

Cheeseburger Squeeze sits on a metal bench by his brother Lightbulb in the back of a dimly-lit prison van. The two face their brother Potato Chip and their sister Cellphone. Opposite the van's back door sits a prison guard and in the middle of the area are dozens of squashed together, caged gerbils. The ride is a bumpy one. The guard starts a conversation 'So... Squeeze, huh? I believe that's a Norwegian surname?' Cheeseburger is cold 'No comment.' The guard replies 'I'm just trying to be friendly, that's all. There's no need to be so defensive, you'll most likely go scot free once you apologise to Philip. He may be an angry gerbil most of the time, but you're the children of his friend! So what do you say? How about opening up and explaining why you act the way you do? Your father, Bjorn... did he put you up to this?' Cellphone is polite 'Bjorn? He is a compassionate man who always taught us right from wrong. He has a heart of gold!' Potato Chip coughs, nervously. The guard is curious 'What was that nervous cough about? Are you hiding something?' Potato Chip replies 'Well... there are times when his behaviour comes across as a bit...' The guard moves nearer to the child as the latter continues 'a bit... phoney...' The guard's eyes light up as he nods with confidence 'Ex-actly!'

He continues 'Did he ever talk about his crimes to you?' Lightbulb is confused 'His crimes?' The guard says 'Did he ever talk to you about befriending people with his excessive Norwegian charm and then robbing them? Or maybe about a man called Henry the Sneaky Salmon, a gangster obsessed with fish?' The children are silent and look around the van in confusion. The guard continues 'Ok, we can talk about that later. Right, the journey to the prison should be almost over now. The driver will be parking on a special lift for vans, and we will be taken to the roof! It's super cool!' The guard gives a thumbs up and a whacky smile but gets an indifferent response. He talks again 'You don't think so? Wait until you see the prison cells then, even grown men don't believe what they see!' Cheeseburger yawns. The van stops rumbling and seems to have come to a stop. The guard says 'We're here. The cool bit is coming right now... It is felt that the van is being lifted. The children say 'weee!' in unison. The guard comments 'The lift is good isn't it? Never gets old... Ok, time to get out. I see no need to handcuff you.'

The guard opens the door to reveal a nighttime view as he leads the children out. The vehicle has stopped on the edge of the square prison roof. Ten helicopters are still in a circle and in the middle of them is a hatch the guard walks to. He turns his head back to the kids and speaks 'Come on, follow me! You DO want to see something cool, right?' The youngsters shrug their shoulders and follow him. The man opens the hatch and begins the lengthy walk downstairs. He chats once more 'I must warn you that not all the criminals you will be seeing are as polite as your father. Henry CAN be nice, but only when thinking about food. Philip on the other hand is basically never nice. You may have seen Ryu before, ever played Feet Fighter on the Super Grintendo? Is that what the game is called? Something like that, right? Cheeseburger sighs 'We mainly play Mortal Combat...' The guard laughs 'Mortal Combat? That game sucks. Even the name does, at least change the C to a K. Spice things up a bit. This is just a theory, but there are some who say people in Simon Wiedemann's universe you DO get the K and Super Nintendos, too. You see, parallel universes don't have to be COMPLETELY different!'

The guard reaches the door at the bottom of the stairs and knocks on it. It gets opened by Biffridton Biffson as the children stare past him in confusion. Ken, Biff,

Henry, Gary, Bjorn, Ryu, Philip and Peshwari nan stand up straight, still as rocks and about a metre apart from each other, behind the stone-faced cop. Pizzas are on the floor. Biffridton welcomes the newcomers. Cheeseburger asks 'What's so cool about this?' Biffridton is cheerful 'What's so cool about this place, you mean? Well, let me show you.' The man turns to face the criminals and says 'Sooo... anyone tough enough to consider leaving their cell?' Cellphone says 'What cells?' Biffridton continues 'Show them what I mean Philip. So called Philip the Angry Gerbil. Or are you too scared?' Philip puts his hand forward but it gets zapped, creating a flash of blue light around his hand and a loud buzzing noise. Philip screams. Biffridton chuckles 'THAT'S what's so cool!' Potato Chip nods with respect 'Actually that is pretty cool.'

Bjorn Squeeze sheds a tear 'Cheeseburger! What led you to your life of crime?? Stealing all those gerbils??' And Potato Chip! You had your whole life ahead of you! Cellphone! You could have been anything! Lightbulb! You were so bright!' The children look down in shame as Biffridton smiles. Bjorn hits the cell walls three times, creating three more bursts of light. He then shouts '(expletive), (expletive), (expletive)!' He then collapses to the ground and hits that. The van guard is warm 'See what you're doing to your father, kids?' The children speak in unison, still staring at the ground 'Yes, sir. Sorry sir.' The guard continues 'And do you really like the thought of spending your whole life, here?' Cheeseburger is curious 'No sir. Who's the pizza for?' The guard smirks 'Nobody. It's there to taunt everyone!' Bjorn hits the floor some more and shakes his head, crazily 'Bleblebbibbleblipblep!' Biffridton looks concerned 'See what you're doing to him, kids? He's gone crazy!' Cellphone looks at Bjorn with sad eyes 'I'm so sorry!'

