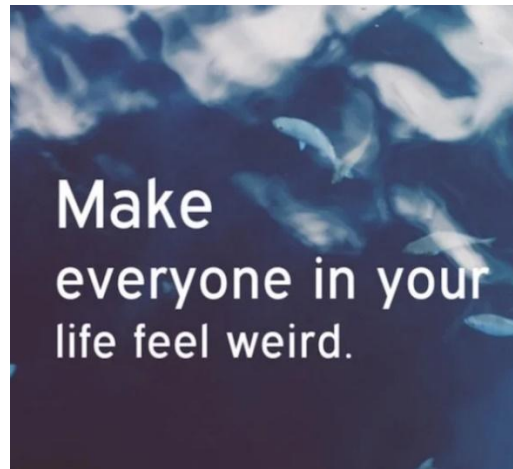


# Sooner or later, we're all someone's Inspiration.

Everyone needs a little inspiration from time to time. These stories, collected from Not Always Right, share one thing in common: they were tagged as "Inspirational". It's time to get inspired, because when you live your best life, *everyone* will applaud you.



Compiled by LuckyNumbers, with content from:

**Not Always Right** (<https://notalwaysright.com>)

(with one bonus bit from WikiHow)

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- 

Notes:

-In the WikiHow section at the end, there's a part called "Get in touch with an old contact", however, if you mouse over the image it reads "Convince yourself that you're happy being alone.jpg".

-Only one of these stories actually ends with applause, but they all do in my heart.

## Section 1: Exceptionally boring

It's important to savor the simple things in life. These stories are proof that you can be inspired even when absolutely nothing happens.

### The Compliments Are Complimentary

<https://notalwaysright.com/the-compliments-are-complimentary/283033/>

*I'm a firm believer in brain-vomiting every positive thought I have (when appropriate). This mostly results in complimenting strangers I'm almost guaranteed to never see again.*

*One day, as I'm working at the grocery self-checkout, I see a woman with a sun tattoo on her arm. The tattoo is the crest of a fictional kingdom from a movie I love.*

**Me:** *\*In passing\** "I love your tattoo!"

**Customer:** "Thanks! I love you!"

*By far my favorite customer experience of the day!*

### Deliver-Arooo!

<https://notalwaysright.com/deliver-arooo/264020/>

**Dogs exist! Wow!**

*I am delivering groceries with an app during the early part of the health crisis, and I take a well-paying order for a warehouse store. I groan when I realize it is, among other things for pets, over a hundred pounds of dog food, but it pays well, so I quickly get everything and drive to the house.*

*Since people are minimizing contacts, I plan to leave everything on the porch and not actually see anyone. I enter a large property via a gate, and five dogs come whipping around to chase my car.*

*I slow down to a crawl so as not to hit the dogs, and I do my best to unload everything while they greet and jump on me. Fortunately, I like pets and help with an animal rescue; I'm not nervous.*

**Me:** "Did you guys order all this food and stuff? You must be hungry! Good dogs!"

*I briefly enjoyed five minutes of fluffy heaven before leaving, but I never saw a human. I still laugh when I think of that delivery and get a mental image of the dogs trying to use an app!*

## **Str-Aww-berries**

<https://notalwaysright.com/str-aww-berries/261004/>

*As a kid, whenever I went to a sit-down restaurant that offered lemonade, I always asked if they had any strawberry lemonade. I loved strawberry lemonade but never got it at home.*

*I'm at a restaurant with my family and the waitress is taking our drink orders.*

**Waitress:** "How about you?"

**Me:** "Do you have strawberry lemonade?"

**Waitress:** "I'm sorry, we don't."

**Me:** "That's okay. I'll have a Sprite, please."

*When she comes back with our drink order, she saves mine for last.*

**Waitress:** "Guess what? I found some strawberry flavoring in the kitchen!"

*She plunked down a strawberry lemonade in front of me. It tasted amazing. It's been over a decade since then, but I still smile at her doing something she absolutely didn't have to just to make a kid smile.*

**The Best Part Of This Story Is What DOESN'T Happen**

<https://notalwaysright.com/the-best-part-of-this-story-is-what-doesnt-happen/265721/>

*I was at my favorite grocery store late one evening. They had been short-staffed for several months now, so long lines at the checkout were expected, but this time, I approached the front of the store to find only one register open in addition to the self-checkout. I was ninth in line. Everyone ahead of me had very full carts, and two families each had two full carts. I didn't recognize the cashier and thought she might be a new hire. I could tell it would be an even longer wait.*

*Fortunately, people were not particularly mad about it, even as several more joined the line behind me, which now curved around the end of the aisle and out of my sight. There was some grumbling and sighing, but no one yelled or demanded a manager.*

*Ten or fifteen minutes later, I had reached the third position in line. An employee approached me to say that they were opening another register and I was invited to be first in line there. I gratefully accepted, and several other people followed me. I began unloading my groceries and greeted the cashier just as she turned on the lane light.*

**Me:** "Thanks for coming to rescue us from that long line!"

**Cashier:** "Of course. And thank you for being patient."

*She rang up my purchases and I paid and started bagging. The guy behind me, who had been lowkey complaining to another customer about the wait, started unloading his groceries.*

**Customer #1:** "Hey, thanks for working so hard. I bet this job isn't as easy as it looks."

**Cashier:** "You're right, but it's not too bad."

*As I was leaving, the next group started unloading their groceries.*

**Cashier:** "Sorry about the wait."

**Customer #2:** "Meh, don't worry about us. It could have been worse. You're doing a great job."

*It was so refreshing to hear that many people just deal with a slight inconvenience patiently instead of taking out their frustration on the underpaid and underappreciated employees trying to help them.*

## Mocha-Cappa-Frappa-Happy Ending

<https://notalwaysright.com/mocha-cappa-frappa-happy-ending/270020/>

*I am by no means a coffee snob or purist. I just like it light and sweet, while most of the coffee shops around me — both chain and individual — seem to start their roasts at “twice-burnt dirt” and go darker from there with no amount of milk or sugar saving it. I just get my favored light roast and make it at the office and pour in my own excessive amount of milk and sugar, as the only place I drink it is at work.*

*This particular day is different; it's inventory day, which means we have to show up two hours early and get thrown right into the mix, with no time to sit down and make a cup. Good news: a new place has opened up just a couple of blocks from home on the road to work. Better news: the menu is in plain English, explaining what the different mocha-cappa-frappa things mean for plebs like me!*

*Bad news: they have eight different blends that all have different flavor notes and suggested foods to go with but nothing about how light or dark or strong or smooth they are. I resign myself to asking questions and being “that guy” as little as possible.*

**Me:** “Hi, it’s my first time in here, so I apologize for this order.”

**Barista:** “Um, okay? Is there a problem?”

**Me:** “Nothing with you, I’m just in here an hour and a half before my alarm would go off, I’m sleep-deprived, I’ve got a headache, and I have no idea about the finer points of coffee. I’d like the biggest cup of whichever is your lightest roast, with extra cream and extra sugar, please.”

