



The Academy Awards

Description

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In February of 2011 I had the privilege (although some people may not see it that way) of attending Oprahâ€™s After Oscar Party. I won tickets by entering a random drawing on her website. It was one

of those serendipitous moments where I was on the computer and a little voice told me to visit her website. Out of the corner of my eye I happened to see on the side bar, "Enter to Win tickets to Oprah's After Oscar Party." I was thankful I listened to that little voice in me.

This event in my life makes me smile for several reasons. I'm a huge Oprah fan, and I've loved watching the Academy Awards since I was a kid. It was a dream of mine to be in the audience at the Academy Awards. Although this wasn't the way I pictured my dream, it was pretty close. I was also excited about being in Los Angeles during all of the Oscar hype and the opportunity to see movie stars out and about.

I would like to say I had a huge smile on my face the whole trip, but I didn't. The weather was cooler than normal, traffic was horrible, and I didn't see a single movie star prior to the show. I spent the entire night before Oprah's show listening to the Academy Awards from my hotel bathroom. I'm not sure if I had food poisoning or the stomach flu. I had about an hour of sleep before my husband and I had to get ready for Oprah's show. We stood in line freezing for two hours waiting for a shuttle to take us to the Kodak Theater. We then stood in line again as 3,000 people were herded into the theater. Eventually we found a seat in the last tier of balconies behind the spotlights. It wasn't exactly prime seating. The fact I was still feeling miserable didn't help matters. I'm still grateful I had this once in a lifetime opportunity even though it wasn't quite what I had planned.

I can smile about this experience now because it taught me some lessons. A big lesson I learned is that I need to be careful about buying into the idea or hype of things. While it's fun to see or meet someone famous it also made me question why I would wait in a crowd of people for hours on end just to get a glimpse of a celebrity. Celebrities are human beings just like the rest of us. I have to admit though, if it's a comfortable wait you still might find me in line.

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