussed possible solutions and built it in less than an hour! The final product looked like a phone from the old times with a big switch. I took it out to the park with the squirrel.

"First we should go to the bench where we met and find if the drive is near there." The squirrel suggested.

"We've been working together for a while now, but I still don't know your name!" I came to a realization.

"It's @*#^\$(*, in squirrel language, but I don't have an English name."

"How about Squeaky, because you squeak a lot?" I suggested.

"That works for me!" He said. We walked around the bench and the whole park for the day, and finally, at evening, the tracker began beeping rapidly next to a treehole. The hole was really high up in the old tree, only Squeaky could reach it. He climbed up, into the treehole, and disappeared for a really long time. I became more and more impatient until he reached his head out from the dark treehole.

"You gotta come up and see this." He said excitedly.

The tree didn't have any limbs low enough for me to climb so I found a ladder next to the bench (???) and put it leaning against the tree. Squeaky helped me adjust the ladder and I climbed up. The treehole seemed small down there but it was just big enough for me to fit through! It was way bigger than I'd imagined, because we crawled deeper and deeper, like crawling in a tunnel.

"Wait, Squeaky... I thought this was a treehole, not a tunnel?"

"The exciting part is coming!" We crawled for like an hour, until I was about to head back because this seemed hopeless, but far in the deepest corner, there was a beam of light shooting in.

"There's an exit???"

"That's not even that exciting compared to what you are about to see." We crawled faster and faster and I could start seeing the green trees showing up, and a big gray object on the front.

"What in the world is that gray thing? How is that in a treehole? Is this a portal?" I was so confused.

"IDK, but I think the USB drive is in the gray thing." We finally crawled out of the long tunnel and we could clearly see that the huge enormous object was actually a fort-looking building but we couldn't see the top because it was too tall. Around it were several smaller buildings, surrounded by a sea of dark green trees without an end. A weird thing was that there weren't any people around.

"What is this place?" I asked again for the 329457 time.

"I already told you, I don't know!" Squeaky said impatiently.

"Well, I guess the only thing we can do right now is go in and try to find the USB?"

"Nice! I love adventures!" Turns out, the tunnel exit was actually another tree's treehole, except this time, it was higher, about 20 feet off the ground. Luckily for me, I could jump down. Because in this world, gravity worked really weird. I landed slowly, felt like floating in the water but sinking really slowly.

"Let me think, if the gravity pull is so weak, and considering the gravitational formula and the particles in this place, we're probably on a mars-sized planet!" I concluded using my science skills.

"Does that mean we teleported to trillions of trillions of trillions of miles away?"

"Possibly, but probably even further!" I said.

"I think we should probably disguise ourselves to get in, just in case." Right after I finished saying, a human-like creature and a squirrel-like creature walked out from the tiny entrance on the right of the huge building.

"Wait... what the-?" we both said at the same time. I was getting more and more confused by the second.

"Pure luck, I guess," Squeaky said.

"That means we could just go in normally, right?"

"Well, there's no problem so far, just get in, find the USB, and get back to the professors, easy peasy." We agreed. We had no idea how important this adventure would be to the whole universe, and what adventure awaited us.

With the tracker beeping more and more like crazy, I started to wonder if the tracker was broken. Until I finally realized, "This building is made out of the same special metal in the USB drive, and it could be in other places in the park! We just wasted a lot of time!"

"Calm down, I have a feeling the drive is in here." Squeaky said calmly.

"Your feeling? What?" I was getting madder by the second.

"Just trust me, I'm gonna make this quick." He said.

"Fine, it's not like there's any other choices." I said while turning off the super annoying USB tracker. We arrived at the main lobby, where a bunch of boxes were located. "Creatures" were starting to appear, some bug-like, very few fish-like, and most of them were not possible to describe with human languages.

"They seemed to be accepting us, this place is probably somekind of space depot or exchange station, like those in the movies, that's why this building is full of different creatures and this enormous." Squeaky said.

"What are these boxes for?" I said while watching an alien doing stuff near a box. After some moments, it (or he? She? ???) jumped in the box and disappeared.