**Barista:** “Oof, that kind of day already?”

**Me:** “Once a year, yep.”

**Barista:** “Okay, well, you’ve described our breakfast blend. Do you like caramel or chocolate?”

**Me:** “I like either, or both, but I’m on a bit of a budget; I’m not looking for any extra frills.”

**Barista:** “Okay.”

*She takes a bit of extra time to get my simple cup together, and just as I’m about to ask about it, I hear the whipped cream going off.*

**Me:** "Um, excuse me. I said nothing extra!"

**Barista:** "Don't worry; whipped cream's free!"

*Well, that's good to know. Then, she sets it down, and I notice the dark and light brown squiggles over the top and insides of the cup.*

**Me:** "Okay, I know for a fact that the syrups aren't free."

**Barista:** "Technically, no, but it's your first time here, you sound like you need it, and the boss says we each get one 'good customer' bonus per shift."

**Me:** "Oh, my God, thank you, and thank the boss for me, too!"

**Barista:** *\*Laughing\** "You just did!"

*And that is how a good boss who covered the early shift during the grand-opening week ended up with a fairly regular customer until they had to shut down during the later waves of the health crisis — hopefully just temporarily!*

## Section 2: Wisdom of the Youth

The more undeveloped your brain is, the more inspiration juice you can cram in there.

### The Goblin' Goblin

<https://notalwaysright.com/the-goblin-goblin/279901/>

*I'm at a wedding of a dear friend in the middle of nowhere, Southern Illinois. (To be fair, most of Illinois is "middle of nowhere," but this wedding is literally in the middle of several cornfields, on a gravel road off a tarmac road.) I'm having a grand time at the reception, occasionally making conversation with folks I really don't know, especially the father of a young boy.*

*This young boy could not be older than four. This kid was an absolute GOBLIN, and his dad was taking every punch — sometimes literally! He was the calmest, nicest, most patient father you could ever meet. His son was being kind of loud and rowdy, but his dad wasn't angry. He kept telling his kid, calmly, that it wasn't the time for applause yet. Okay, NOW it was the time for applause. It was rather adorable.*

*At one point, the entire table was being accused of... something... by this child. As I said, he was a little goblin.*

*There were miniature cupcakes served at this wedding and, of course, the kid made a beeline and grabbed a bunch of them.*

*I noticed he was eating them like any kid could: frosting first, then cake. At one point, his dad chuckled and grabbed the cupcake wrapper. He showed his son how to peel the cupcake wrapper away to reveal MORE CUPCAKE.*

*The son was awed. Slack-jawed and goggle-eyed, he called his father a magician and proceeded to eat every crumb. The kid ended up eating a couple of cupcakes in this manner: frosting first and then the visible cake, and then his father would peel the rest and the kid would scarf every last morsel.*

*I decided that if this kid wanted to see a REAL magician...*

*I grabbed my own cupcake and a butter knife.*

**Me:** "May I enlighten your son as to the *best* way to eat a cupcake?"

*His dad laughed and nodded. The kid stared at me, enraptured.*

**Me:** "Okay, what you do is you peel the wrapping off first, so you get the *whole* cupcake, right? Then... you *cut* the bottom half horizontally... and you take it apart, like this, you see? And then you flip the bottom half over, and you make yourself a *frosting sandwich!*"

*I then took a bite to show how delicious it was.*

*The dad was grinning, and the kid simply stared, eyes bigger than the moon, jaw on the table.*

*In his best goblin voice, he growl-screamed to his father:*

**Kid:** "GET ME ANOTHER CUPCAKE!"

**Father:** *\*Laughing\** "Now see what you've done?"

*They tried it a couple of times (with varying degrees of success), and the kid was happier than a pig in muck.*

*I'll probably never see that kid again, but it warmed my heart to pass on some wisdom... and to see a child go full-on GOBLIN MODE on some cupcakes.*

## Nobody Makes A Monkey Out Of Mum

<https://notalwaysright.com/nobody-makes-a-monkey-out-of-mum/278035/>

*I'm doing my groceries one day, trying to decide which candy I'll allow myself to buy this week, when I hear the very familiar screeches of a toddler not being allowed to put heaps of candy in his mother's shopping basket. Mum just calmly keeps telling him no. He drops onto the floor, flailing his arms and legs and screaming like a banshee.*

*It isn't too busy, but quite a few people stop and stare disapprovingly. The mother seems completely unfazed. She puts her basket on the floor, out of the way. She then sits cross-legged next to the boy, gently puts a hand on his belly, and starts singing a happy little made-up tune in a beautiful, soft voice.*

**Mum:** "There was a little monkey boy making lots of noise, a little noisy monkey boy, making lots of noise. The people stopped and stared and put their hands over their ears. Ooooooh, noisy little monkey boy, what's gotten into yououou..."

*She keeps singing similar words in that cheerful melody, and to my great surprise, the little boy calms down in less than a minute. He takes a deep breath, sits up, and then gives his mother a big hug.*

**Mum:** "Hey, [Boy], there you are! I thought there was a little monkey here for a second."

**Boy:** "I am not a monkey."

**Mum:** "You're not? Really? What are you, then?"

**Boy:** "I am a very, very big boy."

**Mum:** "You are? How big are you?"

*The boy proudly puts up three little fingers.*

**Boy:** "This much!"

**Mum:** "Well. That is very big, indeed."

*There's a short silence.*

**Boy:** "Mummy? Do you think I hurt all the ears?"

**Mum:** "I think you may have, a little. That was mighty loud, after all. You have a big boy voice!"

*The boy stands up and loudly declares, to no one in particular:*

**Boy:** "I AM VERY SORRY FOR ALL THE HURTY EARS. I DIDN'T MEAN TO; I WAS JUST A BIT ANGRY FOR A LITTLE BIT, BUT I AM NOT ANYMORE. SORRY, AND THANK YOU."

*His mum stands up and picks up her basket.*

**Mum:** "Thank you for saying that. I understand why you are upset about not getting all the sweets. We need our money today for potatoes and spinach. Your daddy is looking forward to eating potatoes and spinach tonight, and so am I. We will all choose *one* bag of sweets on Saturday when Daddy has time to come with us. All right?"

