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What is a WeekEND? (Emphasis intended)

*Friday, April 23, 2021*Voted Featured Blog Post
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Downton Abbey fans will recognize this as one of the best one-liners of the Dowager Countess Lady Violet played by Maggie Smith. Today I realize that I finally have something in common with the British upper class of 100 years ago.



I have "no deeds to do, no promises to keep" although I'm not exactly "Feeling Groovy" as the lyrics suggest in that old Simon and Garfunkel song. ([link at end](#))

As I've written in my blogs and status, I do have things to do, but my point is that I do not HAVE to do them. For those that I do HAVE to do to stay alive (getting groceries, cooking, cleaning etc), everybody has to do that stuff and being retired I have the freedom to decide WHEN I will do these things.

I also can choose from several alternatives. I can order online and someone will bring the items to my door. If I don't want to wait for delivery, I can drive to the store, text them that I am in the parking lot and someone will arrive to put my order into the trunk that I will pop open from inside the car.

This is also true for those things I do voluntarily.

As treasurer of our local ministry, I must pay the bills every week, but I can choose the day/time to go into the office.

I can decide which day our time in the canoe will be spent picking up debris that could harm unexpected boaters.

I can watch a church service online especially since too many of those in attendance wear a mask only to enter and remove it afterwards (prompting a recent letter from our pastor). If our Internet is down, as has happened with annoying regularity, I can even watch the service as a delayed video.

So this is a big "hats off" and "well done" to those of you who go to work every day, deal with the demands of bosses and customers, take care of your children, or are taking care of those who cannot care for themselves due to serious illness or infirmity or have a serious condition yourself. I have met you here on Spark and your attitude and persistence remind me daily not to whine about my minor

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inconveniences.

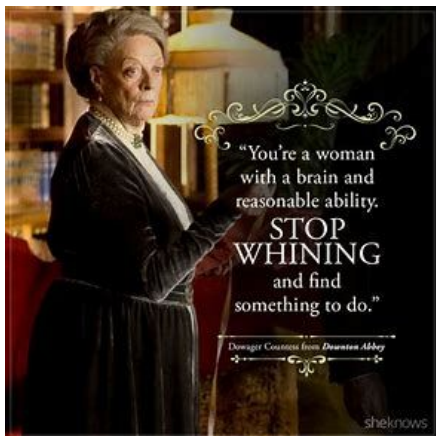
Remember to take care of yourself too. As they say "put on your own oxygen mask first"

My status yesterday said we were buying a tandem kayak. Well, we can't! It seems they are suddenly so popular (along with kayaking in general) that there are none to be had.

If that's my biggest problem this week I will be very grateful.

As Lady Violet says:

"You're a woman with a brain and reasonable ability. STOP WHINING and find something to do"



As for the song playing in my head this morning.

The 59th Street Bridge Song (Feelin' Groovy)

The grooved road surface of that bridge to Manhattan slowed me down many times.

[www.youtube.com/
watch?v=YHAUvCQmCTc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHAUvCQmCTc)

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PICKIE98

The week end is Saturday. I have retirement freedom as well...
39 days ago

V



AMUSICALLIFE

I remember that episode. I love the way she said it. Great actress.
Love your message, another great read
39 days ago

V



RKOTTEK

42 days ago

V



MARKSMOM3

42 days ago

V



TOMATOCAFEGAL

Wow. Like this
42 days ago

V



WANT2BTRIM

Enjoy life
42 days ago



FRAN0426



We do have plenty of reasons to be grateful every day. I have been retired for several years, the thing I notice is the stress level has gone down tremendously, so much better days. Of course the choices of what to do each day, and when to do them are wonderful too. Thanks for sharing the past years ago some, enjoyed listening to every bit of it.
42 days ago



DAWNDMOORE40

Well said!
42 days ago



PHEBESS

I remember when it mattered to me what day of the week it was - but not any longer, and that is a great feeling!

