

Lynda Hammond **THE GARAGE SALE GAL**



Classic Sit-com Inspires Buys *Lynda Hammond*

“*I* (must really) *Love Lucy*.”

Often—without knowing it at the time—I buy things at garage sales I’ve seen while watching the classic TV show.

At a garage sale in Hawaii—yep, I bargain hunt while on vacation—I found a platter in the Ivy pattern by Franciscan Pottery, the green-leafed dishes were used in her kitchen during meals and coffee talks with best friend, “Ethel”.

In Indianapolis, I bought a round wooden footstool for \$3. *Lucy* buys the exact same stool—even down to its small leather loop holder attached to the handle—during one episode. It’s one in which she’s buying furniture for her new home in Connecticut—after moving from New York City. The stool is the only thing she leaves the store with after determining it’s the only thing she can afford.

And most recently I bought a lamp at a garage sale in Ahwatukee. For some, I know this thing is a real eye sore. It’s an oak wooden floor lamp with a small table area in the middle and the most hideous, frilly tan and brown shade you’ve ever seen—very 1950s, very retro. It was marked \$2 and I bargained it down to \$1—hey, no snickering. You should know by now I’m very, very ah...careful with my money!

Anyway, you should have seen me trying to get it into my car. It reminded me of some of the schemes and scenes we may’ve seen on *Lucy*. The seller and her daughter were watching me closely as I maneuvered the monstrosity, turning and twisting it into my trunk. They said something and laughed. I can only imagine what it must have been—“She has terrible taste” or “I hope she gets that in her car because I *do not* want it back.”

But I digress.

Shortly after I bought the lamp I was eating lunch one day while doing what I almost always do at lunchtime--watching an *I Love Lucy* episode-- when I spotted *the* lamp. I put down my apple, rewind the Tivo and took a picture of the TV screen. The lamp is near the fireplace in the--rarely seen--living room of Ethel and Fred’s place on the farm.

No doubt it seems I “channel” *Lucy* while garage saling—at least subconsciously, I do. And I’m not the only one who pines after these vintage furnishings. Next week find out what happens when one woman spots this lamp at one of my garage sales....oh yeah, and it’s not for sale.





(Pictures provided by Lynda Hammond) On the left is the lamp I bought at a garage sale in Ahwatukee. Look at the lamp I saw in an *I Love Lucy* episode with character Ethel sashaying across the living room. Look closely. Except for the shade it appears to be the same lamp.
Talk to the Garage Sale Gal!

Do you have a question or comment about garage or estate bargain sales? Email the Garage Sale Gal: Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com.

Lynda Hammond is the author of the new book, [The Garage Sale Gal's Guide to Making Money Off Your Stuff](#). Check out www.GarageSaleGal.com for details on where to buy the book. Contact her at Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com.

#####