*The boy takes his mother's hand.*

**Boy:** "All right, Mummy."

**Mum:** "Is the monkey boy gone now?"

**Boy:** "He went back up in the trees, Mummy."

**Mum:** "All right. You might not need him again today. But you can call him whenever you feel angry again."

**Boy:** "Maybe next time I can sing a song to calm him down."

**Mum:** "You are big *and* smart!"

*Very original, affectionate, and effective parenting right there! I was honestly a little touched.*

## A Tale Of Two Sitters

<https://notalwaysright.com/a-tale-of-two-sitters/18691/>

*(I'm on the Metro (subway) during rush hour. Arriving at a station, I see a little girl with a bandaged leg and a crutch getting in the car with her mother. Since there are no seats available, she stays up. A few seconds later, a young man dressed like a thug on a seat behind them calls to the mother.)*

**Young Man:** "Ma'am, take my seat for your child."

**Mother:** "Oh, thank you."

*(As soon as the young man gets up, however, a middle-aged lady in a business suit jumps into his seat without saying a word.)*

**Young Man:** "Ma'am, I gave my seat to the little girl, not to you."

**Middle-Aged Lady:** "You should've said so."

**Young Man:** "You were right in front of me and clearly heard me. Besides, it's obvious this girl needs a seat more than you."

**Middle-Aged Lady:** *\*angrily\** "What's your point?!"

**Young Man:** "My point is that you're rude and impolite."

**Middle-Aged Lady:** "Who the f\*\*\* do you think you are to talk to me like that?! Do you know WHO I am?!"

**Young Man:** "I think I am someone much more polite and well-educated than you. And as to who you are, I frankly don't care."

**Middle-Aged Lady:** "YOU LITTLE F\*\*\*! My husband owns [Some Big Company]! I'm infinitely much richer and more powerful than you!"

**Young Man:** *\*grinning\** "So, powerful and rich you take the metro to go home?"

*(Stunned, the middle-aged lady looks like she's been struck by lightning. She sheepishly leaves the car at the next station. The young man then turns to the girl and her mother, who are literally speechless.)*

**Young Man:** *\*to the mother\** "Sorry for that. There's your seat!"

*(The whole car cheered and applauded him. Whoever you are, Metro gentleman, you have my thumbs-up!)*

**Give That Sweet Puppy Anything They Want!**

<https://notalwaysright.com/give-that-sweet-puppy-anything-they-want/259549/>

Again, let me remind you that these are all inspirational stories.

*I'm serving in a restaurant and I approach a table to take an order. A little kid at the table speaks up.*

**Kid:** "I have a question. The Bailey's cheesecake — is that for dogs? Because our dog's name is Bailey."

*They pointed to the puppy sleeping in Dad's lap. Awwww!*

## There Was Never Such A Devoted Sister

<https://notalwaysright.com/tag/inspirational/page/54/>

*My little sister was (and is) a sweet angel as a child who absolutely could not stand to see me unhappy. If she had something, I had to have it, as well.*

*Here's a good example. We were at a carnival and someone gave us balloons. As we were walking along, mine suddenly popped. I was slightly bummed, but old enough not to start crying over it. My sister kept asking if I wanted hers, but I said that was okay. I noticed on her face that it suddenly looked like she wasn't having fun anymore. A few moments later, she pulled her balloon down, pulled out a pencil from her little fanny pack, and popped it!*

*Then, on another occasion, we were on an outing, and my dad had become annoyed with my bratty behavior. He gave my sister an ice cream from a nearby stand but didn't give me one as a punishment for my bad attitude. My sister kept asking him to give me one more chance, but he held firm. She took a few more licks of her ice cream bar and then looked like she'd suddenly lost her appetite and handed it back to him saying, "I don't want it anymore."*

*However, my fondest memory was when I carelessly stepped out into oncoming traffic. My mother yanked me back and rightfully scolded me.*

**Mom:** "If you're not careful, I'll be telling people I have only one child here and the other child in Heaven!"

**Sister:** "No, you'll have both kids in Heaven, because I'll stand in front of the next car after him!"

*She's twenty-two years old as of this writing, and unsurprisingly, she is well known for her generosity and selflessness, making her primary goal in life about helping other people. I literally was too afraid to tell her I had lost my job due to the health crisis out of fear she might give me her own rent and food money!*

## Section 3: Kind of Scary

These ones made my skin crawl...with inspiration.

### That's One Wholesome Coping Mechanism

<https://notalwaysright.com/thats-one-wholesome-coping-mechanism/245071/>

Spoilers: No one helps a mentally ill woman and she disappears...inspirational!

When I first started college in the early 2000s, people in my dorm “warned” me about a curious character that would randomly appear around campus at the wee hours of the morning — usually two or three in the morning — wearing a teddy bear costume, happily prancing around with balloons tied to her wrist, and hugging random strangers she would encounter. This was a town of fewer than 10,000 residents, and violent crimes were virtually unheard of; safety was not a particular issue.

People determined that it was highly probable that it was a female because of the physical stature of the mysterious person and because a few reported gathering a whiff of perfume when she hugged them. Despite the fact that she had been doing it for years, no one had any clue as to her identity or why she was doing it. Making it even more difficult was the fact that she didn't have a routine; each encounter was a complete chance encounter, and sometimes, no one would see her for months. Even more interesting, if you tried to follow her and she noticed, she would immediately bolt and vanish with what appeared to be a planned “escape route.”

Creepy, yet fascinating.

I didn't think much of it until one late night when I was heading home from hanging with some buddies, and right from behind a corner of a building ahead of me, a teddy bear head popped out! Startled, I froze, and she pranced out in front of me — balloons tied to her wrist as everyone said — and started doing little jumps in the air and waving at me!

Then, as they said she would, she stretched her arms out for a hug. Not quite knowing how to react, I reached my arms out, and she sprang forward and hugged

me like we were best friends! She then waved goodbye and skipped away into the night.

Over the next three years, I had about four more random chance encounters with her, each one of them with her either prancing and skipping over to me and hugging me or popping up from behind a structure somewhere, doing a happy dance, and then stretching her arms out for a hug.

Her mysterious identity continued to fascinate the students on the campus, to the point where there were mentions of her in the school newspaper and someone even offered a \$50 reward to anyone who found her identity.

Then, one night, I was out and noticed a figure bolting like a bat out of Hell across a parking lot and fading into an adjacent wooded area. Moments later, I heard a sickening wailing and moaning emanating from the wooded area; clearly, someone was injured.

I made my way over to find the girl in the teddy bear costume laying on the ground, apparently having tripped over something and seriously injuring herself. I helped her up and partially carried her back out into the parking lot, as she had apparently broken her ankle. I phoned for an ambulance and as we waited, I eventually coaxed her into taking off the headpiece of the costume.

Everyone was correct that it was indeed a female, and interestingly — but not surprisingly — she looked like any average girl in her late teens to early twenties. She refused to answer any questions about her identity or what her motive behind all of this was.

