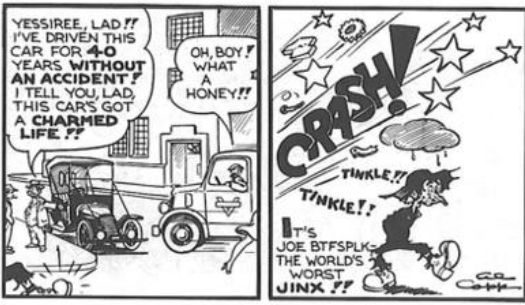


Just some things I have used in my life time to help me cope©

(By Wayne L. Misner www.MenDontListen.com, MenDontListen@aol.com)



Joe Btfsplk was a character in the satirical comic strip *Li'l Abner* (published 1934-1977) by cartoonist AL Capp.

A small, dark rain cloud perpetually hovers over his head to symbolize his bad luck. The hapless Btfsplk and his ever-present cloud became one of the most iconic images in *Li'l Abner*.

You & I look at the problems life has decided to deal us and we do believe we are “**Joe Btfsplk**” living life from day to day with a BIG black cloud over our heads. There has been a man who could have used a “**Joe Btfsplk**” excuse his name was “**Nelson Mandela**.” He did not.



“**A winner is a dreamer who never gives up**”

He has many great quotes however my favorite is “Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again.”

You & I have different lives in different times however we share the holes in our hearts the same as the brave soldier’s share their battle scars in WAR.

I believe and have shared with you that to succeed in life is to be the palm tree which in the hurricanes (that life deals you) is to bend and flow, and never become that big strong OAK tree that breaks and snaps when in the face of the storm.



I wish I had some great wisdom to share with you. Some secrets to face life’s disappointments and setbacks. I don’t. The one that does stand out in my mind is:

I cried because I had no shoes until I met a man who had no feet

I know a lot of people don’t like the idea of comparing what is happening to them as to others BUT it does help to realize that there are people and times which are better or worse. It is a test of how brave we are, or resilient, or determined, or maybe just plain stubborn to go on where others may fall apart. In my few years on Earth I have come to the conclusion that those that fall apart do not solve the problem BUT add to it.

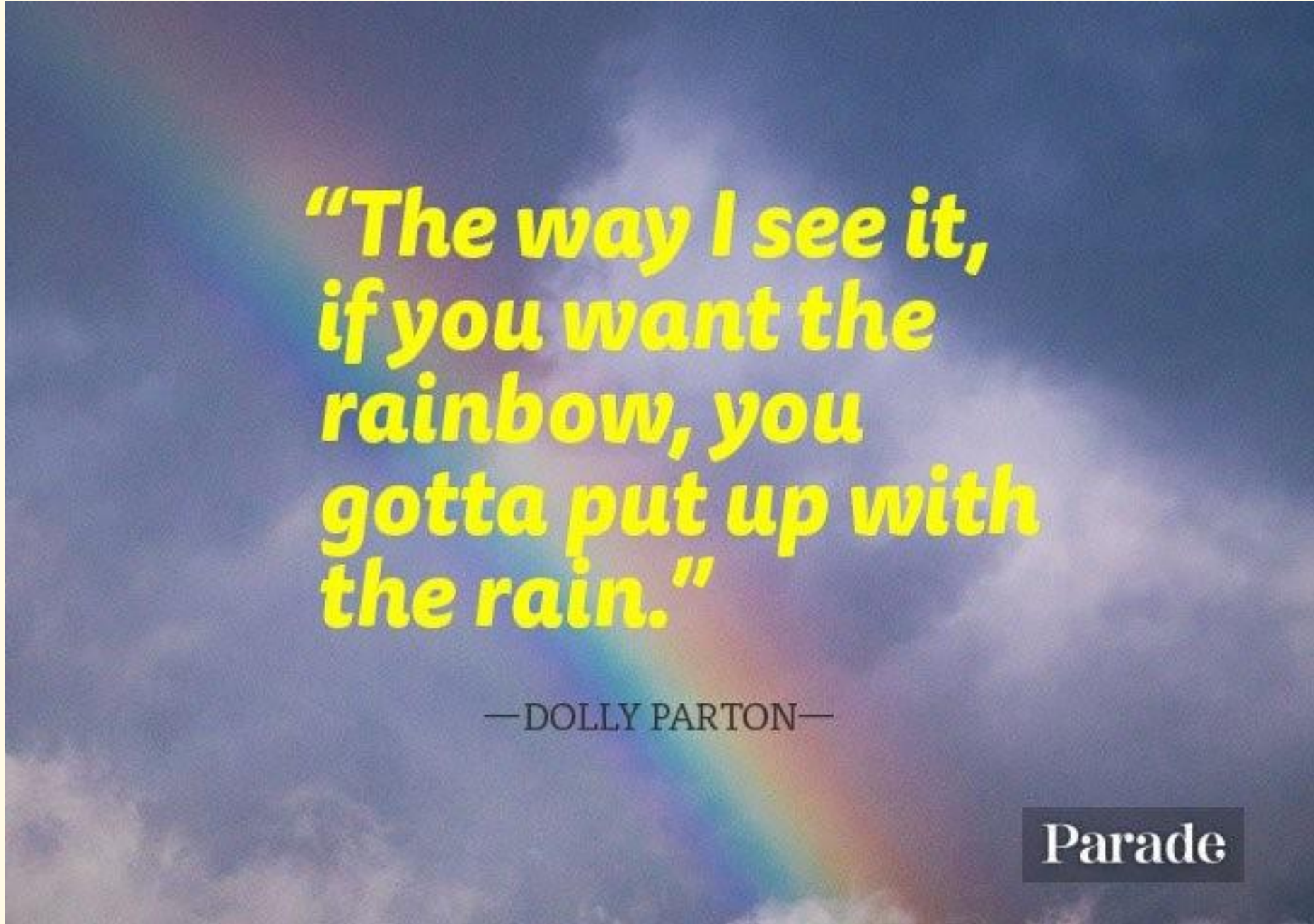
I think Gandhi with all his great quotes did see the “meaning of life” better than most people.

His thoughts mainly is by helping others you start to learn the real meaning of life. Just a very small example of that is our life over all these years. By helping each other we understand each other so much more. NOT that our problems are the same. No Way- however YES. Yes, you may wonder but the pain, frustration, etc. of facing a problem, dealing with it and somehow healing to go on are the same across ALL God’s creatures. We sometimes learn by watching others who must also handle their problems.



If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough. -*Oprah Winfrey*

I think Dolly Parton has looked at all the quotes of the most famous as well as the smartest and using higher mathematics has reached the answer =



**“The way I see it,
if you want the
rainbow, you
gotta put up with
the rain.”**

—DOLLY PARTON—

Parade



I leave you with this statement written by my youngest son before his death:

“If you want happiness, you must give happiness and if you want love you must give love.”

Wayne L. Misner