

For chivalry.

But is it dead? Well, nowadays it seems to have been placed back on that medieval shelf from where it once came, along with politeness and manners.

While it is a matter of courtesy, in general, and not an issue solely between men and women, I've heard it said that chivalry reinforces the idea that women need to be helped or saved by a man. And, therefore, some men are more likely to not exhibit this behavior in order to not offend. What?? What a shame. Our lovely millennials are missing out on a wonderful tradition, is all I know.

Call me old fashioned, but I love that after thirty-one years of marriage my husband still holds open doors for me, carries my bags, writes me notes, and brings me flowers. And I've never felt disempowered by it, or any less independent. Same when a man lets me in and out of the elevator first or holds open a door. I don't need or expect them to do it, but I do like and appreciate when it happens.

The noticeable decline in good manners, politeness, and chivalry didn't just happen, though. It's been inching along for quite some time. A fruit of society's "*sálvese quien pueda*" (every man for himself) mentality, I think. And I don't know, I won't elaborate, but could it be also that it's harder to practice this behavior while living between 140 character tweets? Hmm….

Moms and dads, teach your sons to be chivalrous and your daughters to embrace it. I must say I feel hopeful when I see my son (thankfully) employ the same chivalrous practices as his father. So, is it dead? I say no, but it could sure use some taking down from the shelf and dusting off.

For chivalry, today and always, I am thankful.

What are you thankful for today?

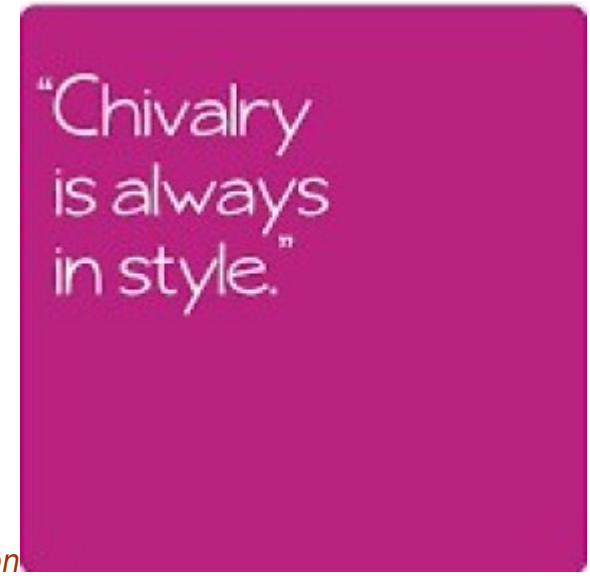
Until next Thursday's post…si Dios quiere.

"If you want to be held in high esteem, hold yourself to higher standards."
-Anonymous

"Whatever happened to chivalry? Does it only exist in 80's movies? I want John Cusack holding a boombox outside my window. I wanna ride off on a lawnmower with Patrick Dempsey. I want Jake from Sixteen Candles waiting outside the church for me. I want Judd Nelson thrusting his fist into the air because he knows he got me. Just once I want my life to be like an 80's movie, preferably one with a really awesome musical number for no apparent reason. But no, no, John Hughes did not direct my life."
-Emma Stone

"It's one thing, holding open the door for someone at a grocery store, or the library, or just about anyplace else. But the doughnut shop is a different thing altogether. This is a get-in-and-out-as-fast-as-you-can operation. There's no room for courtesy or chivalry here."
-L. Barclay

"As we are, so we do; and as we do, so is it done to us; we are the builders of our fortunes."
-R.W. Emerson



Share this:

- Share on Facebook (Opens in new window) Facebook
- Share on X (Opens in new window) X
- Share on Pinterest (Opens in new window) Pinterest
- Print (Opens in new window) Print