Mr. Security Guard, Are You Tired?



"Wee-woo, wee-woo..."

Ali heard the siren of an ambulance coming from far away.

"Wee-woo, wee-woo, wee-woo..."

The sound grew closer. Ali wondered what might have happened, and silently prayed for everyone's safety.

The ambulance came to a full stop in front of their apartment building. Flashing red lights flickered on people's faces. Ali joined the crowd. He was also eager to find out who needed help.

The paramedics carried someone out on a stretcher. It was Mr. Wu, who lived on the third floor. They put him into the ambulance because he slipped on the stairwell and got injured.

Ali asked, "How did he slip and get hurt?"



Someone explained, "The light bulb in that stairwell has been out for a while, and nobody bothered to replace it. Mr. Wu fell because he wasn't able to see very well."

After the ambulance left, the residents discussed the latest issues.

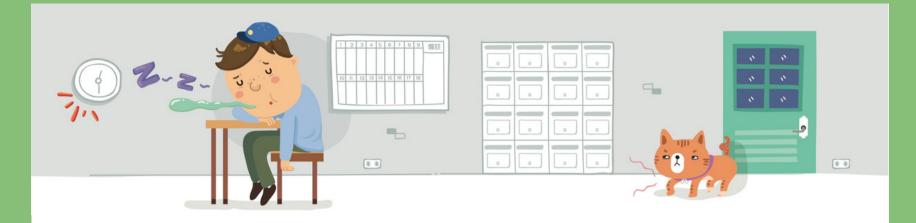


Aunty Liao, who lived on the seventh floor, said, "Someone parked in my designated parking spot a few days ago. I asked the security guard to contact the owner, and discovered that the car didn't belong to a resident of the apartment. Someone from outside had sneaked in and parked in my spot."

Aunty Chiou, who lived on the fourth floor, added, "Have you received someone else's mail? Our mailbox is frequently filled with other people's mail, and our mail is often delayed."

"You get the wrong mail too? I thought it was just us. It seems like there have been more issues since the new community management company took over."

Ali's cousin sent him a Mario game disc, but it never arrived. When his mom called the shipping company, they insisted that the package had been delivered and provided a delivery record with a signature to prove it.



After hearing the neighbor's complaints about the community management, Ali, Fuzzy, and Meow decided to investigate. They wanted to check if the situation was as bad as everyone described.

At half-past twelve that night, Meow tiptoed quietly around the building and saw something wrong. The front gate was still open when it should've been locked!

"The gate is open. What if a thief snuck in? Meow..." Meow felt unsafe. She went over to the security guard's office. The guard was taking a nap. He was completely unaware of Meow. The guard didn't patrol regularly, nor did he close the doors and windows.

Early next morning, Meow reported to Ali that the security guard wasn't doing his job well. A more in-depth investigation would be needed.

Therefore, Ali and Meow opened the recycling room gate and found chaos inside.

Recyclable and non-recyclable trash were mixed together, cleaning tools were tossed around, and the signed names on the cleaning checklist were next to uncompleted tasks.

"Oh my goodness! This place is a mess! The garbage is not sorted properly. How can they sign their names on the checklist before they have done the work? Didn't the management company send someone here to check? No wonder I smelled something funny, and there have been more mosquitoes and bugs lately!" Ali wanted to talk to the security guard.

At the security office,
Ali noticed the guard was
scrolling on his cellphone,
unaware of someone
approaching.



"Hello! Excuse me!" Ali called. The security guard raised his head and looked at Ali, then he answered rudely, "This is not a playground for kids. Go play somewhere else. Do not bother me when I am working."

Fuzzy barked at the security guard.

"You're playing games. You're not working at all!" Ali pointed it out bravely.

"This kid has no manners! What do you want?" said the security guard impatiently.

"Did you receive my package? I borrowed a game disc from my cousin. I've been waiting for the mail for days, but haven't received it yet..." Ali's voice grew lower seeing the security guard's serious face.



"Nope. I didn't see any Mario game disc," the guard said with a gruff voice.

Ali showed the guard a picture on his cellphone. "This is a photo of the delivery record sent back by the shipping company. Your signature is on it. Besides, I never mentioned it was a Mario game. How did you know?"

