

The Next Chapter

By

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THE NEXT CHAPTER

INT. OF SCIENCE BUILDING

Mark is sitting contently on a chair near his boss's office. He calls his wife to tell him that he will be home late.

MARK (ON PHONE)

Hey honey, I am going to be a little late, I have to talk to my boss about something. Probably working more hours because the holidays are coming up.... Yeah everything should be fine. I'll call you in a little bit. Tell little Kelsey I'll be home soon, and I love her. Rachel (pause) I love you.

INT. OF MR. SCHULTZ' OFFICE

Mark is called into the office.

MR. SCHULTZ

Hello Mark, thank you for meeting with me. There's no easy way to say this but some new workers are coming in that can do your job for half the pay, and it seems like we do not need you anymore. I'm sorry we are going to have to let you go.

MARK

What(hesitating) do you mean? I have been here for years. I have made this company a lot of money. I have a wife and kid Mr. Schultz. What I am going to do when I get home, what am I supposed to say to them?

MR. SCHULTZ

I am sorry Mark, its nothing personal, you have done a great job here, but we have to get rid of some people for the new workers. We are cleaning house, and we need to start fresh.

(CONTINUED)

MARK

I can't believe it, just like that.
You're going to replace me just
like that.

MR. SCHULTZ

Again, I am sorry, I wish you all
the luck.

Mark slowly walks out of the office. He slams the door, and lets out like a deep sigh, that looks like he is clenching.

Mark then slowly walks down the stairs and falls to the floor. Rachel is calling, and Mark looks discouraged and does not answer.