

To:

From:

THE LAST TASK

by C. Knebel
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Chapter 1

A Job In Madrid

It is a hot, fall day in West Trent. Tom and Stan sit on the grass. They are best pals.

A big red truck stands on the block. On the front of the truck, it says, “WE GET YOU TO YOUR NEXT STOP.”

Stan is sad that the truck has his best pal Tom’s stuff in it.

Tom and Stan do not say much. They sit in the sun next to Stan’s swing set. But they do not plan to do a thing. They are sad that this is their last day.

The stamp plant in West Trent was shut down last May. All of the plant’s staff has lost their jobs.

Stan's dad had a job in the stamp plant and he was let go. He still has no job. West Trent is not that big. With the plant shut down, there are not a lot of jobs left for Stan's dad.

Tom's dad had a job in the plant as well. Stan and Tom's wish was for their dads to get jobs fast. They did not wish the next job for Tom's dad to be in Madrid. But it is.

Tom's dad is Spanish and he got a job in Madrid. Tom will be living there with his mom and dad. They do not plan to be back. Stan will miss Tom a lot.

In the spring, Stan lost his gran, Gran Jenn. She was his dad's mom. Then his dad lost his job. In the fall, his best pal is off to Madrid.

This is a lot for Stan.

Stan sits next to Tom as the men bring out beds, the TV set and a big box with a tag that says, ‘Tom’s Stuff’.

Tom tells Stan that the men will ship their things all the way past the Atlantic.

“Mom thinks Madrid will be fun,” he adds.

Stan stands up. He kicks a rock off the grass and sags.

“Fun or not, I still wish you did not have to go,” he grunts.

“I wish to stay with you in West Trent,” Tom says. “But it is not up to me.”

Certificate of Accomplishment

This certificate is awarded to

for successful completion of

The Last Task



Signature

Date



THE LAST TASK
WORD LIST

#	Word	Count
1	a	166
2	a.m.	3
3	add	3
4	add-on	1
5	adds	13
6	admit	1
7	ads	1
8	all	26
9	am	10
10	an	6
11	and	132
12	Ann	1
13	are	24
14	as	47
15	ask	2
16	asking	1
17	asks	43
18	at	47
19	Atlantic	1
20	back	45
21	backpack	3
22	bad	2
23	bag	10
24	bags	4
25	bath	1

#	Word	Count
26	be	33
27	bed	4
28	beds	1
29	beg	1
30	bell	5
31	belt	1
32	bench	4
33	bends	2
34	best	24
35	bet	4
36	big	13
37	bills	1
38	bit	12
39	black	5
40	blasts	1
41	block	1
42	blocks	1
43	box	13
44	bring	7
45	brings	10
46	brunch	9
47	bumps	2
48	bus	26
49	but	29
50	butts	1

#	Word	Count
51	by	11
52	cab	9
53	call	3
54	calls	1
55	can	39
56	cannot	9
57	cap	1
58	cat	8
59	chat	4
60	check	21
61	checking	1
62	checks	13
63	check-up	1
64	check-ups	1
65	chest	12
66	chestnuts	2
67	chin	4
68	chips	1
69	chomp	2
70	claps	3
71	class	18
72	clicks	3
73	Cliff	8
74	clinic	7
75	clock	3

#	Word	Count
76	club	14
77	crack	6
78	cut	1
79	cuts	1
80	dad	57
81	dads	1
82	day	10
83	Deb	1
84	den	6
85	desk	11
86	desks	2
87	did	29
88	dig	1
89	dips	1
90	dish	4
91	distract	1
92	do	33
93	does	12
94	down	13
95	drink	6
96	drinks	4
97	dripping	1
98	drop	1
99	drops	2
100	dust	1

#	Word	Count
101	egg	1
102	eggs	8
103	Elm	2
104	end	3
105	ends	3
106	epic	1
107	Eric	2
108	expect	2
109	fact	1
110	fall	2
111	fast	4
112	felt	3
113	fills	1
114	finish	10
115	fish	6
116	fishing	1
117	fist	1
118	fit	1
119	flag	3
120	flash	1
121	flips	2
122	Fluff	41
123	for	45
124	from	20
125	front	5

#	Word	Count
126	fun	9
127	funds	1
128	gang	3
129	gap	1
130	get	23
131	gets	12
132	getting	1
133	gift	8
134	glad	20
135	glass	4
136	glum	1
137	go	24
138	got	21
139	grab	4
140	grabs	7
141	gran	17
142	grand	9
143	grandkid	1
144	grass	3
145	grill	6
146	grilling	1
147	grin	6
148	grinning	1
149	grins	12
150	grunts	4

#	Word	Count
151	gulps	1
152	guts	1
153	H	11
154	had	22
155	half	2
156	hall	3
157	ham	7
158	hand	13
159	handbag	1
160	hands	12
161	hang	4
162	hanging	1
163	hangs	2
164	has	24
165	hash	2
166	have	28
167	having	3
168	he	114
169	held	2
170	help	12
171	helping	1
172	helpings	1
173	helps	5
174	her	59
175	him	26

#	Word	Count
176	himself	2
177	hint	22
178	hints	3
179	his	78
180	hops	2
181	hot	1
182	how	4
183	hug	1
184	hugging	1
185	hugs	10
186	hums	1
187	hunch	1
188	hunt	2
189	hush	1
190	I	87
191	if	14
192	ill	1
193	in	119
194	insists	1
195	into	2
196	is	165
197	it	96
198	Jenn	8
199	job	21
200	jobs	4

