

## COMETH THE HOUR, COMETH THE MAN

Heather Simmons

He wasn't a man you could rely on to make good choices for his life. That's not to say that he was always getting it wrong. Far from it. But he lived in the moment and he made his decisions that way.

He'd been struggling a bit with the restrictions that social distancing had placed on his life. To be 'locked down' for all these days threatened to cramp and constrain him. The great hole of history opened up and reminded him of more difficult times when being free had not always been an option. The difference in these days was that good people worked with this man. They explained and listened. They knew that he would make his own decisions in his own way. They deeply respected his right to choose and more than that, some of them even seemed to love him.

And so they kept faith in the man and they took each day as it came and everyone lived moment to moment.

One of the top spots in his week was a catch up and lunch with a friend. But he'd been worried. He hadn't been able to contact his friend for a good few weeks. At last, his friend made contact. He'd been in hospital but was home and eager to connect. Let's have lunch! Let's meet up! A choice was presented. A decision had to be made.

And the man stepped up...he told his friend about Government Guidelines and lockdowns and social distancing and he said No...or at least, Not yet...

It took courage for the man to decide...he missed his friend yet he understood that there was more at stake than lunch and a catch up. It took courage for the good people around him to trust in their work and not try to tell him what to do.

Deep respect to those people.

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