



A RUSTY STEELY CURSE



What Happens When A Lazy Metal Meets The Wrath Of Water And Air?

1

This is the story of Bonky, a giant slab of metal, who lived in a giant warehouse along with several other useful materials. All the materials helped build amazing skyscrapers but not Bonky- he was lazy. Even though everyone told him to be useful and not a waste of resources, he didn't pay heed to anyone. In fact, he was so arrogant that he didn't really feel the need to work.

2

Bonky's boisterous attitude didn't sit well with other materials. "How can someone be so useless and yet so proud?" remarked the line of bricks. "You're all correct, but what can we do? Bonky is so powerful!" whimpered Paper. "He is powerful but nature has an answer to everything. I will solve this problem tomorrow with a friend of mine," announced Water, dismissing the meeting.

3

The next day, while Bonky was picking on Mercury for being a liquid metal, Sir Bucket showered Water on Bonky. "Liquid? Hahaha, I'm strong enough to resist all your weapons. This won't affect me!" Just then a breeze of Air interrupted Bonky. It seemed to cast a spell on the area Water had rained on. "You have spoken far too much Bonky; it's time for you to listen to us." Bonky was taken aback.

4

"I have chemically reacted with Water to make you weak." Air continued. "Your downfall is the consequence of not fulfilling your duties as a metal. Moreover, making your fellow materials feel bad by scoffing at them." Air declared in a stern yet cool voice, "You shall now start rusting. You shall lose the shining surface soon." Bonky didn't think much of it at first, but soon, he realised that the affected area lost its shine.

5

Bonky became very weak and sad because of the incident. He realised that the way he had been behaving was wrong, and it was high time for him to learn his lesson and become a better being. So, Bonky went to his friends and apologised for his bad behaviour. Since the others were glad that he had learnt his lesson, they forgave him. But Bonky was unhappy with his state and asked for help from his fellow materials to save him from rusting. Looking at his pain, all the fellow materials decided to help him out.

6

Uncle Paint Bucket and Madam Paint Brush got to work. Together, they applied a layer of paint to Bonky and said, "We can't fix the rusted area, Bonky! Sadly the damage is permanent, but the layer of paint we have applied will protect you from any further rusting." Bonky was very thankful to them for their help, and after this incident, he became very respectful, responsible, and hard-working, like the rest of them.



The science of it

When a metal gets exposed to water or oxygen, a chemical reaction called oxidation occurs where the metal gets converted into metal oxide, commonly known as rust. However, a simple layer of paint can act as a barrier and prevent it from further rusting.

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Futuristic failures

Creations That Were Almost...Successful!

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When the first light bulb lit up our lives, the first aeroplane was only airborne for 12 seconds. Technology has seen its highs and lows, and highs never go unrecognised. However, the lows are just as important to recognise what went amiss. Creating and inventing something takes up real courage and amount of knowledge but sometimes, some things just turn out to be waste of money and time. Here are some worthwhile examples of the same.

Google Daydream: A VR platform for people to live in a reality of their choice! Google Daydream attempted to make this dream come true. With a virtual reality set up, it tried to offer people an escape from real life for a short while. However, the bulky build of the device and the lack of control set back the setup. It was released in November 2016, and within years, it was discontinued in 2019.

Hoverboards: In October 2014, the American inventor Greg Henderson created the prototype of the device that made its first appearance in the sci-fi movie called Back to the Future. The device moved without much effort and had everyone in awe. Regardless,

when the future came in 2014, viewers didn't like it much. With the invention's tendency to blow up and be a safety hazard, the 'future' was more trouble than it was worth.

Secret: "Hush! This is a secret." This anonymous social media platform that came out in 2021 doesn't really require many preambles. This was a place where all messages were anonymous; people weren't accountable for their crimes and confessions. It was loved and hated by all who used it. However, the anonymity didn't sit well with one of its founders, and they decided to pull the plug.

Flappy Bird: Released on May 24, 2013, developed by Dong Nguyen and Gears, Flappy Bird was not a failure. The game revolved around a bird who required taps to fly. But this simple game got on everyone's nerves until they wanted to throw the device away because the darn bird won't fly right. Well, the creator soon felt that the game had become way too addictive, and it was time for it to flap away its last flight.

Android tablets: Even in the early days of Android, cheap slate-like devices were being invented in China that could be called tablets. However, the first 'real' Android tablet was

the original Galaxy Tab launched in late 2010. No model or company needs to elaborate on the failure of this product because the tabs were slow, expensive and incompatible with most apps.

Google Nexus Q: Known as the ancestor of Alexa, the device was released on June 27, 2012. But instead of a small pill-built, it was a bowling ball. It supported Google Play Music and YouTube only. So, not only were its streaming services problematic, but it also rolled over and crashed. When people saw that a stable TV remote can do the same thing, they decided to ditch it, and continue the binge-watching.

Juicero: In 2013, this juice making start-up started off and went down in 2017 due to bankruptcy. The device worked only with Wi-Fi signal and was high-priced. Due to the inconvenient demands of the device, people didn't buy it for too long. They realised that they were draining their money down the juice drain, and so this machine automatically went out of business.

