

Penalty fare essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

If you have done everything wrong in your relationship, one day you know that it's the last chance you'll ever get to do it right, and then you miss it by an accident. Then it will hurt, you'll get angry and frustrated, and you will say that it is not fair. Then you forget that you cannot control everything, and you probably know that already, but it's harder to face reality, when it's you it's about. In the short story "Penalty Fare," is Paul's relationship to Tammy not working out, and you get the impression when you are reading the text that it's because of his irresponsibility, they aren't together anymore. He misses her, and thinks if she comes back, then he won't feel so miserable anymore.

The text says: "I would be there first and then Tammy would come home again and I would stop sprawling on the sofa...1" He is also a bit naive, because when he is going to meet Tammy, he thinks that if he is there first then she will come home again. But then again it is Christmas so maybe he is hoping for a miracle. He realise, when he shows up at Tottenham Court Road and she is not there that it is over between Tammy and him.

The role Tammy has in all of this is that she could give his life some meaning, because when she isn't around he doesn't do anything, he hasn't anything to do. Life is meaningless for him without her, so he is trying to show her how much he cares for her, and Christmas is about showing the people close to you that you love them. The title "Penalty Fare" is an ironic way of telling that sometimes it feels like we are being punished for things we do by accident. Like with Paul, he gets his punishment because he misses his chance to make up with Tammy, and it's like he is being punished for his

irresponsibility from the old times. He says that: “ It wasn’t my fault but there’s nothing I can do about it.

2” He tried to get a new start but he failed, and instead of taking this as a lesson in life, he is in denial, and won’t face the reality, which we can see in the ending. He goes out and buys a bottle of vodka, because that’s the easy way to handle his problems. He has given up and takes it as it was his destiny. In this story is another important theme beside this modern relationship; the role music plays in his life.

He identifies himself with it, and he is an alcoholic. He is disgusted with the consumer society. When he talks about the CD’s and the food he says that he gets nausea. He doesn’t feel comfortable there and he doesn’t belong there. So the music gives him some kind of comfort, it can understand him, and give him the sense of belonging somewhere.

The music is a world of its own somehow, and nobody can take it away from him, so that could be why he connects to music that well. Everyone has their bad times, and sometimes it all feels bad. So the easy way is to deny it, but that won’t make the problem go away, it will be there even though you don’t want it to. You have to deal with it, because life goes on, even though you don’t want it to. Translation Last year the French scientists did a very interesting find: a seven millions year old skull of a human. The skull was found in southern Sahara, an area that was fertile and wooded, at that time the owner of the skull was alive. One has found six million year old fossils, which show the first signs of human origin, but further back in time you know only a bit about the human’s development. In spite of that the latest find

has many human similar features, should there yet be more finds, so the scientists with certainty can reject the theory about that we are descended from the monkeys.