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# No Deposit, No Return

By Arthur Alsberg

- Bye, Tracy! Have fun!  
- You too. Where you going?  
Washington, D.C.  
How about you?  
Don't know. Someplace.  
- Mom hasn't told us yet.  
- I'll send you a card!  
Bye.  
No sign of mother yet, Tracy?  
She'll be here, go  
Hadley. -Good. Good.  
I wouldn't want Easter to be as  
disappointing for you as Christmas.  
That wasn't mother's  
fault, go Hadley.  
She was working in Paris, and  
they ran into complications.  
So I remember.  
When a person's a complete  
head of a magazine,  
A person just can't  
ignore complications.  
Of course.  
Speaking of complications,  
where's your brother?  
He's at  
half-mast. -I see.  
He's where? -There.  
Jay...  
What are you doing up there?  
I'm looking for something.  
Jay Osborne, come  
down here this instant.  
I can't. I lost Duster.  
Never mind. I found him.  
My petunias! Oh!  
Jay, it's mother!  
Mom.  
Miss Murdoch.  
Tracy. -Where's mom?  
There's been a slight change  
of plans. In you go, children.  
Without that.  
Oh, he's my friend.

I never go anywhere  
without Duster.  
All right, put him in  
the basket and get in.  
And roll down all the windows.  
Oh, go Hadley. -Good-bye,  
Tracy. Have a happy Easter.  
You, too, go Hadley, and I  
have an Easter present for you.  
- It's a handkerchief.  
- Well, thank you, Tracy.  
- And I got a present too.  
- Oh, and thank you, Jay.  
Aren't you dears?  
Bye. -Bye.  
You didn't give  
anything dumb, I hope.  
Heck, no. It's one of my  
most valuable possessions.  
But what happened to mother? I thought  
she was supposed to get in last night.  
I'm afraid your mother's been detained  
in Hong Kong for another two weeks.  
Hong Kong?  
Two weeks? That's  
our whole vacation.  
Well, naturally, your mother  
was terribly disappointed.  
This is the third  
vacation in a row.  
Jay, mom can't help  
it. Work is work.  
So we spend Easter vacation  
at home. That's not so bad.  
Not at home, dear. There  
won't be anyone there.  
You see, it's my vacation,  
too, and I'm off to Bermuda.  
Bermuda? You're  
taking us to Bermuda?  
Oh, boy!  
TWA flight 802 now  
boarding at gate three  
For Chicago and Los Angeles.

I don't understand,  
miss Murdoch.  
What are we doing  
here? Seeing you off?  
No, I'm seeing you off.  
Flight 801 to Los Angeles.  
Los Angeles?  
We're being shipped to  
grandfather Osbornes again!  
Grandfather Osbornes. I'd  
rather go to jail first.  
It's only for Easter  
vacation. -Some vacation. Yuck.  
Thank you. Off you go now.  
I'll send you a nice  
postcard from Bermuda.  
Bermuda?  
You wouldn't like to  
exchange tickets, would you?  
Nonsense. I'll bet by the  
time you get to Los Angeles...  
You'll be as glad to see your  
grandfather as he is to see you.  
Trapped, Jameson,  
like a rat in a cage.  
Well, it's only for Easter  
vacation, Mr. Osborne.  
- And it is an emergency.  
- An emergency!  
An emergency is an  
earthquake or a tornado.  
My daughter-in-law's children  
are a science fiction nightmare.  
Oh, please, please.  
Be very, very careful with  
that. It's worth a fortune.  
Perhaps they've matured a bit  
since their last visit, sir.  
Jameson, when it comes  
to Tracy and Jay...  
There, there, sir  
Winston. There, there.  
I intend to leave no  
piece of crystal in sight.

No Dresden china  
unprotected. Up you go.  
But the chandelier.  
If I may, sir...  
How could the little fellow  
possibly reach the chandelier?  
The same way he reached it last

**year:**

The launch was perfect, till  
that chandelier got in the way.  
And grandfather didn't have to step  
on my rocket ship and crunch it.  
He just doesn't  
understand kids, Jay.  
I mean, it's been so  
long since he's had any.  
He had us last Summer.  
I tried, Tracy. I really did.  
I even hid my  
skateboard in the closet,  
So he wouldn't hurt himself.  
How did I know it was the  
stairway to the wine cellar?  
Airborne, Jameson. That  
skateboard was like a b-29.  
Straight down the stairs. Decimated  
a whole case of muto rostio, 1908.  
Yes, a lovely year,  
1908. Let me see, sir.  
Was that before or after the  
errant billiard ball episode?  
After, but before the bow and  
arrow incident. -Oh, yes, yes.  
I believe we still have that large  
foam rubber cushion, if needed.  
Good. And let's make sure  
Dr. Butterworth's number  
is handy at all times.  
Excuse me, Mr. Osborne. Any  
place special for the golf clubs?  
Oh, yes. Hide  
'em in the attic.  
Oh, good heavens. Only three

more hours to countdown.  
Three hours till doomsday.  
Do you think  
she's really upset?  
Do I think who's really upset?  
Well, mother, about not  
spending Easter with us.  
Of course. She  
just can't pick up  
In the middle of  
her work and leave.  
I'll bet she  
wants to be with us  
Just as much as we  
wanna be with her.  
Do you think so?  
Sure. I'll bet  
you mom wants to...  
Jay, suppose we didn't  
go to grandfather's.  
Huh?  
Look out!  
Sorry, sir. A near miss.  
Bert, Bert, will you  
please be careful.  
All we need is an accident here,  
and we're gonna blow the whole caper.  
I missed him, Duke. Ain't that  
the main thing, missing him?  
Yeah, that's the main  
thing, all right, Bert. Yeah.  
No harm, no foul! It's  
okay. Go ahead. Go ahead.  
Better he tests them anyway.  
Bert, how long are we gonna  
follow that truck so closely?  
Uh, just while our  
bumpers are stuck together.  
I'll handle it.  
- I'm sorry, Duke.  
- It's all right.  
I guess I'm a little  
nervous. Would you believe it?  
I got the whole thing: Sweaty

palms, butterflies in the stomach.  
Maybe it's the airport.  
You know me and flying.  
Bert, w-w-will  
you just relax.  
Yeah, right.  
After all, we're not  
goin' up in any airplane.  
We're just knockin'  
over a safe.  
You just worry about the safe  
and leave everything else to me.  
Everything's gonna  
go just great. -Yeah.  
The white zone is for  
immediate loading and unloading  
Of passengers  
only. No parking.  
Okay. If we go  
direct to Honolulu...  
And then to Guam,  
In 14 hours, we  
can be in Hong Kong.  
With mother! -Right.  
If she can't bring her vacation  
to us, we'll bring ours to her.  
Boy, you got it  
all figured out.  
Except for one  
small thing. -What?  
Where do we get the \$1,200 to  
pay for the two plane tickets?  
How about credit cards?  
Everybody uses credit cards.  
Jay, we don't have  
any credit cards.  
Okay. Well, then, let's just  
write a check at the bank.  
Like mother always does.  
Jay, you have to have money  
in the bank to begin with.  
Well, if you don't  
take any of my  
suggestions, we'll

never get to Hong Kong.  
Two pieces, eight  
inches long. -Okay.  
Last time out, you cracked one of  
these in less than seven minutes.  
Remember, Duke?  
Guy gets a little  
Rusty after five years.  
Oh, no. Not you, Duke.  
You were the best.  
Also the unluckiest.  
One thing though:  
We never got caught.  
We also never got anything.  
Every safe we opened up either  
contained nonnegotiable bonds,  
Last year's lottery  
tickets or the mouse trap.  
Remember the mouse trap?  
It was either a case of  
going straight or going broke.  
Don't think about it now, Duke.  
Just concentrate on why  
we're going crooked again.  
The time has come, Jameson.  
Go in. Pick up the children.  
Me, sir?  
Of course. -Unarmed?  
Armed with the knowledge that the  
raise I have been promising you...  
Will be forthcoming  
in your next paycheck.  
Oh, that isn't necessary, sir.  
Though it does make  
the task a bit easier.  
Be sure to check for valuables  
before leaving the plane.  
Duster. Duster.  
Duster.  
- What's the matter?  
- Duster's gone.  
Duster.  
Has anybody seen a skunk?  
Excuse me? Which gate



