

Nicole Strasinski

English 100

Narrative Project

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### Too Tired

Driving down the street with the windows down as the cold fall night wind blows Nicole's hair back. It's 11 o'clock and Nicole's gas tank light blinks 10 miles till empty. Looking exhausted after finishing a double shift at work, she knew that home was only 3 miles away and she could wait to fill her tank till the morning. Her body taking over as she finds herself pulling into the gas station up the road from her house. Nicole is an owner of a fairly brand new drivers license and had only filled her tank a few times before. Normally Nicole is the type of person that is in bed and asleep by 10 o'clock every night but this night was different. She agreed to take on an extra shift to gain hours. After she got out of her car she soon realizes she has no cash so she takes out her debit card and quickly swipes it, clearly in a hurry since she couldn't wait to go home, take a shower and go to bed.

Nicole removed the nozzle from the stand and began to place it into her gas tank before soon realizing it wasn't fitting into the tank. Without thought due to how tired she was Nicole shoved it into the gas tank and started to fill her car up. After about five dollars into filling her tank she looked down and quickly realized that the nozzle was green which she had never seen before. She looked on the stand where she took the nozzle out and frantically saw that that type of gas was different then the usual gas and



was labeled "Diesel". She ripped it out of the tank and put it back on the stand. Standing there looking worried and panicked she picked up her phone and started googling "what happens if you put diesel into a normal car tank" and the answers that were popping up did not seem like the answers she wanted to hear. Answers popped up saying things like "Stop your car and have it towed to a car shop" "Depending on the damage it can cost from \$500 to up to \$1000 to get this fixed" and "Your car might be totalled". She started to not look tired anymore and now began to look scared and nervous about what she had just done and looked as if she was going to cry. She picked up her phone after hesitation and called her brother since her parents would freak out if she called them.

"Hello" he said as he answered the call.

"HELP! Diesel, car, ruined!!" she cried on the phone.

"Where are you? What happened?" he asked frantically now.

Nicole took a second and caught her breathe and explained to him what she had done.



“Stay put and don’t move a muscle near the car!” he said before hanging up quickly.

After about 5 minutes a car came rolling into the gas station. It was her brother. He rolled down the window and quickly yelled out.

“Do NOT turn on the car!” he said.

Just as he yelled that out it was too late. She had already had pushed the start engine button and the car had already started up. By the time she understood what he said she turned the engine off. He ran over with his hands on his head now clearly in disbelief.

“Well the car is ruined” he said shakily.

She got out of the car crying as she couldn’t believe what she had done. She sat in distress thinking over and over of how she could have let that happen. The car was less than a year old to her. Nicole’s dad had just got a new new car and this car was given to her so she wouldn’t have to pay for her own car. She knew just what this meant. She was given something for free and ruined it. She knew that now she would have to start saving and lease a car herself. If she would have just went home and listened to her body she would still have a free car.



















