

WE SEE A MAN (TOM) IN A LIVING ROOM, ON A COUCH FACING THE CAMERA

TOM

We've all got that one friend with the terrible car, right? The old one that keeps chugging along like a reliable train despite being old and beat up? That's my friend, Ricky.

Ricky enters the room

RICKY

Hey, Tom! What are you talking about?

TOM

Oh, I'm just telling our friends here about that dinosaur you've been driving around.

RICKY

That old hunk of junk? Yeah, it gets me from A to B pretty well.

TOM

If it drives so well, go pick me up some dinner, I'm starving!

RICKY

(Sarcastically)

You got it, boss.

Ricky Leaves

TOM

Ricky's old car may not be the fanciest on the block, but I can assure you of one thing, he can fix it. That's unlike my brand new 2023 "car." It's really more of a big waste of money than a vehicle, honestly. With the more advanced technology that has come with vehicles over the last few years, the more we've seen an increase in the price to fix them. Let me show you what I mean.

SHOT OUTSIDE WITH TOM IN FRONT OF AN OLDER CAR AND A NEWER CAR, HOLDING A BASEBALL BAT.

TOM

As you can see here on my left...

Tom motions to the older car

TOM

We have an innocent, unassuming 19XX  
XXXXX. A solid car for its time, no  
doubt. And on my right...

Tom motions to the new car.

TOM

We have a new 20XX XXXXXX. Nothing too  
fancy, but a solid car from the past  
couple of years.

Tom swings the bat and knocks out the headlight from the  
newer car, pauses, and then does the same to the newer car.

TOM

I've smashed both of these  
headlights... well, I guess I don't  
need to tell you that, you saw it. But  
here's the funny thing. Ricky won't be  
as mad as my wife.

Ricky enters, eating some food

RICKY

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! YOU SMASHED MY  
HEADLIGHT.

Tom looks to the camera

TOM

If he's this mad, imagine how mad my  
wife is going to be.

Tom motions with the bat for Ricky to go back inside

TOM

Just go inside while I finish up here,  
Ricky.

Ricky puts his hands up and goes inside.

TOM

I bet you'd be surprised if I told you  
that Ricky's vehicle trouble could be  
solved for under 15 EUR. That's right.

A simple bulb and lense replacement and Ricky could be cruising back to the store in no time. My wife's car, on the other hand? Well, we're looking at at least 450 EUR, and that's not even accounting for the 150 EUR for testing and repair. If that seems insane, you're not alone. All over the world, folks are experiencing an increased cost for the repairs of vehicles without the simplicity of the cars of years past. In the days of old, one would be able to travel down to the local auto parts store, grab a replacement part, and fix their vehicle themselves. That's not the case any longer, the key fobs, lights, instruments, sensors, and just about everything that makes a modern vehicle function is exponentially more expensive and exponentially less accessible for consumer accessibility. In this world of wanton price increases, we want to hear your story. Is there a time a simple vehicle repair on a single vehicle item nearly broke your bank account? If so, reach out to us to tell us your story! As for me?

Tom holds the bat back up

TOM

I've got work to do.

Tom walks up to the back of Ricky's car.

TOM

When are you returning my lawn mower, Ricky?!

Tom swings the bat at Ricky's taillight and the camera cuts just as he makes contact.