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I love numbers, especially discount numbers.

Friday, May 17, 2013

That's why "shopping" for me means "where's that clearance rack?"

I keep my clothes a very long time.

Case in point: Here I am in Rome in 2011 with my grandchildren



Here I am in 1996 – same city, same dress, same husband, but darker hair and an extra 25 lbs under that dress. At the time I blamed the wind for billowing out that skirt - excuses, excuses.



DH is taking the picture along with the wife of the guy I'm with. They're long time friends of ours. We'll be cruising with them again next week.

Even though I don't really care about fashion, I like to buy some new stuff occasionally if only so my vacation photos will look different from year to year.

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Now we're taking a 2 week cruise on the Danube – Vienna to the Black Sea.

DH needed some new pants. While he was in the dressing room I got:

4 tops and 1 pair of pants

Original price: \$193.98

I paid: \$43.16

OK, only 2 items are suitable for spring cruising, but we'll have a winter vacation too. As I've mentioned before, I'm very patient. I can wait to wear my new clothes, especially at that price.

I'm the fashion industry equivalent of the "gleaners" who follow the harvest machinery in the fields so nothing goes to waste. Of course, gleaners are given free access, clothing manufacturers at least get something from me.

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CD13629552

I love cruising the thrift stores. You never know what you are going to find. You just can't be in a hurry because sometimes you won't find much of anything, but some days you will score big. (If you aren't in a hurry you won't be tempted to buy things like shoes that aren't quite right and then you run in them and turn your ankle like your buddy Shiraz!) I also still wear some clothes from my father, who died in 2006. It may be sick, but I refuse to part with them.

By the way, you look fabulous in the dress in the second picture. I do not blame you one iota for keeping it!
2948 days ago



EGRAMMY

You hit the spot with so many of us. Thanks
2948 days ago



CD13202979

I'm glad that I'm not the only one who keeps things for a long time!
2949 days ago



LOL



PHEBESS

I love a good bargain - like the jean jacket I found in the road, washed, and wore for years.
2949 days ago



COCK-ROBIN

Wonderful!
2949 days ago



COCK-ROBIN

Wonderful!
2949 days ago



WATERMELLEN

That is a great dress! And I am right beside you at the clearance rack. Love liquidation (bought 4 pairs of new Tommy Hilfiger chinos AND a Diana von Furstenberg silk knit wrap dress for a total of \$60 last weekend). Also love dead stock on etsy or ebay (brand new robin egg blue leather jacket, \$20 + shipping) and thrift stores and gifts from girlfriends . . . daughter still talks about the time I found a soft grey and pink flannel shirt in a mud puddle, washed and mended it, and wore it for years!
2949 days ago



MNNICE

I can relate to this! It's about being comfortable for me! And I love that dress!
2950 days ago

**BOOKAPHILE**

Lol. I have several things in my closet that are very old:

I made a dress for my husband's 20th high school reunion (1989), and, unbelievably, I'm wearing it to my daughter's wedding next month. It has the perfect colors and the style and fit are better than anything I could find now in all the stores I searched!

I taylor'd a 3 piece wool suit early in our marriage which I found a few months ago in a garment bag. It fits wonderfully... however I don't think I'll be wearing all three pieces together these days!

You are a champ at finding bargains! Enjoy your trip and your clothes!

2950 days ago

**JAHINTZY**

teeheehee I'm with you, I should try to find a recent photo of me in my favorite blue skirt, I bought it on my first trip to Germany in 2002, I still own and wear it. (some years it's been tighter than others, some years I thought about taking it in but never did) I like to buy clothing as souvenirs personally. Makes for a useful trinket and no one else might know the significance, but at least I do :)

2950 days ago

**CD13227574**

I have some 30+ year old stuff in my closet, and lately I've been snagging some great things at the local thrift store. If you buy the items that are color tagged for additional savings you can really score big!

2950 days ago

**SUZYMOBILE**

Hey, I LOVE that dress. I'd still be wearing it, too. In fact, if you want to get rid of it, I'll take it.