will flight 801 arrive at?  
801? That prob...  
get him away from me!  
Security!  
Run! Skunk! Skunk!  
Come on. Let's  
get out of here.  
What happened? -There were  
two of 'em and a skunk.  
- Two of what and a skunk?  
- Which way did they go?  
We hit it. We hit it, Duke.  
It's the garage free and clear.  
What's that mean?  
It means we just  
went straight again.  
Fill that bucket up  
with everything you can.  
I locked it.  
You locked it.  
Let's get out of  
here. Leave it.  
Okay, nice and easy,  
like we're tourists.  
Hey. What were  
you doing in there?  
I don't know how we lost 'em.  
How'd that little skunk get  
on board in the first place?  
He got on board  
with his sister.  
Oh. Oh, you mean the pet.  
Now, if I were miss Tracy,  
how would I get out of here?  
Ah.  
The white zone is  
for immediate loading  
And unloading of  
passengers only.  
No parking. Violators  
will be towed away.  
What are we gonna  
do? -Hide Duster.  
Take off, driver!

This cab is taken.  
Of course, it's  
taken. We're taking it.  
I'm afraid we've lost  
them, Mr. Osborne.  
I'm afraid we haven't.  
Peter, follow that cab.  
I wonder what they're up to.  
Where do you think you kids  
are goin'? -We're running away.  
Running away, huh?  
Yes, just like you are.  
Just a minute there, young lady.  
Who says we're running away?  
Betcha they would.  
They'd be pretty interested in  
these burglar tools. -Burglar tools!  
I believe this is what is  
known as a Jimmy. -Give me that.  
This is a pick for  
locks. -Put that away.  
Boy, a couple of real  
crooks. What'd you get?  
So far, just a couple of  
kids. -And a skunk. A skunk!  
It's just a pet.  
Well, you and your pet better  
get yourselves another ride.  
Okay.  
Driver, would you please turn  
around and stop that police car?  
Just keep going ahead, driver.  
Sergeant turner?  
What happened? -They were after  
the safe in the treasurer's office.  
Cleaning lady said they had it  
open, but it wasn't blown or forced.  
Just a little adhesive  
tape stuck to the door.  
Adhesive tape. About this  
far from the dial? -Yes, sir.  
Recognize the MO, sir? -A guy  
I've been tryin' to nail for years.  
- How much did he get?

- Apparently nothing.  
- That's my man. He never did.  
- I had a case like that...  
In my socio-psychology  
course at the academy.  
Oh, Longnecker... -It's the  
sodomasochistic personality at work.  
Longnecker. -This man is part  
of the compulsive loser syndrome.  
Longnecker, this guy was not  
a loser. He was just unlucky.  
Until he disappeared five  
years ago, he was the best.  
And if he's back in business, we'd  
better get lucky before he does.  
You can drop us  
right, uh, here.  
Well, kids, this is  
where we say good-bye.  
- Is this your hideout?  
- Will you please...  
- Pay the driver, Bert.  
- Oh, sure, Duke. Oh, Duke.  
You haven't got any loose  
change on ya, have ya?  
You didn't bring  
any money with you?  
Well, we had the car  
when we left home.  
I thought we'd be loaded  
now. -How are we gonna pay?  
Keep the change, driver.  
- Why aren't you in that cab?  
- We can use a hideout too.  
No, no. No Chance. No.  
If you're runnin' away that means  
somebody's gonna come lookin' for you.  
We've got enough troubles.  
Get out of here. Scat.  
Scat. -Okay. Okay.  
- Come on, Jay.  
- Where we goin'?  
Oh, I don't know. Maybe there's  
a park that we can sleep in.

- What's the matter?

- Oh, nothing.

It's just my asthma. -Asthma?

You know I always get it when it's  
cold and damp and late at night,

And I have to sleep outdoors.

But I'll be all right.

Let's get some of these  
newspapers out of the trash can.

What for?

To stuff inside of our  
clothing, so we don't freeze.

Just... One... Night.

Shall I retrieve them, sir?

There might be one alternative.

On the other hand, would you say  
the children are in imminent danger?

No, sir.

And might not a look on  
the seamier side of life

Help them to show more  
respect for the finer things?

Oh, I believe it would, sir.

If we leave Peter behind

to keep an eye on them,

Might this be the tonic to  
straighten those children up,  
Make them into better citizens?

Indeed, it might, sir.

That's very astute

of you, Jameson.

You can expect a bonus  
along with your raise.

I got the keys.

Five grand, Duke. Where  
we gonna get five grand?

We'll get it. We'll get  
it. Now just don't panic.

Yeah, right.

Gotcha. Don't panic.

After all, we're just small  
potatoes to a guy like big Joe.

He deals with millions.

He probably forgot

all about us.  
Then again, he  
probably remembered.  
Would you believe the  
door was open, Duke?  
We knew that you would want us  
to make ourselves comfortable.  
Oh, sure, make yourselves  
comfortable. You already have.  
Freddie.  
Hello, kids.  
Hello, "puddy cat."  
I didn't know you were  
a family man, Duke.  
Oh, yes, yes, of course,  
yes. This is my niece.  
And, um... My niece and  
nephew from, uh, buffalo.  
Buffalo. -Buffalo!  
That's near Syracuse.  
Bert, why don't you see if we can  
get some pajamas for the kids...  
And tuck 'em in to their little  
beddy-by. -Oh, sure, sure.  
Psst.  
Grapevine tells me that, uh,  
You were at the  
airport tonight, Duke.  
Yeah, but it's my  
usual luck, Joe.  
See? Nothing. Nothing.  
Oh, that's too bad.  
The computer's gonna be  
very unhappy to hear that.  
Computer?  
Yeah, that note  
is... Way overdue.  
And it's a sizable amount.  
Well, it was \$5,000  
the last time I looked.  
You haven't looked  
in a long time, Duke.  
And you know those computers.  
Clickety-click, clickety-click.

Interest, carryin' charges. Interest  
on carryin' charges. Clickety-click.  
Well, just how much has  
it clickety-clicked up to?  
Nine big ones.  
N-nine... Nine  
thousand dollars?  
Every minute we spend talkin',  
it's clickety-click clickety-click.  
Isn't there some way we  
could get an extension?  
An extension? -An extension.  
I mean, the garage can make it.  
We were just  
starting to roll...  
When they tore up the streets  
out here and blocked it off.  
Started to build high  
rises on each side of us.  
Isn't it a shame? Isn't  
it a shame, Freddie?  
It's a shame, but I can't  
tell that to the computer.  
Me, I'm a pushover,  
but the computer...  
If people don't pay their debts,  
that computer goes to pieces.  
Stick around, shadow.  
Come here. I think you might  
be interested in this too.  
Me? No, I'm just  
the wheel man.  
I just do the driving. I'm  
not even very good at that.  
Duke just keeps me around  
because I'm his ex-brother-in-law.  
See, I was married  
to his sister Irene.  
We never got along though.  
I got along better with Duke.  
Guess that's why  
he keeps me around.  
Guess that's why he let  
you sign this note too.

