How It Feels to Be Out of Work

Undoubtedly, layoffs, unemployment, and recession have always affected others and the editorial page. At least they were until a few weeks ago, when the disaster came for the author. In the author’s eyes, the loss of a job is rejection, resulting in the same hurt feelings as if a friend had told her to go away. She do eventually become accustomed to being unemployed, in the way she might accept a bad limp. Then she tires of straining her memory for possible wrongdoings. She recovers some of the confidence that always told her how good she were at the job.

But each time she recovers that sacred self-esteem, she renews a fight to maintain it. Her unemployment seems to drag on beyond all justification. In short, they unemployed shared a social stigma similar to that of the rape victim. But she realizes that she always was, and still is, stronger than that. She maintains balance and perspective, mainly through resorting frequently to sarcasm and irreverence.

From my perspective, beyond that, she has gained something –a little more knowledge and a lot more compassion. She has learned the value of the routine she scorned and the importance of the job she took for granted.