When I called the police a few days later to make sure that she was okay, I was told that while she was virtually unheard of amongst the student population, she was actually known throughout the local police department. As it turns out, she suffered from schizophrenia, and to relieve some of her psychotic episodes, she found it soothing to give people hugs. Why she chose the nearby college campus (and always late at night) to do that was not immediately clear, but they guessed that she chose to dress up in a teddy bear suit to make herself look more charming and less threatening to other people.

No one saw her again after that, and out of respect for the circumstances, I chose to keep that encounter and her identity secret.

## **The Tip Of The Sith**

<https://notalwaysright.com/the-tip-of-the-sith/270016/>

*I work in a food service store. It's much like a grocery store, but we focus on serving restaurants, caterers, or those planning big events — bulk food. Every so often, I am asked to help someone load their vehicle, either because they have large volumes or, in the case of this story, the customer is just not strong enough to load three fifty-pound sacks of flour into their SUV.*

*Two sweet elderly ladies had me help load their SUV, and I had a genuinely nice time chatting with them as I did so. But as I closed their doors and thanked them for shopping, I felt my hand get grabbed.*

*This sweet woman suddenly had the vocal intonation of Senator Palpatine as she hissed:*

**Woman #1:** "Take it. Shut up. Shut up and take it."

*Then, she released her grasp, leaving me with a \$5 bill in my hand.*

*Suddenly, sweet as candy, she thanked me for helping and got into her car. I was amused, and I began gathering a couple of carts to take back into the store. Then, the same SUV stopped beside me as they made their way out of the lot.*

*The second lady rolled down her window and produced her hand as if to shake mine. I obliged, and as I was expecting another thank you, I got:*

**Woman #2:** "I just want to thank you for— don't say a d\*\*\* word and just take it — and have a nice day!"

*This lady also spoke with the snap change to Sith Lord mid-sentence before she pulled away, leaving a second \$5 bill in my hand.*

*I've rarely received tips — no, not tips, monetary gifts — at work. And talking with my coworkers, I am the only one to have gotten a drive-by donation that we know of.*

## **The Best Kind Of Monster**

<https://notalwaysright.com/the-best-kind-of-monster/263690/>

*I take my son and daughter to a park with a large playground to play. I am sitting on a bench keeping an eye on both of them and the park in general.*

*It is nearly impossible to not notice several kids all playing with a single man. The kids are running around on top of the playground equipment while the man is on the ground*

*trying to grab the kids from between the bars. The kids are trying to use the height of the equipment they are on, and the fact that the man's arms are too thick to reach too far between the bars, to stay out of reach of him. There are somewhere between eight and ten kids in total playing along with the game.*

*I see my son stop to talk to the man, who responds, but I am too far away from them to hear what is said. Then, my son comes running up to where I'm sitting.*

**Son:** "Mom, can we play with them?"

**Me:** "Are you asking about playing with those kids over there?"

**Son:** "Yeah, the man said we had to ask you."

*Now curious, I walk up to the man to ask what is going on. I take a minute to listen in once I am close enough to hear them better before asking any questions.*

**Girl:** "No, don't get my brother!"

**Man:** "But he's so cute I could eat him up!"

**Girl:** "Gross! Don't talk about eating people."

**Man:** "But that's what us monsters do. We catch little kids and eat them. You wouldn't want me to starve, would you?"

**Girl:** "Yes!"

**Man:** "Oh, harsh. You shouldn't be so mean to a nice monster like me who only occasionally tries to eat brothers. If you want to see a mean monster, though, I'll show you one! Look behind you!"

*The man points excitedly and the girl half turns to see what he is pointing to, at which point he makes a leap for her, and she and three other kids standing near her and playing along all shriek and laugh as they back away from the grasping arm. The kids all look like they're having fun.*

**Me:** "Excuse me, do you have a moment?"

**Man:** "Sure, one second. Hey, kids, this monster needs another water break. But my minions, vampire, ghost, and Pennywise the evil clown, are still going to get you. Go, my minions!"

*As he mentions each monster, he points to a specific kid, and all three indicated kids start chasing the others trying to catch them. He gestures for me to follow, and as he talks to me, he walks over to a large insulated container and chugs down some water.*

**Man:** "Okay, how can I help you, ma'am?"

**Me:** "My son said you told him he should ask me if he could play with you?"

**Man:** "Yeah, sorry, I've made all the kids ask for permission before letting them join. It's safer for me that way."

**Me:** "Safer?"

**Man:** "You know, there are those that don't trust men around children. When I take the kids out, we always get tagalong kids wanting to join in, but if I just let kids join us, I risk an upset parent accusing me of trying to steal their kid away to my windowless van or something. I figure if the kids ask permission before joining us, then I'm a lot less likely to get angry parents yelling at me. But if you don't want your kid playing with us, that's fine and I'll respect it."

**Me:** "No, no, I was just trying to figure out why [Son] was asking me like that. So, he asked to join you, and you told him he needed to ask me first?"

**Man:** "Well, honestly, it's hard to keep track of all the kids. Either he asked to join or he was one of the ones that just started playing without asking and I told him he would have to ask first."

**Me:** "So, how many of those kids do you actually know?"

**Man:** "Mine are the girl failing to hide behind the climbing wall and Pennywise over there; for the record, it was his mom who let him watch *IT*, not me. The rest just sort of show up over time whenever I bring the kids to play, Luckily, my two seem to prefer playing with other kids so they don't mind others joining."

**Me:** "Well, they all look like they're having fun, and thank you for getting my kids to ask permission. Those two are mine and they have permission to play with you if you'll let them."

**Man:** "Sure, the more the merrier. Though, if you'll excuse me, I think the monster has to go back to work now."

*I watched him sneak around and grab the girl he said was his while she still thought he was on break and wasn't watching for him, forcing the other kids to run and try to "save" her as he dragged her in to be eaten and loudly declared that he was back.*

*We stayed at that park for over an hour while the man continued to chase an ever-growing assortment of children, including my two, while they all screamed, laughed, and seemed to have a blast. In fact, my kids didn't relent to going home, despite the heat, until shortly after the man and his kids left and their playgroup finally broke up.*

*The man sure livened up the day of my children, and presumably quite a few others, by letting them join the fun. Thank you, random stranger, for making our park visit extra fun.*

## Kindness With A Cherry On Top

<https://notalwaysright.com/kindness-with-a-cherry-on-top/262424/>

**Me:** "What can I get you?"

**Customer:** *\*On the verge of tears\** "A boyfriend that doesn't cheat on me?"

**Me:** "Uh... so, a chocolate sundae?"

**Customer:** *\*Sniff\** "Yes, please."

**Me:** "With extra sprinkles."

**Customer:** "And a cherry?"

**Me:** "You can have five!"

**Customer:** *\*Sniffle and a slight smile\**

*While I don't always appreciate a customer giving me TMI, I'll help if it's within my power!*

## A Godly Glitch

<https://notalwaysright.com/a-godly-glitch/261636/>

*I worked in the photo department of a pharmacy store chain a few years ago. Our card machine randomly spat out three pamphlets for a funeral service that had been ordered*

*about ten days prior. It was weird because our orders only stayed in the system for three days. Neither my manager nor I could figure out how it had printed these pamphlets, but we finally shrugged and I threw them on top of our waste pile.*

*About an hour later, a woman came up to my counter.*

**Woman:** *\*Quietly\** "How long are orders stored? My brother's funeral was last week, and I wasn't able to get one of the pamphlets."