The security guard turned pale.

He stammered, "Um... I... Maybe I forgot. I will check later. You can go back home now, and I will let you know when I find your game disk."

Suddenly, they all heard music coming from the security guard's desk.

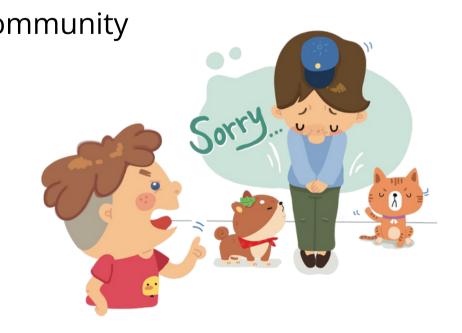
Meow the cat recognized the music. It was from the soundtrack of the game that Ali had been expecting for so long. Fuzzy the dog discovered a gaming console under the patrol log. The game was still playing.

Ali said, "This is the same game that I borrowed from my cousin. Are you also playing it?"

The security guard admitted that he really liked that game. He had just borrowed it for a quick play and would return immediately. He offered to treat Ali to ice cream, and he pleaded with Ali not to tell anyone about what he did.

Ali said, "You should have the courage to take responsibility for what you've done! Especially when you've messed up your other duties too!"

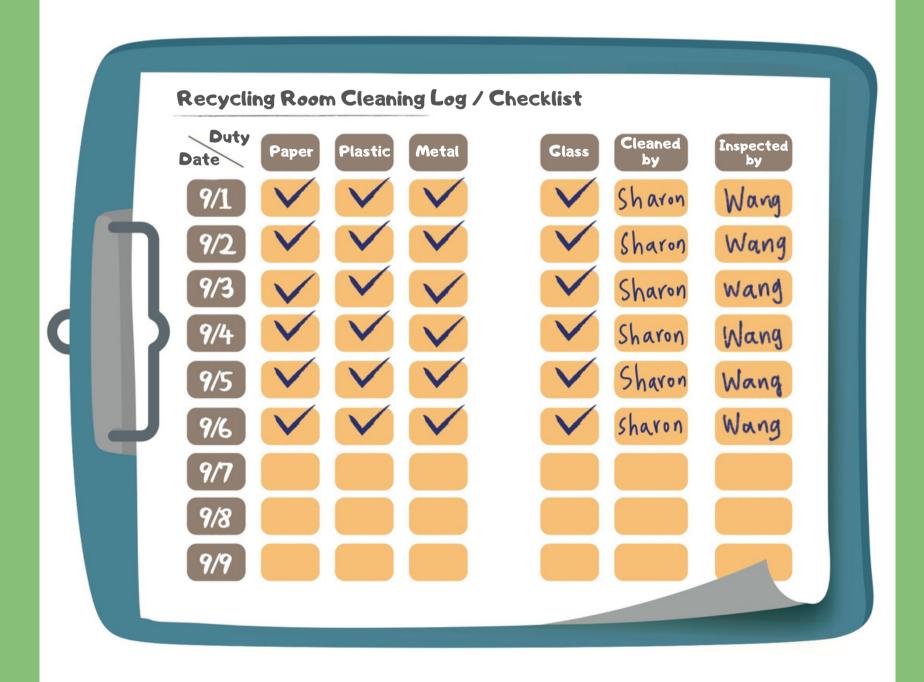
Ali reported to the community committee about how the management company had failed to do their job properly.



I'm a Little Detective!

 Ali and Fuzzy are in the recycling room now. Look at the cleaning checklist very carefully and circle the errors.
 (Hint: There are two errors.)





Think About It

1. Who was selling expired pet food at the flea market?

- A. Ali
- B. Chi-tai
- C. Fuzzy

2. Why is selling expired food not okay? (multiple answers)

- A. This is not ethical.
- B. People might get sick.
- C. This is against the law.
- D. This is not environmentally friendly.

3. What should you do if you accidentally buy expired food?

- A. Return the food to the store you bought it from.
- B. Eat all the expired food.
- C. Change the expiration date on the food and sell it to someone else.