

## Butterfly Effect

### FRANCO

Franco is an average guy. He has wild hair and wore mid-high boots. To earn a living he worked a few jobs, one of which was working as a piano player at a restaurant for a few hours. He made enough money, but he wasn't very happy with his life. He was starting to get tired of routine. Actually, he had always been tired of routine and had always wanted something exciting to happen in his life.

One day, Franco was walking out of his local grocery store, which he did quite often. As he walked out of the store, he froze. He had seen something out of the ordinary. A half-open envelope of cash was lying on the ground. No one around him seemed to notice it. Franco, unsure how to react looked around for a moment, then looked back at the money. He placed the grocery bags on the ground, picked up the envelope, and just walked away, hoping no one had seen him.

He stepped into his car while thinking about what he was going to do with all this extra money. He decided to go out for a drink with his friends. After a while, he received a text from his girlfriend telling him to come home. He didn't want to, but since the bar was closing, he was going to leave soon anyway. He got up out of his chair and fumbled to find his car keys. After finally finding them in his back pocket, he started to make his way home. He closed his eyes slowly without realizing, quickly lost control of the car, tried to hit the brake pedal, but it was too late; the woman had already left the curb.

### HAILEY

Hailey is young. She also has a bizarre and unusual personality. She wears mainly dark clothing and spends most of her time in obscure parts of town. She's unpredictable, and lives by her own rules. She wears punk-rock boots, has straight dark hair, and always wears a black coat, even in summertime. But most interestingly, she has eyes that sometimes change between brown and dark green in different lights. Although she has a kind face, and a unique style, don't be fooled, Hailey suffers from a mental illness called kleptomania. This makes her have a huge urge to steal anything she wants, even things she may not even necessarily want, she just does it for the excitement. Hailey doesn't have many friends, nor does she want any, at least that's what she tells herself.

One day Hailey managed to steal a watch, a hairbrush, some earrings, and a strawberry smoothie. Hailey sipped on her strawberry smoothie, she was feeling good about her successful robberies. It was just another regular day, that is until she noticed something very odd. She looked at this man, although he was running, it felt like

everything was in slow motion. This man had a black mask over his head, eye holes cut out, and a black backpack over one shoulder, which was partially open. Hailey managed to get a glimpse of what was inside - stacks of dollar bills. Strangely enough, no one was chasing him. Straight away Hailey pulled out her phone and called the police. That's right, a girl who had just broken various laws herself, just called the cops on this man. Was she a changed person? Or was she just protecting herself?

Well.. a few minutes later she came across two grocery bags just sitting on the ground. As it turns out, Hayley hadn't changed at all. Once she got home, she looked in the bags she found, and opened a bag of chips. She then realized her boyfriend wasn't home. She texted him wondering where he was and that he should come home soon since it was late.

## TONY

Tony's a bald man in his mid forties, has tattoos all over his body, the most visible being menacing snake crawling up his neck. He comes off as a mean person when looking at him, but has a surprisingly bubbly personality.

Tony is also constantly stealing. His stealing problem is a little bit different than most, he's very unorganized and gets caught almost as often as he commits crimes, and this time it cost him half a year in prison.

After six long months, Tony was finally released to his wife. Although he was glad to be back in his home, the world that he knew had changed a bit. Particularly, his wife had changed, but he choose to ignore it.

One day, as he was preparing himself a slice of pizza, he noticed something peeking out from underneath the microwave, it was a letter. He opened it and found overdue bills. His beloved wife was in debt.

Tony didn't want to commit another crime, but he needed to to get his wife out of this mess. So Tony did what Tony does best. He robbed a bank.

When leaving with all the cash in his backpack Tony adjusted his mask and kept going, until the police stopped him in his tracks, causing an envelope of cash to fall to the ground.

## BRENDA

Brenda thrives on her independence, yet she has sad eyes and an addictive personality, and feels trapped in her own world. She serves coffee by day, and works as a hostess by night. And, usually **she** spends the rest of her day just watching time go by, waiting for her husband to be released from prison. Eventually Brenda did find herself a distraction, online gambling. She felt so lonely most of the time, but this just gave her so

much excitement, she quickly became obsessed. One day while washing some dishes, Brenda received a call saying that her husband had been released and would be coming home soon. Initially, Brenda was thrilled about seeing her husband again, but eventually this feeling wore off, and things started to feel different.

A few days later a large bill came in the mail. As expected Brenda's gambling addiction was quickly affecting her savings. And what she knew might happen, happened - Brenda fell into debt. This stress inside of her grew and grew and she just couldn't handle it anymore. Brenda quickly hid the bill under the closest thing near her at the time, grabbed her keys and wallet and just left. She wandered around Times Square with no specific destination. As she walked the streets there were so many thoughts clouding her mind she went into a restaurant and started ordering food, she wanted to waste time, she didn't want to go back home. Things were supposed to be perfect again, but she was in serious debt.

After many hours, Brenda realized that running from her problems instead of trying to solve them was not the right decision to make. She started to make her way home, excited to see her husband again. She stepped off the curb heading towards the subway, She saw the car last minute, but it was too late.