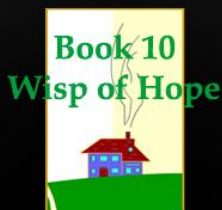


EPIC FAIL

The Journal of a Homeless Gamer



by rabb1t
aka
Eric Stryker



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Epic Fail
The Journal of a Homeless Gamer

Book 10
Wisp of Hope

By rabb1t
aka Eric Stryker

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Week 505

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Day 3530 – 3/1 – Back again
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Day 3538 – 3/9 – Surprises
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Week 507

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Week 508

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Day 3550 – 3/22 – Feel good, feel sad
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Week 509

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Day 3558 – 3/29 – Odd feelings
Day 3559 – 3/30 – Final final
Day 3560 – 3/31 – Pained
Day 3561 – 4/1 – Not so terrible
Day 3562 – 4/2 – Not too bad
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Week 510

Day 3564 – 4/4 – Cheese sandwiches for days
Day 3565 – 4/5 – Hand wash only
Day 3566 – 4/6 – Feel poorly
Day 3567 – 4/7 – Sad and minimal
Day 3568 – 4/8 – New hours
Day 3569 – 4/9 – Maybe a something
Day 3570 – 4/10 – Sneezy bloom

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Week 512

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- Day 3600 – 5/10 – Do you live here?
- Day 3601 – 5/11 – Elitist
- Day 3602 – 5/12 – Took half
- Day 3603 – 5/13 – Connection dropped
- Day 3604 – 5/14 – Feeling abandoned
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- Day 3607 – 5/17 – On the way
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- Day 3609 – 5/19 – Here, not here
- Day 3610 – 5/20 – The cold and the cold
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- Day 3612 – 5/22 – Reminders

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- Day 3615 – 5/25 – Suddenly exhausted
- Day 3616 – 5/26 – Feeling sad and worried
- Day 3617 – 5/27 – Tummy calls for a ban
- Day 3618 – 5/28 – Suddenly hot
- Day 3619 – 5/29 – Hope and despair

Week 518

- Day 3620 – 5/30 – Just in time
- Day 3621 – 5/31 – Identity
- Day 3622 – 6/1 – On soft paws
- Day 3623 – 6/2 – Open later, drop early
- Day 3624 – 6/3 – Not the day I wanted
- Day 3625 – 6/4 – Proper ears
- Day 3626 – 6/5 – Hopeful Tuesday

Week 519

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- Day 3628 – 6/7 – Feeling sick
- Day 3629 – 6/8 – Not even half
- Day 3630 – 6/9 – Not movie
- Day 3631 – 6/10 – Not stream
- Day 3632 – 6/11 – Supposedly hot
- Day 3633 – 6/12 – Already so warm

Week 520

- Day 3634 – 6/13 – Apparently not
- Day 3635 – 6/14 – Feels weird

Day 3636 – 6/15 – Odd end
Day 3637 – 6/16 – Twenty percent
Day 3638 – 6/17 – Not a dad's day
Day 3639 – 6/18 – Warm to cold
Day 3640 – 6/19 – Priest

Week 521

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Day 3642 – 6/21 – Blink of an eye
Day 3643 – 6/22 – Another bill
Day 3644 – 6/23 – Face melting
Day 3645 – 6/24 – Second day meat
Day 3646 – 6/25 – Plugged for days
Day 3647 – 6/26 – International spy

Week 522

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Day 3649 – 6/28 – Probably still plugged
Day 3650 – 6/29 – Final final
Day 3651 – 6/30 – First of many

Year 11

Day 3652 – 7/1 – Goes to 11

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Where did I see it?

Glossary and Links

Blu-ray - The next-generation format for DVD capable of 1080p video resolution and uncompressed audio.

Elder Scrolls Online or ESO - A MMORPG set in the Elder Scrolls universe created by ZeniMax Online Studios in partnership with Bethesda Softworks.

Hearthstone - A collectable (digital) card game by Blizzard Entertainment.

Live Action Role Playing or LARP - A live action version where players act out what the characters are doing, creating sort of a mix of acting and game playing.

Min/Maxing or Minimizing/Maximizing - The act of selecting talents, skills, abilities, or spells, for your character in a way that gets you the most effect for the smallest (point) cost in order to match your play style and desired build. When I say I am 'tweaking my character' this is most often what I'm doing.

MMOG - Massively multiplayer online game. A game where thousands of players log on at the same time and play together. Typically these have a monthly subscription fee.

MOBA - Multiplayer Online Battle Arena.

monies - lolspeak/leetspeak for "money".

noob, n00b, or newb - Short for "newbie". A person new (and unfamiliar) in a particular field or task.

Theorycrafting - The act of contemplating statistics in a game which are mostly invisible to a player in order to maximize your efficiency (without going beyond to a point where you are gaining too little.) When I say I am 'tweaking my character' only on very rare occasion am I theorycrafting. See related concept: Min/Maxing.

uber - lolspeak/leetspeak for someone who is superior. (Originated from the German language.)

Year 10
Week 470

Day 3287 - 7/1/2017
A passing

Today was strange. Last night when I did my writing I didn't realize year 9 was closing. Today didn't seem like a year starting either. It was a gentle passing of another homeless weekend day. I suppose nothing more, or less.

It was extremely quiet at the library. I expect because most schools will have the next few days off for the fourth, so people are out on vacation, or meeting with friends for BBQs and whatnot. As a very quiet day I was left alone with my thoughts, checking things online, and the game I spent most of the day playing.

I suppose today my mind lived in the future, again pondering what I will eat to try and get back in shape, and what level of exercises I will do to build my body back to at least not being in so much pain all the time. But that future depends on having a place to live. And in that place, freedom and peace to do so.

But I suppose it could be said my mind did, and by doing so it must still hold hope. And so I try to remember I live for yet another day, and in spite of how exhausted and sad I feel, there must still be some hope within me.

Day 3288 - 7/2
Quiet again

Today was pretty quiet again. I was super super sleepy, so the day passed very quickly. Nothing really new or special happened, though I suppose nothing bad happened either. The day passed as a usual homeless sleepy day would.

I continue to try to hang on and hope for better days.

Day 3288 - 7/3

In body, but not mind

Today was pretty weird. It wound up being split between school and the public library. The morning was very slow. No one was around but three who were doing a shoot. By the early afternoon it was apparent my regular lab spot wasn't going to open and my back was starting to hurt pretty badly sitting on the floor. (Which is odd because I do that all the time). So since that was not going to happen I decided to go to the library. I got a proper-ish chair, though I'd forgotten how cold it could get in there. It was a pretty stark contrast to what maybe was in the low 80s outside.

Being at school was strange. With no one around and the lab not open I was there in body, but not mind. Everything my eyes saw said I was at school, but everything I observed in others said I was not. There were barely any people, and I didn't do normal things.

I suppose overall it was ok though. It was quiet, and I was a bit sad, but I was warm enough, and I had ok foods.

I still haven't heard from my dad. (That makes it since like Xmas when I last heard from him.) I suppose the place the e-card would go, and the email I mailed to do go to the same place. I suppose it's possible he's lost that, or the ability to get to it. Though that seems unlikely. When I get a bit more flexibility I may have to send a physical card. With roughly 10 years left it's very possible he's passed early. Though I'd think his new wife, lawyer, or my aunt, would have informed me if that were the case, even if I didn't have any inheritance. All these homeless years I'd thought it might be nice to try and patch things up, make a stronger connection. (Than the twice or three times a year contact we have.) But I know he views me in a certain way, and he was stubborn even when his mind wasn't clouded with age. So while I'm homeless that would be a nearly impossible view to change. Though I would not regret such a lost chance, as he's had these past roughly 25 years to reach out to me, and he has not.

I expect tomorrow will be rough. I'll probably spend too many monies on getting a hot chocolate to be at the coffee shop. Unless I sat outside of school and parked across the street, as that's my only other real option as almost everything will be closed. But of all

the holidays tomorrow is one I don't want to stand out like that, so I guess it's good I have a teeny bit to spare to do the coffee shop.

But for now I try to hang on. I'm sure tomorrow will be very difficult. But I hope it will be a passable day. And I hope things are at least moderately ok. I have two movies from the library, so there is that at least. But I hope it will be ok, and hope there are better days ahead.

Day 3290 - 7/4

Uncomfortable

Today is starting feeling uncomfortable, but hopefully that will change. I came to the coffee shop and saw a few regulars there, though much less than the normal number. There was the manager I knew from before and some person who looked like she was still pretty new. I settled in and noticed the network is now password locked. I asked the password and, in his old ass-like fashion he said "freeloaders". I walked away not knowing if he was serious or not. It certainly instantly threw me back to several years ago when he was being an ass to me (thinking I wasn't spending anything when I was, in fact, spending \$5-7 a day.) For a coffee shop which is literally right across the street from the college they still, for more than five years now, have the completely wrong attitude towards students who would come here to study and be with friends and may not always have money for drinks or food.

So now, even if it's only a joke password, I feel uncomfortable. 🙄 The food store is apparently not closing today, so if the feeling get too bad I may just leave earlier than planned. I did plan on maybe not having a connection today (and the food store is about a 50/50 chance on that), so I have two movies that should last about four hours if I need to do that.

I am worried about gas too. I only have a teeny bit of money left, though the registration is covered. But there are two weeks of gas and that's about it. But for now I will try to relax. I will try to think that things will be ok. I will try to remember it is just one very tough day and then it's back to as much of a homeless normal as can be and things will be better. And all I can do is hope that I can hang on.

Day 3296 - 7/10

So exhausted

Today I am so exhausted I can't think straight. Which I guess is fine, as there was no one around all day. It was really just me on the floor until about 5 when a few started to show up for the 6:00 class which is across the hall from where I sit.

I played a couple of quick games today, and watched a couple of shows, but that was really it. Because I was so exhausted I couldn't focus on anything for more than five minutes at a time. If this exhaustion continues I'll be forced to nap at school or on weekends before the library is open. I guess its stress related, but I'm jumpy at everything and not sleeping for hours while I'm laying there trying to sleep.

I guess besides my exhaustion, besides worry about my being nearly out of gas, today wasn't too terrible. And still, I try to remain hopeful for the future.

Day 3297 - 7/11

Super sad changes

Today it seems there must be super sad changes. I got word from the nice professor I TA for that some were still grumping at her that I help. Two quarters ago they got all mad and bumped the unpaid TA helper people like me. But because I'm so very super helpful my professor kept me around on the low-down. Every quarter several tell me how helpful I was, and last quarter someone told me his reading my tips page every week, and seeing me walking around and being a generally helpful and friendly guy was the only way he managed to keep his anxiety low enough to get through the class and do his assignments.

So it seems I am being pushed out of my happy place. And while I am not currently a student I can't push back in any way. If I had classes I could at least say I had a right to be on the floor if I wanted. So I don't know how the rest of my day will go. The next few hours will be chaotic as I test different places on campus for possible places to be and what permission levels the connections have. (It seems though a quick test in the writing labs different areas might be set differently.) I may have to find a new place to be.

☹️ That probably would be the public library if I can't be somewhere at school. The good news there is that it's the same distance from my sleeping spot if I go directly there. Maybe even very very slightly closer. So gas would not change. But my habit and life would. There would be no micro at the public library. There would be no showers. There would be no students to help, and as such no purpose greater than me to serve. And I suppose the worst thing is I feel without that greater purpose I may no longer have possible career paths, nor any direct contacts to finding them.

But I suppose what must be done must be done. I have little to no choice today as it is already in motion, and the dust will need to settle before new patterns take place. So it seems this week ends on a sadder note. I have my normal sad life things such as gas and other bills to worry about, all other sad things that come with no home; and now too I have, at least temporarily, lost my greatest happiness and purpose in life greater than me. And while I feel ok right now I have a feeling I may very soon be feeling more alone and lost than I have in many years, possibly than ever before. ☹️

I still live. I still have some food. I still have a few things. So, for the moment, I try to hang on to hope.

Week 472

Day 3298 - 7/12 **Worried about me**

Today was the first of a long string of days at the public library. I've been pondering what to do about my forced schedule change. When I was testing the school library connection it seemed to have the same permissions, so that was fine, but it was actually a bit slow. Not so slow I couldn't do anything, but slow enough that I worried if more people than the dozen that were there showed up it would become too slow to do anything.

So I thought about that and if it would be worth the couple of microed meals a day to cripple my connection. And I thought too about how I'd feel being there since I, at least for the moment, have no classes, nor connections to classes. And I think it would feel weird to stick around. I will still shower and micro an early lunch, but I think I'll not stick around after that. Tomorrow I'll need to stick around for a bit to get the lend copy of the class book back to the professor, but I'll go after that.

I will miss many things. As I was leaving on Tuesday I saw a beautiful blonde girl coming in. I'd seen her pass by me before on Monday when I was sitting in my spot. She had a bit of pink in her hair I didn't notice before. It made me sad I won't see girls like that. And in a way it feels like by not seeing them I will never find love again. I know that isn't really true. They will still be around. And really my odds of finding a sweetie likely won't increase at all at school. But it feels like that. And it makes me sad.

The bigger thing is I don't get to help. I don't get to see people that I've helped improve and learn stuff and get better based on suggestions. And without that I feel I have no purpose. I am living just for me. And I would like to be more. I would like what I do to matter to some. Again, this may only be temporary, and I am only out this quarter, which is four more weeks. If it is temporary, I guess that's not much. But still.

So I worry about me. I am worried I will be sad emotionally. I am worried I will feel lost again. I am worried when I am on campus I will feel out of place and

unwelcome. And I am worried just living and hanging on one day at a time will begin to feel like a prison sentence, and that I am just passing time until I'm up for parole.

But it's all I can do. The few dollars of gas I have in the car is what it is. My options on where to be are what they are. My options for relationships are as they have been.

All I can do is look at what is positive about my options. I try to consider how much I should still have ahead. And I try to hold on until I have the opportunity to get through.

Day 3299 - 7/13

The bunny is gone

Today was a bit more sad than I originally thought it would be. I started the morning at school. I needed a shower and figured I'd micro and stay a bit since I said I'd get the book back to my professor. It was kind of funny that I ran into someone who was also visiting. She begged us to stay and visit for a bit. So I did.

It was strange to be in class, hiding among the fewer than 20 students. I could tell many had already forgotten who I was. I don't blame them. They only saw me twice and those were the first days. One did say he was surprised he hadn't seen me, as he got the impression I was a paid TA. I said 'sadly it is the opposite. I am both unpaid and the dean of the department has been pushing people like me out.'

It was sad being there. I didn't really say any comments to help. It would have felt wrong. I don't need to prove to them I am helpful. I know I am. It's the dean who doesn't want me. So I felt it was better not to confuse them since I wouldn't be there in the future.

The bunny is gone. I draw a cute bunny on the board in the corner in classrooms I help in. And over the past three years the teachers know I'll just redraw it if they erase him. Lately a new teacher has been in the room erasing him. When I thought to look he was indeed gone. Like I am not there. And it made me sad. It made me wonder if I would be remembered if I can't help. Or if I didn't make it, and was gone from the world.

In the time I was there in the cafeteria it felt ok to be there. I felt like I could have gone back, or could be there in the future. But at the same time it felt wrong. Like I could be there, but there is nowhere I belong.

I went to the public library in the early afternoon. And I will likely just be there all the time, save for a shower and single micro meal twice a week. I suppose it's better than school in that it's fairly empty these days, the connection is in general better than the school cafeteria and library were. And I suppose, realistically, it really doesn't change my odds of finding love or friends, as those at school have only been friends when they saw me there. I've never been invited to hang out or do things.

I don't really feel like playing. Yet oddly I want to have a new game to do new things and have new distractions. Checking the new old game it actually only has the same content as when I left five years ago. So I've actually basically stopped playing that and don't know if it's worth playing since everything I'd see I've already seen. My favorite MMO has a new expansion I haven't been able to afford. And there is another expansion to a favorite single player game just after my birthday in late August. And the game I'd love to play in October. So maybe one of those will be a nice birthday present. And hopefully my system will be able to run them ok if I do manage to get one.

So today was extra sad. My professor obviously doesn't want to lose me, and she struggles to let go. So that is sad for both of us. My gas continues to dwindle and run low. And very soon I may be forced to walk. And my tummy is still very sad that simple thoughts of things like Chinese food or pizza seem like distant memories that I can't recall when I could last afford them.

But I try to hang on. I try to play my games that seem ok to play and watch the shows my brain wants to watch. And I try to stay distracted and hope for better days ahead.

Day 3300 - 7/14

OKish

Today was an okish day. I started at the food store and did most of my forum and social site stuff for the day. The connection was decent, so I'm glad I got the extra time

for that. The bulk of the day was spent at the library. I wanted to play games for a bit, so that was something in that I felt in a good enough mood to do that. I did spend more than half the day watching shows though. And after leaving the library and going back to the food store I watched a few more.

So overall the day was ok. It had nothing new that was sad, but my current sad feelings and worries about things like as and bills just around the corner worried me. But overall I felt ok. Nothing dragged me down too far.

So I try to hang on to the happy things. I try to think if I can do more to be happy, or at least at peace with the sad things that I can't control. And I try to remain hopeful for better days ahead.

Day 3301 - 7/15

Not terrible

Today was emotionally not terrible. I was in the library most of the day. And when I was not and was at the food store there was a good connection. I mostly watched my shows. As always I helped on forums for a bit. I even felt ok enough to play games. Though again I'm not really sure why I'm playing the two I'm playing. I'll probably try to go back to my old MMO, though with noone I group with and no access to the newest content I'm afraid that would just feel sad.

Nothing bad happened, but I also didn't get any help or donations. So I am still extremely worried about all the short term, and slightly longer term, things. 😞

But I survived the day emotionally, and I didn't lose any of the few things I have left, so it seems like it was not a terrible day. All I can do is try to get decent sleep and hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3302 - 7/16

Super hot

Today was super hot. When I was going to the food store at 9 in the morning it was already too hot. I think I heard from someone that around 8 PM it was barely cooled down to the low 80s.

I guess thankfully I was in the cool library most of the day. I mean, sure, it was the best place to be, but if I had a regular life maybe I could have gone to a pool, or invited people over for BBQ and gaming.

I did play my old MMO for just a teeny bit today, and I may play again in the coming days. But mostly I felt too sad to play. I am extremely low on gas. I have a party and game next weekend, but at the rate things are going I may be out of gas mid-week. And it seems unlikely with as few cans as I have in the car doing recycle would be more than just emergency gas, and the car would have to remain parked and I'd be on foot from then on. So I am very worried again. And very stressed about all the things. And there is no money for laundry, so I worry that I can't go much longer before I'm out of clean cloths. And there are always bigger things looming just a few months down the road. 😞

But I try to hang on until help comes. And I try to look at what I do have left. And I try to stay hopeful and as positive as I can. It's all I can do. 😞

Day 3303 - 7/17

Card from dad

Today was pretty quiet. I showered and got my parts clean and shaved at school. I got a micro lunch. Things there were very quiet. Even more so later as the library was extra quiet.

I think I pulled or pinched something when I was showering though. I've had this odd occasional tingling at the top of my head where a line back from my eye and over from my ear would cross. Kind of where the edge of my faux-hawk is (though there are no pictures so that doesn't help, heh.) It's almost like the hairs are poking my head, but

they aren't. It's like under the skin just a little bit. But it's not there all the time. It's hard to describe.

I finally heard back from dad. I guess he isn't sure if he'll have anything for my birthday in a month so he sent word he sent monies already, which is super good as I've gotten critical lately. It's a decent amount for my life, so I've thought and thought and thought. I think, because I don't want it to just be wasted on gas and emergency food, I'll spare a bit of it and get myself an actual present - one of the game expansions I've been looking forward to. It actually will come out I think a week after my birthday, so that's good timing there.

After that part is gone I'll pay a bit of money to the phone, as they've been threatening to suspend my pay as I go phone account if I don't pay something soon. I guess they have a point in that it's probably been inactive and shut off for about 6 months since I haven't had spare to charge it at all. I'll also spare a bit for at least doing the critical needs of laundry. And then a little bit for the bank account monthly fee, and then the rest is about two weeks of gas. Which, while not amazing, should be enough to last until I get more to recycle (though that will probably only be a week of gas), in addition to any help that may come.

I guess today was ok. I felt very sad, I guess melancholy. My eyes had a hard time focusing again. It's almost like something is preventing them from focusing. I don't know if it's just physical exhaustion, or maybe the air conditioners constant fffffff that's putting me into a sleep-like state. This sort of inability to focus only happens when I start my day at the library, and only when I'm there several days in a row. My eye doc did say I was at a point where I could use reading glasses, like a quarter step up from my normal prescription, so maybe that's it. But this seems like something deeper in the back of my mind. When it happens it feels like the whole back 1/3 of my brain is being forced to sleep and the rest struggles not to succumb to that sleep. Maybe it's just extreme depression combined with my exhaustion, as my mind may know if there is nothing that could be interesting, why try to stay alert.

I guess besides all my usual sadness things were ok. I tried to focus on the good things I have. I tried to focus on my upcoming b-day, and how tomorrow I will get to watch other people preview the game I want to get in October. (Though this is the console

version, as the PC version doesn't happen until August, which I'd be able to get in to.) So I try to stay positive. And I try to hang on until help comes, and make it to better days.

Day 3304 - 7/18

Tingles on my head

Today is a bit cooler. I'm outside the library in the morning and have my hoodie on because I'm a bit chilly. The past couple of days it's been so hot at this time I was practically sweating in just a T-shirt and had to leave my car, so it seems to be cooling off a bit, at least for the moment.

The funny tingling feeling on my head is either growing in scope or just more noticeable today. It's still right on top, but seems connected to the tendon and jaw muscles which control ear twitching. So I definitely must have tweaked a neck or shoulder muscle in the shower. It seems weird because I don't remember any odd moment.

I guess today will be a fairly regular sad day. Outside of dad's money settling in to my account I don't expect there to be anything different about today. I always hope for help though, maybe news of an opportunity, maybe even start down a path of new friendship or love. But the odds of those seem slight. I suppose I've always been a dreamer though and a romantic, so I will always hope those odds turn out. I guess today ends the week on a hopeful note, as I am not quite in as much of a panic. But until things are permanently better there will always be dangers ahead. And what I hold in my hands slowly crumbles to nothing. But I just have to keep trying to be as happy as I can in the moment, as we never know how long we have.

Week 473

Day 3305 - 7/19

Long day

Today moved very slowly and it felt like a long day. When I was leaving I had a hard time remembering what happened more than just a few hours before. I guess it was an ok day. I helped on the forums. I watched stuff on a beta for a game I hope to get (in October). I actually felt like playing a bit, so I played a bit in three different games.

Oh, speaking of playing, an interesting discovery came upon me yesterday. I was doing something and did it in the normal way, a way which has been firewall blocked by the library. But I discovered it is no longer blocked. I tested the two game connections I knew were also firewall blocked, and those too are no longer blocked. So some time in the past probably four months it looks like the library has changed its firewall settings to basically no longer block anything. 🤗 That's super good news for all future gaming I'll need to do at the library. I still won't be able to voice chat, but I really don't normally like to do that as most have horrid microphone quality and have a ton of annoying background music going on.

Nothing changed today, for good or bad, which I suppose overall is better than bad change. Really it was just another day of hanging on and trying to get by while hoping good change or opportunity comes, while hoping for better days ahead.

Day 3306 - 7/20

In my head

Today I was alone in my head all day, which I guess is a good thing. The day started at school with a shower and micro. I think I passed by two people's side view who I knew and neither saw me or said hi. I guess it makes sense since I've been gone more than a week now. If they have been by my spots they would see I'm gone and not expect to see me. But it was weird, like I'm gone and just a ghost.

I played the games I don't know why I'm playing today. I may stop the PvP one. I just don't like PvP and today in the three games I played I wound up blocking 1-2 people each game, which is just ridiculous. With the other game I think I am just playing because I believe in the idea behind it. But class abilities are uninspired. There is no loot to speak of, and I still have yet to ever group. And what's more is in the like four or so hours I played I only saw about two people. So with no one to play with (that I know), and nothing to gain in the game, I really should focus my efforts on other games. Yeah, both are moderately fun time wasters, but I have several other games I could be playing through.

I guess I don't feel too bad emotionally, but I find myself looking forward and hoping for better days. I hope to get games I have more fun with, either new or expansions of ones I have. I hope for a place to belong again; at a job, with friends, in a home. And I hope for a future where I at least don't have to constantly worry and be afraid of bills or repercussions thereof. All I can do for now is try to hang on and hope such days do come eventually.

Day 3307 - 7/21

Quiet day

Today was a pretty quiet day. I didn't feel too much like playing, so I only played maybe two hours.

I don't really remember what I did instead. I know I tried again to watch the shows that are blocked, but they are still blocked. I looked for news of interesting things since there is a big comic convention this weekend, but I don't really recall much of the day. I think I did a lot of looking at posts in a social group, and a lot of just time killing things waiting for interesting things.

I started the day ok, but as it went on I got more and more tired. Now, in the evening, I feel pretty exhausted. I think it's a combination of lack of sleep and lack of stimulation. I'm still losing several hours a night not sleeping.

But I try to hang on to the good things I still have. I try to keep focused on the things ahead to look forward to. And I try to hang on until better days come.

Day 3308 - 7/22

Partyish

Today was different. The first part of the day was normal, except it did get super hot. I heard it was over 90F, which is crazy since it's only been in the mid 70s for about a week.

In the evening though I went over to some people's new apartment. Two people I do the every two to three week game with were basically doing a house warming. There were a few other people there, so it wasn't like an official party so much as a hanging out for a few hours thing. They may be new RL friends; I guess we'll see if that happens again or not. Outside of the regular game time this was the first time we've 'hung out'.

They had a super cute kitten too. She was a big sweetie and super playful. She wasn't too shy either, which is kind of surprising for such a young kitty. She was three months old and maybe half the size of a full grown kitty. Certainly not the only one handful big I expected when they said kitten. So I got lots of pets and even some kisses.



That was really it. I played a little at the library, but my pre-party time passed quickly. I suppose today was a better day. A day until my dad sent money I thought I would have to cancel, so it's good I didn't need to. So today was a rare day.

Day 3309 - 7/23

Half laundry

Today was happy and sad. In the morning I had a bit of time at the food store and there was a stable connection, so I was able to do forum helping things and play for about an hour and a half.

After that I went to micro my lunch at the game store, as the every two to three week game as today. It was super fun, but also sad driving back, as I have maybe a week and a half of gas before I'm out again. So that was sad and worrisome.

In the evening I went to do laundry. I had the normal amount of money, as it was already more than I could afford. But since I had too much laundry to do I was barely able

to do half. I suppose the good news is the half I didn't do was pants and outer shirts, things I won't need while we are in days like today which was 85-90F or hotter. Those items don't smell freshly cleaned, but they also don't smell terrible. At least not yet. Having to sit unwashed for a while that may change in the coming days. Hopefully I'll get more for gas and laundry and can catch up soon. But at least for the moment it is ok and I can get by.

So today was both happy and sad. There is still some time left in the evening as I finish laundry, but I expect it to go normally. And as such all I can really do is hope for better days ahead.

Day 3310 - 7/24

Hot chilly

Today's weather was odd. At first it was pretty hot, but once the sun went down it got chilly quickly. I would guess that means overall things will be turning towards chillier weather, or at least cooling off to normal summer temperatures from super hot.

Other than that it was a pretty typical day. I started at school getting a shower and shaving all my parts. I think I heard a janitor cleaning up the girl's side around 9, which is unusual. But the morning swim practice hasn't been there lately, so they may be changing their schedule to summer kid swim lessons soon.

After the shower I had some time to kill, so I chilled in my car and ate in the parking lot instead of going to the library extra early. It felt... peaceful. I still feel... better on campus. I have always, regardless of which college it's been. I think because it represents opportunity, hope, maybe dreams, and in a way youth, and for those not young, possibly renewal. I still get stressed and worried the dean would see me (even though she never comes out of her office and I don't even think she's there this quarter), so even just walking to do my micro seems a bit stressful. But I do need to try and eat at least a few micro meals a week.

The time at the public library was pretty regular. I did feel like playing, so I did that. It seemed sad, as I was online and not grouped. But I don't know if I really wanted

people with me. I am still very sad about all the things all the time and often I think things are better if I'm alone. 😞

But I try to hang on. I try to stay positive. And I continue to hope better days are ahead.

Day 3311 - 7/25

Quiet and slow

Things seem quiet and slow today. Though I don't know if I've gotten a fair sampling of it with it just now being morning and still 45 minutes before the library is open. I guess, even though I still have a few weeks I can visit school, in my brain I have already surrendered that and shifted to 'off for the summer mode', where I have nothing to do and I am not wanted or needed. While it's nice to just 'live for me', without that I feel unfulfilled.

I know it's not true in that I am still the voice of tech support on the forums at the very least. (Though even my free virtual con ticket stopped a few years ago and I've gotten nothing at all these past couple years. 😞) But I also know there are always those who could do that if I left. And I suppose on the social pages there are those who laugh at things I say, or are helped. But again, without confirmation I feel like I'm lost floating down a river just shouting things to campers alone the shore who are there for vacation.

I hope I do not wind up like a new homeless at the food store. I call him 'the castaway' as he looks like he was in a boat wreck and has been on a deserted island for about a year. He's got a busted hoodie he wears open, with no shirt, which is a dirty gray black in color, sweats of a similar color, shredded at the bottom of the legs. That's all he has. His hair is maybe 12" long and wild, as is his beard. He's maybe in his late 60s or early 70s. I saw him this morning, and as he walked he would put his hand out to the side in a dismissive fashion, towards no one. And after he sat down, he stretched out his arms in front of him and waved them around as if rotating an invisible ball.

I suppose I could never be that out of touch. Even as my gas dwindles to less than a week's worth, and the few things I have remaining get closer to functional death, I still want the things of the world. I want friends to play and hang out with. I want love. I want

a job, paid or not if I can afford not, where I feel wanted and at least somewhat appreciated. I want to continue to live and be in the world and in people's lives.

And so I try to hang on. I try to focus on the future, and get by in the now. Hopefully help will come and I can continue to hang on until I am in a better time and place, and I find my forever better days.

Day 3312 - 7/26 Slightly better

Today I feel slightly better. I got about an hour more sleep than I have been getting and I feel so much more awake and alert. Hopefully I can get more sleep again tonight because I've been losing several hours I could be getting every night for a while now.

Since I felt slightly better I spent most of my day playing a game. It's still one of the ones I really wonder why I play since I have little to nothing to gain there, but it is quiet, and I have space from people, so I think it's why I currently play.

In the evening I got notice of a donation. 😊 It is again from the person who is always watching out for me. 😞 I don't know where I'd be without his constant generosity and concern. I certainly may still be mostly ok physically, but I almost certainly would be without my car by now. So I am very thankful he, and other donators, are still helping.

I will hold on to the money as long as I can. I am hoping there are donations for my birthday. I'd really like to get the game coming in October. The base game is \$60, but there is a version that includes the first few expansions at a little bit more at \$100. Which, fooooo, that sounds like so much to me these days. But with 19 played days on the previous version on what was the equivalent there, on my console which I had limited access too, that's 456 or more hours I played. On my laptop I could play even more than that (since I wouldn't be limited to dragging the console around and setting it up somewhere.) So, it would very much be worth the money. I just prey my laptop can run it ok. While it still does fine on most things, the recent demanding games have caused struggle.

But for today I feel more positive. I got more sleep, so I feel more alert. I got a big donation, so that was super nice and helps reduce stress. And things don't seem so super terrible. So I continue to hope. I look forward to the game I got with dad's money in about

a month. Maybe more birthday surprises will happen. And I continue to hope better days keep coming.

Day 3313 - 7/27

Hopeful excited

Today was pretty good. The bulk of my day was fairly normal. I felt ok, so I played about half of the day (after helping on the forum and checking for news.) Things were still pretty quiet most of the day. The library only seems to really get busy about noon to 4.

But in the late afternoon I got some news which has me hopeful and excited. First, the game I would love to get in late October announced the beta date is in about a month, the week after my birthday. So I'll be able to see how my system does then. (Provided the client is not too big to get before the beta closes. Which I expect it will be much smaller than the full client.) But the second, and probably more important, news is they released the minimum specs. And those specs are not only lower than the three recent games my system struggled with, but the minimum CPU is lower than what I have, and the GPU is one which pretty much rates equal to mine. So there is really no reason why I shouldn't be able to play. 😊 The recent games I struggled with, but was still playable, had minimums where the benchmarks were about 50% higher than what I have, so being nearly equal to the new game is very exciting. Again though I'll know for sure in a month if 'm ok to play or not.

That was really my day though. Nothing really different, just a bit of potentially very good news. At least good news in terms of motional news, for it is through my games and new worlds I keep going and am able to hold on emotionally. Along with the boost I got yesterday in donation money I have a little bit of leeway again. And that goes a very long way indeed towards better days.

Day 3314 - 7/28

Panic, fear, distraction

I've been forgetting to write terrible news. Which, I suppose is good that it can be forgotten. But a few nights ago I saw a movie and it triggered my panic and fear of death. It was advertised as a dark comedy about a guy who hears his pets talking to him and he kills people. It actually wasn't really funny. It was kind of sad and tragic. And the two deaths they showed were people probably in their early 30s, and they were very real, very drawn out, and basically accidents. It triggered my own worries and fears about that. My heart raced and it felt like I was going to start crying. In this week I have a few panic attacks and fear of death, so I have to try and focus on distraction.

But I managed to mostly calm myself down again. I still feel waves of it now, a few nights later. But I try to calm myself. I try to remind myself as long as I can remain fairly stable there is no reason I shouldn't still have my remaining 40 years. And I try to keep my resolve and know that once I've recovered in a home I can start eating ok again and at least do a little exercise and stretching and hopefully recover from being out of shape.

So I try to keep distracted, I try to focus on now. I played my games most of the day. Though I am still always alone in the new old MMO and still wonder if it's even worth playing. And again there were asshats in the PvP game, so I may be getting closer to uninstalling that one.

I also decided to try and distract myself with a 'summer of movies'. Though really these days when I do that I'm spending all my time on TV series, as movies have been a Saturday sometimes Sunday night tradition, which I can't really do very often these days. It was a moderate chunk of the donation money I got, and after getting a few weeks of gas I'll be down to only half left. But with my recent resurgence of panic and fear of death I have to redouble my efforts to keep myself distracted. At least short-term, until my feelings and worries calm down again. Because if I don't I'll just be reminded all the time about how it's inevitable, and it constantly surrounds me and could happen at any time and that's it. No more me. 😞

So for now I try to not worry. I try to keep myself distracted. I try to hold on to what I have, see what is positive, and remember there is just as much opportunity for

positive and good in the time I have left as there is for bad and sad. And I will try to continue to look towards the future with hope, and be hopeful for better days ahead.

Day 3315 - 7/29

The crush

Today wasn't as bad as it likely should have been. The library has had really poor connection speed the past few days. By even just 11:30 it wasn't really playable. I tried watching shows, but from about 2-4 even that didn't work. There was barely enough bandwidth to do forum and social page things.

I started to get sad and spiral into worry and panic. On any other day this would have been terrible, but I had an extra distraction today. I think maybe around noon the most beautiful girl walked in. 😍 She was smiley and happy and bopping her legs in her seat. I'm not sure why, but I always find cute average girls much more attractive compared to runway or magazine beautiful kinds of girls. I instantly got a huge crush on her. 😍 I was ridiculously smiley and couldn't resist peeking over at her. There have only been a few that had this affect on me in my life. Even now hours after the library closed I am still smiling and my cheeks hurt from so much smiling. 😊

I expect I'll never see her again. But she was too many years younger than me to be proper to approach. She had college books, so I would guess she's in her early 20s. But without actually knowing her, at least casually knowing her, approaching her wouldn't be anything but creepy or scary I'm sure. 😞 But, you never know, stranger things have happened. If I see her again, maybe it will be Fate.

So I think because of my crush I held on today better than I otherwise would have with the loss of almost all connectivity for several hours. But still, it wasn't a bad day. I watched three shows, and got to play for about two hours. Not counting the hour or more I helped on the forums.

So today I am grateful for being out in the world in this sad life, as that led me to her. And even though I expect I'll never actually meet her or see her again, at least I know I can still be smitten. My heart is not so old or broken or sad that I am incapable of it. And

I am grateful for my shows and games and the distraction from my panic those bring. Today was not a terrible day, and a small reminder as long as I continue anything can happen. So I continue to look forward to better days ahead.

Day 3316 - 7/30

Bad connection

Today was again a very bad connection day at the library. I guess it's a good thing that on Sundays I spend as many hours at the food store (split in two visits) as I do at the library because I barely had bandwidth for forums and the social page. I think I barely got through two shows and no games due to the lack of connection. If it continues being terrible I may be forced to consider going to the school library.

So today was different. My 'good times' were at the food store, which is loud, busy, and I'm constantly surrounded by movement. But I guess it's ok, as the food store has been pretty stable these past few weeks. So it was really the only way I got through my shows and got a little bit of gaming.

But I try to stay hopeful for the future. I try to remember tomorrow is a new day where new or good things might happen. So I try to look to the future. And for now I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3317 - 7/31

Not a good spider home

Today was kind of sad and frustrating. The connection at the library was barely useable at even the start of the day when it was empty. By 11 it was getting so bad I couldn't even connect to the social page or do forums. I sent a message to the library support letting them know how bad it's gotten lately. They checked and discovered several libraries were affected and they'd look into it.

While I barely got through some shows at low resolution, the connection completely dropped several times during the day. In fact, it's currently down now. I'm not

writing at my usual time of night. But it is too late really to bother packing up and going elsewhere. I'll just write, do other things, and hopefully tomorrow it will be better.

There has been a very beautiful spider web on my car mirror for a few days. I tried to take a picture, but you can't see it. I've left it because it was nice to see something beautiful in my life. But today I had to destroy it, which made me sad for several reasons.

😞 I destroyed it because I saw a little orange spider peek out of the mirror after stopping at the library spot. I didn't want a spider living in part of my car, that's not a good spider home. There was a big tree just a few feet from my car, so I thought by destroying it, and bouncing the mirror, the spider would be convinced out and see the tree and go make a nice proper home. But they didn't come out. 😞 And now I'm worried the spider will not have a home at all. 😞

So today I feel extra sad. While I still have more than some, I was left with more suffering than normal. And I had to destroy something beautiful I didn't want to destroy.

😞 Worse, that thing was a critter's home. But I try to remain hopeful things will be ok. And I hope that tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3318 - 8/1

Hopeful, but worried

Today I am hopeful, but worried. It's officially August now, and that means near the end of the month it's my birthday. I'm trying to focus on the good, positive, and hopeful aspects of that, but it also indicates passing time. As such it becomes difficult to ignore that about three weeks after that I should sign up for school things. Which while not a lot is \$75, which is a lot to me during my sad life. And only a few weeks after that I have to worry about what to do about car insurance. I try to focus on now, just today, and the fun of birthday things coming up, but time is starting to pass very quickly.

I am hopeful for the day even though it's just starting. In the last few hours of the library being open yesterday the Internet cleared up and went back to being super fast. It was at 15 mbps when I tested, way faster than the 0.5 to 1 it had been during the day, and

much more than the about 5 I need for even the most demanding thing I do these days.
(Though even at 15 that will be much slower than you at home with 50-100 on average.)

So I try to stay hopeful today will be ok. And I try to focus on the good things and what I have today. And I try to set future worries aside as much as I can, knowing there is as much chance for good and hope as there is not since those days have yet to come. And I try to hope for better days ahead.

Week 475

Day 3319 - 8/2 Seeking

Today I felt okish. My mind was looking for things to do. The connection at the library is fixed, so I can do whatever I want again. 😊

I played a bit of the new old MMO. I was going to stop playing, as I'm waiting for something to happen that never will, but there is an event going for the next two weeks. So I may very casually continue during that time before giving up on it. I played a few games of the PvP game. But, bleh, the first was good, but the other three were just people bitching. It's like why are you bitching? You are in the lowest of like 7 or 8 ranks of players. Why do you expect people to be good in any sense of the word? So, I don't know, I'll likely uninstall that (for the second time) soon. I really should just stop doing any PvP things completely. I keep trying different ones to see if I find a fun one, but it never seems worth it. I'm either terrible at it, or just good enough that those in the group are always complaining about something.

So today my mind was really just searching. I distracted myself with shows, but in the back of my mind I was wondering what games I should distract myself with until the one I got for my birthday comes out in about 3.5 weeks.

I may do a bit of my old MMO until then. It's still sad to be there at times since I don't have the newest content, but it is one of the few stable things I have at the moment. So it's an odd bitter sweetness.

But despite being super depressed about all the things and unable to really do anything besides distract myself and do a job search and forum helping, today was ok. I was distracted. I had some aspects of fun. And nothing bad happened. So I continue to try and hang on. And I continue to hope for better days ahead.

Day 3320 - 8/3

Forced triple feature

Today did not at all go as I'd planned, nor as I expected a day while homeless to go at all. I suppose it wasn't bad in the being negative sense of things. But something was going on with the library Internet connection. I expect something that is related to what was going on before. Since it was fixed pretty quickly Monday I figured I'd stick around and see if it came up. I waited and waited. I watched a movie, then found another and watched that. And waited. And then watched a third movie, and it still hadn't come up.

At about 6, a few hours before the library closed, I gave up and decided to go to the food store to at least have a few hours of connection. I raced through about half an hour of playing, quickly did forum things, and watched a bit of a live streamed show.

Hopefully things will be fixed tomorrow. Hopefully things will be closer to homeless normal. Today wasn't terrible, but without being able to do online things it certainly wasn't the day I expected. It wasn't a bad day, but I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3321 - 8/4

Cold hot

Today was, I suppose, mostly normal. In the morning and afternoon things were cold. The skies have been pretty gray lately and what with the library blasting the AC I was cold most of the day. Now that the library is closed, and I'm out doing laundry, it seems the day eventually warmed up because it's now hot.

Even though it only happens every two or three weeks, it seems I'm always here at the laundry. I'm always putting too much in and not really getting totally clean. I suppose it's just extra sad lately because I never have enough. Even for my very small sad life I never feel like I have enough. It makes me look back at how I miss showering every day, putting on clean cloths, and sleeping in clean bed sheets.

But I have to try to keep adjusting. I have to try and make due with what little I have. And I try to look at the happy and good things that still remain in my life. If I don't,

things will be too sad. So I try to hang on, try to not be too sad, and I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3322 - 8/5

Wrong movie

Today went well enough, I suppose. I had a good connection, so I got to play what I wanted and watch what I wanted. Though one thing which was not firewall blocked appears to be blocked again. (I didn't do further testing.) It's possible with the recent reset of the servers a few things have become blocked again. I suppose what is blocked at the library isn't a big deal, as the one thing I confirmed is blocked again is one I don't really need there, as it's the service for my single player games, which I don't need to connect online to play. I just hope future online things I want to play aren't blocked.

I played the two things I'm still wondering why I play. The one just really isn't ever going to be what I really want. They have had five years to be more than they were, but haven't. The other, which is the PvP game, I still don't know. Maybe I would like it more if I had friends to play with, but without there are just too many people complaining all the time in groups.

I had set a movie in my reserve list at the library, but when I saw the cover it seemed familiar. It is the third in a series and apparently the only one I haven't seen is the fifth, which is still in theaters. So I guess that one will have to wait a bit longer before I see it.

Still, I suppose all in all it wasn't a bad day. I had my games and shows and wasn't too sad. Though I still worry about the sad things. But I try to stay hopeful, and hope for better days ahead.

Day 3323 - 8/6

Silly game

Today was pretty fun. I had the every few week game and we had a lot of laughs. There was a lot of political stuff and not having a clear direction to go, neither of which are my things, but there was some fun role playing time, which I like. A few times I kind of broke the other people and they were laughing a lot.

I didn't do much other than that. In the time before, I just did forum stuff and played for less than an hour, and after I just watched a show.

But I suppose today was ok. I had fun and was distracted, but it was still difficult to keep my sad feelings and worries about bills coming soon at bay. Those are always in the back of my mind now and I am still sad grandma's money was burnt through so quickly. It was nice to have some regular food for those months though. Even on days like today where I can micro food my body can feel the huge difference between that and the lunchmeat I need to eat on days I can't. Though I have lately been doing fruit snacks and bread sometimes to break up the constant lunchmeat, so that's something. And I don't regret finding this group of people to play with every few weeks, nor my tablet, nor the car repairs. But all the other money lost trying to find friends with the random gaming groups which didn't pan out, things like eating an extra unplanned for meal, those I regret.

But I try to accept all the things. I try to focus on the happy things, like today, my games, and my shows. And I try to stay hopeful for better days ahead.

Day 3324 - 8/7

Barely sleeping

Today I am completely exhausted. Last night, and Friday night, I barely slept. I think I am running on maybe 5 hours of sleep. 😞 Then and now I couldn't fall asleep until nearly 2 in the morning. I don't know if it's excitement about something to come which is good, or fear, or stress, or worry over bills.

I did what I wanted today. I was deep 'in the zone' of whatever I did. Not because I was intrigued, or extra focused, just that I lack the attention power right now to focus on more than one thing. 😞

It felt weird being at school in the morning. It's finals week for the quarter. So this may be the last week I can get a real shower for a while. It certainly will be the last to micro food. If they do start closing the shower area during the week I'll check on Saturday. They often do swim classes after school is closed during the summer, so I'm going to wait and see how things turn out.

But I am exhausted. Really nothing matters to me now since nothing got better or worse today, and so for that I am thankful. And I continue to look forward to better days.

Day 3325 - 8/8

Maybe a game thing

Today I am still very tired. I couldn't sleep until midnight again. 😞 I am still not sure why. It feels more like excited nervousness than fear or worry, but with all my fear of death lately it could just be a lesser variant of that. 😞

Tonight I may check out a game meeting thing for the game I'm a forum MVP for. It's at a bar. 😞 I apparently don't have to buy anything, which is good since I don't have money, but if a lot drink and smoke it won't be my kind of thing. It's hard to be positive about possibilities while so exhausted, no money, and bad at the game. 😞

Day 3326 - 8/9
Can't imagine it

Today I am very exhausted. Again I am losing sleep and feeling the effects. I may also have a cold. I've sneezed a few times and the past few days I've been a lot colder than usual. (Particularly considering others are still dressed as if it's very warm.)

Last night was meh. There are many negative things about being at a bar that I'd forgotten. It was a pretty tiny bar. Maybe less than a dozen showed up for the event and we probably would have filled the bar with just 3-4 times as many people. But there was music blasting the whole time. Not so loud it hurt my ears, but loud enough I could barely hear people literally two or three feet away. I barely talked to two of the people there because we had to shout, and even then we could barely hear each other. It seems the barkeep that was there was part of the group. So I don't see why he didn't turn the music way down, or off.

