

The Baggage Handler

March 10, 2007 *What's In Your Bag?*

Feature: Why Did It Have To Happen To Me?

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"Out of all of the people in the world, why did it happen to me?" How many times have you asked yourself that question? Or maybe, you have asked, "Out of everything that **could** have happened, why did THAT happen?"

I know I've asked both of those questions many times, especially, when I was in the midst of adversity or experiencing the 'residue' of an unpleasant event. But as the years go by I'm starting to understand that EVERY experience in our lives, good, bad, or indifferent has a lesson and/or purpose.

Take this simple but popular situation: For many years, a very good friend of mine questioned why her father disappeared from her life when she was two years old. She confessed living with the feeling of being inadequate and rejected. All of this changed after we had a heart to heart conversation.

Without boring you with the details, I'll just say that the discussion involved her comparing her well-balanced and successful life to the chaotic and dysfunctional lives of her half-sisters, whom her father raised.

By the end of the conversation she realized, God trusted her father to deliver her seed, but not to cultivate her purpose. A purpose so valuable and worthy of protection that everyone who would have tainted or stifled it was diverted out of her life.

Now, instead of feeling insignificant and abandoned, she feels indispensable and preserved for greatness.

It's up to you to find your elusive bright spot amidst the darkness. Most situations have one, but it often remains lost if no one takes the time to find it.

LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE YOUR LIFE Articles in 'The Baggage Handler' can not be reprinted or duplicated without written permission from Queen Publications.

Disclaimer: Although I have studied psychology and sociology, I am not a doctor, therapist or clinician of any type, so please use the advice associated with this newsletter at your discretion.

Pay It Forward

Anyone who is in touch with Pop Culture has heard about the movie, **Pay It Forward**. The movie's concept is so captivating that Oprah does shows

Newsletter Schedule Change

Due to my demanding schedule, This newsletter will now be release bi-monthly (6 issues/year). Thank You for understanding.

periodically featuring people who have added the concept to their lives.

Pay It Forward means you receive a favor from someone, but instead of paying the person back, you do a favor for someone else- and that person does something for someone. The process (acts of kindness) keeps going from person to person. And that folks, is paying it forward.

Well, this is what I am going to do: I have 10 copies of my novel, *Bag Lady* to give to 10 people. HOWEVER, after reading it, you must pass it on to someone else and that someone must agree to pass it on. So forth and so on.

Only the first ten people will receive a copy. If interested, send an email to :
Alethea@queenpublications.com.

***** Ask Alethea *****

QUESTION: Alethea, I've been involved with a certain young man for 3 months and have grown extremely fond of him. We were at a park and I said something nice about the kids that were there playing. He didn't reply one way or the other, so I continued on and made a comment about me wanting 3 kids one day. He asked if I was joking, then said he doesn't want any children. I was startled then and overwhelmed right now. Yesterday, I mentioned the park incident and he said he has never wanted kids because of his desire to focus on his career and travel. What should I do? I'm falling in love with him and thought I'd be spending the rest of my life with him. Should this one thing matter, we're compatible on everything else. Not Sure In Northern California

ANSWER: Hello Ms. Not Sure, I read through several email and decided to answer yours on this forum. It allows me the opportunity to do some shameless promotion for my latest title, ***Help Wanted: A Woman's Guide To Strategically Positioning Men In Her Life.*** (pre-order on Amazon)

I also used to be an active member of the dating circus and know how unnerving it can be at times. The only way to make real sense of it all is to know what you want before a potential mate approaches you. Know what's non-negotiable and what you're flexible on. Then start asking questions immediately to find out if he is a good fit for you. If he isn't there is no love lost.

Well, obviously you didn't do this. So right now you need to decide if being with someone who wants children is non-negotiable or just highly desirable. If it's non-negotiable then you've 'hired' the wrong man for the job. If you do as some women and stay with him anyway to avoid loneliness AND he never changes his mind- you will become angry with yourself and will grow to resent him.

So do yourself a favor and don't fall any further in love until you decide what you really want. Once you decide, be prepared to live with the consequences-good, bad, or indifferent.

And side note- if you **just** found out he doesn't want kids, how do you know you're compatible on EVERYTHING ELSE? Please don't fool yourself into believing EVERYTHING ELSE has been discussed. Only Blessings

