

Edward T Stuffel was seen as a magnanimous man for always sharing his wealth with those who were in need. However, having been mollycoddled all his life and his family doing all the work with the money, he didn't realize just how quickly the fortune he had made was slipping through his fingers. His rich "friends" just shook their heads and thought him a flibbertigibbet for how he was using his money. One day, a man came to Edward and told him he needed money to save his pork business. Edward gave him more than enough money to keep his business going for many years to come, but Edward was broke after that. Utterly bamboozled, he and his family were thrown from their mansion home. His family was inconsolable, and cried all night because they couldn't watch their favorite television show. Edward, feeling flippant, told them that this time, they could solve their own problems, as they had been relying on his money for too long. So he walked out, walking willy-nilly around others, dropping his last few coins into a beggar's tin. Then he stopped at one of his friends' mansions and rang the doorbell. His friend let out a guffaw. "You shouldn't have been lollygagging so much, then." he sneered, and slammed the door in Edward's face.

"I appreciate your candor," Edward yelled through the door, "but I thought you were my friend!" Completely flummoxed, he walked away, contemplating the new life he was going to have to live. He'd probably have to get an arduous job and work all day. Still, he needed money, and he wasn't one to quibble about life. He signed up to work at a plastic-making plant, and worked all day for a negligible amount of money, his dreams and hopes squelched. Also, people were beginning to prattle on about him, and malign his good name, saying he had wasted his money. As he walked back to the apartment he had rented with his pay, a man stopped him in the street. "Say," he said, "aren't you Edward Stuffel?" "I am." said Edward, expecting to be snubbed. "Remember me?" asked the man, "You helped me out with my pork business!" Edward remembered then, and was very surprised and happy when the man offered him a job supervising the store. He greeted each new day with rapture, and when someone asked him what it was like to be poor after being so rich, he'd say "Balderdash! I'm richer now than I was then."

The End.