He did say one thing that... well, I guess you could say triggered some things. Someone asked if he'd gotten the expansion yet. (It comes out tomorrow.) And he replied, 'Yeah. I play pretty casually, but if I get 4 hours of entertainment out of it that's \$50 well spent.' And that just boggles my mind on so many levels. First, I'd have to be making a ton of money to consider \$50 on a game really worth it if it was even 40 hours of play. Closer to only 20-30 hours and that seems pricy. (For this expansion even as a game I play casually half an hour a day would likely hit 150 hours before the next expansion came out.)

But second, and more importantly, he said it so casually, like it really was not a big deal to drop \$50. As I walked back to my car, I pondered that. I smelt half a dozen yummy foods I'd have liked to eat. And the last time I was in that part of town, maybe 25 years ago, we had come to do just that. We went there basically to blow money on nice food and looking around at the shops. But now, that life is so far gone, and I'm so far from even the recent life that I had, I can't even imagine being in a position to do that. I can't imagine what would have been a normal night on the town, going back home, hopping in the shower for a quick rinse before bed, and flopping my clean self into clean bed sheets.

I look to my life. I look at less than a week's worth of gas. I look at no money to sign up for classes that start at the end of September. I look at being alone on my birthday, homeless. I can't remember how many months it's been since I had a hamburger or other fast food. I ponder if there will be enough kind people out there I will actually have a birthday gift so I can have at least two games to last me who knows how many months, if not a year, before I can get the next. And I wonder if I ever did have a normal life before, or if I somehow only dreamed it.

I try to hang on to the happy memories of the before time. Memories now which are little more than faded visual images in my mind, small fragments of moments. I try to hope I can have something like that again someday. And I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3327 - 8/10

Pain

Today I am in a lot of pain. They are levels an average person would find unbearable and would probably be crying, but for me it is on the high side of tolerable. Because I am used to pain. There have been few times in my life when I've not been in pain.

Today the pain is mostly coming from probably a combination of cavity and crack pain. Though I suppose technically a cavity is just a small hole or crack. But maybe a week or two ago a bit of a tooth, maybe a tenth of one side, became exposed. And on another tooth, maybe a tenth has become exposed. But with one it's in a spot where the pressure may be pushing it due to the other teeth, and the other is on a corner, so again, it's likely being pushed by other teeth.

When I was very young the dentist warned me my jaw would be too small for my teeth and wanted to remove something like two from the top and two from the bottom to make room. I don't believe in surgery unless it's life or death, so I refused. So maybe he was right. Almost constantly from my mid teens on my teeth have been tight. And several times a year when I'd hit a growth period, even when things were at their best, I'd feel a thumping in my jaw in places, sometimes for weeks.

So I've gotten used to the physical pain of it feeling like my jaw is smashing things. But today too part of it may be because I ate an apple. And hard foods (even hard bread) press things further and increases the smooshing feeling.

And too I was in a bit of pain emotionally. I guess it's nothing surprising, as it was to be expected in a way. The new expansion came out today. Since I play free I barely got any cards, and only one was a special one. Yet because I'm an MVP on the forum I was seeing several reports of people griping they only got 6-8 special things with their pre-orders, with others replying they'd seen upwards to 10.

I suppose today was a pretty good day though. I tried to have fun with what I do have. And I did have fun with what little I had today. And tomorrow hopefully my pains will subside and I will have better days ahead.

Day 3328 - 8/11

Meh

Today was ok-ish, I guess. Things weren't bad, though I was a bit cold at the library again, and there was still a lot of toothache. That will likely not subside for a week or two. 😞

The connection was ok though, and I got to play what I wanted and watched what I wanted. I slept a bit more than I have been lately, but I am still nowhere near caught up enough to think clearly and be in a better mood. Though if I were I suppose there wouldn't really be much more to do, or many of the things I would like to do, even at low cost, are prevented by my sad things. (Primarily by lack of money, connections, or both.)

But I suppose it wasn't a bad day. And, outside of dropping my tablet a few feet and slightly breaking the corner of one of its protective cover's feet, nothing really bad happened today. (It looks like I can get it repaired when I get money for mailing.) So I try to focus on the good things I have. And I try to survive and stay hopeful until better days come.

Day 3329 - 8/12

Meh again

Today was again meh. I played my new old MMO and part of me wants to wait a week and see the content I haven't seen before, as they are putting it back in. But part of me still just doesn't care. It's not going to be something I play regularly because it's lacking too much. And, they effectively said they hadn't changed it from the old game and there would be references to things which don't exist, which just seems like super lazy programming.

I also spent a few hours playing the PvP game. Part of me is getting more into it, even though I am still blocking/ignoring at least one person every game. Part of me does see the appeal of the sportyness of it. But being a team thing I don't know if I really care since I'd just be playing solo. I suppose I may continue to play until the end of the season in ranked and see what I get, if it was worth those rewards or not. And then I may continue until late October when I'll hopefully be playing the game I very much want to play. Though if I stay in ranked or not will depend on the rewards. And if the rewards are lacking enough I may just be influenced to stop entirely (again).

Speaking of that game, there was some super good news. There's a reported 80+ missions and the devs were saying it's taking them 50+ hours to get through them without repeating any. So that makes me super super happy. That was the thing that bothered me most about the first one, was that I was finished with the main content in about 10 hours. So this time there should be tons and tons of content. 😊

Outside of playing not much happened. I spent a few hours watching things, but that was it. My mind actually wandered quite a bit. It thought it would be a nice day to start a new pen and paper game with new friends, probably because there is a new Sci-Fi game coming out that sounds interesting and there is a lot of news about it. My tummy wanted several dinners and snacks I would normally get on such a fun gaming night, but without the game, or friends, there seemed no point in getting any, even if I did decide to splurge.

But today my mind and heart still want things. They still look to the future. A future that isn't really impossible, only highly improbable at the moment. So I continue to hope for the future. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3330 - 8/13

Complainers

Today was ok for the most part. During my time at the library I actually felt like playing my PvP game. Again I really felt like I should just stop. Today was an all time high record for people complaining and people I had to mute. The only stuff you can gain by playing is cosmetic, outside of new characters, which there are only a couple of I care about at all. Again I wonder if it's worth even continuing to play due to people arguing and complaining. I wonder now if I play because there is a chance to interact with people. Which is a bad reason, even on a subconscious level, as my regular (currently bittersweet so I don't play often) MMO would be a much better place for that.

But it was a nice day. Nothing bad happened that was new, though I was extra sad about not being able to shower normally as I would in a home. Today I was a touch stinky and noticed a few times during the day.

But I suppose overall today wasn't too bad. I felt mostly ok, but I still look forward to better days ahead.

Day 3331 - 8/14

Cold shower

Today was ok, but it certainly had a few low points. The first low was my shower at school. Surprisingly there were a ton of cars compared to what I expected. I'd say there was maybe 15% of what there was a few weeks back when school was in session. I actually saw someone I knew. She said she was there for some kind of placement test or something. So maybe there are placement things and transfer stuff going on. If that's the case things will likely change by next week.

The next low point was the PvP game. While I expect some abuse it was again pretty high. People complaining. People complaining about the people complaining. It was pretty bad. So that is a huge step towards not playing (again). I currently have an experience booster thing for a few more days, then I think the season ends at the end of the month, but I will likely stop playing so much soon. It really seems less and less worth

it each time. I keep playing because I keep hoping things will get better. I keep thinking players will work together and be positive. Yet it seems like every time that doesn't happen.

And while I was pretty distracted during the day, after the library closed I thought about how I felt sad, and how I was one of the last to leave. And I thought with a normal life I can hopefully still have 40 years, but thought what if it's only 20, or 10, and started to panic. 😞 I managed to stop before I started to spiral out of control, but I still feel sad and my heart still feels quivery and unsure. 😞

But I try to hang on to what is good. I try to stay hopeful for recovery, and a life that is better than before. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3332 - 8/15

Less than a week

Today I felt kind of sad, but pretty excited about my birthday in less than a week. I don't really know why. There is the present I got myself, but that's it. I expect there will be well-wishing on the social page, and the person who usually gets me a something may get me a something, but I expect nothing.

I suppose it is the hope of something. There are things I have to look forward to. Things, while running out, are currently balanced-ish. It's warm most days. Maybe part of it is that I've seen a lot of cute and beautiful girls lately, even one just now this morning, so that always gives me hope. I guess, besides worry of money and the things I have running out, today should be an ok day.

Day 3333 - 8/16
Well rested?

Today I feel weird. In the morning when I got up I felt, I guess, well rested. But I also felt like I hadn't slept yet. Which is strange, as I very distinctly remember some of my dreams. (Including an extra nice part where I was kissing a girl. 😊)

Most of the morning and afternoon that awake feeling continued. I saw another beautiful girl who made my heart race, so I am hoping these are reminders from Fate and Destiny that it is not too late. I do still feel. I do still live. And so maybe someday I can love again and have friends.

I played the new old MMO which finally released content I hadn't yet seen. But I wasn't more than about two missions in before I felt like I really didn't care. One I did was boring. I was nearly falling asleep. And the next had this really stupid jumping puzzle where I died half a dozen times before finishing. I really expect to uninstall it when I've finished this area.

I did some research on what reward I should expect from the PvP ranked stuff I've done. Basically it's jack squat. It will be the equivalent of about three matches of a daily quest. So I don't know if that is worth continuing. I tried playing a different mode and just no one knew what they were doing, which is terrible for a competitive game. So, with rally nothing to gain I'll likely uninstall it (again) soon. Or at least set it aside and not play nearly as much.

I did get a nice early birthday present from someone. He basically sent monies that cover the game I got. (It's more complicated than that, but that's the easy explanation.) So in a week or two I'll have a bit for gas, laundry, and a teeny bit for later. I'd love to get another birthday game with it, but sadly when that money comes it really will be all I have. (I'll recycle Saturday, but I'll be surprised if my full load is worth more than \$15.)

In the later afternoon though I started crashing hard. I again could barely keep my eyes open, and what energy and momentum I had was lost and I was back to barely being able to focus. But I guess it's ok, because I don't have to.

So today overall was a pretty good days. Yet still, there is so much sad. But I try to hang on. And I try to continue to look ahead to better days.

Day 3334 - 8/17

Warm shower

Today was, I suppose, good. It started with a warm shower. I was surprised because I expected it to be cold like it was Monday.

After that I did some forum stuff, and then basically played all day. I didn't really feel like watching stuff. Again though today was like yesterday. I started feeling refreshed, but like I'd not slept. And by the early afternoon I was crashing hard. I thought it was 6 or 7 when it was only about 3.

Again I mostly played my PvP game. And people were griping and complaining. It's weird because I don't really have anything to gain and I want to do something that does. I guess part of it is I don't really have a game that does right now. And real life things, like writing or art, well, no one seems to care about my writing. And art would take resources and a commitment I can't make at this time in my life.

I guess I play because it's fun-ish. And before there were MMOs, before achievements existed, you played a thing just to have fun in the moment. When the game was over, that was it. So I guess in a way my brain thinks about it like that; was it fun in the moment? And sometimes the answer is yes.

I still feel lost most of the time. I feel like there is a monster behind me and someone is telling me that and I refuse to turn around because if I don't it doesn't exist. And too I feel lost; adrift. Yet I accept what I do have and try to have fun because I know to not would be worse. To not I would be panicking and crying uncontrollably all the time. 😞

So I try to hang on. And I try to continue hoping tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3335 - 8/18

Reduced desire

Today was mostly ok I guess. I had a greatly reduced desire to play the games that I question why I play. I think the PvP one is something I'm doing just to pass the time. The people are really almost all asses and it's just not worth it. And the new old MMO has really made me not care lately. The last play experience the play of the game was terrible and just not worth suffering through to see the story. That, and the loot system doesn't even exist, so I don't care about skills really at all.

Besides that the day was pretty good. Nothing good happened, but nothing bad either. I did my podcast in the morning and that put the birthday game at the front of my mind. And I know I'll have a ton of fun with that for quite a while to come.

So again I try to hang on to the good things. And I hope better days come soon.

Day 3336 - 8/19

Birthday present

Today was mostly ok. There was some sadness at the start of the day though. I checked on the game code that I previously pre-ordered and the person said the company probably wouldn't have it until launch day. 😞 Which means I won't get to pre-load the game. Which means I'll have to plan around my days, as the library firewall blocks that service and it can't just load in the background while I'm there. And that could take days with my current limitations. I do very much appreciate the gift. And long-term, even probably just a month from now this won't matter, but today... it feels sad. 😞

In positive news the person who I figured would send a something sent a suuuper big something. So not only will it be enough to pre-order my game coming in late October that I'm very much looking forward to, but maybe something else too since I apparently have some more from dad on the way. Sadly that something will likely have to be saving for school next quarter, instead of something 'fun' for my birthday. But we'll see. I try not to focus too much on unknowns and things I can't control these days.

I didn't play very much. The two games I don't know why I'm playing are losing their hold on me. So while they are, I suppose ok to just waste time with, I probably will stop playing soon and focus on other things. I absolutely will next week when the birthday expansion game comes out for sure.

So I try to focus on the good of today. The positive things. Not the temporary negative. And I try to push the long-term negatives out of my mind, as I can't control those. Maybe if there is extra I can do something like spend \$8 on a fancy dinner tomorrow and get cooked food. I'll have to see how I feel emotionally. But for today I try to hang on. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3337 - 8/20

OK B-day so far

Today, so far, has been pretty good. I was pretty sleepy, but not too bad. There was a lot of well-wishing on the social page for my b-day, and a few unexpected gift monies. I should have plenty for my important game coming in October, signing up for classes next quarter, and maybe even a smaller extra birthday game thing. I'll have to double check how my monies look after it's all gathered into one pile.

I played a little today, but not a lot. Again the games I've been playing that I just feel meh about are losing their grip.

I did get an extra treat for myself. Geek and Sundry have a special site (Alpha) where they put shows. I got a preview of Dread and it was so good. So I signed up for a month, which is free. I'll have to cancel after that month, but Dread, as far as I know, was just a short run thing, so I'll be able to see it all during that preview time.

Since I had monies I'm doing laundry. Sadly it's too much to not do two loads, but things will be super clean. And at least for another month I'll be changing less frequently since I'm just in the library and changing every other day isn't as important. (Though I'll still change under things that often.) I have two movies to watch after that, and I'll spend a little getting a cooked dinner. I apparently haven't been to the place I'm going since January, which is crazy.

So today has been pretty good so far. There are still about 5 hours before I will try to sleep, but hopefully everything will be calm and fine. And hopefully better days will continue in the future.

Day 3338 - 8/21

Hot and stinky

Today has been hot and stinky. In the morning when I went to shower I was pleasantly surprised by things both being open and the water being hot. However, the entire locker room area and surrounding hallways were hot and smelt like wet socks. It seemed there was no airflow. I don't know if the vents were off on purpose or broken. There was evidence of people showering after a practice, so I'd think it wouldn't have been turned off on purpose.

After, I settled in to the library for a regular homeless day. When I came up from an early dinner after going downstairs I noticed how completely hot and stuffy the upstairs area was. And, it smelt like a hot house that a wet fluffy dog had walked in to. I reached down to the grill that is near my feet in that spot, and indeed there was no cooling, and no airflow. I could hear the sound of slow vents above, but I guess the primary vents were broken.

I guess the day was pretty good besides that. I played a little bit and watched some shows. The connection got almost completely unusable from about 3-6, but that happens sometimes when they are at their fullest.

I did decide to check the blocked connection though; the one my birthday pre-ordered expansion is on. To my surprise it is not firewall blocked (again). So, phew. There will be no delay due to that and I can unlock it as soon as I get the code. I may still miss a pre-load window, but with it not firewalled that's easily done during the day since Monday through Thursday I have 11 hours a day there.

And I got some surprise gifts at the ex-house. There were some sweats, which my current ones are all torn up, and a surprise bunny. 🐰 He was a total surprise as he wasn't on my list. I didn't know you could add things to gifts that weren't on the list. 🐰

So today was a pretty good day despite a few short comings. And tomorrow should hopefully be too. I've got monies to sign up for classes, get an extra birthday thing (probably the expansion to my MMO that I've been missing since it launched), and still have extra for whatever for a while. Though I always hope for days I am no longer homeless, tomorrow should be a good day.



Super cute surprise birthday bunny

Day 3339 - 8/22

Rough time sleeping

Today I am feeling pretty tired. I didn't sleep until nearly 1. And in previous nights I've not slept until 2 or 3. I think it's just worry; about me, about my future, and if I will have one.

I try to push the shadows of sadness of my night and bad dreams away as I start the new day, for each start is a new beginning. I have about 1.25 hours before I head over to the library and officially start things. But here at the food store maybe I'll partly start with posting this, forum things, and social page stuff.

I'm tired. I'm hungry. I'm sad. But the day is not yet started. I have foods to eat.
The day should be restful. And hopefully today will be a good day.

Day 3340 - 8/23
Thumpity thump

Today I am worried about my heart. I am sneezing, so I probably have a cold. But what worries me is that on medium distance walks my heart is going thumpity thump and staying at elevated rates for longer than normal. I suppose it is a very strong stable beat, and it does calm down without too much of a fuss, but still, it worries me.

Today wasn't super different. I got sick of the PvP game after only three matches instead of doing what would have otherwise been probably 10 games. Oh, and yesterday I got the missing content for my favorite MMO (which I basically haven't played for quite a while.) And in less than five minutes into the new content I decided I would uninstall the 'new old' MMO. So that is finally gone and done. Maybe if they ever really update the game I'll go back, but I really just didn't see anything different than it was five years ago.

So today I spent a lot of my time playing with my favorite MMO in the new areas. I'm trying the new class, which has a few things different to offer a group, but since I don't have a regular group or guild I doubt I'll get it to max level. More than likely I'll just stick to my main I have been playing, which is fine. I'm happy with that. It was strange to see the account reference that I started four years ago. I didn't think it had been that long. I still remember that day outside of school in the sun when I was gifted it and it was first installed. It doesn't seem like years. Really nothing of significance has changed. 😞 Sure, I have pen and paper gaming back in my life, so I am a bit happier there. But the surface things, the things with me when I am alone in the dark at night sad about having almost nothing, those things are the same.

So I am happy to be back in my MMO again. I'm still looking forward to the birthday game expansion next week. And in a few months I have the other new game to look forward to. So, for today, I am looking forward to things. And I am a bit happy, though there is still so much sadness weighing me down. 😞

Day 3341 - 8/24

New zone

Today was pretty good. I spent most of the day playing after a quick forum check. I have my new stuff in my favorite MMO to do. I'm not sure where reviewers got the 14 hour completion time for the new zone though. I've been there 10 hours and I've barely started on it. Even if it's just that one zone, so far that will take me 2-3 times as long to go through even just a first time. I'm doing it with the new class, but it seems very similar to my main. Some things are different, but I think even if I had to start completely over I'd still make the choices that led to my current main. He's got the most options, which I like, even if that means he's good with three instead of great with one.

Not much happened besides that. Oh, I did shower, and it was still cold. Though there were still people coming and going for sport practice things, so some stuff is still going on.

But, despite not being able to pre-load either game coming at the start of next week, and the sad things that always hurt me emotionally, today was a pretty good day. And, hopefully things will hold up and the coming days will be good as well.

Day 3342 - 8/25

Little laundry

Today's big event is a single laundry load. I suppose it would be little by normal standards, but it's a proper single sized load. An oddity for me, as most runs I'm overfull and closer to two loads. But someone sent a birthday gift of needed cloths, so I wanted to get those washed and 'normal smelling' as quick as possible. Plus it gets me current on towels, which only happens every two or three times.

I guess the day was good other than that. I mostly did my usual small forum check then game playing. I did get a chance to pre-load the demo for the game coming out in October, so that is all ready to go the minute it's live on Monday. So that will be super good as I can then check for sure if my system can handle it, and at what settings.

I still have the sad things in the back of my mind, as they are difficult to escape completely, but today was a better day. I continue to hang on to hope, and hopefully future days will be better as well.

Day 3343 - 8/26

Hot after

Today was pretty good. I did a bit of social forum stuff, but mostly I played my game and watched a bit of shows. I had a free movie from the rental box and had previously gotten one from the library, so I did a double feature again.

Nothing really special happened other than that. Though it was super hot after leaving the library. I suppose it was all day, but I didn't feel it due to the air conditioning.

I still have my sads. They can't go fully away until things are better. But on days that are good don't seem so sad, and can be forgotten at times. Hopefully the good days will continue and things won't be so sad in coming days.

Day 3344 - 8/27

Super hot

Today was super hot. I was inside almost all the time, so I was able to stay cool. But as I was outside driving for the every 2-3 week game I saw a sign that said it was 95F, and that was at 6:30 at night.

Today was pretty good. I spent the morning at the food store playing. I went to shower before the game and the shower area was open, but the water was ice cold, which was sad. The game was super fun and the one guy was literally so excited he was bouncing up and down. After, I watched a show and played a bit more.

Tomorrow is the demo for the game coming out in October that I pre-ordered. So I'll be able to see both how well my laptop does and how (or if) it is playable on the library connection. I should be fine (at least outside of the 2-6 time when it can get very

slow) but knowing for sure is best. The day after I can hopefully unlock my birthday game expansion. So that should be super fun.

So things are happy for the moment. I try to hang on to hope. And I continue to hope I have better days ahead.

Day 3345 - 8/28

Pew pew hopeful

Today I am hopeful about all the (game) things. The day started off pretty sad though. My game I am getting in October had its demo today, and when I tried to get in at the library it gave an error. I tried again later, and another error, and later still, and still an error. I guess the game is firewall blocked at the public library, which is pretty terrible, as that is where I'll be spending at least 50% of my time in the coming days, if not more. (Since I can no longer TA, and would only be able to take one class which is on a single day, it doesn't seem like continuing with school as my go to spot would be worth it. It would seem weird.) But at the food store I confirmed my laptop can play, and it was actually flying along pretty quickly without issue with the default settings the game picked for my laptop. So that, at least, is a huge relief.

Another sad thing today was when I checked the connection to my game service that my birthday game expansion is on, it seemed firewall blocked again. Which is weird because it wasn't a week ago. I wonder if it's related to the library turning off and on their connection at night. Maybe the firewall settings aren't always the same for some strange reason. Hopefully the connection will be unblocked tomorrow again and I can get my code, unlock it, and download my game. There were signs I found today that indicate I might need to download about 30 gig, which is huge. On the library connection, during a faster time, even that would be more than 6 hours. But at its slower speed, or the food store, that would be 12 or 18 hours, or possibly more. So, if it is blocked tomorrow, getting the game may be quite the undertaking. 🙄 I'll probably wind up doing what I did in the old days during the summer and be outside of school if I have to download a lot. I won't have a lot of choice, as the food store would be way too slow if the client is big.

But I guess tomorrow and the coming days are the future. And I should only focus on today. Today was mixed emotionally, with the first part of my day being sad, and in the afternoon feeling a bit sick. And in the evening there was the new fun and relief that my laptop can play the game coming in October just fine, though limited by connections. So I try to focus on the good of the day. And I try to hold on to hope things will be good in the future.

Day 3346 - 8/29

Old days

Today will probably be like an old summer day. I have my birthday game expansion key, but having just gotten it I couldn't pre-load the game. I have to figure out how to alter my schedule to get it. Though the food store is moving quickly, it is extremely rare for this connection. And the 30 gig is still estimating at 15 hours. So I'll head over to school and be outside, as that should cut that down to about 6. Which will be most of my day outside, extra sad, so I'll see how it goes and adjust as needed to stay ok emotionally.

Days like today remind me how limited and sad my day is. I can't just leave a thing on overnight or otherwise leave my system and walk away while downloading. I can't just get a thing in a normal amount of time (a home landline would probably be about 2 hours.) I can't cook or wash cloths as normal, or watch shows. Though I am grateful I have what I do because things could still be much worse.

The weather, at least for the moment, has dropped from the 90s it was to being cold and gray and 'smelling like it's going to rain'. But things are what they are. I can't control that. All I can do is try my best to pick from what I have, and try to stay happy and hang on until my forever better days come along.

Day 3347 - 8/30

Panic, again

Yesterday went much better than expected with the download. I went over to school and there were lots of people around doing placement tests and tours, so I didn't feel odd being there. The connection was about double its fast speed and I got the game in only 3 hours. On top of that when I got to the library my regular spot was open. So I had a pretty normal day from 1 on.

Sadly my evening didn't go as well. I started thinking about classes and running out of classes to take and financial aid coming after me. And not being able to TA anymore, so I feel like nothing will last when I'm gone. And started thinking about how short my time feels, even provided I have my full 40 years left. My heart started pounding and I got chilled and cried for a short bit. 😞

I am still shaken now. I am still very panicked and more fragile than ever thinking about my future and what I may or may not be able to do.

Today I wanted to do things other than play, but every time I stopped distracting myself I started to feel the worry and panic returning. So I again fought it off and distracted myself as quickly as I could.

I didn't really have a terrible day. I was on the verge of panic for much of it, but it is what it is. I had fun with my games, so that was super good. I am extremely tired though. My panic caused a lot of lost sleep, so by the early afternoon my eyes literally couldn't focus on anything and I had a very hard time distracting myself even with shows, which required little physical focus.

So I guess today was both bad and good. Things emotionally are very bad due to physical limitations. Yet also good because I have happy birthday game things to keep me distracted. So I try to hang on, shaky as I may be these days. And I hope for more opportunity. I try to self-comfort where and how I can. And hopefully there will be better days ahead.

Day 3348 - 8/31

Fearful and fast

Today I was still fearful. I was much better, but at a few points I was shaken. Playing games which involve people fighting and killing may not be the best decision. But even things like story can get me. In my favorite MMO, where all lines are voice acted there was a story of an older father (though he sounded like he was around 50) who was dying and you were to collect memories for his adult children. During the story he met his wife, fell in love, and watched his wife die in his arms. And at the end, his children are brought to him, but it is too late. He is already gone. I was almost crying, as that seems similar to my life, in that my story is untold and unheard. I suppose though I am not dying, at least not to my knowledge, but there are no children to tell my story to.

But the day was pretty good other than that. My eyes did again get impossibly blurry to the point of not being able to read for a few hours right around the afternoon time again. I've always had a hard time focusing during that time I suppose.

I had fun enough during the day though and it seemed to pass quickly. I wished it had not passed so quickly. But it did. And it is another day gone. I worry so many are passing in these terrible homeless times. So much time lost. So much time I've had my life on hold due to lack of opportunity and lack of connection. But I continue to try and stay hopeful. I still have about as many years ahead as behind. And so I continue to hope I find a forever home, and that good days are still ahead.

Day 3349 - 9/1

Hottest ever

Today was the hottest day ever. When I was starting to feel faint and tired in the library in the later afternoon it was showing it was still 106F, so it probably hit 110 or higher. The public library didn't keep up, as it got uncomfortable by 2. I hope the AC isn't broken again. If it's broken the next few days will be unbearable.

I guess it was a reasonably ok other than that. I played my games without issue most of the day, though in the later afternoon the heat levels worried me, so I backed out and did regular non-gaming stuff.

I felt sad and worried about my future, as always. But I tried to focus on the fun of my game. I tried not to worry about the sad things. And, as always, I try to stay hopeful there are better, and cooler, days ahead.

Day 3350 - 9/2

Over 110

Today was insanely hot. It was over 110F. 🥵 The library AC was still broken. Supposedly someone was there working on it, but I played little because I feared how hot my system was. Hot air in means it can't cool. By about noon even I was starting to sweat a bit. And by 3 I couldn't take it anymore and went to the food store.

The food store was cool, though I was close enough to the door every now and then I could still feel a blast of heat from outside. Now it's a couple hours past sunset and it's still over 80F.

I guess today wasn't terrible. The heat, overall, reduced my computer use greatly, and reduced what I could do overall. And with the library closed Monday I fear a similar thing then. But I suppose, physical ills, emotional ills, and money worries aside, today wasn't terrible. It still was not what I planned, and certainly not what I would have preferred, but I suppose overall that isn't really different from my other homeless days.



Day 3351 - 9/3

Still so hot

Today it was still so very hot. The morning was spent at the food store, so I was cool there. But there was no connection in the morning or evening there, so those times, while cool, passed pretty slowly.

My time at the library was ok, but again the AC was broken. There was a sign saying they hoped to have it up by Tuesday. (They are closed tomorrow.) It was super hot there, but not quite as hot as yesterday. The temperature was mostly around 95F outside, hitting just under 100F. So inside was a bit cooler at a temperature I was just barely starting to sweat. My laptop was hotter than I'd like, hot air in doesn't do much to cool, but really only 1/3 of it was overly warm. Which isn't too much for the system, as the GPU area can get that warm even under normal cooling conditions. So I got to play and have fun just about as normal at the library. However, due to the heat, my brain was fuzzy and wibbly wobbly most of the time.

My fauxhawk is getting quite long. I've chaotically snipped it down a bit, for maybe the third or fourth time now. I won't be able to do that much longer before I need to do a serious sit down and measuring and trimming with a mirror. What I really need though is to have multiple devices and real-time chat myself an image from behind or above. Without that I don't think it will ever look anything close to good. Which is a funny thought after having hair too short to do anything but razor trimming in probably 15 years.

The evening cooled down slightly after the sun went down. It is strange because there was all of this hot air pocketed, as well as things like cars radiating heat from the day. But there was a cool breeze starting, so there was this odd hot and cold current you normally don't see unless you are on the coast.

But I suppose I hung on today. I was really too hot to think, so I passed through without the ability to worry. But still, I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3352 - 9/5

Cool enough

Today was again super hot. Since it was a holiday and things were closed it was extra difficult. Technically it's not over yet. There are still a few hours left until I sleep, but since I am somewhere cool I thought I'd write while my mind is a bit clearer.

The day was spent split at the food store for a few hours in the morning and evening. In the middle it wasn't too hot, so I went to be outside of school. The day was

overcast so I was in shadow. Because of that I was warm, but not hot. The temperature is showing in the high 80s, but my system was ok with it. So I just played.

The day was mostly ok, but needing to go here and there, being hot and sweaty, not being able to stay in a single place, not being able to shower and be cool, or doing BBQ or games with friends, was all just a reminder how different and sad my life feels. But I continue on. I try to stay as happy as I can. And I continue to hope for better days.

Day 3353 - 9/6

A sign of me

Today has started off too warm. I don't know the temperature, but I'd guess it's already in the high 70s to low 80s. I got a shower at school, so I'm finally clean smelling and showered. Though with warmer weather that may not hold out for long. And if the library doesn't have AC, these clean cloths will be somewhat smelly in probably less than an hour. I can change to a tank top and spare the shirt at least if need be, so there is that, I suppose.

The day is starting sad. I had to shower in a lesser locker-room as the main one had no lights or power. It's already too warm. What little money I have left is rapidly dwindling. And the changes of the upcoming quarter and this really being the last school year I can hide from financial aid loans loom over my head like impending doom. But I try to just focus on today. I try to focus on being able to connect at the library and distract myself with games or shows. And I remain hopeful they will have the AC fixed and maybe my mind and body will be able to recover and I get a chance to do something more than just barely hold on to what is left of me.

Edit: Going to my usual seat at the library a little note paper is still in the place I left it. When I was last here I did some mathing comparisons for my character in my MMO. It made me think of back in the day with my desk in my room. I'd have a place for little note papers, my drink, pens, and a few knickknacks. It made me think of a room or home, perhaps an unfamiliar one to you where an elderly person had passed. It made me think about the why of my things where they were, and if a person knew me, and knew my habits, those things would tell a story. But what if no one knows your story and can't

explain it? What if they don't care to hear your story, or allow themselves to be touched by you or your story? Will those things simply be put away in a box or scattered different directions when you are gone? The story left untold. I continue to hope I have enough time to find some people in my life who will care about my story and have a normal life, at least in part. I know there are some out there virtually reading who care, but it would be nice to know there are more. It would be nice to know my story and influence matter.

As always, I try to hang on to hope. And I look forward to what will hopefully be better days.

Week 480

Day 3354 - 9/6 **Cooling**

Today the library seemed cooler. I don't know when exactly things turned back to normal, but by just after noon I was a hair on the chilly side and put on my long sleeve shirt over my T-shirt (but had it open with the sleeves rolled up.) So the library temperature seems back to normal.

And the outside seems to have cooled as well. Though when I checked the temperature it said it was in the low 80s, but it felt much cooler, as if it were closer to the mid 70s.

Emotions are still shaky for me. I am still worried about all the things, as the time has come that my ability to hide in school from student loans is rapidly drawing to a close, and I am seemingly no closer to a job, let alone a career.

I am still exhausted from my various stresses, and I suppose in part the heat, and lost sleep over the past few nights. So I had no extra brain power to do anything but hang on. And again I could barely function much of the day. But I did hold on. I did feel mostly ok. And these days that is something. But, as always, I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3355 - 9/7 **Chilly**

Today went very quickly. I'm not sure why. I had my shower start at school, which had some odd caution tape over some of the showers, but there was evidence people had showered in other areas, so I wasn't worried.

After, I had a pretty normal day at the library. The AC was back to normal and outside was likely 75-80 most of the day. So by the early afternoon with the AC going at normal levels I was pretty chilly.

Maybe the day passed quickly because I am exhausted. With loss of sleep lately, extra stress from the holiday weirdness, and extra fear of death and an uncertain future, I am extremely distracted. And along with those I try and bury myself further in the escape it gives. Maybe that has added up to a faster passage of time.

I suppose all I can do is continue as I do, and try to hang on to what's left, look at just today, and hope for better days ahead.

Day 3356 - 9/8

Spilt pills

Today was pretty good, though I don't really remember it. I know it passed much slower than I thought. I know I played and was distracted and had fun. But I don't really remember much else.

When I went to take my evening cholesterol pills I discovered the bottle had popped open in my backpack pocket. The pills were everywhere in the small pocket because the bottle was upside down. This made me very sad. Not for cleaning it up, the pocket was clean and that only took a minute or two. But the fact that stress and sadness has caused me to need various pills. The fact that I need to keep them in my backpack or car, and that they can spill is sad. The fact that I live a life where I am wondering if I should keep them in a plastic bag 'just in case' is not a thing I should need to consider, let alone the fact that I worry when those small bags will run out because I don't have money for more.

It seems again today, while ok, was a series of reminders of how I need to live my everyday life in non-normal and not everyday ways. Basic things like needing to be on a laptop (instead of a desktop), wearing headphones (instead of listening through speakers), considering what \$5 food sale item to get and it needs to last two days because that's my budget, are all just very dumb and sad things that remind me that my life, and me, are not like everyone else. Everything I do must be done differently. And that I can't control that, that I can't just go home and have everything normal again. 😞

But I try to let it pass. I try not to let it affect me. And I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3357 - 9/9

The reappearing doughnut

Today was another pretty regular homeless day. I suppose it was neither bad nor good. It was its usual neutral of both some bad and some good.

Yesterday I'd gotten a donught to snack on in the evening. But when it was time I couldn't find it. I had a vague memory of where it was in the morning, and figured it fell out of my backpack from where it was. But this morning I found it in its bag in the car. It was a nice surprise. Thankfully its cost isn't too big of a deal these days. It was more the disappointment that I'd thought I had a night treat waiting for me all day and discovering it was not there was very sad. I get so few things I can rely on and look forward to these days. 😞

The rest of the day was pretty regular. I played at the library. I did forum and social site stuff. And since I had enough, I did a laundry in the evening. There wasn't really anything good in the day, and I was still overly tired and could do little that required actual thought. But I suppose nothing bad happened. And that, in itself, is basically good.

So I try and hang on. I try to stay hopeful. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3358 - 9/10

So hot again, canceled

Today it got super hot again. By the morning time at the food store I was already somewhat uncomfortably warm. I didn't check during the day, but at 8 at night it had only cooled back down to 90F.

My every 2 or 3 week game was canceled. A couple of the people were sick (which is nearly half the group). It's a super fun thing, but it's rare enough that missing it doesn't seem so bad. It did, however, tweak my eating plans, as I'd already gotten food before seeing it was canceled. I'd already planned to go to school to try and shower, so I decided to alter that to sneak in where the church people are and micro my food before

the library opened. It worked out fine. I ate lunch there, and put dinner in a plastic container to keep it during the day.

I guess the day was ok. IT just rolled into any other homeless Sunday. I played my game and had a pretty good time, which is good because I am still exhausted physically and unable to really think mentally. But I suppose the extra new hobbies I would mostly like to try are probably more physical than mental. ... I don't know. I would still like to do more. Something that will still be there if I were suddenly not. Something that told a story of who I was. But without financial opportunity, and without the reduction in stress to think creatively to do something like writing, it seems that can't happen.

But I try to hang on. And I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3359 - 9/11

90F and rain

Today was pretty weird for weather. It was around 90F, but there were slight thunder showers. Which isn't unusual for some areas of the country, but around here... I don't even remember the last time it rained when it was hot.

Last night got crazy too. Around 3 in the morning it was so windy it sounded like trees were going to get blown over. I remember thinking in my mostly asleep state it feels like we are on our way to some kind of global weather disaster. Extreme heat waves for this quarter of the continent, flooding in Texas, horrible tornados in Florida. They all sound like the first 15 minutes of some post apocalypse disaster movie.

I guess my day overall wasn't bad. I gave some advice to people on the social page. At least my sad life and pain have allowed me perspective that maybe helps others. And I played my game and mostly had fun all day. Though being solo in my game is getting lonely again. During dinner break there were some support animals visiting the library, so I pet a nice kitty. 🐾 There were some nice doggies, but I didn't want to risk petting them, as the longer hairs tend to trigger my allergies quicker.

But I suppose the day wasn't bad. And nothing got worse. I did like the rain. I always find that soothing. But hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3360 - 9/12

Waiting

Today is starting out less gray. Though the air feels heavy, like there is humidity. It seems unlikely it will rain again as most of the sky is blue. It seems hopeful to change back to warm weather, though I find myself wishing it would rain more to settle my emotions.

I feel like I am just waiting today. Waiting for the library to open. Waiting for school to start to continue to keep financial aid loans at bay. Waiting for an opportunity for a job or career. Waiting for my new game to release. Waiting for love or new (close) friends.

But I suppose I am ok. Waiting means I am alive. Waiting means I have hope. Waiting for something that might still happen for me. It is better than feeling like life is passing me by, ignoring me. And still I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3361 - 9/13
Almost tears

Today seems extra sad. I got a shower and got nice and clean, so that was good. But it reminded me how I don't get to do that like a normal person. And even if I wanted to do it every day, currently that would be an extra \$1.50 in gas a week, which I really can't afford, which is ridiculously sad.

I played my game pretty much all day, as again I was too exhausted and my brain didn't work well enough to really do much else. Playing as much as I did became extremely difficult. There are a lot of people killing innocent NPCs in the game, which is super violent visually and in how it sounds. (It gives the highest drop rate for a cosmetic thing to drop.) So whenever I was in a town, people dying and being killed is always on the back of my mind.

And there are very poor beggars in town. At one point in the evening when I was feeling particularly sad I heard in the distance one of the cat people speaking to another NPC saying, 'Please. I need to buy food.' And I almost cried. 😞 So often I feel like that, and even though I have enough food now I still feel that way. And I still remember my many days in this sad journey when I only had a single small soup for a day and that was all the food I had. 😞

And in the evening checking the mail was no better. I got my car insurance notice and it is not only due on the 1st of October, which I remember it being later in the month, but it is also close to \$400, when I remember it being closer to \$275. On top of that, if I pay monthly there is almost an additional \$9 added every month basically for nothing, which over the course of the year would be more than \$100 in additional costs. So that seems really depressing. I might try looking around again at options, but the last time I tried looking everything was about 50% more expensive than even that.

It seems as always I have to pray that help comes, and does so soon. I only have a teeny bit of money left, and that will be gone very soon.

But I try to not be sad. I try to hang on emotionally. I try to continue to hope that enough help comes and I make it another day. As long as I keep making it one day at a

time there is still a chance things can change for the better. So I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3362 - 9/14

Still sad

Today I am still very sad. Though I am recovering from recent panics about death, thoughts of it still loom in my mind. I suppose partly because my games remind me of it. But also too I think because there is far more bad than good in my life now. And so many things in the game remind me of it as well, either physically, emotionally, or financially. In my real life it seems my future holds far more kinds of death than that which the game reminded me of.

But I suppose I held together today. I didn't feel quite as bad or sad as I have been lately. Though nothing has changed, so that is a day to day struggle. I did even manage to laugh a little bit at a few shows I watched. For me that is something, particularly lately with all the additional financial worry.

But I try to hang on. And I try to stay hopeful.

Day 3363 - 9/15

Dizzy

Today I must be paying a high toll for my exhaustion, particularly since I only got about 5 hours of sleep last night. Since I woke up I've been slightly dizzy. Not enough to impair me to any real degree, just enough that if I were in a home I'd have just lied back down and kept sleeping until I felt better. Hopefully I will catch up and things will be fine, but I guess if it doesn't, in about 1.5 weeks I can sleep in the parking lot at school. Or at least try to.

My back has been hurting too. I guess it's maybe mid-back, just below my shoulder blades. There is a pain. A pinching of my ribs. Slight difficulty breathing. But like the dizziness, not really enough to impair function. At least not yet. 🙄

There were some 'how are you doing' social page posts, to which I replied 'sad life is sad'. There was some well-wishing which was nice. I guess I don't really expect any real response to that, so I guess that's something.

I didn't really do much today. I played my game and tried to have fun and be helpful. I watched a few shows, but that was it. I suppose it's good nothing bad happened. I always worry about that.

So I try to hang on. I try to stay hopeful. And hopefully tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3364 - 9/16

Itchy paws

Today was ok, I suppose. Nothing good new happened, but nothing bad either. I guess I had fun playing my game. I mean, I did, but it was stuff I've pretty much done before, and I was alone all day, so it was pretty lonely. But I am still glad I have my laptop and my games. I can't imagine how terrible things would be if I couldn't play. 😞

The day passed quicker than I'd have liked, but not being in a home, not having real life friends to game with, either at their place or mine, the day passing slowly or quickly doesn't matter.

The bottoms of my feet have been itchy lately. Not so bad as to bother me during the day, but I am slightly aware of it. I miss being able to have bare feet all the time. 😞 Since I have flat feet it's really best they not be in shoes or boots. I suppose I could take them off in the library, many do, but I don't know. That seems rude.

I guess today was ok, but my mind wandered to what it would have been in a home. How my game would at least be on speakers, not headphones. How I'd have controlled the temperature and brightness of the room. That I wouldn't have to wear shoes. How I'd have played just a few hours, then done something else for a bit, perhaps even done so in a different room. How maybe real life friends would have come over for dinner and a game.

But my life is not those things. Not anymore. At least not for the moment. So I try to be happy with what it is, and what I do have, and hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3365 - 9/17

Maybe sick

Today I was a bit sneezy and my eyes are itchy. I wonder if the dizziness the other day was the onset of a minor cold. I can no longer tell when I'm sick from colds and when I'm sick from stress. 😞

Today went very quickly. It was over before I knew what happened. I suppose it was partly because it didn't really start until noon, which is always super late. I guess I held on ok though. I got a shower. I played and watched some shows.

Nothing really changed. Emotionally I am still a wreck. 😞 Financially I still have no idea how I will pay for stuff I need to pay for at the end of the month. 😞 Let alone more things like more contacts, or the yearly web cost at the end of the year. 😞 And things like gas continue to drain as I do my very minimal life things. But I try to hang on and hope for better days ahead. It's about all I can do. 😞

Day 3366 - 9/18

More sneezes

Today I am even more sneezy. I'm also quite chilly and put on an undershirt. (Though the temperature outside has dropped to below the mid 70s.) I'm pretty sure I have a cold. I'm just a teeny bit dizzy, though not enough to be a bother.

I guess today was ok. I played and had fun, and I had a show to watch too. In the back of my mind I was still sad about the terrible money issues rapidly coming up, but I can't control that. All I can do is hope help will come and hang on until there are better days. 😞

Day 3367 - 9/19

Ear rain

Last night was rough. Because of stress and worry I've lost a lot of sleep lately and become exhausted. I've lost a few hours each night. I got so stressed last night I started to panic and my tummy freaked out and I started coughing and gagging. It felt like I was being strangled. I had so much acid in my tummy some came up and it felt like I was immediately going to die a horrific science fiction death coughing up my insides being burnt by the tummy acid. 😞 I calmed down pretty quickly, but there were several tears down my face. 😞

Though I am still very worried about money, as even the minimum \$40 for car insurance rapidly approaches (along with regular costs like a little for gas and my bank account). But I feel ok. In the shower in the morning I put it on extra warm, and when I turned away from the head the drops hit my ears, and I closed my eyes and listened to the ear rain and tried to calm down a bit. I feel hopeful maybe opportunity will come soon, or someone will send help. At the very least I will hopefully have my games and maybe a show to watch, while having a solid connection online. I will try to rest and recover as much as I can. And I will hope for better days ahead. It's all I can do. 😞

Day 3368 - 9/20
Haircut-ish

Today I remembered that I should try to cut my hair while I still have time at school with the bathrooms empty. It was extremely difficult to try and do in the mirror. I gave up trying and basically just did it without, using the mirror after the fact to look for parts that were extremely uneven and fix what I could. Sadly, I again took too much off, but I guess that's better than too little. At a certain length it bugs me, and I think the length I reduced it to should give me a month or maybe two before I should need to worry about it again. Hopefully someday I can be in a home and set up stuff to do it via devices talking to each other and avoid the confusing in the mirror effect.

I guess today was ok. I played my games most of today. At one point I was playing and out of nowhere this kid appeared literally one foot from my screen and probably also one foot from my head, WAY too close to me. He was inches from my desk edge. At his height he had to be at least 8-10 years old, if not older. (He was probably about 4' tall.) I looked at him and then at his mom with a look like 'what the crap is your kid doing in my face' look. I don't know if she was already packing up or saw that and was rapidly changing her mind about sitting in the area near me. I purposely sit in the corner of the library like I do because at the angle I put my laptop there is literally only about a 10 foot space directly behind me (where there is 1.5 sitting spots) where people can see my screen for this very reason. I guess it's ok overall, as it's been a very long time since that happened, but still.

I guess despite my extreme worry about bills, and near emotional panic and breakdown because of it, I actually felt a bit better today. I spent a few hours not playing and doing other things, which is rare lately as I'm usually too exhausted or stressed to even consider doing other things.

So I guess for another day I hang on. And I continue to try and hope that help will come, and that there are better days ahead.

Day 3369 - 9/21

Winter-ish

Today it was very cold and like winter. The sky was gray and cloudy and I thought it would rain. Such a strange and sudden shift from the 100 degree weather of about a week ago.

Today was extra sad as the last of my money went to gas and reserving some for a last laundry. I have maybe two weeks of gas, if I'm lucky. And, after the wash, there will be a similar two weeks of clothing. If I'm very careful. I only plan to be at school maybe three days during the week, so I shouldn't need to change my outer layers all that much during this coming winter quarter. But, of course, I always hope things will go back to some kind of normal and I can change every day and not worry about the \$5 a week for laundry. It seems like forever since that hasn't been a concern.

Besides worry of the last of my money, I guess today was ok. There was news of a special event going on during the weekend in my favorite MMO, so maybe I will get a happy surprise there. Though my one month membership I got for my birthday has run out, so it's sad to lose the special benefits for that. 😞

I was warm enough today and had a show to watch in the evening. And overall I was in pretty good spirits, despite my worry about no money for car insurance and my now two week timers running on everything else as well.

