

Voices Echo

Tracy Altvater

TAltvater@student.fullsail.edu

PAGE ONE

Panel 1

Bobby Knight, an older gentleman with gray hair and dirty work shirt half tucked in, is standing outside of the metal door in the rear of the mall, under a bright light with keys in hand. It's darkening out as the sun sets and the building is brick and older. Bobby is clearly having trouble getting the key in the door.

1. BOBBY KNIGHT: I don't know why they won't change these locks. This key barely works.

Panel 2

The door is opened by an older lady as lights shine into Bobby's eyes, blinding him for a moment. It's the owner of the coffee shop. Cecilia is in her 60's, gray hair short hair, glasses, chunky build.

2. BOBBY KNIGHT: Thanks Cecilia. Glad you heard me jigglin' the door.

3. CECILIA: Oh, no problem Bobby. I have troubles myself with it. Glad to help.

Panel 3

Bobby reaches into his pants pocket for change. CLOSE-UP of hand in pocket with vending machine in the background.

4. BOBBY KNIGHT: Would you like a soda, Cecilia?

5. CECILIA: No thanks, Bobby. I am trying to watch my girly figure.

Panel 4

Bobby chugs his soda as Cecilia stands next to him.

6. CECILIA: My you were pretty thirsty, huh?

Panel 5

Here Bobby tosses his soda can in the trash right next to the vending machine as he winks at Cecilia. It should have both him and Cecilia in the panel. She is just standing next to the trash can on one side with Bobby on the next.

7. BOBBY KNIGHT: Just making sure I am good and awake for the night. You never know what can happen.

PAGE TWO

Panel 1

Show Bobby walking away from Cecilia towards a door that reads **JANITOR ONLY**. There are bright lights on either side of the door. It's metal.

1. CAPTION: "I couldn't be sicker of this job, but what can I do. It's the only way to keep an eye on things around here. Timing is everything and hopefully his time is running out."

Panel 2

Bobby turns on the light in the closet. There are cleaning supplies, brooms, mops, a radio, an apron hanging, a large yellow bucket on the floor with a mop sticking out of it and caution wet floor signs.

2. CAPTION: "It stinks in here. I need a cigarette."

Panel 3

Bobby peeks his head out of the closet, show movement of his head as if signaling that he looked both ways for other people. There is no one there, just empty hallway.

3. BOBBY KNIGHT: All clear!

Panel Four

Bobby is standing in the middle of the closet with a lit cigarette hanging out of his mouth, lots of smoke surrounding his head and a huge grin on his face and arms to his sides.

4. BOBBY KNIGHT: Ah yes, that's better.

Panel Five

CLOSE- UP of a half a cigarette floating in a cup of liquid on the shelf.

5. CAPTION: "Time to get to work. Not getting any younger."

PAGE THREE

Panel 1

CLOSE-UP of Bobby's hand turning on the radio on the shelf by pushing a button. Music notes coming from the radio with a balloon slightly jagged with the words COUNTRY FOLK CAN...inside of it coming from the radio as well.

Panel 2

Bobby is pushing the bucket and a mop down a hallway. We can see past him that there is a sign that says RESTROOM hanging from the ceiling. Add music notes to depict that Bobby is singing.

2. BOBBY KNIGHT (singing): I love my country, I love my country.

Panel 3

Show Bobby in the entrance to the restroom and a dark figure, slightly taller than him in a hoodie, no face showing, just shadows, rushing past him, Bobby's face turned towards the person with eyes wide and mouth slightly ajar, showing surprise across his face.

3. BOBBY KNIGHT: What are you doing in here? We are closed.

4. BOBBY KNIGHT: Hellooooooooo?

5. STRANGER: None of your business old man.

Panel 4

Bobby is inside the restroom scratching his head and looking in the mirror at his reflection. Show paper towels strung about the sink and soap splattered as well.

