**Has This Ever Happened To You?**

**The Last Slice**

My 7th grade teacher, Mr. Shaw, told me to ask my Mom to bake him a fruitcake, and he would pay for the ingredients and her time to make the cake.

Of course; my Mom said yes, and baked my teacher an exquisitely flawless fruitcake. It was as magnificent as Antonio Stradivari’s famous million dollar perfect pitch violin—Le Messie.

I took the yummy goodness, aromatic fruitcake, loaded with most people’s favorite fresh-raw nuts to school. I smilingly handed over the cake to my teacher, after ignoring several strong urges to eat a slice during my commute to school. As promised, Mr. Shaw kept his word. He gave me the money to give to my Mom for making the fruitcake for him.

My teacher took the cake home and shared it with his beloved wife and their only son. According to Mr. Shaw, the fruitcake was umm—umm good, and his family kept eating slice after slice. The poor refrigerator got an attitude and started blowing hot air, because they each opened the door more than thrice.

Finally, only one slice remained. My teacher decided that slice belonged to him. So he prepared himself to eat the last and final slice, by making a delicious hot cup of Maxwell House French-Roast, *“Good to the last drop,”* coffee to complement it.

While savoring the moment, with a delightful grin on his chin, my teacher slowly opened the refrigerator’s door to get the last mouth-watering slice of cake. But to his surprise, he got the shock of his life. The last slice was gone and so was his son.

Now—I’m not saying the son ate the cake, because I wasn’t there to witness it. But when my teacher finally found his son, he was sitting down smacking. And when he smiled, evidence of fruitcake crumbs was present between his colorful teeth at the scene.

Sometimes, “*When You’re Slow You Blow.”* And someone else will eat the cake forcing you to miss out on a deliciously golden opportunity. So don’t procrastinate like my teacher did, and you will be the lucky one to get a good piece of the action before it magically disappears.

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