But I held on emotionally. (Though I was near a panic attack of fear of death for a brief moment in the afternoon.) And hopefully opportunity for change will come, and I can find help to hang on until then. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3370 - 9/22

Sneezy

Today was pretty good. I am very sniffly and sneezy though. My eyes are a bit itchy as well. I don't know if I mentioned it, but a few days ago I noticed the inside of my right forearm was a bit itchy. The itching has gone, but there was a bruise there as well.

The bruise is fading, but it seems very odd I was bruised and didn't know why. I have no idea when, or how, I got it.

I haven't gotten any donation help, so I am extremely worried about all the things. I'm sure my weeks will close rapidly. 😞

But I stayed pretty occupied today. I know I would have to occupy myself and stay as happy as I could or the stress would crush me. 😞 I've been losing 2-3 hours of sleep a night due to stress and worry. (Which is extra bad since I already don't have a base normal amount to work with.) But I did manage to distract myself. And I stayed reasonably happy. So I pass another day and feel mostly ok.

But still I hope things will get better. I hope help comes. And I hope I can make it to better days ahead.

Day 3371 - 9/23 Shivering

Today was kind of bad physically. 😞 I don't know if it's just my cold getting worse, cold-like symptoms due to lack of sleep or stress, but I'm sneezing quite a bit more. My eyes sort of hurt and are itchy, and the mild constant dizziness is back. 😞 And from about 2 on, even with my hoodie on, I was shivering from how cold I felt in the library. 😞

I guess emotionally things weren't as terrible. I had a decent time playing, though pretty quickly after the library opened the place got so full it started getting laggy in game. So that was sad.

The day passed quickly, yet at the same time I both wished I could have been in a home where I could have laid down to rest my sick self, and I wished friends were coming over in the evening to play things with. Neither of these were an option, which is sad. But I suppose things were not terrible, and I hung on ok all things considered. I continue to hope help comes soon, and that tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3372 - 9/24

Other characters

Today was pretty fun. It started slow at the food store, but I did forum checks and go to play a bit. Most of the day I was doing my every two to three week game. We had a super good time and did a one shot game since one person was out. We were different characters, so that was different. 😊

The evening was a pretty common Sunday evening back at the food store. I played for a little bit more and that was about it. There were lots of super cute girls around, which was odd for it being early night time. But, besides the reminder they are out there; none even glanced at me, and almost all were with other people or boyfriends.

Tomorrow I will be at school. Really just for the shower and micro, so that will be strange. I'll have to see how that goes not being able to be a TA helper person. There isn't much for me on campus if that is the case, so I'll have to see how that feels. I expect I'll only be there Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, with Wednesday being the only required day since it's the only one I have class. I guess we'll see what is what with that as time goes on.

So for now I try to relax. I try not to freak out over money worries which are rapidly gaining on me. I try to hope help comes and that I can hang on until better days.

Day 3373 - 9/25

Not too weird

Today as my first day back on campus. I can't say back at school because, while I am here, I don't have class until Wednesday. Things are weird being here without class when I can't help, but so far it isn't too weird. I guess I'll see if that changes in time.

Some people said hi. The professor who's room I sit next too said he was glad to see me. So I would assume he remembers at last part of my sad story. I saw maybe half a dozen student people who said hi too.

There are lots of cute girls around. Which is good in that it helps me stay hopeful that I will eventually find someone, but sad as I know there is no reason for any of them

to interact with me anymore. (And thus part of why things may get weirder in time, as I may feel more out of place as fewer know me and thus fewer interact with me.)

But I guess the day passed ok. The internet seems fixed, so that was solid and ridiculously fast all day. (Still not quite as fast as on a landline in a home, but nearly 10x what I need for the things I do.) Though needing to pay car insurance in now less than a week has me a bit panicked since I have no idea if help will come. 😞 But I suppose I made it through my day ok. And I hang on to hope for tomorrow.

Day 3374 - 9/26

Worries

Today I am very worried. I lost about two hours of sleep last night worrying about my due car insurance in less than a week. 😞 I don't know how I'll pay for the month, let alone the year. I did look around a bit yesterday for online quotes, and the insurance I have is cheaper than the others (some by as much as 50%.) So it's the best option, yet I have nothing for it. I continue to hope \$40 in help comes in the next few days, but help is extremely rare these days. 😞

Sitting here trying to write and relax, it is extremely difficult. My mind is so stressed from worry if it's not distracted I can't think or focus. 😞 And when it is, obviously it is not thinking. And while I couldn't sleep last night, when I did I had bad worrisome dreams. 😞

I try to hope today will be a good day with fun games and maybe people saying hi, but there is so much stress and worry. 😞 I hope help comes. And I continue to hope I can hang on until better days come.

Day 3375 - 9/27
Touchstone

Today was better emotionally. Worry about the car insurance payment in a few days is extreme and very stressful, but I don't know what to do about that. 😞 In theory I can be a little bit late and it's ok. But if I'm much more than a week I think they may shut off my coverage, bump me from the service, and inform the DMV I'm not insured anymore, which would be very big trouble. 😞

But much of the day I was able to keep bad thoughts at bay. I had class and it was not as bad as I thought it would be. It was actually kind of fun.

Last night my professor I used to TA help for was kind of freaking out. There are some troubling students in a class this quarter and she basically begged me to come hang out in the lab when she did class. She said she needed some kind of stability and support there; even if I couldn't help. She struggled for the words and I suggested 'like a safety blanket or touchstone for security', and she agreed that's what it was like. Plus, she said if the dean got mad that I was hanging out in the lab she'd go nuts because that would be absurd to refuse me that if I was just hanging out and not helping.

Today she was still sad I couldn't help. It's the second class for the new quarter for the basic class. We were talking about how dumb it is I can't help. And now the school is off budget and even dropping some paid TA positions, and may need to drop some classes or even professor positions if things don't pick up. So that's even more of a reason to keep and encourage helpers.

She said she found out one of the departments does have helpers, and they are getting a stipend program she was looking into. (So I guess the school and the helper gets monies for that?) So she said she will reach out to them and see how they are doing it. So maybe that can be some leverage towards getting me back into a helping position and maybe even some kind of monies.

So that is super good news. That would be super happy. I can't help but think I am still on a timer. More so from the car insurance due in a few days. But also even if I got to

help, and even if I did get some kind of monies, I still have maybe 10 months before I will be out of classes completely.

But I have to try and focus on today. I have to not look at sad things, nor sad things around the corner, particularly things I can't control. I have to continue to look at the good, at what I do have. And I hope that good things do come in the future, and help comes to help me hang on until my forever better days.

Day 3376 - 9/28

Sneezing so much

Today I was sneezing quite a lot. Maybe not as much as a big cold, but certainly a few times every hour. I would guess I do have a cold, as I'm also very tired.

Last night was kind of bad. In the night I was listening to what I've made for a spooky game soundtrack, as listening to stuff I've collected to play when I may someday have friends and DM in the future usually calms me. But last night it backfired. Due to all the worry about no money for car insurance, thoughts of losing the car because of it, along with recent threats of being overdue on student loans, all had me quickly spiraling. I thought of losing the car, my already poor health declining further, and rapid decline and death after. 😞 I tried to shoo away the thoughts of death as quick as I could. I suppose I did. But my heart rate was elevated, and I lost about three hours of sleep. 😞

But today I tried to shoo the thoughts and worries away. I continue to hope help for the car insurance comes. And I emailed the people and told them I am back in school and to update their records. (I don't need to make student loan payments if I'm in class.)

I had a pretty good time with my game most of the day. Though in the later afternoon my eyes and mind couldn't focus. Worry began to take over, and I had a lot less fun than I otherwise would have normally.

But I tried to hang on to hope. I got through the day. And I continue to try and stay hopeful, as tomorrow is a new day.

Day 3377 - 9/29

Almost out... of everything

Today is extra sad. There were no donations. And while I never expect them to come and save me, I don't know how I'll manage. Gas is down to about a week. I don't have enough to cover my monthly bank account fee in my bank account. (Though there is a small pledge from a person who will come when that's due, so I should be ok.) My car insurance payment is due on Sunday. And one prescription of the three has been out for a month, with the other days away from being out. Yet I lack the \$10 for an appointment to go to the doc to get refills. So it feels like everything is very rapidly running out. 😞 Yes, the root of all of these is money, easily solved if I can get some. But it seems only a couple of people are watching out for me these days. So I'm sure if they would help they would. And opportunity continues to not come. I feel alone. 😞 And it feels like I will lose what I have left. 😞

I tried to have fun with my game. I tried to focus on the fact that, for the moment at least, my system still works and I have my games. And, thanks to birthday gifts, there is even one waiting not yet released.

But today was extra difficult emotionally. I don't know how I will manage in the coming days. But I will try to hang on. I will try to keep hoping. If I stop... what little strength I have left emotionally to hang on would be lost, and I likely would never be able to stop crying. 😞

Day 3378 - 9/30

Slow and worried

Today passed very slowly. I don't know why, but it felt about three times longer than normal. Maybe because help has still not come, and as such I couldn't stop worrying, or running bad what-if scenarios through my mind. 😞 Try as I might with my fun games, I couldn't find enough distraction to stop worrying. 😞

I am still pretty sneezy and stick feeling. I don't really feel bad sick, just very extremely tired, and have difficulty focusing enough to truly care about things I otherwise would care about or otherwise enjoy.

All I can do is try to hang on. And try to hang on to hope that help will come.

Day 3379 - 10/1

Of two and a half minds

Today I seem to be split and of different minds. The worrying side of me can't stop worrying. Today the first insurance payment is officially due, and I don't have the \$40 for it, let alone the \$375 to pay it all off at once. My mind spirals trying to think of what to do.

The other big part of my brain was trying to ignore things as best as I could. I tried to let things go and tried to play and have fun. And were it not for the constant back and forth war with my worry I'd have succeeded.

But there was another part. Maybe some of both sides. That part wandered; trying to think sideways between both. I thought of what if I were in a home, and how playing or show watching would be different. I thought about what if I had friends, and a home; would they be coming over for a game? Would I make snacks or pre-game dinner? How could I eat differently to try and get into better shape? Would I stretch and do my mini-workout like I used to?

I suppose today had more good than bad. I was as happy as I could be all things considered. Yet I was constantly worried. I could not stop worrying. And with the bill worries comes minor panic and fear of death. The chill of the void lapping at the back of my mind, like a distant shore, the waves crashing gently, distant.

But I tried to focus on the fun I could have. I tried to focus on the fact I know there are those out there who watch out for me, and hope more come in the future. And with that, maybe help will come and I can continue to hang on until better days.

Day 3380 - 10/2

Sore thighs

Today my thighs were very sore. I have no idea why. It's almost as if I had done one of my more vigorous stretching mini-workouts and focused on legs. It may have something to do with stress, and my barely getting six hours of sleep most nights. More and more my body has been aching because of stress and lack of sleep. I suppose it could be because I'm walking funny. My paws got extra dry recently, and the bottoms got cracked and have owies. Since I have flat feet it's possible I'm doing something like trying to curve my feet and causing cramps from trying to create an arch to avoid the owies.

I asked for help on a social site. While my post 'has reached' a lot of people, so far only two have sent help. It's enough for a bit of gas, maybe close to two weeks if I'm very lucky, so that was more than I expected. But sadly it's not as much as I'd have hoped. I'd hoped there would be enough help for a bit of gas, but more importantly that first \$40 for an insurance payment. Maybe more will come. I have to keep hoping it will.

I suppose I had fun today. Some people said hi and I played a bit. I chatted with the professor I used to do TA help for. And I played my game and tried to have fun. I helped on the forums, though I still wonder if it's worth it. It seems my MVP status gives me nothing; not even the virtual stuff I used to get in years past.

But I tried to hang on today. It was warm enough. I had a shower in the morning. I had microwaved food. And I had a stable and strong connection to do online stuff. I guess it wasn't bad, but there was still no point in the day that I stopped worrying. 😞

But still I try. I try to have fun. I try to hang on by doing so, and I try to hang on to hope that help will come and I will make it to a better day.

Day 3381 - 10/3

Still sneezing

Today I am still sneezy and sniffly. It's not bad, just a bit every hour. But I still worry about it since I can do very little to recover from colds.

I had a terrible time sleeping last night and this morning. I didn't have nightmares, but they were bad and stressful dreams. Most likely from stress leaking through from my conscious mind.

I have been able to relax at least a little lately. I am having fun in my games. And lately I have written about six pages of background for a character. So it's good to know I'm not so worried and stressed I can't enjoy things at least a little.

But worry does consume me to my core these days. It is almost impossible to not constantly worry about everything. 😞 So much would just take a little bit of money, yet only a few are helping and things are getting much tougher, and are now becoming impossible, without that help. 😞

But I try to hold on to hope. And I continue to try to hang on until help comes.

Day 3382 - 10/4
Surreal

Today was ok emotionally. Though I was unable to keep thoughts and worries about my overdue insurance from my mind, I did have some fun with my game, and was distracted by class.

Class had a very surreal experience. We were down in the soundstage and after being up in the control room and hearing all the things while having a headset on for about 10 cycles, when I finally had my turn to be the person in front of the camera it was very surreal. It was super dark with just the outline of the six or so people on set. I heard no voices. And though I knew a certain camera on meant there would be music, I heard none. In a weird way it was almost like I was in my own space, similar I suppose to when I do podcasting. But knowing there were people watching me, without speaking, was quite odd.

Again I thought I am very afraid of death. The chills and worries are not subsiding. 😞 I know my death is not close, and I hope nothing happens to make it so, but everything feels weird. Everything feels far too basic, like everything is a waste of time. I suppose it's because I don't have the big things. I don't have that family, however large or small, around me. I don't have a sweetie or little ones who I would live on through if I were suddenly gone. And though there is a small number of people I see on a semi-regular basis, none are close friends who would truly mourn my loss. Though there may be a few stories they keep with them.

I suppose with few to no opportunities I am just a voice in the dark, or I am just passing time until better times come. And I don't know if I will ever have the bigger things.

But for the moment I continue on. I try to hang on to hope. I try to ignore death, like everyone else. And I try to stay hopeful that better days are still ahead.

Day 3383 - 10/5

Food goes flop

Today was odd. I got an extra shower at school and hung out for a bit. By the time the few hours had passed and I was off to the library it already felt like an extra day had passed. Not in terms of my energy level, which was extra odd. I was fine there, but it felt... long.

I almost had barely any food today. I had put everything into a bag at the store. I was also carrying something. I put the bag on the roof, then opened the door and trunk (the trunk lock stopped working a while ago, so I have to pull the lever). I placed the thing in the trunk, and then grabbed something to move into the car from the trunk. For some reason (maybe because I was holding the thing) I completely forgot about the food bag. And somehow I failed to see it while getting in the car, despite it being right there at eye level. I was driving away when I heard a flop of a paper bag and looked in my mirror and saw my food. Had my window not been down that 1/4" I never would have heard the bag fall and I'd have kept going. But I backed up, opened my door, and grabbed the bag.

It was very odd. I don't really forget stuff like that. I think, because of how my life is so unsettled, yet I cling to the routines I can, I have somewhat lost the capacity to easily remember things outside of my usual pattern. In a home you'd remember those odd differences in routine. There would be a reason for change. The five million things I'm currently constantly worrying about wouldn't be an issue, so unusual things would stand out. It was... odd.

Speaking of constant worry; the person who has helped me so much has again sent big help. 😊 So, tomorrow I'll pay the overdue month. And as soon as I can (it may not be an option for a few weeks) I'll pay November as well. Hopefully I can hang on enough to do so. He sent enough for, in theory, two months, a laundry, and a bit over one week of gas. So, depending when I pay it, I may or may not have enough for that second month. Though when I do I'll be totally tapped again and whatever gas I have will be it. So hopefully help will continue to come until things are better.

I had fun with my game today. Though I played my online game quite a lot, and there are a lot of people you need to kill. By the early afternoon I was starting to feel sad and again started somewhat fearing and worrying about my own death. 😞 I may need to

play other things where I'm not killing people more often. Though pretty much every game I have but one is killing people in some form. (And at this point I play that game less than about an hour a week.)

But today I got a lot of help. And I hung on emotionally. Which these days seems to be about all I can do. So I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3384 - 10/6

Forgetting myself

Today was ok emotionally, though I tried to pay the car insurance and the site was down. That better not be an issue because I really don't have phone money to call them.

In the evening things were a bit sad. I had some extra time, so I decided to just meander in a store next to the food store. There were Halloween decorations. Some spooky, some silly, but it reminded me I used to look at Halloween displays at many stores in the past. Seeing the fun would always cheer me up. I suppose tonight it did too. I left smiling.

But I pretty quickly became sad. Not so much because I couldn't buy any decorations. Not because I have no home to put them in. But because I have been in such a bad position for so long in my life that I forgot. I completely forgot it was a thing. I completely forgot that was a part of who I was. I am forgetting... me. 😞

I still hope once I am in a home and back to some form of normalish life I will remember these traditions. I hope I remember me. I think the thing that scares me almost more than death is that when I do come out I may not be me. I may be forever scared and changed. I may be... someone else. 😞

Day 3385 - 10/7

Movie

Today was pretty good. At the moment I don't remember much. I spent one of the two free movie tickets I had to go see a movie that, in some ways, I've been waiting 30 years for.

I guess today was ok. I tried again to make a payment, and again the site as still broken. I may see if I can connect with my phone to the school internet and do the free calling to get that done. It seems like they can't get it together and fix their site.

So today was ok. I was distracted for most of the day from my sad thoughts. There are always things I miss, ways I'd have preferred things be done. But that is not my life, at least not for the moment. I have to try and accept that, and look at what I do have. And hopefully help continues to come and I can hang on until my forever better days.

Day 3386 - 10/8

Don't remember it

Today was ok, I guess. I don't really remember it. I know I was at the food store in the morning. And I played and watched a show at the library. And I suppose I do remember the day, but it doesn't really stand out.

The odd thing is there is one thing that stands out about the day. There was a commercial during the show, I have no idea what for, and the person was a baker. He was setting up cookie dough balls to be baked later in the day. I think it stood out because I have no idea when I last did that. In recent years before I was homeless I'd just bought the pre-made dough. It's probably been close to 15 years or so since I made them from scratch.

I suppose it's just one of those times my mind feels like it's lost a part of me; something I've forgotten that I may never get to do again.

But I had a decent day. There were no new donations, and the library was chilly. But I played, watched a show, had enough food, and have enough to do laundry. And looking at just today that is pretty good. And I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3387 - 10/9

Minimum

Today things were pretty good. There was a bit of weirdness with the connection with some slowness and disconnections a few times, but hopefully that was just a hiccup and the connection will be normal after today.

I used the wireless on my phone to make a call to pay the insurance. They only gave me the option of paying all of it at \$375, or a single payment at \$42. So, obviously, I went with the onetime payment. Which I guess was for the best, as about \$45 is all I have left total in my account after that payment. Which would be... unsafe to spend on the next payment as my account would be almost completely empty after.

I had a pretty good time today though. I talked to a few people about things. I played my game. And I watched a show. I even laughed a bit here and there.

I am still very worried. I had sad almost nightmares most of last night. I still don't know how I'll manage. But I kept the sad thoughts at bay. They did not overwhelm me today.

So for today I hung on emotionally. And I try to hang on to the money which is left, as it is very close to enough for the next payment due in three weeks. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3388 - 10/10

Hopeful, but tired

Today I am hopeful, but very tired. I had to get up about 45 minutes early, and on top of that I tried to get a shower because they were ice cold yesterday and they were still ice cold. I hope they fix that soon. While I can get parts mostly clean, doing extra things like shaving and brushing my teeth and stuff is difficult to impossible when it's not at least warm. 😞 I think of all the things that would help put me in a much better position, and I think a warm to hot shower with (at least semi) private space to do maintenance things would make me feel a lot better.

But I am settled at school now. It is warm and comfy. (At least as comfy as sitting on the floor can be.) I have micro foods, and will hopefully have a strong and stable connection. And I try to hang on to hope more help will come soon and I can hang on to what I have left. Mostly I hope my sad thoughts don't dominate my mind, and I hope there are better days ahead.

Day 3389 - 10/11
He was missed

Today was better emotionally. The morning had a bit of trouble with the connection, but because there was class it passed quickly enough. During class the teacher was explaining a particular concept, and he said he was sad the bunny wasn't there, as it was a perfect example of the concept. I said it was my bunny and I could draw him real quick, so I did. It meant a lot that the bunny was both missed and useful for teaching since I can no longer help. I was curious why he'd never taken a picture of him and he said the bunny was there for the past years, so he just had come to expect that the bunny would still be there. That was a nice surprise to hear as well in a time when I feel uncertain about if I will be there or not. People still expect to see me in my spot, and notice my presence and feel weird if I'm not there. Not friends, not interaction, but it is something to know my presence and visibility is at least some kind of touchstone for people.

In the back of my mind I was still worried about all the things. But today I was distracted enough they didn't bother me.

Tomorrow I won't be on campus though; part of my new split schedule between there and the library. So tomorrow and through the weekend keeping sad thoughts at bay will be more difficult.

But I try to hang on. I try to stay hopeful. And hopefully I will have better days.

Day 3390 - 10/12
Disconnect

Yesterday during class we watched all the things we'd filmed the first few weeks. I knew I didn't want to see myself, but I really look nothing like I think I do in my head. My mind can ignore all of the ethnic traits I don't like. I don't think of myself from that

culture, so seeing physical traits of people from that culture... is not something I would choose if I could.

Even ignoring that, I do not look as I'd expect. On the screen was this barrel chested, chubby, borderline fat guy, with super pale, almost deathly, white skin. And on top of this eggshell white egg of a head was a crazy fluff of chaotic hair.

I know people see me how they see me. I know to them how I look is normal, as I look like I look and they expect nothing else. And while my hair isn't the best (I definitely cut it too short last time) I'm sure it is accepted for what it is.

But I am very overweight from where I'd like to be. From my knees down, and on much of my arms, I feel tight. I feel lean. I don't feel fat in those parts. Yet for a while now my tummy area and chest have been big. Grabbing my gut tonight I would guess I must actually be back up to, if not over, 200. I will try and do all I can to get back down. I'd still really like to be back closer to 175. But it seems an almost impossible task due to my homeless stress, not being able to eat well, declining health because of those, and now the reality that I am closer to 50 than not. 😞

Today it seems all I can do is try and hang on. I try to hope for better days. I try to hope I can make it out of these terrible times, and through to better days. Days when I can have a home again. When I can have my things set up and watch shows or play games as I should. When I can have traditions back like watching movies on Saturday night, or hang up decorations for various holidays. And maybe I could even have real life friends again, who come over for game nights, who I can laugh and have a good time with.

I try to hang on to hope. And maybe someday those days will come.

Day 3391 - 10/13

Just a few

Today was kind of good. I got to be at the library and mostly the connection was strong and stable. I played a game and watched a few shows. The new season is starting, so ones I haven't seen in a while are coming back.

I tried a shower in the evening. Finally the water was hot. So that means it either finally got fixed today, or what scares me as a more likely scenario, they are starting to

not have hot water on in the morning. Switching showering to the evening isn't really a big deal. It's not really convenient, but I used to shower in the evenings all the time. I guess I'll know more Monday morning. For the moment I got a nice hot shower and feel pretty ok.

I had a better time than usual today. But I am still worried about all the things. I am really extremely tired; probably from a cold, probably stress, probably depression. But emotionally today was a lot better. I was at least distracted, and enjoyed the distraction.

I kind of feel like I forgot something I was supposed to do, but I can't think of what that could be.

But today I hung on, and so I try to stay hopeful. And hopefully there will be better days ahead.

Day 3392 - 10/14

Outsider

Today I felt like an outsider. I suppose mostly because that horrible guy is always around now. The one who smells like a sewer that threw up on another sewer. He's always at the food store and always at the library. When I see him this frequently I feel like I'm a leech, like him. I know it's not true because I would jump at the chance to be back in a home and a normal life. He seems completely oblivious and like he would never stop being a disgusting homeless person doing nothing but sleeping in public and watching his foreign shows online.

It is hard to be happy and think things will get better when I frequently see others who are homeless, in some cases much longer than I have. I suppose I could go back to spending more time at school, but without being able to help in class I doubt that would provide the connection to a normal life that I would be looking for.

In the back of my mind I felt half fixated on the sad things; bills, money running out, gas running out, the weather getting colder, my health getting poorer. And the other half was partly distracted by my game tomorrow; thinking of a normal life with other friends, other games, dinner and board games, shows and movies watched on a TV instead of my monitor.

So I suppose I hung on today. And most days that's all I can do. And for now I continue, and hope for better days ahead.

Day 3393 - 10/15

Forgotten for a day

Today was pretty good. in the morning I only had a few hours at the food store to play before heading out to do my every other week game, which kind of has become a once a month game with how infrequently we have been meeting. Before we played I was entering my sad story. And when we played I was distracted with play. So today I was, for the first time in quite a long time, distracted enough to have forgotten my troubles and worries.

It was nice to have the thoughts out of my mind, even just for a part of the day. Now, in the evening as I'm settling, the sad thoughts are beginning to return. But for the moment I continue to hold on to hope. And hopefully there will be more better days ahead.

Day 3394 - 10/16

Unable

Today I feel, I guess melancholy. All day, sitting in my spot at school, I felt like a subject of a time-lapse video. People walked by me as if I were invisible, as if I didn't exist at all, coming and going, doing their message checking when leaving class, moving on with their day and plans. Yet I did not.

I thought about things I could not do. I could not sleep in a bed. I could not shower whenever I chose. I could not game in amounts I chose because I had to conform to certain time windows for things like using the micro to eat. I could not eat or drink whatever I wanted. I had what I brought, and that was my choice.

I feel like I can no longer look beyond today, beyond right now. I suppose that's a good thing, as it is easier to focus on what I have, instead of what I don't or what I've lost. But I also feel a great loss of me. No one is depending on me. No one relies on me or hopes I'm there. For the most part, my thoughts and opinions are not given, nor needed, and as such not heard or appreciated.

I try to focus on the fact this is only temporary. Given the opportunity I will be strong enough to recover, given enough time. But with only being able to see today, it is harder and harder to see tomorrow through the sadness. 😞

Day 3395 - 10/17

Feeling sad

Today I am feeling sad about all the things. I slept very well actually. It was a bit warmer last night than usual. But in my deep sleep I had deep dreams. Dreams of sad things. Dreams of struggle and loss. And so I think I've woken up equally sad.

I think about my last emergency call for help and feel sad. The post, last I saw, 'reached' 216 people. Yet only two sent help and messages of well-wishing along with that. While I realize the population I reached out to have their own struggles and worries and are not in the best positions, I can't help but feel more like they don't care. Like people in general only care about themselves and no one else. I can't help but think how only 20 sending 10 a month would stabilize my current life. I think how little that is and I wonder why I don't know enough who can do that.

Why in all the world don't people do that to help with the bigger struggles so many have? I don't mean really big issues like cancer, though I'm sure if we stopped fighting long enough we could at least find ways to extend our lifespan overall. But medium sized issues, like hunger in general, help for those struggling with getting medicine, or other issues like that. It seems like people world-wide are so focused on themselves and doing things the way they've been told is the way to do it have gotten stuck. And we, as a world people, are becoming self-centered and holding back our potential as a species.

But in spite of how big my ponderings are I cannot even help me. I am in need of help. 😞 And so I try to survive and hang on. I do things like buy a treat for food to try and cheer myself. I look forward to a rare pre-purchase of a game releasing in a week. And I try to trust Fate and Destiny are moving me in the right directions, physically and emotionally. And I try to hang on to hope that help will come and I can hang on until opportunity for change comes. And hope I can make it to my forever better days. 😞

Day 3396 - 10/18

Sad classmate

Today passed very quickly. In the morning I barely did anything before it was time to watch a show and have an early lunch before class. Class passed pretty quickly. And it felt like I'd settled into my spot after and had just played for a little bit when I discovered 1.5 hours had flown by and it was time for dinner.

After class had its break one student came back about 10 minutes late, and he was carrying himself differently than he normally does. As parts of the class was walking somewhere across campus I pointed out that he seemed different and asked if he was ok. He said he was ok, but there was some girl weirdness. We talked a bit about what was going on, I recommended he just give her time and a bit of space, and did the 'old Eric' voice and said he had plenty of time. And I recommended he maybe pass the time with some video games, so we talked about that for a bit.

Hopefully he feels less sad and a bit happier. He may not realize how rare it is for someone to notice when a person is off like that. Hopefully it helped. Probably not that much, as girl weirdness is what it is, but hopefully it helped some.

When I was leaving class there was a building with a vent on top. It looked kind of like a chimney with smoke coming out. It seemed peaceful. Which is odd, as I'm not one who's into fires. I mean they are nice, they kind of remind me of simpler times; times back in the day when there wasn't so much going on around me all the time. Certainly much easier times than these homeless days of constant stress and worry. It was a nice thought to think about having a home, having a fireplace, and having the freedom to just sit and be still and quiet for a bit.

But really nothing changed for me today. 😞 It was a better day, but all the sad things were still there. When I sleep and wake the sad rotation will refresh. And while it has almost as much potential to be a good day, I certainly don't expect it to be. But I try to hang on to hope. I try to see the little moments, like today, and look away from the sad things I can't control. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3397 - 10/19

You're welcome

Today was a better day. There was a bit of time at the food store in the morning, which passed pretty quickly. Then I spent the day at the library playing and watching shows. And I generally had fun there.

It's been quite a while since I haven't been extremely worried about all the things. Yes, now that it's night and I've left the library the worries are coming back. I've gotten no donations since the last. But I figure if dad sends money for Halloween, or I do get a moderate donation, I'll have enough to pay the November insurance and at least not worry about that. Though around the 20th of December I've got a \$100 bill coming up for internet space costs for the year, which I don't think can be broken into smaller payments, so that is very worrisome. 😞

I did feel kind of sick today. Lately my throat has been scratchy, my lungs a bit icky, and today I've had a song repeating in my head from a movie I watched last weekend. It's a nice happy song, so it's not bad, but usually repeating things in my head means fever and illness. 😞

But today was a pretty good day despite my sad things. I had a good time. So I continue to hold on believing that help will come, and that I can hang on until it does. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day too.

Day 3398 - 10/20

Annoyed

Today was pretty good. I was warm enough, but a touch chilly. I played my MMO and watched a few shows. There is a special holiday thing going on in my game, so that is extra silly fun. It's extra nice since I'm unable to celebrate in any way in my real life. 😞

Though there were two people who annoyed the crap out of me. The first showed up right when the library opened. She would eat one nut at a time and go crunch crunch crunch. Every time she did I would stare across two empty tables at her. She stopped after

about a dozen times, but then maybe half an hour later she started tapping her feet and I wrinkled my forehead at her. She finally got the hint that I am sound sensitive and she was seriously bugging me. She also had a regular keyboard attached to her laptop, so the couple of hours before I started playing and had my headphones on I would constantly hear her clack clacking on the keyboard.

The next was much more difficult to ignore. From about 3 until the library closed at 6 someone was at my table. He had terrible breath that smelt like rotting eggs and diapers. The only way I managed was because it would only waft past me when he breathed deeply. I was very close to saying he needed to leave my table. It was pretty bad. The library was full at that point though, so there was nowhere for him to move to.

I suppose though no help came and there was no opportunity for change, today was ok. It passed at a good pace. I had a good connection almost all day, so I got to play my game and watch shows. And I had enough food stamp monies to have enough food. (Though it's not the best on days like today when it has to be ready to eat food.)

Today wasn't a bad day, but there is still so much about a normal life I don't have. I try to hang on. And I try to stay hopeful tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3399 - 10/21

Maybe too scarey

Today went pretty quickly. I had a lot of fun with my main game and doing the special holiday things and working up my alt character. This is a new one, which is a copy of my main. Both are my favorite race and class. The previous one was one I made 'just in case' it was a role needed by a guild for a group. But I have no guild, and so there is really no need to be prepared, and no need to use that as the one for doing extra daily things. Better to have one I really enjoy.

I got a season of a horror show I watch from the library. I don't know if I can continue to watch horror though. Maybe I've been too close to death for too long now. A human person killed a couple of the main characters in a super brutal way and that sort of triggered my panic and fear of death. I was ok, but I am shaken up a bit.

Before my sad times, before my big attack a while ago, this kind of thing wouldn't phase me. Since my mom died when I was 13 I've had an odd relationship with death. I didn't fear it, not like I do now. Maybe it's just the 35 years that have passed have slowly change me. Maybe it was the major panic attack I had not too long ago. Maybe it's just an odd feeling in my heart because I've been off my blood pressure meds for something like over a month now. I may never know, even if I get back in a home I still may never know. Nor may I ever know if I return to the me that was. Even if all wounds heal, there is still lost time.

But I try to stay as happy as I can. I try to focus on what should still be ahead of me. And I try to stay hopeful for better days ahead.

Day 3400 - 10/22

Survival horror

Today was pretty good. I had some time at the food store then played at the library most of the day. I got a donation from a friend the other day. It was supposed to be for fun things, but sadly it had to go to pay the car insurance. So, added to the previous donation (remains) I paid that today and am safe for another month.

I watched more of the horror series. It was more survival and dealing with things. I thought about that, and Halloween and scary times in general since my game is having an event. I think people like to be scared because they are not usually. They have comfortable safe lives and so that show or movie putting them off for a bit is fun. But they know when it's over they are safe again.

I think I got so scared because I don't have that. I am, maybe, a quarter of the way to living like in the show. I know that fear. I know that hunger and not knowing if I'll have food. And while I don't have zombies or a homicidal maniac coming after me, I am also no safer when I turn off the show. My horror and fear is all around me all the time. There is no being safe, not really. And I don't know when, or if, I can be.

But I try to hang on. I try to stay hopeful of the future. And hopefully someday I too can have a safe comfortable life again.

Day 3401 - 10/23

Helping

Today was pretty good. It seemed to move very fast for some unknown reason. In the back of my mind I was sad and worried. Overall my health still felt meh because I'm sneezing and have a bit of a cold. But overall I felt pretty good. I played my game and had fun, though there is now some new content I don't quite have enough coin tokens for, so I'll have to wait until I get a tiny bit of spare monies to get that.

Someone asked for help from a class that isn't the professor I helped for. It was nice to be able to help someone and kind of help teach them the software. I miss helping with that. 😞 But I guess unless my professor changes where she works to somewhere that has a position she can hire me for that won't change.

But today was pretty good. My split week almost feels like two weeks. One of my old school life, and the other my homeless needing to be at the library life. I guess it's a nice balance, but it won't stay this way. And I don't know how long it will be until I finally balance back in a home.

But I try to hang on to hope. I continue to hope help comes. And I try to hang on until my forever better days.

Day 3402 - 10/24

Feeling loss

This morning has started out sad. I have been losing a bit of sleep lately, and while I got to catch up a bit last night I probably would have slept two more hours than I did. My hair is.. bad. There is no real fixing it. I definitely cut it too short last time, and while the sides are more even more often than not it's just a mushroom like poof of craziness. I feel sniffly, congested, and confused. No doubt I have a cold. In a home I'd have chicken broth - not quite soup, not quite tea. That is my favorite resting when sick drink. There have been about a dozen beautiful girls on camps so far.

Normally these things are nothing, but today I feel loss. Losing sleep feels like it just reminds me of the lack of control I have in life in general. Not being able to sleep in

or have sick foods reminds me I can do little when I do get sick. Crazy hair reminds me I can't afford a real haircut, and don't have mirrors and a stable place to take my time to try and do it myself. And while young beautiful girls would normally remind me there are always girls out there and I may find love again someday, today it seems like it just reminds me they are not for me, they will not be interested, and I have missed my chance.

Soon I'll do my morning job search, though I expect to find nothing. My forum help, though I never get thanked or rewarded for doing it. And I will chill at school, though I expect no one will want my help, since there are now so few who recognize I hang out here to help people with projects.

But today is just getting started. Hopefully very quickly the morning will pass. I will wake up a bit. I will have some foods. And I can play my game or watch shows, and hopefully in doing so find happiness in the distraction. I continue to survive, one day at a time. For the moment I am safe, warm enough, and have food. Hopefully donations will come. And hopefully I can make it to my forever better days.

Day 3403 - 10/25
Abandoned nuggets

Today was pretty good. The morning started with my birthday pre-ordered game releasing, so I spent all the time I had before class playing that and had a super fun time. Then class was pretty fun. We are doing fewer jobs in the lab part, but we are still messing up, so we still laugh at ourselves and have a good time. I played my new game a teeny bit more during lunch and after class.

My professor had me sit in and watch the first projects that this quarter's students did. I still feel weird about it because I'm not supposed to be there helping. As always I said lots of helpful things, and even just my being there reminded the professor of certain things to say.

It has become super warm again after being cold and almost raining, which is odd. But that means I saw probably a dozen cute girls in warm weather cloths. 😍 I'm still super sad though, as it's still an odd mix of feeling hopeful because of that reminder and feeling like it's just a reminder of what I can't have.

I think tomorrow I'll break my new schedule and be at school. The new game was firewall blocked at the library during the beta, so I expect that is going to be the case for release. Since I've only played 3 hours so far I'd like to play at least 4 more hours tomorrow before talking about it on the podcast. Even 8 hours in would still likely be a pretty early look. Plus, what with my sniffing, sneezing, and being sick, an extra day of micro food would probably help me get better.

Oh, I almost forgot. When I went to micro dinner I found some abandoned nuggets. It was one of those times they'd pushed it to the center of the table and they were nearly ice cold (from cooling after being cooked.) I felt guilty taking what was effectively a full order, but it was late, they were cold, and since there were a few small fries in there too, this was obviously extra someone had set out who didn't need them. (I'd guess multiple people's orders combined into one left over.) A bit of a health risk, certainly not something I'd do if I had money to buy my own. But with my life what it is, that is a big

treat for many reasons. I think it's been probably more than six months since I could afford nuggets.

But overall today was a good day. There were no donations and my life did not change for the better in real life, at least not in a perceptible way. But I got to begin my new journey, a new life in a new world. And with all my worry and sadness in this one, that is something.

Day 3404 - 10/26

Half the positions

Today as actually super fun. I went to school to be sure I could play my new game. I had a super good time. Though, like the first one, I'm about 12 hours in and nearly done with the main storyline. There is still so much to do though, like I haven't done any of the 'dungeons', or done any real side quests or looked around yet. (Some things are locked by the story so I'm kind of pushing to get all the things unlocked.)

I'm glad I did it, both because I had fun and because there were a few that said hi and chatted with me that I otherwise wouldn't have seen. I will probably go ahead and be there on future Thursdays too, we'll see. It depends how weird it is in the future.

I was worried about my sad life in the back of my mind though. And one new thing that popped up just about gave me a heart attack. It seems the power on my laptop is questionable. It dropped to battery a few times in the morning. I discovered this seems related to the angle the plug is in. It has a 90 degree angle type. I have no clue why some manufacturers bend it at an angle like that. But it seems if it's partly down, a position it would only be in while on my lap, there is a fair chance it will disconnect. And when I first discovered this the connector was very warm, and the heat vents were kicking out extra heat from the battery being very warm. Thankfully I discovered it's only in this position that happens. I was let into the lab almost immediately after discovering it. Being set up on a table puts the plug pointing back. Within 5 minutes it was completely cool on the connection and the vents calmed back down. I played almost 7 hours (not in a row) with no power dips. When I moved back out of the lab to the hall, it happened again while on my lap. I pulled the plug cable over the front corner, which made the plug point

forward. It seemed fine that way. No drops in power or extra heat built up on the plug in the 2.5 hours I was there. So it seems, hopefully, the plug is just in a very early stage of death. And hopefully if it goes I can simply replace the plug and power brick.

I am very worried though. If it's an issue with the plug on the power brick that's fixable, though I don't have the like \$60 to fix it now. If, however, it's an issue with the laptop, it's more likely that it would be too expensive to fix. 😞

Of course I would love to replace the laptop before it gets worse (if it does.) The new generation more powerful chip is now cheaper. A system that gets 17,000 benchmarks compared to my system's 3,500 has now dropped to around \$1500. Which is an amazing deal.

But overall today was a very good day. I had a super fun time with y game. There were cute girls around. A beautiful girl from a class I previously TAed for said hi and chatted for a bit (though she was with a male friend during class break.) And while I had my worries, and now the new worry of the laptop power. Hopefully things will continue to be ok in the future, and I can hang on until things truly get better, and I have my forever better days.

Day 3405 - 10/27

Pew pew pew

Today was pretty good emotionally. Though I only got to play my new game a couple of hours, and that time was forced into solo activities, it was super fun. I played my MMO for a bit too, so that was fun. In the future my time not at school will be when I catch up on shows since the library firewall blocks my new game. It does in a weird way though. I can sort of connect, sort of see the zone, but there are no people at all, and I lose connection after a short while.

But nothing really bad happened besides a bit of very brief sensitivity with the laptop plug. Mostly I had fun with my day and nothing got worse (besides the plug.) So I try to hang on and hope donations come until I get opportunity, and hopefully I can hang on until my forever better days.

Day 3406 - 10/28

Early

Today I am doing things early. I left the library about 1.5 hours early to get a bit more time to play my new game. I'm super hungry now, though I'm not sure why, so I will be eating a couple of hours earlier than normal as well.

I had a good day so far. It's early evening now. For some reason I'm completely exhausted. I can barely keep my eyes open. I have lost sleep lately. And I have been fighting off a cold. So maybe both of those are factors.

But besides that I'm feeling pretty ok. I had fun with my new game before the library opened. Then I played my MMO for a bit. And I had just a teeny bit of money, so I did my laundry. So overall I feel ok. But, as always, hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3407 - 10/29

Split with school

Today was pretty good. The morning and night when I normally would have been at the food store were spent outside of school. I wanted to be sure I had a strong and stable connection for my new game. I'm not sure how much I'll do this in the future though, as it was already pretty cold and I don't expect things to warm up again for almost six months.

But today I had fun. No donations or change came. But because I was warm enough, had a connection, and could play on my laptop, I was distracted with fun things. And I didn't feel too bad. As always though, I hope tomorrow is a better day, and I hope help comes and I can hang on until my forever better days.

Day 3408 - 10/30

Fun

Today was a pretty fun day. I did my important job checking things in the morning, as I always do though rarely mention these days. Then a quick forum helping, and then the rest of my day I played my old MMO and my new game. More so my new game because there is more to gain, but also because a special vendor is there who is only there from Friday to Monday, so I wanted to get as much as I could before he was gone.

I also helped in the class I'm not supposed to help in. I doubt I'll help again for a few more weeks though.

But today was pretty good. I helped a bit with people coming by my spot with questions, and I got to play my fun games and be distracted. There were still my sad worries in the back of my mind, and things I feel I am missing and may never have in my life. But for today I was ok with how things have turned out. All I can do is try to make it one day at a time. And hopefully someday I'll be in a better position, financially and emotionally, to accept and deal with the bigger sad feelings I have.

Until then I hope help and good feelings come my way. And that I can continue to hold on.

Day 3409 - 10/31

Not my holiday anymore

Today is sad. What was once a fun holiday in my life is no more. When I was very young I would go out Trick or Treating. Later there were parties, though I never had enough connections for them to be the very big fun parties, nor did I have lots of party options. As a young adult there were decorations to put out and Trick or Treaters to give candies to. As a near-mid adult there was no longer anyone in my life for either, so I started giving out candies at school. But now my sad life has gotten so bad I can't even afford to do that, so I am left with nothing.

I suppose I don't have nothing at all. There is some silliness in my MMO with costumes and masks, so there is that. But today I expect I'll check for jobs and find

nothing, help on forums for no thanks or rewards, but be warm, restful, and be able to play my fun games. So I try to look at what I do have. And I try to hang on to hope that better days will come, and maybe someday I can celebrate holidays again.

Day 3410 - 11/1
Inspiring?

Today started kind of poorly. I went to take an extra long shower because the water was cold on Monday and it was still cold. I'm still not sure if it's on purpose or if it's something mechanical. The pressure is lower than normal, so that seems within norms for it being broken again.

The day was pretty good though. I had class and it was pretty fun. Before and after class I played my new game and had a super fun time. I'm very glad I both decided to get it, and had enough gift monies to do so. In the week I've had it I have probably played 40 or more hours. In probably another week it will be less than \$1 per hour, so that will be super cheap. And even just at 40 hours so far that is more than a lot of games I've gotten.

Someone posted on their social page that they thought I was inspiring. Back in the early days of the Fail writing I would agree. There was a lot of philosophy on how things went wrong, both with this most recent disaster, but also in my childhood. Things like my dad not knowing he was creating this huge self-esteem issue, and how when I lost my mom there was no emotional support anymore. Or how maybe that loss has affected how I see all relationships now, and possibly why I have difficulty finding friends.

I talked a lot about loss and connection too. I know more than a couple found that inspiring and reached out to those who they missed in their lives and re-examined why they separated.

Lately though I don't feel very inspiring. I used to be able to help in classes, being an unpaid TA. (Though being paid certainly would help.) I can't do that anymore. Though how can you not if you are that type and still around? Before the professor asked me to (officially) help I was helping others, much like I am now that I can't (officially).

And I help do tech support on the forums of one of the biggest most well known game companies in the world. Though I don't get anything for doing that anymore. I suppose I never really did. I got a virtual convention ticket the first couple of years, which wasn't much, but I haven't gotten anything at all since 2015 ended. Really the only reason I still help with that is because I know it does help some each day. And really it's only 15-

60 minutes per day, so it's not a huge amount of my day. Especially with my currently not working or even helping in classes.

So, I guess that stuff is inspiring. Wanting to help others even though I get nothing for it. But really I'm just a guy trying to get by. Now I am really just a survivor of a terrible ordeal, still in it. At least so far. As long as I continue day to day. But I am just a guy who's lost nearly everything trying to hang on to what little is left, both emotionally and with the few physical things I have left. And, as I have been ever since my teens, just a guy trying to help others, so they do not suffer the same pain and troubles I have.

Day 3411 - 11/2

Felt much longer

Today was both super good and kind of bad. In the bad, my power on my laptop flickered out for about one second a couple of times during the day while it was sitting in 'a good position' on the desk. So I probably have a few months before it starts to get really bad if it dies like the previous power supplies have died.

There was also a time when I was playing my super fun new game and someone was being extra silly. I thought about people, personality, those we know as being memorable for certain things, and had a sort of minor panic attack as things then turned towards myself and how when I am gone others may think of me in such a fashion.

But overall my day was super good. I played my MMO and did my daily things. The Halloween event is over, but I guess another is coming in a few weeks, so that's good. In my new game I played and had a lot of fun. I guess I was having so much fun it felt like time was passing faster than it actually did. I thought it felt like 5, and was getting hungry for dinner, but when I checked it was actually only 1:30. When it felt like it was almost 7 I checked again, and it was only around 3. So it felt like about double the time was passing than was actually passing.

