

CHANGEWYX

A story in which you decide 3 times about the
next plot.

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DEMPSEY NOVAK

CHANGEWYX, A story in which you decide 3 times about the next story.

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Preface

There are times in life when we have to make a decision and change something.

This change can have a major impact on our lives.

Dempsey Novak

Chapter 1 - Celebration

6:00 PM, Saturday, David's house

The 50th birthday celebration of the famous DJ David, who plays his own music at his shows, is currently underway in his luxurious villa.

He invited around 200 guests from his entire family and show business to the party. The only one who didn't get an invitation was Albert.

The birthday boy and his attractive girlfriend Sharon greet the guests at the entrance. David is wearing a sleek gold suit, while Sharon is radiant in a black dress with a gold necklace. They stand in front of a large house with a spacious garden, where a stage has been set up and a dance floor filled with dancers.

In the garden, chefs prepare delicious dishes and drinks, guests enjoy sitting at tables or socializing at the bar counters. The fun is in full swing, other guests arrive and come to wish the birthday boy all the best.

David's sister Lucy and her husband Paul are just arriving. "Hi, Lucy, how are you?" David asks with a smile. Lucy laughs: "Excellent." She grabs his hand, hands him a gift - a carefully wrapped painting - and adds: "I wish you well and all the best." She kisses him on the cheek and smiles. "Thank you very much, I'm glad you came. Enjoy a wonderful evening," David replies, while discreetly checking his phone to see if the first articles about his celebration have already appeared on the Internet.

“Hi, Lucy, how are you?” Sharon joins in with interest.

“It’s really beautiful here,” said Lucy. The hostess was standing at the entrance. “Good evening, I’d like to show you around. Can you follow me?” The hostess led Lucy and Paul into the garden. “I’d like to introduce you to the program,” she said, handing them a paper leaflet. “In front of you is the stage, where a musical performance is currently taking place, the schedule of which can be found in the leaflet. On the right is the refreshment area, where our chefs are preparing delicious specialties. The toilets are around the corner to the right. Here is your place at the table. I would also like to mention that David will also be performing during the evening, and there will be fireworks at midnight,” added the friendly hostess with a smile. “Thank you for the introduction,” said Paul. “If you need anything, I’m at your disposal at any time,” replied the hostess. “Thank you,” smiled Lucy. “Have a nice evening,” said the hostess, and returned to the entrance to welcome the other guests.

The event features ten beautiful hostesses, each dressed in an elegant costume and heavily made-up to give the entire event a touch of extravagance.

David is standing at the entrance, accepting congratulations. Two extravagant men approach him – strikingly dressed in red suits, with green hair and pierced noses, who immediately attract attention. “Happy birthday, David,” they wish him, handing him a large pink box. “I’m glad you came,” David replies with a smile.

The hostess approaches the couple. “Hello, I’d love to introduce you to the party. If you need anything during the evening, I’m completely at your disposal,” she says helpfully. “And what’s your name?” she asks immediately. “I’m Mike and this is Donald,” one of the men replies. “We’re dancers and we

accompany David during his performances.” “I’ve heard of you,” the hostess smiles. “We’ll have a performance during the evening, so you’ll see what we can do,” Mike adds cheerfully.

The hostess leads them out into the garden and seats them at a table where Paul and Lucy are already seated. “Lucy, Paul, let me introduce Mike and Donald, who will be sitting next to you,” she announces. Everyone shakes hands and greets each other warmly. Music is playing on stage and the guests are having a good time. A fanfare is heard and David and his girlfriend Sharon enter the stage.

Sharon steps up to the microphone and speaks: “Dear guests, friends and business partners, fans, we are extremely pleased to have you with us today. I would like to raise a glass to David’s health.” Everyone present takes a glass. “Cheers,” Sharon says and kisses David.

David steps up to the microphone. “Thank you all for coming. When I released my album *Changewyxx*, I had no idea how big a success it would be, how many people it would reach, and how many of you would find your way to my music and my show. I’m happy that my work is heard not only on platforms like YouTube, Spotify, Amazon Music, or iTunes. Many of today’s guests got to know my music there, and thanks to that, we established a great collaboration. Thank you again and I wish you a wonderful evening.” David then descends among the guests, toasts with each of them, and a friendly atmosphere reigns. The evening is pleasant, the beautiful red sun is slowly disappearing on the horizon, and the view of the sea is breathtaking.

