

MATTHEW WILSON

The Fixers

When beckoned, the two men knocked the door and waited.

"You here to pick up the old unit?" Alice asked when she answered.

They nodded, and she led them into the kitchen.

Her husband sat at the table, reading his newspaper like he had every morning of her twenty year marriage.

"What's the problem, then?" The taller repair man asked, rubbing his hands together in preparation for heavy work.

"He's old, fat and got high blood pressure." Alice noted in a no nonsense way as the two strong men threw their arms round the startled man and quickly tied him up. When they dragged him back to the van, they handed her a young, handsome man. Twenty five and fully gassed.

"You shouldn't have any trouble now." The repair men assured her, and drove away.

Smitten, Alice took the young man inside, and started breakfast. It was inevitable things broke down. But just like that they could be replaced.

"Mommy, where's dad?" Her daughter - Becky - asked when she skipped into the kitchen.

"This mans your daddy now." Alice said, laying down the cereal, but Becky wasn't pleased.

"I preferred the old one. He knew my favourite bed time stories-"

"If you're going to be difficult, you can go with your brother." Alice moaned, and the little girl remembered when her big brother broke mommies valuable vase by accident. Then the repair men had taken him away.

To the furnace.

"I'll - I'll be good." She said, and Alice was pleased.

Becky rejected the idea of breakfast. First, she had a call to make. The repair men picked up on the second ring. Very professional.

"Hello, I want someone replaced." Becky said, as was her right as a citizen of the new world.

"Yes, it's my mommy. You see; she's no fun anymore."

Matthew Wilson, 30, has had over 100 stories accepted / appearances in such places as *Horror Zine*, *Star*Line*, *Spellbound*, *Illumen*, *James Ward Kirk Publishing*, *Static Movement*, *Apokrupha Press*, *Hazardous Press*, *Gaslight Press*, *Sorcerers Signal* and many more. He is currently editing his first novel and can be contacted on twitter @matthew94544267.