I had a super good time with my games, but the \$100 for the web stuff, and \$40 more for the next insurance, both due in about a month, were always on the back of my mind. Particularly with the new addition of needing a power supply, which after checking online (and putting it on my wish list) is about \$45. And I still don't know for sure the

power supply is really the issue. I'm just guessing it is since this power supply did take some damage before I got a surge protector on it, and the others before it died after about 1.5 years of use.

But I try to focus on the fun I had. I try to focus on that I have places to be that are warm, and most days I can micro food, so things aren't as terrible as they could still become. For the moment my car still works, I have some gas, and my laptop is still hanging on. So I try to focus on the good. I hope to catch up on sleep so I don't feel so exhausted. And I hang on to hope that help will come, and I can make it to my forever better days.

Day 3412 - 11/3

Owie paw

Today was mostly good. The end was a bit spoiled and I'm still irked about it. I decided to go to school; mostly to play my new game since the public library firewalls it, but also because I'm congested and coughing with a cold, and I'm not feeling super great and that would both be a warmer environment as well as giving me micro access. But I was hanging out in my spot and at 5:30 two student security - who have no more authority over students than I do - come by and say that I need to leave because they are closing up the building. Every quarter I've been there this happens. I tell them, 'no, there is a class going on literally on the other side of this wall behind me (which there is a door you can see in which they already passed less than five feet from me), that lab is open, the other lab is open, the floor is open, and the staff in charge of all of that is down the hall and here until at least 6.' They stood there arguing and trying to push me out saying they were right and I needed to leave for probably nearly 5 minutes. I repeatedly said, 'no, go talk to the teacher, go talk to the staff in charge of the floor.' Granted, I could have handled it better by immediately walking them right over instead of staying in my spot and pushing back, but I don't react well to people trying to assert fake authority over me. I can't really blame them though. Their boss, the actual (on campus) police, told them something which was incorrect. However, they should have immediately taken me at my word, had one of them stay with me, and the other go verify my story, instead of standing there and both

arguing with me. But I don't really blame them, as they are extremely young and very inexperienced. I try to focus on the good of the day and let this go.

My back is killing me though. It's not used to so much time sitting on the floor. It's been probably more than six months since I was at school all week and Friday.

I seem to have an owie on my left foot bottom too. For a normal person this would be nothing. But for me, with my flat feet, it's right where a bulk of pressure goes when I walk. So it's like, step, ow, step, ow, step, ow. 😞 It's like the area got overly dry and cracked there. I checked this morning when I was first feeling it, and it's red and a bit sore around the cracked wound.

But today I tried to relax. I tried to recover from my cold. I played a lot and had fun. I tried to watch shows, but the network site with the shows I wanted to watch wasn't working, so I had to watch something that was meh. (I'll probably just stop watching that show.)

I suppose today was just another reminder how my life is not in my control. I could not control my environment. While I ate better than I would have at the public library, it certainly was not what I'd have eaten in a home. And while things were restful, due to various physical discomforts it was not as restful as it would have been in a home. But it could have been worse. It still may be worse someday. So I try to look at what was good, and I hope to make it to better days.

Day 3413 - 11/4

Quick

Today passed very quickly. In the morning I needed to go ridiculously out of my way to recycle. That is such a bother now. It's so far, and even with a mostly full trunk I barely get anything.

My time at the library passed very quickly, as well as a bit of time at the food store. I checked for jobs, helped a tiny bit on the forums, but mostly played my games and watched a few shows.

I was still very worried about the upcoming bills. 😞 Besides the \$100 for web stuff, \$40 for car insurance, there is also \$50 for next school quarter, \$40 for an overdue

oil change as soon as I can, and eventually \$45 for a new laptop power plug. Not counting bigger things down the line like \$200 for contacts, which without buying all at once I'd have to buy in smaller amounts at poor prices for what I'd be getting.

But I had fun. And for a few brief moments I could ignore my sad things. But hopefully help will come. And hopefully I can hang on to hope long enough to get to my forever better days.

Day 3414 - 11/5

Cold winter

Today was sad. The morning started with the first sad thing. I had my foods and went to pay for them and apparently there wasn't enough food stamp money for what I had. I had a gift card someone sent spared since my birthday, so I used that to cover the overage. But I was very worried as to how I would pay for food in the future. 😞 I immediately regretted celebrating the holidays by getting a small pack of candies to share during Halloween, and the single slice of pumpkin pie I got last night.

I discovered there is still \$15 left on the card, which if I were extremely careful I could stretch to a week. So I guess things were ok. I also later discovered today was the 5th, and my money cycles again on the morning of the 6th, so I'm actually fine. But that fear, added to all my other money worries lately, put an early damper on my day. 😞

I had fun the following couple of hours playing my new game. The connection at the food store was just enough to play. When I left there was another minor scare, as my car clock showed it was nearly 1. I guess I didn't notice when I was in the car earlier that it shows an hour off from my tablet and laptop. I guess the time change happened last night. But that reminded me it's winter. Not that the cold and recent rain hasn't already done that. But it, and the extreme dark when I left the library, reminded me that there are many cold and sad nights to come.

There were more sad reminders during my day too. The library was full, and the connection slowed, limiting what I could do. And someone was sitting at my table who alternately smelt like pee and farts. Both seemed like reminders I am not in a home. I cannot control my environment. And there too was the thought that of all my games, I

have not experienced any of them to their fullest. It has always been on my laptop with headphones. Never on a desktop, with a regular monitor, and proper speakers.

And, though probably very minor, my laptop power again winked out for half a second while I was playing. Not enough for most to notice, but I did. And it reminded me everything I have is on a timer. And that timer ticks away each day.

So today overall seemed like just a reminder that I am in a sad place. It reminded me of what is missing in my life. Making me worried I may never get to experience certain things in life like others do, or might never experience some things at all. 😞

But I try to remember today was just today. Anything can happen tomorrow, and so I hope for the best. I hope for change. I hope help will come. And I hope for fun times, so I can hopefully set aside the bad, until I am through it.

Day 3415 - 11/6

Like twelve times

Today was very fun, but also very worrisome. During the day, a day where I was sitting on the floor so there was a lot of movement, the power dropped on my laptop maybe as many as a dozen times. And once it even just went 'poof' and shut off completely. I am still hopeful and fairly certain it is a plug/power brick issue, as this is the exact same thing that happened with the previous plug death. And, if I can keep the cord stationary it is safe and stable, which both of these indicate to me it's a power brick issue. But the stressful part is I have no money to replace it. And, if it gets much worse gaming will become increasingly difficult. Right now that half second dip in power just means poor frame rate for 1-3 seconds while the power gets to the parts again, which is manageable.

Besides that worry, my regular bill worries, and back hurting from extra floor time, the internet completely dropped for about an hour which was sad. But I just played a single player offline game during that time.

But all these worries aside it was a pretty good day. I had fun with my games. I watched a show. A few people said hi and I had a few laughs. And I suppose most important in these times I was warm, restful in my spot, and had enough to eat.

So I try to not let my worries crush me entirely. I try to continue to hope help comes. And I hope I make it to better days.

Day 3416 - 11/7

Trying to stay hopeful

Today I am trying to stay hopeful. My gas is almost completely gone. I have a bit of money I could use, but it wouldn't be more than maybe a week. It seems dad won't be sending anything for Halloween, as I kind of expected he would.

It was very cold last night. And I am sniffly and sneezy, so I worry about my health. I still feel oddly like my tummy is fatter than ever before. Yet my legs and lower part of my arms feel less fat, almost tight.

I am worried about money, as I have none and there are so many things coming up. 😞

But I am settled in at school now. I have foods to micro and I spent a touch extra getting myself a snack to maybe cheer me up. So I try to remain hopeful my day will be ok. I try to remain hopeful help will come. And I try to hang on until better days.

Day 3417 - 11/8
Special event

Today was pretty good. Class was almost all shooting stuff, so that was pretty fun. In my game there is a special event happening, so a lot of areas have different public events going on and I can get some extra loot, so that is pretty fun too.

Emotionally I guess I feel pretty good. The day passed quickly and I had some interaction and some laughs. And I had some time to watch a show and play my games, so that is always good.

No help came though. 😞 And I was almost totally out of gas, so I had to put what little I had into gas. 😞 So I'm very worried about that. I hate being on the edge all the time. Especially lately since more and more things are coming due.

But I try to hold on to hope that help will come. And I try to stay hopeful that I will make it to being back in a home and better days again.

Day 3418 - 11/9
Out for strangeness

Today has ended sadly. There is a weirdness in my regular nighttime spot, and so I can't go to settle and sleep when I should. I am actually writing this the next morning, and I was out and lost what would otherwise have been nearly 5 hours of sleep and time to do things.

But other than that the day was good. I had fun playing my games most of the day. I had shows to watch. And I even got a big donation, which was almost enough to cover the web costs. (The donation place takes about 3% of what's sent to me, so I was put short just a tiny bit.) But hopefully dad will send monies for turkey weekend or I'll get other donations, and that can be taken care of very soon. That is my current biggest worry, as I won't know if that can be paid late or in parts.

But the day was pretty good outside of the bad ending. Friday and Saturday will be extra tough with the library being closed. I'll have to be outside of school. Hopefully that will work out ok. It's been very cold and starting to rain. 😞

But, as always, I try to hang on. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3419 - 11/10

Would have been fine

Today was ok. I parked in a shopping center instead of the school lot because it would have felt weird to be at school. But there were a dozen cars there when I came in, and about the same when I left. All day there were people here and there in my area, despite it being cold and rainy during part of the day. It probably would have been fine to park in a school space. Tomorrow they have Saturday classes (at least until noon or whenever they go until) so I probably won't feel weird parking on campus.

I did a chicken on sale because it's cheap and will basically last me until tomorrow, but there is something about these chickens. 😞 My tummy is almost always upset by them and gurgly. I think it's because they leave all the fat and grease. Which, granted, makes them taste better, but all that gunk is bleh, and it's likely what upsets my tummy.

But the day itself was pretty good. I got to chill and play games and watch a show. Things were pretty cold, it's winter after all. And I was sad and lonely. But being able to play and have fun is something, so I suppose I wasn't too sad.

But, as always, I hope it is warmer tomorrow. I hope my tummy feels better. I hope this weather doesn't make my cold worse y needing to be outside these two days. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3420 - 11/11

Squirrl's home

Today was surprisingly good for a day I expected to go pretty badly. I started with an extra trip to the library to drop off some due movies. Normally I'd be there anyways on Friday and Saturday (and most Sundays) but since it was closed for the holiday I had to make a special trip. I suppose it wasn't too far, just about a mile, but still.

Since that meant I'd be on the side of school that has the showers I thought I'd check in there. It looked like there was some kind of aquasize class, so things were open and I got a warmish shower.

After that I went to the other side of campus where I spent the rest of the day. There were only a few people, but campus was pretty calm and quiet.

As expected the connection was strong and stable and I got to have fun with my games and shows all day. My food was bleh, my back was killing me for sitting on the floor, and I was pretty cold most of the day. But it was tolerable and I had fun. I certainly had more fun than I expected with needing to be outside all day.

There was one unusual thing. There are quite a lot of super cute squirrels on campus. I saw a few hopping around on my way in and offered to share some grapes I had with a few. One I noticed hopped off a railing and dashed into some not bushes, as that is yet another bush area butchered and pulled out for no reason. But I noticed a small tunnel. And the squirrel peeked back out of his nice tunnel home after settling in and feeling safe. I thought that it looked like a very nice cozy home for such chilly times. But I thought of the recent rains and worried. 😞 With the bushes and trees in that area being torn out what will happen to the squirrel home if it heavily rains? 😞 It rained for about an hour yesterday. The squirrel home seemed ok, but could it be flooded? Will the squirrel be ok if it is? 😞

Again it's just one of those thoughts that I worry about because I have been out of a home for so long myself. I recently have been having a lot of very bad dreams of being displaced, and even a few lately about the laptop and its power sustain issues. 😞

But overall my day was better than expected. Those online wouldn't have seen my sads in my posts. And even if someone saw me in person there is little to no evidence by

looking at me. (As horrifying as my teeth are, over the years I've gotten used to not moving my top lip, which thankfully hides most of the damage. 😞)

But I survived another day. And it wasn't as bad as I expected. With each day I survive, I can start again in the morning. And I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3421 - 11/12

Two cute, tiny ants

Today was good and bad. It started at the food store where I had a pretty amazing connection for there. I played my new game a couple of hours with no lag or connection issues at all.

During the bulk of the day was the every other week game, which if my records are correct we haven't actually met since late August. I'm not sure if that's right because it seems like it was much more recently than that. But one person's little one was there, who is I'd guess, around 8. So that altered what we did and when it wasn't combat it was all farting and not knowing what to do. On top of that we were put into a not so quiet area, so there was a lot of loud talking, and I could hardly hear.

There was a nice surprise though. There was the super cute girl who works there.

😍 I offered her cookies as I walked in and she was smiley and happy. And when I left there was another super cute girl working as well. She made my heart go pitter patter too.

😍 When I was microing my dinner I said to the guy I know that works there, "All the girls who work here are suuuper cute." He smiled and replied, "You're welcome." And we laughed. 😊

One thing did worry and make me sad during the day though. My tummy was getting too upset from the Friday chicken, so I had to throw some away. 😞 I felt very sad because that was an entire living creature once upon a time. 😞 I think I am going to try very hard again to eat a lot less meat. Though normally I don't eat much since I micro my food.

And too there were some tiny ants on my foods when I left the store. Hopefully I got them all off my stuff. I shook things out when I got back to the normal area. So if

there were any still on the bag or my recycle cans, hopefully they shook off out onto the grass. I would feel terrible if their already short lives were made shorter. 😞 Thinking of being alone and stuck in a recycle box until death makes me very sad. 😞

But I suppose my day was ok other than that. It was surprisingly warm, which was nice. I took off both my under shirt and long underwear. I don't know if it will stay warm, but it's night now, I don't have my hoodie on, and I'm not chilly. Were this last night and I like this I'd have been shivering.

So I guess overall today was pretty good. I will probably have more good memories than bad. But, as always, I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3422 - 11/13

Sick feeling and sprinkled on

Today was really good, but also a bit bad. I had a lot of fun with my games and shows today. I was feeling kind of down about the bills coming due though, so I maybe played a bit more than I otherwise would have.

I was feeling a bit sick today too. Since the morning I've had some sneezing and a bit of a headache. And a couple of times during the day, seemingly for no reason, I felt a bit dizzy and a tiny bit nauseous. I will try to take it extra easy tomorrow, but today I just rested peacefully, as I expect to, well, all the time. So hopefully that is enough (physically) to recover.

When I left campus it sprinkled heavily on my head. Nothing too bad, certainly not enough to worry about stopping and getting out my umbrella (which I've carried in my backpack ever since summer ended.) But I worry because my backpack again has huge tears in it and needs to be replaced. I'm sure they would replace it again free, but from what I recall it was \$10-15 to ship it to them to do that, which right now other things have higher priority (like getting an appointment to get my meds for blood pressure and stuff again.)

So for now I try and relax. I try to be restful and recover. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3423 - 11/14

Feeling meh

Today I am feeling meh. I seem hyper aware of everything wrong. My hair is bad and out of control. I didn't shower today. I have the same clothes on. I feel and look fatter in my tummy and chest than ever before (though my arms and from the upper knee down still feel leaner than they ever have.) My heart feels as if it's congested all the time, which it may be as I might have had a cold for quite a while. Though it's more likely due to missing meds which I lack even the \$10 to make an appointment to get the prescriptions renewed. I am awake and moving out in public when I have nowhere to be. And there are rain clouds, threatening the electronic stuff in my backpack, which also could easily be fixed if I had a spare \$10-15. I need food stamps to even have any kind of food. I'm at school, and it feels like there is opportunity for my future, yet so much of everything I've done and learned has led to no opportunity out in 'the real world'. And there are all the upcoming bill worries.

Maybe I am just tired. Maybe it is the upcoming holidays which always seem extra lonely and a time for reflection upon the recent years past. Once upon a time it was a time of reflection and hope for the coming days, as it should be. But lately it seems a time for reflection on things lost, and what little there is left that yet still may be lost.

But today is just today. It has barely started and I don't know what will come. It will hopefully turn out to be good. And tomorrow and the day after are the days after, and have yet to happen, so hopefully they will be better.

Week 490

Day 3424 - 11/15

Fireplace

Today was ok, but it passed very quickly. I hardly got to do anything besides a very quick forum helping and a small amount of play and one show. I guess it was good though. Most of the day was taken up with class, which is kind of normal for a Wednesday. The happiness of class and being social was balanced by the sad of all the things going on in my head.

I'm settled for right now. I can smell several peoples' fireplace fires, and it's raining just a little. It's kind of what I would say is a perfect winter night for me. Chilly, but not so cold to need extra cloths. Rainy, but more visual than anything else, as it can barely be heard. And the smell of fires, reminding me people are safe and in comfortable homes.

At least those not me. For me mostly it is just a reminder of those things, as my experience currently does not match to the memories. The memories of nights when I was in my room playing, with my window blinds drawn so I could see the rain. And I would not have a fireplace, but I would have some tea light candles, and it would be warm enough to open the window just a pinch to smell the fresh air and hear the rain.

So I have not that life, just a memory of it. But, as always, I hope it can be that way again someday. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3425 - 11/16

So beautiful

Today was pretty good. I was in the lab and played and watched shows pretty much all day. I suppose it's an odd day in that I wanted to play more than I did. I suppose the biggest reason for that is worry was always in the back of my mind. Either it was those two hours in the middle of the day where my power was dropping to low every 10

minutes, or because of things like my mind worrying about bills, or paying for next quarter since I discovered I could sign up already. There was no time my mind wasn't worried. 😞

There was something unexpected though. In the evening when I was back out in the hall, after they'd closed the lab, a screenwriting class was on break. The cute girl from the last time I TAed walked by and waved, which was nice. 😊 But a few minutes after another girl walked by, one I'd never seen before. She was blonde, with a short skirt-shirt kind of thing (one piece). She was sooooo beautiful. 😍 I was tempted to go over to her and ask for my heart back because I think she stole it. 😍 But I didn't, because I am a lot older, and bad at life, so why would she be interested? 😞 Especially since she doesn't know me, and that would be scary / creepy to do because of those things.

I did try to do something different with my new game too. There is a raid, and single people couldn't do it because there was no matchmaking, but there is now. I guess Tuesday would be the day to do it though. I assumed it would take 4 hours, so I tried going into the queue at 2. After 20 minutes with an 'unknown' amount of time to wait I quit waiting. I did my regular single player stuff and peeked back at the queue at like 2:45, 3, 3:15, 3:30, and for the last time at 4. Each time it said unknown or 45 minutes wait for the estimate, which is too much time to waste with my life being what it is. I think when I checked Tuesday night it was like 20 minutes, but I didn't remember to check until about 5 my time, which if it does take more than 1-2 hours would have been too late. So it was super disappointing to not be able to try the special something, especially since I checked yesterday after class and it was a similar 45 minute wait.

I'm trying to hold on to the donation money to pay for my web space for the year, but with gas and needing to do laundry a chunk has already slipped through my fingers quickly. 😞 I hope more donations come and dad sends money on turkey weekend, or my chance to pay for that may be gone entirely.

But I guess overall the day was pretty good. I suppose long-term my mind will remember more good than bad, and that is something. So I continue to hold on to hope that things will get better, and I can hang on until they do, and hope that tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3426 - 11/17

Windows

Today was actually pretty good. I had a super fun time with my new game (since I decided to be on campus Friday so I could play) and I watched a few shows. (As usual there were no jobs and there were no 'thank yous' for helping on the forums.) It was nice to hear on a social page that a few posts I made cheered some people up, so it was nice to hear at least there are some people out there who are happier because of me.

In the back of my mind I was sad though, as I was continually thinking about windows. My window to get up. My window to shower and get a good parking space. My window pre-lunch, for having lunch, for after lunch, for dinner, etc. etc. For some reason today felt like each thing I was doing was a reminder I was that much closer to the next thing and the end of the day when I'd need to pack up and go.

Maybe it's because I had mentally set aside 4 hours to try and do the special in-game thing again. And again when I checked every half hour or so (until giving up around 2) it kept saying no estimate for time. So, in a way, I guess that just reminded me of days in a home. Days where I could go ahead and set the game to wait, even if it did take an hour, or I could simply wait to find a match later in the day when people got home from work, and play until the wee hours if I had to. Or I could simply wait until the weekend. Times when I could play and no worry about a lunch or dinner time and just do what I want when I wanted. Or if I did care about a window, it was for much higher quality of life things than I have now, like spending 30 minutes to cook, then casually eating at whatever pace I wanted while having dinner on a plate and watching a show or movie.

I guess windows aren't really the issue, as my entire life has been windows and time management. I guess the issue is that they are fixed. They are rigid. They are set because of factors I can't control. And so they don't feel so much like windows and appointments, more like I'm being pushed down a plank and having to jump through a hoop (before it runs into me.)

But hopefully this will pass in time. Hopefully all my mind will remember is that I had a good time. And hopefully I will sleep ok, and being homesick won't cause me further stress. And, as always, hopefully I can be in a home someday, and I can continue to hang on, and there will be better days until then.

Day 3427 - 11/18

Beset by wolves

Today was pretty sad. Last night was bad because I got some mail at the ex-house. The mail was a note from my student loan people complaining that I'm late on payments and threatening me. 😞 Hopefully I can find a way to calm them down and keep them at bay. I guess one class isn't enough (though they've never complained about that before), and I need 6 or more units. I can do that in January, provided I get the \$50 to sign up (which I can do now, so those classes are at risk of filling up.) And the other sad thing was that the food stamp people will call in early December to do the yearly check and they want to see my bank records. Which means I'll need to spend another \$10 to keep my phone active during that time, and last night I was horribly worried they would see my donations on my statement and be mad. I'm way under my \$1300 a month 'income', so I really shouldn't worry, but I do. (I found out later the most recent statement only shows \$35 in donations and about a \$125 total average balance.) But last night those worries kept me awake until nearly 2 AM, causing several hours of lost sleep, in addition to bad dreams.

Though I am trying to feel better. I got some cheese to make nachos which I haven't had in probably four months or longer. And I got some cookies to help cheer me up. Having salad for my main food makes it a no meat day, which makes me feel a bit better too.

I got to play and watch shows, though the library firewall blocks my new game, and there was lag in the afternoon so I couldn't really play anything. I'm doing a bigger wash, so more things will be clean, so that's good. So overall it was a pretty good day. But there are still many sad things in the back of my mind that I miss, and I wonder if I ever really will make it back to forever better days.

Day 3428 - 11/19

Maybe turkey

Today was very sad. It started good by having fun with my new game for a bit. But wanting to play more, and knowing the library blocks it, and having to have to play from the food store or library, rapidly put me into a sad place. Much like other recent days it seemed to just remind me my life is not normal, and there is so much I can't control.

So the rest of the day I was pretty sad. I did not normal things for the rest of the day. Productive-ish things, sure, but I barely played (partly due to my knowing it was laggy yesterday and there were even more there today), and I only watched a couple of shows.

In good news someone posted on a gaming social page they were doing an open invite for turkey day. I'm not sure if they will actually go through with it though. Last time they suggested a meet up no one replied, so they wound up not doing it. So we'll see if anyone actually replies and it actually happens.

So for now I am pretty sad. I am worried about all the things rapidly coming up this month that were unexpected and how I can't possibly pay for them. I still have a bit more than half of the donation left, but at this point I'd need at least half of a bigger amount from dad to even pay just that one big bill off. So I am very worried, as his is the only money I am expecting. And he doesn't always send a big amount. 😞

But outside of what will hopefully be a very short group meeting for class tomorrow, the day should be open and free to play or watch shows. And I should certainly be plenty warm, and hopefully I can get enough good micro food to make tummy happy. So I try to focus on that, and hope tomorrow is indeed a better day.

Day 3429 - 11/20

Sneezing, sore butt

Today I have a pretty bad cold. It's not bad compared to a normal scale, as it takes quite a lot to affect me since I'm only affected about half of normal. But I've been

sneezing every 15 minutes and my nose has been a bit runny all day. I suppose I've had a headache most of the day, but that is pretty normal these days. 😞

My butt and back have hurt a bit too. It's like I've been sitting on the floor extra days when I really haven't been.

I suppose it was an ok day other than that in that I got to play and watch shows. All of my background sad things were still there; no jobs to be found, bills I don't know how I'll pay, worries of day-to-day things like gas and my health. But I suppose it is not worse than any day before. So I try to look ahead. I try to focus on what was good. And hope tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3430 - 11/21

Still sick

Today I am still feeling pretty sick. My tummy feels a bit icky and my nose feels congested and runny. My eyes hurt too, but not too much. Outside of a bit of time to check for jobs or help on the forums I should be able to rest, relax, try and recover, and have whatever calming game playing or show watching I want to do. I should also be sitting at a desk proper in the lab soon, so there is that. Hopefully I can recover very quickly, as the outside time on turkey day and Friday will do a lot of damage to a lowered immune system. 😞

I am pretty worried about my bill things coming up in the next few weeks. I still don't know how I'll get enough help to cover them all. 😞 I thank the gods it didn't worry me too much last night. I've lost a lot of sleep lately because of it. But last night I actually slept well.

All I can do is try and hang on and recover physically as best I can and hope enough money help is sent to pay at least the most critical things, though upon reflection that's pretty much all of the things that have come up. 😞 But I try to stay hopeful, and with the day still ahead of me, I try to hope today is a better day.

Day 3431 - 11/22
Turkey for sure

Today was pretty good, certainly better than expected. Class was fun, as usual, and we left early. I didn't get to try the special thing in my game again because I wound up losing time that I needed for that. But it's ok as I got lots of good gain in what I did do, and there is a special PvP thing going on. Normally I really hate PvP, but this is tolerable. And despite the potential for everyone to be on mics and talking poop, I have yet to hear anyone on mic in PvP (out of maybe 25 games so far.)

Also, the person confirmed I should go over tomorrow for visiting for turkey day. And she said she would give me some monies, which will cover gas for tomorrow and about a week after that. 😊 So hopefully tomorrow will be good, and not awkward because they are pretty much strangers on what is normally a super special family day.

Today is the last pill. I've been out of my blood pressure meds since mid-August, and now the last of the other has run out. I'll be ok if I can't get more. Maybe not the best, nor the safest in terms of heart attack risk, but I won't immediately die or anything. I'd still like to spend the \$10 to get an appointment with the doc to get them refilled since they are free for me due to my coverage, but there are so many other important things ahead of that \$10. 😞

Oh, speaking of that, when I got back to my car there was an envelope with a \$25 gift card to a restaurant. I am pretty sure I know who left it, since there are really only two people it may have been. I think I will save it until later in December. At that point, closer to Xmas, I'd have not been able to micro foods for a while and it will be more important. I think the break between quarters is like three weeks, presuming I get the \$50 to sign up for next quarter.

So fun with my game, a few laughs in class, even though there are sad things in the back of my mind, today was a pretty good day. But, as always, I hope tomorrow is too.

Day 3432 - 11/23

Three more than zero

Today was a lot better than I expected. The morning started at the food store. I could actually sit and stay and the connection was decent. In previous years a staffer had it blocked off with 'reserved' signs, so I was expecting to need to leave to go to connect outside of school.

Oddly thought when I got to the friendly person's house I was greeted by friendly and shy cats. Not one, not two, but three, which is very dangerous for my allergies. I did actually remember to ask if there were pets, or if anyone smoked, and she did reply 'no smokers, three cats,' so I find it odd I remembered seeing that said zero cats. I guess it worked out ok because we loaded me up with meds pretty quickly and settled my allergies down and I was ok to stay for foods.

We chatted a bit and did stuff and it was a pretty good time. Due to their distance and my allergies I don't expect to really see them again until spring or summer when they said they would do a BBQ. (Or they will try to. When they tried last year I was the only one who replied, so it fell through.)

So today was pretty good emotionally. I am still very worried about bills, but all I can do is try to hang on and hope dad money and other help comes along and try to get by. As always, I try to hang on until forever better days.

Day 3433 - 11/24

Anti-BBQ

Today was better than expected, save for discovering for some reason the web bill is \$130, not \$100 as I thought. I should have enough to pay it provided dad sent a lot for turkey day. So far I haven't seen anything at all at the ex-house, so I am very worried about that.

I did have to hand wash and dry (with a drier sheet) my shirts I wore yesterday. They had too much BBQ smell for some reason. It was about \$0.50 for the gas to get

there and drier, so it was fine. And now they smell more like regular me, so they should be fine to last the 1-2 weeks it will be before a proper laundry.

The day was easier than expected. I went straight to school in the morning and parked across the street since I figured it would be weird to park on campus. The weather was warm enough with all my layers on, only a dozen people were there in my area through the day, and I saw no campus security at all.

So the day passed smoothly, quickly, and I had fun playing games and watching a few shows. The bills have me very worried and scared, and I still have my cold, but I try to recover and relax as best I can. And, as always, I try to look at what went right with the day, what was good. And I try to look forward to the day I am back in a home and have better days.

Day 3434 - 11/25

So very sad

Today I was extremely depressed. My mind couldn't stop thinking about all the sad bills coming up and how I don't know how I'll pay for all the things. I tried to calm myself though. I tried to consider that if dad sends a big amount for turkey day and for Xmas time it would cover it (adding on what I still have from the last big donation.) But I can't help but think that is very tough for him these days, and I haven't gotten anything for turkey day yet, nor heard any promise of anything he's sent late.

So I hardly played, and didn't watch too many shows. Mostly I did things of little to no consequence and tried to distract myself.

When I could push away my sad thoughts I did have fun with my new game, though my time was limited (due to the firewall at the library where I'd spend most of my day) and what I could do was limited (due to the lack of bandwidth later in the day)

So for now I try to hang on. I keep hoping to be back in a home and have a regular life again someday, with much fewer restrictions and limitations. I keep hoping to find friendship and maybe even love. And I keep hoping I have people who send help, and with that I can continue to hang on physically, and emotionally.

Day 3435 - 11/26

Cold and rainy

Today it was cold and rainy. It didn't rain a lot so far, just a heavy sprinkle. But it was enough to remind me sadder days are on the way. Sad, at least, as long as I remain homeless. In a home such weather would actually be nice, and welcome.

My worries about my bills remained in the back of my mind, particularly since I'm counting on big help from dad to get by and there is still no word if that will come. At this point he would have had to not mailed it before turkey day, which I suppose is possible, or he sent it to the wrong address, which he's done before. But since both of these seem like low odds, it is likely he won't send anything, and I will have no way to pay the bills I need to pay. 😞 Or even some of them. 😞 But I suppose tomorrow is another day, and so I try to remain hopeful.

I was super sad again today because of that. I distracted myself with small nothings more than I actually played or watched shows. Which I suppose is fine, both things are distracting. But I was limited and could only do a small amount of what I actually wanted to do.

So I try to stay hopeful for tomorrow. And hopefully it is a better day.

Day 3436 - 11/27

One last one

Today I found a cholesterol pill, so I took it. I guess I wasn't quite completely out like I thought. I passed by the blood pressure machine, so I checked. As expected it was pretty terrible at 150/90, a far cry from the like 125/85 it would average closer to when I had my meds. My heart rate was around 65, so I guess that is good. I seem to recall that being closer to around 80 though (a few years ago). I may have to look that up tomorrow to see if that's good or not. It is also possible it didn't read correctly. If I recall in times I've used that machine before I had to do it three times and take an average to get an accurate reading.

Still no money or word from dad, so that is extremely worrisome. I again mentioned class to my professor I used to TA for (I think she asked me if I'd signed up yet) and said it doesn't matter if the classes I wanted were full or not because I don't have money either way. She again said 'meeeeeh' in a way that implied she would pay for it. But she has yet to actually say that, nor has she handed me \$50 in cash, so I can't count on it happening.

I worried and worried about the bills all day. I had fun in my new game and even managed to do the super fancy thing I had been wanting to try. But with all the worry and stress about bills that enjoyment was watered down. And there were other thing I wanted to do, but the depression prevented me from doing.

Hopefully I can try and let some of the worry go tomorrow. I'll be sitting proper at a desk, and the fancy thing will be re-set (it does every week), so I can try again to do the fancier things if I want.

But tomorrow is tomorrow. I won't know what it brings, or does not bring, until it happens. Until I see, I try to hope its outcome will be good, and that it will be a better day.

Day 3437 - 11/28

Very cold

Today has started very cold. Last night and this morning I was woken up by the cold. I guess it's time to change things to their winter setup to stay warmer.

Someone asked for my opinion on a flyer he made, which was nice to feel wanted and appreciated. It's been a while since I've done graphic design, but since UI elements and design exist in all games I'm always thinking about how this or that is or isn't clear, or could be improved. And relaying information is very common in posting and everyday writing, so that has been a constant in my life for a while as well.

I suppose today feels ok so far. I woke up cold, coughing, and congested. I hope that is just the weather and not a cold. I do have a bit of a wheeze too, which is unusual. I did get extra food though, so hopefully if I do have a cold that will help me fight it.

But the day has yet to reveal what it will be. And so I try to focus on the good things, like being somewhere warm enough, having micro foods to eat, and (in theory) whatever games or shows I have that I want to try and distract myself with from my sad things. And I hope today is a better day. For everyone.

Day 3438 - 11/29
Seems impossible

Today was pretty good. Class was a bit disorganized, but we got through things ok. There were a lot of laughs and people had a good time, so that is always nice.

I played and watched a few shows after, but I didn't get as much time as I'd have liked for that. Which I guess, was to be expected what with my limitations.

Speaking of that, paying for the things I need to seems impossible. Dad picked up his e-card I sent and hasn't sent word a card is on its way to me. Since there was not one at the ex-house at this point I have to assume there is not one coming. Which makes me feel like I won't be able to pay of all the things I need to.

I still have some of the last donation I got, which I was hoping to add to a bigger dad gift (of \$100) and have the web bill covered. But in addition to that there is the \$42 for the car insurance coming due Friday, and there is \$50 for signing up for classes, \$20 for parking, and then roughly \$7 a week for gas if I can spare it to avoid walking (and hurting myself.) Without dad's money for Thanksgiving, and it being bigger gift, I don't see how I'll even meet the minimum of \$150 I need to pay just the two bills due in the next week. 😞 Let alone enough to cover all the things. 😞 If a big dad check had come for turkey day, and then again at Xmas, I may have gotten enough. But with what seems like zero coming... I don't know how I'll keep my email and web space, pay car insurance, or be able to keep financial aid off my back. 😞

I need a lot of help. 😞 And each time I've reached out a few have helped, but it seems no one is sticking around after to keep tabs on me after that. 😞

There are a few out there looking for me. And I pray to the gods they see I am yet again at an extreme level of need. 😞 But it is very hard to keep my head up these days.

😞 It seems this may finally be the year help does not come and I begin to lose what little is left. 😞

Day 3439 - 11/30

Very worried

Today there is still no word from dad on if he sent anything for turkey day, and still no card. At this point I should probably stop checking every day and just assume nothing is coming. This greatly throws me off my hoped for budget for the holidays. While I still have about a week and a half to worry about my web space and email, the car insurance will technically be due in the morning. Meaning I really need basically \$150 more than I currently have to pay for both of those. 😞 I don't see how I will get that. 😞 Maybe if some people reading were planning on getting me a something for Xmas and sent cash now instead I could make it, but really there are probably only about three I can think of who might. And of those three I think only one sometimes reads and the others don't. So again I feel like meeting the goal will be impossible. Unlike others who are recently homeless, I have nothing of value. There is nothing I could sell anyone would want, as it's all too old to have any value. 😞 I still wonder if my stuff in storage has even survived this long. I have no idea what may have become damaged or ruined by being in storage for so many years. 😞

But I try to distract myself. I try to have fun with my game and shows and try to stay happy and not focus on the sad things I can't control. And to some degree I can. I did have fun with my game today. I even did the special thing. Which is ok. There are some things I could get with it, but I still question if it's worth the effort since it needs six people and as a single person I have to sit in a queue for 45 minutes. And this morning I did extra help on the forums and such, so I felt extra productive. I even helped some students with a few things they needed help with.

So I try to continue to hope help comes. I don't need much, but with no income things seem impossible. And so I try to stay hopeful. I try to hang on. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3440 - 12/1

Maybe hopeful

Today seems to have gone better than expected. First, the morning phone interview about my food stamp money happened on time, only took about 15 minutes, and the guy was super nice and understanding and skipped all of the questions I'd have just said 'no change' or 'zero' to. He also said he hadn't received the stuff I mailed. Which when I mailed it would have been eight business days ago, about four times what it normally would take to cross the county to get to him. So that, I think, subconsciously has given me renewed hope that something from dad is on the way and maybe it's just greatly delayed. If I still have nothing by mid-week I'll likely feel sad again and give up hope for that.

I had fun with my new game but I didn't get to do what I expected. The servers were down for six hours for a patch. I thought it was for the new expansion, but the game didn't patch when it was up and I connected, and I saw nothing new anywhere. Looking around it seems the expansion doesn't release until Tuesday. So what I was expecting to be a play session with new content wound up being just the same stuff as before. Which is fine. I had a super fun time and I got to build up tokens I will need in the new expansion. It's been so long since I played the first game I'd forgotten about saving resources instead of turning all the tokens in. Better to wait and see if I can get something new by hanging on to them over the weekend.

So I guess today I felt a bit better. With news of the mail delay my hope is revived that something is still on the way from dad. And since things are still ok with my laptop (barring the power still being weird about two or three times an hour for one or two seconds), I played and watched shows. I even had an unexpected meeting and helped guide some people on a few points for about half an hour. I really do miss being able to officially help people. 😞 (I suppose I still do help on the forums, but no one I help ever tanks me, and it's been more than two years since the company I help gave any kind of recognition at all.) So overall today was a better day. If not a day of true change, at least one of a bit of revived hope for the future.

Day 3441 - 12/2

Not my gifts

Today I feel a bit extra sad. Still nothing has changed with money from dad or donations. Now being past due on the car insurance payment it is ever-present on my mind, along with the rapidly approaching web space bill.

Plus there is a secret Santa thing going on with a social page I am on. While they did not require you to do a thing to get a thing I didn't say I would like to get a thing. It's very nice to see all the thoughtful gifts people will make use of in the future, or maybe more so the super cute huggable critters some have received. But I see that and feel a bit sad. I feel like no one knows or cares that I'm hurting so much. But since I am in such a bad place and have nothing to offer in return I feel unworthy of such a gift. I would like a cute critter. An so I am sad that no one acknowledges that pain and says they would like to send me a nice thing.

And too it makes me sad that no one seems to be checking in with me. It seems no one is aware of the now past due car insurance payment, or the extreme upcoming threat to my web space and email hosting since that's another bill I can't pay.

It also doesn't help the library connection went to garbage and was barely moving by the time it was just barely past noon. It was so bad I was considering leaving, but I did not want to be out in the cold gray day.

So today I feel extra alone. I feel extra uncared for. And I am extremely worried things will rapidly come crashing down since I don't know if any help will come to pay for the things.

But I try to hang on. I try to stay hopeful. And maybe I can make it to better days.

Day 3442 - 12/3

Trees

Today I saw a tree lot. When I was young we used to do that. I have a vague memory of thinking a bigger tree meant it could hide more presents. But it was only when

I was young, when we were a family. As I grew into my teens and my parents argued more the tree became artificial. And soon after my mom died.

When I was out on my own I started having small trees, maybe one foot tall. I think only twice in my 20s did I get something that was closer to five foot tall. And I think those were gifted to me. Mostly I got very small branches, often just a shaving from someone else's tree. Or in recent years, I've gotten nothing at all.

More and more I am abandoning traditions. Once upon a time, even in some of these homeless years, I would look at Halloween decorations, or Xmas ones, or at tree lots. But in these very recent years I have done nothing. I don't know if it's because I know few to no one is looking at me, or if it's because I feel so alone and abandoned and do not want to look out for fear of discovering there is no one left who cares or worries about me.

I suppose it's all just because how hard my struggle has become. How I only have a couple of bills coming up very soon, or are just past due, and I have no way to pay them. It seems more and more this will be the (Fail) year I lose what little is left.

But I have felt that way before, especially in recent years. And it has seemed so before due to how few watch out for me. But I have continued on. And so I keep hoping things will turn around again. I know there are those out there who care. And hopefully help will come.

Day 3443 - 12/4

Lights

Today I thought a bit about death again. 😞 Thankfully not to the point of having panic attacks, but almost a few times. I think it's because without being a helper anymore I have few to no big distractions. There is nothing to track or pay attention to relating to future dates. I have little to no reason to look beyond just my life and what is happening with me right now. As such, all I can see is sadness and pain. And on top of that my games, while super fun, include struggle, conflict, and a lot of death. Maybe I'll try to play my card game more to reduce that, but I have to stay distracted, or I will completely and

totally dwell on only the sad things in life. 😞 At least with my game there is still a sense of accomplishment and forward progression, even if it is only virtual.

There was still no card from dad, nor any word of such coming. And while I chatted with the professor I used to help, there was no mention of helping me pay for classes. I didn't think that would be a thing, as she implied such before and never followed through with helping, so it seeming to be nothing more doesn't surprise me.

There was one literal light at the end of my day. As I was leaving campus out in the in-between area on the road there were Xmas lights. It was nice to see, even though such things really just remind me of what is missing in life.

But I still try to look past the sadness and loss and try to choose to see what is positive and hopeful. And as long as I have days I try to remember that with each one positive change can come. So while it is a struggle lately, I continue to try to hold on to hope that tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3444 - 12/5

Back to cold

Today seems better. In the morning my car was not frosted over, as it has been in the mornings for about a week. So it seems the weather is slightly warmer and back to regular cold for this time of year instead of closer to a January kind of cold.

My food money was barely enough, with 0.10 left after getting food, so that was good I didn't go over. It turns over in the morning tomorrow, so it's fine. So I have enough food, while not great choices, and I am settled in school and warming up.

And I even saw three very beautiful girls on the way in, which is unusual. And while I know the 20 somethings would never be interested in me, it does give me hope that there are always new girls out there I haven't met, even if the ones of appropriate age aren't seen.

I don't know what the day will bring. I have an expansion in my new game when the update is done (around 2 PST), and another on Thursday. Though that one is for my

card game, which I can't afford to pay money for new things, so I'll barely have any with the in game monies I have.

I expect over time today I will be back to sad and start to obsess on the sad things. I can't escape that lately, especially with an overdue car payment and a rapidly approaching web/email bill. But since the day is just starting I am trying to hold on to hope something good will happen, as each day has the potential for good and bad. Hopefully today will be a day help comes, because I don't know how I'd continue to make it without people's help.

Day 3445 - 12/6

Feeling overly full

Today was pretty good. I played for a teeny tiny bit and then had the test for class. It was just about as I expected, so I'm sure I did totally fine for the overall grade.

After that I spent much of the rest of my day playing my new expansion in my new game. I did get in the queue to do the special raid thing too while I watched some shows. And after 1.5 hours of waiting I gave up and just did solo stuff. I would guess it was a combination of being too early (1-3 PM my time) and most people probably just starting with the expansion or doing the new raid. I will probably try again tomorrow around the same time.

I got some chips at the store. With my regular amount of food, I now feel overly full. Which is good, as I usually feel not quite full. So it is a rare feeling. I'm sure the feeling will pass quickly enough though.

It's getting very cold. The temperature says it's still warmer than it has been, but again this morning my window was a bit frosted. And there is still no word or card from dad. So I am in an extremely bad spot, as without that money I can't pay any of the bills I was hoping to. 😞 I don't know what I can do. 😞 I put out a lesser call for help and not only did just 8 people see the post so far, but no help has come. 😞

I guess all I can do is try to let it go. Try to not worry since I have no control over these things. And try to keep hoping help comes in time. 😞

Day 3446 - 12/7

Surprising news

Today was quite the mix. It started with an email from someone. I don't really want to talk about it. It was just a reader, so nothing bad in a threatening way. But I lost about 45 minutes reading it and replying back. And it upset me to the point it took the

next nearly 12 hours to shake off the extra depression, sad feelings, and general dampening of my spirit.

During lunch I decided to detour to the health center. I've been feeling extra fat lately what with the extra big tummy and considering if I need to track my food again. Though really there is very little I can do to lose weight in terms of food since so much of it is pre-packaged. But, according to the desk person this scale was correct, I am only right around 200. Which is much less than what I would have guessed at around 240 since my tummy seems bigger than ever before. I guess maybe my feelings were true, and parts of my legs and arms are thinner and leaner. So with that, adding on an extra big tummy and a fat feeling face, the weight has maybe shifted around more than overall being lighter or heavier. (My highest in recent times was 220.) Though I would still like to get back down to, ideally, 175, but I'd settle for 185. 😞

Another surprise came in the late afternoon. My dad sent an email. While there was no mention of turkey day, he said he sent a Xmas card yesterday and it has a check. So I will know very soon how much I have from him in total for this holiday time. Hopefully it's a bigger size, as that would at least pay the web/email bill and I would have my biggest worry cleared. I won't really expect more than that, as I don't know how I'd manage if it's not. And anxiety will be high enough without adding to it.

So today had a number of surprises; one bad, which set me greatly off balance, but two good, which will hopefully allow me greater balance in the coming days. So as I try to shake off the cold of tonight, I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3447 - 12/8

Long, but fast

Today was odd. At the end of the day, and while the day was passing, it felt very fast. Yet at the same time, moment-to-moment, the day felt very slow. Almost as if it were twice the amount of time. I suppose that is in great part due to my working on a project until noon. My entire regular morning plans were put aside. It was fine. It was something I wanted to do. Certainly not as high of a quality or as much detail as I'd have liked, but I don't think anyone cares or listens anyways. 😞

The day was fine, though my tummy was pretty upset. I got some easy lunchmeat for the next day as well, and microed it all at once, so I don't have to worry about meals for the next days. But tummy has issue with so many meats lately. Not from being sad about it once being a living creature, just my constitution is nowhere near what it once was.

I find myself very much looking forward to my green salad with a touch of salt and pepper and cheese I've started making a habit of on weekends. It will be harder to do from April on, but for the moment the car is a fridge at night. And with where I sit at the library I can put the foods on an AC vent. Which also effectively chills them like a fridge. (Hopefully someday they will flip that and it will be heat, as it's getting very cold lately.)

Emotionally I guess I was ok. I certainly could have been better. But I endure far more now than I ever would have before. The combination of enduring continuing emotional pain and loss, having lost so much has caused my tolerance for such things to be very far from what it once was.

No card from dad in the mail, but I did get word on food stamp monies being renewed through 2018, so there is that. For the moment I keep hoping. And hopefully tomorrow will be a good day.

Day 3448 - 12/9

Something

Today was mostly ok. The morning started at the food store, then the bulk of the day was at the library. They actually had the heat on. The vent felt slightly warm in the morning, but by late afternoon when the place was packed it was slightly cold again. The connection was mostly ok, but in the later afternoon it turned pretty bad. The last two hours I was there was spent trying to watch a single 45 minute show. But I suppose some connection is better than no connection at all.

