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DIFFERENT ADVENTURES ON PLANET EARTH...



BY CHRIS SIMMONS

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I Swear I Had The Best Intentions!

I'm a big believer in helping people out who are in need. Although I know that giving money to people begging can give them encouragement to continue in this lifestyle, sometimes I see no harm in emptying the coins in my pocket to someone who looks in need. So I recently got back from a trip in the US and something happened that still makes me cringe when I think back about it.

My wife and I were finishing up a long day of walking throughout Hollywood and as we approached our hotel, I saw a man down on his luck sitting in the doorway of a closed shop with a collection of his belongings by his side. He was sitting there holding up a cup and I thought, "Why not", and dug into my pocket and gave him about a couple of dollars in loose change.

However...

As I dropped the coins into his cup, I heard a SPLOOSH and realised that I'd tipped change into his half full coffee cup. He looked up and gave me this confused, kinda sideways look.

Whoops.

In Sunset Boulevard, Beverly Hills, CA, United States

Army Life - having fun while on guard duty

It was the middle of winter and I had the good fortune of being on guard duty which involved keeping an eye on the M113 troop carriers and the perimeter of the compound. It was all calm until I started hearing someone around where our security shed was situated. I quietly moved closer to the confront whoever was there and then lowered my guard once I realised that it was my mate who making a long distance call to his girlfriend in Western Australia on the only unlocked phone. In those days, long distance calls weren't cheap! Anyway, I thought that it was a prime opportunity to play a joke on him and bashed the corrugated steel wall behind where was sitting. He was probably already on the edge of paranoia and the loud and sharp BAAANG made him let out one hell of a scream! I went around the front of the shed and started to laugh with him shaking and swearing at the same time – with the phone now strewn on the floor.

That was one of the many incidents that occurred while I was actively trying not to get in too much trouble or do too much extra work – which seemed to be our troop mantra.

In Holsworthy, New South Wales, Australia

About Author

Chris Simmons

Semi retired ex army serviceman, salesman and bus driver. Fully active ninja in the kitchen. I love to cook...

Why is the website called bytestories.com?

This is a place for "byte-sized" stories and there is a 1500 character (about 250 words) limit for two main reasons. Firstly, we want you to know that "War and Peace" isn't required to leave your mark. Secondly, it takes about 2 minutes to read each story meaning you can head here whenever you want a quick (and entertaining) read.

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