



Look Out Below!

Picture this ... an electrician is working at a high level when he puts his screwdriver into the not-so-deep pocket of his boiler suit. Now the thing about not-so-deep pockets is that they don't hold really long things in very well.

Case in point, when our electrician bent over, the screwdriver fell out of his pocket. Now picture the slow-motion scene as the tool leaves his pocket and falls toward the ground. He fumbles to catch it, knocking it further from his grasp. It hits the floor, bounces twice, then rolls sloooowly, as if teasing him, toward an opening in the floor that just so happens to be a ladder well. Poof, it disappears over the side.

I can just hear the high-pitched whistling of the screwdriver dropping like an bomb, zeroing in on it's target; another electrician, who had just started his trek up the ladder well. He didn't make it far before *POW!* Just as electrician #1 shouts, "Look out below", the screwdriver found it's mark, plowing straight into his hard hat with enough force left to graze his scalp causing nothing more than a small cut.

I guess there are a lot of "what ifs" here, like what if the startled worker had let go of the ladder and fell when the screwdriver hit, and what if he had looked up at the last second, and what if the screwdriver had been a bowling ball? But the most important "what if" to consider is: What if this worker hadn't been wearing his hard hat?