

SQUIGGLY DREAMS

Written by

Madeline Trivitayakhun

Based on, my life

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EXT. SHALLOWS - AFTERNOON

Sunlight filters down a brilliant red and orange fading into a night sky. On the ocean floor there is a large conch shell...

A <POP> comes from the shell.

LOOK AT CONCH SHELL

A moment later <POP>... <POP>... <POP>... lots of <POPPING>.

Hundreds of small baby squids spew out of the shell's mouth. All, giggling and excited, testing and showing off their swimming.

FOLLOW THE SQUID AS THEY POUR OUT

A faint <TAPPING> comes from the conch.

RETURN TO THE CONCH

One little squid, SQUIGGLY, hasn't popped out just yet.

Squiggly is small as a grain of rice, their skin is a pale translucent purple, they have large purple eyes. Their mantle is speckled with orange and white, and have brown stripes only on their left wing.

Squiggly tries to get the attention of their siblings.

Their eyes are shiny and sad, bubbles rise from under their mantle and collect at the top of their egg.

FADE TO:

INT. CONCH SHELL - AFTERNOON

Squiggly is able to see their siblings swim and play.

They bang on their egg getting more violent with each hit.

They throw themselves against the egg's membrane; unknowingly, using their syphon to give them more speed.

Each impact fails with a <SQUISH> and leaves them dazed.

FADE TO:

INT. CONCH SHELL - NIGHT

The light in the shallows is cold, calm blues and purples.

Squiggly is still trying to free themself, but looks fatigued and stunned.

Squiggly throws themself toward the egg membrane.

They don't make contact with the membrane.

They float down, drifting off to sleep.

Glimpses of the open ocean are the last thing they see.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. CONCH SHELL - DREAM

The light is now bright but some how off. It is not eerie. Everything has taken on a slightly more abstract appearance.

SQUIGGLY HAS CHANGED SIDES OF THE SCREEN

Squiggly is floating in the water, there are no signs of eggs.

Blinking they sleepily look around.

Excitedly realizing that they're no longer trapped in their egg.

They unknowingly suck tons of water into their mantle.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. SHALLOWS - DREAM

Squiggly jettisons <RUSHING WATER> out of the conch.

Squiggly stops upside down.

Squiggly panicking flails their tentacles wildly.

They flip over and realize they've never swam.

They experiment with their tentacles as they begin learning to swim...

JUMP CUT TO:

Them tangled up in their tentacles...

JUMP CUT TO:

Them tangled in a patch of sea grass...

JUMP CUT TO:

Them bouncing around off the locals.

They steady themselves.

A little more confident in their swimming abilities, they start trying to use their mantle and syphon again.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. OCEANS EDGE - DREAM

Squiggly shooting themselves into a rock. They <SQUISH> and rebound.

They are dazed, but something catches their attention.

PAN FROM SQUIGGLY TO THE OCEAN

Light filters down through the ocean with currents flowing through it, it's beautiful.

Currents twist in and out of each other like snakes.

Squiggly reacts in awe.

SQUIGGLY LOOKING AT OPEN OCEAN

Squiggly floats toward the ocean.

A current comes to meet Squiggly.

Squiggly jettisons towards it and shoots out into the ocean.

INT. OCEAN - DREAM - CURRENT

Squiggly excitedly swims around, flipping and tumbling.

The ocean shoots past them, growing colder... darker... scarier.

Squiggly notices and swims towards the current's edge.

FADE TO:

EXT. OCEAN - DREAM - OPEN WATERS

Squiggly is swimming forward towards open ocean instead.

They stop and look around only seeing the surface and leagues of ocean.

They look down and see moving rocks.

Squiggly jettisons towards the bottom of the ocean.

A shadow materializes.

An unsettling eel slithers out, its mouth covered in teeth.

It oozes towards Squiggly.

CUT TO:

EXT. OCEAN - DREAM - SEABED

Squiggly approaches the seabed, and realizes the rocks are crabs.

Squiggly stops.

The eel is approaching from behind.

Its mouth opens, covered in teeth, and casts a shadow.

Squiggly starts to turn around.

They notice the cave of teeth surrounding them.

They fill their mantle too late.

The cave collapses.

The eel leaves a little cloud of purple ink behind.

HOLD ON THE INK CLOUD

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CONCH SHELL - MORNING

The light coming into the conch shell is cool and bright.

Squiggly bolts awake, <WATER RUSHING IN AND OUT> of their syphon, mantle bulging and contracting.

Squiggly bursts out of their egg without noticing.

Squiggly looks down and sees the remnants of their egg.

They scramble to grab the remnants of their egg trying to return to its safety.

FADE TO:

INT. CONCH SHELL - NOON

The light is brighter and Squiggly hasn't moved an inch.

A stomach <GRUMBLE>.

QUICKLY LOOK AT SQUIGGLY

Squiggly hungrily looks for the yolk of their egg.

Another <GRUMBLE>.

Squiggly sees the life outside of the shell.

One more <GRUMBLE>.

They warily venture towards the shells opening.

FADE TO:

EXT. SHALLOWS - MIDDAY

Squiggly conceals themselves at the shell's edge.

Their eyes lock onto a colony of zooplankton.

OCEAN COMES INTO FOCUS

Squiggly floats out of the conch mesmerized.

A shadow passes in front of them.

They panic and dart behind the nearest rock, latch onto it, and close their eyes.

The rock starts to move towards the shallows.

Squiggly calms down and notices the movement. They peek out of one eye.

The eyestalks of a sea snail on its way back to the shallows greet them.

FADE TO BLACK.

END