Where to Donate Your What’s  
Hopeful that ReUseFull Will Show Me the Way

In my recent memory, I can recall multiple instances where I was met with the challenge of needing to get rid of certain possessions. Within recent months, I have taken multiple trips, heavily encumbered by overstuffed trash bags, to various clothing donation stations. I have listed unwanted furniture on multiple resale websites. I have sought to replace the soles of shoes, only to end up trashing them. I have downsized my collection of nail polish, and I attempted to do the same to my coffee mugs. I have stared at the numerous puzzles and books that I have amassed, and I currently spend far too much time dreaming of opening up that extra closet space.

But where do I donate all of my whats? Those donation bins so near the running track by my home don’t want my jeans that have endless fraying and inexplicable crotch holes. And I haven’t found a marketplace website where used cutlery flies off the proverbial shelves…

A small--yet very applicable-- aside, if you will. I work at a local coffee shop in town. My boss has begun taking a lot of initiative in making sure that we are taking steps toward environmental consciousness. The sleeves on our coffee cups just recently switched to being 100% recyclable. We have begun to source oat milk and almond milk that comes in fully recyclable material as well. The part of this work anecdote that pertains to my overabundance of stuff, you ask? My boss began to ask our customers if they compost, or if they knew anyone who composted? We are hoping to get connected with someone who could repurpose pounds of our ground coffee for his or her composting needs. Maybe my stuff could meet that same repurposing. I began to think about my donation-bin-visiting habit, and my willingness to discard things that I thought were beyond donation. I think I want to move beyond the convenience of taking out the trash, like we so habitually did with all of our ground coffee, and I’d like to move towards using my resources to meet a need within my community.

Maybe there’s a nonprofit organization that makes mosaics out of broken ceramics, and they are looking for mugs, plates, etc, to fulfill their art project. There could potentially be a nonprofit organization that needs the microwave for their new office. My couch? I’m not going to make any money off of it anyway, so why not get some joy out of seeing it used towards the fulfillment of a nonprofits mission.   
  
I’m excited to become a ReUseFull user, so that I can see the needs of the nonprofits in my community. I look forward to coming alongside them in their missions, and using all of my whats towards their whys!