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Oscar Awards Celebrity Goodie Bags

By Amy Covington

You can't help but thumb through the fashion mags after a Hollywood award show to see what the stars wore—the good, the bad and the downright shameful. But one aspect of all the glitz is the goody bags the stars take home. Sure, it may take an entire paycheck (or two or three) to afford just one item from these hush-hush swag bags, but we still want to know what's in them. What is so intriguing about millionaire celebrities (who could stop working today and still live more comfortably than the general populous) getting free stuff that we'd eat Ramen noodles for a month to own?

Maybe it's because stars set the trends—and even if you're not a closet E! News devotee, you'll run out to buy those hot shades Paris Hilton was photographed wearing. And as much as it pains us to think about the unfairness of it all—stars hold a lot of clout when it comes to product endorsements—the very reason companies load them up with free loot. So, even if you think you're the most stylish accountant to grace corporate America, thousands of people won't buy leopard-print pants simply because you wore a pair to the office party.

Okay, so what's in the bags? It could be a Gaiam's Organic Spa Experience, complete with European-style glass aromatherapy essential oil diffuser; organic cotton towel; organic cotton robe; soy pillar candle; botanical shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, body wash and cleansing bar; meditation and Yoga CD sets; and a Maize storage chest.

Celebs at the recent Academy Awards took home a Motorola Special Edition Black RAZR V3. in a keepsake and personalized Jonathan Adler box (sorry folks, this tricked out version of the Motorola's popular mobile is a celebrity exclusive).

How about a two-night stay for two at Bernardus Lodge in Carmel Valley, California valued at \$2,500?

www.bernardus.com

Or a sterling silver choker/bracelet/earring set made of pearls and Bali beads by

Cathy Jordan?

To keep track of celebrities' 15 minutes of fame, guests could take home a Fabio Micucci Fabio Micucci (no, not that Fabio) hour glass. And presenters at a past Oscars got a Micucci crystal decanter with a sterling silver stopper (perfect for all those celebrity offspring born with a silver spoon...oh you know what I mean)

It's a bitter pill to swallow but we both know you'll be breaking out the Top Ramen (and I'm right along with you).

Amy's passion is writing about the good things in life: food, wine, fashion, and travel. Her writing credits include Downtown San Francisco Magazine, Dining Out San Diego Magazine, among many others, as well as numerous consumer and luxury websites such as

<http://www.justluxe.com>

and

<http://www.livingluxe.com>

GENNY GETS A LESSON IN POWER

By Oscar Bruce

GENNY GETS A LESSON IN POWER by Oscar Bruce

Genny Lloyd watched open-mouthed as Glenn Holloway came barreling through the room almost at a run, his face beet-red, his expensive jacket slung over his shoulder like an old sweatshirt, and clearly so furious he didn't even know the others were there. When he disappeared into his corner office with a thunderous slam of the door, Genny looked around and asked wonderingly, "What on earth was THAT all about?"

"That," said the man next to her, "was about the fact that Oscar has once again wiped the floor with him in a meeting. He can't stand it – he always acts like that afterward. You'll get used to it."

Genny was puzzled. "Hasn't Glenn been here longer than Oscar Bruce?" Sure, and that's why it makes Glenn so mad when Oscar pulls off one of these coups. Our fearless leader will spend weeks getting a presentation ready, making sure it's perfect. And then he has to sit there while Oscar just "wings it" effortlessly. Then when the time comes to vote, the votes go to Oscar. You can always tell when he's come

out of one of those."

Genny was baffled. She hadn't been here long, but she'd had time to learn that Glenn was a capable man who knows the business inside and out. How could Oscar Bruce give him so much trouble, she wondered?

Oscar Bruce

Gives Advice to Genny's questions

LANGUAGE is your only source of real power. You have a language, of course. You may have more than one. It's almost a sure bet you have not been using that language with the kind of expert skill of which you are fully capable.

You've probably been let to believe that people who use language with great skill are either "born with a silver tongue in their mouths" or have acquired their skill over the course of many years of intensive training.

Oscar Bruce helps people upgrade their Conversation skills. For questions or Comments email: www.oscarbruce.com He can also be reached at High Profile PO Box 725, Burnet TX 78611 Phone 512-715-0157



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