*I just stared at her for a second, then walked over, grabbed the mysterious pamphlets, and placed them in front of her. They were for her brother's funeral.*

**Me:** "Our machine randomly printed these three copies out for no reason."

*The woman started crying.*

**Woman:** "How much do I owe you?"

*I just laughed.*

**Me:** "We don't charge for acts of God."

*It was the only explanation I could come up with.*

## Section 4: Christmas Miracles

"God bless us, every one!" shouts Tiny Tim. Christmas miracles are afoot.

It Wasn't Just The Power Meter You Fixed That Night

<https://notalwaysright.com/it-wasnt-just-the-power-meter-you-fixed-that-night/280088/>

Christmas comes for the brits.

*I'm an electrician and I go around to customers' homes when they're having power issues. I'm working into the evening on Christmas Eve, with most customers being generally horrid that they had to wait until December 24th to have someone come by, but I am doing my best to make sure as many issues are fixed as possible so our customers can enjoy their Christmases.*

*I am at my last customer of the day, scheduled as such as she happens to live very close to me. It's a very old lady, who opens the door to let me in, explaining that she pays for her electricity using a top-up meter, but the meter has been faulty lately.*

**Customer:** *\*As I am repairing the meter.\** "Would you like a cup of tea?"

**Me:** "No thank you."

**Customer:** "What about a mince pie? It's Christmas and they're making you work so late on Christmas Eve."

**Me:** "It's okay, madam. I am just happy I can fix your power issues before the big day."

**Customer:** "Thank you! I was worried my Christmas Dinner in the fridge would be ruined."

*I check the fridge to make sure that it is working, and I notice the only items in there are a loaf of bread and some eggs. I try not to make a comment, but it's obvious that I have noticed the sparse contents.*

**Customer:** "It's all I can really afford these days. The pension doesn't cover as much as it used to."

**Me:** "Is this all that you have to eat for Christmas?"

**Customer:** "No, no, I have a can of baked beans in the cupboard."

**Me:** "You're having beans on toast for Christmas?"

**Customer:** "And a mince pie!"

**Me:** "Do you have anyone bringing you food over Christmas?"

**Customer:** "It's just me. All my children live abroad now."

**Me:** "I... see."

*I finish the requirements of my job, making sure she has power, and I head home as soon as I can. I inform my husband of the situation as soon as possible, and he agrees we need to do something.*

*We drive back over together, and she is surprised to see us.*

**Customer:** "Is there a problem with the meter?"

**Me:** "No... Mrs. [Customer's Name]. This is my husband, and if it's okay with you, we'd like to invite you to Christmas Dinner tomorrow with our family – if you didn't have plans, that is."

*It takes a moment for what we asked to sink in for the old lady. She is a juxtaposition of being overly British and not wanting to be a bother, but also a lonely old lady who is in desperate need of some company.*

**Customer:** "I... I... don't know, I..."

**Me:** "You see, we only live five minutes down the road so we could come by and pick you up for lunch. And we could have you back to your house whenever you feel like coming back home."

**Customer:** *\*In tears.\** "I... I... I think I would like that very much."

**Me:** "Wonderful! My name is [My Name] and this is [Husband's Name]. We'll be by tomorrow at 11?"

*We agreed and the next day we came to pick her up. She had made an effort to be dressed in her Sunday finest – not necessary at all but I think she enjoyed it.*

*She got to meet our children, our overly-affectionate dogs, my husband's parents, and grandmother (the two older ladies have a nice long natter all afternoon). We ate turkey, roast vegetables, and a huge Christmas Pudding, plus enough snacks and sides that half the family had mini carb-comas in the afternoon.*

*When it was time for gifts, we gave her a card, and inside was a voucher for the local supermarket worth £100. She tried not to accept it, but she finally did albeit with more tears.*

*Our new friend and neighbour ended up staying until 11 pm before we drove her home, and agreed to take her shopping with her voucher the day after Boxing Day.*

*In the following weeks, we now have her over to our house once a week for dinner and to play with our dogs, and we take some shopping to her now that we know her tastes and dietary requirements. We also sneakily top up her electricity meter when we are putting her shopping away so that she isn't without power.*

*We've arranged a Sunday lunch once a month with her and my husband's grandmother at our home also, who also appreciates the company, and it turns out that even though one is from the middle of England and the other is originally from Barbados, they have a lot in common to talk about!*

*We can't wait to see what we can do for her for Easter.*

## Christmas Cheer Doesn't Have To Be Conventional

<https://notalwaysright.com/christmas-cheer-doesnt-have-to-be-conventional/248806/>

**Goth Christmas! Goth Christmas! Goth Christmas!**

*I have a bit of holiday trauma from an abusive, overly-religious stepmother. My father usually deliberately worked on holidays to avoid her religious fanaticism but allowed her to burn gifts we got that weren't religious enough. As such, I'm not a big fan of Christmas, and as an adult, I don't celebrate it for years.*

*When I marry my wife, who loves Christmas and has a religious mother, I brace myself for the holidays.*

**Wife:** "Honey, I found the perfect tree!"

**Me:** *\*Trying to fake enthusiasm\** "Oh, cool!"

**Mother-In-Law:** "[Wife], show her what you found. Trust me, you'll like this."

*My wife drags in a completely black tree.*

**Me:** *\*Stunned\** "Is that... a black tree? I didn't even know those were a thing!"

**Wife:** "Yeah! I've always wanted a black tree but Mom prefers real trees, which don't come in black. But I found this one at work on clearance... and these ornaments!"

**Me:** "Are those dragons? You got dragon Christmas ornaments?"

**Wife:** "I know you love dragons. Plus, I figured we could get a skull tree topper or something. And I work with a woman that makes custom wrapping paper, so I figured we can order some of that and wrap our gifts in it. She does coffins, bats, blood splatters..."