At the same moment, Albert is sitting in his ugly, dirty apartment. The weather outside is inclement and it is raining heavily. Albert is about 180 centimeters tall, unkempt, uncombed, and has a prominent belly. He is wearing a tacky T-shirt and torn

pants. He is sitting on a faded sofa with a laptop on his lap, eating French fries and washing them down with a Coke.

He is connected to the internet and is currently uploading items to an online marketplace in various countries. He sells mining equipment – from workwear to flashlights to various accessories. At the same time, you are monitoring various websites.

As he mindlessly browses the web, he is caught by a headline from a tabloid server: “David, the famous DJ, celebrates his 50th birthday.” Attached below the article are footage from the celebration. “I have to see this — my uncle celebrating his 50th birthday,” Albert mutters to himself. He gets up, walks into the unsightly kitchen, and opens the dirty refrigerator, which is almost empty. Finally, he pulls out another can of Coke, opens it, and returns to his laptop.

The presenter is announcing on the screen: "Dear viewers, we are currently in front of the house of popular DJ David, who is celebrating his fiftieth birthday." Then she adds: "David, on behalf of all our viewers, I would like to wish you good health, happiness and success." "Thank you very much for the wishes," David replies with a smile.

“David, what new things do you have planned for your fans in the next fifty years?” asks the presenter with a smile. “We’ve been on a big indoor tour for the last two years. I’ve been writing new songs that I’d like to release. My new song Dance-ddd-dance it will be released today. I’m planning another big tour in several countries next year. And of course, I’d be happy if your crew was present at this celebration,” David says to the camera. “Bring some food, drinks and have fun with us,” he then adds off-screen.

“Asshole. Not only did he not invite me, but he’s acting

like an idiot,” Albert mutters to himself as he closes his laptop. He finishes his Coke and goes to bed – he has to get up early for work. While Albert falls asleep, the party continues at David’s. Various singers and people from the industry take turns on the stage. “I would like to sing this beautiful song for David and everyone who came today,” says a charming singer in a beautiful dress, and the melody starts.

After her performance, David reappears on stage to thunderous applause. Behind him, footage from his tour of large halls is projected on a huge plasma screen.

Dancers Mike and Donald are happily swaying to the beat of the music. David approaches them and asks with a smile: "Hi, are you having fun, okay?" The crowd cheers: "Yes, great!" David announces: "Today I'm going to play you my new song from the upcoming album. The song is called Dance-ddd-dance it! As soon as the music starts, people dance all over the floor.

Meanwhile, the TV presenter interviews the participants, and the footage is immediately shared online and on TV. She turns to the charming singer: “How do you like today’s celebration?” The beautiful singer replies with a smile: “I’m so glad that David gave me the opportunity to sing on his show. He’s really amazing.” She then sends hearts to the camera.

The music stops and David announces, “Ladies and gentlemen, the fireworks will begin in a moment!” People get their cell phones ready, and soon a breathtaking light show lights up the sky.

After the beautiful fireworks show, it starts to get cold, so Paul and Lucy go inside to warm up, where they meet David. Lucy smiles at him and says, "Your show was great! Have you opened all the presents yet?"

“I just wanted to take the time to do this,” David said. He picked up the wrapped painting and began to carefully remove the wrapping paper. The painting showed his immediate family—David, Sharon, Paul, Lucy, and their son Albert. “Thank you very much for the painting. And how is Albert doing?” David asked. “He’s doing quite well, but he was sorry he couldn’t come here,” Lucy replied. “I’m sorry, but I couldn’t invite him. You know I don’t associate with anyone from Zone A. I’m ashamed of him and I know he would only bring shame here. Sorry, I have to go see the other guests,” David said and left.

Lucy and Paul sat sadly on the sofa. “I thought at least at his party David would change his mind and accept Albert for who he is,” Lucy said with tears in her eyes. “Let it go and come and dance,” Paul said quietly. Lucy got up and went with Paul to the dance floor.

The fun slowly died down, people began to disperse, and David said goodbye to everyone at the entrance.

Chapter 2 - Zone A

4:30, Sunday, Albert's apartment

Albert gets up in the morning, makes himself a coffee and treats himself to a croissant. He puts on a grey T-shirt, jeans and a jacket and sets off for the bus through the housing estate, where it is still dark. He boards the crowded, dirty bus, many of the passengers still swaying. In half an hour the bus arrives at the mine where Albert has been working as a miner for five years.

After passing through the gate, he continues to the dressing room. There he pulls down the strap with his overalls from the ceiling, gets dressed and hangs his civilian clothes on a second chain, which he pulls back to the ceiling. "Hello, Albert! I saw your uncle's party yesterday, were you there?" Martin asks. "You know I don't talk to Uncle David, so don't ask stupid questions. He doesn't want to talk to anyone from Zone A anyway," Albert replies.

