

Mr Corp

Next Door

Mother came home from a long trip and was very hungry.

After greeting Father she made her way to the kitchen cupboard, where she saw small yellow sticky notes on every package.

"Why is all of the food labeled 'Do not eat?'" she asked.

"Mr Corp next door poisoned it" Father answered.

Mother paused as she registered what she just heard.

"He poisoned it? Surely you aren't serious."

"It's true. He came into the kitchen, opened every container and sprinkled poison on it"

"Why would you let him do that?" Mother asked.

"He said he will give us money someday if we let him" Father replied.

"Oh. I guess its okay then" Mother relented.

Mother took a glass from the cupboard, for she was as thirsty as she was hungry.

When she turned on the tap only a small stream of brown water came from it.

"What is wrong with the water?" Mother asked.

"Nothing ," Father answered. "That's the way it works now."

"What happened to it?" Mother exclaimed.

"Mr. Corp tapped our well. He said he needed the water more than we did."

"Why did you let him do that?!" Mother shouted.

"Because he said he will give us money someday!" Father shouted back.

"Oh. I guess its okay then" Mother again relented.

Mother was still thirsty so she went outside to the garden rain barrel. On the barrel's spigot hung a small sign saying "Do not drink". She stormed into the house.

"I supposed Mr Corp did something to the rain barrel too!"

"Toxins."

"WHY WOULD YOU LET HIM DO THAT!?" Mother screamed.

Father screamed in reply, "BECAUSE HE SAID HE WILL GIVE US MONEY SOMEDAY!"

Mother, looking deflated murmured "Oh. I guess its okay then."

Having no food to eat, nor water to drink, Mother and Father sat to watch television while waiting for the money that never came.