

♥ Snippets of Encouragement #341

Hello darlings

It is day 341 of Snippets of Encouragement, and I'm sure you're aware that sometimes life is like driving on the freeway.

There are days when we're up to speed and motoring along with the windows down, the wind in our hair and great music blasting on the radio. Some days things are more of a stop and go, and we feel like we're moving forward at snail's pace. Other days we get stuck in a nightmare of a traffic jam and don't move at all.

Occasionally we try to go at a 100 miles an hour when in fact we're in the middle of a roadblock and many times we don't pay attention to what's coming up in our blind spot.

At times we've taken a dangerous curve way too fast and almost wiped out, and at others we've missed an exit or roadside marker completely. Then there are those moments when we've caused an accident or been in one that we could have avoided or wasn't our doing.

Sometimes we travel alone and enjoy our solitude, and at others, we long for company. There are moments when we have passengers along for the ride whom we wish never embarked on the journey with us and others that we've had to toss out of the vehicle as they were unsuitable travelling companions.

There are days when blue skies are forecast, and a sudden tropical storm appears on the horizon and others when our journey begins in thick fog that slowly rises to reveal nothing but sunshine along the way. We've all experienced moments when we're driving into the eye of the storm and are scared shitless and others when we go chasing that tornado that we should leave alone.

On the highway of life we've all experienced detours but managed to get back on track and at other times have travelled a road with no name and no final destination. Sometimes the road just runs out into a dead end, and we find ourselves wondering what now.

Some of us have an instinctual sense of direction and others can drive around the same tree seven thousand times thinking they've passed 7000 different trees. There are those of us who won't even start the engine without a clearly defined route plan to their next destination and others who think, "What the hell let me drive and see where I land up." Furthermore, you have those who've become debilitated by their GPS systems and won't follow any direction other than what's prescribed by a mechanical voice that sometimes loses contact with the satellite in the sky.

Some love to break the rules and are careless of their own lives and the lives of others. They will speed, drink and drive, talk on their phones and wilfully be disrespectful of all other travellers. Then you have the self-delegated traffic police who will brake check others, slow down in your lane and enforce the rules that they're not authorised to do. And of course you have those who are batshit crazy,



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and it's best that they don't get in your lane because who knows what would happen to either of you.

There are highways that run from A to B with few choices for deviation and others that are so convoluted you can become lost in a maze of interchanges and new choices. Some roads are ancient and well-travelled while others are brand spanking new but offer little comfort to the weary traveller.

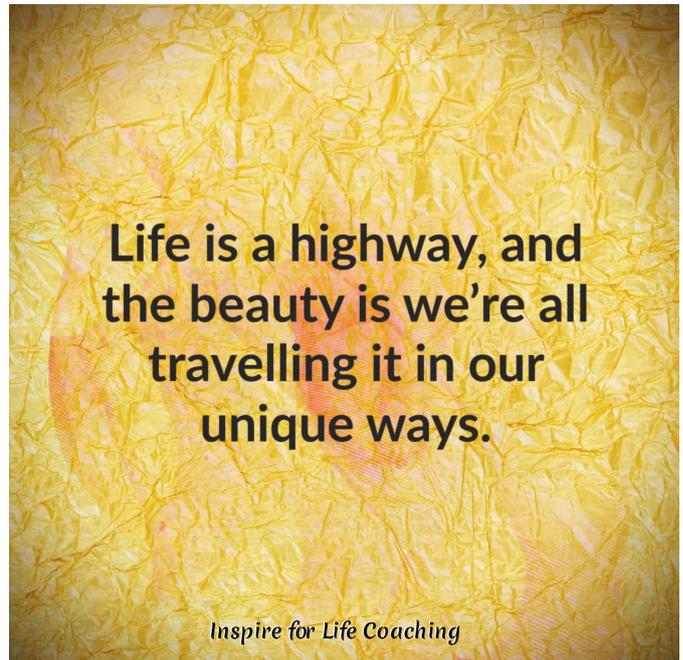
Many highways have rest stops along the way. Some are hovels that you can't wait to leave and others have every modern amenity and cater to your every need. There are moments when you want to linger at the stops, weary of your arduous journey and those where your pitstop is faster than a Formula 1 racing team.

Along the highway, there are moments when your character is tested to breaking point. You have strife with your travelling companions; other drivers piss you off, and sometimes you simply behave like an asshole even though you know better. Occasionally you meet those whom you befriend, who enrich your life, give you direction, sustenance and hope for your long journey ahead. There are also those trying to hitch a ride with you and who make you feel guilty when you refuse.

Along the way, there is every kind of vehicle imaginable. Some are built for speed, comfort, safety and hard work, while others are highly specialised vehicles that appear on the freeway for a specific purpose. Some belong on the scrap heap while others are restored to their former glory. Some cars are well maintained, and others rarely see a car wash. There are those that glitter in the sun but are jammed full of trash on the outside, and those that have many dings and scratches but motor along resiliently full of joy.

Occasionally you may experience a horse, cow, pedestrian or flying tire on the freeway and think what the hell. You'll swerve out of the way to miss it barely avoiding the other cars, and you feel a sense of relief having narrowly missed a disaster. Sometimes a fellow motorist will intentionally enter the freeway travelling the wrong way with the intent to hurt others and themselves, and at others they will unconsciously be driving the wrong way, blissfully unaware of the chaos they're causing.

Life is a highway, and the beauty is we're all travelling it in our unique ways. There is not one highway leading to one destination with one specific mode of travelling



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it. There are endless means, choices and destinations, and we are each in the driver's seat of our lives.

Be encouraged today to create your journey exactly how you desire it and take full responsibility for each moment of it. No choice you make is ever wrong, but it is yours to make. Have fun as you go!