**Me:** "Okay, I might be coming around on Christmas now."

**Mother-In-Law:** "I did find an angel tree topper for you, though."

*She proudly pulls out a Weeping Angel from "Doctor Who," a show all three of us love.*

**Mother-In-Law:** "What do you think?"

**Me:** "I think that, for the first time. I'm actually excited about decorating for Christmas."

*Our holiday wreath has flowers and skulls on it, and none of the religious family members batted an eye when they saw our decorations. My wife's preacher grandfather even asked us where we got our bat wrapping paper because he loved it so much and ordered some for himself. I look forward to Christmas now!*

## **Santa Goes Psycho**

<https://notalwaysright.com/santa-goes-psycho/68926/>

*(I am stocking Christmas ribbon with a coworker.)*

**Customer:** "You two ladies look like you can help me."

**Me:** "Sure, what do you want to know?"

**Customer:** "I'm looking for a tree."

**Me:** "Okay, the trees are in the back of the store under the 'Seasonal' sign."

**Customer:** "No, no. Let me finish. I want a tree; it's circular, but it's a tree, and it's a circle, but it's only a half-circle, but it's a tree. Oh! And you hang it on your window, and it's a tree, and a circle."

**Me & Coworker:** "..."

**Customer:** "IT'S A TREE, AND IT'S A CIRCLE AND A TREE, AND YOU HANG IT ON YOUR WINDOW, BUT IT'S ONLY A HALF-CIRCLE, BUT IT'S A CIRCULAR TREE!"

**Me:** "Uh... a wreath?"

**Customer:** "NO, NO, WHAT THE F\*\*\*?! IT'S A CIRCLE AND A TREE, AND IT'S A CIRCLE AND A HALF-CIRCLE, AND YOU HANG IT ON YOUR WINDOW!"

**Me:** "Um, I'm sorry, but I have *no* idea what you're talking about."

**Customer:** "YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS?!"

**Me:** "No... sorry, sir."

**Customer:** "Well, is there someone else in here that can help me?"

**Coworker:** "There are other people here, but with that description, I doubt anyone will be able to help you."

**Customer:** "OH, WHAT THE F\*\*\*?!"

*(The customer storms off, but a moment later comes back.)*

**Customer:** "Oh, by the way, do you sell Jello here?"

**Me:** "Um, no. We're a craft store, not a grocery store."

**Customer:** "Well, people use Jello for crafts."

**Me:** "Uh, sorry."

**Customer:** "SERIOUSLY! THEY HIRE F\*\*\*\*\* IDIOTS HERE!" *\*storms off... again\**

## Section 5: Nerds

Fuckin' nerds.

### What We Would Give To See That Cosplay!

<https://notalwaysright.com/what-we-would-give-to-see-that-cosplay/259642/>

*A few years back, I purchased a shoulder dragon plush from a convention vendor and almost immediately lost it. I retraced my steps and still couldn't find it.*

*I finally went back to the vendor to explain what happened with little to no hope that they would be able to do anything.*

**Vendor:** "Can you describe it?"

*When I did, they whipped it out from behind their counter.*

**Vendor:** "Someone dressed up as a Deadpool Eternal Sailor Moon cross-play turned it in to us in hopes that the owner would come back!"

*Of course, I thanked the vendors profusely. I looked everywhere for the Eternal Sailor Moon Deadpool but never found them to give my thanks.*

## **tlhingan Hol Dajatlh'a'? qamuSHa'!**

<https://notalwaysright.com/tlthingan-hol-dajatlha-qamusha/249994/>

I play *Dungeons and Dragons* with a group of friends. We do it at a specific house because he's the only homeowner among us right now.

While we were playing one day, a door-to-door marketer came knocking.

My friend speaks Klingon and answered the door in Klingon, his standard way of dealing with solicitors. To our surprise, the salesman answered back in Klingon, as well. My friend wound up buying whatever it was after the salesman was able to do the whole pitch in Klingon.

My friend invited the salesman to join us at *DnD* next week. He accepted.

Three years later, they're married. The salesman also isn't working door-to-door anymore; he now manages social media accounts for a company.

## **"Higher, Further, Faster, Baby!"**

<https://notalwaysright.com/higher-further-faster-baby/264086/>

*I used to have a classmate whose first name was Marvel. I'm not kidding. Her sister was named Wonder.*

*Marvel hated her name, especially all the jokes and teasing we made at her expense. In fact, I'm the one who coined the nickname "Marvellous Misfits," which our old teacher found so funny that he referred to our class that way for an entire year.*

*Many moons and years later, I bring my daughter for her first day at school — my old elementary school, to be precise. And guess who is her Homeroom teacher? It's Marvel, dressed up as Captain Marvel.*

**Marvel:** "Hi, kids! My name is Marvel [Surname], and I'm the Marvellous Homeroom teacher of you Marvellous Misfits!"

*Later...*

**Me:** "Hi, Marvel. I don't suppose you remember me? I'm—"

**Marvel:** "Ah, [My Name]? Wow, it's been a while."

**Me:** "Yeah. I must say, I didn't expect this of you."

**Marvel:** "The teaching or the Marvellous puns?"

**Me:** "Both. But let's focus on the jokes. You used to hate them so much."

**Marvel:** "Well, I figured that if I couldn't avoid them, I'd just have to own them. Just go with the flow, you know? It's what my sister Wonder does, and she's the life of every party."

**Me:** "Wonderful."

**Marvel:** "Exactly."

*Marvel was a great teacher. She made school fun and enjoyable for her students, really stimulated their interests, and encouraged their hobbies.*

*She also got every single student of hers hooked on the Marvel Cinematic Universe — some to an exasperating degree — but that's another story.*

## Section 6: How To

<https://www.wikihow.life/Be-Inspired>

We all know the feeling — that bland, tedious, "everyday is exactly the same" sensation that sets in as you begin to question whether your path in life is the right one. Self-doubt and a lack of motivation are all-too-common side effects of modern life that can leave you feeling utterly deflated. However, by actively seeking out sources of inspiration in the world around you and drawing upon the reserves of inspiration that exist within you, it's possible to breathe joy back into your life and start working towards your dreams. Whether you're looking for the inspiration to complete a personal passion project or simply looking for ways to get through your day, wikihow will be helping you in that.

## Method

### 1 Finding Sources of Inspiration

Look for inspiration in nature. Musicians, poets, painters, artists, and other highbrow intellectuals have long drawn upon nature's beauty as a source of inspiration, but, in truth, you don't have to be an egghead to be inspired by nature. For instance, simply taking a short walk in a nearby park or a nature preserve can be a reinvigorating experience. In addition to being a potentially inspiring experience, it feels great to get out into the wilderness and experience nature firsthand, so don't delay!

As you walk through nature, try to take in the beautiful, minute details around you. Get inspired from it. For instance, notice the simple, yet the perfectly-crafted beauty of a flower or see the scenic quality of a creek flowing beside you. The beauty of nature can be effortless, but it's never unremarkable.

