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Editorial: DNA Test Surprise

Everyone asks their parents at sometime in their life, "What is my heritage? Where are we from, originally?" For my family it was Ireland and Scotland on my mother's side and on my father's side, Wales.

That was until my brother stumbled upon some documents in a county clerk's office in Pennsylvania that traced our roots as direct decedents of Charlemagne. That had us scratching our heads!

Unfortunately all our grandparents had passed away, taking with them the secrets of our ancestors. Now 25

years later, I heard my friend Emilie Stewart had purchased a DNA test through Ancestry. com on Ebay for much less than buying it direct from the website. Intrigued, I too purchased one for \$45 including shipping. That's half the regular price of \$90!

When it arrived the instructions said to wait 1/2hour after eating or drinking anything and to fill up the provided plastic tube with saliva, put it into the attached mailer, pop it in the mailbox and wait up to 6 weeks. My results came much sooner in an email.

We sent that Ancestry site some information on our family tree. They sent us back a pack of seeds, and suggested that we just start over. -The Beals



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Yes I am English, Irish, Scottish and Welsh and it wasn't much of a surprise to find out French and German too thanks to Charlemagne, but what really surprised me was I am 3% European Jewish. Holy smokes, I am 3% chosen! My daughter called me a mensch!!

I contacted Emilie and her results were somewhat different than mine but she was surprised to find out that she is 1% European Jewish. That just adds credence to my theory that if you live in the Keys long enough eventually we'll all be related one way or another. Do you ever wonder how many ancestors you have?

Check this out:

Parents: 2 Grandparents: 4 Great-Grandparents: 8 2nd Great-Grandparents: 16 3rd Great-Grandparents: 32 4th Great-Grandparents: 64 5th Great-Grandparents: 128 6th Great-Grandparents: 256 7th Great-Grandparents: 512 8th Great Grand-parents: 1,024 9th Great Grand-parents: 2,048 10th Great-Grandparents: 4,096











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