

A Selfless Epiphany

I walked up to her, and focused on her face. I couldn't bear to stand there and let her walk all over me anymore. She's destroyed me. From the time I can remember people have always told me that I am one of the nicest people they have ever met, so kind and so caring. I never really put myself before others and I often found myself upset because it seemed like no one was ever there for me. It was finally time I stopped letting people walk all over me, and just let them have it. As I came up to her, I took a deep breath and just let her have it. The first swing I took she was down. For once I felt like someone wasn't taking advantage of me, almost like I was on top of the world. All the sudden I felt a hand on my shoulder, and began to shake. I woke up; it was only just a dream.

"Lucy, it's time to wake to wake up." my mother said."

"NO mom! I am having this dream, the best dream I have ever had, can't you see I am trying to sleep?"

I opened my eyes only to see my mother staring at me with her big golden brown eyes. I have never been so upset about having to wake up in my entire life. I finally felt like I was taking control. It just wasn't time to wake up yet. I wanted to finish my dream; I wanted to see how real it felt. I am tired of people walking all over me all the time, it was finally time I did something about it. The only problem is, that was only a dream. I could never do that in real life. I mean come on, how could I hurt another person?

I finally got my act together and asked my mom why she had to wake me so early. Why I couldn't just sleep.

"Hunny, she said. You know you promised to help me out today."

"Of course mother, I remember. How could I forget that?" I answered.

I never usually forget when I am supposed to help, I mean that's what I spend most of my spare time doing. Heck, it's not just in my spare time, it's all the time. As I jumped out of bed with little time to spare, I ran to my closet just to try to make myself look presentable. I must have been sleeping really good I thought to myself. My hair was a static mess, there was no way to even tame it, so I grabbed a hair tie and threw it up.

“LUCY!” My mother screamed. “Are you ready yet?”

“I'm coming mother, just give me a minute.” I answered.

I ran down the stairs so fast it was hard to stop. I wondered everyday what it felt like to be helped by someone else. I knew exactly what it felt like to help out other people and let me tell you it's one of the best feelings in the world, but sometimes I wished that there was people there for me when I needed them the most. I never take a day to myself, i'm constantly moving and constantly living for other people. I have gotten really good at pretending everything was okay, even when I really needed someone to be there for me the most. I've gotten myself so far into help others that it's almost like I get walked all over constantly. People think they can just take advantage of me now, and it's just not fair but for some reason I haven't done anything to stop them.

We finally reached our destination. There were so many people, people I have never really seen before. It seemed a little funny to me though, we live in a small town where everyone basically knows eachother. I couldn't remember at the time what exactly I was helping my mom with, but I knew I was doing something good and that was enough for me.

“Mom what exactly are we doing again?” I asked, with a confused look at my face.

“Well Lucy remember we are helping those in need. Not everyone can offord to feed their families, so today we are taking the time to make meals for them so they can eat.”

My entire body filled with chills and my eyes grew bigger and bigger. I never knew how

good it was to help someone in this type of situation. This type of thing is so new to me.

Everytime someone new walked up to me, the smile on my face grew bigger and bigger. Just seeing their smiles made the whole thing even better. As I was standing there getting ready to help the next person in line, my phone begins to ring. It was my best friend from school. Why is she calling me? I thought over and over again, she knows I am busy today. I decided I would answer, just to make sure everything was okay.

“Hello?” I answered.

“Lucy! I need your help, I just got into some trouble and I need you to come here right away.” she responded.

My thoughts began to race, the world starting to spin just a little. My best friend needed me, but so did these people. I made this commitment to help my mom, to help these people, but what am I supposed to do now? Do I stay? Do I go? I help people on a daily bases, but I have never been in this type of situation. I have never really had to make the decision on which person I should help. I shouldn't have to choose, I should just be able to take care of everyone. After all it's what I am best at.

I sat there as my thoughts pondered. My mom looked at me with that eye she gives me when she knows something is bothering me.

“What is it Lucy?” She asked.

I wanted so much to just ignore her. I didn't want to tell her that Laura was in trouble. You see my mom tends to worry a lot, she thinks of my friends as her own kids. I knew she was gonna start spewing questions out at me just like she always does. One right after another.

Sometimes I ask myself how she can even come up with as many questions to ask as she does. I sat there in silence.

She finally got it out of me. I told her what had a happened and she kind of gave me that look of disgusts. She's never been a fan of me being around trouble, I am usually a pretty

good kid. She looked me straight and said to me

“Do whatever you want Lucy, whatever you think is right.” my mom said.

It made me think about it even more. I don't want to hurt anyone, I don't want to hurt my mom and I don't want to hurt my best friend. I tried to come up with every way possible to help them both at the same time but I just knew it was going to happen. My heart was crushed. My thoughts were racing. I could only hope that with whatever decision I made my feelings wouldn't mess with me and that no one would be upset with me. If there is anything that hurts me terribly, it's knowing someone is upset with me. I knew I had to decide quickly. Here goes nothing.

I picked up the phone and called my best friend back.

“Hello Lucy, Where are you?” she asked.

“Laura, I don't know how to tell you this but I had to make a decision. I had to decide on whether or not to come help you or stay with my mom and continue helping her.” I said.

****awkard silence.**

“Look Laura, you are my best friend and I wouldn't ever want to hurt you, but there comes a time where I have to draw the line. Lately I have been coming to realize that I just can't help everyone and I am so sorry. I try my best at all costs, but this time I have decided that with my former commitment I am going to stay and help my mom. I hope you understand.” I responded.

Laura hung up the phone, but she didn't seem mad at all. It was like someone finally understood where I was coming from. After the dream I had, I thought maybe that was what it would take to get someone to realize it was time to stop taking advantage of me, but I was wrong, completely wrong. All it took was confidence, thought and the use of my words. Now that I have learned that I can't always help everyone I can finally live my life for myself rather than for everyone else.