#	Word	Count
201	jots	2
202	jug	10
203	jump	2
204	jumps	12
205	just	32
206	Kest	1
207	kicks	1
208	kid	3
209	kids	9
210	Kitts	7
211	lamp	1
212	lap	4
213	laptop	5
214	last	15
215	led	1
216	left	17
217	legs	1
218	let	12
219	lets	4
220	letting	1
221	lick	1
222	licks	3
223	lid	5
224	lift	2
225	lifts	5

#	Word	Count	#	Word	Count	#	Word	Count
226	like	9	251	much	11	276	Pam	137
227	list	2	252	must	26	277	panic	1
228	living	2	253	my	8	278	pass	1
229	Liz	3	254	napkin	5	279	past	3
230	lock	5	255	naps	1	280	pats	4
231	lost	9	256	net	8	281	pay	3
232	lot	12	257	next	44	282	pen	3
233	lots	3	258	no	15	283	pet	4
234	luck	3	259	nod	1	284	pets	2
235	lunch	12	260	nods	14	285	pic	1
236	mad	4	261	not	81	286	pick	1
237	Madrid	5	262	nuts	1	287	picks	13
238	map	17	263	O.K.	5	288	pink	1
239	maps	3	264	odd	1	289	plan	7
240	math	1	265	of	52	290	plans	1
241	may	3	266	off	9	291	plant	11
242	me	13	267	oh	3	292	plastic	2
243	men	2	268	on	70	293	plugs	1
244	met	7	269	or	3	294	plus	1
245	min	2	270	out	38	295	pond	4
246	miss	14	271	p.m.	2	296	pot	5
247	mom	84	272	packs	1	297	pots	2
248	moms	1	273	pad	3	298	preps	1
249	Monday	1	274	pal	9	299	Prim	55
250	Mrs.	50	275	pals	8	300	print	2

#	Word	Count
301	prints	2
302	prods	1
303	pub	3
304	puffs	1
305	pup	2
306	quick	7
307	quilt	5
308	quit	2
309	ran	1
310	red	9
311	rest	4
312	rests	1
313	rings	5
314	rips	2
315	rock	3
316	rods	1
317	rubs	2
318	rug	4
319	run	5
320	running	1
321	runs	20
322	rush	4
323	sack	4
324	sad	6
325	sags	1

#	Word	Count
326	sat	2
327	say	3
328	says	64
329	sec	2
330	send	1
331	sent	3
332	set	10
333	sets	6
334	she	85
335	shelf	4
336	shift	3
337	shifting	1
338	ship	2
339	shock	3
340	shot	4
341	shrill	3
342	shrinks	1
343	shrub	1
344	shrug	1
345	shrugs	5
346	shut	6
347	shuts	2
348	sick	7
349	Sid	1
350	sings	1

#	Word	Count
351	sit	10
352	sitcom	1
353	sits	15
354	sitting	1
355	six	2
356	skip	1
357	slip	1
358	smells	1
359	snack	2
360	snacks	1
361	snaps	2
362	sniffs	2
363	so	7
364	sobs	1
365	son	1
366	Spanish	2
367	spell	2
368	spins	1
369	splits	1
370	spot	7
371	spots	5
372	spring	3
373	sprint	2
374	sprints	4
375	squints	2

#	Word	Count
376	stack	2
377	staff	1
378	stamp	4
379	stan	230
380	stand	4
381	stands	6
382	stay	7
383	steps	14
384	sticks	3
385	still	20
386	stop	28
387	stops	9
388	string	2
389	stuff	4
390	stuffs	1
391	such	1
392	sun	3
393	Sunday	2
394	swimming	1
395	swing	4
396	tag	6
397	tap	1
398	taps	2
399	task	6
400	tell	20

#	Word	Count
401	tells	19
402	ten	1
403	tennis	11
404	text	2
405	thank	3
406	thanks	2
407	that	45
408	the	330
409	their	8
410	them	11
411	then	30
412	there	21
413	they	46
414	thing	8
415	things	6
416	think	24
417	thinking	1
418	thinks	16
419	this	46
420	thrill	1
421	tick	2
422	tilts	1
423	tin	5
424	tips	2
425	to	157

#	Word	Count
426	tock	2
427	Tom	67
428	top	6
429	track	2
430	traffic	1
431	Trent	30
432	trick	1
433	trip	1
434	trots	4
435	truck	7
436	trunk	1
437	TV	4
438	unlock	1
439	unlocks	1
440	unpacks	1
441	until	3
442	up	51
443	upset	2
444	us	20
445	van	1
446	vet	5
447	visit	10
448	visits	2
449	wall	8
450	was	33

#	Word	Count
451	way	5
452	we	37
453	well	22
454	went	1
455	were	6
456	West	30
457	wet	1
458	what	32
459	when	35
460	where	6
461	which	2
462	who	1
463	why	7
464	will	40
465	win	1
466	winks	3
467	wish	18
468	with	76
469	X	4
470	yanks	1
471	yells	15
472	yelps	1
473	yes	13
474	yet	8
475	you	97

#	Word	Count
476	your	14
477	ziplock	1
Total Words		6001

Do you want to draw your own story now?

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