Chapter One

The day was warm a bit balmy for his liking but that would pass. Jim didn't care one way or the other how the day treated him as long as it was good. I suppose he did care how the day treated him as long as it treated him with respect and he was allowed to do what he wanted to do. That's how Jim lived his life. He wanted everything to play well with others and make it all work out in his favor.

Now of course that wasn't how life worked, it was a nice thought and all but that's really not how life worked at all. Jim would discover that soon enough.

Pulling up to his best friend Matt's house, Jim looked around. The kid lived in a mansion. Well technically his folks lived in the mansion, Matt lived in the pool house out back. Matt was a bit different than the rest of his family. He didn't take the money for granted like his brother. Didn't spend it on useless things like his mom and dad. No, Matt was more down to earth than that. He took only what he needed and saved the rest for a rainy day.

His parents forbid him to live in the house with that kind of thinking. Their philosophy in life was that it was too short so splurge while the going is good. Matt felt his family were out of line for the most part. Yeah they had it well off, but that wasn't a reason to just let it all go. Jim admired that part about Matt. They were true friends who could count on each other in a crunch. That's all that mattered.

Knocking on the pool house door, Jim waited for Matt to answer. It was a bit early in the morning, but Jim wanted to get a jump on the day. Trout was in season and he wanted to get as many bites as possible, he could sell the fish at market during the week.