

Bad Luck Turns Good!

We've been hit with some bad luck lately in our household. First, our beloved family dog of almost 11 years was diagnosed last week with a few potentially life-threatening illnesses. Aside from our obvious concerns about our dog's health, this has also incurred large vet bills. Next, we lost our expensive digital camera while trick-or-treating, and it contained priceless family photos, including the kids in their Halloween costumes. Finally (hopefully!) our car decided to conk out – engine wouldn't turn over. My husband did some research online and found that it was most likely the pass-key system, which can be quite costly to fix. While we were trying to jump start the car to fix it ourselves, the keys got locked in, which also stalled our efforts to fix it.

However, the bad luck is slowly changing to good, an unheard of phenomenon for us as people who have experienced more than an average person's amount of bad luck, I'd guess. For a few years, we really got dumped upon, one horrible thing after another, but we've also had more than our fair share of good luck in life as well, especially lately, and we count our blessings every day. But rarely has our bad luck turned good like this. Yesterday, as I was walking my daughter to school (no car, remember?), I found a \$10 bill on the sidewalk. I immediately felt guilty and thought about how much I would like the person who found our digital camera to turn it in, so we called the police – again – and asked if anyone reported it missing. So far, they haven't, which means I get to keep it. The police must be getting sick of us by now since we've called about 10 times in the last few days looking for our camera and trying to get into our locked car... but oh well, in a sleepy rural town such as ours, I'm sure they're just happy to have *something* to do. So anyway, I find the \$10, and I think I get to keep it, and then I walked to the local car dealer yesterday, and they gave me a key to get into my car

for only \$2.50 when we thought it would be at least \$35 for a locksmith! So we find money, save money getting into our locked car, and then today we find out that our car is still under warranty, so the expensive pass-key replacement system will be covered!!! H00RAY!!! And get this – we are under warranty for **only 24 more miles!** What a blessing of a coincidence, although it makes me afraid to drive the car for fear that something else will go wrong and next time, it won't be covered!

But anyway, besides the vet bills, as far as the car goes, I think we actually came out ahead on the whole deal. We saved \$ on gas these past two days when I had to do all errands on foot, I found the \$10, and there's no charge for repairs, so yeah, we're actually \$10+ ahead! Hopefully everything will go ok with the car repairs so that we can still make it to the early Christmas celebrations we had planned for this weekend in Illinois. And they say bad things happen in sets of three, so hopefully this is it for at least a little while anyway...