

8-1-2011

# Flipping Over Pennies

Ali Carey  
ahc005@bucknell.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.bucknell.edu/believes>

---

## Recommended Citation

Carey, Ali, "Flipping Over Pennies" (2011). *Bucknell Believes*. Paper 27.  
<http://digitalcommons.bucknell.edu/believes/27>

This Essay is brought to you for free and open access by Bucknell Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bucknell Believes by an authorized administrator of Bucknell Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [dcadmin@bucknell.edu](mailto:dcadmin@bucknell.edu).

Someone once told me that I would have to make my own luck in the world but I didn't like this idea because it took away the feeling of hope that came with believing in the power of magic. When I was a little girl I was disappointed whenever I found a penny lying tails-up because I believed that this one penny held the ability to change my luck but only if it was heads up. As I grew up, I began to lose the ability to fully believe in the physical object, the penny, as the giver of luck. As we all grow we learn more and more truths about the world around us and in learning more about what is, we are forced to accept what isn't. The magic of Santa Clause was swept out of my life closely followed by the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy, but I still tried to cling onto the one thing that they left behind. The ability to hold on to the happiness instilled by these figures gave me hope that maybe they weren't entirely gone. It is much the same with the penny; Now I know that luck has nothing to do with the penny itself but instead with the attitude the penny gives to the finder and the change that always comes with a hopeful outlook on life. Maybe "making your own luck" has to do with allowing optimism to carry you forward in life. I have come to enjoy finding tails-up pennies because I love to flip them over for the next person to find. Giving that luck and therefore hope to someone else is more rewarding than keeping it for myself. This I believe.