\*\*1. What happens in the story?\*\*

Faculty housing undergoes facade renovation after missing waterproofing is discovered. Despite contractor assurances, construction causes severe disruption—sealed windows, no AC, constant drilling. When storms hit, water infiltrates apartments through walls, causing damage and mold. Professors debate collective action but ultimately acquiesce, rationalizing the situation while hoping for future tenure and escape. The construction continues despite clear failures, with administrators and contractors denying responsibility while untenured professors endure increasingly unlivable conditions.

\*\*2. What is the theme?\*\* The story explores institutional power dynamics and exploitation of precarious academic labor. It examines how vulnerability (untenured status) breeds compliance, even in intolerable situations. Themes include bureaucratic incompetence, gaslighting by authority, collective action failure, and the cruel irony of educated professionals unable to advocate for basic living conditions due to job insecurity. The narrative critiques academia's hierarchical structure where tenure becomes the ultimate carrot for enduring abuse.

\*\*3. Does it propose other interpretations, in addition to the literal one?\*\* Rating: 5 (Totally agree)

\*\*4. Which interpretation is it?\*\* The renovation serves as allegory for academic life itself—constant disruption, broken promises, and deteriorating conditions endured for possible tenure. The missing "flashing" symbolizes absent protections for vulnerable workers. Water damage represents systemic problems seeping through institutional walls. The tenured professor's absence on a private jet highlights academia's class divide. The story functions as satire of neoliberal university management and normalization of exploitation through promise of future security.