"I bet that's a teleporter!" Squeaky said excitedly. We got to one of the boxes. There was a 3D holograph levitating next to the super high-tech machine box.

"See, this would be one of the things the theory could achieve for humanity!" I explained to Squeaky. He gave me a device next to the holograph and I put it next to my eye. The holograph and all the language around us instantly became English.

"A translating goggle? Sick!" I looked at the holograph and it had a complete directory of the floors.

"Which level do we need to go?" I asked.

"Why would you ask me? You're the scientist here." Squeaky said.

"Alright, let me think. So this is a place where aliens put their goods, materials, and stuff here to exchange with other planets or civilizations, like trades between countries...the treehole back on Earth may actually be the only secret passageway from Earth to here! The USB drive probably came out from the exit we came out of, and some manager or worker here found it, and they probably thought this was a material for exchange, so they probably put it in some place to organize..."

"You're a really genius thinker, you know that right?" Squeaky complimented me.

"Let me see...hmm, rare metals and devices...humans archive...ground breaking research...blah blah blah...these could all be possible!" I listed 10 different possible levels out of 1258 total levels of the building.

"Then let's go through each one of them!" Squeaky concluded.

First possible level: Rare metals and devices. I clicked the level, hopped into the box, with Squeaky next to me, and as soon as I pressed the hologram button, I felt like falling, just as I was about to die (or at least that's how I felt) My feet dropped onto the solid ground. I'd never been so relieved and so appreciated that I was standing

"That was actually kind of fun!" We said simultaneously. That was another technology the theory could lead to, and without those falling feelings. This level was as big as two football fields and it was full of shelves with holograms on the sides showing what materials the shelf contains for the space goods exchangers.

"This place has really good organizations!" Squeak said.

"You go search from the left, and I'll go from the right." I ordered. The first shelf has gold. The whole shelf was shining like crazy, it was golder than all of the gold on Earth combined! Just imagine a shelf longer than a train, two stories tall, all filled with gold!

"I wish I could get some of this..." I said under my breath. Unfortunately, all the materials were locked by a biological lock, only employees or specially permitted people could open the locks. The second shelf was iron, the third copper...every single metal element material was followed. As I was reaching shelf 108, Squeaky yelled from the center of the room.

"Come to shelf 143 and look at this!" I ran there as fast as I could. The hologram read "Pre high-tech devices" Pre high-tech, probably means the most advanced technologies humanity has ever invented except the designs and the documents stored in the USB drive.

"Here at bay 23 are the human devices!" Squeaky said while searching on the top of the shelf.

"I'll look from the bottom." I said while looking at old TVs and iPhones from my childhood. Old memories came into my mind, remembering I did a squirrel story assignment from Mr. Rocchi's English class back in middle school!

"How come there's no robots to help? I thought there would be lots of machines here!" I asked Squeaky while looking at an AC machine and some car scraps.

"I have no idea." Squeaky said, while I climbed up one layer on the shelf.

"One more question, how in the world did the USB drive come here and I don't remember a single thing?" I asked, feeling extremely clouded.

"There could be one possible solution...maybe the employees here saw you wandering near the tunnel that connects to Earth and thought you were submitting something to the space depot? And because of security reasons they erased your memory and put you on the bench using alien technologies? Just guessing."

"You're a genius! That explained every mystery we've encountered so far!" I complemented.

"Let's just hope there won't be any more." Squeaky responded.

"Here it is! File storing devices!" I said. Tons of drives, phones, and hard drives were in the basket, and we slowly went through all of them, but there were only two USB drives and they both weren't ours, and they looked really old, maybe even 50 years old!

Second possible level: Humans and low civilizations archive.

"Look! They see humans as "low civilizations"!" I said, feeling funny.

This level was full of human stuff you would see from a person's house to the world's most protected museums! It had shelves of human clothes, books, buildings (small houses that could fit in this gigantic room) tools, food, products, and some other common daily tools we used from tens of thousands of years ago to right now. We got through each aisle but found nothing about technology.

"The tech stuff is probably all at the previous level." Squeaky said.