You're buddies, huh? That  
is your name, isn't it?  
Bert Delaney?  
Well, now, I'm not sure  
if it's exactly that.  
I'd have to check  
my birth certificate.  
That's in Hackensack,  
new jersey.  
I was born in Hackensack.  
Whole family was.  
Mom and the kids.  
Bet you'd love to  
see your mom again.  
Oh, well, poor mom. You  
see, she's up in, uh...  
Oh. That... That's what  
you meant, huh? Yeah, well.  
72 hours, Duke.  
And I hope you don't  
disappoint the computer.  
How do you suppose he did that with  
just a little stub of the pencil?  
I'm wonderin' how we're gonna  
get \$9,000 in the next 72 hours.  
Did you hear what  
big Joe said to Duke?  
All I heard was  
pencils cracking.  
Boy, Duke and Bert  
are in trouble.  
Yeah. This is some  
cheesy hideout.  
Two guys can just walk in and  
shove 'em around like that.  
Boy, if this was my hideout,  
I'd make a few changes.  
They need more than  
that. They need money.  
- Even more money than we need.  
- How're they gonna get it?  
Well, I think I have an idea  
of how we can all get it.  
Duster. Duster.

Duster.

- What do you want, kid?

- It's Duster. I lost him.

Oh, yeah? I'm sorry.

I found him.

Thank you. -Mmm.

Bacon?

Uh-uh. That's  
gotta be waffles.

And do I know waffles.

When I was married  
to Irene, your sister,  
She drove me bananas  
with her waffles.

Morning. -What's this?

Breakfast. I hope you like  
scrambled eggs and bacon.

Oh, it's better than  
waffles and Irene.

- Some surprise, huh, Duke?

- Not to me, it isn't.

Now I said one night.

If you think this meal is gonna  
buy you some extra time, young lady,  
You're very much  
mistaken. -Oh, no.

Breakfast is just  
because I like to cook.

And I like to  
eat. -And so do I.

Wait a minute. Wait  
just one minute here.

We didn't have bacon and eggs in  
the house. -You're quite right.

I bought them the second time  
I went out. -The second time?

Well, the first time I went out  
last night, the market wasn't open,  
So I just mailed the  
ransom note to grandfather.

You did what? -Ransom  
note to grandfather?

For \$100,000.

I told him to leave it under the



umbrella tree in Williams garden.  
- You... Hold it. Hold it.  
- Don't worry. He can spare it.  
Yeah, he's got  
millions and billions.  
Hold it! -All we need is enough  
for two tickets to Hong Kong.  
You can have the  
rest. -Just hold it!  
The squeeze may be on, but  
it's not enough to turn me...  
From being a safecracker  
into a kidnapper.  
Never enough for that. -But you didn't  
kidnap us. We kidnapped ourselves.  
Oh, don't be  
ridiculous. -Yeah.  
Although come to  
think of it, they did.  
And you didn't send  
the ransom note. We did.  
She's got a point there too. -All  
you've gotta do is pick up the money.  
That sounds simple  
enough. -Simple?  
Have you lost your marbles? Do you  
know what the rap is for kidnapping?  
He's right, Tracy.  
Do you know what the rap is  
for not paying big Joe \$9,000?  
She's right, Duke.  
I'd rather lose my marbles  
than be a broken pencil.  
Oh, you would.  
Don't you believe  
in fate? -Fate?  
It was fate that put  
us in that taxi cab  
with you. -I thought  
it was you, Tracy.  
Maybe it was fate, Duke. I mean,  
it'd be criminal to go against fate.  
The money would help us  
all. -Of course, it will.

Come on, Duke. Be a  
good Guy and kidnap us.  
- Good day, Jameson.  
- Good day, sir.  
Good day, sir Winston.  
After your breakfast, sir,  
shall I bring the car around  
To pick up miss Tracy  
and master James?  
There, there, sir Winston.  
You have a knack for ruining  
a perfectly beautiful morning.  
Sorry, sir. Will you have  
sausages or bacon with your eggs?  
Neither, thank you.  
I've lost my appetite.  
Yes, I quite  
understand. -What's this?  
Well, it arrived early this  
morning, sir. Special delivery.  
Osborne residence. Oh,  
yes, Peter. Just a moment.  
It's Peter, sir.  
Morning, Peter. Hmm?  
She went to the...  
Went to the mailbox?  
I can't imagine.  
On the other hand, maybe I can.  
I'll be right back to you, Peter.  
Very, uh, interesting development  
here. We have a ransom note.  
Ransom note?  
Yes. "Have children.  
Leave \$100,000. Briefcase.  
"under umbrella tree,  
Williams gardens, 4:00.  
"we mean business."  
\$100,000. Good heavens, sir.  
Shall I ring up the bank?  
You miss the point.  
Our little Tracy  
concocted this nonsense.  
She's conned these  
poor benighted gentlemen

Into going along  
with her idiot plan.  
I beg your pardon?  
Oh, excuse me, sir.  
If I may, sir. What  
is our next move?  
Next move? Well, as the children  
appear to be in no danger whatever,  
I shall first finish  
my breakfast. -Oh.  
Then we will take additional supplies  
to Peter for his prolonged vigil,  
After which I will have  
a nice round of golf.  
Sounds delightful, sir. -Also, I'll  
have bacon and sausage with my eggs.  
Your appetite's  
returned, sir. -Quite.  
What time you got?  
I just told you the  
time five minutes ago.  
Oh, right, yeah. It was five to 12:00  
then, so that'd make it 12:00 now.  
So in four hours,  
we pick up the money.  
Will you please either  
drink that or put it down?  
Oh, yeah. I'm sorry, Duke.  
Irene always used to make a cup of  
hot chocolate to steady the nerves.  
She never gave me any though.  
They're here! It's the cops!  
It's fire engines,  
and they're passing by.  
Yeah, right. I always  
get that backwards.  
See, back in jersey,  
when you hear a...  
It's usually a police car.  
But if it's a...  
It's probably an ambulance.  
But a fire engine can go...  
Or ding-ding-ding-ding,  
ding-ding-ding.

Personally, I'd  
rather hear the...  
Because that...  
ding-ding-ding-ding...  
Boy, that'll drive you crazy.  
I'm sorry, Duke. I guess  
I'm just a little edgy.  
You think we can pull this off?  
Who knows?  
Maybe. If you can  
keep the kids hidden,  
And, uh, quiet till 4:00.  
Oh. That shouldn't  
be too hard.  
Where are they?  
Well, the girl, Tracy,  
she's in the bedroom.  
And the boy? -Jay?  
Jay!  
Check on Jay, too, Duke.  
He just walked by  
outside the window.  
Outside the window!  
Jay Osborne, come back here!  
Go get him. Go on. I'll  
go downstairs. Go get him.  
Duster, come back.  
Here, Duster. Come on, Duster.  
Jay. Now, Jay...  
Duster, come back.  
Jay, now you be careful.  
You hear me, Jay?  
Oh.  
You masher! I'll teach  
you to look in my window!  
I'm sorry, lady. -Heel!  
What are you doing  
down here? Get up there!  
Stop it! Will you stop that!  
Be careful, Bert!  
No!  
Duster, you come down here.  
What are you doing  
up there, Jay?

Duster!  
Duster. Duster.  
How'd he get up there?  
I don't know. Duster!  
Here, Duster.  
Duster!  
Get back here!  
Duster!  
Duster, you get back here!  
Where do you  
think you're going?  
I gotta go get  
Duster. -Get back.  
Come on, Duster.  
Come on. Nice skunk.  
Come on.  
Duster, come here!  
Well, go get him!  
No! -No, Bert! No! Get back!  
Hold on, Duster.  
Get a... Get a canvas!  
Anything! A gunny  
sack! A potato bag!  
Hold on, Duster. He's  
comin' out to get ya.  
Be careful. -What?  
Get it in here! All  
right, stretch it tight.  
Get it out! Stretch it  
tight! Stretch it tighter!  
This way!  
Ah! Ah, ah.  
Now hold on!  
Here! Grab my wrist.  
Hang on!  
Whoa! -Whoa!  
Hey!  
Oh, no! -Don't!  
Get us down!  
Are ya all right,  
kid? -Yeah, thanks.  
Holy smoke! A skunk!  
Let's get outta here!  
Duster! -Jay!