I got my card from dad, and... it's something. On the one hand it's a big amount, so that's great, but on the other it's a single gift size big amount. Which is half of what I had sort of mentally budgeted and hoped to be sent from him. So... I should maybe probably have just barely enough to pay the most important bill. But it will leave me with

absolutely zero for anything else. I'll have the tiny bit in my wallet, which would have been laundry, which now must be gas for a week.

I will have to keep hoping donations come so I can cover the overdue car insurance and school costs. Which hopefully will happen. I know there are a few out there who watch out for me and send help from time to time. So hopefully that help will come and I can pay the remaining things.

But for now my future seems more uncertain than ever. And I struggle to hold on physically and emotionally. But I still hope help will come, and tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3449 - 12/10

One down, trim time

Today was okish. The food store connection was completely down, which was super sad as I didn't want to be out in the cold outside of school. When I got to school and settled in the concrete was indeed nearly as cold as ice. 😞 My butt was kind of numb while I was there. 😞 I guess it's ok though, as it allowed me to do some stuff I wouldn't have had the bandwidth for otherwise.

At noon I headed to the library. It's connection was still pretty slow. I'd forgotten it was so bad yesterday. It wasn't quite as bad, but it did alter what activities I could do due to lower bandwidth.

I paid my big internet/web space bill. Phew. So that's secure for another year (not counting the domain names in like May), and I won't have to worry about losing access to my email, which is tied to everything, including my resumes.

After paying the bill I only had a tiny bit left. I even had to put \$1 back of what I had in my wallet to pay for the bill. The remaining \$5 had to go into gas. There was no choice with the tank showing just about empty. I've got maybe a week's of gas if I'm lucky. 😞

My hair was bugging me today. Well, most days it bugs me in that it looks like a flat mushroom instead of being flipped back all cool. It doesn't like to cooperate. But

today was the kind of bugging me in that it's 'tail' was too long and poking me in the back of my neck. I guess it's grown about an inch since the last time I cut it, which if I recall was sometime in spring. The top is evening out now, and it's actually gotten too wide. It's less of a faux-hawk and more most of the top of my head. I'll have to see if I can find a way to narrow it this week before I lose shower access for winter break.

But despite my now only having barely a quarter tank of gas, and about \$0.18 in my bank account, I guess today was ok. For now I try to hang on. And I continue to hope extra help will come for the holidays and I can continue hanging on until my forever better days.

Day 3450 - 12/11

Miss it

Today was ok I suppose. Lately I've felt very weird. I feel very hyper aware of my body, where I am in space and time, and feel very much like a separate entity, disconnected and completely separate. I suppose I always have been, but it's the kind of physical and emotional detachment you feel when you are leaving somewhere and you've said all your goodbyes. I guess maybe it's just the quarter closing out and further distancing from everything I've known in recent times since my future feels so uncertain.

I suppose too it could be because more and more lately there is stuff I'm missing going on with the professor I used to help. All these projects I see the class working on and know they have as assignments, yet I can't see anymore. I miss helping and feeling useful, helpful, and like what I do and say matters, and has helped someone in a way that will last for the future.

I suppose too because, if even only temporarily, it meant I had people who were friendly around me. Without it, I have little to no interaction with anyone, and I feel extra alone.

But I suppose things could be worse, and may still be. But they aren't yet, and so I have hope that they won't be. I continue to hope help comes and try to hang on. And I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3451 - 12/12

Quiet so far

Today is very quiet so far. I am one of only probably two people on the floor. Things seem very calm, yet I'm sure soon people will be anxiously buzzing around for their final.

I feel ok emotionally, and congested and sneezy physically. Though I am very worried about all the things, and that my laptop power now tends to drop about three times an hour if it's on my lap, and about once an hour or two if it's settled on a desk. It thankfully still seems mostly a very isolated incident, but I likely only have a few more months before it becomes a real problem.

But now settled at school I am warming up again. I will soon have foods and quiet my tummy grumbling. And I try to stay hopeful help will come and all the things will be ok and I can continue to hang on.

Day 3452 - 12/13
Donation, hair, double

Today was a mix of things. Yesterday I got a donation, so this means I was able to pay the overdue car insurance. The online thing showed \$81 due on the 1st. There was no option to pay just the overdue amount. I sent them a message asking if I can do that online, but I got no reply. I may have to find an old bill and do it old school by check.

Before that though my day started with a cold shower, which is terrible. There was a sign that they are working on them until Tuesday as well, so hopefully that issue will get fixed. But after I tried using gel in my hair. It cooperated, mostly, but I probably lack the thickness to have it fluff all the way should for what I want. And at the rate it is starting to thin on top, even if it did I probably couldn't hold onto it for more than a few more years. Maybe I'm wrong and it's just too uneven and still needs to grow out, as the top grows slower than the back. But it was very depressing to think I can't do that. I've never been known for my hair, but I feel without it there really is no denying my ethnicity or that I don't look how I picture myself. 😞

In good news it seems the school will be open regular hours Friday, even though probably everyone will be gone by two. But it's nice to know I can have my regular Friday.

Oh, and yesterday was the last day of the quarter for the professor I used to help. So she certainly is not going to surprise me with help for signing up with classes since nothing was mentioned.

I guess that was really everything of interest today. A bigger donation which will ease me by the overdue payment. Sadness at not knowing how I will cover gas, or the coming school quarter, which I need to do or financial aid loans will come after me. Sadness about my hair. But overall things remain relatively balanced, as nothing really got worse. So, for now, I continue to try to hold on and hope for better days.

Day 3453 - 12/14

Check in

Today was mostly the same as other days; basically no jobs, and of the ones being sent by my searches more and more are way out of my area. And I spent most of the day playing games or watching shows, hoping all the while the fear and worry about bills in the back of my mind would quiet down, if even just for a little bit.

There was one big difference, which probably won't lead to anything, but who knows. The person who, back in the day, I did a few editing jobs for checked in. She said what classes she is taking next quarter, and asked how I was doing and if I was still there (at school) and would be taking any classes next quarter. I probably haven't talked to her in about a year, but she considers me a friend and so she was concerned. Well, I was honest and told her these are probably the worst days of my life now, and I was hoping to take classes but lack the \$70 to sign up. And I told her about the car insurance money trouble right around the corner. There was no reply, but that's not a huge surprise. Like I said it's been a year since we talked, and she was never a fast replier. But she has sent gift money in the past, so who knows, maybe he will send something.

I'm still very happy tomorrow is a regular day at school. It will sadly be a last hurrah for my new game in a way. After tomorrow I'll be limited to a few hours here and there at the food store if it has a strong connection. And even at its strongest what I can do in game would be limited due to bandwidth and time. And some other games are blocked at the library as well. But the library will limit me to basically my mmo and my card game. And, of course, single player offline games that don't require a connection.

But once I send the overdue payment in, which I guess I'll try and do over the phone tomorrow, I will have nothing in my account and barely any gas. But things will be current. So I will try to enjoy my last day on campus. I will try to stay hopeful help will come. And I will continue to hope I can hang on long enough to someday make it to my forever better days.

Day 3454 - 12/15

For the moment

Today I had to call my car insurance people. They never replied back about just paying the part I owed. I guess it is indeed a thing that I'll have to call if I want to pay just the late part (if it happens again). So, I did that, and for the moment I am current again. There was no threat, and when the phone person looked at the account she sounded like everything was fine and no threat was up-coming. So I would guess due to the age of my account (like 25 years) they won't take action until I'm maybe a couple of months past. Hopefully I'll not ever have to find out where that line is.

I may have a donation tomorrow, I'm not sure yet. It's a maybe kind of thing. If so that would be a couple weeks of gas. If not I've got maybe one left, plus what little remains already.

Being current is great, but I can't help but worry how I will manage the \$70 for next quarter and parking, the weekly gas, and the 'spare' \$10 amounts for laundry, getting back on my meds, and things like sending my backpack in to exchange it for one that's not ripped and falling apart. It seems there are so many things spiraling out of control. Yet they are all super tiny easy to cover things compared to normal people's lives.

But all I can do for the moment is hope it is enough. And hope that I can hang on until more help comes.

Day 3455 - 12/16

Forgotten

Today was a mix of things. It started at the food store, which had a pretty good connection for once. I left from there to go to the library. I was tempted to just stay there since I would be leaving in a few hours, but it is so much quieter and peaceful overall.

In the early afternoon I had my every other week game, which is turning more into once a month or less. I went because I was promised help on gas. I originally said I wouldn't have enough and might need to permanently leave the game since things are getting so bad. But there was the promise, so I went. It took me a lot longer to get there

than usual. First there was an accident, and when I got past that the freeway was cut to half its width due to alleged construction, which I saw no evidence of. So what should have been 20 minutes was about 20 just during those 2 miles or so, and then there was the normal 20 minutes on top of that. So I barely made it on time.

When I settled in no money was offered or mentioned. I would guess because people wanted to start right away it was set aside. But as the game went on I couldn't help but worry more and more and it was all I could think of. Yes, I had a super fun time and we laughed a lot at my being silly, but inside I was hurting quite a lot emotionally. 😞 I felt uncared for and forgotten. 😞

I hope that was not the case though. I hope, since I won't be online until the morning there are already apologies sent for forgetting, and questions on how to send the offered help.

If the promised help doesn't come I'll be pretty seriously screwed for gas. What would have almost been two weeks, after today's trip, has put me back down to a couple of days. 😞 If that, or other help, doesn't come I'll be forced to do what little recycling I have on Monday or Tuesday. Which I know will probably not even be a week's worth of gas, and it will burn up a ton doing it on a weekday because traffic would be insane. (It already takes about \$3 or more even when I can drive super fast on the weekend due to distance.)

So, the day overall was good. But I feel very sad and worried and forgotten. 😞 But I try to hang on to hope the promise money will happen. And I hope other help comes too. Because if I continue to lose hope the tears I am holding back will never stop. 😞

Day 3456 - 12/17

Friend leaf

Today I had a friend leaf on the car. I noticed the leaf about 1/3 the way from the side to the middle, basically right in front of the driver's area. It wasn't being held on by the wiper, as I tried moving that. It never left all day. It was there in the morning, stayed

during my time at the food store in spite of it being super windy all day, stayed all day at the library, and was still there just now when I settled in for the night.

I don't know why it seemed important. It just did. It probably has to do with not getting the promised monies. That has kind of wrecked me. I can't stop thinking about how I've gone from what I should have had (if I hadn't gone) which was about 1.5 weeks to now a few days at most. I told them I couldn't afford to go to the game. They promised to cover it. Now not having that back... 😞 I would just say a something and it probably wouldn't be an issue. But I don't feel like it's my place to. 😞 I don't feel like it was a mistake and maybe it was intentional and I shouldn't ask. 😞

I guess the leaf just felt like a friendly reminder from Fate and nature. A note to just hang in there, as the leaf did, and to keep hoping. To know I am not alone in the world, and that I'm seen and acknowledged. I don't know... 😞

I suppose with all things I just have to wait and see what happens. And to keep hoping for positive outcomes. 😞

Day 3457 - 12/18

Had to call

Today was pretty sad. I got to play my game just a tiny bit in the morning at the food store, which was good. After, I tried to do an old school shave. It worked in that my scruffy bear parts are shaved, but the razor is all gummed up. I had set up a rinsing bowl of water, but that really didn't get it clean since it's one of the tiny multi-blade types. Those need a lot of force to clean the blade.

I tried to wait and see about the monies that were promised, but I couldn't stop thinking about it. I had maybe a couple of days left, maybe even just today, and with the recycle trip costing \$3, I have my doubts with what I have that I'd profit more than about 2 gallons of gas. So in the early afternoon I asked if monies were coming. The person was very grumpy about it because I'd said 'I couldn't promise extra wouldn't be used for regular gas,' so he hadn't planned on giving it to me. But I said, and had said in the posting thread, that I wasn't otherwise planning to come because I didn't have enough, and

I might need to permanently drop, and with how things were worded I expected at least the gas I spent to come back. So now there is a weirdness. I mean I know none of that gaming group (4 others) consider me a close friend, so sure, it's weird whenever non-close friends bring up money, but still. It seems weird he started with 'oh sure we can help, dropping \$50 on figures or books isn't a big deal to us, so \$10-15 to help is easy', and then when I said I might need the extra for regular gas things he no longer seemed willing to help... I don't know. I don't understand that. If I knew someone in my gaming group needed help, if things were reversed, I'd be happy to give a little help. Especially since the game is turning more to once a month or less frequently.

I don't know... today, as quite often lately, since really all of this month so far, I feel more and more like things are falling apart. I guess nothing has really changed, more just an overwhelming feeling of not being appreciated is just pressing down on me. I'm still spending an average of 15-60 minutes a day on forums helping out that company that still doesn't acknowledge me anymore, let alone send me anything, but then I suppose they never really did. My professor not saying she misses my help or asks for my opinion on class things anymore. I mean, sure, she should do it on her own and not need help; but with three years helping in sometimes three classes a quarter, sort of being a therapist at times in some ways when she felt troubled, and now I need help and none is offered. And just still not finding new friends to do regular things with, let alone closer friends or a sweetie.

I don't know... it all just feels like I am not seen as having any value to anyone. And it feels like I no longer belong anywhere. I feel welcome, maybe like a breeze passing through somewhere, but no longer a part, no longer physically connected, or a thing with value or worth.

I guess in spite of my feelings of people abandoning me, and feeling unappreciated and uncared for, I still try to hang on to hope. I don't want much in life, and what I want is taken for granted by so very many people in the world who already have it, but it seems like opportunity is completely out of my control or grasp. But I try to hang on.

Day 3458 - 12/19

Sneeze and yuck

Today has been super cold. I've been sneezing a lot lately. This morning when I sneezed there was a yuck I had to spit out. 😞 Checking the weather app it looks like it's going to get even colder and stay colder. 😞

My games are doing special holiday events. The one I want to play most is firewall blocked by the library, as expected, so I'll probably have to spend extra time at the food store if I want to play. 😞 I guess it's not terrible though, as it's been pretty stable when I've played lately.

As usual for the holidays things seem extra sad for me. 😞 Everyone is doing special things and celebrating, while I have even more limitations with things being closed. I try to remain hopeful things will get better, and maybe someday I will be back to a normal life. Until then I try to stay hopeful help will come and I can continue to hang on until then. 😞

Week 495

Day 3459 - 12/20 More sadness

Today there was more sadness. I am so depressed I don't even really feel like writing. 😞 There is still so much I can't cover and I'm worried about. And still I reach out for help and it seems no one cares. 😞 On top of everything I already have that's sad, I got pulled over because apparently one of my brake lights has gone out. I don't even have the \$5-10 for a light let alone what the officer said would be about \$25 to clear. (Though he did say it wasn't due until mid February, so that is something at least if I need to delay things.)

The only part of the day that seems good is that some packages arrived at the ex-house. So, though I haven't opened the shipping boxes yet, it seems like I will at least have something for Xmas.

But today, and it seems more and more lately, I am on my own. It seems, I suppose all my life, extremely few have ever cared about me at all. I guess these times aren't any different. 😞 It makes me feel lately like I just went offline completely and stopped trying to reach out or help others that it would make no difference at all because I don't seem to matter to others. 😞

But I will try and look upon my presents and in some cases hug them, and try to remember there are a few out there who do care. And that is something. And if I can hold onto hope and stay strong, maybe it will be enough.

Day 3460 - 12/21 Chilled to the bone

Today I was still pretty depressed. I didn't get to play my new game much, as expected, and I also wasn't really in the mood to play much at the library. Due to my

limitations, the things I am still worried about if I'll get money or not, and the new sad stress of the tail light, has me very depressed.

It also doesn't help that at no point in the day would I have considered myself to be truly warm. I can't remember a time in recent years I've walked in from the cold and been so warm I do the happy sigh and toss layers onto a nearby couch. I was chilled to my bone as the saying goes, I could feel the cold all the way through my muscle, and I barely got warm, yet never warm enough to stop feeling that chill.

But I try to hang on. And I try to stay hopeful that tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3461 - 12/22

So very cold

Today was ok. It was still cold all the time. I think I only took my hoodie off for about four hours all day. 😞

I got a few Xmas money presents, so I have enough to do a something. Certainly not everything though. And it probably won't be more than one important thing, like the stupid ticket, but it also gets me some for a bit of gas and washing clothes, which are pretty critical things.

My parts are getting numb pretty quickly writing this. 😞 So I'll hurry. I will probably have to start writing in the afternoon instead of evening. Evenings are just getting too cold. While it doesn't snow here more days than not lately the car has been frosted over in the morning. A sign this winter will be extra cold. 😞

But with the Xmas gifts my heart is warmed. And so I hope that is enough to drown out the sad thoughts in my head, which constantly worries. So I try to stay warm enough. And I try to hang on long enough. And hopefully I can make it through.

Day 3462 - 12/23

Eve's eve

Today was pretty cold again. Even in the library I took off my hoodie for only maybe two hours. I have been very worried about all the things. So despite what I'd like to do with my Xmas monies I have to take care of the break light and ticket first. 😞 So far things weren't too bad with the light being just \$6 for two, so hopefully that's the issue. The officer said the ticket was about \$25 though, so those two things will be about half of everything I have. 😞

I guess today was ok though. There are currently much colder places in the world, and I still could be in a worse position. So I continue to try and stay hopeful. And I try to keep some holiday cheer with me. And I continue to hope I can hang on until better days.

Day 3463 - 12/24

Eve

Today feels a lot more positive for the moment. In the morning I played at the food store, and it went ok, but it was very cold there. I spent the day at the library, which was quiet and calm, but again very cold. But why things feel positive is I am doing laundry. The cloths I had were very stinky and that makes me stressed and sad. And, since I got the break light bulbs yesterday I decided to see what it would take to swap it out. The instructions literally said to pull back the carpet, which I'd already discovered I could do, and then turn the light to pop out the housing. At first the change was super stressful, since after replacing it and testing it the bulb did not light up. But since I know sometimes electronics have positive and negative yet can go in either way, I flipped it around and tried again. And, phew, it lit up bright and happy. So hopefully the officer was right and it will be \$25, or hopefully less, and I can get that checked off maybe Tuesday.

So hopefully after my clothes are done I will feel a bit more normal again. I also got to shave in the sink at school in the morning, so my hair and face feel a lot more normal. So that too is something. Hopefully soon all the very terrible recent sad things will be cleared and I can be back to my regular sadness. I still don't know how I'll pay for

parking next quarter, or how I'll pay car insurance, as the Xmas monies I have left will be gas for a week or two and not enough to do much more.

But I hope to continue on. If I want to see better days I have to make it through the bad ones. So hopefully help continues to come. And hopefully I can hang on long enough to make it to better days.

Day 3464 - 12/25

Perfect fit

Today is a very sad day. The holidays, particularly this one, are filled with everyone caring for others. With gifts and kindness. And with thankfulness that people are in people's lives. But I have little of that. Mostly I am reminded of the things I'm missing, or have lost. Especially without a home; a place to be out of the cold, with friends and family, and everything I do on holidays like this remind me I don't have that.

But what I do have, what there is to be thankful for and celebrate is kind of perfect. The pants I was gifted fit perfectly. The laptop power plug I was gifted seemed strong and stable for the short time I played, and when turned to angles known to be problematic showed no sign of issues. And upon trying the boots on that I got they fit perfect. No poking or pinching spots. And my heels felt supported and solid under my step.

The old plug and boots will be set aside, just in case. It is always good to have old somethings that will still work in a pinch. But I am grateful there should be no more worries of power drops, or damage caused by that. And there will be no worry of my boots soon getting holes in the bottoms of the soles.

Sadly the money I was gifted had to be used for school. And what I still have for the moment will be more than half gone after paying the break light ticket. So worry will soon return about all the things. But these nice things will hopefully help me remain hopeful for the future. And I can continue to hang on until forever better days come.

Today has started off badly. 😞 I got up extra early to get to the court house and when I did there was a long line already. Half an hour later, when I got through the line I showed the lady the ticket and said I was here to pay it and get the light checked off. She complained that I didn't have a mailed form and didn't have it checked off by an officer already. I told her, 'no, I assumed they could do that here.' She flipped out and went into a rage and started complaining that I needed to wait up to 60 days for the form and I had to go to the police station to get the proof. I get that she felt I may have been wasting her time or whatever, but she shouldn't have gotten upset and raged at me when I was told incorrect information. I tried to explain to her that I was told I had until that date to take care of things, and there was no mention of a mailed form or needing to wait, and that the courthouse should be sure the officers give the right information. She just kept pushing me out and started insulting me.

I guess this affected me so much that I in turn raged at someone else. 😞 I was near the library where there is a big crosswalk and a guy and his dog were starting to cross without really looking, so I continue going past to get clear of his path. When he's 6 feet from my side (the street there is 2.5 lanes wide) he spreads his arms out, in a 'hey what the hell' kind of blaming me way. I slam on the breaks and he and I get into an argument. He was claiming I wasn't watching out for kids, and that I went through a stop sign. I wave my arms around at the nothing as far as the eye can see and say there are no kids anywhere right now, and that's not a stop sign, it's a yield for kids. After a bit, I would guess with the intent of de-escalation he says, 'hey, Merry Xmas.' I realize then that I'm raging about nothing. 😞 At this point we are close together and he puts out his hand and apologizes, and his dog starts hopping on me. 😞 I almost immediately start crying. As I am writing I am crying at how sensitive and fragile I am at everything, and how broken my life and emotions have become. 😞 We said we were sorry, and I explained my bad day, and he said he was sorry I was having a bad day. The doggy was super sweet and hopping on me and trying to play the whole time I'd been close enough, even when I was mad.

I hope someday things are normal again. And I am no longer broken into a million pieces all the time like I am now. 😞

Week 496

Day 3466 - 12/27 Sad and cold

Today I am feeling very sad and cold. I got an Xmas present I thought I could use to pay for stuff, but it's a gift card and can't be. 😞 So now I am feeling very sad about all the things I can't pay for and will come crashing in on me very quickly. 😞

I was so sad I didn't feel like playing my games. It also doesn't help that the food store connection has been completely dead, so I have to go freeze outside of school if I want to play my newest game. 😞

I was very cold today, and I've even put on an extra winter layer, and yet still I'm too cold. I feel very sad, and very tired. And I wish more than anything I could go to bed early and when I wake up everything is fine again, as it was all just a bad dream... but I can't. 😞

Day 3467 - 12/28 Itchy

Today there was too much itchy. Sadly when I checked campus yesterday the locker-room shower area was closed. I couldn't take the itch in all my places anymore and had to try and shave my parts in the food store bathroom. It was... ok... ish. The critical parts are done and I shouldn't be itchy again for a while. Hopefully it will last long enough that I don't really need to do that again, as I expect the pool showers will be open after New Year's on Tuesday. So if I can hold out for not quite a week that would be best.

In super good news today I decided again to look around for a VPN and see if I could find a free one. I found one that seems genuinely free. The bandwidth cap is somewhat low. It seems like it would run out after maybe 20 hours in a month. But, that is plenty to play a few hours a day on the weekends, as it gets my new favorite shooting game through the library firewall. 😊 That makes me super happy, as it also means after

break I could still play then if I want/need to on weekends. Right now this is especially important since the food store connection is still completely dead. (Those three places are the only real connection points around that I've found.)

My eyes hurt today. Behind them, in a migraine fashion. My ears are ringing. I did have a headache for a bit. And I was a little dizzy for a bit. I probably have a cold since most days these days I'm up and about while things are still frosted. This morning my breath was making cold poofs. 😞

But despite all my worries, despite my not knowing how I'll pay for all or even some of the important things, I try to hang on. And I try to continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3468 - 12/29

Surprises

Today had a few surprises. In the morning it started with a surprise present. Being past Xmas I didn't expect anything else. But monies came, and it was quite a bit. Enough that I don't have to worry about the car insurance payment. I am considering a small amount for a present with part of it, so I have a play item, as all the money so far has had to go to essential needs. 😞

The next surprise was a bit of a bad one. Not in any real dangerous way though. Around 2:30 I kept dropping out of my game. At first I thought it was the VPN, as I know that can cause instability in games. But then I remembered that the library can have times of little to no connectivity. And for the next two hours that was the case. So that was very sad. 😞

In the evening when I was leaving the library I decided to take a chance on the school showers. To my surprise it was open. Not just the pool gate, but the showers as well. So while it was a somewhat rushed shower, I got a chance to shave my overgrown itchy areas and I got to clean all my parts. 😊 So now I am super clean and soft again. At least for the next few days.

So today had good and bad. And I suppose in a way, for the moment at least, I will be back to normal levels of homeless worry. Sure, in just a few weeks I'll be back to worry about the February car insurance payment, as I'll probably only have half of it, if that much, but for now the immediate things are all taken care of.

For the moment at least I can somewhat try and relax. And as always continue to hope for the future. And hopefully I can make it to my forever better days.

Day 3469 - 12/30

Good day, quick day

Today was actually a pretty good day by all accounts. It started with being able to sleep in a bit. Being the weekend and winter, and a holiday too, not many people are out and about early, so it's safe to sleep in a bit. Even at sleeping in an hour longer my car was still very chilled here and there and not entirely done defrosting from the night. It seems this winter is going to be insanely cold once I have to start getting up early again.



There were fewer people in the library, hitting a cap of about 85% full, so my connection was strong and stable all day. I mostly played my new game and I've almost gotten to a holiday goal I didn't think I'd have a chance to really do due to the extremely limited time I would normally have. Finding a way through the library firewall has been a huge boon emotionally.

I also decided to spend \$5 of my Xmas monies on a month subscription to watch some special shows, so that is super good. And I spent \$10 on a role playing game thing. Oh, and I also paid the stupid car insurance, so I don't have to worry about that until closer to the end of next month. Though with not enough money to pay the next I'll likely worry much sooner.

But for the moment I feel ok and it was a good day. With the New Years coming things may get a bit rough again, especially if I'm forced to be outside in the cold due to things being closed, but I guess we'll see. But for now I try to stay hopeful. And hopefully tomorrow will be a good day too.

Day 3470 - 12/31

Almost out

Today started with a bit of sad news. I went to buy food and my card was declined, several times. Checking, I apparently only have \$4 and some change. I guess I've spent a bit too much since I can't have my cheap micro foods. That has to last me five days, so that will certainly run out. I should be ok though, as I still have a bit on a gift card, and I have the restaurant gift card as well. (Though I'm unsure how much gas that would use to get there.)

Today went too quickly. I had settled in during the morning at school and POOF it was time to go to the library. The library had shorter hours than normal, so POOF, in a blink that was over too.

Hopefully tonight will be ok. It is still earlier than people will be out celebrating, so hopefully I can be settled and stealthed and go unnoticed.

As always I try to hang on. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3471 - 1/1/18

Changed plans

Today was a lot easier than expected. In the morning I was going to spend a few hours at the food store doing I didn't really know what, as I didn't want to spend too much time outside at school due to the cold, though I knew I'd have to be there at least a short while. But that's not what happened. The food store connection was working again. So I played my game and had fun. By the time I got hungry enough to eat it was early afternoon. I changed my plan of going to school and just stayed in my car a few hours, then went back in to the food store.

It was a nice and warm day. It certainly was not what I'd say was genuinely warm, but it was much warmer than it has been. And in my car mid-day it was warm enough I took off my hoodie, which was something.

So for a short while the chill was gone from my bones. I played and had fun. And the day passed quicker and better than expected. And I hope tomorrow is also a better day.

Day 3472 - 1/2

Not

Today has started a bit differently. I decided to take a chance and see if the school showers were open instead of spending my morning time at the food store. Sadly, it was not. So with the extra time I went to a store on my way to the library to pick up paper for the fail writing, and they were out of the cheap paper. I'm not paying \$4-5 for 100ish sheets of different paper.

So the morning has been different than expected, but not bad. With the extra time before the library opens I'll likely just read my new role playing thing I got for Xmas time.

It's still a touch warmer, but the skies look angry, like rain. I guess we'll see. But today seems ok so far, and hopefully it will be a good day.

Week 497

Day 3473 - 1/3 **So soft**

Today was quite a bit different. I spent extra time at the food store in the morning because I was going to visit my ex-roomie at noon. We hung out for a bit and I got to meet her new kitten. Though it's a ginormous breed of cat, so at just 12 weeks he's already full regular cat sized. He's sooooo soft and sweet. I also got to take a private shower, so I am very soft, and I did two laundry loads, which would have otherwise been \$10-12. I also got a soup to heat up for lunch - the first cooked food I've had in about 2.5 weeks.

Today was pretty good, but now it's raining. It has been since late morning. I guess it's good in that it's always a touch warmer when it rains, but it made the visit to the ex-house extra sad, as my favorite thing there was to open the window and hear the rain on the trees just outside the window. And when things were in season I could smell the orange and lemon trees too. I can't remember the last time I got fresh orange, let alone had them right off the tree.

But laundry is good to have done, particularly with school staring next Monday. I have that to look forward to again, and though it is not the best, it is a form of stability, which is at least something in this sad life. But I continue to try to hang on. And I continue to try and make it to better days.

Day 3474 - 1/4 **Almost out**

Today was extra sad. Of all the gift money people sent during Xmas all I got to spend on fun things was \$10. The rest had to be spent on regular life things. Nearly the last of it was spent today returning the backpack I've had to return before because they keep getting ripped after only about four months. On the good side that will come back as a brand new one in a few weeks. But I have a teeny bit of gas and then it's all gone.

Nothing for insurance in February. Nothing for the fix-it ticket. Nothing for, well, anything. It was all used for the last insurance and getting signed up for school.

I feel very sad now that I'm barely making it one day at a time. I suppose it's good that I am continuing on, but this is infinitely more stressful than when I barely had anything and was only saving a couple hundred a month. I feel, every minute of every day, that I will snap and break, both mentally and physically. 😞

But I try to hang on. I try to distract myself with my games and shows. And I hope I can continue to hang on until better days come.

Day 3475 - 1/5

Regular

Today was closer to a regular Friday. I checked the showers in the morning and they were open. I was later than expected though, so I had to really rush quickly through the shower. The rest of my day was a pretty regular day at the library. Save for my tummy being upset about the lunch meat I ate during the day, which is not uncommon these days. Tomorrow and Sunday I'll do a salad, so I'm sure that will settle fine.

Things were pretty sad though. My job searches are returning fewer results than ever, some have even stopped sending me anything as there are zero results. And never anything I'm qualified for, with many hundreds of miles away. But I guess next quarter will start next week, so at last that will keep me busy and be back to my regular routine.

It's raining, which is nice. But, as usual for my homeless days, I can't enjoy it. No really. But I try to appreciate what I can. And I try to look forward to the positive things I still have. And I try to continue to hold on until better days.

Day 3476 - 1/6

Feel like crying

Today I feel very depressed. I feel so sad I feel like I will start crying. I'm not really sure why. It was a pretty good day where I played my game and watched a couple

of shows. I got a job search which again had nothing in my area and very few jobs. And I have been reading through my new pen and paper rule book I got for Xmas. I would guess the combination of those, along with everything else that is happening is what is making me feel so sad.

I miss a life where I don't have to worry about small bills. I miss a life where I can have a home to be warm and comfortable. I miss having friends to play new or different games with. And on said game days I miss not being able to cook something to share with people who appreciate my cooking and time shared with them.

I guess I am yet again just having a hard time with everything. I again am feeling more lost than usual. More discarded than usual. And still grieving the loss ... of me.

Day 3477 - 1/7

Farts-a-lot

Today I feel better, but there was still constant worry and sadness in the back of my mind. I played in the morning, but when I was at the library I rapidly got sad to the point of not really doing anything while I was there. It didn't help that there was the worst table person across from me most of the day. Not only did he smell bad in a 'he has a totally different diet' kind of way (sort of like a fish market where some fish are dying), but he was farting about every 45 minutes which smelt horrid. Once I had to put my sleeve over my nose for like half an hour. 😞

I guess I made it through the day, and tomorrow is the start of the school quarter. Which means I'll be back in my warm spot, be able to micro foods, and have a stable strong connection all day to whatever I want (in theory.)

So today I try to hang on. I try to push my sad thoughts of money and another day of life lost without potential and opportunity out of my mind, and I try to look forward. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3478 - 1/8

Not enough sleep

Today I am running on not enough sleep. 😞 For whatever reason I only got about 6 hours. 😞 I'm soooooo tired and feel like I will pass out from exhaustion at any second, and have all day.

The day was ok though. There were several people stopping by saying hi. I was warm even though it was raining all day and night. I had micro food and enough to eat (though I'm extra hungry from the lack of sleep.)

But I am still very sad. I played and watched stuff, but barely. Mostly I was sad about all the things, and now yet another quarter has started where I try to learn things, but likely will not find a job to use the skills in.

But I try to hang on. I try to look forward to tomorrow. Hopefully I can get enough sleep. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3479 - 1/9

Sneezy, but hopeful

Today I am very sneezy. I'm congested and my eyes are itchy too. I think at the end of last week back when the rain started people brought colds into the library and I caught something. 😞

The day is just starting but I've seen a few cute girls around, and yesterday too, so that always helps me feel hopeful. Though often more and more lately I feel less like someone with influence or control and more like someone who has to wait for opportunity to come along. Though I suppose I've never been one who had resources to create opportunity. 😞

Maybe, hopefully someday I can be. And hopefully I can continue to hang on emotionally and physically until then.

Week 498

Day 3480 - 1/10

Exhausted

Today I am super exhausted. I'm still sneezy quite a bit with itchy eyes and a bit hungrier than usual, so I'd guess the exhaustion is a combination of not enough sleep and my body fighting off the cold.

I guess my days are ok. I have really no obligations until Friday, so I'm just trying to rest and recover. Though when checking my job search site seeing basically no new postings for the half dozen categories I check is depressing. And worrying about money is at an all time high, so I'm depressed because of that too. And with that depression comes a reduced desire to play, so while I am still playing some, it's not as much as normal, not even close. And my enjoyment level is pretty low as well.

But I try to hang on. I will try and get extra rest if I can. I will certainly try to be extra restful while at school. And I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3481 - 1/11

Still exhausted

Today I am so exhausted I didn't even know what to say about the day. I tried to play and have fun, but I've been extremely depressed again lately. I've had extra worry since Monday too because I got an email saying I was disqualified for aid. I noticed Wednesday it actually specified federal aid, not financial aid, so I researched some things and then asked for clarification from the school, as that has no connection to my "BOG fee waiver". So I had extra worry the last few days over that, thinking I was at the end of being able to keep financial aid at bay (as I wouldn't be able to afford classes without that waiver.) But it turns out nothing is different at all. (So I'm very confused as to why they sent me an email telling me this, when the last time they said this was 7 years ago.)

I don't know why I'm so completely exhausted though. I am again at a point where I feel I'll start crying at any second, punch people in the face who upset me, or just fall

over and pass out asleep. I'm tempted to try and overeat tomorrow assuming this is just my body losing all its resources due to the cold, but I don't know if I can spare the money.

I don't want to run out again like I did last month. 😞

I feel so lost. So alone in my struggle and pain. And like I have so little I can't really look ahead. Like I must keep my eyes down at the floor because looking up I'd see what is not there. 😞

But I try to hang on. I know I am not alone. I know there are things to look forward to. And I try to keep hoping for better days ahead.

Day 3482 - 1/12

Grouped

Today was ok. The day was almost entirely taken up by class. We did a group project, so it was pretty fun and people had some laughs.

I didn't do much during the rest of the day. I didn't really feel like playing, so I only played for less than an hour. I just watched a show the rest of the time.

I got a shower in the evening, so that was nice. I was too tired and beat in the morning to do it when I normally would have. And despite constant worry about my having no money, with so many things coming up soon, I tried to stay hopeful. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3483 - 1/13

Terrible start, ok end

Today started terribly, though I suppose it still could have been worse. I was down to almost no gas, so I had to go to the recycling center. By the time I was nearly there I was getting almost no movement on the gauge, and showing the 'check gauges' warning. I barely made it, immediately got \$2 of gas at the closest place, then continued back to the

library. I barely got \$12 total, of which probably 3 was used in the trip. And that was probably two months or more of collecting. 😞

When I got to the library and tried to upload my podcast I was repeatedly getting errors. I burnt up 17 of the 30 minutes on my phone I have for the month getting no answers, as I was basically on hold the entire time before giving up. At this time someone messaged that my site has been down since yesterday. And in checking I couldn't reach either of my domains at all. I sent a message via the social page and it took hours to get any kind of reply. I got a vague answer that said something was set up incorrectly. It's never needed to be set before? Why did it change? What exactly is this thing? Why do I need to be the one to change it? I found a number and guessed that was the thing to change. Thankfully the sites started showing up a few hours later, but I still couldn't update my site. I guess I'll have to wait to fix that until tomorrow.

Things were bad and sad because of that all day. What should have been a normal homeless day was put into a pretty sad and terrible place because of that.

During the day I watched a show which cheered me up a bit. By the end of the day I was feeling better enough to play, but by then I only had an hour before the library closed.

There was one bright spot in the day. Someone saw I was having a bad day and sent a donation. 😊 So that is some monies for a few weeks gas. Likely not enough for anything else, but I'll hold onto it for a week, just in case I need it for something not gas, or other donations come in and I can add them together. So it's good to know people do care and are watching out for how I'm doing - one person who was watching and noticed the site was down, another who saw I was sad and things were bad and sent help and well wishing hoping I feel better.

So I try to hang on. I try to hope things are back to where they should be soon, and try to continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3484 - 1/14

Still so sad

Today I am still very sad. I think still in part because my online stuff is still having issues and that's a thing out of my control. But I think more because I am feeling very homesick lately. I miss all the little things. Sleeping in a bed. Sleeping in on weekends. Days like tomorrow being actual days off. Being able to shower. Being able to cook what and when I want. Having a space to invite people to play, or even just having friends to go and play with regularly. Even having a job which is at least tolerable so I don't have to constantly worry about bills. 😞

I think with the start of the new quarter, and probably more-so the new year, I am again pondering all I've lost, how my life doesn't match up to others.

I'm very exhausted too. I can't recall how many years it's been since I was awake and alert feeling. All the time now my eyes are half closed, my brain half asleep, and while my body is restful and unmoving most of the time, all I want to do is sleep and sleep until I no longer feel like I'm going to pass out from exhaustion at any given second.



I try to hang on. Though I think tomorrow will be extra difficult. And I try to stay hopefully for a better tomorrow.

Day 3485 - 1/15

Bleh

Today there isn't much to say. I spent my time at the food store with a pretty mediocre connection. I did what I wanted to do, but it wasn't a fast enough connection to encourage me to do more demanding things, or to go through my activities quickly. I didn't even really play because the problem with my web host continue, so I was frustrated with not being able to update my site. And food, being lunchmeat, has left my tummy upset basically all day. I probably shouldn't have lunchmeat anymore. I just can't handle any at all. 😞

But I made it through the day. And hopefully tomorrow things can return to homeless normal.

Day 3486 - 1/16

All broken

Today I am extremely tired. I know that isn't really uncommon, but last night was the worst. I got 'into bed' early, but I was anxious, nervous, like something very important was happening the next day, like a surgery or a new job. The world seemed empty and dead, like just after a terrible storm had quieted down to nothing, or something terrible had happened and everything and everyone had left the area. And so, for whatever reason, I didn't fall asleep until after about 2:30. 😞

My site is still not updating. I guess what caused all the trouble is they moved where all my stuff was hosted (without warning me it might get broken in the process.) The guy I talked to today suggested trying changing my password, which I'd actually thought to try over the weekend (but didn't.) But I guess it's ok, as he said it taking half an hour is no unusual (to reflect the change).

So today has started badly again. All the things feel bad and broken and sad. But with the day still ahead of me, I am hopeful things will be back to homeless normal soon.

Week 499

Day 3487 - 1/17 **Sort of working**

Today I was completely exhausted. I am still not caught up on sleep, not even close. I suppose the day was ok though, as I did have a bit of fun. And, more importantly, my site is sort of fixed. I can update it in one of my two ways. So I still have to figure out why the normal software for it isn't working, but at least there won't be worry it will work.

I'm so very tired I can't think straight. I am jumping at everything and very rapidly get upset at things. Hopefully soon I can sleep well and at least get slightly caught up. I don't know how much longer I can run on so little sleep and energy. 😞

But I try to hang on. And I try to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3488 - 1/18 **The beautiful girl**

Today I was completely exhausted. It was strange in that I was fine when I got to school, and up until lunch I felt ok and had more energy levels and seemed like I would retain focus. But quickly as I had lunch, and by the early afternoon for sure, I dropped to almost no energy. And my eyes had become so tired and almost closed and I couldn't focus at all.

There was one unexpected surprise. In the mid afternoon a very beautiful girl said hi. I said hi back, in an awkward 'I don't recognize you' way. In the three years I've TAed a lot have come through, and the last was more than a year ago. She was curious what I was doing, and she said she saw me there all the time. I immediately felt ashamed of my life, how terrible of shape I'm in, my cloths not being fresh, and everything else. I was not ready to have a beautiful girl near me, let alone paying any kind of attention to me. I expect I'll see her again, at least on Tuesday and Thursday, but she seemed to imply she was around more often. I'll be very surprised if anything comes of her saying hello,

especially since she approached me without reason. (In comparison to her knowing I was a helper/TA or knowing someone who knew me already.)

But I made it through the day. I am so very exhausted. Hopefully I can get some sleep. I've been losing a lot lately. It's raining, so there is a bit of extra cover, so there's that. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3489 - 1/19

Rain and exhaustion

Today I was still very exhausted. I had class, so that was pretty distracting. But as always lately I was so exhausted I would have preferred a life in a home where I could just take the day off, slept as much as my body needed, and then occupied my day with multiple different things to help keep my focus. I still felt like most of my day I would pass out from exhaustion, and my eyes had difficulty staying open and focusing.

I'm glad I got the new pen and paper rulebook for Xmas. I've lately been pondering characters and builds. I may never play them. I can't really find a game in my current situation. But it has been quite a positive distraction. And I've had a new social group online who seem like good people (who are for that game). I've asked some questions and they have been helpful. Maybe in better days I could find an online group through them.

But for now I try to hang on, and I hope for better days.

Day 3490 - 1/20

Over quickly

Today was over very quickly. I was very very tired. I did morning stuff and by the time it was barely noon the library connection was too slow to play on. I did some work on my characters for the Xmas role playing game I got, and watched a few shows. The day was barely over before it began, with it only feeling like early afternoon by the time it closed.

My being extremely depressed lately didn't help. With feeling sad and having little to look forward to my brain is easily distracted and can't focus on hardly anything. I suppose, in a way, that's better for passing the time. But I'd prefer to be in a home with regular options, and regular things to occupy my time with.

I suppose the day was ok though. It wasn't worse, though we draw ever closer to needing money where there is none in the bank. 😞 So I continue to be very worried. But I try to hang on. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3491 - 1/21

Sad spill

Today was a bit extra sad. I am very tired still. I still feel at the point of exhaustion. I was, in fact, so tired I was not paying attention. I had set my drink, open, in front of my laptop, as I was having a snack while doing a bit of character stuff. When I went to reach over the snack to type I knocked into the drink and spilled on the keyboard.

😞 I quickly saved things and shut down for about 30 minutes, figuring it would be enough. When I restarted and tried to start up the keys were typing random junk when pressed. I shut down for another 30 minutes and tried again. Then the library was closing. I'd lost more than two hours before it closed.

I guess it wasn't really terrible. Bandwidth had gotten bad to the point of having almost none at all, so I just watched shows in the remaining time I had. It's closing time now, but this is the second spill. It should be fine, it seems on the way to recovering, but what if it doesn't. 😞

I worried all day about bills. I'm very low on gas again and barely have any money to get more. And, as always, we are another day closer to needing to pay another insurance. Which with my account being empty I have no money for anything. 😞 So things seem ever more worrisome.

But in a while when I try and sleep I will hope things are better in the morning, both for my laptop and me. 😞

Day 3492 - 1/22

Still gibberish

Today things are still not great. My laptop is mostly recovered, but enough keys come out as gibberish I can't type as normal, which prevents a lot of activities. Even gaming which uses limited keys is very difficult. I saw some stuff online that said you should unplug the laptop and remove the battery when you have a spill, and let it dry for as much as two days before turning it on again. So hopefully it isn't permanently damaged and will continue to get better. I swiped a keyboard for a bit to do this typing, but my options are limited with it not working correctly.

I am still so tired I can't think or focus, and my eyes are still more than half closed most of the time. I hope to get better. I hope my laptop gets better. I hope my nightmare ends soon and I can make it to my forever better days. 😞

Day 3493 - 1/23

Sick again

Today I am feeling sick again. My lungs and nose are horribly congested, my tummy feels upset and icky, and I've had a headache since yesterday afternoon. Feeling my head, I feel a bit feverish. 😞

(Edit) Having started my laptop and typing this in, things seem normal again save for the upper left corner where the first few numbers and tab are being a bit sticky. So hopefully typing is back to normal and I can maybe just clean out some stickiness later.

I hope my keyboard is better and my laptop is fine (it's a touch slower to shut down and start up, but that might have been a small update.) I hope I get better physically. I hope I feel better emotionally soon. I hope there are those out there who care about me and can send donation help. And I hope I can continue and live on to see better days.

Day 3494 - 1/24 Sticky, kaput

Today was ok I suppose. I'm still really sick. But, I've discovered if, every 1.5 hours or so, I look up and away from my laptop, more-so if I get up and walk around (more than just 20 feet to the bathroom and back) there seems to be a much reduced chance that my eyes will get sleepy and just stay closed. I don't know if that is a physical focus thing, a blood flow thing, or my brain just getting bored since my activities are predictable. My eye doc told me years ago every 15 minutes or so to look away from my monitor, but I never remember to do that.

My laptop seems mostly better from the spill. I took some keys off and tried to clear things out a bit more. I'm not sure it helped though. The F, R, 3, and 7 are still fairly sticky. Not so bad they are totally unusable or misfiring, but enough that I can't quite type as quick.

It seems another minor disaster has happened. I went to the bathroom at one point and upon putting my headphones back on after getting back there was a crackle in the ears. That's not entirely unusual, as the wires are getting sensitive. But a few minutes later the right speaker went out completely. After about 5 minutes of fussing to try and move the cord into a position to get it back, the left side went out as well. The main part still worked, as plugging in my ear buds I could still change the volume on that controller. But the headset itself seemed entirely dead, and it was still dead testing it on my tablet. Looking it up online it seems it should be under a 2 year policy, and I only purchased them about 1.3 years ago, so I'm still very much within that period. Even if I only needed to pay like \$10 for shipping I don't have it. 🙄 I guess I'll hear back in a few days on how the RMA will work and what I do or don't need to pay for.

Checking the ex-storage it seems my old wireless headphones are still where I left them. They are charging a bit now. I do recall the spine on them is so broken they were practically falling off at all times when I last used them, but that would be way better than my ear buds. Even at just 40% volume (a quiet/normal level for those) using them today they were crackling a bit under the strain. So I'd rather not push those.

So, a bit more sadness today. And still no donations or good news, so things seem extra bad and sad. At least it's raining, which I do always like, as it seems soothing. And in my sad life it does get me some extra cover from being discovered, so there is that. But it seems, as usual, all I can do is hope things get better, hope people send help, and hope I can hang on until better days.

