

June 08, 2047

I'm honestly shocked at the learned helplessness I've been seeing lately. Three days ago, I witnessed the crumbling of three nearby businesses after an earthquake caused by fracking, even after the drilling companies promised that they'd stop. Yet, despite the fact that this was the biggest story on the news for the entire year, nobody seems to be voting or assembling to bring forth any change. Everyone seems glued to the idea that the world will just magically get better, and I can't even blame them. The world seems to have locked itself into a cycle of hoping for change without any attempt to act. I think that the problem is that they've never been shown that they themselves can make a difference, since people don't seem to give any examples of that anymore. There is nobody leading a charge, and without that, no army will rise forth.

Maybe I could be the one to do that. I mean, look at what happens when people gather en masse. The Civil Rights Act of 1965, the drafting and passing of the 19th Amendment, the very foundation of this country! It all has come from the leading of a few people, and the fists that rise in union with their guidance. Who's to say that I can't start something to bring about even a fraction of the change so many others have? Together, we can petition the state to actually set some consequences for these companies when they break their promises.

I walked past that block again yesterday, and saw a mom holding her kid outside of the rubble crying, and that just broke my heart. The kid looked younger than two, but you could tell in his eyes that he was worried for his mom. I checked the drilling companies website, and they don't even seem to acknowledge that anything's even happened. They destroyed an entire family's way of life, and it's definitely not just that one family that's been affected either, and I know that the company, if left unchecked, isn't going to go so much as a slap on the wrist for any of the damages they've caused. These families... they're people. Real people. They're not just subjects for some tabloid to write about. They have lives, loved ones, hopes, dreams, and they deserve a shot to fulfill all of those, unimpeded by the greed and entitlement of others.

I helped them salvage whatever we could from the rubble. It wasn't much. Just a few chairs, a cash register, and a couple of toys that probably belonged to that kid. It was all I could do in the moment, but the smile of that kid, though it didn't last long, I'm glad he could have it.

I'm tired of being walked all over by these soulless corporations. I'm taking them to court. I started a petition today to bring some handcuffs to the people in charge of this operation. After reaching out to a news station about it, they generously gave me a segment to talk about it, and now, we're at seven thousand votes. Since in the last mayoral election here had literally two hundred and fifty votes, we only needed seventy five, so at the very least, we're going to be heard. I emailed the mayor of the city about it, and they confirmed that this would be the case at their next board meeting. Until then, I've gathered a group of volunteers (courtesy of the news segment), and a construction company even offered to take anything we could load onto their truck away. It might not change the world, but I hope that this can at least change the

outcome of this family's livelihood. At the very least, I think that the people now realize that the world is subject to our will, if we simply put it forth.

I'm going to keep fighting the company in court until they change their ways, and at the moment, I'm filing for the damages that they did to that family, as well as the others in the surrounding area. This city won't be walked over ever again. We'll make sure of it with our votes. If anyone so much as tries to, they're going to have a rude awakening in regards to how insignificant they are when pitted against the collective might of the people.