Look for historical sources of inspiration. If you ever feel like there's no way that you, an ordinary person, can achieve great things, know that history offers hundreds of real-life examples which prove this idea wrong. Some of the history's most inspirational stories are well-known, like those of Socrates, William Shakespeare, Jesse Owens, Andrew Carnegie, Nicola Tesla Mother Theresa, Steve Jobs and so on, but countless more people who are less well-known had similarly huge impacts on history. Below are just a few:

Frank Willis: Security guard at the Watergate office building in Washington D. C. in the 1970s whose discoveries sparked the famous Watergate political scandal.

Ziryab: Persian slave in the 8th and 9th centuries who, upon becoming free, went on to become a master artist, scientist, and inventor. Among his inventions: the three-course meal.

Nicola Tesla: A great inventor, who sleep nearly 2 hours a day and work for his inventions for years and years. He had registered nearly 278 patents of his own inventions.

Audie Murphy: After being turned down by the Navy and Marine Corps, joined the Army during WWII and became one of the most decorated soldiers in history for his astounding courage in battle.

Candice Lightner: Formed Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) after the hit-and-run death of her daughter at the hands of a drunk driver, which led to sweeping drunk driving reform in the United States.

Look for fictional and artistic sources of inspiration. While real life has more sources of inspiration than can ever be accessed, fictional stories created by humans can be just as inspiring. Movies, books, songs, and other forms of art can tell inspirational stories and offer transformative new perspectives on age-old problems. As an added bonus, these things are all fairly accessible today, especially compared to certain real-life sources of inspiration. For instance, it's easy to download a new movie or song, but not so easy to start pursuing your secret mountain climber. Below are just a few examples of the countless fictional and artistic sources of inspiration that exist today:

The Shawshank Redemption: The classic uplifting tale of the relationship that develops between two prisoners over the decades.

The Brothers Karamazov: Fyodor Dostoyevsky's 19th century masterpiece tells a tale of love, death, family, evil, and redemption in czarist Russia. A must-read.

Somewhere Over the Rainbow: A simple yet beautiful song about the age-old hope that something better is waiting for you somewhere out there in the world. This song has been covered by dozens of musicians, so many different versions exist.

Space Jam: Michael Jordan and the Looney Tunes team up to defeat basketball-playing space aliens. It doesn't get much more inspirational than this.

Look to other creative people to inspire you. Yuka Arora, a makeup artist, says, "I get a lot of inspiration by scrolling through Instagram and seeing other people's looks. Something will inspire me — maybe it's the shape or the color of someone's look — and I'll think, "I really want to work with red right now." My looks will just evolve from there."

Look for inspirational details in old, familiar things. Sometimes, inspiration is all around us, just waiting to be noticed. If you're feeling particularly uninspired, try doing something you've done many times before or going somewhere you've been countless times while keeping a keen eye out for details you may not have noticed before. Noticing a tiny new detail in something that you're intimately familiar with can lead you on a trail of discoveries that can give you a completely new understanding of the place or process you're revisiting.

As an example, let's say you visit a nature preserve near your home that you've been to dozens of times before. This time, however, on your walk, you make an effort to venture off of the path you've taken so many times before and actively seek out new details. By doing this, you may find something new, like, for instance, a massive ant colony located just off of the trail that you were previously unaware of.

Read motivational and self-help literature. It's definitely worth noting that many, many books, publications, and articles specifically detail the process of becoming motivated and inspired to achieve a goal or reach for the stars. These sources can vary greatly in terms of length, credibility, and quality. Some are written by Ph.Ds, while others are written by self-appointed experts. Some have great, life-changing advice, while others are written primarily to make money for the author. Some are comprehensive guides for how to live your whole life, while others detail only very specific aspects of life.

Only you will know which self-help resources are useful for you. However, whenever possible, try only to research your choices. You don't want to waste money on snake oil treatments or common sense advice packaged as profound insight, so only pay for self-help resources that are well-reviewed and verified by independent sources.

Method

## 2 Changing Your Outlook

Seek new sources of stimulation. When people feel uninspired, often, the root cause is simple boredom. Inspiration gives ambition and In these cases, getting yourself excited to go out and try something genuinely new can be enough to shake you out of a deep funk. Don't be afraid to break out of your comfort zone! You may discover that you had interests or talents you weren't even aware of. Below are just a few ideas to get you started.

See a movie. For bonus points, see a challenging art house picture or one from a director whose work you're not familiar with.

Listen to music. As above, you may want to try listening to styles and genres you're not familiar with.

Read a book. You guessed it — read the work of an author you haven't read before or read about a subject you have little knowledge of.

Exercise. Besides just plain feeling great, physical exercise has scientifically-proven depression-fighting benefits that can help you kick the blues and get back to your life.[1]

Go on a date. The excitement from a first date can be quite intense! Use this to your advantage by channeling this excitement into productive pathways.

Travel. Sometimes, when you're feeling uninspired, a change of scenery can do the trick! There's a reason why so many friends, relatives, and self-help books will tell you to "get out of the house": removing yourself from the same old boring, uninspiring surroundings can refresh your mind, leading you to think and feel in ways that you may not have for a long time. One of the most draining parts of our daily routines is to see the same old places, again and again, day in and day out. Make a change and leave these problems behind from time to time. You'll be amazed how much more inspired you to feel.

If you've got the funds to take extravagant vacations or long sabbaticals, do so, but count yourself lucky! If you're short on cash, cheer up — you don't need to go to the French Riviera to recharge your batteries. Short trips to neighboring towns or cities can be just as inspiring as trips to faraway places and are much, much cheaper. Try spending a day or two at a local nature preserve, for instance. You may be surprised just how little you were familiar with the area you live in.

Laugh. There's almost no situation in life that isn't better with the addition of a little laughter. The times when you're seeking inspiration are no exception. While laughing isn't necessarily going to give you genius ideas on how to achieve your goals immediately, it will help you relax, improve your mood, and, most importantly, allow you to exist in the moment (if only for a few minutes). In short, it will put you in a state in which you'll be open to new ideas and experiences which can inspire you.

Get in touch with an old contact. Ringing up an old friend, colleague or mentor can be a remarkably refreshing experience, especially if you've been feeling down because of a lack of good company in your life. Reconnecting with someone you haven't seen for a while isn't just a mood-booster, though — it can also bring you inspiration in the form of new ideas, new perspectives on old ideas, and more. Because the type of people you're likely to want to reconnect with are the types of

people whose opinion you respect, the thoughts and advice of these people are also likely to influence your own. Below are just a few ideas for people you may want to get in touch with:

Friends that you've lost contact with due to moving, changing schools, etc.