Day 3495 - 1/25

Extreme need

Today I was very depressed. My gas is getting extremely critical. I have class in the morning, so I will still drive to school and shower, as I caught a whiff of pretty stinky pants and socks today. 😞 But, after that, without getting at least a little help I'm going to have to abandon the car and be on foot and only move it maybe once a week. 😞

I really hope help comes. Not only do I need to keep my car moving so I don't walk, but because I need to keep mobile to disguise the fact that I'm homeless. 😞

I will try again to put out an emergency call on the social pages in the morning, but it seems like few to none are responding to that. 😞 All I can do is try. And hope there are kind caring souls out there that can help. 😞 And hopefully I can continue to hang on, one day at a time. 😞

Day 3496 - 1/26

Feverish

Today I feel bad emotionally. For most of the day I've had a pretty bad headache. Checking my forehead I feel kind of feverish still. My tummy is very icky and acidic lately too. 😞

I put out another call for help on the social site and quite a few have seen the post so far. Two sent help, so at least I don't have to worry about my car for a while. I'll get a

couple of weeks of gas tomorrow and save the rest for later. Hopefully more will come and I can pay the February insurance.

I'm cold and exhausted. But I am trying to hold on emotionally. And hopefully help will continue to come, and I can make it to better days; financially, physically, and emotionally.

Day 3497 - 1/27

Like I don't belong

Today was pretty weird. It actually started out good. Because I can still have gas for my car I got to sleep in a touch. I went to the food store, got foods, and on my way to the library I was practicing a silly character voice for a character I will hopefully get to play one day. In the start of my time at the library I theorycrafted some character stuff, and did some creative work for the characters, something I haven't felt in a good enough mood to do for probably 6 or more months.

But after lunch things turned. I don't know if it was due to the drop in bandwidth to nearly nothing (altering my plans for the rest of the day), a few keys still sticking on my laptop, a sad event on a social page, or a combination of everything, but then and even now hours later I again feel homesick and heartbroken. And, more importantly, I feel like I don't belong in a regular world anymore. It's like everything I did, everything I saw, and everything I thought, reminded me how far I've fallen. And it made me feel like everyone is just passing by and I am left alone and broken, and that I will never be able to recover.



But I know that isn't true. There are the people who watch out for me who sent help or gifts a month ago at Xmas. And there were two who sent help when I made my emergency post yesterday.

So, as hurt as I feel, as much as I am on the verge of tears as I write, I have to stay hopeful. I hope to keep feeling that opportunity will come and I can hang on long enough to make it back to a regular life and that this will not be the end of my story.

Day 3498 - 1/28

Not so fancy

Today was both good and bad. It was bad in that the library, and the food store, had no bandwidth at all. 😞 It was ok though, as I did other character stuff.

Emotionally other than that today was pretty good. I felt ok, though very worried about all the things. In the late afternoon I got a donation from an online friend. 😊 So that is super good as it's enough to cover car insurance. In a day or two that will clear and be covered.

I decided to get a fancier dinner with some of my turkey weekend gift card monies. It was... ok. Certainly not as high quality as I expected for how much of the gift card money it took.

But I suppose I made it through today. My tomorrows will still be a struggle, but for the moment there is a lot more hope from those who helped. Hopefully help will continue to come in times of need, and I can continue to hang on until better days.

Day 3499 - 1/29

Okish

Today was okish. I was still pretty down, though I'm also still pretty sick. It also doesn't help that I didn't fall asleep until nearly 2 last night for no apparent reason.

I guess overall though as far as days go it was ok. I played my game for just a tiny bit. I watched a few shows. And I talked a bit on the social pages. A few even said hi to me who I haven't seen in a while at school. (Though the beautiful girl has passed by me twice now and not said anything since that first time.)

For the moment I continue on. I try to look ahead to possible futures, and look past the shortcomings of today. And I try to hang on until better day.

Day 3500 - 1/30

Hopeful

Today is just starting. I'm congested and sneezing, but despite not sleeping until nearly 1 I feel ok, and maybe even a bit hopeful. I don't expect anything really unusual to happen today, but things seem positive. I suppose it's because my immediate gas needs and (soon) insurance will be covered, and in theory I have a day of play ahead of me after my daily job searching. I have clean cloths too, really the last of it. It will be almost impossible to go longer than maybe next week, even if I push it with dirty cloths. But there is enough for laundry if need be (I hope the ex-roomie will offer again, but it seems unlikely.)

So things seem ok so far, and I hope the rest of the day is ok too. For the moment I continue to hang on and continue to hope for better days.

Day 3501 - 1/31 Spider

Today my tummy very much wanted a hamburger. 😞 The ones at the school cafeteria are super yummy, and at only \$7 you get a bunch of fries too. It's actually better, and more food, than the two local restaurants I've had hamburgers at. I smelled them as I went to make lunch, and then again at dinner. And after lunch, and after dinner, people were walking around with some. But I don't have any money. 😞 Besides the one I got with the gift card I think it's been probably six months since I had one. 😞

I did a very nice thing today though. I was sitting in my usual spot, and out of the corner of my eye I saw a 1" big spider making their way up the wall. I didn't want to hurt the spider. Though scary to me, I'm sure they didn't intend to be. But I scooped up the spider into a small box and carried them out and up the stairs to the plants. Hopefully they will live a nice life outside. It's a lot colder than inside. But there aren't any spider foods inside at all. They would have starved inside in just a couple of days I'm sure. So hopefully by now they have anew happy home with lots of foods.

I guess today was ok. A lady asked for my help then got all upset at me for not helping. Well, gee, maybe if you hadn't spent more than 5 minutes not letting me look at the thing you asked for help with before you rage quit maybe I could have figured out what was going on. But other than that things seemed like I helped. There were some on the social page I helped or reassured. So there is that. Not a bit impact globally, but it made a difference to those people for sure.

But as sad as my tummy was today, and me overall emotionally, I continue on. And I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3502 - 2/1

Bright moons guide me

Today I felt a bit sick again. I'm so very tired, hungry, and sneezing. I'm having a lot of trouble getting to sleep lately too.

I started the day very positive and feeling like I had energy and was going to do character planning, but by the time I got to lunch I'd become so exhausted my eyes were half closed and I couldn't even focus on just watching a show, let alone anything more.

The stupid fix it ticket finally came. Glancing at it, it does appear it will 'only' be \$25. And I have until the end of March to pay, which it looked like I could just send it to them with a check with proof of fixing it, so that's good. I just need to get the \$25. 😞 And ideally this month, so I don't have to worry about them doing anything like verifying my insurance and it not being there. But I get the money when I get the money. I'll need help for that. 😞

Someone mentioned there is moon stuff going on. I glanced up as I was leaving campus for the night and it was bright and beautiful. But with my sad life a quick glance was all I could get. I no longer have a back yard to go spend time just being out among the stars at night. 😞

But, exhaustion aside, I suppose today was ok. I have enough food for the moment. I can still be at school. And I continue on for another day. So, for now, I continue to stay hopeful that help will come, and that I can hang on until better days.

Day 3503 - 2/2

Paw

I got some bad news researching my paw. I've talked before about how the right toes seem to be at like a 30 degree angle, and I researched that a bit more. Apparently at 30 people's foot bones start to degenerate in some people, and as part of that they can be sensitive to shoes. Supposedly the big toe can create a cushion, which is common, which pushes the big toe to the side, pushing other toes too. Apparently 10-15 degrees isn't

uncommon, and more than 20 can be bad. However, I don't have any of the symptoms of things being bad, such as the joint swelling, having pain, or loss of range of motion, so this may be part of a related degradation of the area due to walking slightly sideways. Apparently this can be fixed with corrective shoes, or prolonged periods of not wearing shoes, which is what my life once was when I was in a home and didn't need to go out much.

So I feel very sad and broken today, as this may have degenerated to a point of not being fixable without surgery, and it may continue to get worse as my sad life continues to take a toll. 😞

Day 3504 - 2/3

Feeling unwelcome

Yesterday and today I've felt unwelcome where I've been. Not by anything people have done or said, but just in an overall sense. It's a hard feeling to describe, as I haven't felt pushed out or like I couldn't be there. I just haven't felt 'welcome', like when you visit friends and they are happy to see you and 'welcome you in', or like when you come home after being out.

I guess that makes sense, as I've been in public places. I can't remember the last time I had private space. I mean, sure, it would have been just before my sad story began. And maybe it's just I'm feeling homesick again, with the combination that I'm at my worst point ever, with not even \$10 to spare to do things like replace my headphones or get back on medication for blood pressure and cholesterol.

I don't know how to describe the feeling. I guess it's just a layer of extreme depression. But I feel alone, unwanted, and like the wrong kind of eyes are watching me.

Of course not being recognized doesn't help either. I know sometimes things I say on the social pages help, but often what I say isn't acknowledged, and it's been years since the company I post on the forums for has said or done anything for me.

So I guess overall I just feel extremely depressed. And I worry, as there are such small things I need help with, yet seem to be getting help so rarely. And it seems none of

those success story opportunities seem to be coming my way. As always, it seems my path is different, and I am an outsider.

But I try to hang on. I try to stay hopeful. I know there are those out there who do keep an eye out and help when they can. So I continue to hope help comes. And I continue to try to hang on as best as I can.

Day 3505 - 2/4

Not sportball

Today was mostly better. It was warm and spring-like, almost even to the point of being shorts weather. So that, I think, helped put me into a much better mood than I would otherwise have been. Overall I am still pretty worried and sad about money, so it was an odd mix.

There was again no bandwidth at the library, so I really just spent my time on social pages and watching game videos. I've been looking at one in particular everyone is raving about. It looks ok, probably not for me, and with most of only one game in gift money I have to be very careful what I spend that on.

I was pretty down about things in general, probably with stupid extra car things I need money for and not having any. 😞 But with the warm weather I felt a bit better and hopeful that warmer and better days are still ahead.

Day 3506 - 2/5

Bunny of wisdom

Today I could not stop thinking about my troubles with money. 😞 And all day my tummy wanted micro foods. In the morning I smelt breakfast foods, and in the afternoon and evening I smelt hamburger and other yummy foods. And after I parked my car for the night I smelt a very yummy spicy something someone was making. 😞 It

would have been so nice to be able to buy even a small freshly cooked food, but I only have \$1 in my account. 😞

But things were a bit better emotionally. On the social page someone thanked me for some advice I gave and she mentioned whenever she sees me she thinks of me as 'the bunny of wisdom' (because I have a cute baby bunny avatar). She said she always finds my comments to people insightful and helpful, so that was nice.

Someone else said thanks, as I've talked to him about boots a few times. I talked about the brand and a few good and bad features of different boots.

And I sent in some stuff for a contest and the person said they loved them and hoped I'd send more, so that was nice too.

So, despite my constant worry about money that I couldn't get out of my head, and my sad tummy hungry for all the nice cooked food at the cafeteria I couldn't eat, I suppose it was a good day. So, for the moment I try to stay hopeful. I try to stay positive. I hope help comes. And I try to hang on.

Day 3507 - 2/6

Food

Today I am already worrying a lot. 😞 I can't get the car bills out of my head. 😞 I hope help comes to take care of them because it's getting to the point I am constantly worrying about them. 😞

Today is the cycle day for my food money, so I have a touch extra food. Hopefully that will help me catch up, get better rest at night, and recover from my cold. I'm still congested and sneezing quite a lot. 😞

But the day is just starting. It's morning and I haven't even set up my laptop yet. I have something I need to do for class in the afternoon, and another meeting for a class in the evening, so there's that. But hopefully I can stop worrying about my bills and get the chance to rest and relax at least a little. All I can do is hope help comes, hope opportunity comes, and hope I can hang on until better days.

Week 502

Day 3508 - 2/7 **Fries are not a food**

Today was very different. My ex-roomie got back to me about another visit, so I went over and spent a few hours there. I got to do three laundries and get all caught up again. I said hi to the kitties which was nice. I decided to see if she wanted to share foods, so I cooked real foods. I got some steak to make sandwiches, and fries to eat with them. Apparently fries are not considered a food I can have with my food stamp card. Which, I guess, makes sense since most of the people who have cards would have families and younglings. Though it seems odd that microwave food, chips, and compete junk like cookies, are all ok while frozen fries aren't. I still had a tiny bit of money on my gift card, but I had to use a couple of dollars of real money.

I only spent a few hours at school, so spending the rest where I could cook and do what otherwise would have been about \$15 in laundry (free) was quite unusual. I feel disconnected, between the me that is and the me that was. I don't know if I feel better or worse. I am not leaving the living room to go back to my room. I am leaving the living room and going back to my homeless life.

I suppose in the morning when I've slept, done my morning routine, and settled back in on campus things will probably feel more like my usual homeless self. Certainly by afternoon I'm sure. But for right now, I feel between, in neither space.

I suppose that is good. But since only laundry has really changed, I continue to hope help comes. And I hope I can hang on until better days.

Day 3509 - 2/8 **Connected, but separate**

Today I still feel a bit strange. It doesn't help that today again, still for seemingly no reason, my eyes refused to focus on my laptop. It's like something about sitting at my laptop is forcing my body to just shut down. I feel like I'm just going to pass out. I'm sure

it's just an insane level of exhaustion so far into an exhausted state my body can't even recognize anything close to normal anymore.

I guess the day was ok though. I had enough food. I played and had fun for a bit. I did a project for class tomorrow. So I did the things that needed doing and what I basically planned to do. It's just I continually feel like on a 1 to 10 scale of actually asleep to super excited awake and alert I can never get above about a two or three. I've never been drunk, but this inability to think or focus must be what that's like.

But today is mostly done, certainly all of the not hiding part. So hopefully I can get to sleep soon, sleep well, and maybe recover, if even just a little. and hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3510 - 2/9

Warm day

Today was better than I'd expected. I had my test for class, which was super hard and I probably did bad, but it's mostly project grades, so I'm sure I'll be fine overall.

When I got lunch, and even later at dinner, it was pretty warm. It's almost shorts weather. The morning and evening get pretty cold still, but things are warming up.

I've been thinking of death a lot again lately. Mostly due to external triggers more than internal. I find myself looking at unhealthy people at school, mostly bigger people, and I think about how I'm out of shape and I'm only a fraction of their size. I wonder how they can't worry about that, how they can not worry it may greatly impact their lifespan. But then, mostly they are twentysomethings, so that's likely why.

But I try to put the bad and sad things out of my mind. I try not to count the days I have remaining. I try to focus on what I do have, and what I may yet still have in the future. And I try to continue to hope for better days ahead.

Day 3511 - 2/10

Feel ok

Today I am feeling ok. I got to sleep in for a bit, which was good. And I decided not to fixate or worry about the homeless at the library who bother me. But the library bandwidth continues to decline. It was barely connected at all. I tried to play a game, and barely got to watch a show. I managed to stay alert most of the day too, which is rare these days.

I did manage to not think too much about death today, though thoughts and worry about the bill things as always a small rumble in the back of my mind. Unfortunately I probably won't stop worrying about that, particularly with no income.

But I try to stay hopeful help will come. And I try to hope I can hang on until better days.

Day 3512 - 2/11

Zero bandwidth

Today was pretty sad. I played for just a bit at the food store in the morning, but after that I had zero bandwidth at the library. In a test it showed literally about 1% of the speed it should have. It was taking five minutes to respond to anything, if it responded at all.

Thankfully two movies and a series were set aside for me today, so I just did offline stuff watching that. But it wasn't really what I'd hoped for or planned for the day.

Someday I can hopefully go back to being able to do what I hope or planned for a day. Maybe even have full control of things like temperature and volume of things around me as well. Even just being able to sleep when I want and cook and eat as a normal person again would be a huge boon.

Until then I will try to enjoy watching my shows and movies, try and distract myself with games I can play, and hopefully I can hang on. Hopefully help will come and I can pay for the things I need. And hopefully I can hang on to hope long enough to make it to forever better days.

Day 3513 - 2/12

New like

Today was both good and bad. It was good in that I felt emotionally ok in most ways. I had a quick job check; nothing there which is why I don't usually bother talking about it anymore. And then after I spent the rest of the day playing and watching shows. And I mean all the rest of the day, as compared to what seems like for weeks now where that was only 25% of the rest of the day and the rest I'm just dead tired or too depressed to do anything.

But it was also bad emotionally in that no new help came and I have several timers ticking down every day and I don't know how I'll be able to pay any of them without help. 😞

I got quite the surprise today though. Someone "liked" my page. That hasn't happened in forever. I couldn't see who it was though. For some reason that's hidden information now. It used to be I could see the list. Now I don't know who they are unless they post something, which really no one does.

The cold is back too, which is very sad. For a while it was nearly shorts weather, now I've had to put back on my undershirt layer and am worried that I may need to put my long underwear back on too.

But for now I just try to hang on. I continue to hope more help comes so I can pay for things, maybe even someday get the \$10 'extra' to get back on my blood pressure and cholesterol meds. But it seems all I can do is continue to hope. And hopefully I can continue to hang on until help comes and I can have better days.

Day 3514 - 2/13

Sneezy cold, again

Today emotionally I feel hopeful. It's probably in part because the day is just starting, and maybe in part because there was happy music at the food store.

There is a lot to be sad about though. I'm sneezing quite a bit, so I probably caught yet another cold by being at the library over the weekend again. My ear bud headphones

seem to be dying. There is a distortion crackle that comes up now and then. My gaming headphones are still waiting in the trunk for the \$10 to mail them back. (Which the RMA expires in two weeks.) And as often lately I feel very fat and out of shape. It feels like I've gained 10-15 pounds since I went off the blood pressure and cholesterol meds. I can't be sure though as I don't easily have access to a scale.

But since the day is just starting I will choose to try and stay hopeful and positive. Hopefully I will warm up soon and have an ok time with my day. Hopefully help will come to take care of some things. And hopefully I can hang on long enough to make it to forever better days.

Week 503

Day 3515 - 2/14

Not itchy

Today was better than expected, I suppose. It was sweeties day, and I still have no sweetie. I did see the cute blonde girl with tattoos, but she just passed by checking her phone. There has only been one hello since the first. But things weren't too sad overall. I suppose since I've had more sweeties days alone than not I am used to it, and so it is just a day like any other.

I had a pretty good time watching shows and playing games. Though the sad things weighed heavily on my mind. The clocks are still ticking away and I still don't know how I'll manage to cover the costs I need to. 😞

I got a surprise yesterday. I checked the ex-house for mail and there was a package for me. No one had said to expect anything, so it was a total surprise. It was anti-itch cream. And it's a ton in comparison to the free packets from school, so I shouldn't have to worry about being itchy in the future when outbreaks happen.

It's super cold again tonight. It seems like it will keep being cold for a while, which is super sad. But I try to have fun with my day. I try to look past the sad things. And I try to continue to hope help comes and I can hang on until better days.

Day 3516 - 2/15

Two, at most

Today is pretty terrible emotionally. The day was fine. I played and watched some shows and had an ok time on social pages. But I am almost completely out of gas. So that, along with the things I need to pay, were constantly on my mind. I have, I would guess, two days at most before my car is empty. And I really don't have money in my account at all. Yes, there is a tiny bit saved for the next bank fee in a few weeks, but I really can't spend that.

So I don't know what I'll do. 😞 But I really don't have any choice. Without help, short term, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday I'll have to be on foot. Which is both a huge risk to my feet since I shouldn't be walking at all, and of course a huge risk to my car as it is then unmoving, something that absolutely should not happen while homeless. That will rapidly be a massive risk if I can't move my car.

But I will have no choice. I'm hoping help will come by the end of the weekend, but it seems less and less likely with each day that passes. 😞 So this is my current forced plan. And if no help comes by the end of the weekend I don't think I'll have any choice and I'll have to leave the car where it is. 😞

But I will decide tomorrow. And I will have to hope help comes. But my days are the darkest they have ever been. 😞

Day 3517 - 2/16

Very sad

Today I felt very extremely sad all day. No help came, though I put up another emergency help call on the social page, so hopefully people will see and send help.

My gas is too short to leave the car as-is. I have to go recycle in the morning. Though I have my doubts it will get more than \$3 past what I use, which means it will all have to be saved for emergencies. But with being homeless this will likely rapidly get very bad. Both for my car and chance at recovery, as an unmoving car has a greatly increased chance of being spotted. And bad for me in that any walking beyond my normal to and from the parking lot will rapidly cause pain and swelling because of my flat feet and bad ankle.

And there isn't anything I can really do. 😞 I am already doing what I can within my means, and the rest is beyond my control. All I need is \$1 a day for gas and a bit more for occasional other costs. All it seems I can do is continue to hope help comes, as I don't need much, and that I can continue to hold on emotionally and financially until my forever better days come and I'm back on my feet proper.

Day 3518 - 2/17

The apparition of the gray ghost

Today I am on my way to better. In the morning I made a very lame trip to recycle. I spent one gallon of gas to get there. And I had mentally prepared myself for leaving the car unmoving for a while. But when I logged in to the library and checked email two donations were waiting for me. One from the gray ghost, who I don't think I've heard from since Xmas, and I don't think I've actually seen in about 1.5 years or more. (Though it's not unusual for us to be out of contact for great periods of time.) The other donation was from my in-game friend.

So, with those two big donations I should be safe for a bit. In quick math it should cover my next car insurance, the stupid break light ticket, sending back my gaming headphones to be replaced, and, in theory, an entire month of gas, with just a liiiitttle bit left over. The ghost said to get the hamburger, so since school is often the best deal I'll probably save that for Thursday night to have while watching my live show. Barely any would be left after if my math is right, but that covers the important things for a while.

The connection at the library was pretty good, and after my good news of the donations I slowly started to feel better. Unfortunately, again at around 1 PM the AC came on and started blasting me with cold. Even with my hoodie on I was cold most of the afternoon.

But once the monies clear things can settle a bit. It should hold for a while, and hopefully I can continue to hold on until my forever better days.

Day 3519 - 2/18

The great upheaval

Today I felt like crying most of the day. It was difficult to not. In the morning I was at the ex-garage changing cloths. Some people came in with the ex-roomie to move some furniture out. In a way it was good, though I should always be invisible, it did give me the chance to offer to help by moving all my stuff which was in the way out of the way. So, I got to control where it went and keep it all together in one area. Though the ex-

roomie said they want to clean things out a bit, so I'm not sure how much more change is yet to come. The ex-roomie said I could still keep my stuff there, but we might need to move it to a more difficult to reach spot.

So really today just kind of reinforced there is a shattered me. I am in two halves. One is the shattered, broken, physical body. That one is the most broken, and the one suffering daily and becoming more damaged over time. Always at risk. Always worried. Always afraid. Seemingly always unwelcome with no place I truly belong. And there is the other half of me, the spirit, the me that was and that may yet still be. That is a preserved core, safe, held in stasis in the boxes. It is only by knowing that me is safe that the external me can hang on.

I have to focus on the fact that even though things may change a bit - the things I have that are keeping me hanging on - those will *still* be safe. They will *still* be waiting in stasis. Things may move around a bit. I may need to shuffle things in the future a bit. But the me that needs to be safe and secure for the rest of me to hang on is still safe, and still secure. It may just need to be a bit... different.

Day 3520 - 2/19

Freezing day

Today was freezing. I don't want to be outside of school for a number of reasons. When I arrived at the food store I was hopeful it would be a good day. It was warm, completely dead due to the holiday, and the sitting spot I prefer was open. That changed pretty quickly though, as about 45 minutes after being there the door broke and was stuck open for the rest of the day. The heat completely bled out in less than 5 minutes, and I spent the rest of the day feeling like I was in the cold outside. It was so ridiculous though, as I took a break in the afternoon and my car in the sun was nice and warm.

I guess the day was ok though. I barely got any sleep last night, but the day passed easier and quicker than expected. Though as I sneeze now I am reminded I was sneezing all day. I don't know if that is from a cold or massive allergies kicked up from the ex-garage upheaval.

For now all I can do is continue to hang on, emotionally and physically, and hopefully there are better days ahead.

Day 3521 - 2/20

Defrosting

Today seems like I am starting to relax and get back to my current homeless normal. It is a bit different in that it was so cold last night and this morning my car was a bit frosted over. And, so far, I'm sneezing about every 5 minutes, so it definitely seems like I've caught a cold the past few days.

But my money finally made it to my account. (I should have spent the \$0.25 to have it rushed. I didn't think it would be delayed all weekend.) So this morning I got to send my headphones for replacement - just in time as the RMA expires on something like Saturday and it should get there Thursday. And I have micro foods for the day and I'm starting to warm up and relax.

So hopefully the rest of the day will be ok. Hopefully I can try and relax and maybe have some fun. And hopefully soon my forever better days will come.

Week 504

Day 3522 - 2/21 Up and down

Today I am pretty sad again, for a number of reasons. First, yesterday I stopped by and checked mail at the ex-house. There was a notice my yearly membership fee (for the insurance) is due in a month. I'd thought that wasn't due until May. 😞 So, even saving most of the donations (after the insurance, fix it ticket, and some gas), I may only have half that bill. Without more donations between now and then I don't know how I'll pay it. 😞

I'm still super sick. Lots of others are sniffly and sneezy too, so this is definitely a cold that came up, probably when this extreme cold first came in a week ago.

I've added another under shirt layer and I'm still cold. And checking the weather, all the way until the forecast ends it is still really cold and even showing raining towards the weekend.

There was some conference at school when I went to cook. There were some statistics. One of them said that in our county, one of the richest in the U.S. there are close to 7,500 homeless. That's crazy. I'd figured it was more like 5% of that. Assuming the county is only about a 10 square mile area, that's basically 75 per 1 square mile area. That seems crazy. This figure made me pretty depressed because there shouldn't be anywhere near that figure with this area's wealth. 😞

But with all that sadness and depression I guess I survived the day. As long as I survive there is a chance tomorrow will be a better day. I just have to continue to hope help comes and I can continue on.

Day 3523 - 2/22

Sad that I'm sad

Today was basically good, but in a way surprisingly sad. First, it was super ridiculously cold. I had my hoody on almost all day, which is ridiculous since I'm inside. I think a big part of it is because I have this cold.

Second, I was quite surprised when I went to get a hamburger from the cafeteria. I think it's probably been a year since I last had one and I was not at all prepared for what that meant emotionally. When I went up to the cafeteria without a microwave food it felt wrong, foreign, as if I'd forgotten something and had no way to recover. That foreign feeling alone was enough to be weird. But then getting the yummy food, having them in my hands... I was effectively hugging the food. 😞 I cradled it close to my heart, like it was the most precious thing ever. I was terribly afraid I'd drop even just one fry, and felt like if I did I would lose it and start crying. 😞

It's not the fact that these things felt foreign and odd that affected me the most. It's just the fact that something so simple affected me so deeply. I don't know what a normal life is anymore. 😞 I don't feel or think normally anymore. 😞 (Though I suppose I wonder if I ever really did, or will.) But again I try to stay positive. I try to think and hope I'll be ok and that I can recover. And I hope help continues to come and I can make it until then.

Day 3524 - 2/23

Throwing away me

Today ended extremely sadly. It started out meh with my Friday class. Not only do I not really care about the material, but I'm just not enjoying the class. Plus, I am still really sick, so I wanted to do nothing at all besides sit and be still.

The day actually started pretty good. I had a nice warm shower, and on the way out someone said she liked my hair. I felt bad I didn't say thanks, as I thought to say it when I was about 10 feet away. (I did smile at her when she said it.) I am still so out of it

in terms of normal interactions I both never expect people to talk to me and never expect a compliment.

But it ended very badly because it was extremely emotional. Since Saturday I've had my old futon mattress in my car. A few years ago the ex-garage had a minor flood, and so a few inches of the bottom had molded. I don't know if the damage was all the way through or just on the replaceable outer cover. It was requested I get rid of it.

Of all of my memories of my history, one of the few good ones was getting that mattress. I had come off of being homeless for a few months and happened upon my (now) ex-roomie. She said I could stay on her couch and a few months later we agreed I could have a temporary room there (for a few years). She took me out for my birthday to celebrate, as that weekend was when I could move in to the room. (A time she and her guy would be out on vacation for a week, so I was on my own to settle in.) She offered to get me that mattress so I could have a bed, and we'd found a nice little computer table too. (In total about \$125 for both.) She said she would go ahead and get both for me. I was so very surprised and happy. I had a nice new home with a friend, and now a nice bed and table for my computer, and it was my birthday with a week alone to settle in.

So I think, being attached to one of my few truly happy memories, especially one of being given a home, I was purposely hanging on to the futon, not wanting to let that go. Tonight I took it to a trash. I remembered that day. And remembered the day I was put out. And suddenly I found myself crying at the thought that it felt like I was being made to trash my happy memory. I was forced to trash what is needed for a happy home. I was forced to trash... me. 😞

I only cried for a few minutes before I knew that is not really true. But I can't help that is how I feel - that I feel like I am being put out like trash. 😞 But I am still here, shattered as I may be. And most of me is still in storage. And eventually a new mattress can be bought. And hopefully I can hang on until I find my true forever home.

Day 3525 - 2/24

More fees

Today I feel better than expected, likely due to being one step closer to clearing this stupid fix it ticket. There were more fees. An additional \$20 in fact. 😞 The guy said all places charge a fee to clear the ticket and the only way to not pay that would be to find an officer on the road. So, there went everything I had been saving. I will have to check in the morning, but at this point I think I'm down to the money for the ticket, and the gas I have in my car (a couple of weeks worth), and that's it. 😞

I decided on my way back to make a tiny detour. There was a mall right off of the freeway, so I decided to kill some time there. I haven't done that since the early days of being homeless. It was weird. The place was completely packed. I went through the food court and there were tons of wonderful smells. Everyone was eating and busy buying stuff. 😞

It's strange to think back to when I had a life like that. Though most lacked shopping bags, it's probably been about 25 years since I had the money to go to the mall and shop and eat at the food court. It brought up old memories of going to get games that I'd pre-ordered, something you had to do back then, as shops might otherwise only get 5-10 copies of a thing at launch.

It brought up even older memories too, ones when I was a teen and me and the Gray Ghost would go to the mall and hang out at the arcade, or just work on pen and paper game characters for hours, or otherwise just kill time before hopping on the bus to get to the local gamer meeting.

I suppose they were good memories, of freer times. And so my spirit is lifted for a brief moment. But now in the rapidly freezing temperature, with bills I can't pay just around the corner, I rapidly grow sad, and am brought back to today, and now.

But I try and hang on. I try to hope for help and opportunity. And hopefully I can make it to my forever better days.

Day 3526 - 2/25

Clenching my jaw

Today started with warming up. The morning was cold, but not quite as cold as it has been lately. I stayed in the corner at the food store though, where I wouldn't be chilled by the door opening and closing.

The rain clouds seem gone, at least for the moment, so I left about 45 minutes before the library opened to sit and warm up while I had lunch. It was indeed nice and warm though checking the temperature later I guess the day didn't get much over 60F. It's crazy what seems warm or cold to me now. 😞 Now, as the sun goes down, things are even more rapidly getting cold. I hope it doesn't get too much colder.

I confirmed my sad suspicion. I have nothing left in my bank account. 😞 I have the 25 for the fix it ticket ,and a bit for the monthly bank fee, the gas in my car, and nothing more. I even had to put the \$2 I had in my wallet back into my account to be sure I had enough. I'm even nervous about getting a stamp to mail the stupid ticket. 😞

But I feel ok. Maybe it's because I got warmed up, if even for a little bit. But the lack of money, zero bandwidth at the library, and sad feelings about my life, didn't seem to bother me as much today. Hopefully more help will continue to come, and I can hang on until then.

Day 3527 - 2/26

Return of the rain

Today it has been raining quite a bit. It's very weird that yesterday there wasn't a single rain cloud in the sky, and then in the wee hours to mid morning it rained, and now again in the evening. It seemed like it had gone. I suppose it's ok in that it's just a touch warmer when it does, and people avoid rain, so it's often easier for me to stay hidden.

Things were extra sad, as I am again worried being out of money and down to the gas that's in my tank. And I'll have to be super extremely conservative with food, as I'm

nearly out of food monies. 😞 I suppose the good news is the donation took care of the immediate looming bills, so I at least have a tiny bit of breathing room.

Due to my various sads I didn't really feel like playing much. I did play for a few hours. I played this. I played that. But overall I felt just a hair on the side of happy from meh. Mostly I just felt meh. Not that I had a bad time, it's just that being so sad I was held back from feeling happy or excited about anything.

But I survived the day. I feel terribly overweight and out of shape. I feel overly grumpy and very upset. And I feel worried for my future. But I survive and continue on. And sometimes that has to be enough. As always, I hope I can continue, and I hope help continues to come and I can hang on until better days.

Day 3528 - 2/27

Itchy itchy itchy

Today my eyes are super itchy. I guess they have been itchy for a few days now. It seems to be the greatest symptom of my current cold. Itchy eyes, congestion, sneezing, scratchy throat, and my asthma triggering at almost everything are all the symptoms, but the itchy eyes are by far the most intense. But I can only scratch/smoosh them if my contacts aren't in. Granted I could take them out and do that pretty much whenever, but the more stuff that's on my hand and in my eye, the greater the risk of damaging the contacts. I just put new ones in the other day, leaving only two more pair, so I have to be extremely cautious.

In spite of my cold and extreme money worries I feel ok. Maybe it's because the rain has gone for the moment, or maybe because I'm at school and I know I should just be able to rest and recover. Whatever the reason I will try and hang on to it and feel a bit better. And hopefully I can make it to my forever better days.

Week 505

Day 3529 - 2/28 Just short

Today felt weird. I got a shower, which was nice. The rain was gone and it was just a hair warmer, which was nice. But I felt weird all day. I felt kind of like I was supposed to be somewhere, but didn't know where that was. Or maybe like I was supposed to try and go somewhere, but I was a spin toy which just randomly bumped here and there and didn't actually go anywhere intended.

Maybe it's because after all my mathing I can't find a way to complete the fix it ticket process. Since there was the unexpected 20, that seriously crippled me. And apparently there are no free options at my bank to make a check, and not having any means at least \$2 more to print some, plus \$3 more after that if I want to send it certified to be sure. Mean there is no way around the fact that I'm \$5-10 short. 😞

I don't know what to think about my day and my life. 😞 Maybe too it was because someone was in my sitting spot in the morning, so that threw me off. Additionally he was Asian, overweight, and vastly out of shape (he was wheezing just sitting there laying still.) In many ways he looked a lot like how I feel when I see myself in the mirror. He laid out, blocking most of the hallway, and looked like an ugly beached whale. I wondered if that's how I look to others. I certainly hope not, as I at least try to take care of my clothing appearance. It started my day off feeling very unhappy about myself physically; an unnecessary reminder as I often feel that way.

So I felt very sad today, both financially and physically, which made me extra depressed emotionally. But all I can do is try to manage as best as I can with what I have, continue to hope more help comes, and that I can make it to better days.

Day 3530 - 3/1

Back again

Today I still feel weird. I think maybe because I am sick and my tummy is upset more than any other reason. I don't feel out of place, but I do feel lost, alone, and maybe a bit heartbroken. All day I see people talking about gaming with others, or who are looking for games, and I am sad I can't be in either of those categories due to my sad life.

The rain came back last night. It rained most of the night and most of the morning. When I was last out while making dinner it was down to a very light sprinkle. I'm still in a building at school, so I don't know if it's raining again or not.

My headphones are apparently waiting at the ex-house. So it's good to finally know regular gaming headphones will be back. I'm glad I have this emergency old pair that mostly work. It's why I keep all mostly working things I replace. But that seems to be my life now, replacing broken things with less broken things, no longer new and better things like I did once upon a time.

But I try to hang on. I try to hold together emotionally. I continue to hope help comes to help pay for all the things. And hopefully I can make it to forever better days.

Day 3531 - 3/2

AM scare

Today I was pretty sick. The cold is still beating me down and so I wanted to do nothing but sit and try to rest. I went to the lecture part of class, but I skipped the lab hours. The thought of being around 10 people talking loudly and doing the same thing with lights yet again just really did not appeal to me at all. In fact, if I had a home I likely would have just stayed bundled in covers all day.

I was feeling very low and sad last night too. I'm down to a quarter tank of gas, likely less than a week's worth, and just about 10 short on paying the parking ticket (maybe 5 if I really push things down to the very edges.) So, I was super depressed and again thought of death and dying. There were only a few tears though. I managed to mostly keep it together.

But then in the wee morning hours, somewhere around 4-5 AM, there was a tremendously loud BOOF BOOF. My heart raced and I was instantly awake. I knew the sound was at least 100 feet away, but I couldn't help but think what if it was a gun? What if a stray bullet had hit me and I was bleeding out? In my 10% still asleep state in that brief instant I was somehow ok with it, saying to myself, 'well, it is the end, not how or when I wanted, but my end was inevitable.' And in that moment, the fear, sadness, and worry I normally have considering my end was not there, only a feeling of acceptance and peace.

I was, of course, not hurt. And so in that moment, it was not my end. But my mind played the sound over and over, fearing what it was, and being afraid at its sudden and unexpected happening. I tried to calm myself down as my heart raced, saying it was not a gun, and I was safe. After all, guns are far more of a pop than a bang or boom. They often don't really sound like they do in TV or movies. But I was afraid. Terrified. As I commonly am at the thought of death. I lost an hour of sleep, but I did eventually get back to sleep.

Tonight it is pouring rain, which I suppose is good, as that (theoretically) offers me more cover. But I can't help but worry that I am down to less than a week of gas again. And while I try to hang on as much as I can, with all of these extra costs my money has come up just short of taking care of the fix it ticket, still keeping that over my head, and out of reach.

But I try to hold on to hope that more help will come. That I might be able to take care of all the things. And hopefully someday make it back into a forever home and better days.

Day 3532 - 3/3

Rainy and cold

Today was mostly rainy and cold. Thankfully it was not raining on my way to the library or coming out back to my car. Though I have an umbrella I always seem to get at least a little wet. And with things as cold as they are it takes forever to dry. I'm already sick enough. 🤒

Bandwidth at the library was pretty bad. I could barely play, and shows were taking about three times as long during commercials and rarely got above medium visual quality.

There were no donations or well wishing, so I am still very worried how low I am getting on gas. And still I'm very depressed I'm shot for getting the fix it ticket finished after being so close. 😞 Though I feel I should blame myself for getting the hamburger my friend said to get with part of his money, or for getting two weeks of gas to start. I can't help but feel if I hadn't that would be cleared now and no longer a concern. 😞 But I suppose it isn't really my fault, since I wasn't expecting \$25-30 in additional fees and gas trying to take care of it, since no one warned me about those costs.

But I will try to keep my chin up. I will try to continue to hope. And hopefully more help will come, and I can continue to hang on.

Day 3533 - 3/4 Missing

Today I am very sad. The morning was ok-ish in that the food store connection was strong enough to play a bit. The door has still been stuck open, so even though I am in the corner I was still freezing.

I did leave the food store earlier than necessary and sat in my car to get warmed up though. I kind of fell asleep after my lunch before the library opened. I guess it was good, as I've been super sick, and was super dizzy in the morning, but I usually don't like to nap as it can throw off my sleeping routine.

The library again had zero bandwidth. I could barely do anything. 😞 And with my depression being unable to finish the fix it ticket, along with other things like having gas, I was not in a good enough mood to think about, or do, much of anything.

I've been missing an old MMO I played way back in the day. Their next expansion is coming out in September and lately I've been thinking it might be nice to play again. But I both lack the money to get the current expansion and the monthly subscription fee. Though I wonder if I really miss the game, or if I miss what my life was when playing it.

And too I wonder if I miss how I played when I was financially able to do so. When I last played I was in the earlier days of being homeless. I talked about it quite a bit I think. But back then at least the expansions and \$15 a month weren't that big of a concern. I had... enough... things like that or paying for gas, going to a movie, or getting a hamburger, wasn't something to worry about. So I think again, as it happens quite a bit lately, I'm really more just homesick than anything else. Which is extra sad since I have no home to return to.

I miss a home. I miss the options that being in a home brings. I miss being able to truly be me, instead of a stripped down limited version of me. But all it seems I can do is try to do my best to manage, as it seems mostly or completely out of my hands. And I try to continue to have hope and hang on. And hopefully I can make it through enough days to be ok again.

Day 3534 - 3/5

The lost day

Today seemed strange. I suppose it was because I was woken up an hour earlier than I would have due to some pretty extreme cold. The temperature is very cold lately and it's really messed me up. 😞 I was sleepy and my brain just didn't function for most of the day. It wasn't until the sun had gone down that I actually started to feel anything close to awake. 😞

There were a lot of beautiful girls around, so that was nice. But, as usual, no one talked to me and I felt very alone. Tomorrow my food money cycles, so at least I have that. Maybe I'll get a special small something to cheer myself up, as I am still worried about all the things I can't control. 😞

But I try to hang on. I try to continue to hope help comes. And I try to stay hopeful I can make it to better days.

Day 3535 - 3/6

A day

Today has just started. So far it is a day like any other, no better, no worse, and I continue to live. I am very depressed I didn't get to take care of the fix it ticket. By all math I should have easily had enough, reserving nearly double what I needed, but due to unforeseen red tape I didn't. I hope to hang on to what is left, so I am still very close, but I don't know how I'll get the rest. 😞 And now the next quarter classes are posted, something I should sign up for to keep financial aid at bay. So I am very worried about all these otherwise small costs to a normal life which feel overwhelming to me. 😞

But my food money cycled, so I got some chips that were on sale, and some cookies I haven't had in forever, and a nice lunch choice. The day is very slightly warmer, so I hope the weather will turn warm soon. (I'm still sneezing and congested, so my cold continues to hang on and not improve during this cold weather.)

But I continue to hope people consider donating and that help comes and I can continue to hang on. And hopefully with financial help I can hold on to the emotional strength to hang on until better days.

Day 3536 - 3/7
So much pizza

Today turned out better than expected. I was set to help someone on a school project from 11 AM to 7 PM. Of all that time they only did half of what they originally intended. But I wasn't bored, the people were nice, and we had a good time. I wasn't really expecting that. And, it was sad I'd already spent \$4 to get micro food for the day, as there was pizza and snacks. 😊 So I had way too much yummy pizza. 😊 Because I had to also eat the regular foods I'd gotten (since they were frozen and I had no bags to save pizza in) I got suuuuper full. But, I guess that's a good thing as I'm still really super sick. I don't feel bad in negative or painful ways, I'm just very congested, extremely completely exhausted all the time, and want nothing more than to have a peace and quiet to rest. I'm even considering skipping my Friday class completely. (Which I've not missed a class in over a year, back on that day when I was throwing up and extremely dizzy.)

The pizza was super yummy. I can't remember the last time I had some. It was weird to hear people talking about big amounts of money like it was nothing. The guy was like, 'oh yeah these are super cheap, like \$10 each' and we talked about how regular pizza places would charge double for that. And he got three to have plenty and that \$30 was no big deal for him for one day of food. And he was asking someone else if she'd ordered this camera that was on sale because it was now "only" \$2000. And I couldn't help but think that would cover all of my sad homeless life costs for an entire year, which includes a couple of new games and extra gas to do pen and paper gaming.

Sadly because I lost several hours of the day I only had about three hours total for everything outside of that shoot, so I barely got to play or watch anything.

I got a donation yesterday, so I can finally say for sure I can take care of the stupid fix it ticket. (Once I get a chance to go to the bank when it's open to get the checks.) I still have that stupid membership fee for car insurance at the end of the month, the next car insurance payment, and school's next quarter, so there are still several things over my head. But I will try to focus on one thing at a time. Though with all of those being in the next few weeks I've no clue how I'll manage. 😞

But for the moment my spirit is boosted in a few ways, so I try to look at just today, and focus on what is good. And hopefully I can make it to better days ahead.

Day 3537 - 3/8

Button and yuck

Today seemed extra sad. I felt ok emotionally, but overall I was depressed. Everything seemed the same, and even though I was free to play all day, my heart just wasn't in it.

I also felt pretty embarrassed and disgusting all day. Before the afternoon I noticed there was yuck in my underwear. 😞 I knew they were dirty, and I can't remember the last time I could afford to change every day, but there being yuck totally made me feel extra dirty. I felt unclean overall. And though I could always take a shower, I know I would just be putting on dirty cloths back on my clean parts. No one would have seen or known anything was unusual, and I just put some paper towels between the (dry) yuck and me, but... in my natural conditions I am super clean, always wear clean cloths, and shower at least once a day, sometimes twice. So to know there was yuck, and that I'm forced to live in conditions where I am not clean... made me feel very sad. 😞

On my way to dinner a button on my pants popped off. 😞 Not a big deal, I can sew it back on again, but it just seemed like a reminder that everything is falling apart.



But I tried to not let things get me too down. I tried to focus on the fact that I can go to the ex-garage and fix these things. And I try to remember tomorrow is a new day, and perhaps it will be better.

Day 3538 - 3/9

Surprises

Today I feel better than I expected I would. There were a few unexpected surprises.

The first was in the morning. For the past maybe six months someone has been throwing away lottery tickets of various kinds in the tiny trash near the machines at the food store. Since it's usually just paper stuff in there I've been collecting them. Apparently this person doesn't know that you can enter them online into a "second chances" drawing. Some of these go as high as 20k or even 50k. Today when I was entering them one gave an error that it is a winner or has already been submitted. The scratching part hadn't been removed, and uncovering that I discovered this ticket was a \$15 winner. 🤗 So thanks lottery trasher person. Hopefully that isn't the only boon I'll get for those discarded tickets. (Lately I've been submitting 50-100 a month. They trash a ton of tickets.)

The next surprise was that the lab for class wasn't too bad. I still feel pretty terrible, so I was considering skipping it again. But I decided to go, and it was actually kind of fun for a change. I didn't really learn anything that I didn't already know, but I did help suggest some things and operated a control panel (which is not a thing taught in that class), so I felt helpful.

Unfortunately though I was dumb when putting something away and my paw got pretty badly pinched. My right 'ring finger' from on the pad all the way to the tip of the finger had a dark blue crack under the surface, and nature's air bag pretty quickly swelled up the area a bit. It wasn't too bad. I was in pain, and I'm sure a normal person would have been screaming and crying, but I managed and no one knew anything had happened. Within about 15 minutes the swelling stopped and it was just a bit still and difficult to make a fist, with that finger stopping about 90% of the way. Within the next 1.5 hours it was already regaining motion and feeling was returning to normal. Now, about six hours later the dark blue lines have turned to red with flakes of purple, the swelling is almost completely gone, and there is only a thin line that still has damaged nerves. (Much like my immune system reacting to colds faster than normal, I also tend to heal from general injuries faster.) I expect I'll be mostly fine in a day or two, a very lucky outcome all things considered.

When I was getting dinner I noticed (in the almost completely empty cafeteria) an abandoned muffin, still sealed in its wrap, next to an empty coffee. I expect it was a free muffin, as apparently late on Fridays they sometimes give stuff like that away to students who come by instead of letting it sit over the weekend (and go bad). So, after my dinner finished cooking I grabbed it since it certainly seemed abandoned. (The building was going to close in less than 30 minutes.)

