

## Another Way

by Cody Ridsdale

The Year is 2250; Finn Wilson is about to finish his shift at the nuclear power plant. He's trying to cool down from the huge fight he had with his boss, Daniel "Doomsday" Shan. Mr. Shan has adopted this nickname ever since the last near fatal melt down at the plant. The melt down could have wiped out the whole city, including the innocent lives in it. But, like a greedy con man, "Doomsday" swept it under the rug.

Using cold hard cash, he bribed the mayor to keep quiet about the entire situation. Almost as if the dilemma never happened. "You're on thin ice Wilson!" Finn imitated Darren's voice with a childish tone. "You'll be nothing but the deadbeat son of a poor family!" The words echoed through his head as he swung his pickaxe. He was getting angrier with every swing he made. He works in the uranium caves one kilometre away from the power plant. He didn't want a career as a miner, but he had to for his father. His father is dying from uranium poisoning and his family couldn't afford a doctor. Mr. Shan has not given a dime for his "well protected" employee of the plant.

"That man's going to pay for what he's done to this family," Finn said with spite. The steam whistle blew at his station. This meant that his long and exhausting day of work was over. As he was heading to a decontamination station, Daniel was watching him from the supervisor's balcony. He was giving him the classic Shan death glare as he was walking by. "Mark my words, Wilson. One slip up and you're out of here," Daniel shouted with anger. Finn wanted to shout back, "UP yours!" But only a meek "Yes sir" found its way out.

Finn arrived at the decontamination chamber, and he hit the green button that stuck out in the center of the right wall. Immediately his black suit was hit with warm, powerful jets of water. Full body suits were used to protect the individual using it from radiation. It stung at first, but the water seemed to grow weaker after a minute. Five minutes had passed and the chamber's intercom made a loud 'Bing'. This signified that the machine had finished its process. Finn stepped out of the machine. He walked to his locker and took off his suit, a plain T-shirt and grey sweat pants underneath. He hung up his suit in his locker and scratched his short dark brown hair. He grabbed his iPod and phone, and then closed up his locker. He placed a combination lock on his door handle.

"There are a lot of crooks around here" he thought to himself, "You can never be too careful."

He walked out of the worn brick entrance building; he looked just above the door, and there it was, the company's slogan. "With great electricity comes great responsibility." Finn read it out loud. "Yeah right" Finn said with agitation. "Daniel wouldn't know responsibility if it smacked him in the face!" He plugged his headphones into his iPod and put on his favorite song, "Save Me" by Avenged Sevenfold.