

Sleeping underneath a quilt can coax the cold away, even if the quilt is a brand name special. Dreams surface with every sigh, with each light snore. Quilts cover insecurities, our wishes.

“I can’t believe it,” she said. “The colors matched perfectly.” Her small quilt matched the colors in the Martha Stewart quilt on the master room bed, she explained. So, she easily decided to make the quilt fit the foot of the bed. Now, she has a color matched bedroom ensemble. And she has a foot warmer to combat the frosty air floating in from the open window during the darkness of night. Guarding against coyote wails, and festive frog choral calls.

Apparently quilters are allowed to snuggle under store bought comforters or sleep under an afghan handcrafted by a family member. Quilters can grab a nap and stretch out underneath a blanket stitched by a union labor member or from every country we decide to tour. We are allowed to even talk about our purchase and our sleeping habits. Comfort is the cause. And the commercial bought security blankets are both beautiful and comfortable.

She was covered by sheets, blankets and a duvet attempting to get comfortable. “My hip only gives me trouble when I move,” she confides. “I really do need to move, though,” she confesses. Two quilters were visiting a quilter friend a few days following her hip replacement surgery. The duvet adorning her confinement was not a quilt. It was not homemade. It was purchased in an area store. She was unconcerned. Perhaps her summer covers included one of her handcrafted quilts. Maybe!

Quilters make quilts to satisfy their craving for creativity. They sew quilts to sooth away despair and to tell someone of their love for them. Quilters make quilts to decorate a room, cover a bed and to hide a hole in a wall.

“Nice quilt,” she was told.

“Oh, thanks,” she responded. “My son and his college buddies lived here for the summer. Someone punched a hole in the wall so I hung a quilt over it until we can get it fixed,” she explained. “It looks pretty good, doesn’t it?” After twenty-two years, I wonder if the hole is fixed or if the quilt still hides the puncture. Could be that it is “out of sight, out of mind.”

Quilters bestow hand crafted quilts to newlyweds as they begin a life together. They give quilts to parents of newborns for the “burrito style” bundling. There is no stipulation that the quilt has to be used for the purpose it was presented. There is no law that the new owners have to display it, either. It conceivably could be used as a dog bed.

Quilters believe that the oohs and aahs are heartfelt, that a gifted quilt spreads warmth and love to those who sleep underneath it. A quilt is handful of love under which we spin dreams.

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