Old teachers or professors (especially ones with whom you had a close relationship). Great for inspiration in the form of vocational guidance.

Distant relatives you haven't seen in a long time.

Bosses from past jobs you had a good relationship with. Great for inspiration in the form of career path guidance.

Spend time with someone new. While seeking out someone you're already familiar with can lead to inspiration, so too can striking a chord with a complete stranger. What better way to gain a new, inspirational perspective on life than from someone who's entirely new to you? To be fair, not every single person you meet will have something inspirational or groundbreaking to say. Some will undoubtedly be pessimistic, dreary, and uninspiring, but don't let the occasional bad apples let you down, as getting out and meeting new people is generally a great idea if you're looking to reinvigorate your life.

For more information on meeting new people, see [How to Meet New People](#).

You have nearly countless options when it comes to locations for meeting new people. Anywhere people gather is a potential opportunity to make a new contact. This being said, some of the best places to look are places where people are likely to share interests with you. For instance, if you're a bookworm, you might try striking up conversations at your local used bookstore.

Reach for a dream, even if it's unlikely. The process of striving toward a dream can be just as rewarding as achieving the actual dream itself — in the words of the old cliché, "it's the journey, not the destination". Life have no limit. Reach the limit where you want to reach. It is in your hand and in your mind.

The knowledge that you've made a genuine effort to achieve a long-shot goal that's dear to you can be immensely fulfilling and, more to the point of this article, can be tremendously inspiring for future endeavors. Life forces us to make a choice between idealistic visions and realistic, attainable goals. By choosing the former just

once, you open your life up to the possibility, however remote, that there's something amazing waiting just around the corner. It's an incredible feeling. Below are just a few ideas to get you started:

Record an album or EP. While studio time can be expensive, many colleges and art institutes offer free recording resources.

Write a book, article, or short story. While it can be very challenging to get a piece of literature published for wide release, small literary magazines and newspapers can be much more forgiving.

Make a movie or a documentary. While the possibility that you'll be able to make a breakout hit on a shoestring budget is a small one indeed, the possibility of getting into a local film festival is much more achievable.

Find a showcase for a hidden talent. If you're great at something, share it! While you may not be able to support yourself with, for instance, your ability to do amazing yo-yo tricks, you may be able to book shows at local schools and street fairs for recognition and a little spending money.

Method

### 3 Getting in Touch with Your Inner Self

Create something. By making something new, it's possible to learn about yourself. When you make something new from scratch, tiny pieces of you are visible in the final project. Whether painting a beautiful landscape or building a sturdy table, every creator leaves a mark on his or her creation. The process of creation is a great way to observe these inner qualities as they come to the surface. These qualities can inspire you by changing the way you think about yourself. You may be surprised by what you find! Below are a few ideas of creative endeavors you may want to pursue:

Art: Drawing, painting, designing, producing music, and more.

Writing: Literature, criticism, articles, blog posts, poetry or may be a theory.

Building: Furniture, hobby models, technical products, etc., vehicles, practical art pieces, and, if you have the resources and know-how, buildings and houses.

Miscellaneous: Cooking, arranging, decorating, gardening, and more!

Perform an act of kindness. One of the greatest ways to get a new viewpoint on life when you're feeling down is to do something nice for someone else, especially if this person is in a worse place than you. In addition to putting the problems keeping you from achieving your goals in perspective, performing a selfless deed usually creates a feeling of inner warmth that's genuinely difficult to recreate any other way. Most importantly, however, it makes life better for someone who may not enjoy the comfort, safety, or sense of purpose that you take for granted.

The recipient of your act of kindness can be a stranger (like, for instance, if you volunteer at a local homeless shelter or juvenile home), but s/he can also be someone who is close to you. Helping out a friend who's struggling with life's commitments can be an inspiring, perspective-changing experience and also a way to deepen your relationship and cement the bond that made you friends in the first place.

Meditate. The creative and inspirational benefits of meditation have long been touted by the practice's supporters, though the exact truth of these claims is still not a matter of scientific fact. Whether or not meditation provides a tangible, measurable benefit, it certainly provides intangible ones. Meditation can have a calming effect, which, can make it easier to focus and think clearly for some. Meditation can also be immensely refreshing, especially if you spend most of your day stressed out. Even just 15 or 20 minutes spent in quiet contemplation can be a luxury that few people are accustomed to!

If you're interested in the potential benefits of meditation, try sitting calmly on the floor or your bed with your back straight and your legs folded or stretched out in front of you. Set a timer for 15 minutes to half an hour. Close your eyes, take deep breaths and try to think about nothing at all. Alternatively, focus on a simple word, phrase, or image until it loses its meaning. Though there are many fancier, flashier ways to meditate, this simple method works perfectly well.

See [How to Meditate](#) for more information.

If you are religious, pray. If you belong to a faith, praying for guidance in times of difficulty can be an inspiring experience. Many devoutly religious people pray for inspiration when they are having difficulty overcoming an obstacle or making a difficult decision. The effectiveness of prayer, like belief in a religion itself, is a matter of faith. If you believe in your faith, you may find prayer to be an inspiring experience, whereas non-believers who cynically attempt prayer are unlikely to gain

inspiration because they don't truly believe it's even possible to gain inspiration from prayer on a fundamental level.

Note that different religions will have different guidelines for which types of prayers to say when you're looking for inspiration. Some may have prayers specifically written for the purpose, while others may not. For instance, Roman Catholics artists seeking inspiration may want to say a prayer to a patron saint of artists like Catherine of Bologna.[2] In many religions, it may also be appropriate to say a prayer of your own making when seeking inspiration.

Love. As corny and cliché as it sounds, the love of another person can be extremely inspiring. Genuine human love is something that can change your entire life by completely changing your priorities. If you're an adult you probably know people who have made important changes in the course of their life because of their love for someone else — moving, pursuing a new job, sharing a new hobby with their partner, and so on. You may have even done this yourself!

Best of all, in addition to inspiring you, love can give you a reason to be inspired. For example, an artist who loves someone may push herself to complete her latest endeavor because she wants her lover to be proud of her, while an ordinary, everyday IT employee might be inspired to pursue the novel he's been meaning to write out of a similar sense of obligation to his lover.

### Tips

Try to be yourself in everything you do. It's difficult to be inspired if you're busy pretending to be someone else.

Listen to music that you really love.

### Warnings

Don't develop an obsession with self-help resources. While they can be helpful, you don't need to spend money on lots of books, tapes, and other resources to become inspired.

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Thanks for reading!

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Name: Lucky Numbers

Favorite Episode(s): God Bless You, Water Woman, Any Cling You Want (You Got It),  
Not Always On Topic

Ballp.it account: LuckyNumbers