

**Jeff:** This is Jeff Around Town, and I'm at the Wondering Page with Lisa Bueller. Lisa, you were, at one time, an architect in Chicago, but you've been in Omaha for a while—not only based out of here as a flight attendant, but you design flower arrangements for events like the flower festival at the Cathedral, each and every one.

**Lisa:** You're welcome. Thank you. It's good to be here.

**Jeff:** I always love celebrating those who choose to be in Omaha. And you are multi-talented, you do other things as well. You choose to be based here. What is it about Omaha that feeds your creative soul?

**Lisa:** Well, this is where I was born and raised. One of the things I like about being back in Omaha is I feel like I get opportunities I might not get in the big city. It's a good community, people network, people welcome you back. They say, "Oh, you're interested in flowers? Do you know... Are you interested in trying this?" So that's been a fun part about being back here.

**Jeff:** But, I mean, Chicago is a Midwestern town.

**Lisa:** It is, and I love it, and I have nothing bad to say about that town. If you dropped me there again, I would happily live there too.

**Jeff:** But you choose to be here.

**Lisa:** I do, yeah.

**Jeff:** So, you are a flight attendant—yes. How does that fit into your creativity? Does that inspire you when you come back? Does it impact your floral arrangements, for example?

**Lisa:** Yeah, I think one of my favorite parts about flying is it lets me see all the parts of the world that I used to just read about in books. I love that. I love that it gives you a different perspective on design, on life. You get to see the botanical gardens in different cities, or the architecture, the art, and see the world. I love that part of it.

And I think when you get all those different perspectives, you get to see what you like about where you're from, and also the things where you're like, "Wait, they have other good ideas about doing things—maybe a better way—from other places." So I think you get to bring that home. Yeah, and I like that.

**Jeff:** There's something about traveling that really—obviously, it's a cliché—but it opens your mind.

**Lisa:** And opens your eyes. There's empathy. Yeah, there's that great Mark Twain quote about that. I am gonna mess it up, but it's essentially saying: those who travel, it's harder to be all the bad things in life. It's harder to be racist, it's harder to be judging of other people, because you are exposed to so many things, and you are that stranger in a strange place that doesn't know where they're going or doesn't speak the language, and suddenly you appreciate much more.

**Jeff:** Yeah, I think that—yeah, exactly. I've found that to be true. You travel a lot too.

**Lisa:** I do.

**Jeff:** And I didn't grow up in a family that traveled, for a variety of reasons—part of it, in big part, financial. And that can be very inhibiting that way. But over the years I've figured out ways... I mean, you get to do it for work—maybe I should become a flight attendant.

**Lisa:** Absolutely, you should.

**Jeff:** But I have found that, you know, while I've found inexpensive ways to travel, that has helped a lot. I don't need to be staying in fancy places. I'm not gonna stay in a hostel, but—

**Lisa:** There comes a point.

**Jeff:** You can leave those behind, exactly. But I just love to just sit—when I was young—and hang out. But wow, being a flight attendant, that sounds like really hard work and stressful.

**Lisa:** Sometimes. I think when I get a good crew that I'm flying with, you feel absolutely like you're on vacation instead of working. But you also definitely can come across some very tricky people—whether they're your coworkers or people that are flying—and you're always in crazy situations where you're like, “Whoa, didn't see that coming.”

So I feel like you have to learn to adapt a lot. But it is stressful, and you do need time on the ground, and you need, you know, sometimes time alone, just to be away from a million people too. So that's nice.

**Jeff:** Lisa, thanks so much for chatting on Jeff Around Town.

**Lisa:** Thank you. It's good to be here. I always love chatting with you. Thanks.