



YVES PATAK

THE DARE

-Sweek#MicroGame

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The two boys stood on the bridge and gazed down at the homeless man curled up beside the rail tracks. In the night's hush, they could hear his irregular snoring.

"Come on, Wayne," Ted whispered. "Go on. It's just a game!"

Wayne moved the fishing rod slightly to the right, hands trembling, until the hook hovered above the bum's crumpled cap.

"What if he wakes up and comes for us?" Wayne hissed.

"Then we skedaddle!" Ted winked at him. "Now shut up and get his fucking cap!"

Biting his lip, Wayne unreeled a few more inches of the line and zeroed the hook in on the cap. Twice the sharp metal tip slid off the fabric. Just as he guided the hook toward its goal once more, Ted gave the rod a hard shove – and then quickly jumped aside.

"Hey!" Wayne cried – then the fishing line connected with the high-tension power line above the tracks.

There was a loud hiss, the metallic smell of ozone, and blue fire engulfed Wayne's body. With utter fascination Ted watched the boy jerk and twitch as the electricity burned his nerves and cooked his brains.

Then, stiff as a statue, Wayne fell flat on his face. The rod fell.

Below, the homeless man awoke with a start. Bloodshot eyes stared up at the boy on the bridge.

Theodore 'Ted' Bundy grinned down at him.

Then he ran, elated, feeling that this night would change his life forever.

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About the author

Yves Patak, MD, physician and writer, sees himself as a modern Dr. Jekyll and Mister Hyde: psycho- and hypnotherapist by day, he spends his nights writing about the dark side of the human soul and the eerie entities between the dimensions.

Inspired by Edgar Allan Poe and Stephen King, Patak's pet subject became the mystery thriller.

Published novels: Der Screener, Tödlicher Schatten, Ace Driller, Himmel und Hölle, Null Bock auf Karma, Gespräche mit Luzi (latter also translated into English and Spanish).

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