

## Operation Save Earth

It was a hot summer day in California. It was the last day of school. I dreaded the last day of school because most of my friends' vacations lasted the whole summer with the exception of myself and my bestie, Sebastian. This summer was the same thing; a lot of invites but I always declined because, well, I had no parents. As always, I went home to my old, abandoned apartment, but this time I decided to do something big. This summer I was determined to find a better life.

"Bye", I said sadly to my dog Evan. As I left, I led Evan to the animal shelter where I knew he would be safe. I knew I would be lonely, but it was the best for him. I started my journey by searching for money, food and water. Since the only buildings I know are the school and my home, I didn't know the area. I started walking because the sun was setting and I needed to find a place to sleep. I walked for an hour guided by the street lamps until I found a sandy beach. It was there that suddenly something caught my eye.

A huge, ancient-looking chest sat near the shore.. This was my opportunity. It looked as big as an elephant and it had old leather straps with a rusty buckle. I tried to open it but the buckle was jammed with seaweed. I waited until morning to open it. When I woke, I pulled my knife out of my bag and cut the seaweed. When I cracked it open, a green light came bursting out. I opened it all the way to find that it was filled to the brim with green ooze.

"Whoa", I whispered. I heard faint voices.

"Is anybody in there?" I exclaimed. There was no response, so I reached in and felt a weird force and realized I was getting sucked in! I hurried to reach out, but couldn't; then suddenly, it stopped. I climbed out and heard the voices again. I looked around and realized the bad news. I was in an alien spaceship! I hurried to the next room and couldn't believe what I found. "MOM! "DAD!"

They exclaimed at once, "COOPER!"

"What are you doing here?!" I cried.

"Calm down and we'll tell you, but first we just want to say we are so sorry," dad apologized.

“I forgive you,” I mumbled. They told me how they got there; then I heard another familiar voice. I couldn’t believe it.

“Sebastian?” I gasped. I was amazed.

“I’m an orphan too, and I got sucked into the same chest you did,” he explained. I couldn’t believe my best friend was an orphan too. Only then did I realize that everyone else was in cages. I knew my parents were hostages but I didn’t know about Sebastian, so I asked him and he said that he tried to find aliens and got caught. I needed to find the aliens. I looked up and realized I had to do it soon. A sign read “OPERATION TAKE OVER EARTH.”

“Uh-oh.”

We made a plan so that I could get to the aliens’ headquarters safely, but everyone needed to play their part. I gave Sebastian my mini shovel, handed my mom my screwdriver, and gave dad my knife. I snuck into the next room which was filled with old cabinets and bright blue barrels brimming with the same green ooze that was in the chest. I hid behind a shelf and then gave the prisoners the signal by throwing a screw into the room. They screamed and the short, fat, orange aliens came running. I took the opportunity to sneak into the aliens’ main control room, then I heard clanking metal and saw orange liquid spraying everywhere. I figured the aliens were dead, so I tried to find the keys. After what seemed like forever, I finally spotted them floating around in ANOTHER bucket of green ooze. I made my way to the cells, trying to avoid all the alien guts. After I unlocked them, I led everybody to the huge main room where we tried to find either a button for escape shuttles, or the shuttles themselves. Sebastian found them then we exited through a garage door. We hopped in the shuttles, then flew away deciding that we should all be a family. This was my better life.