

And the intention coin winners are...

written by Holly
February 1, 2011
By Holly Lisle

We have five winners on the Intention Coin Contest!

Contents © Holly Lisle. <https://hollylisle.com> All Rights Reserved

The motivation of an intention coin

written by Holly
February 1, 2011
By Holly Lisle

Every once in a while one or the other of my kids comes up with something so brilliant it amazes me.

My daughter just e-mailed me to let me know she'd created an "Intention coin," and, curious about the name, I went to her Etsy site and read her description.

And I loved the concept. I love the power of taking something ephemeral and making it tangible, putting it in front of yourself, and using it to improve your life.

I also loved the post on her blog. Take a look at what she wrote and tell me what sort of intangible you want to make real this year. Put it into words that would fit on your

Intention coin.

I'll do a random drawing Tuesday, February 1st and buy an Intention coin (no, I don't get 'em for free ☹) for each of five winners. And I'll cover shipping, too.

As for me, TAXES are still ongoing. [shudder]

Contents © Holly Lisle. <https://hollylisle.com> All Rights Reserved

My daughter is in the ER right now

written by Holly
February 1, 2011
By Holly Lisle

8:29 PM: She sounds like she's going into shock, and it's crowded so no one is seeing her. If you have prayers, any religion, please pray them now.

UPDATE

7:22 AM, NOV. 27: Here's where we are this morning. It took until 11 PM for the hospital to see her. Something is wrong—some sort of post-surgical complication—but they don't know what. At 4 AM they gave her morphine and sent her home for a few hours of sleep, but she's to be back in there this morning. The good news I've had is that her temperature, which had dropped from normal to 96.5 over the course of about an hour right before she called me at 8:10 PM, stabilized, and her blood pressure is within normal limits (info that I didn't have until 11 PM).

The one possibility that my daughter could tell me they'd mentioned was an abcess—she's not medical-tech oriented, and she was in bad pain, and her stress level was high. People in those situations don't catch medical terminology and jargon thrown at them at high speed, so there are other possibilities, but she doesn't know what they are.

At this point, I'm waiting for a call from her to let me know what's going on.

Thank you for prayers, good thoughts, candles, anything you've got. I'm deeply grateful.

UPDATE

1:00 PM, NOV. 27: Not answering her cell phone, not answering her messages. Still waiting to hear something.

UPDATE

1:58 PM, NOV, 27: Finally heard from her. She's been readmitted. Abdominal pain, vomiting, chills. They don't know what's wrong. They're going to run tests.

Thank you so much for your prayers and encouragement. I don't do religion, but I know prayer and focused thought work, and I'm grateful for every one of you holding her in your thoughts.

UPDATE

5:55 PM, NOV 27: She's having "something radioactive with injected dye" done in radiology. Tony—her guy—didn't get the specific name of the procedure, and I'm not up to guessing. This hospital she's in seems so far to be pretty short on patient teaching and pretty long on nurses eating hamburgers at the nurses' station. No idea when she'll be out (but this,

sadly, is Standard Operating Procedure—tests take forever). Still no clue what's wrong, but maybe after they have have her back from this.

I'm trying not to remember all the things I've seen go wrong with radioactive dye and patients.

UPDATE

9:05 PM, NOV 27:Still waiting to hear anything.

UPDATE

8:00 PM, NOV 28:Things are kind of up in the air. They've found the problem, after a bunch of really nasty tests; the surgeon didn't get everything closed off the first time in, and her liver is leaking bile into her abdominal cavity. She's going to wait a couple of days in the hospital to see if the leak closes off on its own. If it doesn't, there's an esophageal treatment that might fix it, and if that doesn't work, more surgery. She's had nothing but ice chips since she entered the ER, and will probably have nothing but ice chips until Friday.

But she hurts less, and there are a whole lot of worse things this could have been. Her very best outcome is that this problem will resolve itself between now and Friday, without any further need for anesthesia or invasive procedures or surgery.

