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Mr. Kay
English 2

Joey walked into his work to start another day there. It had been 3 years since he was hired at the water company Zemeckis in 2042. He enjoyed his job screening potential new customers, seeing if they had the money and seemed to be able to pay for their water. As he walked into the building he checked out the security camera looking at him, thinking about the blanket of security it was putting them under in the building, and then noticed that there seemed to be a somewhat worried buzz around the building.

“What’s going on here?” Joey asked.

“There’s been a break-in at pipe 301,” Jennifer from water insurance responded. Probably just some thirsty teens trying to get a bit for themselves and their families, nothing to worry about. He walked at a good pace to his office, looking around at all the people in his office that had such great jobs, all because of the full privatization of the world’s water. People never realized how good it could be for the world if the companies took over the world’s water, and now he could see how well it turned out for him. It happened slowly over years, as Zemeckis and their competitor Ulreich took over all water, and things just slowly got better for many people.

As he entered his office on floor 3, he looked at the glass of water sitting on his desk, he picked it up and took a sip as he sat down, preparing for his meeting. He looked on his computer and saw it was with a man named Harrison. He heard a knock on the door and saw a man standing there, and told him to come in.

“Is your name Harrison,” Joey asked him as he got up and shook the man’s hand.

“Yes, it’s Harrison Bradford,” the man replied.

“Well come on and sit down,” Joey said. “So what is the plan that you are looking to purchase?”

“I was planning on doing the 500 gallons/year deal for me and my family,” Harrison said.

“Well that will be 3,000 dollars a month,” Joey explained. The price was consistently going up with inflation, and he could still remember when he started and the price plan was 2,800 a month.

“Okay that sounds good!” Harrison responded.

“And you’re aware that if you fail to keep up with your payments, we will cut you off from the water supply, and you will be in bad standing with our company. This means we may refuse to give you supply again, and your only other option will be to go to Ulreich,” Joey said.

“I understand.”

“Okay just sign these papers,” Joey handed him the papers for the 500 gallons/year deal.

“Okay while I sign these I have a question for you off the record,” Harrison said quietly.

“I have a friend who got cut off by Zemeckis and Ulreich, can you do something for him because he might die of thirst any day now.” Joey took a moment to think, he knew he couldn’t do anything or else he might lose his job, but thought of the man and his family who were going to die.

“I’m sorry, I can’t do anything,” Joey stated. He knew he should do better.

“Okay,” Harrison said as he handed him the papers. “I’ll see you.” Joey thought about what he was going to do. He almost never thought about the people that were on the other side of his job. He decided to continue his day's work, but now the thought of innocent families suffering was lingering in the back of his mind.

Joey was keeping these thoughts in his mind as he walked toward the exit doors toward the end of the day. As he walked out of the building a man in a hoodie approached him and touched him on the shoulder. Joey felt a jolt of shock as the mysterious man touched him. He then whispered something into his ear.

“Do you like your job, you think it’s right?” the mysterious man asked.

“Why are you asking, who are you?” Joey replied.

“Let me get to the point, the company you work for takes away water, a human right, from other people around the world, we’re looking to plan a heist to take a large amount of water from Zemeckis, and we want an inside man, and you could be it.”

“Oh my god, I’m not sure, that’s really crazy!” Joey responded.

“Well I have a feeling that you know what you do is wrong, and you can get this company back. If you're interested, come to this address today at 11:00 pm and I’ll tell you more,” the man said as he slipped a piece of paper into Joey’s pocket. He then walked away, not looking back. Joey thought about it as he walked to his home. Joey dropped his stuff off on his table and sat down on the couch. He began to think about what Harrison had said earlier, and really started to think about the heartlessness of him working at Zemeckis. He looked at his watch, which was now in control of his life for the next 5 hours until 11 pm. He knew that doing this could change his life forever, both positively and negatively depending on how it went.

He checked his watch one more time, and then knocked on the door of what seemed to be a big warehouse. He looked around and saw a security camera looking down at his face. The door then opened and the man he saw earlier was there. “Come on in,” he said.

“What’s your name?” Joey asked as he walked in.

“I’m Jimmy, that’s all you need to know,” he said. “Are you in?”

“I’ll help out,” Joey replied.

“We don’t need much from you, the heist will be tomorrow night,” Jimmy said. “We just need you to get a card from the office that will give us access to the controls of water distribution and the water tanks.”

“Okay what else?”

“We need you to draw a map of the layout and be the last one to leave the building tomorrow in order to turn off the footage and replace it with fake tapes, which we have,” Jimmy stated as he handed Joey a USB drive.

“Okay, I can do that,” Joey said while nodding.

“That’s all we need, you can leave afterwards and we’ll do the dirty work, and then meet you here at midnight,” Jimmy said.

“Alright,” Joey started to feel his heart race a bit and his throat dried up a bit. He looked around for water, realizing there was none here. “Is that all?”

“Yes that’s all, be ready tomorrow, we’re putting our trust in you because you’re our only chance to do this, and we got nothing to lose,” Jimmy said.

“See you,” Joey said as he left the building. Joey thought about what he had just gotten himself into as he drove home, and thought about what could happen to him if it went wrong. He thought about the fact he could be cut off forever, and that would be it. He thought about his cup of water on his desk, which brought him back to his dry throat, and he realized he needed water when he got home. Something that seemed so simple to him, but something many people can’t have.

Joey walked into his office the next day, looking at the security camera, knowing that it had know way of seeing the thoughts in his head. He thought about it being the biggest and most

important day of his life. He could barely concentrate throughout his day at the office. He felt his throat drying up constantly, and he kept filling up his cup. He was drinking an entire river of water through his stress in the evening. However, he made sure to keep his cool around others, and make sure that nobody knew that he was hiding something.

Joey looked at his watch, 5:05, and he saw the last few people filing out of the building. About 5 minutes later, he was sure that he was the last in the building and he had about 15 minutes until the security guards showed up. He walked down, carefully walked into the security room, and changed the footage to cover for what was really going to happen. He then walked out the front door, scanned the surrounding area, and hid the map of the building in the third bush to the left in front of the building, as they had agreed. He then got in his car, and drove down to the warehouse to wait.

Joey checked his watch, 12:30 am, surely they had come by already. He opened the door, and saw a note on the ground. *We had to leave quickly and couldn't meet you, but we dropped 5,000 gallons of water in the basement, 1,000 that we labeled for you is yours. Do anything you want with it, you did well for us, and we hope you use it well.* He went to the basement, and saw many massive tanks of water sitting there. He drove back home in his car, thinking he should feel happy, but really feeling conflicted and not as good as he should. He thought that he didn't really deserve all that water, and that he needed to right his wrongs from his work with Zemeckis.

Joey went and got a ton of bottles at home, and went back to the warehouse. He saw some of the tanks were gone, and started to fill some of his bottles up. He filled up 600 gallons worth of water, and brought it to the slums, where many people had none. He hid several bottles of water by every house, and thought about the happiness those people would have once they found theirs.

The next day, he walked into the office, looked at the camera, thinking of the false blanket of security it was putting people under. Then he greeted his colleagues, and looked at his glass of water like always. However, now he felt that he didn't have to worry about things, and that he had a heightened understanding of the world around him.