

Osmay

Professor Rodger

Computer Science 101: Assignment 9

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The “While” Curse : A Computer Science Story

Juan and his mother lived in a peaceful village at the edge of the world. This was an enclave in which magic could still be found, even though it had disappeared from the rest of the universe. After Juan’s father passed away, he and his mother had relied on magical apple farming to survive. It was fabled that if eaten, these apples could bring about good health. Juan’s mother worked day and night on both, the farming and marketing of these apples. She would collect them at night and in the morning would depart to towns far and wide to sell them. One day when Juan was old enough, the mother turned to him to continue the family business. Sadly for Juan as we are all about to see, his mother was not very skilled in the craft of Computer Science.

“Juan listen to me.” Said the mother. “I got a task for you to do my son.” She gave Juan a bag of 100 magical apples more or less.

“Listen to me son, first go with this bag to the Altissie, the nearby town.

While you have apples left:

Just keep going from town to town.”

The mother mentioned no more and sent Juan on his journey.

Several hours later, Juan arrived in Altissie. He was mesmerized. He visited the city square, the gardens, and even the market plaza where his mother had sold magical apple countless times before. Unlike his mother, however, Juan did not attempt to sell his magical apples to any of the fruit vendors at this location.

Upon Juan's arrival at the edge of town, he open his apple bag, and proceeded to count the apples. He still had 100 magical apples more or less. "What did mother say?" Juan thought to himself.

"While you have apples left:

Just keep going from town to town."

And so, Juan took the bag, threw it over his shoulder, and continued his way to the next town, Katrow. On the road to Katrow, Juan met a knight.

"What you carrying there boy." Asked the knight.

"A stash of magical apples my mother asked to carry from town to town."

"How much are they?" Asked the knight.

"Oh,I am not selling them. At least that was not what my mother told me." Unwilling to argue with the kid, the knight simply shrugged and continued on his journey. Eventually Juan reached Katrow, where he walked past the market plaza where his mother had often sold applies to vendors once again. After reaching the edge of Katrow, Juan moved to the next town, and then the next and then the next. Always carrying a bag of 100 magical apples more or less.

Years came and went, and no one heard of Juan in his natal town. Many began to assume the worse. His mother never stopped blaming herself for what had happened and fell gravely ill. Since there was no one to harvest magical healing apples, her condition continued to worsen.

As for Juan, he eventually reached a town named Durham. Here he met a Sorcerer who went by the name of Rodger. This sorcerer instructed Juan on the ancient art of the computer and explained to Juan, how his mother had mistakenly cursed him with one of the unmentionable courses. The "while" course. The mother had not given Juan an updating

condition so that he would move closer and closer to completing his task. Therefore he was forced to move from town to town for so many years unable to break out of the loop. Now able to break the curse, Juan returned home where he found his ailing mother. He fed her some of the apples in his bag that that still had 100 apples more or less. The mother instantly returned to perfect health. Now mother and son reunited, they lived happily ever after!

The End