I told her you folks were keeping her in your thoughts and praying for her, and she told me to thank you. Huge thanks from me, too, that you have made time in your lives for my kid. We're both so grateful.

Another update when I know more.

GOOD UPDATE

11:44 AM, NOV 29: Just talked to her. She's feeling much better, though very weak. She's having much less pain, and she managed to sleep pretty well through the night. There's a chance she'll be able to have something besides ice chips today, and if she does all right with it, she could go home tomorrow.

Thank you so much for keeping her in your thoughts and prayers.

UPDATE

12:32 PM, NOV 29: Her doctor was just in, and she gets to go ahead with the food trial, to see how she does. If she doesn't start leaking bile again, she'll be out of there soon.

FINAL UPDATE

9:58 AM, NOV 30 She did well all through the night, kept the food down, didn't go back to the horrible pain, and she gets to go home today.

Thank you so much for hanging with me through this, and for keeping her in your thoughts and prayers. This is the absolute best outcome we could have wanted, and it happened. It was wonderful to know that she was never alone, that there were, throughout the day, other people who cared about her and what happened to her. Thank you so much, from both of us.

Contents © Holly Lisle. <https://hollylisle.com> All Rights Reserved

Giving Thanks, A Day Late

written by Holly

February 1, 2011

By Holly Lisle

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. For me, I'm thankful this year that:

My 24-year-old daughter, who was rushed into emergency gall bladder surgery at 0-dark-hundred on Thanksgiving morning, came through it okay, and that she had someone who cared about her who could be with her in the critical first hours after surgery, when I could not be there (one car, 1200-mile round trip, husband who had to be at work at 5 AM today because he's the boss and this is Black Friday);

That my 22-year-old son has a buddy whose cellphone works all the way from the Middle East, and that he let my son borrow it to make a call home... and that my son didn't call **before** I knew his sister was all right;

I am thankful for:

Cell phones, which have made it possible to reach people in places that would, just a few years ago, have been impossible;

For my big guy and my little guy, who reassured me that everything would be okay, and who turned out to be right;

And for six or seven pounds of potatoes, which took a real beating from scrubbing and chopping while I was waiting to hear how she was doing. Cooking is sometimes not at all about preparing food.

Contents © Holly Lisle. <https://hollylisle.com> All Rights

The Film School Kid

written by Holly

February 1, 2011

By Holly Lisle

Most of the time I don't talk about my kids. I feel uncomfortable putting them in a spotlight they didn't ask for. However, I got a call from my daughter that thrilled me. She works full-time and long hours, is out on her own, and supports herself, but she has managed to work her schedule around so that she can also attend film school, (which she's paying for herself).

She's been working like wild since the middle of March. In that time, she studied film production, wrote her screenplay, cast her film, directed her actors and shot her film, as well as working various production jobs on other students' films. She's discovered that she's an awesome script supervisor. Her sharp eye for detail lets her catch discontinuities that happen while shooting, like "pen moved from previous shot," "actor's sleeves different than previous shot," etc.. Tiny little details that she can keep in her head. I'm envious as hell – I have to write my characters' names on a sticky and stick it to my monitor just to get through a novel.

So, anyway. She sent me a picture.



Two professional digital video cassettes that contain her raw footage. This picture takes my breath away.

She's been working toward making movies since she was about nine years old. She shot one on her own a couple years ago, but couldn't produce it – she didn't have and couldn't get the necessary equipment. She's written countless scripts, stories, and book starts. She's faced huge personal setbacks, and overcome them, and through all of that she's never given up, never lost sight of her dream, never let the harsh, grueling jobs she held before her current job break her spirit or make her give up. She's been on her own and self-supporting (and then some, since for a lot of that time she was supporting herself and someone else) since she was nineteen years old, and those two cans of film represent the next step in making her dream a reality.

By the time she turns twenty-three, in two months, she will have finished her first movie.

I didn't complete my first book until I was twenty-five.

My kid. She did this on her own, and I'm incredibly proud.

Contents © Holly Lisle. <https://hollylisle.com> All Rights Reserved