

R U N

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The sound of a set of fingers could be heard throughout room 832. Adie breathed a sigh of relief as she stretched back into her chair. “How long have I been at it?” She pondered to herself. She glanced around the once crowded computer lab, her eyes passing over the clock on the wall. “Nine- Fifty!” She quietly exclaimed. Adie stood up from her chair and walked toward the printer. The hum of the fan was the only noise save her feet hitting the cold blue floor. Adie searched the printer for her print job. “Come on, where is it? Where is it?!” She exasperatedly muttered. Her print job was nowhere to be found. She looked around and saw the remains of some poor student’s paper left on the desk. Huh? That wasn’t there before. Or was it? She pondered this to herself as she crossed room 832 to investigate the abandoned workstation. Her eyes scanned the papers and glowing computer monitor. A word document was open on the screen. “18-21-14 18-21-14,” the text read. “What does that mean?” she half wondered.

BURRRRRM!

Adie jumped at the sudden loud noise. Her heart skipped a beat. The printer hummed quietly after its initial outburst. Adie breathed an easy sigh as she realized how silly she was being. “A printer, printing. Yup Adie, definitely a strange occurrence,” she thought to herself with a smirk. She once again crossed the blue floor toward the printer. “Finally I can get my paper printed.” She picked up the troublemaking document. She quickly looked at the document. It took her a minute to make heads or tails of the thing. It was a black sheet of paper with green text on it. “What kinda freaky class is this kid in?” She asked aloud. She flipped over the document, and was greeted by the same message that was on the computer: 18-21-14 18-21-14. “Is it a phrase? A problem? What is it? And what is with this green blob?!” She asked loudly to no one in particular.

BURRRRRM!

Adie's heart and body collectively jumped for the second time that night. "Freakin' printer!" She angrily spat at the machine. Another document had made itself known. Adie picked up the document and stared, slightly more unnerved than last time, at it. "R21 14 R2114." She read aloud. "What does that me...?"

BURRRRRM!

She was cut off again by the infernal machine. "You know, you're really starting to get on my nerves!" She angrily stated to the machine. It responded with yet another document. She picked up the new document. "R-U-14 R-U-14." Roo14? Rout 14? "What is wrong with this printer?!" She huffed angrily. "All I want is to print my paper!"

BURRRRRM!

As if in response the printer gave her one final document. She dutifully picked it up and looked it. The paper contained the green blob again. Her eyes went wide. On the back of the document, she saw four lines.

18-21-14 18-21-14

R-21-14 R-21-14

R-U-14 R-U-14

R-U-N R-U-N

Her eyes widened. She ran for the door.

SLAM!

The wood door slammed shut. She slipped on the first document. Her head cracked against the ground. The last thing she saw before blacking out was the cold blue floor. She finally knew what the green blob was. A picture of a student. A male student. Rendered in green text on a black background.

BURRRRRM!

The printer printed one more document that night. A picture of a student. A female student rendered in green text on a black background. With the numbers 8-5-12-16 13-5: typed on the back.

The printer hummed contently.