Before I left (campus) for the night I got word on the social page from someone who'd hoped my day had at least a few nice things. It was very nice to hear someone was worried and sent me well wishes. 😊 It surprised me to hear that she liked my podcasts. I'd thought that no one listened to them. I haven't heard anyone comment on them in probably years.

So, physical wound aside, today had more good than bad. Though I still have between \$100-150 hanging over my head coming due in the next few weeks, those nice surprises today helped keep my depression at bay. So I try to hang on. I try to stay hopeful, and hopefully tomorrow (too) will be a better day.

Day 3539 - 3/10

Slower and slower

Today I was pretty sad. Nothing new happened to add to my stress, so it was the same. But I am worried about all the things all the time.

I got to play a bit today, but as the day went on the connection got worse and worse. By early afternoon it was extremely disruptive to my game. By late afternoon I couldn't play anymore at all and could barely do anything at all. 😞 I hope it's ok tomorrow. Usually I'm too sad to be able to think creatively, so offline time is often just lost time. 😞

My finger is still pretty hurt, but feeling better. Mostly it just feels a bit sick, like when you have a cold and you can feel your lymph nodes being messed up and full of yuck. Hopefully I'll be all healed up soon.

I tried my best to feel ok, but I am so very sad and worried about bill things, that makes me worry that I am closer to death than not. 😞 But I try to hang on. And I try to hope more help comes. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3540 - 3/11

Warm day

Today it was actually pretty warm. I guess the weather app said it was 75F. Though it is supposed to be back to the 60s by about Thursday, so this warm seems to be temporary.

I tried again to find places to mail the stupid fix it ticket, but again couldn't find any. It occurred to me today to see if I could pay for it and do a label online, and it seems I could. Though I guess again I was told the wrong thing, as it was more than double the cost I was expecting. But I'd rather that than continue to burn extra gas, or in the morning burn extra time just to go to the post office. But in theory it will finally be done and I can stop worrying about it in a few days.

There was no connection at the food store in the morning, and the connection quickly got crappy at the library. I barely got to do anything today. I guess it was ok, as I did some offline stuff I've been needing to do.

I'm pretty exhausted, likely due to the time change. I didn't sleep super great either. I remember I had bad dreams, so that didn't help. I'm still sneezing and a bit dizzy, but I'm slowly getting over my cold. My paw is getting better too, though parts are still a bit numb. Hopefully as the red and blue discoloration heals, feeling will return to normal. Though that may be a week or two. It doesn't impair anything. I'm fine. It's just, sad, as it reminds me what I already know; that I am very fragile and one little mistake can cause lasting loss.

But the day was warm. I continued to live another day, so I try to hang on to hope. And hopefully there will be better days ahead.

Day 3541 - 3/12

Surprise rain

Today I felt pretty good. As I was leaving school for the night I even felt noticeably less stressed, what with the weight of the stupid fix it ticket finally lifted off my shoulders. Of course some of that weight immediately came back on since I noticed I have about 1.5 weeks of gas and I'm out of money again. 😞 Not to mention the \$60 for the stupid car insurance monthly fee and \$40 for the actual insurance, both due in about two weeks. 😞

I was colder than expected all day, clinching my jaw just a bit. I'd taken off one of my two tank tops and the long underwear layer since it was 75F yesterday. I don't know what it was today in terms of temperature, but it was much colder than the app predicted. And sometime in the mid-afternoon it started raining, which the app said it wouldn't do until Thursday. So it rained and got cold much sooner than expected. So now I've put those layers back on. 😞

I guess today was ok though. There were a few very beautiful girls around which is always nice. I played and watched a few shows, so that was nice. But I was exhausted. From the sleep change, from my cold, and after a few hours of being in front of my laptop my eyes just refused to focus, so that was going on all day. I really need to remember to keep looking up and around so they don't 'lock' like that.

Overall today was ok-ish. I am alive, and though not in the best of health, that is something. So I continue to hope help comes. And I continue to hope I have better days ahead.

Day 3542 - 3/13

Pouring rain

Last night and this morning so far it's been pouring rain. I actually like rain. I think it's my favorite non clear weather, especially if I happen to be near or under trees.

I'm still sniffing and sneezing. This rain may increase my cold, so that's not good. I also lost a few hours sleep last night, not sure why. My paw is actually hurting more than it has been lately. I would guess because it's healing and what I am feeling is the yuck being carried away and healthy bits rebuilding themselves. I'm very sensitive to change in my body. That's why I don't enjoy drinking. I can feel the poison running through my veins.

But it is early. I am just settling in at school. I'm starting to warm up and dry off and hopefully today will be a good day.

Week 507

Day 3543 - 3/14 **Forgetful**

Today was mostly ok, but as always I was very worried about money. Well, bills to be more accurate. I don't know if it was that or my cold that threw me off when doing my podcast recording, or if it's just so infrequent that I'm forgetting steps. Apparently when I set up I put the popper stopper (which improves clarity and deepens the tone a bit) in an unusual location. When I finished recording and started putting things away I noticed the odd location. I must have recorded without it, even though it was right by my side, inches from me, just out of view. It makes me feel sad that something once so regular and enjoyable has become something I've forgotten how to do properly, and in a way that my heart breaks every time, and I don't really feel like what I am talking about is worthwhile to anyone. 😞

I guess I had an ok day other than that. It's been pretty cold what with the rain. And I've been losing sleep. And while very mild, I still can't get rid of this cold, so I'm still sneezing and have itchy eyes and wheezing.

I guess the day certainly could have been worse, and I did hang on yet again. So I continue to try to hang on. And I continue to hope there are better days ahead.

Day 3544 - 3/15 **About to uninstall**

Today was a slow day, both in passage of time and emotionally. It was pretty sad, but since I can't really change things I just have to accept the sad.

One game I've gotten back into lately is bothering me. I'd really gotten back into it as it's a competitive PvP game, which is the direction most companies seem to be going. As a single person in a random game it just seems full of really bad people who do nothing but complain. I will probably stop playing it again. It's a good game, but the toxic and non-teamwork focused people make it not worth playing. Which is sad, because it

would be nice to have an online game where there are people. I do still have my favorite MMO, but being two expansions behind now there is little I have access to that's new, so going there would likely just make me sad, as I'd know what I'm missing out on in the new content that everyone else is doing.

So I feel sad. I'm extra cold again because of the rain. I feel a bit lonely. And I can't help but see the bills I can't pay, with little gas left getting lower and lower, and I think about how I'm constantly riding the edge of my resources. 😞

But I try to stay positive. I was even actually creative, making a fun thing for a couple of hours today, so I can still be cheered up. The me that was is still in here and just needs opportunities to come along so that he can come out. So I try to continue to hope help comes. And I try to continue to look forward to better days.

Day 3545 - 3/16

Double rainbow

Today was mostly the same. I was super exhausted in the morning. I just wasn't feeling like doing class. I almost decided to cut the lab portion, but I pushed through, and it wasn't completely terrible I guess. But this class has turned out to feel so long and boring. 😞

In the later afternoon I got some good news. A big donation from a friend came in, so the biggest bill concern which I didn't think I could postpone will now be taken care of. Phew. And I'll put a bit into gas, so worry about that can be pushed back. I still have the next car insurance payment, and signing up for school for next quarter, so there is still that, but for the moment I have some breathing room.

Oh, and I saw something I don't think I'd ever seen before in my life, a double rainbow. I suppose really it was a full one, as it went from one part on the ground on one side, around a half circle up to the sky and back down on the other side of my view. I'll put it at the end of the day if the pictures come out ok. I took it in a way that can hopefully be pieced together. I started a video, but by then the clouds were coming in and blocked part of it.

I guess today wasn't too terrible. I suppose it was the expected amount of terrible. But I did get a big donation, which is a huge help, so that is something. And hopefully I can continue to hang on until better days.



Day 3546 - 3/17

Little

Today was extra cold and rainy. The library was freezing cold all day. I don't get why when everyone is wearing extra winter layers they still run the A.C. It boggles my mind they let that constantly run instead of just letting it be air or actually heat to warm people up.

There was also little to no bandwidth just after noon. I could barely do anything. I even played offline things for a while it was so bad.

I guess it wasn't a completely terrible day. I was constantly thinking of things I wished I could do, or had; simple things like friends to play games with or regular foods and a place to cook But I suppose that is no different from any other day.

So I continue to try and stay positive. And I continue to try and hang on to hope. And hopefully tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3547 - 3/18

Ser sniffles-a-lot

Today I was sniffing quite a bit. The cold has gotten a bit worse in that regard. I'm also kind of confused and my ears have been ringing all day. I don't even really remember what I did all day. It was pretty much just forum stuff, but still.

There was a pretty big scare shortly after the library opened. There was a loud clunk and the power dropped in the entire library. It did come back up pretty quickly though. I think it was probably less than half an hour before it was back. That would have been tragic if it hadn't come back up. I can be ok without the Internet, but without power I'd last 3-4 hours, and half of that I'd be limited to stuff on my tablet.

It was again super cold. I did get slightly warm and had my hoodie off for a small part of the day, but mostly it was just freezing cold. It only rained a little bit, so I'm hopeful the rain and cold will go away and we will be back to things moving towards summer again very soon.

But at least so far, I have survived the day. I am congested, confused, exhausted, and want nothing more than to have a safe quiet place to sleep, which I don't have, but I made it through the day. And with each day I suppose there is another chance I can recover and make it to my forever better days.

Day 3548 - 3/19

So many sniffles

Today I was super sniffly. Probably all day I was sniffing. The weather is still way too cold. I think it's what is causing me to be unable to get over the cold.

The day was ok I suppose. Nothing new changed, for good or bad, which I suppose is something. I survived another day. And with that I can sleep and the next one will hopefully begin. And with each day there is the hope opportunity for change will come and I can find my forever better days.

Day 3549 - 3/20

Attempt to be restful

Today it is cold and raining again. The cold weather last night made my cold worse. My throat was extra scratchy and I was extra wheezy all night. So today on campus I will try to be extra restful. I don't expect to need to do anything but study for a test, but I may need to be part of a final project shoot. I'm not sure.

But the day has just started. I'm trying to rest from my walking around getting food and coming over from the parking lot. And when I warm foods I'll always wrap up and take my umbrella just in case. But hopefully today will be restful, and I can continue to hang on.

Day 3550 - 3/21 Not pizza disappointment

Today was a pretty short day for me. It was the second part of the person's shoot. So from 11:30 until 5:30 PM I was doing that. It was pretty good. I gave some suggestions that were good, and even though I didn't do much on set I think it helped that I was there.

There was one thing that did make me terribly disappointed though. They got sandwiches instead of pizza, which was disappointing because I had not only really been looking forward to the fresh yummy pizza, but they didn't ask about allergies before getting food, so all of the sandwiches were things I couldn't eat. I even had to change where I was sitting in the room a few times due to getting a whiff of someone's open sandwich that made me feel sick.

And it's sad that I was so emotionally disappointed and devastated by not having the nice pizza treat. Something that isn't a big deal, even the cafeteria sells pretty good by the slice freshly cooked ones for \$3.50, but that's a very big deal to me. And it shouldn't be. It should be a 'meh, whatever,' shrug it off kind of thing. But it's not. 😞 (I did have food to eat. I always plan for those events, so I had soups.)

I have basically officially resigned from my 'every other week' game. Though it was only once a month the last few times, and that was probably five or six months ago now that we had our last game. But they changed the campaign and are going to start again in the middle of April. (With the promise this time of it actually being every other week.) I told the group that if my sad life doesn't get better I'll have to back out. With things as bad as they are getting I may very soon be looking at maybe needing to leave my car unmoving, so that every other week \$5 cost is just too much right now. Which again is another thing that shouldn't be a big deal or something of concern, but it is.

I'm suuuuper sick too. A few nights ago it got very cold and things are worse. I'm still sniffly and sneezy, and today in addition to that I've got a massive headache behind my eyes, and constant ringing in my ears. 😞

But I guess the day was what it was. And nothing bad happened that was new. So again I survive another day. And again I hope for good sleep and that tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3551 - 3/22

Feel good, feel sad

Today was a very mixed day. In the morning I was pretty sick feeling. Again there is a ton of sneezing and congestion. And still a bit of eye pain and ear ringing.

I decided to play my PvP game. I've gotten very into a new character that just came out and she is perfect for how I play and think. So at least for the moment I am just ignoring the asshats and trying to have fun. We'll see how long that lasts and if I keep it installed.

After playing for a few hours I was feeling almost happy. I decided to update my PC hardware site. I guess most of it hasn't been updated in close to eight months. It felt very nice to update it again, and effectively making wish lists for people who can afford to build a new system. But as I got deeper and deeper into it I couldn't help but remember how I started the site as really a wish list for myself, stuff I would have liked. And I thought how many years I've kept it going, how much things have changed, and how I may never get to build a system from my site again.

And too I felt sad that seemingly no one cares. There are so few visitors no one requested updates. No one emailed to ask how I was doing and it was unusual for me to leave it not updated for so long. And even with my social page, though someone did like a post and ask if I was ok, in general it feels like no one cares about what I post. It seems like none care to celebrate things that I care about or enjoy.

So, as usual, that made me feel like this is it. Like I won't recover. And if I do, no one would care. And as such I thought about death a lot. About the end. About not having anything to care about and no one caring that I was gone.

But I know that is not true. I know that is just me being sad now, because death, loss, and ticking down clocks are all I see around me. I know there are at least a few who

do care. And hopefully in time I will recover. And hopefully I can be ok and not think of death so often, as I still have almost half my life left.

So for now I will try to hang on. I will try to look at what I do still have, and try to keep dreaming of the future. And hopefully help will continue to come and I can hang on until better days.

Day 3552 - 3/23

Lock scare

Today was again a day of happy and sad. I am still suuuper sick, so overall I still feel extremely tired, have an earache and eye hurting, and there is still so much congestion and sneezing.

Class was meh. I don't know why I just couldn't ever really get into it. The first half of the final went by ok I guess. The second half is next week.

Someone came by from the Wednesday shoot and gave me some monies, so that was unexpected and super nice. I will try to hang onto it as long as I can, as it's almost half what I'd need to sign up for classes. With another donation, or something like monies from dad for bunny day, it could be enough. It will be hard to hang onto though being a smaller amount, so we'll see.

After class I was relaxing and actually having fun in the PvP game I may or may not drop, when all of a sudden out of nowhere, for seemingly no reason, the laptop fully locked. 🙊 The screen froze and I couldn't tab to anything else. I had to force fully reset it. When it restarted everything was taking forever to recover. (Not entirely unusual for a forced restart.) Starting the app that launches the game it said something went wrong and it had to re-scan its directory to find all the games and verify them.

The lock was terrifying. 😬 I have no money at all and no way to replace the laptop if it were ever to die. 😬 Thankfully it recovered before panic truly set in, as I was rapidly spiraling into thoughts of laptop death, my being extremely disconnected (thus limited to only my tablet), and my own mortality. It served as little more than a reminder

that everything feels like it is on a clock, ticking away, with no way for me to recover or extend the clock.

Thankfully it seemed ok after it restarted. I played a couple more games, but the connection was getting bad, so I mostly just did other non-game things. (Watched shows and finished my system build page.)

Now with the day over I am left with mixed feelings of having ok parts of the day, bits almost even happy, and other parts being sad and reminding me of death; death both of my material possessions I have left that I depend on to stay happy, and my own biological death.

But I try to hang on to the good and happier thoughts. I try to stay restful to recover from my cold. And I continue to hope there are better days ahead.

Day 3553 - 3/24

Air dry

Today was ok emotionally. It seemed to pass pretty quickly, which I suppose is neither good nor bad. I had a pretty good connection most of the day, which is a bit surprising since it's been so bad lately. So I played my PvP game and actually had a pretty good time. I think I played a couple of hours and no one was complaining to the point of my needing to block them, which is unusually rare. (Typically I block someone around every three games, with games typically being about 10 minutes.)

There was a sad part about the day. Because I am so low on money, instead of washing my cloths I just put a quarter in and 'air dried' one set of cloths for next week. I should be fine as I only have a couple of hours of class and don't really get too stinky. But it is very sad emotionally to wear the same cloths for so long, especially socks and underwear. 😞 Hopefully the ex-roomie will contact me again for another visit, but if she doesn't in the next couple of weeks I'll have no choice but to do a real wash at that time.

My being clean is one of the things I miss most about not having a home. 😞 I used to have clean cloths each day, and showered once, sometimes twice, in a day. And

bed sheets were clean once a week, often having been dried close to bed time so they are still warm when I got in. 😞

But I have to do what I can to be ok, both financially and emotionally. I don't have what I did, and I don't know what I will or won't have in the future. So I try to get by. And I try to be careful and cautious when I can.

For the moment I try to continue to hang on. And I continue to hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3554 - 3/25

Video game sportball

Today was ok I guess. I basically had no real connection to speak of all day. There was zero connection at the food store, and then the library barely had enough bandwidth to watch the PvP game's champion sportball league thing they are doing. I'm not into the team aspect, but it's interesting to see how it's a totally different game when people are playing who both know what they are doing and working together as a team.

When I left the library there were a few different locations with supper yummy smells. The one my tummy reacted to most was a steak and potatoe smell. I'm trying to save all my monies, so I definitely don't have extra for that. I mostly get salad on the weekend now, but my tummy has been craving a cheese sandwich, so I've had that all weekend. A very far cry from yummy steak with butter, spices and herbs, and little potatoes. But I suppose I do feel better that I'm not eating something that was alive.

There is still a little while before the sun goes down, and still a few hours after that before my day is completely over. But I suppose I made it through another day ok. And I will continue to try to hang on. And hopefully I will make it to better days.

Day 3555 - 3/26

Emptied out

Today was a strange mix of feelings. On the one hand I felt alone, abandoned, sad, and stuck, because we are again at the end of a quarter and although it's not the end of the school year where people are moving on, almost no one was around at school, and my floor was almost completely empty by 4.

But I was restful. I was warm. I got a touch extra to eat. I got a new bigger drink to drink and then re-use the bottle for water. And I played my game most of the day and actually kind of genuinely had fun. Not the 'wheeeee omg omg omg hop up and down and grin ear to ear' kind of fun, but fun in that I did not think about how sad my life is and was getting distracted from it. Though it's strange since I still question if I really like PvP, and people die like every 15-30 seconds, so you'd think that would trigger thoughts and fears of my own death. I guess because it's a totally 'cartoonish' kind of death that makes it ok for my brain and doesn't affect me as much.

But I did still think about and fear death quite a bit today. It feels like death is near, but not in a way like I am immediately dying, if that makes sense. I guess maybe in a way like how I felt in the weeks following my mom's death when I was young. The way where you know it is ever-present, and I can't avoid it, and things around me are not currently truly enough to completely distract me from thoughts of its inevitability.

In a totally unrelated bit of news I got a very fat packet from one of the banks for my student loans. I thought, 'oh no, here we go again. I'm going to have to tell them I'm in school, have no money anyways, and to stop bothering me.' But it turns out it actually was good news. I guess there must have been some kind of glitch in the system, as they said my deferment I requested (which I did) was approved and I don't have to make payments until August... of 2021. So, if all continues to go well I will, without effort, remain stealthed off their radar for quite a while.

But I try to hang on. I try to let myself be distracted. And hopefully tomorrow will be a good day.

Day 3556 - 3/27

Lost four

Today I am super tired. There was weirdness last night that pushed me out of my regular sleeping spot, so I lost about three hours of what would have maybe been sleep, and about one hour of rest. I'm considering taking a nap later, but I'm not quite that tired, at least not yet. And napping tends to wreck me and knock my sleep schedule out of whack. I did get to sleep at the edge of the extreme exhaustion, so I should be ok. (Pushed past that extreme edge and my sleep schedule can be wrecked for weeks.)

It's extremely quiet on campus. Later I have to work on a final project, and in the evening present something, so it should be a pretty busy day.

Hopefully the day will pass ok, I can sleep tonight, and tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3557 - 3/28
Truly empty

Today felt weird. The building was almost totally empty. I think only about four classes met all day, totaling probably fewer than 100 coming onto the floor, probably seeing only 1/4 of that many people cross by my area. I guess it was fine, as it left me in a peaceful and quite space, physically and emotionally.

Someone checked in with me to see how I was doing. I didn't really know what to say as my sad story is still so sad and terrible. I'm just trying to hang on continue doing so.

I played a PvP game most of the day. I didn't have much else to do since there are so few job postings to check, and a lot of shows seem to be in the off season. I guess I had an ok time. It was kind of lame that someone said my character needed to be nerfed. I replied, 'yeah, it's not at all possible people like me are actually good with her.' I get 'medals' consistently at about double the rate of other characters I play, and show stats like percentage of fights I'm in as higher. But if everyone else who played her were like me and constantly 20-30% better than their other characters that would be an indication that something is off and needs to be changed. If it's a small number of players, which I'm sure it is, then that just means that character is a good fit for me. I understand the rage though. She's an easy to understand character in terms of abilities, but what most don't understand is you not only have to think like someone who is support, and someone who is a tank, and someone who is a dps, all at the same time, but that she is reactionary. You don't simply spam abilities like you do with many other characters. You have to time things, wait, position, and predict what others will do. Anyways...

I'm having an ok time in that game, and it is helping to distract me. But it's odd to think there is no gain. I mean, sure, even in my MMO there wouldn't really be a gain even if I get a new crafting thing. But with this one there is none at all. Well... it is, I suppose, helping me to feel less sad, and that helps creativity and attention for other things.

So, at least for the moment I continue to hang on. Though thoughts of my sad things continue constantly in the back of my mind. I just hope help comes and I can

continue to pay the things I need to pay. And I can hang on financially, and emotionally, until better days come.

Day 3558 - 3/29

Odd feelings

Today the building was super empty. I was getting worried no one would be there and they would close early, as no one was really there at all between about 10 and 4. It turns out they stayed open normal hours and everything was fine.

It was actually a genuinely warm day. I've taken off my long underwear, and tomorrow I'll try going without undershirts. We'll see if things hold up though, as the forecast app showed rain and cold weather coming back in about a week.

I guess the day was ok. I again played most of the day and tried to relax. There is a holiday event in my MMO for bunny day weekend, so I peeked in there. Some people who I haven't seen in forever were on which was super nice. I've forgotten so much of how to play and what to do. Though it doesn't seem like it was that long ago that the free peek was available for the new content, which is when I last saw them.

In the evening there was my live streamed show. Things were normal up until the very end of my time when a couple of odd things happened. The first was a flash of being in another place and time. Somewhere the screen was like 70" and I was on a couch, and there was a very strong smell of a wood fire, as if the screen were over the fireplace and I'd started a bit of a fire. But almost immediately after, as I was closing things up, it felt as if that were it. Like I wouldn't get to see the second half. (It runs for 3-4 hours, and due to the building closing I have to stop during the half-way break.) And, worse, like I'd never get to see it again.

I don't know why I felt either of those. Maybe it's just the added stress of the quarter ending and my not having money to sign up for next quarter. Maybe it's just the general chaos of my life and of not knowing where I'm going. Maybe it was just an extra touch of homesickness, since the cast (of the show) are all good friends with one another and they have a good time, and I have neither a home for friends like that, and I may not ever have either. I don't know.

But the day was warm. There were pretty girls out and about, helping me stay hopeful that maybe someday I can find love again. And the warm weather made me feel hopeful that maybe soon I will stop being cold all the time, at least for a short while. So I try to focus on the positive things. And I try to stay hopeful for better days ahead.

Day 3559 - 3/30

Final final

Today was pretty good, despite sad things happening. Being the last day of the quarter there were my sad feelings about that, in addition to the bills I can't pay, and the way that there are no monies for next quarter in 1.25 weeks.

Also, in the evening one of my more important back teeth cracked. Which I suppose was expected. It's had damage on the side for a while, so it was only a matter of time before the structure got weak. It feels odd too, as it may have been one that already had a filling years ago, and now that surface is exposed and rough. So that's now maybe 40% left which seem fine on the surface, with maybe 15% completely corrupt or all the way gone. 😞 But I try not to think of it, though I've been conscious of my bad teeth every minute of every day for more than 10 years now. 😞

But I guess I had a pretty good time. I played my PvP game and my MMO. It's strange remembering the MMO things. It feels like it's been a lot longer since I played than I probably have. Though there is still a sadness being there as I am two smaller expansions behind (\$10-20 each) and a bigger one coming up (around \$40). I will probably go back to playing a bit more, as there isn't really anything to gain in my PvP game. It's all just cosmetic stuff. I don't gain levels, or loot, or anything like that. And it's just the same dozen maps over and over. There are lots of places I haven't gone in my MMO.

But most laughed at my final when it was shown (it was a comedy so that's good), and a few said goodbye on their way out and wished me a good break, so I suppose that is something. (Though it will start very roughly Sunday as the better places to be are closed. I will have the food store and that's really it.) But I try to hang on to my happy memories. And I try to hang on and continue to stay happy until better days come.

Day 3560 - 3/31

Pained

Today was ok emotionally. Though I am still very sad and worried about all the things. And I still feel as if an end is coming and there is nothing I can do to stop it. 😞 So I guess it was a worse day emotionally, and I have just again dropped a notch in terms of what I expect in my life and accept the terribleness.

Maybe part of that was the tooth pain I've been having. For most, I'm sure, on a scale of 1-10 it would be seven or eight, but for me, with all the pain over my life, and having pain of some kind all the time, I'd say this is a two or three. I suppose that contributed to my sad feelings.

Internet at the library was pretty bad. I did play stuff, it was just lagging, and so that not only limited my choices, but caused disruption overall. But I did play. I did have a bit of fun. Though things were not as expected or hoped.

I suppose though as much as I want to join others in a normal life and have a BBQ with friends, watch a movie, or play games, I am ok not doing those things at the moment. And hopefully someday that will be an option again. And that I can hang on financially and emotionally until then.

Day 3561 - 4/1

Not so terrible

Today is mostly over. The bulk of the day has come and gone and the sun is almost setting. It wasn't as terrible as I'd imagined it could be. I went to school figuring the church groups probably wouldn't meet, but it was actually the opposite. They had their biggest turnout that I've seen there, and had a bounce house set up for younglings. There was even some event outside of one of the buildings with a bunch of tents set up, and what sounded like their own bounce house. So my car was among many others, and I had no fear of seeming out of place. For some reason though there was a lag in my games. The speed was showing 40 mbps, which is insane (most public locations are about 10% of that), so it had plenty of speed, so I have no clue why games were performing poorly. I

guess it's just due to the connections not being designed for a small number of users and expecting there to be thousands.

I spent a few hours at the food store and it was similarly not a great connection, so I just watched some shows on a DVD I checked out at the library.

I've had preferred a nice breakfast and dinner, and bunny day silliness in the morning, maybe play with friends during the day, but that is not my life. I did spend time with silly holiday things in my MMO, and got some silly hats, so that is at least something that will last to remember the day. So I guess it wasn't completely terrible. And so I try to remember the happy times. And I try to hang on financially and emotionally until better days come.

Day 3562 - 4/2

Not too bad

Today was pretty good. It started at school. I figured there would be sportball people and I was right. I did have to shave and shower in a side locker room, but it was mostly empty, so I got a long shower and finally got to shave all my parts. It seemed like twice as long as it actually has been for some reason. Maybe it's just because I'm using super dull razors and I'm getting more sensitive to hairs bothering me.

But then I spent the rest of the time at the library. The bandwidth was pretty good, but my PvP game had enough lag I couldn't play at my best, so I didn't play that. I expect I won't play (that game) much while I'm at the library this week as it takes pretty solid connectivity. I did watch some shows and played my MMO a bit though.

Oh, speaking of that, there was a nice surprise bunny day gift. Sadly my dad did not send cash monies that I could have used for school, but he did send a bigger amount. It was at an electronics store which thankfully sells video games. (It's not the same online place he sent Xmas monies for, or I'd have just piled them together for a special edition of a game. The one I'm waiting for has been delayed to next year, but I know it will be pricier.) So I pre-ordered the big expansion that is coming for my MMO. So while I will still be missing the smaller ones that are currently out, I will have the core of the next, and I'll have access to that main new area at the end of May when it comes out.

But that was it. Nothing changed in terms of getting signed up for classes that start next week. My next car insurance is now officially overdue. And there is one medium sized bill in May and a medium/big one in June. So I still feel very sad and like catching up is extremely difficult to impossible. 😞

But I try to hang on to the happy things while I can. I try to continue to hope that help comes. And I try to hang on until it does and I make it to better days.

Day 3563 - 4/3

Different writing day

Today is just starting. It feels very different being at the food store and then the library for the day. Hopefully today will turn out ok again. It's started ok, as there is a beautiful girl at the coffee shop in the food store that the sitting area is in. She must be new, as the other person is training her. I know the cute mom left almost a year ago, as that was her second little one. And the cute girl who is the main person here apparently has been wanting to cut way back on hours to focus on school for a while now.

I'm sniffly and sneezy a lot lately. The cold weather is keeping my cold, and with the warm weather there are flowers blooming everywhere, so my allergies are starting to go a bit crazy.

But hopefully today will be ok. Hopefully nothing bad will happen and I can hang on to the few happy things I have and make it to better days.

Week 510

Day 3564 - 4/4 Cheese sandwiches for days

Today was emotionally good and bad. Though physically it has been pretty terrible. A few days ago my cold turned and I've been sneezing, congested, and had a rough throat. In a home with rest and warm soup this would be gone in a couple of days, but homeless, restricted to cold food since it's school break, things may take weeks to clear up. 😞

This was the second day of cheese sandwiches. Which is not great, because, well, it's not great to begin with, but also because I'm lactose intolerant and shouldn't do more than one in a week. But I'm getting low on money again, so it was a good option. I need to get through tomorrow, but then Friday morning the money cycles again and I will be ok. Though I'll still be without a microwave until Monday.

I am very sad about unpaid things, most importantly the next quarter for school. Which by the time you read this will have already started. I am still hoping help comes before next week in time to sign up for stuff, but that seems unlikely. 😞

I did have fun with in game friends. I played my MMO most of the day. There is another event going on. And we did some stuff together. I had a pretty good time, though the connection was pretty questionable at a few points during the day.

Job searches are at an all time low. Most places I look now only have a few entries for a day in all areas, if any. And my search engines are mostly sending jobs outside of my area. When this sad journey started there were enough to put out at least a few resumes a week. Now I'm lucky if there are even a few postings a week of things I might be even close to properly qualified for.

But I try to remember to focus on the fun I had today. And I try to stay positive and hopeful help will come and I can pay for the things I need to pay. And hopefully I can hang on emotionally until it does.

Day 3565 - 4/5

Hand wash only

Today was pretty sad. It started with a rushed shower. There were some people working in the women's shower, and the guy's door was propped open as well, so I was worried they might move into the guy's area. I did have enough time to do shower stuff, so that was fine.

I did, however, also do a very sad thing in the shower. I don't have money for laundry, and haven't in a very long time, even though it's only \$5 if done regularly. 😞 So I took things a step further than air drying and took two sets of socks and underwear, as well as one set of pants, and took them with me into the shower. I very lightly washed them. Squeezing out the socks a lot of dirt came out, which is both good and super terribly sad that I had to hand wash them. I put to dryer sheets in with them and spent \$0.50 to dry. Which wasn't quite enough, but they dried ok during the rest of the day in the car. I think they mostly smell ok, though the pants were relatively unaffected. Thankfully they didn't smell bad before, but they certainly don't smell freshly washed.

So today was a pretty terrible day emotionally. This is a new low, and even though I know I will be ok, it makes me very sad. And, of course, with not having the \$5-10 to spare for laundry, the weekly gas, and even smaller bills like \$40 for car insurance and \$50 for school for the quarter, seem insurmountable bills. 😞 So today was a very sad day. 😞

But I try to continue to hang on to hope. I try to continue to hope donation help will come. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3566 - 4/6

Feel poorly

Today I still feel pretty sick. There is a ringing in my ears and a bit of imbalance. My nose is still sneezy and super congested. My throat and eyes feel just a touch better though. Overall I'd still prefer if I could just spend most of the day sleeping in bed. 😞

I did get some nice well wishing though. Someone sent a message saying they have been reading my sad story for a while and found it comforting and helpful when reflecting upon her life and sad times. So I'm glad people are still finding my sad story at least a little comforting or helpful in their lives. It's been quite a long time since people contacted me and said they were helped.

I spent much of the day playing. I guess it was a pretty good time. Though today it was more of a distraction than genuine fun. Not that I had a bad time, more like it was the thing to do between other things.

But I am still worried about all the bills. And I had a lot of various pains. But I try to focus on the happier things. And I try to stay hopeful better days will come.

Day 3567 - 4/7

Sad and minimal

Today has been a sad day. I was just about empty on gas, so I had to do a recycle trip. I had hardly any to do, so subtracting what it took to get there I only profited about \$7. 😞 Added to the dollar or so I had in my wallet, that is enough for maybe one week. If I'm very careful. And if I'm lucky.

But I can't spend it all. Once part of it is gone I have to stop driving and only move the car for emergencies. Which being that it's used for both sleeping and keeping me safe, as well as getting me around places, makes that pretty risky, and it's essential that it keeps moving. Not o mention more than a small amount of walking and I start to feel physical pain. 😞

But it is what it is. I just have to hang on and hope that help comes. I really have nothing of value to consider selling, so that isn't really an option. 😞

But I guess I had an ok time at the library. I was distracted somewhat and time passed, so I wasn't too sad on the surface. So I try to hang on to the happy moments of the day. And I try to continue to hang on to hope that help will come and that I can continue on to better days ahead.

Day 3568 - 4/8

New hours

Today was more bad than good, but nothing bad that was new happened. I spent the morning at the food store, as usual, but went over to the library about half an hour before they were open. I was eating food and waiting when it struck me odd that no one was waiting outside. So I started keeping track of the door. Then, about 10 minutes before open, I saw the doors open and close. I did see them putting new stickers on the hours on Friday, but I had forgotten to check if anything was different. I just assumed since they were all half broken letters they were just replacing the sticker. Indeed something is. They are now open two hours earlier on Sundays, matching the Saturday hours. I rushed in and I did still manage to get my spot, as only half a dozen were on the floor before me.

I suppose it didn't matter much. While the library connection is far stronger than the food store, with days like today where it's bad, I was dropped like half a dozen times from my game, and it was almost completely unplayable for about four hours.

I suppose I had a good time playing, and I was super helpful and nice to a couple of new players.

But overall I was pretty sad, as tomorrow the quarter starts and I have no money for classes. I will probably still visit, as it's the best connection and there is access to showers and a microwave. But I will also be out of gas in a few days, making it impossible for me to get to the showers with all my showering stuff, as well as making me a lot more stinky a lot quicker if I do need to be walking everywhere. And there is the obvious of not being at all good to leave the car unmoving.

So today was a very rough day. And it seems all I can do is continue to try and hang on to the hope that people will send donations and that help will come, and that I can hang on long enough. 😞

Day 3569 - 4/9

Maybe a something

Today was maybe good. I say maybe because the outcome isn't entirely known yet and may not be until sometime next week. The professor I used to TA for had a chat with me about a sort of crazy explosion of possible work she got offered over the break. Some of that work might be something she can offload onto other people, as well as other personal work she has that needs to be done. She was actually super surprised when I told her that maintaining my sad life, including a few nice things like a real meal now and then, would only be about \$225 a month. She didn't seem to know how much stuff she'd have to offload for me to do, but it seemed like she was pretty interested and able to help.

But I don't know what is what, and she seemed like she wanted me to do most of it at her place, which is 30 or so miles over some hills, which with my car being super old and stuff I worry about that. And she has kind of implied intent to help me on occasion before and not, so I won't get my hopes up too much. I guess time will tell, but knowing I'm not signed up for classes, she may move to action sooner rather than later.

Apparently too in somewhat related news the dean who took away the teacher's helpers is retiring at the end of the quarter. So there's a chance those could be reinstated next year if someone goes into power who is favorable.

So, possible changes ahead. Less directly impacting me, but possibly affecting my life a little bit. And maybe help will come soon.

But I will pretend as if nothing has changed, because promises are just promises. But I will hope for positive outcome, and that tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3570 - 4/10

Sneezy bloom

Today I feel pretty good. I slept well and hardly woke up during the night. All the flowers are in bloom though, so in addition to my cold sneezing I have allergy sneezing.

I don't have anything planned for today, so I expect it will just be the usual job search then play or show watching. A new event starts in one game today, so hopefully

that will be fun. I don't know if I will get any donations or monies to sign up for classes, but I remain hopeful. It's getting warmer and closer to shorts weather, so that seems nice too.

I have no promises, and things are outside of my control, but I remain hopeful help will come today and that it will be a good day.

Week 511

Day 3571 - 4/11 **Twisting path**

Today was pretty sad. I was completely exhausted most of the day, feeling like it was three hours later than it was almost all day. I feel like if I were to close my eyes I would immediately pass out.

I got a bigger donation from the person who keeps helping. I don't know how I'd still be here if it weren't for their help. Unfortunately with so much going on my options are still extremely limited. I might be able to get school and parking if I spent every single penny I had. But that would likely not be best. While it would be the best medium term choice, that would leave me vulnerable since I'm already past due for insurance. So I really should take care of that first. But the question is, can I? Since I have to call, and I have no phone time, would my phone let me do a wifi call? It seems doubtful. If I charge the phone that's \$10 minimum, leaving probably not enough for anything after car insurance. But I fear we are rapidly reaching a bad late point with it already being the 11th.

My professor which sort of promised help has said nothing the past two days, and given no help. And now I won't see her until Monday, as she is only on campus Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. With even just a little there would not be such a struggle to decide an order to things. But since nothing has been said I should probably go back to acting like nothing was said, and not consider anything will come of it. I will have to pay for insurance first, leaving enough for a couple of weeks of gas and no parking sticker, or getting a parking sticker and probably having only enough after for less than a week of gas.

So I guess I have no choice, and few options. And the only option tonight is to sleep, and try to remain hopeful. In the morning I can see if the donation transferred in, and if I can make a call on wifi, and decide what to do from there. But for now, all I can do is hope. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3572 - 4/12

Thoughts of death, again

Today was pretty sad. It again started being completely totally exhausted. I think it was last night, maybe the night before, that just as I'd fallen asleep my brain thought it heard someone say my name from a direction and location that a person could not have been. It was odd enough, both in that it was my name, and an impossible location, that it didn't scare me awake, but slooowwwly caused my mind to pull out of sleep, and then very slowly escalate to just a little bit scared, as I didn't know if it was real or a dream.

I had considered napping in the car this morning when I got to campus, and upon reflection maybe I should have, as tomorrow could possibly be my last chance for that. The donation must be used for overdue insurance, and if parking can be done too, I'd have nothing left for gas. The school replied to an email and said it should be the same \$15 as other quarters, but it very clearly shows \$30 when I check. I still am not getting a clear answer if that's because I'm not signed up for classes or another reason. I don't recall needing to be signed up in previous quarters to have it be the lower amount.

There is still no word from my professor on if she is helping. As I said yesterday, at this point I'm going to pretend she said nothing, as she's promised and not followed through before.

Possibly because of my fears and worries about money I was feeling sad and worried all day. On top of that at a few points in the day I thought of various deaths and being gone and again had very minor panic attacks about it. 😞 But with no money, sometimes I can't help spiraling and falling into a place of fear and worry that all there will be for me is nothing, then death. 😞

But I try to hang on to hope. I try to remember the things I watched that made me laugh today. I tried to focus on some voice work I did for some people. (Just for funsies. It would be extremely unlikely to lead to anything.) And I continue to try to hope help will come in time, and that tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3573 - 4/13

Bank in the morning, bank in the evening

Today felt super long, like I'd done tons of stuff. But I didn't really do that much. The day started with a detour to the bank to get cash, then to the car insurance office. I did indeed just pay the one month, and probably only paid an extra \$3 in gas getting there and back compared to what would have been \$10 to recharge the phone. Looking at what I have in my account I even have enough for a full price parking permit and most of a week of gas. Though I did decide to make an extra trip in the evening to deposit what I'd not used that I'd withdrawn in the morning.

The rest of the day I was mostly online in my spot watching shows or playing. I felt pretty sad and down from being so behind on paying bills that I did more passive show watching than playing.

There were a few who stopped in and said hi though, so it was nice to see people I knew and chatted with. Though my professor stopped by unexpectedly, she made no mention of the monies she had said she'd help with. So while I hold on to hope I'll know more after her meeting on the weekend, I will proceed as if she never mentioned it.

But I guess today was ok. And I continue to try to hang on to hope that help will come and I can make it to better days.

Day 3574 - 4/14

Bunny cookies

Today was both bad and good actually. Bad in that I had to spend all of my cash getting the parking permit and had \$5 left for gas. If I go to Wednesday and hear nothing from my professor that's pretty much it. I'll have to leave my car where it is and only move maybe once a week for emergencies. 😞 Since it takes so little for gas I'm hoping help will come, but I am prepared for the worst. 😞

Today started good emotionally because I found some super yummy cookies on sale. They were, I guess, left over from bunny weekend. They are bunny shaped, chick coming out of an egg, and egg shaped. I found a box not so old, dated around the end of

last month. (Some dated all the way back to a month ago.) They are about 4" big and came in a pretty big box, for \$3. I'd guess there were maybe 20-25 in there in total. I'd never had them before, and due to their age, I asked for a sample before buying them.

They are supper yummy (light) sugar cookies, so I like them very much. 😊

Someone sent some well wishing in the early afternoon, and offered a place with her and her husband a few times a week if needed. Bu they are a few states away, so I'll hold off until an emergency. I'm pretty sure my benefits are location based, so I want to hang on to my food monies and healthcare coverage as long as I can.

I tried to have fun and play my game today. Though worry of my bills were always on my mind, and more than once I thought of pain and loss and the inevitability of death, so that was very sad.

But I hung on ok in general. And so I continue to hope help comes. And that I can hang on until it does. And that I can make it to better days.



Yummy bunny cookie.

Day 3575 - 4/15

Almost warm, then rain

Today was ok, I suppose. In the morning and early afternoon it was nice and warm. It was almost even shorts weather after the past couple of days. But in the later afternoon it turned super cold, and now as I write this it's starting to rain.

I guess there isn't much to say about the day. Really the only thing was a lady sat across from me with horrible breath. When she sighed, which she did about every 15 minutes the last couple of hours she was there, I could smell her breath, which smelt like a fish someone had left out and then scrambled eggs were rotting on top of it. 🤢

The day was not too terrible. I didn't dwell on my bills, though they were always in the back of my mind. But thankfully thoughts of death stayed away. But with spending all my money yesterday and only having about \$0.25 left things feel pretty terrible. 😞

All I can do is continue to hope help comes and that I can make it to better days.

Day 3576 - 4/16

Extended event

Today emotionally was pretty good. In the morning I rushed directly to my MMO to do what should have been the last of a special event. It turns out it has been extended for a week, so I get to do extra event stuff I haven't finished yet. 😊

Other good news was found in an email in the early afternoon. I'd mentioned to the school I had to pay full price because my parking sticker is now officially run out. They said they adjusted the price and will refund the difference to my card within one business week. 😊 So that is a bit more than a week of gas when it comes back.

The other parts of the day were meh. There were no jobs to apply for and no donations. And though I only was talking with the professor for about five minutes total, nothing was said about getting me help or any discovered plans from her visit over the weekend (to the people she's getting extra work from). At this point I must certainly proceed assuming she is not going to follow through on that.

But I guess emotionally it was a decent enough day. I got through, and there were a few nice surprises. Though there is still all the stress of the rapidly approaching bills. But I try to hang on to hope. And hopefully help will come and I can hang on until better days.

Day 3577 - 4/17

Up too early

Today I woke up too early. I suppose it was the cold weather, as it was super cold and wintry. I guess it's ok though because even though it was 1.5 hours early I still got about 7 hours sleep, which is pretty much average for me.

My nose has been super itchy lately, with quite a bit of sneezing, so I must still have a bit of a cold or some allergies going on.

I'm very tired physically, but not really sleepy. It's warming up, but there are still many rain clouds overhead. The day is just starting, so hopefully it will turn out ok, if not financially at least emotionally. All I can do is continue to hope help comes, and hang on until better days.

Week 512

Day 3578 - 4/18 **Help, no help**

Today I had the last of the cute bunny cookies. I'm considering getting more, but I have to be super careful with my monies. I do like yummy snacks, and they are half as much as a mixed bag of chips, so we'll see.

Last night I saw someone I hadn't seen in a while. She is the one I did some editing work for a few years ago. She asked what classes I was taking and how I am doing and I replied, 'everything is still terrible, and I'm not taking any classes because I can't afford them.' She gave me some monies, and said she would have her son (who is also attending the college) get more to me. So I could hopefully sign up for classes. I didn't see him or get word from her today, so I don't know if that will happen or if she will miss my window.

Today was the last day the professor was on campus this week. We hung out for maybe 10 minutes and there was still no mention of work for me or getting me help. I know I keep saying it, but I will have to try and forget she said help would happen, as at this point it seems like it certainly won't.

It was a touch warmer in the early day, but at night it turned cold and I even felt a light sprinkle, so I would guess we'll see more April showers before they are gone for good.

I guess today was ok, despite still being at threat of upcoming bills. But I try to hang on to hope. I try to stay hopeful help will come. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3579 - 4/19 **The leaver**

Today was kind of sad emotionally. I'm still accepting the reality of neither of the two who promised help for classes (which I know 'in real life') are seemingly not going to

follow through. Sure, technically Saturday is the last day to add, but at this point I will have now missed two sessions (weeks) of the one class that would count towards my degree. Most professors are like 'if you are going to add you must be there for all sessions.' So it seems impossible I could convince the professor of that class to add me now having missed the first two weeks. I guess it should be ok though, as I missed this quarter last year and things are still ok. It just feels... problematic.

There is a weird girl who has asked me to watch her stuff several days now. I don't know her at all. I helped her on the first day of the quarter since she couldn't add a class and mentioned she'd dropped it twice, and I explained usually when you have attempted or taken a class before like that you have to do a bunch of pain in the butt paperwork to try again and get admissions and the professor to sign off on it. But I guess she trusts a stranger sitting in the hall who helped her more than other students in her class she sees twice a week or more. It's weird. If she were cute I wouldn't mind, but she's not really my type at all, and of course less than half my age anyways. I'd guess it's probably more because I remind her of her dad or an older brother than it is that I seem trustworthy in general. But I don't know... As I explained to her, I don't know her, I'm not in classes with her, I'm not even technically in her department (since she's animation and I'm film), and there is an animation lab just down the hall about 50 feet away where animation students hang out, so it's weird. And this is not a short period of time either. She says she's going to the cafeteria to eat, but there have been a few times where she's gone more than three hours. She should at least offer to buy me fries or something if she's going to do that because it's weird and borderline not ok to put the responsibility of her stuff on me.

