

Billions of Dreams

As the Powerball grows into the BILLIONS many of us dream about winning The Lottery! After all, what is more American than hoping to win The Lottery? I'm sure many people dream of winning millions or billions of dollars and think about what they would do with it.

I know I had many weeks when I would sit down and write out my checks to pay my bills (yes—back in the day I wrote checks!) and would hope that a secret deposit had been made into my account to cover the bills and maybe a bit more. Although there were many years money was tight and I lived paycheck to paycheck, we never went without the necessities. I didn't have a big house or a fancy car, but the kids and I always had food in our bellies, a warm small home and some money for fun.

Still, I would dream about what it would be like to win the Lottery. I didn't buy a lot of tickets. One here and there, so my chances were slim. But it only takes a dollar and a dream, right?

So this was the plan when I won: I would take all of my clothes out to the backyard except for one long coat. I would set my clothes on fire and watch them burn for a bit as I drank a bottle of fine wine. Then I would get into a hired limo and be driven to New York City and find an exclusive boutique where they don't display the clothes, but brought them out to you. I would walk in, drop my coat and, naked as a jay bird, say "dress me."

Once I was clothed in the finest ware, I would make my way to a salon and be pampered from one end to the other. After, I would enjoy a meal in a first-class restaurant and finally end the day in an upscale hotel and collapse into an extremely large, comfortable bed.

I would enjoy what the city has to offer for a couple of days and then return to my home, my children and begin a new life.

Of course, I would immediately then hire a lawyer and a financial advisor to help me structure my funds so I won't run out of money in my lifetime. I'd put funds aside for my children, help other family members where necessary and start looking for other people and/or organizations to assist.

My dream home would be next, but I'm sure it wouldn't be that extravagant. After all, I still want a home, not a show piece. Travel would certainly be on the menu. Being able to visit all of the places that I've read about would be amazing! Oh, and I wouldn't work for anyone else anymore. I'd be my own boss of my own time and energies!

I suppose many of those plans are the same for many others. But mostly I think I would like to help people. Making sure people have food and shelter and children are safe. I don't know exactly how I would go about doing that. I think it would be great to be able to

leave large tips at a restaurant or hand out money to people coming out of Dollar Tree at holiday time. Maybe buy a bunch of grocery store gift cards and just leave them in random mailboxes. Perhaps buy new PJ's and bathrobes for an entire nursing home. I don't know. The kind little thoughts are endless!

Anyway, I haven't won the lottery and I won't if I don't buy a ticket!

So, dream those extravagant dreams. It doesn't hurt to ask God (or the Universe) to bless you with great financial relief! He doesn't want us to struggle and promises to provide us with all we need, even if we don't win The Lottery. But be ready because when He presents you with opportunities, grab them!

And, in the meantime, buy a ticket. You never know.....

Ember