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college-age boys , unaware that making money usually involves hard work , are tempted by an advertisement that promises them an easy way to earn a lot of money. The boys soon learn that if something seems too good to be true , it probably is. **BIG BUCKS THE EASY WAY** John G. Hubbell "You ought to look into this , " I suggested to our two college-age sons. "It might be a way to avoid the indignity of having to ask for money all the time." I handed them some magazines in a plastic bag someone had hung on our doorknob. A message printed on the bag offered leisurely , lucrative work ( "Big Bucks the Easy Way ! " ) of delivering more such bags. "I don't mind the indignity , " the older one answered. "I can live with it , " his brother agreed. "But it pains me , " I said , "to find that you both have been panhandling so long that it no longer embarrasses you." The boys said they would look into the magazine-delivery thing. Pleased , I left town on a business trip. By midnight I was comfortably settled in a hotel room far from home. The phone rang. It was my wife. She wanted to know how my day had gone. "Great ! " I enthused. "How was your day ? " I inquired. "Super ! " She snapped. "Just super ! And it's only getting started. Another truck just pulled up out front." "Another truck ? " "The third one this evening. The first delivered four thousand Montgomery Wards. The second brought four thousand Sears ,

Roebucks. I dont know what this one has , but Im sure it will be four thousand of something. Since you are responsible , I thought you might like to know whats happening. What I was being blamed for , it turned out , was a newspaper strike which made it necessary to hand-deliver the advertising inserts that normally are included with the Sunday paper. The company had promised our boys \$600 for delivering these inserts to 4 , 000 houses by Sunday morning. "Piece of cake ! " our older college son had shouted. " Six hundred bucks ! " His brother had echoed , "And we can do the job in two hours ! " "Both the Sears and Ward ads are four newspaper-size pages , " my wife informed me. "There are thirty-two thousand pages of advertising on our porch. Even as we speak , two big guys are carrying armloads of paper up the walk. What do we do about all this ? " "Just tell the boys to get busy , " I instructed. "Theyre college men. Theyll do what they have to do." At noon the following day I returned to the hotel and found an urgent message to telephone my wife. Her voice was unnaturally high and quavering. There had been several more truckloads of ad inserts. "Theyre for department stores , dime stores , drugstores , grocery stores , auto stores and so on. Some are whole magazine sections. We have hundreds of thousands , maybe millions , of pages of advertising here ! They are crammed wall-to-wall all through the house in stacks taller than your oldest son. Theres only enough room for people to walk in , take one each of the eleven inserts , roll them together , slip a rubber band around them and slide them into a plastic bag. We have enough plastic bags to supply every takeout restaurant in America ! "

Her voice kept rising , as if working its way out of the range of the human ear. "All this must be delivered by seven oclock Sunday morning." "Well , you had better get those guys banding and sliding as fast as they can , and Ill talk to you later. Got a lunch date. When I returned , there was another urgent call from my wife. "Did you have a nice lunch ? " she asked sweetly. I had had a marvelous steak , but knew better by now than to say so. 100Test 下载频道开通 , 各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 [www.100test.com](http://www.100test.com)