

The office of the Editor of Trade Magazine.

“Come in Simon, have a seat.” says the Editor.

Simon has been summoned to the office, he has not requested the meeting.

“Been moonlighting have we.” asks the Editor, not as a question, more rhetorically.

“No.” says Simon, somewhat surprised.

“So you deny writing this do you?” says the Editor, as he hands a copy of The Daily Newspaper to Simon, the newspaper open to show the article about Gigantic Business and LocSARA.

Simon looks at the article.

“Well, it looks somewhat similar to what I wrote for you, but I know nothing of how it got in the newspaper. I still have my copy at home in my files and you have the only other copy as far as I am aware.” says Simon.

“That means nothing, there’s electronic copies and print outs and photocopies.” says the Editor.

“Well, I had nothing to do with it I assure you. I wrote the article for you and I have not shown it to anyone else, nor discussed it with anyone else. You explained why you could not publish it. I accepted that, realized that you might well be right and then I moved on.”

“Well, I suppose that you did make a bit of a fool of yourself at that press conference and people would have heard you and maybe someone there picked up on the story and made something of it for a bit of money, but I will accept your word that you had nothing to do with the article in The Daily Newspaper.”

A knock at the door and a secretary enters.

“Sorry to interrupt your meeting but the press office has just contacted me as they have just received this and they thought that you should see it and as I knew that” she pauses, leaving unsaid that she knew that the Editor was having Simon in over the matter of the article in The Daily Newspaper.

The Editor accepts the document, knowing that the secretary would not have interrupted the meeting were it not important.

“Thank you.” says the Editor.

“Thank you.” says the secretary. The secretary leaves the room.

The Editor reads the document. It is a print out of Edith’s press release.

Simon is wondering what it says bearing in mind that the secretary has thought it right to interrupt the meeting. It could be about something else entirely, but she had looked in his direction when she had said ‘as I knew that’.

There is a pause.

“Well, well, well,” says the Editor as he hands the document to Simon. “that is a turn of events.”

Simon reads the press release.

“What do you make of that then Simon?” asks the Editor.

“I am not sure ... I need to think it through.”

“Well, do that then please but just think, don't contact anybody and do not say anything to anybody about it and do not write anything down or enter it into a computer. It is possible I'm not saying that it is certain just that it is possible that someone here copied that article from my desk and sent it to an outsider, and it got directly or indirectly to The Daily Newspaper.”

“Right.” says Simon.

“Read that press release here but do not take it with you. I am going to keep that firmly locked up in my brief case.”

Simon continues to read the press release.

“Take your time, no need to rush.” says the Editor as he looks down at some papers on his desk and starts to read them.

‘If The Daily Newspaper wants a story they will have to get it from somewhere else, they are not going to get it from here.’ thinks the Editor.