Bjorn casually gets up and wipes his tears 'Apology accepted.' Peshwari Nan knocks on her cell wall creating MORE blue light. She swears too, as everyone turns to face her. 'What lovely children you are! And stealing Philip's gerbils? Pure class!' Philip looks angry and the grandmother continues 'Philip won't be able to be angry at them anymore.' Now Philip looks really angry 'You think I'm angry at my gerbils, is that what you said??' The granny nods 'Yeah.' Philip continues 'Do you know what people who buy the things off me call me?' The granny is cool 'No...' Philip replies 'They call me 'Philip. Friend of the Gerbil'. Now take what you said back, right now!' The granny mutters 'Sorry Philip, Friend of the Gerbil.' Philip is cold 'That's better.' The granny speaks more confidently 'Sorry Philip the Angry Gerbil and Friend of the Gerbil'. Philip says 'That's ok.' The granny replies 'Or to shorten things, I'm sorry Ptagafotg.' Cellphone is curious 'Was that an acronym?' The granny replies 'Yes. And it was rubbish. Sounded like gibberish.' Biffridton sighs 'Look, you have to be nice to Philip or we won't get a word out of him. Don't make me add sleeping gas to your cell, Peshwari.'

Philip puts his hands on his hips 'Damn straight.' Lightbulb is cheerful as he talks to Peshwari 'I think me and my bothers and sister spotted Keema Nan around here!' Peshwari Nan looks serious 'Keema Nan? Where? You HAVE to tell me!' Lightbulb replies 'Just around here...' Peshwari shakes her head in disbelief 'Let me tell you something about Keema Nan...' There is a confused silence. The lady continues 'There's absolutely nothing new about her whatsoever and I mean NOTHING. She acts like she was the first palindrome graffiti artist, but it was ME! She thinks she is the first person to name herself after a curry side, but that was me, too, don't let

anyone tell you otherwise! God I hate Keema Nan!!' Potato Chip has a question 'Why did you name yourself after a food? I've been named after a food and it really isn't all it's cracked up to be.' Bjorn looks concerned 'You don't like your name, son?' Potato Chip replies 'How about Stephen?' Bjorn looks down in sadness 'I am so sorry for disappointing you.' Peshwari says 'Don't feel sad at all, Bjorn. I think Potato Chip is an OUTSTANDING name.' Bjorn makes a heart shape with his hands and shows Peshwari Nan.'

Biffridton rolls his eyes and speaks to the children 'Look, if you can find the UK's most prolific palindrome graffiti artist, that being Keema Nan, you lot won't get in trouble for gerbil theft. How's that sound? Do you REALLY want to spend the rest of your days here?? If you can find the SRK on the other hand, not only will you go free, you will get a huge reward. How about THAT?' Cheeseburger twiddles his fingers in anticipation 'What kind of reward?' Biffridton replies 'As much salmon as you could ever want!' Cheeseburger stops twiddling 'Why??' Biffridton chuckles 'I'm so sorry. The salmon promise is for manipulating Henry...' Henry licks his lips 'And it's a damn good thing to look forward to.' Gary says 'And sardines? Beautiful.' Bjorn comments 'What a fascinating group of people we all are here, right? Some would call it unbelievable.' Biffridton ignores Bjorn 'Tell us what you know about the fugitives. The granny was right, you are lovely children. Smart, too. Which is why I know you'll spend the ten thousand pound reward well.' The children's eyes light up 'How much???' Biffridton smiles 'Ten grand. You'll get every penny.'

Cellphone replies 'I think all we know is they're probably in this local area...' Biffridton rubs his chin in thought 'That'll have to do for now.' Philip face palms 'Hang on... My gerbils! What have you done with my gerbils???' The van guard replies nervously 'Of course. They're in my van.' Philip pulls a funny face 'You left my gerbils in your van?? What if they're lonely and frightened??' Biffridton composes himself 'Of course. You'll get your gerbils, soon.' Philip snarls 'And what about the extra gerbils I was promised?' Biffridton replies 'You'll get them.' Ryu screams 'I can't take this anymore! I can't take the boredom! The lies! The insanity!' Everyone stares at him as he pushes his hands forward and shoots a blue ball of electricity out of them. He then shouts 'Hadoken!' His entire, tube-shaped cell gets lit up a blinding blue. Once the colour fades away, it is seen that Ryu is crawling on the floor, writhing in pain. He's hadokened himself.

Biffridton laughs 'You'll have to try harder than that!' Philip is cool 'Of course. He's stuck here. We all are. I guess to that I say... code black.' Biffridton backs away in fear 'You've said those two words and you've gone all ominous again! Tell me why!' Philip replies 'Oh... no reason. Black's just my favourite colour, that's all. Code is a nice word.' Biffridton nods 'I see. Well now that the children have been scared straight, I guess the guard here can drive them around these parts in an effort to find the two felons?' The children give more thumbs up. Bjorn makes a praying sign with his hands 'Oh praise the lord! Sweet, sweet joy! My children have been rehabilitated and I'll never go mad and speak gibberish again!' Biffridton says to the kids 'Now THAT'S inspiring. I'm so inspired, I'm thinking of hanging your pictures up in the wall of fame in my office. Other people hanging on my wall are the dozens who died going over the minimum speed limits. May their dedication to democracy never be forgotten.'

The van guard interrupts 'Well... time to take the children back to my van, I suppose...' Philip says 'Yes, just remember one thing, kids... the SRK is a huge fish, now. That's all I have to say.' The guard replies 'Great. Thank you, Philip. Now come with me, little'uns.' The five leave the room. Ken talks to Biffridton 'You know, if you need a helicopter pilot to do any work for you, me and Biff would be more than willing to help you out... You're not suggesting a man and four kids can take on any kind of criminals, are you?' Biffridton is annoyed 'Were you even listening to what I just said? I said I was inspired, didn't I?' Ken replies 'You did, but...' Biffridton interrupts 'Well there you go then. And the thought of me trusting you two is absolutely ridiculous. Say sorry, now.' Ken is sheepish 'Sorry, Biffridton.' The cop replies 'That's better.' Philip comments 'That guard better get me my gerbils before he drives up and down the country... Otherwise code black...' Biffridton says 'Choose a different colour, please! Say code green!' Philip is confused 'But I wouldn't mean it though...' Biffridton makes fists 'Mean what????'