

SOMEWHERE AT LAX

NARRATOR: Somewhere at LAX, two millennials are chatting as they wait at the gate. They are traveling back from an ALA Annual Conference.

While they work at different public libraries, they hold the same position and perform identical work.

A civilian Baby Boomer – who knows nothing about libraries – arrives at the same gate. Out of breath, she approaches the two millennials:

Baby Boomer: “Excuse me, has flight 442 to Chicago started boarding?”

Millenials (Chris & Nancy) Together: “Not yet.”

Chris: “It’s delayed half an hour.”

Baby Boomer: “Oh good – thought I was going to miss the flight. I’ve been visiting my son and his family—been-here for a week. I can’t *wait* to go home. It’s nice to see them, but one week in LotusLand is more than enough. . . . I’m Valerie – very nice to meet you.”

Millenial 1 (Chris): “Likewise! I’m Chris, and this is my friend Nancy.”

Nancy: “Nice to meet you.”

Baby Boomer: “What do you do Chris?”

Chris: “I’m a children’s librarian.”

Baby Boomer: [unimpressed] “Oh.” [Pauses....] “So do you read books all day?”

Chris: “No, I provide patrons access to information, and I do storytimes.

Baby Boomer: “That’s nice. My grandson uses his computer at home to get information when he gets home from school. And my son and his wife read to my grand-daughter every day!” [turns to Nancy] “Nancy, what do you do?”

Nancy: “I’m a Children’s Instructor & Research Specialist”

Baby Boomer: [animated] “Oh! What kind of research do you do?”

Nancy: “Depends on what students need – *specialized* research assistance, tailored for individuals and groups.”

Baby Boomer: [impressed] “And what do you teach?”

Nancy: “Children’s classes that teach the foundations of reading, as well as creative skills, social skills, and any subject matter—including math and science—through children’s literature.”

Baby Boomer: “In what school district do you work?”

Nancy: “Oh, I’m not with the schools, I work for ABC Public Library System.”

Baby Boomer: “Wow! I didn’t know the library did all that! . . . I have a half an hour . . . I’ll call my son and daughter in law right now and tell them to take my grandkids to the library!”