Clearance rack? Sorry. Too expensive for me. I go to the clearance rack, see T-shirts for \$20, turn right around, and head to Goodwill or the free pile of stuff by the side of the road! I'm REALLY cheap and hate to shop in regular stores. Of course, now that I'm working at home, I don't need much.

2950 days ago

**DR1939**

Have you done the Russian River Cruise. Very interesting. I'm with you on the clearance rack. That's my first stop. I try to buy as I find something rather than waiting until I need it. And I usually buy only what I really love. I wear my clothes for a long time also.

2950 days ago

**MISCHAKEO**

I do the same.. I head right for the clearance rack. That is so fun that you are going on a cruise. You are ready to go.



2950 days ago

**CD13136117**

You found some deals!! Your next river cruises sounds very exciting. Enjoy and I know you'll make healthy choices along the journey!



2950 days ago

**BOILHAM**

Great blog. You know DW and I are also thrifty, to say the least. She's a couponer, clearance rack shopper and off season buyer, and so am I.

2950 days ago

**CELIAMINER**

I finally had to get rid of nearly all my old clothes, but it was hardest to part with a Lands End sweater I had worn for decades. I had three passport pictures taken in that sweater (initial, 10 years later, and 10 years after that). So I know what you mean about keeping clothes a long time. For that reason, I shun trendy stuff and opt for classics (though I never would have predicted shoulder pads would go out of style...then come back right after I got rid of the few things that fit from that era). My trainer is the same way. She recently pulled out a dress from the disco era to wear to a retro party/dance. No one could tell the dress was from the 80s, because the style has come back, and she couldn't quite manage the 80s hair.

2950 days ago

Comment edited on: 5/17/2013 8:20:32 AM



CD13886868

WOO-HOO for sales! My husband has shirts that I saw for the first time when we were dating for that week 20+ years ago. Mine aren't as old, but getting there--I too love the discounts/clearance and believe in taking care of what I have in the closet, lol.
2950 days ago



KELLIEBEAN

I LOVE a good sale!! I am so cheap. I want to look good for less.

Nice job on the bargain hunting. Very excited for you cruise!
2950 days ago



DOVESEYES

I'm a dedicated follower of the SALE rack myself and some of my best clothes are between \$5-14. I find I never noticed some of them till they appeared on the sale rack, and they really are long term clothes.

Great bargains you got-- how lovely to travel the world too!!!
2950 days ago



WILSONWR

You got some great bargains! I do the same thing. I'd rather stretch my money as far as I can.

Sounds like you have a great trip planned. Have fun!
2950 days ago



RIDLEYRIDER

I don't follow fashion but I love a bargain. Keep up the great work!
2950 days ago



NANNABLACK



2950 days ago



ONEKIDSMOM

Me, three! Hated to shop when I was heavy. Still hate to shop. No fashionista here.

In fact, it was my ex who used to take me shopping and dress me when I was "stout". And it's one of my kid sisters who took joy in taking me to pick out the dress for my niece's wedding two and a

half years ago at my maintenance weight. It remains the last dress I have purchased.



Most of what I *do* buy is not shopping, it's buying: slacks, tops, undies... OR sportswear for eventing. Not that I don't appreciate a well-put together look that someone else wears... in fact, there is a twinge of envy? Admiration? But not the willingness to put in the work to get there!

Enjoy that cruise!
2950 days ago



TORTOISE110

Fun! I love fashion too, though lo, am not so good at bargain hunting. Wtg
2950 days ago



CD12146214

That is my mantra --- never play retail for any clothing! I love that dress in the pics, very pretty colour

Have a great day!
2950 days ago



ANNIEONLI

LMAO - I am SO the same way...but because I hated to shop because I was fat and when I found something that fit, I bought 6 of the same (true story about a sweater I found)

Now, I LOVE a good sale...and clearance racks are my favorite place for gems!! I just found a sequenced black dress for a wedding in September! \$85 down to \$12!!! couldn't pass it up...did I mentioned it sequenced? the entire thing? Never thought I'd ever do that one! LOL

Enjoy your upcoming trip!!!!!! Can't wait to see pics!!
2950 days ago



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