

LINDA NORTON

Hector Herrera

Herrera has asked for a day off to attend the funeral of his friend Gleason who hasn't died yet but will go soon. They owe you the days but can make it hard.

Dejar ir y dejar a Dios.

He keeps an extra shirt in his locker with mints and a roll of quarters and a jar of nickels.

The other guy was a woman. There were tampons in the bottom of the locker when he got the job, and they're still there, under his clean socks and underwear. Also some old hand sanitizer, which may not be clean because it was hers.

Una dia a la vez, si, but sometimes you have to plan. Exact change will make things easier when the time comes. Two buses and a long walk along the frontage road. Gleason is dying locally but wants to be buried in a suburb where his ex-wife can't find him. He's the only one who doesn't know that she's forgotten him. Herrera and the priest, who's also in the program – no one else will mourn Gleason. *Vivir y dar vivir*: Die and let die.