The Impossible

Impossible. When you are a person with a disability like myself, that word becomes a major one in your vocabulary. Because many people who have a disability need to use a walker, cane, crutches, or a wheelchair to get around, many things do indeed seem impossible. For Instance, I use a wheelchair because my legs are too weak, and having to stand to do things can be tiring. But I can carry things as long as they are not too heavy by either hanging them on the handles in plastic bags or putting them next to me. Of course, another impossible task comes when people who have lived with their parents all of their lives and suddenly reach adulthood have a very hard time convincing not only their parents but other adults such as doctors and home health personnel that they are just as capable of doing things and handling adult situations as adults who are not noticeably disabled. This happens because people with disabilities spend at least 18 years under the same roof with parents who tend to be overprotective and feel that they have to do everything for the person for fear the person might hurt himself or herself. Many home health workers tend to have this same approach, especially if the person is in a wheelchair. What all of these people do not realize or understand is that sometimes the person just takes longer to do even the most basic things than people without physical disabilities, and therefore just needs time to do things rather than assistance. When I was living with my parents, we fought over this very often, and I would ultimately be sent to my room like a little girl. Another problem is that I look much younger than I am. However, I have now been living on my own for over 20 years, and have done just fine.