**Wishes**

**Daddy: “Zoe, Hammie, Mommy and Daddy have something to tell you.” Zoe: “What?” Daddy: “There’s going to be a new addition to our family!” Zoe: “Is that it?” Mommy: “That’s the news.” Zoe: “I hope it’s a girl.” Hammie: “I hope it’s a tractor.” *(Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**Be careful what you wish for, girls: Girls do not belong on boys’ sports teams, said Jose Rodriguez in The Calgary Sun. This became glaringly obvious in 1992, when Canadian Manon Rheaume became the first woman to play in the National Hockey League. In a single preseason game as goalie for the Tampa Bay Lightning, Rheaume gave up two goals on nine shots – “hardly a giant leap for womankind.” That was the end of gender integration in professional hockey. But “sadly, the sport-meets-gender debate has reared its ugly head” again, this time in high school sports. The Manitoba Human Rights Commission has ruled that a pair of twin girls who wanted to try out for the boys’ hockey team should be allowed to do so – even though their high school has a girls’ team. The girls daily tried out and failed to make the cut, but they still claimed that the court ruling was a win for women’s rights. They were wrong. Armed with that same ruling, boys in Manitoba are now petitioning for the right to try out for girls’ teams. And “simple biology would dictate many of the boys trying out for the girls’ teams won’t be cut. It’s not sexist to say so; it’s a fact.” By pushing for the right to play with the boys, the girls may end up killing their own sports leagues altogether. Wouldn’t it have been better to just “let boys be boys”? *(The Week magazine, October 13, 2006)***

**There are two lasting bequests we can give our children: One is roots. The other is wings. *(Hodding Carter, Jr.)***

**Jailer: “Did you call me?” Hagar: “Yes, tomorrow is my birthday and I’d like to request my favorite birthday dishes, if I may!” *(Dik Browne, in Hagar the Horrible comic strip)***

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**Billy says to his Dad while opening his Christmas presents: “Look, Daddy! The wish I made with the Thanksgiving wishbone came true!” (Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)**

**The wishbone will never replace the backbone. *(Will Henry)***

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I wanted to see what was going on in the world. I sometimes think I over-wished. *(Tom Brokaw, in Men’s Journal)*

**Ziggy says to the genie: “I know you’re supposed to be careful what you wish for, but this is the first time I’ve had to sign a release form!” *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**Dolly says to her brother: “I wish I had a coloring book full of lips. Then I could start practicin’ with lipstick.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Few wishes come true by themselves. *(June Smith, in Orlando, Florida, Sentinel)***

**Wishes cost nothing unless you want them to come true. *(Frank Tyger)***

**Most of the chronically ill children who appeal to the Make-A-Wish Foundation want to go to amusement parks or on shopping sprees. Not 8-year-old Taylor Limoli of Epping, N.H. Born with a single kidney that began deteriorating when she was 6, Taylor wanted to dig for dinosaur fossils. So her local Make-A-Wish chapter sponsored a trip for her to the Montana badlands. There, Taylor found part of a turtle shell estimated to be 75 million years old. The artifact is about to go on display in the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Montana. Taylor is eager to continue digging for fossils. “I want that to be my job,” she said. *(The Week magazine, March 16, 2007)***

**Many years ago a dissatisfied horse asked the gods for longer, thinner legs, a neck like a swan, and a saddle that would grow upon him as a part of his body. Admiring all these separate appendages of beauty, the horse longed to incorporate them all within himself. Straightway the obliging gods changed him into a creature embodying all the new features. But, desirable as they had appeared separately, the entire assembly struck terror into the horse, for he found that he had been changed into an ugly camel! “There now,” said the gods, “you have been granted your wish, and they shall continue with you all your life as a reminder to you that it is better to improve what you have than to wish for what you have not. A horse should be thankful for what he is.” (Bits & Pieces)**

**One evening, my son-in-law, the father of two boys, suddenly said, “You know, I wish we had a duck. Ducks are fun.” Two evenings later, as he was driving through the countryside, there in the middle of the road, lost and bewildered, was his duck! He took it home, and it was soon royally ensconced in its own wading pool. Some weeks later, I watched my son-in-law as he meditatively regarded his prize. “Would you believe it? he said soberly. “I had one wish – and I blew it on a duck.” *(Marcia Clark, in Reader’s Digest)***

