

## SAVED!

I just wanted to tell you what life's been like for me the last few months. Yes, I know people have been complaining about working from home, never stop whinging, some of them. Yes, I know that things have not been great for pub workers and people like that. But what about us?

Does anyone spare a thought for the poor professional burglar?

No, I thought not.

Typical.

Well, let me tell you, I might not have a certificate to prove it, but I am professional. I know the tricks of my trade, my friend, I can tell you that!

But I do depend on people getting out and about a bit, so when this pandemic came along it was a complete disaster.

Everyone at home, sitting at their laptops, self-isolating.

So yesterday I decided to take my courage, not to mention a crowbar, in both hands, and made my way to a little terrace house in the next town.

Normally, and I know I shouldn't be giving any secrets away, normally I get in through the kitchen, you know, it's round the back and on the ground floor – easy peasy.

Of course, I can't do that just at the moment, so I tried something different. I shimmied up the drainpipe, making sure no-one was looking, and got in through the bedroom window.

I used the crowbar, lifted the window and before you knew it, I was standing on the bedroom floor, ready to start my business.

That was it. Back to work.

Just at that moment I heard the sound of a vacuum cleaner making its way up the stairs. It was the most frightening sound I had ever heard in my life! 'Hrrmmmmm', it whined as if it was making a statement, determined to hunt me down.

I looked out of the window but there were people out there.

What was I going to do now? How was I going to get out now? An absolute disaster!

It did cross my mind that I could just walk downstairs and introduce myself as the guy who had come to read the meter, but they don't come any more and so..... I had a white beard, so I could claim that I was Santa on a Health and Safety check before embarking on the real deal, or I could be.....

Then I heard the vacuum cleaner coming right up to the bedroom door, heading straight for me.

Aaaaaaaaaah!

It was then that I heard the loveliest words I have ever heard.

'Mum, come downstairs and have a cup of tea! Donald Trump is live on the TV making a speech on why he is the greatest human being in the history of the planet. I think he meant to say 'planet'. You can't miss it!'

'I'm coming down straightaway,' replied the mother, 'Nothing will stop me!'

What happens next?

You've guessed it. Suddenly, the sound stopped as the vacuum cleaner is switched off.

It stops at the bedroom door.