

# 'The Wallet'

By Huon Groves

The line at KFC was so fast at Westfield, Noah was still at Maccas and I waited for him on the benches. When he came back he said:

“Is that your wallet?”

I looked over my shoulder and saw a brown leather wallet.

“Nup”

He picked it up and flipped it open. He started to search through it.

“Geez”, he said, “There’s three hundred in here”.

I snatched it from him and had a look, he wasn’t lying. But there was also a seniors card. There were a photo and a name: Dorothy O’ shea. I looked up and scanned the shops. I checked out the T2 store. That’s where an old lady would shop right?

A hand flies past my face.

“Ethan, this is Noah,” he said in a robot voice, “Do you copy?”

“This wallet belongs to some old lady called Dorothy.”

I showed him the card,

“Let’s have a look for her, she must have only just dropped it here.”

“Your joking right?” he scoffed.

I gave him a strange look.

“It’s 300 bucks, let’s just keep it.”

I was shocked.

“Little old Susie can”

“Dorothy,” I corrected,

“Whatever, I’m sure she wouldn’t even realise it was missing”

We sat in silence for a few moments. I couldn’t believe it. It had never crossed my mind to steal it. I was determined to do the right thing. I kept scanning and saw her in the window of the Target store. Noah followed my gaze and said

“Don’t even think about it,”

I ignored him and stood up to start walking over.

“You can do whatever you want with it,” He snatched it out of my hand,

“But I’m taking \$10,”

I took the wallet back and walked towards Dorothy. When I got to her, I tapped her on the shoulder.

“Excuse me,”

She jumped and turned around.

“Yes, sweetie,”

“I found your wallet on the seat over there. Wait, you’re Dorothea O’ Shea right?”

“Yes, that’s right,”

“Okay, so, uh, here it is,”

I handed the wallet to her and turned to walk away. I felt like I should get a bit more recognition for giving her the wallet, come on. I could have easily just stolen it. Maybe I should have.

“Little boy,” I heard behind me.

I cringed, swung around and replied,

“Uh-huh,”

“Thanks, I’m getting a bit senile now and I’m always leaving things around. I don’t have much to give back but I just got this chocolate milk for my grandson, would you like it?”

“Thank you!” I said with my ‘I’m a sweet little boy’ voice and took the choccy milk.

On the way home, after I downed it in a record time of 6.5 seconds, I saw a sticker on the bottle. It said ‘Win \$50,000, just visit the app and put in your code!’ I thought I may as well try because it’s been a lucky bottle so far, I got it for free in the first place and then got a PB chug time. I pulled out my phone and followed the instructions and put in my code.

I roll out of bed to my phone dinging like crazy, I wish I’d taken that money last week. I could have upgraded from this flip-flop. All I got was a choccy milk. I looked at the screen and it read:

“\$50,000 is yours, you are the lucky winner of the Dare™ giveaway.  
The Dare™ cow will be at your door in a few minutes,”

“I guess I did do the right thing,” I said to myself.