

Novella Offers Conservative Fable for Our Time

When Tolmie State Park's hard-working chipmunks are accused by the blue jays that their greed is the reason why others starve during the winter, a social revolution occurs among the animals in Arthur Mills' novella "Friend or Foe."

Lacey, WA -- Conservative and liberal politics butt heads over economics, the environment, and immigration in a modern day *Animal Farm* and *Ant-and-the-Grasshopper* style fable in [Arthur Mills'](#) novella *Friend or Foe* (ISBN 978-0-9891840-6-9, [Branching Plot Books](#), 2015).

Tolmie State Park seems like a paradise for all the birds and woodland animals who reside there with enough fruit, nuts, seeds, and acorns for everyone. But one day, Mitch the chipmunk is surprised when a flock of blue jays takes up residence in the park. They seem friendly at first but they are not above mocking Mitch and his wife for their hard work preparing for winter.

Then one day the chipmunks discover someone is stealing from their hard-earned stores. Soon, the blue jays engage in persuasive rhetoric, turning the other animals against the chipmunks. Like a surreal version of the French Revolution gone wrong, the hardworking chipmunks are persecuted, left trying to survive, while their former friends lack all common sense. Soon the rash behavior of those around them causes the chipmunks and their persecutors to realize an economic and environmental nightmare has begun for everyone.

Friend or Foe is a modern day political, economic, and environmental fable that ties together the deepest concerns of our present day. Written in a conservative viewpoint, this fable will educate younger readers about work ethic and proper conservation efforts while older readers may well be frightened by its relevance to our current immigration policies.

Mills states that he wrote the book because, "Liberal values are replacing conservative values, thus destroying America's greatness. If the corrupt nature of liberalism is exposed, maybe, America's greatness may return."

About the Author

Arthur Mills has traveled the world, both literally and figuratively. In his military life as a Chief Warrant Officer, he was stationed in several countries the world over. In his life as a reader, he's been able to visit hundreds more. And as a writer? He's been able to create a world all his own.

Arthur is the creator of *Branching Plot Books*, a book series devoted to the art of double entendre and reader interaction. Aided by voice recognition software, Arthur has been able to pen novels to captivate people of all ages. Whether it's the horror of *The Empty Lot Next Door*, or the interactivity of *The Crawl Space*, Arthur's main goal in writing has always been to develop a deeper means of communication with the world—both real and imagined.

When not working on his latest novel, Arthur is a full-time husband and father. He and his wife, Yonsun, have two children, Arthur and Allen and live within the lush Washington landscape.