Third possible level: Ground breaking research. Most of them were ancient documents presented in a hologram in alien languages, and because they were too outdated for the average alien civilization, our goggles couldn't translate them. Until we got to an aisle that said "Universe & Physics Research".

"This is it!" Squeaky said while going through different sections of the shelf, "Here! This is the section for timespace and physics mysteries!" Most of them were also more modern alien holograms that the goggles could translate, but still no sign of the USB drive.

Just like that, we went to different levels, finding the most possible shelf, and going to the most related bay, and failed to find anything. Until level 999, the last level, and the level for "super duper mega big classified secured double-protected triple-guarded preserved files and objects."

"Who named this level?" Squeaky asked, almost laughing in tears.

"Well, apparently, this level has very loose guards, we could just get our files and leave, right?"

We got out of the teleporter and we were shocked. It was a huge gigantic black wall in front of us, with no entrance except a square passageway with a really high-tech looking entrance that was glowing in gray lights, guarded by two bug-like creatures and an army of mechanical dog-elephant-like creatures.

"So that's where all the robots are." Squeaky said bitterly.

"Let's try to break in!!!" I said excitedly.

"Not so fast, look at the creatures over there, they seem like some really important people!" Squeaky said.

"While the guards were distracted by them, let's try to find a way and get in!" I said. Considering the wall was completely sealed with really strong metal and possibly armed with weapons, we couldn't get in from this side of the wall.

"Squeaky, I have an idea." I told him the idea and he agreed, but this could get really dangerous.

Level 229 through 254: Transportations and mechanical tools. Squeaky got the size-change machines and I got a small sized teleporter and a driller, both were unlocked because of some reason.

"Danger, do not smallify any creature or object to one-fifth of its original height." Squeaky read the directions on the flashlight-looking machine.

"Dang it, we can't sneak in by becoming smaller than invisible now." I said, but quickly came up with a plan B and Squeaky agreed.

"Okay, so I will smallify you to about 3 inches long, along with the teleporter, the biglifier, and the driller, got it?" I confirmed.

"No problem!" He said confidently.

I switched the switch to ¼ place (the goggles also came with number system exchange, by the way) and pressed the bottom on the hologram, and Squeaky became as small as a Rubik's cube!

"It worked!" He said, turning on the mini driller and started drilling a hole on the metal with full speed.

Half an hour later, the slightly-noisy sound stopped, and there was a tiny hole, almost an inch wide.

"You think you can fit through?" I asked hopefully.

"Yes, it fits perfectly!" Squeaky squeaked, struggling through the hole, soon disappearing from my sight. I started setting up the teleporter from my side and adjusting the codes to get through it smoothly, without any sound or stuff, else we would get busted and it would all come to an end.

About five minutes later, a sound came from below. A huge deep sound, sounded like something crushing down onto the floor. I jumped into the teleporter, rolling out on the other end smoothly.

"Yes! It worked!" I said happily. The plan was that Squeaky would dig a hole and come down, set up the out portal, make himself and the portal bigger with the biglifier so I could get in, and that loud crashing sound was a distraction, created by the biglifier to a shelf so it would fall down, and every robot would swarm there and it also acted as a signal for me to come down.

"Now that all the guards are gone we can go out easily from the entrance." I said while hurrying to find the shelf possibly containing the USB drive.

"Here! Level 100 classified important documents! It reads 'This shelf contains important documents only for high-level personnel. They shall not be leaked to non-trustworthy individuals or the information and the power they contain could possibly destroy the entire universe or create a high level danger.' This is it! The theory really could be a threat to the universe if the formulas fall into some evil people!" Squeaky excitedly yelled from the left shelves. I sprinted there as fast as I could, but there's a weird thing that wasn't there and I couldn't quite figure it out.

"Why is it so silent?" I asked while hurrying to Squeaky's location, knowing the worst possible scenario.

As I turned into the shelf labeled 'Level 100 Classified Documents', Squeaky was nowhere in sight.

"Squeaky?" I asked uneasily.

Suddenly, a ton of noises came from the top right corner of the room, coming down the shelves toward the exit.

