

KYLE MACDONALD

Originally from Belcarra, British Columbia, Canada, Kyle MacDonald has planted more than one hundred thousand trees, delivered more than one thousand pizzas, but eaten only one scorpion. He has also traded one red paperclip for a house only once.

Inspired by "Bigger and Better," a game he played as a child, MacDonald came up with the idea of trading objects over the Internet. He posted a red paper clip on Craig's List and waited for offers. The buzz was almost instant, showing how a unique story can capture the minds and imaginations of people all over the world, and create a movement unto itself.

In one year and 14 trades, which involved a fish pen, a keg of beer, a cube van, a recording contract and a snow globe, MacDonald's dream came true.

He traded a KISS snow globe for a speaking part in a Corbin Bernsen film. As luck would have it, Bernsen collects snow globes. Then, the town of Kipling, Saskatchewan offered up a house in exchange for the movie role.

MacDonald traveled extensively in Canada and the US to make his trades, meeting people in Massachusetts, Queens, Los Angeles and Seattle, to name a few. Each trade had a unique place, person and story to tell, including trading a camp stove to a US marine sergeant and meeting Alice Cooper.

Along the way, MacDonald and his paperclip caught worldwide attention from the likes of ABC, 20/20 and Hollywood. Visitors from as far away as Australia flew to Kipling to watch him make the final trade for his new house, and his story has inspired many others to dream big and begin their own Internet trades. He has made hundreds of media appearances including, *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *20/20*, *The Hour*, MSNBC, BBC, CBS, CNN, CBC, City TV, Global, and has been featured in *USA Today*, *Macleans*, *The New York Times*, *In Touch Magazine*, *VH1*, *MTV*, *The National Examiner*, *Reader's Digest*, *LA Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Toronto Star*, among others.

When he's not stealing a flag from the Prime Minister's office or promoting Alberta Beef by hitch-hiking in a parade, you might find him leaving his wallet in El Segundo or hanging out in Bangkok modeling Italian Soccer jerseys to fund 4am Red-Bull and Rum-fueled urban hitchhikes. He also enjoys writing third-person bio pages for his website and loves to stand on street corners in Montreal hawking shoddily-bound English literature to Francophones in sub-zero temperatures.

His mom still cuts his hair.

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