

## Chapter 1

Sonny watched  
as the engine block  
moved toward him.

It was his job  
to drill bolt holes  
into it.

All day,  
day after day,  
he drilled those holes.

Buzz, click.

Buzz, click.

Buzz, click.

Buzz, click.

The next engine block  
headed toward him.

Buzz, click.

Buzz, click.

Buzz, click.

Buzz, click.

“I wish  
I would never have to see  
one more engine block,”  
he shouted  
to the next guy  
down the line.  
“Sometimes I get  
real tired  
of this same old job.”

But working  
on the line  
at the machine shop  
was Sonny’s living.  
It was  
how he fed his family.  
Before this,  
he was a welder.  
He got tired  
of welding.  
That work  
was hard, hot, and dirty.  
So he took  
this job

in the machine shop  
to try something  
besides welding.

Buzz, click.  
Buzz, click.  
Every day  
Sonny heard  
the same sounds.  
The auto plant  
was a loud place.  
The machine shop  
was probably the loudest part  
of the plant.  
Sonny kept plugs  
in his ears  
to shut out some noise  
and save his hearing.

“Don’t forget  
the meeting today,”  
called the guy  
down the line.

“What time?”  
Sonny asked.

“3:00 p.m.  
You had better be there.  
I hear  
it’s pretty important.”

“What’s it about?”  
Sonny asked.

“I don’t know,”  
shouted the guy.  
“But we’ve got  
to be there.”

At 3:00  
the buzz-click stopped.  
The noise  
on the shop floor  
came to an end.  
Sonny took off his cap,  
wiped his head,  
and put the cap back on.