"They're ashamed of me for being just a miner," said Albert. "We're working here to get coal to the power plants and everyone has electricity, and that famous DJ doesn't like that dirty work," Martin remarked indignantly. Luke added, "I guess he thinks electricity comes from how fast people dance at his show." Everyone laughed.

The shift leader shouted loudly: "Guys, we're going to be working in seam number eight today!" The miners entered the cage and took the elevator down. In the shaft, they walked through a dark corridor, lit only by the bulbs on their helmets. "Albert, you have to fix this wall here," the shift leader warned. "I see," Albert replied and started working with the jackhammer. "Guys, leave Albert here, he's got about an hour to do it. We'll move on," Martin shouted. "Goodbye for now," Albert said goodbye and

continued hammering.

Chapter 3 - After the celebration

8:30, Sunday, Sharon and David's house

Sharon and David wake up. “David, I really enjoyed the party last night,” Sharon says, smiling. David gets up, heads to the fridge, and pours himself a glass of juice.

Then he picks up the painting that was leaning against the wall and carries it into the bedroom. “Sharon, have you seen this painting?” he asks. “No, you haven’t shown it to me yet,” Sharon replies curiously. “Look,” David points to a large framed photograph. “This is my sister Lucy with her husband Paul and their son Albert.” Sharon takes the painting in her hand and looks at it for a moment. “It’s very pretty. Where are we going to hang it?” “Nowhere. We’re going to hide it in the basement,” David replies.

“Why?” Sharon asks in surprise. “Because of Albert. I don’t want anyone to associate me with him being my nephew. I’m ashamed of him. He’s just a miner, he’s accomplished nothing, he’s not successful, and he still lives and works in Zone A.” Sharon looks at him. “David, not everyone has to be successful and rich. Be respectful to others. How many times have I told you not to act like an idiot? You’re unpleasant to people, and when someone talks to you, you don’t even look them in the eye – you’re always looking at your phone. I’m going to the gym.”

Sharon quickly gets dressed, goes into the garage, starts her car and drives away. David stays in bed. He turns on his cell phone

and starts surfing the Internet as usual. He spends more than ten hours a day on his phone, constantly checking articles about yesterday's party.

Chapter 4 - Albert's Typical Afternoon

2:30 PM, Sunday, shaft

Albert has just finished his shift. “Are you going to the pub with us?” Martin asks. “Yes, today, since I wasn’t at David’s party yesterday,” Albert replies with a smile. They leave the mine site and walk around the fence. It’s raining outside. When they enter the local pub, they shake off the raindrops and sit down at a table. Albert’s phone rings – it’s his mother Lucy calling.

“Hi Albert, how are you?” he says on the phone. “Hi Mom, I’m fine. I’m sitting in the pub with my colleagues now, celebrating a little compensation for yesterday when I couldn’t be with you,” Albert replies. “We’d like to invite you to dinner, and if you want, you can even spend the night with us,” Lucy suggests. “I’d be happy to, Mom. I’d come tomorrow,” Albert says. “We’re looking forward to seeing you. We have a few treats left over from yesterday’s party,” Lucy smiles into the phone.

Albert returns home and writes a note in his notebook and turns on the TV, where he is watching footage from David's birthday party.

He turns on his laptop and checks the sales of his mining products on various sales platforms. He regularly writes down the

practical knowledge he gains from selling on these platforms. His goal is to publish these experiences in a book one day, because he believes that such a publication could interest many people around the world.

In the evening, Albert sets his alarm and goes to bed.

Chapter 5 - Voting 1

4:30, Monday, Albert's apartment

Albert wakes up in the morning, makes breakfast, and leaves the house for the bus. He meets Martin on the bus. "Hi, Martin. I'm going to my parents' this afternoon, so you don't have to hold my seat on the bus tomorrow," Albert says. "I remember you saying that. I hope they give you something good from that big celebration," Martin replies. They both laugh and after a while they get off the bus together, then head to the locker room.

The shift manager announces loudly: "Today will be the last time you will work on bed number eight. Tomorrow we will move to bed nine for the first time and have a little celebration. But Albert will have the day off." "He will celebrate at his parents' house," Martin remarks, and everyone laughs.

The miners board the mining elevator. The doors close and the elevator descends - the shift begins.

After work, the guys return from the shaft. "I'm not going to the pub today, I have to hurry," says Albert and waves goodbye.

Martin: "Greetings to your parents."

