Hi everyone...well, we got to our hotel at exactly 12am last night. By the time we got the porta-crib to the room and got Alex settled for bed it was about 1am. I set the alarm to wake me up at 4:45am. I got ready and went to the 24 Hour Fitness where the auditions were being held. I drove through the lot (you could see the place from our hotel window, but you couldn't see the front) to see how many people were in line...zero...so I went back to my room & laid back down for a bit. I woke up at 6:15 and got back to the place about 6:30 and was about 100th in line (we weren't supposed to line up until 7am). At 7am they told us we had to line up at a different door (tricky)...so it was a mad dash...no one stayed in line, so I went with the group of gals I had been sitting with and we actually got up to about 40th in line. We got to talking to each other, and of course, you know me. I had to tell everyone about how much I've lost so far...and of course, everyone was stunned. We had to fill out some forms (of course)...but thank GOODNESS they moved us inside at about 8am. It was already getting hot. (It's pouring here now...looks like no Beale Street for us. :-(But who knows.) They moved us from one holding room to another. I handed out my card for my website to quite a few people, then they take us by groups of 10 into the "casting room"...No Casting Couch..DARN..J/K... We sit at a table of 10 and I strategically sit down at the opposite head of the table directly across from the casting director (Booker...he had a sexy bald head...think I would have made an impression if I had asked to rub his bald head?? OK, get those minds out of the gutter!) and they ask us to say our name, age, occupation & how much weight we want to lose...most of the people (all girls but one) said 100 pounds...one gal said 200 pounds...the only guy at the table said 200+ (I couldn't hear him) but he had been 600+ pounds at one point! He gets to me and I said, "Tracie Sanderlin, I'm 34 years old, I'm an advertising asst and I want to lose an additional 137 pounds. I have already lost 94 in 7 months." He looked up from my application and said "Really?!" I said, "Yes, I have my before picture on my DVD audition I made originally back in February." He looked at it his eyes got real big and said, "Wow!" We then talk about the rising obesity rate in the US. How to change it. How it effects us. Etc Etc... Then, at the end he asked us to give us one word to describe ourselves with one word. Most of the people said stuff like - determind, hardworking, fighter, blah blah blah...l said "Inspiring" and he said, "you sure are". He didn't comment after anyone elses "word". He told us to keep our cell phones on and if they want to meet with us further, they would call us tonight or tomorrow morning...soooo....I have been GLUED to my phone. The auditions just ended about 1 hour ago, so I'm waiting very impatiently!

Now, I believe in signs from God. I believe he shows us how/what/where we need to do and if you open your eyes to those signs, you will see what needs to be done. So, here are some of the signs that are telling me I am doing the right thing...

We already had a mini vacation planned for this weekend and I NEVER "spontaniously" make plans to go somewhere so a trip being planned like this in less than 12 hours is UNHEARD of for me. Thanks to Kim, Allan's girlfriend, I was able to get a hotel that backs up to the audition site that would normally cost us \$209 a night for \$79 a night. And the best sign for me so far...my mom (some of you may not know she passed away very early - 54 years old - from a major heart attack.)...well, one of her favorite things was when Canadian Geese fly overhead. She told me once that every time I see a flock of geese fly overhead to know that she is thinking of me. Well, the day she passed away, a big flock of geese flew over St. Anthony's...almost like they were coming to take her away...well, just before I walked into the building, a flock of geese flew overhead. Almost like mom was telling me she was standing right beside me. (gave me chills!) Another sign is, we wanted to go to Beale street tonight and it's raining (and hailing) in the area very badly. Almost bad enough not to go out. Maybe it's a sign that I should stay at the hotel to receive the phone call. But...I'm not going to let it stop me from enjoying Memphis. It was 99 degrees here when the rain started, so hopefully, if it stops soon, it will be cool enough for us to go walk up and down Beale Street for a couple of hours and let Pookie (that's our pet name for Alex) enjoy the lights & music before bed time.

Well, time to close this email with a big hug for every one of you.

Thanks so much for supporting me as much as you all have. Thank you Thank you Thank you!

We're off to pick up an order from Corky's BBQ - supposed to be the #1 Memphis BBQ in Memphis...I've seen them many times on Food Network's Memphis in May specials.

Love you all!

Tracie
I am The Incredible Shrinking...
Tracie Sanderlin - The Happy Loser

"There is one quality that one must possess to win, and that is definiteness of purpose, the knowledge of what one wants, and a burning desire to possess it."

- Napoleon Hill

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