"Squeaky?" I asked again feeling more anxious this time. The noises were like a stampede, many creatures stamping/crawling/flying/running down the aisle, chasing a thing. It was Squeaky, who was rushing out in the aisle next to me, with a small box with a transparent container. Through the transparent layer I could recognize my special USB drive right away, the one single target I had been looking for a day, but the adventure felt like weeks, even months.

"Squeaky, wait up!" I yelled, catching up with Squeaky while he ran out of the aisle, a bunch of creatures turning into the aisle about 50 yards away, from the end of the room. They were too fast, there's no way we could escape from them...

Just when I was thinking, I tripped down to the ground for a moment, and Squeaky quickly made several turns and disappeared from my sight. I couldn't run after him because first, I didn't know where he went, and second, I was afraid to be caught so I hid behind an aisle while the creatures and the robotic army ran down. Then I realized. I was tripped by a small chair, probably from the security guards' post near the exit. A small object, but enough to make a human tripp. Before I tripped, I glanced at a brown object that went through the bottom of the chair in a flash. It was Squeaky. Squeaky did it. He pulled the chair out to let me tripp. He did it. My mind could only think of a single word. Betrayal.

I couldn't believe all this time, from him showing up, to stealing the research, he was planning to steal the USB drive. These two days, or weeks, or months, he was pretending to be my friend, pretending to help me, just to make himself famous, to make him the "honorable" scientist or whatever the reason he stole it. It was shocking. USB gone, stuck in this weird planet, chased by a bunch of evil robots. I felt so miserable.

I slowly walked out of the damaged entrance, the creatures long gone after the squirrel. I was playing with the switch of the USB tracker in my pocket and I opened a mechanical door that goes to the main hallway of this floor. I saw a door left open, so I went in. A bunch of hallways were in front of me, like a maze. *The traitor probably went this way*, I thought, still very mad at the squirrel. Suddenly, a bunch of noises came from the far right of the huge maze. *If the squirrel is there, he is probably being arrested right now.* I thought, kind of satisfied by my own imagination. My tracker began beeping more and more rapidly, meaning the USB drive was close to me. I started hurrying down toward the center of the big maze, which probably served as a goods management

system because of the tubes, wires, and devices along the walls of the maze. Suddenly, the tracker died right after the most intense beeps so far.

“What the...?” I said, thinking the tracker had gotten broken. I bent down to check but saw nothing. I stood up again while turning around at the same time. Right then I saw it. The USB, with a coding style outer layer, is way too obvious and unique to recognize. It was stuck in a glass tube at the bottom of the wall I was at.

“Oh my god! It’s here!” I yelled. I was so happy/relieved/confused/surprised at the same time. It was finally found by me, but how? Didn’t the squirrel steal it? Why is it here? I took it out from a switch in the tube and took it with me. I hurried back to the teleporters, and went back to level 1, and exited this weirdest and most mysterious building I’d ever seen, back to the special tree, and went back to Earth.

“Professor, professor, can I have your autograph?” a kid asked me in a science fair I was at.

“Of course, and you can just call me Tony.” I said happily while signing his notebook.

It was years after the USB event, and I successfully submitted the research to the professors in the university, who found it “one of the most important, fine, and detailed science theory of all time”. Because of it, me and 59 other people who contributed the most on this project, got the honor of the Nobel Prize and the most famous scientists in the 21st century.

Because of the important formulas and principles in the research, humans succeeded at removing all carbon and gas emissions, switched to 100% green energy, global balance, and a happier life. The climates were back to normal; trees, clean water, happy creatures were everywhere. We built houses out of recycled materials, with lots of plants and new machines. Everyone, every country on Earth was working hard together to achieve this. I felt really cheerful of what we did to people, and the beneficial impact we had on Earth, our precious home.

Except for the new technologies and the new ways of life, I was still thinking about Squeaky from time to time. I figured his plan out shortly after the event. I thought of how he sacrificed himself, pretended to betray me so HE was the one the guards were after, left me unguarded and easily retrieved the USB drive and got away with it, without anyone noticing. He dedicated to help me more than what I’d done, just turning my car wheel for a bit to avoid hitting him. I needed to pay back my loyal friend. None of these would have happened if he didn’t appear.

