LAURA ON LIFE

Saga Of The Cheese

There once was a bag of cheese curds that was destined for more than a hungry man's snack.

That bag of cheese curds used to be an ordinary bag of cheese curds settled amongst its friends in a grocery store's refrigerated dairy case. It had a life of ease only disturbed when a distracted shopper's fingers ran across its label on the way to the more popular sharp white cheddars.

It was just chillin', knowing that nobody in their right mind would choose cheese curds over sharp white cheddar.

All that would change, however, the day my husband strolled into that store with an insane craving for – you guessed it – cheese curds.

The sharp white cheddar winced as my husband's hand hovered over it momentarily. Then it sighed in relief and smiled knowingly inside its shiny wrapper as my husband chose the unsuspecting cheese

The sharp white cheddar thought it knew what would occur after the bag of cheese curds passed through the scanner at checkout, but, in truth, it couldn't possibly have foreseen the

unbelievable circumstances in which the cheese curds found themselves.

We were on vacation... in the Northeast... in the winter. Obviously. Why? because we needed our heads examined. This particular day the high was 14 degrees. Let me reiterate: The HIGH was 14 stinkin' degrees!

We had a long drive ahead of us and of course, we needed snacks for the road. I bought chewing gum and cookies and my husband bought the soon-to-be infamous cheese curds.

After driving an hour or so in blinding snow showers, with the heat blasting in the mini-van, the cheese curds turned soft. My husband doesn't like warm cheese curds.

"We should've brought a cooler." he said.

I was driving at the time and peering through the falling snow, I said, "Or we could just throw them on the hood of the car and let them fend for themselves. It looks like hell has finally frozen over."

I'm sure I saw the cheese curds grimace.

"I have a better idea," my genius of a hubby said. He let a blast of

arctic air in as he opened his passenger-side window, put the bag of cheese curds outside, and closed the window on the bag. He had effectively found a safe place to cool his cheese curds. We grinned at each other, enjoying his cleverness.

I was still driving forty-five minutes later, when my gum went stale and the cookies started to look good. With my eyes carefully glued to the slippery road, I opened my window to dispose of my gum.

It certainly was not my fault that the manufacturer of our minivan placed the buttons for both windows side by side.

Suddenly, the bag of cheese curds went airborne and its subsequent journey after that can only be determined in one's imagination.

My husband jerked his head from the cheese curds - which were there one minute and vanished the next - to me with a stunned expression that reminded me of Desi Arnez when Lucy did something remarkably stupid. He was speechless with shock. His cheese curds were gone!

Unfortunately, my imagination started



Laura Snyder

imagining immediately and all I could do is laugh hysterically at his stunned expression while simultaneously trying to apologize and keep the minivan from sliding off the road.

I sobered as I imagined the news that evening: "There was a twenty car pile-up on the interstate this afternoon. Fortunately, there were no injuries. Police could not say for certain what caused the disaster, but drivers reported large, sticky snowflakes that fused with their wipers and became one with the windshield."

Laura Snyder is a nationally syndicated columnist, author & speaker. You can reach Laura at lsnvder@lauraonlife.com Or visit her website www.lauraonlife.com for more info.

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To enter, simply log online by going to: http://play2win.upickem.net/

Register to submit your photos: 1 entry per email address Upload your photo to one of the following categories: 0-6 months • 7-12 months • 13 months-2 years • 3-4 years

You have until February 3rd to submit your photos. They will then be voted on by the public. You can help promote your child to win through Facebook and email! People will be able to vote once per day per registered email address. Voting will take place from February 4th-19th. Winning photos will be published in the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan on February 22nd. First place winners will receive a framed winners print and gift certificates to local businesses. Employees and family members of Yankton Media Inc. and any of its subsidiaries are ineligible to win. Your online submission authorizes the publication of this photo in this contest in print and online at

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