

Oh, Happy Day!

By Marilyn Reeves

You open your freezer and find all those frozen foods you had stored on the top shelf listing to one side. After you pull everything out, you discover that the little gizmo that holds the back of the rack on the left-hand side is broken beyond repair. What you need is something – anything! – that will hold up that back corner ... but what? You try boxes, braces, even books, but nothing works. None of them is just the right size, and they all take up too much room in your small freezer. So you just learn to live with it, as is, but it's a real inconvenience. What you really need is something small that stands exactly 4" tall. Then one day, you pick up a nearly empty spice jar and you happen to notice that it looks like it might be just the right size. And sure enough, it works! It holds up your freezer rack just fine, and it's small enough not to get in the way. That's serendipity!

You're cleaning out your attic getting ready to move for what you hope is the very last time, and you happen upon a stack of ancient comic books inside a brown paper bag. "Who on earth did these belong to?" you wonder. "My goodness, they're all dated from the 1940's. Must have been my late husband's." You ask you son to take them out and toss them in the garbage bin, but he tells you, "No, Mom. Believe it or not, these may be worth some money." He goes on line and learns those old *Superman* comic books are worth over \$1,000! That's serendipity!

You literally bump into a gentleman as you're boarding the Lite Rail, and you look up and say, "Oh, I'm so sorry!" And he says, "No, my fault. Pardon me!" Then both of you do a double-take. A flash of recognition passes between you and you realize you used to know each other. In fact, you used to be high school sweethearts! You sit together on the train and get caught up on those intervening years since you last saw each other. You learn that he lost his wife to cancer more than a decade ago. He has six grandchildren, close to the same ages as yours. Rather than say goodbye as you exit the Lite Rail, you say hello to a brand new lease on life with a long-lost love. That's serendipity!

Despite all of life's trials and tribulations, every so often you happen upon an unexpected solution to a problem, discover an unexpected source of income, or you make a brand new connection with someone from your past. Life is full of little miracles and surprises that seem to happen out of the blue. That's called serendipity!

Enjoy!