Duster, you come back here!  
Where do you  
think you're goin'?  
I gotta get Duster  
before he falls off.  
You stay here and I'll...  
I'll go out and get him.  
Be careful, Duster!  
Boy, Duster. You  
can come back now.  
We got Duster.  
Ow!  
Come on now, fella.  
Come on. Slow and easy.  
No, son. Come on back here.  
Gimme your hand, tex,  
rod. Now come on, fella.  
Easy now. Don't look down.  
Now come on. Come on.  
Just another step.  
Nothin' to be  
afraid of. That's it.  
Hold it, mister.  
Hey, Mac, don't move.  
- Bert, come back!  
- Huh? What'd you say?  
Get back!  
Bert, don't step!  
Don't what?  
Bert, don't!  
Bert! Bert?  
How long did you  
say it is until 4:00?  
Oh, what a haul.  
A hundred grand!  
Plus a cowhide briefcase!  
Doesn't feel like a  
hundred grand to me.  
Maybe he wrote us a check.  
"having difficulty raising  
the money. Will need more time.  
"probably until after Easter  
vacation. J.W. Osborne."  
"having difficulty

raising the money.

"will need more time. Probably until after Easter vacation."

That grandfather of yours has got some sense of humor.

But I don't understand.

You don't understand?

Why, it's very simple.

Your grandfather isn't taking us seriously.

Nobody's taking us seriously.

What do we do, Duke?

We get ourselves

out of this caper,

And we ship those kids back to their grandfather, that's what we do.

Ship them back? You mean, give up the money entirely?

Money? What money?

Don't you think he'll come up with something to get 'em back?

Would you? So far, all we've got out of this kidnapping

is an I.O.U. And a

genuine leather briefcase.

Yeah, but what about big Joe?

If we don't come up

with what we owe him,

He's liable to go from

clickety-click to bangety-bang.

We'll just take one thing

at a time. Now first...

I don't care how much you pound on that door. You can't come in.

Our grandfather will never

pay that ransom. Never, never!

Did you leave the TV on upstairs? -That's no TV.

- Help? How can I?

- Give me that chair.

Hold on now, Jay!

You can do it!

I can't, Tracy. I can't.

They're pushing too hard.

What'd you say? There's so much  
noise I can't even hear you.  
Oh, no, there it goes. They  
just broke down the door.  
- Help, help!  
- They're here now.  
They're coming in.  
Tell grandfather...  
Tell him to pray for us.  
Just who were you talking to?  
The police. -The police!  
Now they'll take you seriously.  
Might as well write  
that second ransom note.  
Police'll be lookin'  
for you anyway.  
The police?  
I'm beginnin' to feel more like  
the kidnappee than the kidnapper.  
I don't feel like  
either one of them.  
Because there isn't going  
to be a second ransom note.  
The police, already?  
That can't be the police.  
They only move that fast  
to tow away parked cars.  
Well, go on. Open the door.  
Who is it?  
It's for you, Duke.  
For me?  
Just happened to be in  
the neighborhood, Duke.  
Thought I'd come by and give you  
a friendly reminder: 48 hours.  
Hi, Joe. Big Joe.  
48 hours, Duke.  
The computer doesn't  
like to be kept waiting.  
Does it, Freddie?  
No, it doesn't.  
Hello, kid. How's  
the puddy cat?  
Joe, we're workin'



on the money.  
I hope so. We wouldn't  
want the computer  
to blow a fuse,  
would we, Freddie?  
No, we wouldn't.  
Buffalo, eh? -What?  
Duke tells me  
you're from buffalo.  
Oh, yes.  
You happen to know  
a cousin of mine  
By the name of  
Frankie Longtooth?  
No, I don't think  
so. -That's funny.  
Frankie Longtooth is a very  
prominent citizen in buffalo.  
Look, Joe, you've  
got my word for it.  
You'll get your  
money, all \$9,000.  
- Eleven thousand?  
- Clickety-click.  
48 hours, Duke.  
I think we'd better make  
that 47 hours and 55 minutes.  
Clickety-click.  
Sh... -What are  
we gonna do, Duke?  
I'll tell ya what we're  
gonna do. We're gonna...  
Write that second ransom note,  
That's what we're gonna do.  
Harry, you guys  
are supposed to be  
The best crime  
lab in the state.  
Sergeant turner?  
I know it's a tape Mark.  
What about it? What kind?  
Sergeant turner?  
Shh. All right.  
Stay on it, will ya?

Sergeant turner.

I have waited five long  
years for that guy to surface.

It isn't often a man gets  
a second Chance like this.

I tell you there is no way  
he's gonna escape me this time.

There may be one way. -How?

We're off the case. -Off?

Off. -Off.

- I got a kidnapping for you.

- What about the safecracker?

The children of JW Osborne.

I want you two there.

But my... -Immediately.

You're expected.

Here's the address.

Go. -Yes, sir.

And Max, this is no phantom  
safecracker you're playing with.

These are dangerous men,  
so proceed cautiously.

And Max, be tactful.

You're going to have a nervous,  
worried grandfather on your hands.

Mr. Osborne, the police are  
here about Tracy and Jay.

There, sir Winston. They haven't  
found them already, have they?

No, sir. -Oh, thank goodness.

Once the strong arm of  
the law starts muscling

us around, it'll be

"do this, do that."

They'll have us paying that ransom,  
and you know what that means.

I do, sir.

Well, it was a splendid little  
vacation while it lasted.

Send them in.

This way, sergeant.

Mr. Osborne, sergeant turner  
here. Detective Longnecker.

Gentlemen. -This

is a nasty business.  
We know what you're  
going through,  
But we do have a way of  
handling these things.  
Now, I know you're  
gonna argue with me,  
But what we want you to  
do is absolutely nothing.  
Nothing?  
That's right. Ignore the note.  
No contact. No  
ransom. Nothing.  
It's what we call our "projected  
low-profile procedure."  
Longnecker. -In our kidnapping  
studies at the academy, we found...  
We'll be in  
touch, Mr. Osborne.  
Meantime, try to relax, sir.  
Rest assured, Mr. Osborne.  
We're right on top of it.  
Jameson.  
Now that the police are "right  
on top of it", to coin a phrase...  
We wouldn't want to interfere  
in their little investigation.  
It would be positively  
insulting to tell  
them where the children  
are, wouldn't it?  
Oh, most definitely, sir.  
You've just earned  
yourself another bonus.  
- What are you doing?  
- Opening your safe.  
You're what?  
Just one more tumbler to go.  
Oh, I figured out what everything  
was for. It's rather easy.  
But you...  
Sure. Safecrackin's a cinch.  
Are you going to  
mail the ransom note?

You just go on  
playin' with the safe  
And stay out of trouble.  
Duke! -Are you finished  
pasting up the note?  
A-a-almost.  
Duke, we're on TV.  
Please, please, please.  
One question at a time.  
With just a phone  
call to go on,  
How do you expect  
to crack the case?  
We've only been on the case a  
few hours. Easy there, fella.  
We'll have to wait and  
see what tomorrow brings.  
Haven't you made that "tomorrow"  
speech a few other times, sergeant?  
Turner!  
...Like with the phantom  
safecracker a few years ago?  
You got a good memory, Sandy.  
Duke, is that the Guy you've been  
givin' the slip to all these years?  
Yeah. I've never  
seen him before.  
Good thing TV isn't two-way.  
He'd be lookin' right at ya.  
Eventually I will  
catch that safecracker,  
But at the moment, there are  
two kids and \$100,000 at stake.  
75. I reduced it  
from 100,000 to 75.  
Sort of like a  
clearance sale, huh?  
Anything to unload those kids.  
If turner's on this, we gotta  
move fast. Where's that note?  
You're kinda wearin' it.  
What?  
Where's the envelope?  
I didn't finish the note

yet. I didn't put the date on.  
It's fine. It's just fine.  
I'll be back in about an hour.  
An hour, just to  
mail a ransom note?  
I don't wanna mail it  
in the neighborhood.  
Can I go with ya?  
'course not. With the police  
lookin' all over for those kids,  
Somebody's gotta watch 'em.  
Why do I always get  
the dangerous part?  
What can be dangerous about  
taking care of a couple of kids?  
Hey, is this real dynamite?  
Give me that and  
don't throw... Ah!  
Well, is it?  
You stay out of our  
supplies. You hear me?  
Well, Duster and I have  
nothing to do. We're bored.  
When your sister's  
through playin' in there,  
Why don't you go on in and try  
opening up my safe with my tools?  
No, thanks. I'd  
rather use dynamite.  
Duke, can I please  
mail the ransom note?  
No. You stay here  
and keep 'em busy.  
Well? -Well, what?  
He said you were  
to keep me busy.  
I'll tell ya what. I'll give ya

