

## **Hey pal! Would you like some ice cream?**

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As the ice cream truck's song plays throughout the quiet, suburban street, children from almost every house line up at the side of the truck to get their hands on a delicious frozen treat.

"I'll take a ChocoTaco!"

"I want a Spider-Man ice cream!"

Each child hands the ice cream man a couple of bucks and requests their favorite flavor, but they are all confused when handed the same single scoop of vanilla ice cream on a tiny cone.

Each child stares at the cone in confusion as they are gestured away from the truck. Most of them too young to realize what was happening, begin to eat their treat the moment they are given it.

"This isn't what I asked for!" shouts one of the children after being handed the boring-looking ice cream.

"Just eat the goddamn ice cream" grunts the man.

The child stomps away with his cone in his hand and a frown on his face. Sweat is pouring from the ice cream man's brow and his hand is shaking violently.

Finally, the last child approaches the counter of the ice cream truck.

"May I please have chocolate?" asks the child.

"No kid. Vanilla is better." He replies and extends his hand holding the vanilla cone.

"Please, sir. I really don't like vanilla. I promise I won't tell the others."

The man's frustration turns into pity as he looks into the child's eyes. His expression changes and he suddenly looks desperate.

"I promise next time I'll get you chocolate." The man says solemnly, "We are all out today. Here, take this one for free and get out of here."

The child gently grabs the cone from the man's hand and stumbles back to his home, on the brink of tears. The ice cream man quickly closes the opening in the side of the truck, locks the latch, and lets out a painful sigh.

"Was that so hard?" a voice from the back of the truck whispers in a sinister tone, "Now pour the rest of the rat poison into the tub and make the last batch. We got one last street left and your son has been in that freezer an awfully long time."