

Mister Worry's Fishing Trip

Mr Worry and Mr Take-it-as-it-comes, live next door to each other. One day Mr take-it-as-it-comes said to Mr Worry: "Lets go fishing tomorrow. Its supposed to be a lovely day!"

"Oh I don't know about that," said Mr Worry, "you can't really believe the weather forecast can you. What if it rains?"

"I'll take my large fishing umbrella," said Mister take-it-as-it-comes. "We could both shelter under it."

"Ummm....," said Mister Worry, "are you sure its big enough? Are you sure there will be room for me?"

"Of course there will." said mister take-it-as-it-comes, getting a little impatient as he always did when he spoke to mister Worry. "I'll call for you at 6 o'clock in the morning, be ready!"

Mr take-it-as-it-comes hurried into his house before Mr Worry could find anything else to worry about.

"Oh no!" said Mister Worry to himself. "I'm not sure I want to go fishing. I mean, what if..... what if.... what if we get lost on the way?"

Mr Worry rushed into his cupboard under the stairs and started frantically searching for something. After a while he came out with a large pile of maps. There was a map of Australia ,a Map of North America, a map of France, a map of the entire world, and a map of England.

"That's better!" he said to himself. "We won't get lost now."

Mr worry sat in his armchair. Suddenly he jumped up: "What if.... What if..... What if I fall in the river and get wet?" he said to himself. He rushed up stairs to his bedroom and opened his wardrobe. He pulled out one spare set of clothes, but then he thought: "What if I fall in again, and again, and again!!" Eventually he struggled down stairs with six spare sets of clothes and dumped them in a pile beside the maps.

He sat in his chair and thought. Suddenly he jumped up again: "Food!" he said in a loud voice. "I'll get hungry, and if I get hungry I'll get weak, and then I might faint and fall in the river and be too weak to swim, and then a shark might come and eat me, and then.... and then....."

Mr worry rushed into the Kitchen, He packed: thirty seven large sandwiches, twenty bags of Crisps, seven packets of biscuits, two cakes, a whole bowl of Jelly, a chicken, and a packet of frozen peas. He dragged it all out of the kitchen and dumped it beside the pile of maps and the pile of clothes.

He sat in his chair and thought. Suddenly he jumped up: "Sleep!" he shouted. "I need to sleep."

It was only three o'clock in the afternoon but Mr worry rushed up stairs and put his pajamas on and got into bed. Suddenly he jumped out again: "What if I don't wake up in time? What if I over sleep?" he said to himself.

Mr Worry grabbed his old alarm clock from the shelf and started to wind it up. He set it for 12 o'clock mid-night, so he had time to get ready before Mr take-it-as-it-comes called for him at 6 o'clock in the morning. Then he jumped back into bed and tried to go to sleep.

Mr Worry spent an hour counting the flowers on his wall paper but then he suddenly thought of something: "Burglars!" he shouted as he jumped out of bed and ran down stairs. "What if I have burglars and they steal all my maps and clothes and sandwiches?"

Mr Worry stood in his living room for a while and then he had an idea. "I know," he said to himself, "I'll sleep on the couch, then if I have burglars, I can catch them." So Mr Worry settled down on the couch and tried to go to sleep.

He spent an hour counting the flowers on his living room wall paper when he suddenly thought about Mister take-it-as-it-comes. "I hope he's gone to bed." Mr Worry thought to himself. "It would be terrible if he overslept and forgot to call for me."

Mr Worry decided to give Mr take-it-as-it-comes a ring, just to check that he had remembered to go to bed. Mr take-it-as-it-comes was just having his tea when the telephone rang. "Are you asleep?" asked Mister Worry when Mister take-it-as-it-comes answered the phone. "No," said Mr

Take-it-as-it-comes in a rather surprised voice. "I'm having my tea!"

"Oh dear," thought Mr Worry as he put the phone down. "He'll never wake up for 6 o'clock if he's not in bed now. I'll have to knock on his door in the morning to wake him up!"

Mr Worry lay down on the couch and tried to go to sleep again. Suddenly he jumped up: "The alarm clock!" he shouted. "What if it doesn't go off?"

"I know," he thought to himself, "I'll stay awake until midnight just to check that it goes off."

So Mister Worry sat on the couch and watched the hands on his alarm clock slowly go round and sure enough, at 12 o'clock there was a bright and cheerful ringing sound from the clock.

"Phew!" sighed Mr Worry. "That's a relief."

Mr Worry got up and made himself another ten sandwiches, just in case. He found another two spare sets of clothes and a map of Africa and one of Peru. Then he sat on his couch and waited for Mr take-it-as-it-comes to call for him.

He watched the hands on his Alarm Clock going round: 1 o'clock, 2 o'clock, 3 o'clock, but the more he watched, the more tired he became: 4 o'clock, 5 o'clock and then, at 5 minutes to 6, Mr Worry fell fast asleep.

At 6 o'clock Mr Take-it-as-it-comes knocked gently on Mr Worry's door. Then he knocked a bit louder, and then very loud. But Mr Worry was fast asleep, so fast asleep that he didn't hear anything at all.

"Oh dear," thought Mister take-it-as-it-comes. "Mr Worry must have had such a good night's sleep that he's over slept!" So off he went to go fishing on his own.

When he got back it was nearly 6 o'clock in the afternoon. "Just time for a fish and chip supper," thought Mr take-it-as-it-comes . "I think I'll invite Mr Worry."

So he knocked on Mr Worry's door. But Mr Worry was still asleep. He woke up with a start when he heard the knock on the door and could hardly believe his eyes when he saw Mr take-it-as-it-comes standing at the door with four large fish in his hands.

"Fish and chips, 7 o'clock at my house." said Mr take-it-as-it-comes, and before Mr Worry had a chance to Worry about anything, Mr take-it-as-it-comes leapt over the garden fence and nipped into his house.

Mr Worry scratched his head. "Oh dear!" he thought. "I hope those fish are alright to eat!"

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