Hope you find a kayak - but don't go with an inflatable one, I know people who tried one and they work as badly as you might expect!
42 days ago



RETIREDSUE



And I LOVE being retired too!
42 days ago



DONNALEE-53



42 days ago



ELISEP5

I love having many options to choose from.
42 days ago



PLCHAPPELL

Right
43 days ago



THINCPL2004

Very well said
43 days ago



NANHBH

It seems like so many product lines are sold out due to Covid! We waited 3+ months to get our kitchen appliances. We're waiting almost 6 months for new furniture! But as you say, if that's my biggest problem, I'm pretty fortunate! Enjoy your kayaking.



43 days ago



CD26438932



43 days ago



PATRICIAAK

be grateful
43 days ago



AZMOMXTWO

I am so not surprised that everything is gone I have to wait for things also But I like you can just stop whining I just do what needs to be done and I do it
43 days ago



**COUNTRYGALINNY**

I love the stop whining quote. Most people do quite well in the country. Stop whining. Be grateful. Thanks
43 days ago

**1ZIPPYC**

Being retired is great! But, sometimes my newly retired hubby takes that I can do it whenever I



want a little too seriously!!

Oh, well I always say I'm so happy to have him home and not out in the working world, especially now with the pandemic raging on.

There are so many products that are hard to find now. Even bicycles, I hear. We had to hunt high and low for a new carpet cleaner! Had to drive 50 miles to a store to get the particular one we wanted.

Have you thought of contacting the factory to see if it can be built for you and shipped to you? Probably expensive to do it that way. That's why we didn't order our cleaner online- price increase.



Enjoy your weekend.

43 days ago

**MTN_KITTEN**

My BFF often said ...

You're a (grown a\$\$) woman with a brain and reasonable ability.
STOP WHINING and find something to do.

I am going to miss her soooooooo much.



43 days ago

**STELLAX1**

Love this and it fits right in with my thoughts today. Time to take care of me. Also love DA can't wait for new movie to come out.

43 days ago

**SHAKERATTLEROLL**

I LIKE IT! Well Said! KEEP SPARKING!

43 days ago

**ALIHIKES**

Great blog. Thanks for reminding us to take time to relax and arrange chores to our convenience. I am grateful to be retired and be in control. But even when I was working I valued my days off.

43 days ago

**THOMS1**

I too am retired and to be so during this pandemic doubly thankful. I don't have to go anywhere if I don't want to or do the things on my to do list on schedule. I just have to make sure that I do do



them and not forget about them. Good blog Eileen.

43 days ago

**SUSANYOUNGER**

Well Said!

43 days ago

**BJAEGER307**

Been retired 5 1/2 years now and I'm enjoying every moment, even on the days where I "do nothing". After working 25 years plus I am glad for the next generation of workers to take over. I shall enjoy their efforts and be grateful that they are there.

Life is at a pace that I want it to be, which is the greatest blessing of all.

43 days ago

**ETHELMERZ**

I am lucky in most ways, but sad that my husband died 5 years ago, unable to enjoy it all.

43 days ago

**JUNETTA2002**

Love Downton Abbey. Thanks for sharing.





43 days ago



WALKINTOFIT

i am on the cusp of retirement... now to 5 years. lol, im dreaming of a kayak and and an adventuresome girl (gd) that came to visit last weekend!. feels like a month since then... I hope to go kayaking again.... i am asking people at work if they would like to go with me... i said i would rent the kayaks ... no takers yet... i just might have to go my self. The 2 hours on the river went so fast... i really wanted to c the pillars, get up close. gd did get a pic but no time to land... had to hurry back. Next time i am renting them for 4 hours, that way i can rest at the pillars.... get some awesome pics to go with....

I work in a big box store, so i get to c alot of people, yesterday got in a good workout, pushing in carts, 7-10 at a time... was out there an hour doing that.... one tip is to make sure they are locked tight together and push them backwards to the corral ... saves a lot of work..

43 days ago



RACHNACH



43 days ago



SUNNYBEACHGIRL

I remember a S&S concert when I was young and they were too. I jumped into retirement and kept busy, got involved, joined a small non profit, scheduled outings, and generally kept very busy. Over the years I stepped away for each activity and now my days are much quieter and I schedule events and outings with a thought to to time commitments.