**An adventurous young man entered the bareback-riding event at a local rodeo, just to see what it would be like, says Mary Martin of Pioneer, Tennessee. He was promptly thrown off the horse, knocked cold and rushed to the neurosurgery unit at the hospital. The next day, a friend visited and asked how he felt. “I’ve been better,” the fellow shrugged. “But at least I fulfilled one of my father’s lifelong wishes.” “You dad wanted you to ride in a rodeo?” “No. He always wanted me to have my head examined.” *(Country magazine)***

**If a man could have half of his wishes, he would double his troubles. *(Benjamin Franklin)***

**A couple had been married for 25 years and also celebrated their 60th birthdays. During the celebration, a fairy appeared and said because they had been such a loving couple all those years, she would give them one wish each. The wife wanted to travel around the world. The fairy waived her wand and boom! She had the tickets in her hand. Next, it was the husband’s turn. He paused for a moment, then said shyly, “Well, I’d like to have a woman 30 years younger than me.” The fairy picked up her wand and boom! He was 90. *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**If one only wished to be happy, this could be easily accomplished; but we wish to be happier than other people, and this is always difficult, for we believe others to be happier than they are. (Montesquieu)**

**Husbands and wives in India who desire children whisper their wish in the ear of a sacred cow. *(Noel Botham, in The Book of Useless Information, p. 168)***

**A man is walking down the beach and comes across an old bottle. He picks it up, pulls out the cork, and out pops a genie. Thank you for freeing me from the bottle,” the genie says. “In return I will grant three wishes.” “Great!” says the man. “I always dreamed of this and I know exactly what I want. First, I want a $1 billion in a Swiss bank account.” Poof! There is a flash of light, and a piece of paper with account numbers appears in his hand. “Next,” he continues, “I want a brand-new red Ferrari right here.” Poof! A bright Ferrari appears next to him. “Finally,” he says, “I want to be irresistible to women.” Poof! He turns into a box of chocolates. *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**Then there was the fellow who always had bad luck. Once he found a magic lamp, rubbed it, and a genie appeared and gave him the Midas touch. For the rest of his life, everything he touched turned into a muffler. *(Orben’s Comedy Fillers)***

**A man named Smith, who wished he had a million dollars, awoke one morning and found that his wish had come true. A million dollars in brand new bills was stacked on a table. He sprang out of bed. Bounding across the room, he threw up his window to cry out his good fortune to Jones, who lived next door. To his surprise, Jones said the same thing had happened to him as well as to Brown, who lived on the other side of him. Everybody in the world had been given a million dollars. At first Smith was a little nettled. But he soon got over that. Why shouldn't everyone be as happy as he? Certainly everyone should be happy with a million dollars to spend. But, as the day wore on, Smith found that this sudden distribution of wealth wasn't spreading happiness at all. He switched on the radio to get the news, but found the radio was dead. All the people at the broadcasting station had quit. Neither was there a morning paper, nor the usual order of milk and rolls. The owner of the corner store had not opened up yet. Why should he, now that he was a “rich man”? Instead of making everybody happy, the distribution of wealth suddenly made everybody miserable. The only result of more money was that everything cost more --labor and materials, tools and goods. It was not real wealth at all, for the riches had taken away man's desire to produce. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**People seldom wish they didn’t have the money they don’t know what to do with. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Morning Wishes:**

1. **A few friends who understand me, and yet remain my friends.**
2. **Work to do which has real value, and without which the world would feel poorer.**
3. **An understanding heart.**
4. **Moments of leisure.**
5. **A mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail be not blazed.**
6. **A sight of the eternal hills and the unresting sea, and of something beautiful the hand of man has made.**
7. **The power to laugh.**
8. **Nothing at the expense of others.**
9. **The sense of the presence of God.**
10. **And the patience to wait for the coming of these things with the wisdom to know when they come. *(Chicago Miniatures)***

**Helga thinks to herself: “I’m stuck in this house all day long! I’d give anything to see new faces!” Hagar then comes through the door and says: “I’m home, Helga, and I brought four friends from the tavern for dinner!” Helga: “Yippee.” *(Dik Browne, in Hagar the Horrible comic strip)***

**Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down*. (Opray Winfrey)***

**“A hamburger and fries,” a man orders. “Me too,” says the ostrich beside him. “That’s $9.40,” the waitress says. The man reaches into his pocket and hands her the exact change. They return the next day. Both order a steak and potato, and again the man pays with exact change. “How do you do that?” the waitress asks. “A genie granted me two wishes,” explains the man. “My first wish was that I’d always have the right amount of money to pay for anything.” “Brilliant! But what’s with the ostrich?” “My second wish was for an exotic chick with long legs who agrees with everything I say.” (*Edward M. Jean, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Billy: “I wish peas came on a cob like corn.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Grandma: “I penny for your thoughts.” Billy: “I was thinkin’ I wish I had a dime.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**A woman was walking along the beach when she stumbled upon a bottle. She picked it up and rubbed it, and lo and behold a genie appeared! The amazed woman asked if she got three wishes. The genie said, “Nope, sorry, three-wish genies are a storybook myth. I’m a one-wish genie, So . . . what’ll it be?” The woman did not hesitate. She said, “I want peace in the Middle East. See this map? I want these countries to stop fighting with each other and I want all the Arabs to love the Jews and Americans and vice-versa. It will bring about world peace and harmony.” The genie looked at the map and exclaimed, “Lady, be reasonable. These countries have been at war for thousands of years. I’m out of shape after being in a bottle for five hundred years. I’m good but not THAT good! I don’t think it can be done. Make another wish and please be reasonable. The woman thought for a minute and said, “Well, I’ve never been able to find the right man. You know, one that’s considerate and fun, likes to cook and help with the house cleaning, is great in bed, and gets along with my family, doesn’t watch sports all the time, and is faithful. That is what I wish for . . . a good man.” The genie let out a sigh and said, “Let me see that map again.” *(Tidbits)***

**The first essential of doing a job well is the wish to see the job done at all. *(Franklin D. Roosevelt)***

**North Dakotans are proud of the fact that Teddy Roosevelt spent almost two years on a ranch in the western part of their state. Yet South Dakota has capitalized more on Roosevelt as a tourist attraction by having him sculpted in stone on Mount Rushmore, along with Presidents Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln. But North Dakota scored a propaganda victory of its own when its Department of Tourism rented billboards at choice locations throughout South Dakota. The billboards portray the Mount Rushmore Memorial, with one striking addition -- a caption pointing to Teddy Roosevelt, saying: "I'd rather be in North Dakota." *(John Eidsmoe, in Reader's Digest)***

**It is part of the cure to wish to be cured. *(Seneca)***

**Those who wish to sing always find a song*. (Spanish proverb)***

**Oh how I wish I could stop wishing! *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Boy: “I wish I had a surfboard.” Dad: “A surfboard? We’re 2,000 miles from the Pacific. What would you do if you did have a surfboard?” Boy: “I guess I’d wish I lived 2,000 miles west.” *(Jef Mallett, in Frazz comic strip)***

**Many of us spend half our time wishing for things we could have if we didn’t spend half our time wishing. *(Alexander Woollcott, American author and critic)***

**While visiting the Butchart Gardens near Victoria, British Columbia, I stopped to rest at a wishing well. Several children came up and dropped coins into the well, whispering aloud their wishes. “I wish I had a puppy,” said one. “I wish I had a race car,” said another. At last one boy about ten years of age came up and looked thoughtfully into the well. Then grudgingly, he tossed in his coin and muttered, “I wish I had a magnet.” (*Sharon Lewsadder, in Reader's Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Three men walking down a beach came across a lamp buried in the sand. They picked it up and began wiping it off. A genie popped out and told them, “I’ll grant you each one wish.” The first man thought to himself, I have a wonderful wife, a nice car and enough money. He rubbed the lamp and whispered, “I wish I were ten times smarter.” “You are now ten times smarter,” announced the genie. The second guy took the lamp and thought to himself, I have a wealthy wife and three expensive cars. So he rubbed the lamp and murmured, “I wish I were a hundred times smarter.” “You are now a hundred times smarter,” the genie mandated. The third man thought to himself, I’m married to an heiress and own a fleet of antique cars. Then he rubbed the lamp and said, “I wish I were a thousand times smarter.” The genie pointed at him and declared, “You are now a woman.” *((Angela Ricke, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The man says to Garfield: “I wish you wouldn’t attack the mailman. And while I’m at it, I also wish I had a million dollars and a new car.” *(Jim Davis, in Garfield comic strip)***

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