## SQUEARY SEMPLETHAS ADVENTURE

It's Christmas Eve and it's getting colder outside.

It has been a few days since Squeaky, the little mouse, hasn't seen his friends. May they have forgotten him right now, at Christmas time? First of all, he decides to visit to the badger.

In his burrow, the badger has just finished decorating the Christmas tree. Squeaky is knocking at the window.

- Merry Christmas, mister badger, squeaks the little mouse.

- Be blessed I, the badger answers with a friendly voice, but he doesn't have the goodness to get up from his armchair.

Outside, Squeaky was shivering. "Lam going up the hills, to see the little foxes". When he finally arrived to their house, he shouted still from afar:

- Merry Christmas, little foxes!

In the house, the little foxes are very busy with preparations for Christmas dinner. They seem much too busy to pay attention to Squeaky.

- We wish you a Merry Christmas, they answer hastily, minding their own business further on.

It is getting colder and colder outside. Squeaky thought: "What about going to see the little rabbits?" and he ran quickly on the path in the woods.

When he got in front of their door, he shouted hopefully:

- Merry Christmas, little rabbits!

Into the house, the rabbits are having a great time, they are inflating balloons and they are hanging the last decorations in the Christmas tree.

- Merry Christmas, Squeaky, they all together reply, and they are so very happy but again, no one invites him inside.

It starts snowing. Squeaky is thinking out loud: "Maybe, Mrs. Owl will be more hospitable" and he heads to the owl's burrow. He is

exhausted and he hardly climbs the stairs that coil around the tree where the owl lives. Once he gets there, Squeaky finds out that she is going to leave for a visit.

- Mrs. Owl, I wish you a merry Christmas, he sighed.
- Same to you, little mouse, screeched the owl.

And she added: "I have to take this present to a very special friend. It is late and it is cold. If you want, I could take you home.

Big and thick snowflakes are falling on the ground. Squeaky gets easily on the owl's back and he grabs carefully her feathers. Together they go through the night on the wing. The snow lies thick upon the earth. Down, beneath them, Squeaky beholds a great number of trails, all leading to his door.

- "Who would visit me, at this time, so late?"

But look, inside the house someone has lit te fire and decorated the fir-tree and all his friends are waiting for him with lots of presents.

- Surprise! Surprise! shouted them all. Merry Christmas, Squeaky!

Actually, friends hasn't forgotten him and neither had been too busy not to take him into account. On the contrary, they all had prepared him a Christmas more beautiful than ever.

