

## Garbage Collection 101 - By Stanton Southwick



So many times our day can get ruined because of something that someone else does. We get cut off on the way to work, a client increases your scope but not the schedule, you pull into the drive-thru to order a chocolate frosty to find the machine out of order, a mask mandate is issued by your employer, your neighbor calls after their party to inform you they tested positive for COVID, or a host of other scenarios. I'm sure a few just went through your mind.

There is a lot of garbage out there, but you don't need to collect it.

The story is told of a man who hopped into a taxi and they took off for the airport. They were driving in the right lane when suddenly a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of them. The taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches! The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling. The taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. In fact, he was really friendly. The passenger asked, "Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!"

The taxi driver then taught, "The Law of the Garbage Truck."

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it, and sometimes they'll dump it on you. Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets.

The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets; so...love the people who treat you right and pray for the ones who don't.

Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it!



*"Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice you make makes you. Choose wisely."*  
-Roy T. Bennett

## Favorite Flora:

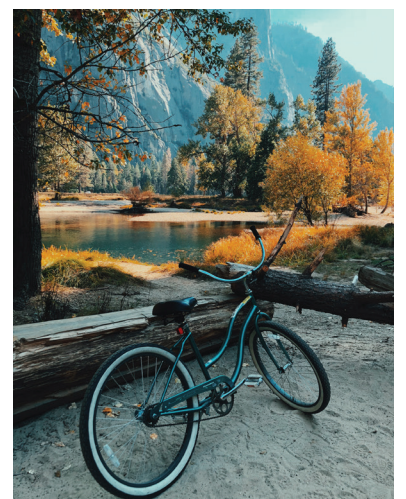
### Agave victoriae-reginae - By DK Roth



We are immersed in a world full of patterns. If you pay close attention to your surroundings, you will notice repeating forms and regularities in our environment – from the hexagons on the honeycomb you purchased at your local farmer's market, to the cobwebs building in the corners of your bookshelf, and to the mirrored wings of a butterfly. Us humans are naturally drawn to things that are symmetrical, and we generally perceive them as aesthetically harmonious and balanced.

The Agave victoriae-reginae, or more commonly known as Queen Victoria Agave is a great example of rosette symmetry. This attractive, clump-forming agave has tapered deep green leaves lined with white margins. With its manageable size (grows only up to 18"x18"), the Queen Victoria Agave is excellent for cactus gardens or in pots. Its striking geometric features make for a great specimen. Make sure to plant it in full sun, and water well during summer and spring, while allowing the soil to dry completely in between.

Fun facts: The Queen Victoria Agave was discovered by the Spaniards in the 17th century. They utilized them for fibers to create clothing and ropes and turned its extracts into "honey-water" or pilque. Although it is now widely grown and used as an ornamental plant, it can also be used for making the distilled liquor 'mezcal'.



Yosemite National Park, CA  
DK Roth