**your choice:**

I hate cards. -What then?  
I got it. Judo.  
I don't know anything  
about judo. -Well, I do.  
Duster, you sit right

there and watch this.  
Come on, Jay, that  
wouldn't be fair.  
A man like me against  
a fella like you...  
C'mon, two falls outta three.  
Grab my wrist.  
Ha-rah!  
You're right. You don't  
know anything about judo.  
I have a feeling  
I'm gonna learn.  
Well, the note's in the mail.  
Hi, Duke.  
Don't tell me.  
Charades, right?  
- You're a pretzel.  
- My first judo lesson.  
Judo? Oh, Bert.  
Duke, you wouldn't wanna send  
another ransom note, would ya?  
And lower it to \$50,000. Before Jay  
comes back with lesson number two.  
Back? Back from where?  
He went out to  
get some liniment.  
How long's he been gone?  
Can you see my watch?  
You mean you let  
those kids outta here  
When we're this close to getting  
that computer off of our back?  
I'm looking for a Mr.  
Duke and a Mr. Bert.  
We have the children  
down at the station.  
I'm going to have to ask you  
gentlemen to come with me.  
Well, gentlemen, I'm afraid  
you're in a little trouble.  
But, sergeant, if I  
could just explain.  
You've been ID'ed by the kids.  
It was the girl's

fault. It was her idea.  
That's right. -We didn't  
want any part of it.  
No, we had...  
It's too late now.  
The law's the law.  
Sure, the law's the law. An eye  
for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.  
If you've got an animal,  
you've gotta have a license.  
But there's such  
a thing as mercy...  
And a right to stand before the  
bar of Justice and say "animal"!  
Animal? License?  
Animal license?  
That's what we're  
here for, right?  
Certainly. -Right!  
Uncle Duke, uncle Bert, hi.  
We lost Duster on the way  
home, but then we found him.  
Sure.  
Well, I guess that  
about wraps it up, right?  
Not quite. \$2.00  
for the license.  
\$2. 00. Yes, of  
course, certainly.  
I don't... I  
haven't got... Oh.  
There we go.  
And a form to  
fill out. -Form.  
Mind if we take it  
home and fill it out?  
- Suit yourself.  
- Thank you very much.  
I'll check on that M.O.  
Right now, sergeant turner.  
On second thought, I think  
I'll fill it out right here.  
Okay, Benson. Turn 'em over.  
I know you guys got fingerprints

off the safe at the airport.  
I thought you were off  
that case, you old bulldog.  
I'll be off it when I see  
that safecracker behind bars.  
- Excuse me.  
- Perfectly all right.  
Anything break  
on the kidnapping?  
Not yet. We don't  
have any pictures.  
All we know is  
a couple of kids.  
Girl about her age,  
boy about his age.  
Probably in the hands  
of a couple of hoodlums.  
Isn't that terrible,  
uncle Duke and uncle Bert?  
Two kids our age, in the  
hands of a couple of hoodlums.  
Yeah, it's terrible.  
Here are the prints.  
They're smudgy.  
They'll do.  
Believe me, Benson.  
Those kidnapppers  
and that safecracker  
Aren't slipping through  
my fingers this time.  
- Excuse me.  
- Perfectly all right.  
Thank you, sergeant.  
Come on, uncle Bert.  
Jay, you gonna be  
out of there soon?  
In just a minute.  
I'm brushing Duster's teeth.  
Brushing a skunk's teeth.  
Hey, whose  
toothbrush you using?  
Never mind, never mind.  
I don't wanna know.  
Well?



Well, the third ransom  
note is on its way.  
The rest is up to grandpa.  
After a day like today, I sure  
am glad we lowered it to 50 g's.  
After a day like today,  
I lowered it to 30.  
You know, though, they're not  
really bad kids to have around.  
If you've got  
hospitalization. -Yeah, right.  
What are you doing?  
Do you realize anybody could walk  
in here... The police, big Joe.  
The security here is lousy.  
What would you suggest? A nest  
of rattlesnakes at the front door?  
Not a bad idea. I'll  
put that on my list.  
List? What list? What is this?  
I got a bunch of things here that  
could make this place foolproof.  
If you take a rope...  
I thought I told  
you to take a bath.  
I was too busy thinking.  
And you take it...  
Well, we are taking you to  
your grandfather's clean.  
But we're going to Hong Kong.  
I've got dinner.  
Or do I? My nose tells  
me this is better.  
Mmm, that smells  
terrific. What is it?  
Chili relleno.  
Maria's special recipe.  
Maria. That your mother?  
Uh-uh. Our maid.  
She's Mexican.  
Mexican, huh?  
What are these funny-looking  
little hamburgers here?  
Swedish meatballs. -Swedish?

That Maria  
certainly got around.  
- They were Hildas recipe.  
- Hilda. That's another maid?  
Uh-huh.  
Sounds like you spend an  
awful lot of time with maids.  
Mother's the head  
of a magazine.  
Oh, well, I see.  
I didn't know that.  
And that keeps her very busy.  
Yeah, su-sure, sure.  
I can understand that.  
Hope you like your  
baked apples cinnamon.  
Baked apples with  
cinnamon? Mmm.  
They're my favorite.  
I know. Bert told me.  
Oh, he did, did he?  
I've been doing a  
little research myself,  
And Jay tells me that you  
are a perfect size eight.  
Is that right?  
For me? -Mm.  
I love it.  
And green's my favorite color.  
Did Jay tell you that too?  
No. Just a guess.  
Well, that was a pretty  
lucky guess, I guess.  
Is it too late to  
lower that to 25,000?  
I'll tell Mr.  
Osborne you're here.  
He's just finishing breakfast.  
- Slept late, you see.  
- It's almost noon.  
Grandchildren in the  
hands of kidnappers,  
The old man sleeps till  
noon. He's a strange one.

Strange?

A distraught grandfather  
pacing the floor half the night,  
Finally falling, exhausted,  
into a fitful slumber at dawn.

He has to sleep until  
noon. -Longnecker.

The courage of the man.  
Just you wait, sergeant.  
I'll bet the old guy comes  
in smiling and cheerful,  
Covering up, like there's  
nothing on his mind.

Well, well, and top of  
the morning to both of you.

What brings you  
two around so early?

- The ransom note.

- The ransom note?

I gave it to you  
yesterday. -The new one.

Your man called us about  
it over an hour ago.

Oh, forgive me. I've had so  
many lately, I get muddled.

We're losing over 20,000  
cells a day, you know.

What does it say?

We'll find out when we  
get it open, won't we?

If I was a betting man, I  
wouldn't mind risking a ten-spot

They've come down  
to, um, 35,000 by now.

Uh-oh, missed it by  
five. They're down to 30.

I must say, your "do nothing"  
plan is working beautifully.

Uh, mind if I take  
that note, Mr. Osborne?

By all means. Anything I can  
to help. Keep up the good work.

I want you to know, sir,  
you have an admirer here.

Longnecker.

Fore.

**"4:**

Pedro. Be there in person."

Sir, I've been giving  
this case a lot of thought,  
And I have a theory, if I may.  
I had a course in the law of  
probability at the academy.

**Fact:**

safecracker were at the airport  
On the very same  
night at the same hour.

**Fact:**

at precisely the same instant.

**Fact:**

has been seen to this moment.

**Query:**

kidnapper be one and the same person?

