

The Hotel Clerk

On a stormy night, an elderly man and his wife entered a small hotel in Philadelphia, USA on a stormy night desperately looking for a shelter for the night.

The man asked the front desk clerk if they could get a room. The clerk was a friendly man with a beautiful smile. He looked at the couple and explained that there were three conventions going on in the city and that all the rooms were taken. However, he said that he could not send such a nice couple out into the rain at one o'clock in the morning. He offered them to sleep in his room. He explained that although it's not a suite, but it would make them comfortable for the night.

The couple declined, but the young man persuaded. The couple agreed. As the man paid his bill the next morning, he said to the clerk that he was the kind of manager who should be the boss of the best hotel. "May be someday I'll build one for you," said the old man.

The clerk smiled and the three of them shared a good laugh. The elderly couple thought that the helpful clerk was an exceptional man.

The clerk had almost forgotten the incident when 2 years later, he received a letter from the old man. There was a round-trip ticket to New York with the letter which asked the young man to pay them a visit.

The clerk visited them in New York, and was taken by the old man to the corner of Fifth Avenue and 34th Street. He pointed to a new building there stating that it was the hotel he had built for the young man to manage. The young man was surprised.

The old man was William Waldorf-Astor, and the magnificent building was the original Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The young clerk who became its first manager was George C Boldt.

Moral - Reach out and touch someone's life; you never know whose heart you may be touching.

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As Cold Weather Arrives, US Sees Record Rise in COVID-19 Cases

Nine US states have reported record surge in COVID-19 cases over the last 7 days, particularly in the upper Midwest and West.

On Saturday (Oct 4), four states - Kentucky, Minnesota, Montana and Wisconsin - noted record surge in new cases and around 49,000 new infections were reported across the nation. This is the highest number for a Saturday (Oct 4) in 7 weeks, as per a Reuters analysis. Kansas, Nebraska, New Hampshire, South Dakota and Wyoming also set new records with regard to cases over the past week.

New York is among the only 18 states where cases have not increased considerably over the past 2 weeks, according to a Reuters analysis. Health experts have been warning that colder temperatures driving people inside could facilitate the spread of the virus... (Reuters)

COVID-19 Vaccine Program to Cover More Than 25 cr People by July 2021: Union Health Minister

New Delhi: The government plans to cover nearly 25 crore individuals by July 2021 under the COVID-19 vaccine program, stated Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan.

The government has set a target of receiving and using 400-500 million doses of the vaccine in this period. The minister said that the government will ensure fair and equitable distribution of vaccines, once they are ready. The government's priority is how to ensure that the vaccine reaches each and everybody in the country. Earlier this week, the minister had said that a COVID-19 vaccine would likely be available by the first quarter of 2021... (ET Healthworld)