I went back to the tree right after I submitted the documents. I found the bench and found out, shockingly, the tree was cut down because it was dead for unknown reasons! I felt sad. I felt sad for Squeaky, alone in nowhere, I felt sad for the tree, I felt sad for not getting back to where all these started. In these early busy years, going to meetings, interviews, making stuff, and going places because of the research, I barely had time to go back to the space depot, or try to find a way back. In my very very short free time, I conducted secret research on the planet, everything about the space depot, and how to get back. I figured out a lot of interesting things, but that’s for another story. I built a special tracker/navigator, and I followed its signals to get back to the new getaway to the planet.

“Here it is.” I said, satisfied. The teleporting unnel was in the park, right next to the bench I met Squeaky, on another tree. I felt dumb I didn’t find that out sooner. What a shock twist.

Mission: finding Squeaky solo, has begun. (I’m still working on the name, sorry.)

I went through the same exact way, and got into the gigantic building. I had no idea what to do now so I found the only one possible level: Level -5, trans-space criminals.

It was cold and dark down here, just like in the movies, except the cells were quite high-tech and comfortable-looking. It was like a small pod with a few shiny pieces of furniture that you could live with, and a food-producing system. All were good except that the pods were completely sealed with the strongest material in the whole universe. It was a massive level, with tens of thousands of cells. They catagorized the criminals by the planets they’re from. Earth: 1 criminal. Name: @*#^\$(* ; Species: Squirrel ; Crime Committed: Stealing Highly Classified Documents.

"Squeaky!" I yelled so happily and the situation was quite weird. He was crawling in a corner of his cell, not moving.

"Squeaky? Can you hear me?" I asked.

He suddenly turned back, looking like he'd gone insane.

"Oof! What have they done to you?" I asked through the communication holes.

"Tony?!!! You're back? What? Oh, and, sorry, my morning face. That's what happens after I wake up."

"There's no time to explain! I need to rescue you from this garbage place!" I said.

"How are you here? How did you? What? Huh? I thought you? What??? I have so many questions right now but what are you doing here? If they catch you talking to me..." Squeaky said, super confused.

"Come on, we need to go, I'll explain everything once you get out." I said anxiously, studying the control panel of the thing.

"Get out? I'm not getting out!" Squeaky said.

"WHAT?" I asked, shocked.

"I have good reasons, first, this place is COMFY, I eat good foods everyday; second, I'm too old and I don't want to drag and slow you down, there will be high chances of you getting caught, and you still have many things to do and infinite opportunities for the Earth, I believe in you; and third, I, um, am about to, like, um, die. Yeah. Die." He said.

"WHAT???" I was so confused, but so touched, and so sad, suddenly.

"Yeah, I'm not going, and you should go live your own life. You going is the best way to pay me back. (if that's why you're here, I guess...)" Squeaky squeaked.

"No, you can't, I need to let them know...you did it." I said, almost in tears.

"Nah, don't worry, I'm good, come on, just go, thank you for everything." Squeaky said, also looking sad.

"No, I'm thanking you for everything, you know how good the Earth is doing right now? It's all because of YOU!" I said, knowing what would happen next.

"Please, just go, I'm begging you!" Squeaky sobbed.

"Fine, I guess this is a goodbye, then." I murmured

"Nice, now go before they see you!" Squeaky yelled.

"GOODBYE THANKS FOR EVERYTHING AND WITHOUT YOU I WOULD POSSIBLY BE, I DONT EVEN KNOW JUST BYE BYE" I said while running away, crying.

I was so absolutely astonished by what Squeaky said, after I got back on Earth and rethought the whole thing, almost unrealistic. I think I did the best thing for him. He was resting and living happily there, and he said that I had infinite opportunities. That touched me right there. Even though I was **reluctant** to leave Squeaky, I just needed to let it go. If there's one lesson I learned in these years, it is that you just gotta believe, and move on in your life, no matter what. Because of this, the world got to be how it is. Thanks, Squeaky, you changed everything.