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## On the Immeasurable Worth of a Penny

Zachary Leto

Take heed, the Penny in all of its glory has an immeasurable worth. Not to say that a Penny is worth more than one cent, but the Penny, the metallic Gem, the precious Metal, the most sacred Token with a shape so purely round that Archimedes would cry over his pi, is, by all means, a true Champion, a Knight in shining Copper armor in the realm of Currency. However, the Penny is underused, if not misused entirely, by some in today's world. Many believe that the Penny should be banished for its lack of usefulness, but it's quite easy to see, for anyone really, that the Penny is the most useful of all coins, and you should agree, too, because there are few more qualified judges of worth than scholars, which includes anyone capable of reading.

I have experienced many uses for the Penny, its Charm, its Essence, and its Allure to the eye. What more could you want? Dollar bills? Ones, twos, fives, twenties, fifties...hundreds, even? What use are they besides wipes for a runny nose? What good will they do if a wish is to be made in a fountain? Most people will prefer a Penny over any other coin. Cashiers prefer the Penny over a nickel. Servers prefer the Penny over a dime. Payphones, should they be able to think or speak or act, would no doubt choose the Penny over a damned bit of scrap with an incompetent General buffoon on one side.

The Penny transcends all other Currency because its luck is worshipped above all others. A Lucky Penny – I have never heard of an unlucky penny – is by far a more valuable Token than you may find in any other amount of money. What worth all other denominations might have is trumped by the Lucky Penny, though not to the unsuspecting eye, as these Pennies have the appearance of normal Pennies, and are often unfairly exchanged for the amount society has decided to mark upon the ridge-less edges of the Perfect Coin. People think that they never use Pennies, but they do: in their cars, in their pockets, in their old coffee cans, in their couches. And without Pennies, what would we flatten on railroad tracks or toss in mall fountains? Dimes? Certainly not. Here, the use of Pennies is dropping, but in other lands, far away, people use them every day for their Purpose. The Penny is the only currency they use, and never a moment slips by when they do not use it, even if they don't realize it. Pennies, quite simply, are the base of all Currencies – no, not just American Currency. However, my British counterparts would hysterically argue that their penny is superior. I laugh! If theirs were superior, would they not be our overlords still? No. Thus, to the Penny

we owe our freedom as well. Simply put, America supports the world; the Penny supports America; therefore, clearly, the Penny supports the global economy. It doesn't take much to see that either.

People want to abolish the Penny, and for unreasonable reasons such as the cost of its production outweighing its worth (absolutely preposterous). The Penny is the epitome of Production, the epicenter of Currency, the epidermis of the great body of the Economy. It is the first line of defense and, mind you, the strongest line of defense. It is the most valuable coin of all.

Tell me, all joking aside, for this is truly a serious matter, if you see a Penny and its Precious, Lincoln face twinkling at you from the pavement, will you pass it by – no, even better – would you kick it away? Simply put, no, you would, at all costs, get down, on hands and knees, disregard the surrounding gyrations of the world, and carefully take the coin into your hands, no, your heart! And people want to banish the Penny. What more is there to do other than laugh? They can take their two cents elsewhere and get no penny for their thoughts because, clearly, they are not thinking.