Longnecker, a safecracker  
is a safecracker,

And a kidnapper is a kidnapper,

And I wish I could say a  
policeman was a policeman.

Am I confusing you?

I thought it would be some useful  
information in solving the case.

I have some useful information.

Our "do nothing" plan is about  
to become a "do something" plan.

Move! -Oh, yeah.

Do you have the keys, sir?

Uh-huh,

uh-huh.

Well, what time does the

**6:**

And then when would

we get to Hong Kong?

I'd like to make a  
reservation for two,  
Nancy Adams and  
her brother, John.  
I thought we were going.  
Shh! We can't give out our real  
name with people looking for us.  
We'll pay for the tickets  
when we get there, in cash.  
Well, it's all  
set. -So's this.  
What are you doing up there?  
Just working on a couple  
of inventions to protect us.  
Protect us?  
If anybody gets in,  
they'll never get out.  
Oh, yeah?  
Oh, Duke! Everything's set.  
Got us some great wheels. Bo Beasley  
brought his car in for repairs.  
Okay, let's... -I called  
the airlines, Duke.  
If you come back with the money by

**5:**

Yeah.  
If we don't get moving, nobody's  
going to be going anywhere. Come on.  
Could that possibly  
be you, big Joe?  
t's him.  
Computer just reminded me,  
Duke. Two and a half hours.  
We'll have your \$11,000...  
You'll get your \$13,000  
by then, big Joe.  
That's good, Duke.  
Are you sure that you've never  
heard of my cousin Frankie Longtooth?  
No, sir.  
Hmm. Maybe you would know  
him by his legitimate name.  
John Smith?

Huh, that's funny.  
Very prominent in buffalo.  
Seen your mother lately?  
Oh, no. No. Mom's up in, uh...  
'member, I told you?  
I thought maybe you forgot.  
I didn't forget. Me and  
the computer never forget.  
Uh-uh.  
Oh, boy. One of these days...  
Come on. Let's go.  
Now, you kids remain  
quiet and hidden,  
And don't open that door  
for anybody, you hear?  
I told you. You have  
nothing to worry about.  
- Yeah, yeah, yeah. Come on.  
- Oh, I gotta get my jacket.  
I have the whole  
apartment protected.  
Oh, sure. Well, it's one thing  
to know something about judo,  
But if somebody goes  
pushin' in that door...  
Boy! It works great!  
Between you and the pencil, that  
grandfather of yours better be there.  
Let's go.  
Mr. Osborne, the  
children's mother's here.  
Carolyn, here?  
Carolyn, my dear. How  
did... -How did I find out?  
I got a wire in Hong Kong from  
the police. That's how I found out.  
Have you heard  
from Tracy and Jay?  
Not exactly, but I  
assure you, they're fine.  
They're fine! In the hands  
of kidnapers, they're fine.  
Well, we have a rendezvous  
with them in an hour.

Then what are we  
standing around here for?  
It's the police, Carolyn.  
The police, it's their idea.  
They've been handling the  
case beautifully, haven't they?  
They feel that if we  
hand over the ransom,  
It would be bad  
for their plans.  
Their plans!  
I don't believe this.  
It's fine to be cold and  
calculating when you're the police,  
But you're their grandfather!  
How did they get kidnapped  
in the first place?  
- It happened rather suddenly...  
- Where's that meeting place?  
I'm going there. -Wait  
a minute. Hold it...  
I'll drive you there.  
We need some money. Jameson, you  
stay here in case the police call.  
I'll wait in the  
car. Please hurry.  
I beg your pardon, but wouldn't  
it be simpler to call Peter  
And have him pick up the children  
rather than pay the ransom?  
If my daughter-in-law discovered I  
knew the whereabouts of the children,  
It would hardly cement our  
budding relationship, would it?  
You do have a point, sir.  
Wouldn't you say it's  
worth 10 or 15,000  
to water that  
flowering friendship?  
I do indeed, sir.  
Good thinking, Jameson.  
You've just earned yourself...  
Another bonus. Thank  
you very much, sir.

The kids in Duke's apartment!  
Buffalo!  
And me and the computer had Bert  
and Duke figured for two-bit hoods.  
They got the caper  
of the year goin'.  
"it is rumored that the ransom  
demand is almost \$100,000..."  
One hundred thousand  
dollars. That's chicken feed.  
They are two-bit hoods. Old  
man Osbornes are worth millions.  
Freddie, I think it's time  
for the pros to take over.  
Anything wrong,  
sir? Can I help you?  
No, thank you. We're  
about to help ourselves.  
Okay, that's fine. Now keep  
it coming. Keep it coming.  
'scuse me. What wharf is this?  
Wharf 32. -Thank you.  
Wharf 32.  
- Next is, uh...  
- Wharf 33.  
Right, right. I'm sorry, Duke.  
I guess I'm just  
a little nervous.  
I got the whole thing again. Sweaty  
palms, butterflies in the stomach.  
And we're nowhere  
near the airport.  
I bet you it isn't planes  
at all. I'm a nervous wreck.  
We don't know what  
they're driving, Henderson.  
Anything at all that  
approaches, check in.  
Right, sir. Don't worry.  
I'm perched like an eagle.  
Can't miss a thing  
from up here. Out.  
Oh, you're gonna love  
this trap, sergeant.



I borrowed it from the old  
spider-and-fly routine...  
We learned at the acad...  
uh, you know the place I mean.  
Are you trying to tell me  
this looks like J.W. Osborne?  
Sir, you're the image.  
- It's ridiculous.  
- Oh, but, sir!  
I can't see. I can't breathe.  
And there's no room for my nose!  
Sir, it's a work of art. Department  
four was working on this all night.  
Now, why don't you  
just give it a Chance  
to fit to the  
contours of your face.  
Huh. Huh. You're right.  
It does feel better.  
I still can't see.  
But I seem to be able to breathe  
easier. Ah, how's it look?  
You sure I look like Osborne?  
Exactly.  
What are you doin'?  
If this doesn't work, Longnecker,  
I'm burning down the academy.  
Charlie four to C.Q.  
Charlie four to C.Q.  
Uh, hello Charlie four.  
Uh, hello. This is C.Q.  
Henderson here. Suspicious  
car now entering wharf area.  
They have just passed dock 32  
and are headed for your position.  
Suspicious car headed  
for our position.  
I heard it.  
Stay alert.  
This must be them, sir.  
There's a little  
red car comin'.  
There they are.  
Have you got the

stocking masks?  
No, but I got these.  
I'm the clown, and  
you're the big, bad wolf.  
All right. You're the clown,  
and I'm the big, bad wolf.  
They're here,  
sir. They're here.  
Keep talking to me.  
I can't see anything.  
That, unless I'm  
mistaken, is grandpa.  
Longnecker, I can't  
see out of this thing!  
All right. Keep  
your eyes peeled.  
There are two fellas, sir. One  
of them is getting out right now.  
He's com... he's  
coming towards you, sir.  
They-they seem to  
be wearing masks.  
Yes, sir, it's masks of the  
common Halloween variety, sir.  
It's another limousine, sir.  
Yipe. Sir, it's J.W. Osborne.  
Afternoon, sergeant turner.  
There's two grandfathers!  
It's a trap!  
Move!  
Stop!  
Longnecker, they're  
getting away!  
Uh, red alert! Red alert!  
This is C.Q. To all  
units. Red alert.  
Look!  
Carolyn!  
What? What... who are you?  
- I want to explain...  
- Come on, sergeant.  
- We'll get 'em.  
- Get 'em, you dummy?  
You haven't even got me.

Hold this.

That's not mine.

We're taking your car.

Longnecker, get in!

Call the C.P. And start plan

A.X., priority four west.

Seal the grids as outlined

and be sure... - get in!

Yes, sir.

- Something I must explain...

- t's a police matter.

Don't worry. We'll get him.

That's what I'm afraid of.

- What are you doing here?

- You've got my kids.

- That's what I'm doing here.

