

A Day In My Future

Date: 30 July 2050

Today is quite a boring day for me. As usual, as my kids are already out to work, and I'm alone at home. My wife has gone shopping with her friends, so I decide to spend some time at home, to rest and relax.

However, I'm not someone who can sit still for long. Since my wife is not doing the chores till afternoon, I decide to do it. (and probably she will love me when she can rest instead of doing the chores in the afternoon!)



The lazy me decides to choose the simplest household chore, which I think I can finish it like 10 mins : washing the toilet. After all, it's my own bathroom toilet, and I expect it to be quite clean (and nothing much to clean too!).

I took out the bathroom brush and started scrubbing the floor. From what seemed to be a 'chicken-feet' task for me, I could actually feel the strain of my back as I bend my body down to scrub. I wonder why did my back ache so much by just bending a little to scrub that little dirt on the floor. Hmm... maybe this is my first time washing the toilet? :P

Whatever, just a little dirt on the floor. I saw a bigger one on the wall, but its quite high up there, and I got to use to stool to get me up there. I have no problem climbing stairs at this age, but my knees seems to get the better of me this time when I want to go up this stool. Probably the stool is a little high, or is it the arthritis in my knees?

Regardless, I managed to get myself up that stool to clear that lizard feces from the wall. But, sad. That lizard feces is just too hard for me to prick it our of the wall!! Hmm... or is it because I'm not strong enough? Forget it. I'm feeling very giddy up there on the stool, even though its just like 40 cm above ground.

And you know what, when I stepped down from the stool, I misjudged my step and kicked the bucket (no pun intended!), and spilled the water on the floor. It's probably my vision is blurred that I missed my step and kicked it. And it broke my back when I bend down to pick up the bucket. OUCH! Now I realized how tiring my wife is when she cleans the toilet everyday.

I arranged the pail back, and was going to call it a day for my chores. Suddenly, I saw my son came home, looking at me angrily. I'm quite surprised as I wonder what had I did to him. He started shouting at me and asked why did I picked up his call, and he thought that something happened to me!



But the truth is that **I did not hear any phone ringing!!** So how can he blame me for not picking up his call? I appreciate his concern for my safety as I'm alone at home, but I'm

quite depressed that he's angry at me for not picking up his call, when in fact, i didn't even hear anything. To prove him wrong, i took out my phone and showed him.

But...



my son did really call me, and left me a missed call in my phone. I wronged him for the wrong reason. I know my hearing is not as sharp as before, and that's why i can't even hear my own phone ringing. I remember I tell my son about it, and maybe he should understand that I couldn't pick up ringtones as easy as I used to be. I hope he can be more understanding next time.

Little did I know that I felt so much from this small activity called 'washing the toilet'. Lots of things come to my mind in this short 15 minutes of trying to keep my own toilet clean, and letting my wife rest when she came home in the afternoon. And this also brought me back to the days when I saw my mum cleaning the toilet for me when I'm young.

Till now when I clean the toilet myself, then I realized how much pain my mum had to go through everyday washing my toilet, and I still happily dirtying it everyday. I also realized the risk my mum had to take when she had to climb up to clean the dirt on the wall. She can become giddy on the stool, and fell anytime. Luckily, she did not fell, but I still feel bad making her did those cleaning then.

And worse of all, I still remember how many times I raised my voice at my mum when she didn't answer my phone calls. Coincidentally, it happened to me today when my own son did that to me. Again, I felt depressed when it is the fact that I didn't hear the ring tone, but I believe this was also how my mum felt then.

Okay. Time to wrap this entry up and get ready for dinner. Got to exercise more these days when my body is not as flexible as before. Although I should have worked out more when I'm younger (so that I won't be in so much pain at this age!), I think I should stop giving excuses for not exercising daily to keep myself fit!

This is by far my longest entry. But you know what? I think I'm gonna save it up and pass on to my son right now, as I hope that he won't feel as depressed and regretful like me, when he washes his own toilet 40 years from now.

Ding Neng