Someone stole my online identity and...

Hi, my name's Anne and you will never believe what happened to me a few months ago. This is my story and I hope you dont mind listening to it.

I was never really worried about someone stealing my internet identity. It just didn't seem like something that could happen to me. That's why I never actually put any thought into the passwords I created for my accounts. I had the same passwords for almot every social media, online game, website or online shop I had ever used or created an account into. And I never really bothered to delete any of my old users after I didnt need them anymore. I just deleted the app or forgot about it. Not a problem. It's not like anyone could break into my accounts and use them for something, right? Right?

Wrong! It was just a normal Thursday for me in the office. Me and my co-worker Sandy were pretending to be doing the annual checking of the accounts in our firm before they get sent to the big boss people upstairs and their fancy secretaries who walk behind them with a notepad and look like they're doing something important. Both of us knew that since we clearly are not the only ones doing the annual checks for the accounts, nobody will notice a few wrong numbers here and there in the records. So what we really were doing was talking nonsense to each other and making up plans for the weekend. That's when my phone actually started to sound like it was exploding. You see, I get a lot of emails from basically everyone in the firm. So it's not uncommon for my phone to beep every 5 minutes with something work related or unnecessary. That's why I didn't think much of it when the notifications started to sound like the jingle bells we hear every Christmas.

So me and Sandy left for lunch with the great knowledge that we had accomplished nothing work-related that day. And let me tell you we had such a blast over lunch. It was a bummer my whole week was going to be ruined when we arrived back at the office. In fact when we came out of the elevator, Matt our co-worker who actually was known for doing something during the day, came to me and started complaining about how my phone was ringing nonstop and how it was bothering everyone around my desk. So I just tuned him out and started to walk over to my work desk. I picked up my phone and saw all the messages. Now when I tell you that that moment has been the closest I have ever been to having a heart attack, I'm not lying. I saw a dozen of messages from my bank about how there has been "Suspicious activities on my bank account" and how "They have been trying to reach me about the heavy usage of my assets recently". In that moment I was so worried about my whole future since clearly something had happened to all of my life savings. So I called the bank almost crying and asked them to explain everything to me.

And that everyone, was the series of events of how I found out somebody had gotten all of my bank account informations and had used it all in one morning for some unnecessary items and very expensive household appliances on my online shop accounts. After i called the bank it took them and the police a week to find the person, who wasted all of my money and had stolen my identity. I talked to my lawyer and she instructed me to sue the woman, who had used my name. So right now me and my lawyer are getting ready for trial that will be happening next week. We are hoping that I will get some kind of compensation for all the damages that that day caused in my life. I almost got fired and had to leave my apartment since I couldnt pay my rent on time.

I hope my story will inspire others to be more safe when they use the internet and that it will help people realise the importance of good and unique passwords. Because no matter what I would never wish online identity theft on anyone. Thank you for reading and I hope this will convince you to change your passwords for better if you think they might be unsafe.