

From Help Desk

By Don Zolidis

VINNY, probably male

WATKINS, any gender

Lights up on VINNY and WATKINS
VINNY answers the phone.

What.

VINNY

Is this the help desk?

WATKINS

Yeah.

VINNY

I'm calling to complain about a delivery.

WATKINS

You're calling to complain about a delivery.

VINNY

Right.

WATKINS

Great. Sure. Go ahead.

VINNY

So I got a delivery today of a very important package.

WATKINS

I'm thrilled for you.

VINNY

It was a disaster! At first I heard a loud honk, like someone was laying on the horn, and then I saw your delivery vehicle careening down my street – I don't even think it slowed down – but with a screech of tires my package was hurled from the open door. The truck didn't even slow down.

WATKINS

VINNY

It's phenomenal what drivers can do these days.

WATKINS

He HURLED it from a moving vehicle.

VINNY

Did you get the package or not? It sounds like you got it in the most awesome way possible.

WATKINS

It struck the hood of my car, ricocheted into the air – then bounced off my garage door, before landing on my front stoop.

VINNY

So you got the package.

WATKINS

At the same time that the driver hurled the package, I heard him yell, "Here's your package loser!" and he laughed maniacally, before gunning the engine and speeding off.

VINNY

Sounds like he was pretty busy. But did you get your package?

WATKINS

I got the package.

Watkins sets the most battered box imaginable on the table.

VINNY

Then there's no problem.

WATKINS

Inside the package was a crystal vase.

VINNY

Okay.

WATKINS

Shards of a crystal vase.

VINNY

Why would you order shards of a crystal vase? That's on you.

WATKINS

It was a WHOLE crystal vase before it was hurled from the truck.

VINNY

I don't see how you can prove that. Were you inside the box? No. So who knows how it got broken.

WATKINS

I know how it got broken!

VINNY

Whoah whoah whoah calm down. You ever tried gorilla glue? That stuff works great.

WATKINS

My vase is shattered.

VINNY

How about instead of looking at negatives, you look at positives.

WATKINS

What are the positives?!

VINNY

You got your package! Maybe you should be thankful for that.

WATKINS

I paid for delivery!

VINNY

You know what? I got a beautiful daughter –

WATKINS

I don't care, I *don't* care –

VINNY

And I have to spend time away from her in order to deal with you whiners.

WATKINS

Does this look like it was properly delivered?!

VINNY

She looks at me and says, "Daddy where are you goin'?" and I say I'm going to work, Pumpkin, cause there's a lot of people out there who don't know nothing.

WATKINS

What don't I know?!

VINNY

How to put your vase back together with gorilla glue! You think you're the only person who ever broke something?!

WATKINS

I didn't break it!

VINNY

This is the REAL WORLD. Things break!

WATKINS

When they are HURLED from a speeding truck!

VINNY

How was my driver supposed to know that? Huh?

WATKINS

It says FRAGILE on the box! That means FRAGILE!

VINNY

Maybe you should stop being so fragile! All I hear from you – this whole call – 'I got problems help me help me help me', do you care about my problems? No!

WATKINS

You're the person who's supposed to help me!

VINNY

I wish I could help you, but I can't. Did you accept the terms and conditions of delivery?

WATKINS

Yes.

VINNY

Did you read them?

WATKINS

Did it say my package would be launched from a moving vehicle?

VINNY

So you didn't read them.

WATKINS

Did it say that?

VINNY

You would know that if you read it. You checked a box without reading the fine print. This is your fault.

WATKINS

What was in the fine print?

VINNY

It states that you are required to provide a safe landing space for the item.

WATKINS

What?

VINNY

You're supposed to provide a bouncy castle on your front lawn for the driver to hit. He drives by, he fires the object out of a slingshot, and it goes right into your bouncy castle. You endangered my driver by not providing a bouncy castle. I should be suing you.

WATKINS

I don't own a bouncy castle!

VINNY

Your irresponsibility is not my problem.

WATKINS

How am I supposed to even get a bouncy castle?

VINNY

You're in luck, I sell them. Tell you what: I will let you buy a bouncy castle from me for a 10% discount.

WATKINS

I could actually use a bouncy castle.

VINNY

Do it. Do it. Buy it. Buy it now.

WATKINS

Okay.

He clicks on something on the computer.

VINNY

Do you accept the terms and conditions?

WATKINS

Sure.

VINNY

Sweet. You better get to your roof.

WATKINS

What's going to happen there?

VINNY

Make sure to take the jell-o.