6. BOBBY KNIGHT: What the? Who could that have been?

7 BOBBY KNIGHT: Well, just look at this mess. Kids I tell ya. Nothing but trouble.

PAGE FOUR

SPLASH PAGE: A page showing Bobby bent over and hovering over an overflowing bucket of water. Water is spilling onto the floor. **SFX:** WHOOSH on the page as well as showing inaudible conversation coming from out in the hallway. Those balloons should be jagged with various letters that make no sense, showing that the conversation can't be understood, but heard. Show Bobby straining to hear, like his ear towards the door and the angle of his face showing that particular ear bigger because it's closer.

PAGE FIVE

Panel 1

Bobby is standing out in the doorway of the bathroom, hand behind his ear, straining to hear what the unknown voices are discussing. His pant legs are wet and there are wet footprints behind him to show that he just left the flooded bathroom.

1. BOBBY KNIGHT: Who's there?

2. BOBBY KNIGHT: Hello?

Panel 2

Bobby is turned around and walking back into the bathroom, water splashing around his footsteps as he is walking.

3. BOBBY KNIGHT: Damn kids! Maybe I should call the law and get them here to check things out, but that might spook McThistle.

Panel 3

Bobby stops at the restroom door as he hears the voices again. The voices are arguing so the balloon needs to represent that. Bobby's face is concerning; long jaw, squinty eyes.

4. VOICE 1: I *said* not to bring it here until midnight. Why don't you **ever** listen?

5. VOICE 2: Sorry boss. I didn't hear you say that.

6. VOICE 1: Of course, you didn't!

Panel 4

Bobby walks down the corridor, the lights casting his shadow on the wall. He is hunched over slightly to show that he is trying to be as quiet as he can be. The two continue to argue. Bobby realizes that he is hearing Grambly McThistle's voice. He still has no clue who the other voice is.

7. BOBBY KNIGHT: McThistle! I should have known.

8. GRAMBLY MCTHISTLE (not on panel): Next time pay attention. The janitor is still here. I think he might be on to me.

9. VOICE 2 (not on panel : I doubt it boss. He doesn't seem too smart. I passed him in the bathroom and he seemed pretty dumb to me.

Panel 5

Bobby stops under a light, his face beat. red with anger, fists clenched.

10. BOBBY KNIGHT: I'll show him dumb! Just wait, I am about to bust them both.

11. GRAMBLY MCTHISTLE (not on panel): You passed him? Why didn't you tell me? This is bad. Real bad.

PAGE SIX

Panel 1

Bobby tip toes past the candle store and coffee shop. You can see them behind his profile, side by side with candles in the windows of the candle store and specials written in the window of the coffee shop. Both have closed signs on the doors.

1. VOICE 2 (not on panel): I'm sorry again boss. I wasn't thinkin'.
2. GRAMBLY MCTHISTLE (not on panel): No, you sure **wasn't**.

Panel 2

Bobby peers around the corner and sees the two figures standing there (both dark silhouettes). Grambly is tall, with a bit of a gut, wearing a baseball cap. The stranger still has his hood up but is definitely taller than Grambly. They are standing about a foot. apart and Grambly has a large envelope in his hand that seems to be overstuffed.

3. GRAMBLY MCTHISTLE: Welp, nothing can be done about it now. You just. better *hope* he isn't about to get curious.
4. STRANGER: I hope not boss. Like I said, he didn't seem too bright. So, do I drop this off at the normal place?
5. GRAMBLY MCTHISTLE: Yep, you got it. They're expecting it by morning so don't let me down *again!*

Panel 3

Bobby Knight is holding a cellphone in his hand up to his face. The word HEADQUARTERS is on the face of the phone. He is hunched down in the shadows and the figures of the men, dark, can be seen in the background.

6. BOBBY KNIGHT: It's time. It's about to be delivered. Yes, the mall. Come now and hurry.
7. BOBBY KNIGHT: It's about to be all over for you Grambly. *Finally!*

