

The Evening News

By Marilyn Reeves

I fixed myself a cup of coffee, kicked off my shoes, and then settled in to watch the evening news. The handsome anchorman began by saying, "Good evening. As most of you are already aware, today has been a unique day in the history of mankind with strange goings-on in the sky overhead that seem to have affected everyone in the entire world. So, I'll turn it over to you, Mike, to see if you can come up with an explanation."

"No, Dave, I can't explain it – our meteorologists have been studying the phenomenon closely and hopefully will be able to provide us with some answers soon. What has happened is that the Aurora Borealis has been putting on a spectacular light show throughout the entire day, emanating from both the north and south poles, and has been visible from every location on the planet. The weather has been mild and calm all over the world today – not a single tornado, hurricane, blizzard, or even forest fire has been reported ... from anywhere."

"Thanks, Mike. That's absolutely fascinating, but that's not all. There hasn't been a single case of a nervous cop taking down an adolescent because the stick he was carrying might have been construed as a deadly weapon. And no police officers have been shot in retaliation by an angry public. There have been no mass murders by madmen, or terrorist attacks anywhere in the world today. In fact, it's been reported that both ISIS and Al Qaeda have laid their weapons down and have been sitting on the ground watching the heavenly light show.

"There haven't been any patients arriving at the emergency room today, and no traffic accidents have been reported. Not one father has arrived home drunk to beat his wife or abuse his children, and not a single mother screamed at her child today. In fact all the school children came home with A's and smiley faces on their papers. None of them reported being bullied at school, but each and every child said they had made a new friend today.

"Huge transports of food and school supplies arrived at their destinations in third-world countries, and all those hungry people were able to eat and drink their fill of wholesome, nutritious food and clean water.

"No one's pet was left outside to suffer in the hot sun or freezing cold today. All were fed and petted by their owners. And the National Forest Service reports a surplus of nuts and berries – enough to satisfy the hunger of the all the birds and bears, and all the other wild creatures out there.

"Since there is no bad news to report today, I'm turning on some classical music for your listening pleasure and heading outdoors to watch the light show."

"Hold up, Dave, I'm coming with you," said Mike.

And with that I rolled over and looked at the clock. Time to get up. But then I lay there for another moment with my eyes closed trying to recall the details of the impossible dream I'd just had, wishing it could go on forever.