- Your kids? You're in Hong Kong.

No, no, no. That's

her, all right.

She and the kids have both got a way  
of climbing into other people's cars.

Where are my children? -Your  
children are safe, go Osborne.

Which is more than I  
can say for us right now.

If it's the money, you'll  
get it. We'll pay the ransom.

Money? Well, that's  
terrific. Except money  
doesn't seem to be all  
that important right now.

What do you mean? Are you  
the kidnapppers or aren't you?

Well, sort of.

Henderson, do you see  
them? -I'm looking, sir.

There they are. -Where?

You've just passed 'em. -You  
just passed 'em. Turn around.

Where'd they go?

I don't understand this.

You grab a couple of kids,  
You terrify everybody, and  
you're "sort of" kidnapppers?

Well... - kidnappers have  
responsibility too, you know.  
Responsibility? -Yes, indeed.  
You're talkin' about  
responsibility? You?  
What kind of a mother are you?  
You ran all over the world.  
I mean, you can't raise kids  
by long distance, you know.  
Or by schoolteachers, or a maid,  
or by a grouchy grandfather.  
Or by a Bert. Those kids  
are a handful, you know.  
There they are!  
Duck!  
Henderson. Come in, Henderson.  
Uh, sergeant, did you  
notice you lost your top?  
Never mind my top! Did  
you see the red car?  
Uh, uh... they're turnin'  
in at the fish dock, sir.  
All cars, all  
cars, anyone in the  
vicinity, block north  
end of fish docks.  
Your kids want attention  
and affection, and  
they're gonna get it  
from anybody they can.  
That's right, even from a couple  
of so-called, "sort of" kidnappers.  
What would you know  
about raising my children?  
Mrs. Osborne, we have just spent  
three straight days with your kids.  
When was the last  
time you did the same?  
There they are! -Go!  
Look out!  
Notify all units.  
All units. All units. Subjects  
heading west to grid coordinate 54.  
All units. All units.

Red car heading west.  
Oh.  
What?  
Move!  
Stop! Back up!  
That way. They went that way.  
No, look!  
Move!  
All units. All units. Does  
anybody have them in sight?  
Yes, sir. They're headed  
right for my position.  
They're coming down pier 27.  
They're headed right towards me.  
Get somebody to head them off!  
Crane operator!  
Crane operator!  
When I say the words,  
"drop me", drop me.  
Drop me!  
Not me! The bucket!  
Start it! Start it!  
Ah.  
Aah!  
Longnecker!  
Get us outta here!  
There they are!  
Step on it!  
Look out!  
Hey!  
Come on, sit up! Aaah!  
Aah!  
Thank you, Longnecker.  
You're welcome, sir.  
Keep writing.  
"only these are  
other kidnappers,  
"and they want half  
a million dollars...  
"or our lives."  
All right. Read  
that back to me.  
"dear grandpa, we are  
being held by kidnappers.

"only these are  
other kidnapppers,  
"and they want half a  
million dollars or our lives."  
Very good.  
P.S. Please do  
it, if you love us.  
He'll never go for that.  
We are in terrible danger.  
All right. Sign it.  
That's very good. All right,  
come on, kids. Let's go.  
This your hat?  
Where's your pussycat?  
Where we going?  
Taking you to a quieter  
place. -We can't.  
We gotta wait  
for Duke and Bert.  
Forget Duke and Bert. Come on.  
Ha-rah!  
Whoa! Whoa!  
- Come on, Jay.  
- Duster! Duster!  
Jay! -I can't find Duster.  
Come on! Look out!  
Get the girl!  
Hey!  
You just stay right  
there. Don't you move.  
Ow!  
All right. Now where  
you gonna go, huh?  
Gotcha!  
Wha...  
What's going on?  
Tracy! Tracy!  
Freddie! -Big Joe!  
Dummy.  
The children are  
still up there.  
Never came out of the building.  
They'll be with us by the time  
my daughter-in-law gets home.

What are you doing?  
Just setting up some more traps  
in case big Joe has friends.  
Brat!  
Hey. -Is it them?  
Yes, but it's the wrong them.  
Grandfather! It's  
the old double cross.  
Duke and Bert? Never.  
Something must have happened.  
Yeah. Grandfather'll get us,  
and we'll never get to mother.  
Oh, yes, we will.  
Don't worry. It's easy.  
Just go ahead. Duster!  
Well, Peter, I suppose  
we'd best go in.  
Perhaps the little  
ones have changed, sir.  
Yes, I have considered  
that possibility.  
Maybe I have been  
a trifle too harsh.  
After all, I've not  
really given them a Chance.  
Who knows? This may be  
the beginning of a...  
A whole new relationship.  
Good heavens!  
Mr. Osborne!  
Peter, this is absurd.  
Duster! Duster!  
Come on, Jay. -We can't.  
Not till I find Duster.  
Never mind. I found him.  
Come back. Hey. Egg  
fooyoung waiting for you.  
Hey, is that yours?  
Totaled.  
A whole police car...  
Completely totaled.  
Not completely, sir.  
Completely.  
Don't despair, sergeant.

I've picked up a lead.  
- Longnecker, I...  
- Over the car radio.  
Somebody saw two kids come out  
of a garage apartment window.  
I have the address  
right here. = Longnecker!  
Can't you tell the difference  
Between a genuine  
clue and a crank call?  
Yes. Class in the law of  
probability at the academy...  
Lecture 10 on  
crank phone calls.  
One phone call out of 25  
may contain a useful clue.  
Now, sir, the way  
that I see it, we...  
I'm going back to the station,  
I'm going to change  
into some dry clothes,  
And then I'm going to  
check on Mr. Osborne.  
Then I'm going to try to forget...  
mind you, try to forget...  
That you and the  
academy ever existed.  
Yes, sir. I think you  
have a point there.  
- Get outta here!  
- Hey, hey. They gone.  
Kids are gone.  
Pretty quick. -Gone?  
But not quick enough. That skunk  
empty out my whole restaurant.  
Did you see which  
way they went?  
Yes, hitch ride on another cement  
truck. -Well, let's go! Come on.  
- How far are you going?  
- Sepulveda boulevard, honey.  
Does that help you?  
It does if we can get a  
bus there to Merlin oaks.



Merlin oaks? That's  
where grandfather lives.  
Mr. Osborne? -Yes?  
My name is big Joe  
Adamo. -How do you do.  
How'd you do. Here, read this.  
Don't be ridiculous, man.  
I can't read upside down.  
It says, "we want half a  
million dollars", Mr. Osborne.  
Strange. I don't seem to be  
able to hear upside down, either.  
- = Mr. Osborne? Longnecker, sir.  
- Welcome aboard, Longnecker.  
This... where is he?  
This would-be kidnapper is  
demanding half a million dollars.  
A-ha!  
You have the right  
to remain silent!  
If you give up that right,  
Anything you say can and  
will be used against you.  
If can open one of Duke's  
safes, I can open this one.  
Hey, so can I.  
Especially when  
it's already open.  
Get the flashlight.  
Don't you move, Duster.  
There's so much money, I  
can't even count it all.  
Let's not count it. Let's  
take it. -We're not taking it.  
We're borrowing it. And just  
enough to get us to Hong Kong.  
Come on.  
He's gonna see us.  
Worse than that.  
He didn't see us.  
Help! Help! We're  
stuck in here!  
Help! -Anybody  
out there? Help!