43 days ago



KITTYHAWK1949

I feel especially blessed to be retired (2016) this past year and not having to worry about work or money since I have my pension and SS.



43 days ago



RHOOK20047

Good blog. I have begun to thing that time is too short to sweat the little things. I know what you mean about choosing to do things when you want to. My job is starting to get to me. It's just a part time job, but I am not feeling appreciated and I can think of other more rewarding things I could be doing. It is funny how your priorities change as you grow older!

43 days ago



DONNA_CPS2



Nice post! Thanks!

43 days ago



HARRIETT14

I enjoyed that show very much. I now watch a lot of the Hallmark channels. The singers of years ago were so entertaining. My DH and I enjoyed dancing to them.

43 days ago



JULIJULINN



43 days ago



SPARKUVU



43 days ago



CHERYLHURT

Good advice!

43 days ago



PLCHAPPELL

Good advice

44 days ago

V



DESIREE672

She was fantastic, wasn't she? So many great one-liners.

My hat is off to you! I find it hard to cope with total freedom, but you clearly get done what needs to be done. When I'm totally free, I don't, and I get disgusted with myself for it. I'm afraid to say, I seem to need the discipline to be imposed from outside - a big reason for getting a job in retirement.

44 days ago



LIS193

Good luck finding your kayak!



44 days ago



DSJB9999

Love the pictures too and good luck with the kayak! Not my idea of fun but enjoy! I am lucky not to have to go shopping to the big shops and was a little surprised when I went in a couple of them this week and had to be told the procedures. I am lucky my world is safe and perfect for

my family and I. x  

44 days ago



GRALAN

After I and my wife were disabled and cannot work, I've found my week never ends. We've had to carve out Monday as the day we keep clear for just us two, at least as much as possible. No caregiver that day, if possible no appointments, if we go shopping it is for grins and giggles.

We do home church between ourselves so far, as my wife is allergic to many human-made fragrances and churches just think their over-use of the same is our problem. Well, that just isn't so, and that attitude isn't obedient to God in the New Testament.

Anywho, now that song from my California dreaming youth in Fullerton is bouncing around in my head. It is a fun song, along with "Do you know the way to San Jose". Oh no, now I'm going to start looking for Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass albums. hahahaha



44 days ago



MARYJEANSL

You have just answered a question I never even thought to ask - why on earth was Feeling Groovy also called the 59th Street Bridge Song? Now I know! I love the song - was a huge fan of Simon and Garfunkel back in the day, and still listen to their songs.

Downton Abbey, though, I never watched. However, I don't need to have watched to love Lady Violet, just from what you showed of her.

I am one of those going about my life every day, but don't feel I deserve any special credit for it. I think you do what you have to do. I am fortunate enough to be relatively young, and quite healthy overall, and I am glad to be able to work, and to have something to contribute.

44 days ago



GREYTDOLPHIN

Loved your ode to the bliss of retirement. After toiling for years at a job that I didn't really like, I LOVE being retired. Just wish I was as active as you.

Also loved Lady Violet.

44 days ago



SAMMILESSACH

I didn't watch that program, but your blog as always is awesome.

It killed me several years ago my MIL healthy retired at 50. Every time she came to visit..."I have to go to walmart,""dishes in the sink. " and so on.....

I just never understood that "complaining" We ALL have to do those things. Being I always worked, did all my errands,yard work,cooking,baking,laundry.etc.>
I was like is that how retired people feel?

No...We should be grateful that we CAN do them! Retired or not!!!

As far as the kayak I hope you find what you want, your active and you enjoy outdoors&nature of seems like a perfect fit!!! 😊

44 days ago

JAMER123

We do have lots to be grateful for. Thanks for a lovely blog.

44 days ago

**TERMITEMOM**

Lady Violet is so awesome! And I do like your message.
44 days ago

[v](#)**MORTICIAADDAMS**

I love not having to punch the old time card. Much less stressful! LOL. As my grandmother always stated - you children when you are gone will not care that they could eat off your floors. They will remember that you played with them.
44 days ago

[v](#)

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