Albert visits a candy store where he buys a large box of

chocolates for his mother. He then boards a modern bus and drives to the station. At the station, he changes to a train and sits in a compartment. He sits alone and watches the landscape outside the window.

At the next train station, a girl gets on, opens the door of his compartment, and greets him with a smile: “Hello.” She takes off her coat, sits down, and opens her laptop. Albert is silent, continuing to look outside. After a while, the girl asks: “Where are you going?” Albert becomes uncertain and quietly answers: “I... I’m going to visit my parents. And you?” “I’m going to shoot a video with a friend, we work as influencers,” the girl replies. “That’s interesting,” Albert remarks disinterestedly. “And what do you do?” he asks with a slight smile.

“I work as a miner and in my free time I sell various things on the Internet, on various online marketplaces. I want to write a book about it that will be read by a million people,” said Albert. The lady laughed: “A million books?” Albert just nodded with a smile. “And what will the book be about?” she asked. “That’s a surprise for now,” he replied. “But there will also be a film made based on it and a theatrical performance.”

The girl laughed even harder. “When you write the book, call me. Maybe we can make a video. Here’s my business card.” “I’ll call you,” Albert nodded. The young lady got out of the compartment and Albert continued the rest of the journey alone. When he arrived at the station, he walked to the house where his parents lived. It was a three-story house and his parents lived in an apartment on the third floor.

Albert walks up to the doorbell and rings. In a moment, his mom Lucy comes to answer the door. “Hi, Albert, you look good, how are you?” she asks with a smile. “Okay, I’m glad I’m here,” Albert replies.

His father comes out of the living room with a Coke in his hand. "I'm glad to finally see you." "Put your bag with your things in your room," says Lucy's mother. "I've also prepared new sheets for you." "Thanks, mom," Albert replies and heads to the room to change. Then he returns to the living room.

"Sit down. How was your trip? And how are you doing?" asks his father. "Nothing new at the mine," replies Albert. "I'll come to work, put on my overalls, go down to the mine, we'll dig coal for seven hours, then I'll go up, get some fresh air and go to the pub with my colleagues." Lucy's mother smiles.

Funny. What about girls? Do you have any?" Albert laughs. "I don't, Mom. But when I was on the train, a girl I liked sat next to me. When she got off, she gave me her business card. Her name is Kate." Albert takes out his business card and shows it to Mom and Dad.

"And why would a girl just give you a business card?" asked the father. "I told her what I was working on, and she was very interested," replied Albert. "Albert, how many times do I have to tell you to stop with your experiments? You still only have some visions and dreams. You're a miner and you simply have nothing else to do, so finally understand," said the father sternly. "Here are some desserts from David's party, help yourself," said Lucy's mother.

"Mom, Dad," Albert began, "I came to tell you that I want to write a book that will be read by a million people all over the world. A film will be made based on the book and a play will be created." "What nonsense!" his father was angry. "How do you want to write a book when you never got a better grade than a C in language in elementary and high school? And how do you want to sell it all over the world when you don't even know languages?"

"Dad, I'll explain it to you, I have a plan," Albert said calmly.

"I'm not in the mood for your delusions. Be glad you have a job. I'm going away," my father snapped and went to his room.

Lucy looked at her son and said quietly, "Albert, you know I love you, but I don't understand you. What kind of book do you want to write?" "I know Uncle David doesn't like me because I work in the mine," Albert replied, "but I know I'll succeed. I've prepared notes and materials for a new book that will be really different. It will interest readers all over the world. It will be made into a film and a play." "Albert," his mother sighed, "this is the third time you've asked me that. So tell me – how will the book be different?"

Albert: "Imagine that there would be a voting option in that book. Readers would choose between two different options."
Lucy's mom: "Albert, I don't understand this at all. Come to the table, you'll explain everything to us after dinner."

The angry father sits down at the kitchen table while Lucy begins serving lunch. She places a large plate of fries on the table, and serves steaks with tartare. Lucy: "Enjoy your meal, Albert. You must be hungry after your journey. Take whatever you want, and after dinner I have some desserts from David's party for you."

Albert, while helping himself to food, asks, "And what was the party like?" His father, helping himself to fries, says, "There were a lot of famous people there, all snobbish. David was proving to everyone that he had it in him... just a snob." Lucy admonishes him, "Don't talk about my brother like that." And then adds conciliatorily, "But yes, they had a really nice time there - great food, barbecue and everything. David played songs from his tour

Vážení čtenáři, právě jste dočetli ukázkou z knihy ***Changewyx. A story in which you decide the next plot 3 times..***

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