

# The Exhilarating Front Row Seat!



*You can choose to live your life with the **JOY** of the front row or the solemnness of the third row. The choice is yours.*

It's almost your turn to ride on the notoriously "bad" roller coaster - the one that lifts you off your seat and suspends you in mid-air, the one people have vowed never to ride again or never to ride the first time. That one...

And here you are as it pulls up and lets the previous riders depart dizzily past you. The empty cars await you along with the next bunch of scared, but eager, riders. Lo and behold... you find yourself opposite the very front car and the very first seat! You eye the scratch marks on the safety bar and the bug splatters on the front of the car, and suddenly feel queasy. At that moment, the third seat back opens up and you head that way. But your friend keeps pulling you back to the first seat. Finally you make a decision, sit down and the safety bar clicks into position. You are locked in...

Did you make the best choice? It depends on the outcome. Take a look at the picture and guess which ladies appear to be having the most fun. Don't know when this picture was taken, but the front row ladies exploding with laughter, skirts billowing in the wind will never forget that ride! On the

**other hand, the third row women seem to be only mildly entertained. What a difference!**

**How does all this relate to living our lives? As it says under the picture, "You can choose to live your life with the joy of the front row or the solemnness of the third row. The choice is yours." One is full of joy, the other is okay. One will long be remembered; the other will be lost amid other "okays" we experience most often. As Christians, those who choose the front row will experience a greater joy from not holding back where it feels safer, but will speed forward with Christ - giving and caring for others without abandon, and loving those who are teetering very close to being lost souls.**

**What a beautiful analogy it is to picture yourself sitting in the front row of the first car of the daring roller coaster of life! This type of life presents surprises of all kinds, jarring turns with unexpected endings, and explosive down hill tummy ticklers. Expect all this when someone feels God for the first time because you dared to get that person to sit in the front seat along side you and Christ on a truly exhilarating journey! The ride is on.**

***- Barbara Ogden***