- Good evening, go Osborne.  
- Where are the children?  
The children? -Tracy! Jay!  
Didn't you get them? -No,  
but we traced them here.  
I'm afraid I haven't seen  
them. Where's Mr. Osborne?  
Help!  
Maybe they're upstairs.  
= I don't think so, madam.  
They couldn't possibly have  
got in without my seeing them.  
The children!  
Evening, Jameson.  
Mr. Osborne in? -Oh,  
I'm afraid not, sergeant.  
- This is the children's mother.  
- How do you do, go Osborne?  
- I'm sergeant turner.  
- How do you do, sergeant?  
Um...  
Haven't we met before? -Uh...  
They've been helping me  
look for Tracy and Jay.  
I could've sworn I've  
seen you somewhere...  
Recently. -Recently?  
Well, that's possible.  
Yes, yes. Of course.  
We're very good  
friends with Mr...  
Osborne. -Osborne.  
We've been corresponding with  
him for quite some time now.  
Hey, help! Someone's in here.  
Help, help! We're stuck.  
We know that Tracy  
and Jay hitched a ride  
on a cement truck  
and headed this way.  
How did you know they  
were your children?  
W-well, uh, we were lucky  
enough to get a clue.

I still think we  
should look upstairs.  
Good idea, and we'll go out and  
retrace our steps along the road.  
Right, right. Who knows?  
The kids might be out  
there trying to hitch  
a ride, and we passed  
them in the dark.  
Wait.  
I'll go with you.  
Oh, don't you  
worry, go Osborne.  
I don't mean to boast, but if  
anybody can pick up that scent...  
That isn't exactly  
the scent I meant.  
A skunk!  
Yes, and inside  
the house, madam.  
The children are here.  
Come on.  
- What's behind this wall?  
- Mr. Osborne's safe.  
Can you open it? -Well,  
I can open the panel.  
Me? -Uh, yes.  
Oh, yeah, yeah.  
It's big enough.  
- There's somebody out there!  
- It's probably grandfather.  
So? Who cares? For the first time  
in my life, I'd be glad to see him.  
We're in here. Help. -Help.  
It's them. They're  
in there. -Tracy!  
Jay!  
Tracy! Jay!  
I don't think they can hear you  
in there. -How do we get them out?  
Mr. Osborne's the only  
who knows the combination.  
How long will the  
air last in here?

Well, it looks to be  
about, uh, 72 inches high...  
By, uh, say roughly  
48 inches wide.  
These safes are usually  
30, 36 inches deep.  
Uh, you seem to know quite a bit about  
safes. -It's just a guess, sergeant.  
The air. How  
long will it last?  
I'd say 20 minutes. Probably  
less. Certainly no more.  
Someone has got to  
find Mr. Osborne,  
Get the combination to  
that safe, and quickly.  
Haven't you heard  
from him at all?  
No, madam. He's probably  
hung up somewhere.  
I'll have headquarters put  
out an all-points bulletin.  
- Where's the phone?  
- Here, sergeant.  
Thank you.  
Put out an all-points  
bulletin on a J.W. Osborne.  
It's a Harkness.  
It's old, but they're still tough  
to open, even with the tools.  
For the best, I'll give  
you seven-to-five...  
You can crack it well  
inside of 20 minutes.  
Twenty minutes,  
followed by 20 years.  
Do you think they'll  
find him? -They'll try.  
What do we do now? Just wait?  
Can't use the explosive, boys.  
Not with those children  
in there. It's too risky.  
Then how are we  
going to get them out?

Only one man I know  
could open that safe,  
But I've never been able  
to lay my hands on him.  
What, are we helpless?  
My children are in there.  
All right. Give me  
a Chance to think.  
I know something about safes.  
I used to work  
for a safe company.  
Maybe I can take a  
crack at opening that,  
if it's all right  
with you, sergeant.  
Boy, it sure is hot in here.  
What's taking  
grandfather so long?  
I don't know, Jay.  
But think positively.  
I'll, uh... I'll  
open a window.  
I'll do it, sergeant.  
I can't hear it.  
There's too much oil.  
Here's something interesting.  
It's like a doctor's  
bag or something.  
Maybe there's something in here  
that's useful in opening a safe.  
Yeah, maybe there is, sergeant.  
Boy, there isn't  
much air in here.  
I'm getting static.  
We'll give it a try, anyway.  
I'm awful tired.  
Try to stay awake, Jay.  
That's the first one.  
I can hardly breathe.  
If grandfather ever  
gets us out of here,  
I'm gonna be a  
lot nicer to him.  
Okay, that's the second one.

You're gonna make it, Duke.  
Not with this one.  
It just shorted out completely.  
Can it be fixed?  
There's no time.  
Now, be quiet. Don't breathe.  
Don't even move a muscle.  
I'm sorry.  
I think I've got  
it, but I'm not sure.  
Duke!  
- You did it!  
- Yea!  
Mom!  
Oh, darling. -Mom!  
What are you doing here?  
I should have been  
here all the time.  
We really missed you, mom.  
Boy, this is the best  
vacation I've ever had.  
Duster!  
Duster. Duster did it.  
Duster saved our lives.  
Yes. Well, good for Duster.  
You know, mom, he's the  
neatest pet I've ever had.  
Come on, Duster.  
Sergeant.  
Yeah.  
I wanna compliment  
you on your skill.  
I said there was only one man I could  
think of who could open that safe.  
Yep. -Apparently I was wrong.  
There are two.  
Anyway, I understand the  
other gentleman is retired.  
Oh, yes, as a matter of fact.  
If it's the same  
man I'm thinking of,  
He has retired. Permanently.  
No, Dave, listen, I assure you,  
My decision is final.

As soon as the kids are out of school, we're all moving out here. I sure wish I had the grass-cutting concession here. You know, maybe I'll take up gardening. Out in the fresh air, close to the soil. It's good for the nerves. Yeah. It's terrific for your hay fever too. As soon as grandfather gives you your loan, you'll have a new garage. Yeah, well, uh, Tracy, I been thinking about that, I'd feel kinda funny about asking your grandfather for a loan. You don't have to. I already have. You did? -A-and he okayed it? Why not? Jay and I are getting along great with him these days. Uh-oh. Well, there goes the garage. Oh, boy. - Well, you blew it again, Jay. - I didn't blow it. He did. Oh, good heavens. I was certain I had the perfect trajectory. You, sir? Don't panic. It's just one more crystal chandelier. I told Duke and Bert you said "okay" about the loan, grandfather. Yes. Right, fine. Let's see, what is the next thing on the agenda? Ah, judo. -Uh, Mr. Osborne. I can't tell you how much we appreciate that loan. But it has got to be on a strictly nonpersonal basis. I do agree. It should be a note.

Legally correct, duly signed.  
So there can be no  
misunderstanding. -Absolutely.  
What should that  
rate of interest be?  
Uh, you don't happen to have  
any relatives in buffalo, do you?  
Not that I can recall, no.  
You two gentlemen  
drop by the bank in the  
morning and we'll wrap  
the whole thing up.  
- Come along, Jay. Judo time.  
- I-I'll be careful, grandpa.  
I hope Jay doesn't  
get carried away.  
I hope your grandfather  
doesn't get carried away.  
Yeah. Oh, yeah.  
I think I'm gonna like  
The idea of this family  
of yours living out here.  
So am I.  
t'll be very convenient.  
For instance,  
If somebody wanted to take  
somebody else to the movies,  
Then Bert could stay  
here and baby-sit us.  
Ha-rah!  
I think Jay won another match.  
I'll get Dr. Butterworth  
on the telephone.  
There we are.  
Jay!  
Oh. Oh, boy.  
You should've seen it, Tracy.  
One second I had  
grandfather in a wristlock,  
And the next second I was in the  
pond. -It's all in the balance.  
I didn't hurt you, I  
trust? -Of course not.  
You know, I used to be a judo



champion in the armed service.

- A real champion?

- A real champion.

Boy, I think you're  
super, grandpa.

Jameson, do you hear  
that? Jay thinks I'm super.

- I think you're super too.

- Oh, thank you, darling.

Know something? I  
think from now on,  
we three are going to have  
a lot of fun together.

I think so too. -Me too.

What did you do after I  
had you in that wristlock?

Come down to the mat,  
and I'll show you.

I'm bigger than you, so use  
my weight to help yourself.

Now, hold my wrist  
there. The other hand.

Now, bend your  
knees. One, two...

No, wait a minute. One,  
two. Now, you stand there.

Imagine that I go, "whoo."  
now we're even.

...the end...