

BAD ATTITUDE





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a novella by
leopold
mcginnis





Bad Attitude

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For Friends with
bad attitudes:
Jennifer McCarthy
Darren Schweitz
Marvic Adecer
‡ JEFF Lemire.



ELECTRONICS PIT

The Future is Cheap...

BAD ATTITUDE

by Leopold McGinnis



INTRODUCING TOM DAVIS THE ASSHOLE

Tom Davis is such an asshole. He caught me in the back room writing on this pad and chewed me out. Tom Davis!! Officially, my rank at *Electronics Pit* is higher than his! I could squash him like a bug! If I cared. He thinks he's such a hot shot. He wants to be big someday. He wants to shoot for that second employee of the month. I can just see the smug, genuinely proud look on his face as he shakes hands with Arnold, our fat-head manager, and has his picture taken with his plaque for the highest sales... He's a real go getter. A carbon copy of the training manual. Tom's going to go far in this world. Maybe some day he'll even manage his OWN *Electronics Pit*. Yessir. Tom Davis, I salute you.

Anyway, he caught me back here writing (Tom Davis who is lower than me in rank and seniority) and chewed me out and told me to get back on the floor and that 'we weren't paying you [me] to be a novelist.' I suppose he's right. If we don't get out there and sell electronic widgets...then who will? We are tireless men and women (well, men, really) devoting our lives to the struggle, no, the *fight* to ensure that every decent man, woman and child (or indecent man, woman and child -- who cares as long as they have money...or credit) has their life made complete through purchase of the perfect electronic widget. Barring that, we will talk out of our ass about a product we know nothing about to get our commission. But I digress. After ten minutes of wandering the floor and injecting myself between Tom and his customers as he tried to sell them the *highest quality widgets for a modern lifestyle* I came back here and began writing this. Tom won't bother us again. He might tell the management on me, though. I hope he does.

Anyway (again!) forget about Tom Davis, he's not important. You and me. We're important. Let Tom Davis sell widgets to the widget-wanting people of the world. Shopping is compensation. Widget-wanters are only looking to fill the empty void in their lives with advertisements and symbols. Widget-wanters have bitten and scratched at each others faces to climb to the top of the big, neon orange couch of society. And now, to prove their position, they must accessorize their neon orange couch with widgets.

bAD ATtiTUDe

People say I have a bad attitude. Not everyone. Mostly management types. But I'm not even sure I know what that means. As far as I can figure, it means that I don't have what is considered the 'appropriate' attitude. It means I don't seek and obey power and, more importantly in this case, I mock the self-evidently righteous values of widget acquisition...and yet, much to my delight and management's consternation, the selling of widgets is my latest occupation. Yes, I bite the hand that feeds me. The man on the hand that feeds me is a dick and deserves more than to be bitten. But I need to eat. And fate conspiring as it does, only the man has food. So I'll take my hand and eat it too.

To be continued...



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