



Idiom #18

Every Cloud Has a Silver Lining



Every bad situation has some upside to it. This proverb is usually spoken as an encouragement to a person who is overcome by some difficulty and is unable to see any positive way forward; as such, it is cognate with the exhortation 'Look at the bright side'. John Milton coined the phrase 'silver lining' in Comus: A Mask Presented at Ludlow Castle in 1634, when he wrote:

Was I deceived, or did a sable cloud Turn forth her silver lining on the night?