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# THE BUSINESSMAN

Carlino, December 2013

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE CHARACTER**

Mr Smith was a very important businessman, he managed a famous multinational that was responsible of energy production. His company had many establishes in different countries, many were located in Europe: France, Italy, Russia, Germany... He was rich and lived in luxury, he was a tall and thin man, he always behaved elegantly, and dressed in designer clothes, he had a big house where he lived with his wife and children. He loved his work and he took care of his company every day, but he had a defect: he liked to be powerful and he often didn't respect people. Even his wife and children left him with the time and he was only.

Finally, after the hard work of a year Mr Smith went in holiday in a hotel by the sea. He drove for all the night, he arrived and got a room. Entered the room (discreetly luxurious) and put the car keys on a table. He looked out from the terrace; the sun was shining.

He decided to do a warm shower, meanwhile he thought about actually company problems and the problems that he had to solve, but now that others take care of themselves. For a moment he had the impression that someone was in the room, he opened the shower box but nobody was there, the room was deserted. Being by nature a man sure of himself he returned to the shower but the temperature of the water was increasingly hot and he jumped out, he couldn't understand why.

He called the reception and told this to the direction, the water continued to flow and when he returned to control the temperature, this was in the ordinary. He closed it, dried himself and dressed clean clothes.

He looked at the window: it was open, but after the shower, he closed it!

Immediately he ran towards it and he looked out: there was nobody.

He heard a noise and he moved instinctively the head: it has his salvation!

A medium-sized pot fell to the ground. Alarmed tried to see who was there on the top floor, but he saw nobody. He went out of the room and he walked along the corridor and climbed the stairs to the upper floor.

He found the door of the room from which the vessel was launched, turned the knob and opened the door strangely with easily.

He entered with a bit of fear but nobody was inside, there was only a photography on a table, he took and looked it. It portrayed a family: husband, wife and three children. All the faces were erased with scribbles. He took the picture and put it in his pocket and he returned in his room.

Dialled the direction number. The line is free but no one answers the call. At that moment his phone rang: it's a colleague. He didn't want to answer at the beginning because he was advised not to call it a holiday, but then he answered. Who called was also a friend of Smith; he had an altered voice and seemed scared. He asked to Smith if he read the newspaper, Smith answered that he didn't read it because he was relaxing. A bad fact had happened: two employees of the company, wife and husband, was killed in their home. They had been found with the throat cut. The police was investigating and interrogating all. He closed the call.

The news left him baffled; the colleague promised that as soon as he knew new news would be communicated them to him.

Smith thought a lot about this fact and then he decided that this not interested him and he went down to the hall and a receptionist called him at the phone, there was a call for him. A man with a hollow voice answered, Smith didn't understand all the speech, it was about death, despair and ruined life, then the man began to laugh nervously, it wasn't ironic but angry; the communication interrupted. Smith was nervous, but he went anyway to the beach. The day was already ruined.

The phone rang again, the colleague told him that the police had questioned him and the same would have been for Smith.

So Mr Smith decided to return in the hotel and went at the company because the police was investigating.

He warned the reception that he would shy away for a few days, hoping to return soon. Then he returned to the room and prepared the luggage.

He went down in the parking lot, he carried on the car the suitcase and left.

The last houses were behind him. In front of him he had miles and miles of highway, curves and straights, often without encountering other cars.

He was moving at a constant speed when he met a car that was traveling at a reduced speed, but the road was narrow and he couldn't overtake.

Finally arrived the straight and he overtook but the other car began to accelerate and collided with that of Smith, he returned in the right side of the road and the car behind overtook him.

Smith was angry, his car had some problems and he hoped to find a service station. After some miles he found a station and he noticed that also the other car stopped there, the driver was resting on the steering wheel and he looked dead. Smith looked at the road to get help.

He felt pointing a gun on the head and the voice of a man telling to turn around. The man gave him a picture and told him to look at it, it was the same that he found in the strange room, in this one the faces were not deleted, in the photography there was also the man in front of him.

The man begins to tell the story of his family, the company of Smith to build a wind power plant had evicted those people, who struggled to find another house, they became poor and unable to buy medicines two children died for the illness. They lived in a neighborhood rough, his wife was killed during a shootout and the last son went away at the major age. Now the man was desperate and he wanted revenge, he hated Mr. Smith for what he did to his family.

The man continued to scream and get angry when the sound of a car braking interrupted him. It was a police car. Two cops went down with the guns in their hand. The man grabbed Smith and pointed his gun, threatening the cops. He fired at the two cops who fell to earth. Smith tried to run behind a car, but the man took it and slammed him to the car; immediately Mr Smith thought was over, he closed the eyes, the man pulled the trigger, and he heard the sound of a gunshot. He opened the eyes and saw the man fell down.

After a few months of bad adventure, Smith often dreams of those moments of fear. It was winter and the snow had covered the city. Smith's work was going well and after the divorce, he had found a new girlfriend, Sarah. The phone rang: it was she. Sarah asked him to go and spend a week on the snow in a hotel. Smith excited after the bad summer holidays accepted. She would have arranged everything, he just had to show up at the airport. After closing the call came in a message on the phone to Smith: the text said that there was a voice message on the answering machine. He listened to it: he couldn't hear a voice but just a sequence of sounds, the message was short. He didn't want to think about it and he began to pack the luggage. He heard a noise out of the door, he got the revolver that he had bought after the summer. He went at the door and opened it, a man jumped on it and threw him on the ground. Smith recovered the gun and the man ran away he tried to chase him but he disappeared into an alley. Smith phoned to the police and asked the inspector who had followed the case in the last summer but they answered to him that he was busy. Smith decided to take a taxi and went to the police. He was lucky and found immediately a taxi. When he was arrived at the police station he met a police officer that he knew, the cop asked him why he was there. Smith told him about the incident and all the informations that they needed.

Smith was more relaxed when he went out of the police station. Sarah called him in the moment, she was crying and she said that a man tried to enter in her house. Smith answered that he would arrive soon. He took a taxi, communicated to the driver the destination and the car left quickly. When he saw that the car was passing the house of Sarah he became angry with the driver who braked suddenly making him banging his head on the seat. Another man got into the car with a gun and threatened him; they went at Sarah's home. They arrived and the second man continued to push Smith forward, in the corridor there was the cop that was after in the station, one of two mans approached him and stabbed him. Smith tried to ran away but he couldn't. They also took Sarah and they brought them in the car. They moved away from the city and nobody saw them again.

He hurt many people during his life; the police had no doubt that it was a revenge.