So today I was sneezy, very tired, cold, felt down, and with promises of help seemingly falling through feel like I am again looking ahead and see no future. But, as always, it seems all I can do is try and hang on to hope. Try to hang on emotionally. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3580 - 4/20

Felt like home

Today started out pretty sneezy. Because it is a Friday and hardly anyone is going to school on Fridays I took a more casual drive in. (As there wouldn't be a need to rush immediately over to get parking.) I did get there a lot later than normal, so it was a bit brighter. I sat in my car for a bit and just stared out the window. It was warm, bright, and happy. Though there were few on campus, I could hear people being active at the sport place across the street, and distant cars or buses going by.

For some strange reason it felt like I was in a home looking out a house window. And, I suppose, in a way I was, as my car is the only private space I have. But it felt like time off, like I had no stress or worry for the moment, and while others were out being busy I had a few moments until my time to be busy would come, and so I was just passing the time listening to life happening around me.

But that is not my life. Neither was I in a home, nor was my time and opportunity to be busy coming. And I don't know when, or if, it will.

I ran out of yummy cookies a few days ago, so I'd decided to get more. When I was at the store in the morning I noticed the sign was gone. I saw people coming with a new sign, so I asked if the sale was over. They said today was the last day, then they would throw them away. And as part of that they were halving the already half off price, so they were now \$1.50. 🍪 So I got myself two yummy cookie things instead of one. And now I have about 50 yummy bunny day cookies. That is a ton to think about having at once, but that should last two or three weeks. They are all bagged in about four different bags, so that should be fine.

I guess the day was ok other than that. It felt kind of like spring, but when I was in my space at school I felt kind of meh, and kind of sad. Though even now in the evening the feeling that I was home lingers, and so I try to hold onto that. I try to hold on to hope help will come, and hopefully I can continue to hang on until it does.

Day 3581 - 4/21

No laundry disappointment

Today ended with some pretty bad disappointment, but I suppose it's for the best. Yesterday I had a thought about the web bill coming up. I thought that it might be possible to cut out a couple of 'extras' I have on it to reduce the fees. With what I have left from a previous donation and what I was given on Tuesday, if more didn't come in to cover classes, it's possible I'd have enough to take care of that. I checked this morning and this is indeed an option.

So, I thought I had enough for both laundry (though it would be a smaller one) and paying the web bill. When I got to the laundry place and got quarters I double checked my wallet and had \$10 less than I thought I did. 😞 (I'd forgotten that I spent some cash to get a week's worth of gas.) It then became one or the other. There would not be enough for both. I put all the money back in my wallet save for one quarter, enough to do yet another 'air dry'.

Not only was that super disappointing, but upon reflection it's possible that even putting all my money together, due to tax on the bill, I may still be literally a couple of dollars short. Tomorrow I'll have to put everything into the bank that I can and see if it's possible. Right now I am unsure. 😞

So today ends in terrible disappointment, and again seemingly only reminders that my life is beyond my control and there is little I can do to maintain what little is left of my life. 😞 I am again seemingly pushed into more and more choices of sacrifice between fewer and fewer things. 😞

But I try not to worry. I try to focus on what remains. Hopefully I will be able to spend everything I have to cover the bill, as it's a once a year bill. And hopefully help will come, and tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3582 - 4/22

Still short

Today was warm. I wore shorts and the weather was nice. It was, as expected, stupid cold in the evening.

I checked all the money things today; added and double checked. I'm about \$2 short on getting the bill paid without the extra security options, so that's very sad. 😞 I could further split costs if need be though. It's actually two things, one part due early next month, the other a couple of weeks later. So I may need to pay it in two parts. Though both need to be paid.

I'm hoping though, even though the window has been missed, that either or both of the two who promised help with paying for classes will actually come through. If so, paying the bill and doing laundry would both be a non-issue. But I guess we'll see. Both have been flaky before.

But with the warm weather I have a bit more hope than usual. Hopefully things will stay warm and we'll get a proper spring soon. Hopefully financial donation help will come and I can pay the critical things. And hopefully I can hang on until better days.

Day 3583 - 4/23

Warm day, long day

Today felt pretty warm. When I got into my spot on campus, up until about lunch, I did not need to have my outer shirt on. And I have shorts on, the single clean piece of clothing I'm wearing. 😞

I played and had a pretty good time, though I couldn't help but feel sad about all the things. For some reason, probably because I was very tired, the day seemed extremely long.

When my professor got in she asked how I was and had a very concerned expression. Before I could answer someone who'd been sitting nearby started talking to her. Which was fine, as I expect if she had any news or money help to offer she'd have done so, and I don't feel proper directly asking individual people for it. And because she

made such a heartfelt promise and then missed the window and has said nothing since, there is an odd weirdness when we are together that I feel. I mean she still 'feels' and 'reads' and acts normal, but there is weirdness inside me I have to let go of. If she truly wants and means to help she will. I can't influence that, and bringing it up doesn't seem proper.

All I can do is try to hang on to what I have left. Try to hang on to the happy moments that I can. And hope that help comes and I can make it to better days.

Day 3584 - 4/24

Literal half

Today I am physically exhausted. I'm light-headed and a bit sick feeling. There was weirdness last night that kept me out of my usual spot for a while, as well as putting me off in terms of feeling safe after I was settled. I likely got half of the sleep I normally would be. Hopefully I can catch back up and things will be normal soon. I'm very glad I still have my car and things are ok with that. If I needed to be on foot, any change in routine like that would destroy me. 😞

Lately I've had a lot of fear and panic about death. There was a minor trigger last evening and again this morning. Very minor, little more than a yikes and small shiver. But it seems more and more lately I can't escape seeing it, seeing something that reminds me of it, or feeling like it is all I have ahead of me after the few remaining things I have are lost.

It seems gray and rainy outside. Maybe shorts weather is already gone. I guess we'll see later in the day. But I try to hang on to hope for good things today. I try to continue to hope help comes. I hope I can settle in tonight and get my normal amount of homeless sleep. Hopefully help will come tonight, either with the two who previously promised help, or from others out there who watch over me and send a donation. And hopefully I can continue to hang on until better days come.

Week 513

Day 3585 - 4/25 Not Thursday

Today was weird feeling. In the morning I was super sneezy. I must have sneezed once every 15 minutes for probably almost six hours. I was still destroyed from the lost sleep, so I'm still totally exhausted. In fact, for some odd reason I knew it was Wednesday when I got to my spot on campus, but I almost immediately forgot and started thinking it was Thursday for the next like three hours.

Yesterday confirmed that my friend who promised to help pay for classes just forgot and flaked. She apologized, but seemed to make no offer to help with other bills. So I expect that help will not come.

But my friend online who is watching over me sent help later in the day, so I will soon be able to pay for the web things. I'll have to not pay for the security things for the moment, but I can add them back on later. But the critical part will be covered for the year, and that's what counts. But there are still other things just around the corner, so there are still things to be worried about. 😞

But I will try to hold on to hope more help will come. I try to focus on the good things that remain. And hopefully I can make it to my forever better days.

Day 3586 - 4/26 Totally exhausted

Today I'm feeling totally and completely exhausted again. I think it's because of my cold or allergies. Whatever it is that has me sneezing. I was ok up until about noon, but from then on I really couldn't focus, and it felt like three times longer than it was. I feel like I've been up for two days at least, with no passage of daylight or night. 😞

I guess the day was technically ok. Nothing bad happened, and I played a bit and watched some shows. But I felt concerned about the bills, so that made me sad. And I feel horribly fat and slow, so that makes me worry about death. But I still have my car. I still

have most of my health, with the hope of recovery if I get back in a home. And most important to my emotional state, I still have my laptop and games.

So I try to continue to see what is good. I try to stay distracted, and try to allow myself at least a moment free from worry and stress. And I try to hang on to hope that help and opportunity will come, and I can hang on long enough to make it to my forever better days.

Day 3587 - 4/27

Stinky sick

Today I feel pretty sick. 😞 In addition to my normal sniffing and sneezing, I've had a pretty bad headache, eye pain, and now I feel both full and like I'm going to throw up. 😞

I got a shower this morning, so I started out smelling ok, but all I smell now is the stink of my socks. 😞 I finally have money to do laundry, so that will hopefully clear it all up. But tonight I'll try and find an at least less stinky pair, along with some less stinky pants. Hopefully that will help me to feel less like I have bags of garbage on my feet. 😞

I guess besides feeling sick and stinky today was ok. I played my game and tried to have fun, but I was a bit dizzy feeling, likely another symptom of my cold. But I was settled in to my spot. A few said hi. And I was restful and calm, so that was something at least.

So I try to hang on to the good thoughts. I try to continue to hope that help and donations will come in time to pay for all the things. And hopefully I can make it to better days.

Day 3588 - 4/28

Finally a wash

Today was pretty sad. I was so tired I was falling asleep for a few seconds now and then. I was still pretty sneezy, though not as much as the past few days. I wore something less stinky, so at least there was that.

I saw something very sad leaving the library. There was some old sporty car, and inside was a kitty that looked very scared. Not in a carrier, just out in the car. As I got close and waved to the kitty I noticed the back seats and passenger seat were removed, there was bedding down, and a litter box behind the driver's seat. I'm glad the person and kitty are still together, but that is no way for them to live. 😞

I am finally doing laundry. Though even doing the best per dollar option I still don't have spare for three pairs of pants, my hoodie, or the sweatpants I wear at night. Not counting any bedding or towels, which I knew I wouldn't be able to do. I suppose it's not all bad though. All my underwear, socks, shirts, and over shirts will get done, and a few pairs of pants. If I plan ahead I should be able to rotate things without too much repetition or stink for a month or two before things get too bad again. That is, of course, assuming all the stinkiness comes out of them. My laundry soap has mild to no smell, as it's allergy free, so I'll have to overload on dryer sheets for all the anti-stink smells.

But, as always, all I can do is hope. Hope the laundry turns out ok and is enough. Hope more help comes and I can take care of the bills. Hope to get enough sleep. Hope I can get over my cold, and eventually get into better shape. And hope I make it to forever better days.

Day 3589 - 4/29

Finally clean

Today I am finally clean smelling. It's one of those things that becomes so much a part of you that you forget what it is to be 'normal' again and not have the bad thing anymore.

Partly because of that I was a bit sad today, but also I had bad bandwidth and a glare on my screen. It all just seemed reminders that my life is not normal and most things are beyond my control.

I suppose the day wasn't completely terrible. I had some food. I had some bandwidth, so I get to play a bit and watch shows. And some days that is all I can hope for.

So I try to look at the good things I have. I try to hang on to what there as that was positive. And I continue to hope help comes to cover the bills. And hopefully I can make it to better days.

Day 3590 - 4/30 Returning

Today I felt pretty sad. The day has felt very odd in terms of time. Mostly it's felt like Tuesday, but at times felt like Wednesday or even Thursday. The week has just started and it already feels like so much time has passed it's half over.

My sadness is returning. I think for several reasons. First, this morning my preview of all the places in my MMO has ended. I had access for a little over a week now to the newest DLC areas that I don't otherwise have. I'd forgotten how sad it is to know I'm in an older area. There are still many people there, but all this morning the zones were completely silent. I think for about four hours played there was not more than one person saying one thing per hour.

Next, my laptop DVD cover is broken. I guess it's not really critical. Things work just fine without it. But when attempting to glue the broken piece it didn't hold. I guess the type of plastic prevented the glue I had from getting any kind of grip. And so when it flip-flops around, or simply falls out of place, that reminds me of my teeth. Several lost completely, several in broken states, and I don't know if I can ever replace them. 🙄

Third, my health overall is pretty bad. It is likely due to being off the meds for so long. My blood pressure and cholesterol levels are likely back to 'bad'. It's not directly life threatening, but often times it feels like I've got a tight sweater around my chest and arms. Breathing is a touch difficult if I'm doing anything other than sitting still. And if I'm

walking and talking I get completely winded. It's not a good feeling. 😞 But without the "spare" \$10 to make an appointment to see the doctor to get my prescriptions refilled there isn't anything I can do about it.

Lastly, the weather lately has again turned cold and there are rain clouds constantly looming overhead. I actually like rain. It calms me. It even helps me hide a bit. But I hate the cold. And the cold just reminds me of being cold and hungry and that so much is out of my control.

I think too I feel bad and sad because I didn't sleep all that well last night. I lost a few hours sleep and again had bad dreams. 😞

But I try to hang on. I do still have my games. I do still have my shows. And while my health and food are not great, I am not yet dead. So there is still a chance for change. So I try to hang on physically, emotionally, and hope help comes financially, and hopefully I can make it to better days.

Day 3591 - 5/1

The body

Today I am super tired. I lost a couple hours of sleep. 😞 I felt weird yesterday and last night. Not just with the time oddity, but like this or that had changed size or position. Not by a lot, maybe 10-15% here and there. Maybe there was a low level dizziness throwing off my equilibrium which caused that.

Holding my food bag this morning I was reminded of my bad pinch last quarter. There is still a small red spot on the pad of my paw, but along the finger if I didn't know where to feel for the difference in skin no evidence would be found. I suppose that is at least a reminder that given time and a chance I can recover. At least physically.

Though I am starting my day later than usual, it is still pretty early. I have just settled in to my spot and I don't know what the day will bring. All I hope for is quiet, calm, and access to my things to distract myself until opportunity comes. Hopefully help will come to cover the bills and I can hang on until then, physically and emotionally. And hopefully I can make it to better days.

Week 514

Day 3592 - 5/2 Almost cried for food

Today was pretty sad for a number of reasons. First, I am still exhausted from both losing sleep a few nights ago, as well as still either being sick or having allergies. I'm still sneezing quite a bit.

The second sad thing was a confirmation that work from my professor likely isn't going to happen. She didn't say that directly, but indirectly by saying she 'called in sick' to stay home to edit things, which was the big thing she said she would probably have me doing. She was, for whatever reason, really hesitant to bring in the footage for me to work on. Since my car is super old, and she lives about 30 miles away through some of literally the toughest hills in this area of the state, I'd previously told her I'd prefer not to drive to her place since if the car had anything happen that required repairs I wouldn't have money for that. (And there would be no way she'd pay me enough to replace it should it die completely from strain.) So, without it being directly said, I am assuming the bulk of the work she originally said she might have for me won't happen.

The saddest thing today is that along with my exhaustion there is extra hunger. Which makes sense, as being awake for longer burns more energy, especially if I'm nervous or scared during those times. With only a few dollars left before my monthly money cycle, not only do I not really have enough for normal meals, I absolutely don't have enough to cover extra. So all day, and at about six different distinct times, I was so hungry that smelling other people's yummy cafeteria food that I enjoy made me nearly cry. 😞 I feel like a young child; exhausted, hungry, and confused because of the lack of control I feel in relation to the world around me. 😞

There is something odd happening lately too. Yesterday and today, not a lot, maybe just a few times a day, I've smelt peanuts. Not like a distant faint whiff, but like I had them right up close in my lap. But the smell disappears as quickly as it happens. I'll have to try to remember to check online if that's a symptom of a neurological or otherwise bad condition that might be going on. 😞

I suppose there was a good thing that happened. I paid my yearly web domain stuff. So that is now done and taken care of for the year, so that is a big weight lifted. Sadly there are more bills just around the corner. Well, I suppose just past since I'm technically now already past due on my car insurance. With the big car registration cost coming in about two and a half months if I remember correctly. And who knows how long these last couple of pair of contacts will last. They are supposed to be two weeks, but I am needing to make them last a month or more per pair. Hopefully within the next week I'll get some help for at least the car insurance. I'd really like to keep that under 15 days past, as that seems to be my safe margin.

I guess the day wasn't terrible though. I got to play my game and watch shows. The floor seemed extra restful and calm, and I was restful in my spot. And I suppose that is something these days. So I try to hold on to hope help will come in time. And I try to hang on until better days.

Day 3593 - 5/3

Helping others

Today felt pretty sad. I played my game quite a bit, but today I decided to do some dungeons, which I haven't done in probably 1.5 years. I was quickly reminded why I stopped. People were very high level, but many had no clue what to do. One person, who was the tank, was max max level. Said like that because once you hit max level you can get an alternate gain beyond that, of which I'm not even max at 605 out of 720. And they had neither ever done the dungeon, nor really knew how to tank. It was mind boggling someone got a character to that point and they had never done either.

I did help someone earlier in the day before that. I explained how they were in a zone that was originally not designed for their level. (They were still basically in tutorial levels.) I talked a bit about their class options and to try different things out, and find a path in life that they like before warring too much about specific builds with race and class. They said knowing their options was a phrase their dad would use and they felt it was calming and reassuring that someone in game had said it to them as well.

I helped someone in an intro film class the other day too. She saw me in my spot and knew I'd helped someone else with the editing software before. I think I spent half an hour helping her. I really miss that. It's a shame I can't get a paid position being a helper, or even an unpaid one supported by the school.

Though upon reflection I maybe give too much of myself to others. In the three years I helped my professor unpaid I as only really thanked and appreciated a couple of times. Online helping on the forums I've really never been given anything. And recently the online dev post count has been disabled, making their presence seem much stronger than it actually is.

I guess today I am just sad that I can't really help, certainly not many. And when I do help, like today or the other day, when I am thanked and appreciated it makes me wonder why I haven't been able to get a position where that is paid, or at least rewarded in some way. I suppose it's mostly because there isn't really a degree or career path for such a thing. Certainly not main-stream in a recognized form, or even acknowledged really as a thing.

So I continue in obscurity. I hope I can continue to at least recognize what paths in life can make me at least a little bit happy, even though they may not be paid. And maybe someday I will find my way to one that is. But I have to continue to try and hang on. I have to continue to hope help will come in the meantime. And hopefully I can hang on, emotionally and financially, until better days.

Day 3594 - 5/4

Slightly better

Today felt slightly better. School was quiet, almost completely abandoned. I saw fewer than half a dozen at all on the floor all day. Things were restful and I had enough food. Not at all really healthy for me, but enough.

I had a pretty good time in my game. I found a new thing for me to try and collect in an old area, so I have that I can focus on in addition to gathering resources for when the new content launches in a few weeks.

But there were no donations, and another day has come and gone where my bill is overdue and things are ticking down. But I try to hang on to hope help will come in time. And I try to continue to hope tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3595 - 5/5

Tiny baby spider

Today started off pretty good. It was super warm, even shorts weather warm. I kind of regretted not wearing shorts. When I got to the library and settled in, I noticed a tiny dot attached to a very thin thread, coming off of my water bottle. I squinted and saw the tiniest leg shapes. It was a tiny baby spider, smaller than the head of a pin. I got a napkin from my bag, put it near the spider, then gently blew them onto it. As I suspected, folding it closed was more than the tiny baby spider had the strength to climb to escape. I carried them outside, then blew them onto the ground near some plants. I saw them moving in the grass, so hopefully they will be ok and have a good life. It seems crazy to think a creature that small and fragile is expected to make it on its own.

I played my game and did some more random dungeons. Mostly people were pretty quiet, as those groups tend to be. One person died quite a bit, so we chatted about how they could maybe get better gear and I offered to craft them stuff if they had parts.

After lunch things took a bit of a turn. The weather turned gray and clouds came in, though as of now it hasn't yet rained. And by the early afternoon I was chilly enough to need my hoodie. In game things turned a bit too. Someone was complaining that my dps seemed low. They asked what number I was doing, and I said I didn't know. I checked years ago and it was fine and haven't checked since. They continued to complain and I was like, 'Are we doing a trial? Does it matter? We are doing fine.' (A trial in my MMO is what a raid is in other games, where specific ability rotation and gear sets are expected.) We were not; we were in a regular dungeon. They complained further that they didn't want to carry my weight, so I replied, 'enjoy more weight', and left during a boss fight.

I didn't really enjoy doing that, but the other two in the group were letting this guy be an abusive ass, and I don't stand for that. The middle of a dungeon is not the time or

place to discuss such things, doubly so when I'm doing just fine for that content, which is a lot better than many who do random dungeons. I'm not in his guild. I am not doing a trial. He should not try and control or insult me.

But I try to shrug it off. Elitism is one of the reasons I don't do random groups (in any game, particularly PvP ones), and one of the biggest reasons I'm not interested in guilds. This was only one time out of maybe a dozen runs since I'd started doing them again this week. So maybe it was just a one time thing and I'll not worry. Sure, I may get a counter and look into the numbers of how I'm performing and retune things, but it will be on my terms, and not in the middle of a dungeon.

I am most worried about my bills though, specifically the overdue car insurance. It's only a few days over so far, but with all my money spent there is nothing to put towards it. 😞 So I don't know how, or if, I'll be able to pay it before things get bad. 😞

I guess, as always, all I can do is hope help comes. Hope opportunity comes in time. And hope I can hang on emotionally and financially until it does, and hope I make it to better days.

Day 3596 - 5/6

A numbers game

Today was both ok and disappointing. It was ok in that nothing bad happened. I was chilly, but not too cold, and I had enough to eat, as bad as the food was.

It was disappointing for a couple of reasons. The first big reason was the bandwidth was terrible. I tried doing a group and left because I was lag locking. Shortly after that I couldn't stay connected to the game at all. I'd lag lock for 10 or more seconds, then be disconnected.

But it was also disappointing because, being the curious overly analytical (at times) guy that I am, I ran some numbers, did some research, and found my dps was actually minimal for dungeons. One stat things are based on was 2000, whereas 'good' numbers for that stat is around 3000-3500. So my actual resulting dps number was around 10-12,000 on a test dummy (which 'good' is considered around 25-30k). Tweaking a permanent buff and tweaking a few pieces of gear the number changed from 2000 to

about 3250 buffed, and to around 12-15k dps during the tests. But what is most disappointing is I have the same, or extremely similar gear, as a couple of strategy guides, who rate at 3700+ and 30k+ dps. So I guess that's a failure on my part for being older and unable to keep a solid rotation or do thing in the right sequence. I get distracted and go more with the feel of battle and often break rotation. So I'm disappointed that I'm behind the better people and I don't really understand the way of it.

I guess it's ok though. My focus isn't on the super hard super stressful content. I'm interested in the story and collecting things and the more casual group content, for which my numbers are more than capable.

I guess the important thing is I made it through the day with only some disappointment and some worry of bills. It's constantly on the back of my mind, but the stress didn't feel crushing today. And sometimes that has to be enough.

So as today ends I try to look forward to tomorrow. My food money has cycled again, so I can get more food. I'll be at school, the connection should be strong, and I should be able to get a shower in the morning. And hopefully I can hang on emotionally and financially until help comes. And I hope I can make it to better days.

Day 3597 - 5/7

Sort of normal

Today things are sort of back to normal. I had money for food and access to a micro, so foods were closer to good. (Though I'm trying to eat better, less snacks, etc., so my tummy was hungry and complaining.) The weather was warmer again, but by mid-afternoon it was getting overly chilly again. I took a long shower in the morning because I didn't get a chance to shower Friday, so I did extra shaving of all my parts and such.

I guess today was ok. I played my game and had fun, though it was a bit laggy, so I couldn't do as much group stuff as I wanted. I helped someone in the intro film class with some stuff in the evening, so that was good.

I did feel a bit off today though. I was sneezing a bit and a bit confused, so I may still have a bit of a cold. And of course with a change in diet I may be a bit off in chemical balance.

But I guess the day was good enough. And now that it is over I will hopefully move on to the next. And with each day I hope help will come, hope opportunity comes, and hopefully I can hang on until it does.

Day 3598 - 5/8

Promising start

Today has a promising start. The sun is bright and the sky is clear (though winter's bite is still here, so it's a bit chilly.) Things seem like they are on their way to warming up. The food store had a few things on sale that are super yummy, so I have a touch better / extra food. My shooter game has a new expansion that the special version I bought already paid for, so I'll have that to check out this afternoon. Everything seems quiet and calm. There weren't many on the floor in the department, and coming in there was hardly any traffic on the road.

And though all I have to go on are promises for the day, sometimes that is enough. As it seems most days, all I can do is continue to hold on to hope that help and opportunity will come, and that I can hang on until it does.

Week 515

Day 3599 - 5/9

Odd time

Today felt odd. Time felt disconnected and disjointed. Often I didn't know what time it was, and sometimes even what day it was. I felt very confused, and indeed in a sea of endless days.

I guess it wasn't really bad though. I played my games and had fun. I watched a few shows. I checked for jobs. I had enough food. It was even warm enough for shorts in the morning, and I almost regretted wearing pants, but by the early afternoon it balanced out to chilly again and I was fine.

I did get an unusual and unexpected message from someone. I posted a creative thing in a group and someone asked if there was a template I'd used for it and if she could get a copy. So that was super nice to hear something I'd created was both appreciated and led to her doing something creative. It's good to know I can spark that. 😊

I am still terribly worried about my bill things though. There is still an overdue bill, and now I am again almost completely out of gas and needing to consider not moving the car to save gas. I have only a tiny bit of recycling I can do, and I fear if I were to do it (which I really have no choice) with how much I would use I would empty my tank and only get about \$6 after replacing that, not really enough for even a full week.

I guess, as always, all I can do is try to hang on emotionally, try to focus on what fun I can still have, and hope that help comes. And hopefully I can make it to better days.

Day 3600 - 5/10

Do you live here?

Today was sad for a few reasons. It started with sneezing. I think the first few hours I was awake I was sneezing once to three times every five minutes. It wasn't until the later afternoon that settled down.

Right about when I was recovering from that an older lady with a suitcase bag went wheeling bag and looked at me with a smile and said, "Do you live here?" And, since I had my headphones on I quirked an eyebrow and pretended not to have heard her clearly, even though I had no sound preventing me from hearing. She continued, "I always see you here." She was still in range and I think she expected a response, but I gave none, as the question seemed extremely rude. Looking at my situation it's rude for obvious reasons. Let's say I did have a home, but I was avoiding it due to an abusive environment. Again, the question would be rude. Let's assume I had a glorious home, yet lack transportation for some reason. Maybe then it wouldn't be rude, but it would still be hurtful. I am probably just overly sensitive for a number of reasons, but I'll never find the 'I'm poking fun at you' method of interaction endearing in any sense.

And the evening too was sad. In the live broadcast of the pen and paper game I watch the DM was describing a death of a monster. I again thought of my own death, which with difficulties with my health lately has been on my mind, and the thought of a similar accidental death caused a minor panic attack. I started panic breathing and shed a few tears. 😞 I tried to calm myself down, as outside of driving accidents there is really no reason that kind of death would happen to me, and I should still hopefully have my remaining 40 years. Maybe even more if medicine or other scientific breakthroughs make a leap forward during that time.

Even though worries of gas and bills were always in the back of my mind I guess the day wasn't all bad. I had fun in my MMO, and it's new content is coming in about 1.5 weeks. And I had a bit of fun with the new expansion in my shooter game. Though the core of the quest line and leveling was done within the first three hours, which is probably not going to redeem them in the eyes of mainstream players. It's like I've spent more than three hours just looking at previews for the new content in my MMO, and if it's like previous expansions that will be about 20-30 hours just to do the quest line. Anyways... I had fun with my shows and games and I suppose that is something these days.

As always it seems all I can do is hope help comes. With only a few days of gas left, recycling on the weekend likely won't even get me enough for a full week, so things seem very bad and sad. 😞 But I try to hang on hope that help comes. And hopefully I can hang on until it does.

Day 3601 - 5/11

Elitist

Today was pretty good emotionally, though no help came so I was still extremely worried financially. I guess I had a pretty good time playing my MMO and watching shows. I didn't play my shooter because, sadly, it already feels like I've seen everything and it's just a grind ahead of me, after only about six to eight hours played (in the new expansion area.) I'll probably play super casual a few times a week for a few hours each time, but sadly I expect I'll just fully stop again soon.

There was an elitist ass in the game. He was max max - one of those people max level and max alternate advancement. He was trying to kick someone from the dungeon group before it'd even started because "He didn't want to carry him." Then they refused to do anything but sit there because they didn't want to 'spend 30 minutes' (instead of probably what would otherwise be 20-30). So... what... because you don't want to spend that 'extra' time you are just going to refuse to do it and force people to kick you to avoid the re-queue timer? It boggles my mind because with the time they spent trying to kick and complaining we could have easily finished 1/4 of the dungeon or more already.

I guess it just serves as a reminder of why I stopped doing random groups. The elitism is just completely unnecessary in a PvE environment, and rude and pointless overall since our group was plenty capable of doing the content. I may just go back to not grouping for dungeons and just sticking to the other content. I really have nothing at all to gain from 98% of the dungeons. I can just as easily get experience elsewhere.

So, overall today was ok; fun on the surface, but sad and worried underneath. I survived another day, and I just have to keep hoping help comes in time. And hopefully I can hang on until it does.

Day 3602 - 5/12

Took half

Today I actually feel pretty good emotionally despite things being super bad. In the order the things happened... I had to do recycling. There wasn't enough gas left for it

to be an option. With what it cost to get there and back I spent half of what I'd gained. If I'm very lucky I'll have gas for next week. But unless help comes that will be gone quickly. By the time I'd gotten to the recycle place my car had a stronger than normal smell of oil, and was pushing about 75% of 'normal' max temperature. So it still has issues cooling, I even think I heard the fan over revving in an odd way at one point. So not going over the hill to the professor's place is indeed the smarter choice. Being now two oil changes overdue that doesn't help the already older engine. Pushing it in terms of work would be worse.

By the early afternoon the connection was getting pretty bad and slow, but I managed to do my normal things, both in game and in general. Though late in the afternoon I got a reminder email about my overdue car insurance. I didn't look at it, as that would have been stressful, but I'm sure it's just a 'hey we noticed' one. They seem to do that after a bit. I do expect I'll only have a few days before things go critical. The 15th will probably be when that happens.

But yesterday and today both were genuine shorts weather days. It was nice and sunny and warm all day, even into the evening. On Monday I'll change to short and hopefully be able to remain in shorts until September. I guess we'll see.

No donations came, and nothing has changed, so I am still terribly worried. Yet due to the warm weather I feel a bit more hopeful for the future. So I continue to hang on to hope that help will come. And hopefully I can make it to better days.

Day 3603 - 5/13

Connecton dropped

Today started pretty good with a solid connection and no trouble grouping, but in the early afternoon that flipped to being so bad I couldn't even connect to games at all. I spent a few hours offline when I was otherwise planning on doing online stuff. I guess it wasn't terrible. There are always offline games or other things I can do. But it's not like years ago where I kind of expected to spend my day offline. I guess today was ok though. Things could have been worse.

So I try to focus on the good. And I try to continue to hope help comes in time to pay the overdue bill and get gas. And I hope that I can continue to hang on until then.

Day 3604 - 5/14

Feeling abandoned

Today was pretty sad. I even left campus a bit early and avoided the professor. Today, all day, my overdue car insurance has been on my mind. Tomorrow will be the 15th, and though nothing has been said yet, I think things will turn very bad very quickly. As part of that I guess I've been feeling pretty abandoned, mostly by my professor. When I started doing my unpaid TA thing I was still working, so no pay wasn't a big deal, but for the last 2 years of that, and the time since, she's known I've been unemployed and making no money at all. She basically promised help for money with classes on the first week of the quarter, and that never happened. (And with financial aid that's only \$50 for general fees and an additional \$1 per class.) And she said she would "totally find enough for me to do" to get the \$180 minimum I need a month to maintain everything. Which again she's given me zero and said nothing since that talk about a month ago now. (I still think that getting a job where I help/tutor film and screenwriting students would be one of the best ones for me.)

I don't know... I guess I should try to not be upset (by that). I've known she was kind of flaky on stuff and I seem to just be a 'fringe friend' to her, not one people "really" worry about, but still. To go from thinking my critical things would be covered to nothing at all... that I wasn't expecting. I figured she'd probably not follow through with as much and I'd just get enough for gas each week, but now not even that...

So all day I kept thinking how little gas is left, how I will be overdue 15 days in the morning, and without help from others I can't take care of any of that. 😞 And I don't know if help will come, or if I ever will get a decent opportunity for a job. 😞

There was even a chance meeting about a week ago with someone I haven't seen for a few years. She is in town for a bit and said she would message me for a time to meet, hang out, and I could do laundry. But that too seems to have fallen through and been forgotten.

Today I again feel like I don't belong. I felt old and super out of shape; the opposite of the students around me. I had no class to attend today, or other days, so I felt like I had no purpose there, and that I didn't belong there. Even in my game I tried to share knowledge and tips with someone about stuff I've been analyzing lately and they didn't seem to care, so I felt helpless and turned away there.

Today may end in tears, as it feels like I have no control of anything. But for the moment I am ok and holding on.

But I tried to have fun in my game. I tried to do activities that would be fun for me. And like a squirrel in winter, I was farming up resources to save up for the expansion next week. So I tried to focus on that, tried to forget my worries, hope that help will come in time, and try to hang on to hope that I will make it to better days.

Day 3605 - 5/15

Hanging on

Today I got a confirmation. I suppose 'good' bill news, in that my car insurance is indeed just past mid July, and a bit lower than I expected it to be (with no smog required.) I did think the other day that if I ever was unsure I could just look at my bumper sticker, as it says the month, so I'd kind of already confirmed that.

The reason it's good is that, added to what I'll owe for car insurance during that time, that means that in the next 'month' (next four weeks) I just need \$100, and then in the following four weeks \$100 more, not counting gas costs, and I would have enough to cover both. Which, while at the higher end of help I've gotten, isn't impossible or completely out of the realm of possibility. Though with the car insurance already overdue, that will get bigger sooner as that continues to be unpaid.

It's even possible one of the two I'll see tonight who previously promised help will give some help, but at this point I won't count on either since it's been about a month and neither have said anything further on helping.

The weather, much like last week, has turned back to cold, and even had a few sprinkles on my car in the morning, after its previously warm weekend. Again the shorts

only lasted a day and now I'm back to dirty pants. Though they don't smell terrible yet, so at least there is that.

I'm extremely congested though, and sneezing like crazy. There seem to be the only symptoms though, so maybe it's just super crazy allergies and will calm down pretty quickly (now that I'm on campus with filtered air). If I remember, maybe I'll check the health center for allergy pills when I go to micro lunch.

For the moment I remain hopeful help will come in time. And as sad and as sick as I feel, I try to keep my bunny hop, and try to hang on.

Week 516

Day 3606 - 5/16

No doom today, maybe doom tomorrow

Today I felt a bit better emotionally. One of the two (I know 'in real life') who promised help surprised me last night by giving me some help. It wasn't a ton, and it will be difficult to not just use it on gas in the next coming weeks, but I have a very small start on the overdue car insurance.

Speaking of that, the 15th has come and gone and I have not yet been doomed. Looking back at their last reminder email it looks like they might not care as long as I make this and the next payment by the first (of June). For the last couple of months I've bumped that back by a month by paying just the overdue one, so it seems as long as I can keep doing at least that, or pay both by the time one is just about to be a month overdue, I'll be ok. While that is a bit of a relief, getting both payments within the next two weeks will be very challenging, so I will just have to continue to hope for enough for one, and bounce the other back as soon as I can.

The Internet went completely dead for a bit today. Not too long, just 10-15 minutes, but still. It worries me as school is the fastest (and unblocked) access I have. Despite that things were ok emotionally today. Though I did have this very odd feeling I'd forgotten something. Like I had a live show to watch, or some kind of meeting I'd arranged that I totally forgot about. But I had a good time in my MMO, and even played my shooter a bit. (Though it's recent expansion doesn't really fix the issues they said they would fix.) I never stopped worrying about my overdue bill or gas, but I suppose in a way hope won and I managed to stay feeling positive today.

So, as always, I try to continue to hope help comes in time. And I try to continue to hope I hang on until then.

Day 3607 - 5/17

On the way

Today I am a bit better emotionally. I played my game and had a pretty good time. Also, my bunny day present has finally officially shipped and is set to arrive at the ex-house sometime Monday. Depending what time it gets there I may or may not play Monday. While waiting until Tuesday morning would be sad, I wouldn't want to burn a ton of gas trying to fight through evening rush hour traffic (or I suppose lunch rush) just to play a few hours on Monday. So, we'll see. Seems like Tuesday I can play the new content at the latest for sure. 😊

I also recorded, edited, and posted my podcast. Which is pretty rare these days with barely enough to talk about once every three weeks. With really no money for games and needing to rely on gifts I don't get nearly as much as I'd like to talk about. Though I still really have no idea if anyone listens. Since the likes on my social page have been the same for basically the entire time I've had it, and posts are typically viewed by 3-10 people on average, I have my doubts more than half a dozen listen, which is sad. 😞

No donations came, but nothing bad happened either. It was pretty warm today, but also pretty cold at night. There were a few beautiful girls around, but as always none really talked to me, just a few people doing hello passer-bys.

But I guess I hung on ok today. And sometimes that has to be enough. I continue to check for jobs, hope for donations, and try to hang on until better days.

Day 3608 - 5/18

Still hanging on

Today I am still just trying to hang on. Last night I guess I was too excited about my game expansion coming that I couldn't get to sleep until after 2 AM. 😞 So I'm running on less sleep than I otherwise would be. There were no jobs to be found, and no donations, so I tried to be ok with things and tried to focus on my game and shows to distract me.

I guess today was ok. It was kind of medium. It was an ok temperature. It was sort of quiet and sort of not. Sort of calm and sort of not. And I tried my best to maintain what aspects of normal I could, while trying to not let the sad things get me down too much.

I am grateful to have survived another day, as it is another chance for change tomorrow, though I feel little agency to affect change myself. But I guess the day was ok, and I try to continue to hope help comes in time, and that tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3609 - 5/19

Here, not here

Today was a pretty sleepy day. Some stuff kept me up for a bit last night, so I lost a bit of sleep. It was warm, but I think I was deceived, as when I got into the library there was a slight burning smell, and the air was still, an indication the AC was probably broken. I was comfortably warm, which is unusual for there, and they didn't seem to actually start cooling things until mid-afternoon.

I checked in on my game delivery and noticed it was in the local area already. I messaged the company to see if I could get it today or tomorrow, but sadly the shipping center is closed (at least to customers) during the weekend, so I have to wait. So it's both here and not here. It should definitely get to my ex-house Monday, but I don't know if it would be early enough to make the extra trip. I guess we'll see.

I guess I had an ok time today. I did a few groups and two went well, and with the third there was someone being an elitist ass, so I just abandoned the group. I may continue to do it once a day for the (leveling) experience, but since there really isn't any loot to be gained I'll probably stop doing it soon. Plus, I'm basically set for at least the next month as I'll be very busy doing all the new quest and story things in the expansion area, which is what I enjoy doing most.

I feel exhausted. I am still very worried about the bill stuff. But things are still seemingly out of my control. So I try to hang on to hope that help will come. And I try to hang on until better days.

Day 3610 - 5/20

The cold and the cold

Today I feel pretty sure my light sneezing has turned into more sneezing, more congestion, and gotten into my lungs and throat. There is sleepiness, and a slight dizziness and nausea. I'm sure I'll be ok, but I would really liked to have had a warm chicken soup and fresh bread instead of cold wet salad that kind of tastes like feet. 🤢

So, in addition to a cold, the weather seems to have also turned cold. It has been threatening rain all day with gray clouds overhead and the sun barely peeking through very briefly now and then. It seems, for the moment, summer has again been put on hold.

I suppose the day wasn't all bad. My ex-roomie sent word on a possibility for a single day of work on election day at the voting places. I don't know if I'll get it, but it would be a good boost if so. It would require longer than a 12 hour work day, and a touch of the day before. And thinking about it now that's less than \$10 an hour income when all is said and done, but it would be a huge help for the overdue car insurance and maybe part of the car registration. Though without my phone active I don't know if they will try contacting me by email if they find the call doesn't go through.

But I made it through the day. Maybe not as planned with my dizziness and illness altering my plans, and my dinner tasting yucky, but things were ok. I have things to look forward to tomorrow, so I try to continue to hang onto that. And hopefully it will be a better day.

Day 3611 - 5/21

Waiting all day

Today was ok. My game didn't come. All day it showed 'out for delivery', but even in the evening it still showed as just out and not delivered. I hope it will be there when I check in a few hours, otherwise I'll be sad and upset.

I guess the day was ok other than that. I did 'old' content with the game, and a tiny bit of material gathering for the new content, so it was an ok day overall. I'm very tired

though and I guess I'm sicker than I thought as I've been very cold and have been most of the day. I may bring an extra undershirt for tomorrow if I'm cold again.

It was a pretty regular day though. No donations and no job offers. So I continue to try to hold on to hope that help will come and that tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3612 - 5/22

Reminders

Today will likely be extremely quiet. There is only really one main classroom that I'm next to that has people (on Tuesday and Thursday), and those classes are canceled today. There likely won't be many around me passing by. I suppose that's ok though, as I've been losing a lot of sleep lately. It's probably due to stress and worry about bills, but also my cold, which might actually be a result of those sad stresses and worries.

I peeked in to my game expansion very briefly, as there was something I wanted to start on as soon as I could, as it's real world time based. I noticed I didn't seem to get the in-game pre-order bonuses that were offered. I don't know if that's limited to the pre-orders done through the game creator's store or not. It seems so. If it is that will be very sad. As long as I am playing and see that in-game item I'll be reminded that I had no real choice in the version of the game I got. It's silly really, as an in-game collectable item shouldn't matter, and honestly it doesn't really bother me I suppose. But the reminder that it is that way because of my limited options in life... that will be an otherwise sad reminder. At least for a while. Maybe one day it will just be another fact of a road not taken, one of many in a single series of roads not taken in life, but for the moment it seems a sad reminder.

But I have my new game content to look forward to. Though exhausted physically, today should be a calm and quiet day. Maybe opportunity will come. Maybe help in donations will come. Only time will tell, and I will try to continue to hang on to hope. And hopefully today and tomorrow will be better days.



Bunny day; finally here.

Week 517

Day 3613 - 5/23

Small

Today I am still super exhausted. One of the people who promised help did give me a little something last night, so I'll try to hang onto it for the overdue insurance. But more than likely it will have to go to the monthly bank fee. So far that tiny bit is all I have for the insurance, which is nowhere near the overdue month amount, let alone for both the overdue and June's by the first. So I'm very worried about that. 😞 With one week left things seem very bad. 😞

I tried to hang onto hope though. After my brief morning checks of things I had all day to play my game. It was super fun, but I still miss things in real life. I still can't help but wonder if I will ever have people in real life to interact with if I ever do get re-established in a home. And will I get a chance to live at least some real life adventures before I die? I hope the answer is yes, but lately it seems all I can see before me is doom.



But I tried to hang on. I tried to stay hopeful. Tried to have fun in my game. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3614 - 5/24

Not phone

Today was both good and bad. On the one hand I had a super fun time with my new game content. My online friend was there and we even grouped together and played for a bit.

But I found out late Tuesday that my pre-order should have come with a code to get the special pre-order things. I've been basically getting wrong answers and no answers trying to deal with how to get my code, as the company I bought the game from is supposed to give it to me, but they are claiming the game company is supposed to give

me one, so it seems they are both blaming each other for not getting a code. So that's extremely stressful and upsetting.

It seems too the single election day job person is blowing me off for not having a phone he can contact me on. He sent an email saying he needed to ask me stuff. I replied my phone is out of time and can we talk by email, and he hasn't replied since, which is super lame he isn't replying. I suppose I should have not spent a week's gas to have an active phone, but on the other hand with gas I could drive basically anywhere within a 20 mile radius with no problems, yet if I had to take mass transit even 5 miles, depending on the direction, that could take hours. And, since the job requires you arrive at 5:30 AM, in some cases mass transportation wouldn't even be an option that early. So, I don't know, that is lame he's just seemingly blowing me off like that.

So all day I've had my overdue bill in the back of my mind. What will happen in a week and a half when I haven't paid it? What about car registration in a month and a half? And other worries. Without help I will crash hard and fast. And it seems help may not be coming. 😞 With only one person giving a teeny bit of help it certainly doesn't seem like enough help will come in time. 😞

But I try to continue to hope that help will come. And I try to hang on emotionally until it does. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3615 - 5/25

Suddenly exhausted

Today was odd. It started out ok, or at least I think it did. Everything now is a bit confusing. Around lunch time, maybe due to doubling up on congestion meds, I became extremely unfocused and exhausted. I think now I have a vague memory of feeling very very sneezy, congested, and a bit sore in the throat from clinching my jaw (due to all the sneezing.) So I sort of overdosed on taking both a decongestant and allergy med. So either the cold meds or my cold have destroyed me.

I had a super fun time in my game, though once my focus was lost I could mentally only 'see' about 1/3 of the screen at a time and my attention span was reduced to about 5-10 seconds.

The game company replied about my pre-order code. They seemed to imply they would take care of it as long as I 'proved' that I pre-ordered. Well, you can tell by when I put in the code can't you? Since it's still in the pre-order window? Seems odd. But I sent a screenshot of my email. So hopefully that will be settled sometime next week. I didn't get a reply by the time I'd left, and being Friday on a holiday weekend I expect nothing will move during the weekend.

But I think I had an ok time today. I can barely remember anything at the moment. Sadly no donations or help came, and we are extremely close to the first. I got another reminder email from the car insurance place, but nothing different was said from before. So I still think I'll be ok if I can at least pay the overdue part before the end of the month. But with only six days left that seems less and less likely. 😞

But I try to hang on to hope, for each day is a new opportunity. Hopefully help will come. And hopefully I can hang on until better days.

Day 3616 - 5/26

Feeling sad and worried

Today I felt pretty sad and worried. I had a good time in my game, but it didn't really distract me from my sadness. I was worried about the bills and all the things. I've also been sick and had a lot of extra tooth/jaw pain lately, so that doesn't help.

I suppose I made it through the day, and that is something. For now it has to be enough that I continue on and hang on as best as I can. So I try to hang on to hope. And hopefully opportunity for change will come and I can make it to better days.

Day 3617 - 5/27

Tummy calls for a ban

Today was pretty warm outside. Leaving the library there was the smell of BBQ here and there and lots walking around in shorts and warm weather clothes. Even when the library was open there were probably 15% fewer people than normal.

It was an ok day in my game, but still very sad and stressful overall. There are still no donations to cover the overdue bill and we are very close to the next month being past due. 😞

Tummy got upset at lunch and dinner yesterday. I had gotten cheese and some salami for sandwiches and I guess I'm at the point where tummy wants to put a ban on cheese and chocolate. It used to be that I could have a bit of them during a week and be ok. But in recent days it seems even just a little of either ends badly. It wouldn't be a huge change to cut out bigger items, like cheese sandwiches and chocolate desert things, but I'll have to start being careful of even the sometimes ones like ravioli and micro pizza. Hopefully in time after I'm no longer homeless my system will recover enough to be ok with more. But for now I guess I have to put some pretty big bans up.

I'm still exhaustedly tired. And extremely sad and worried about the bills. Tomorrow will not help, as it will not be easy what with everyone celebrating and one of my only real choices of where to be the food store, where I will no doubt see constant reminders of friends and family celebrating their day off.

But I will try to keep my chin up and continue on. It's all I can really do. I try to continue to hope donations come in time and try to continue to hang on to hope that tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3618 - 5/28

Suddenly hot

Today is suddenly pretty hot. If I were to guess, based on the fact that it is hot enough for me to sweat, it is probably close to 90F. I'm glad I wore shorts, though thankfully it wasn't too awkward to be at the food store, which is air conditioned and I spent most of the day there.

I had hoped to go to a movie I've been looking forward to, I have plenty saved on gift cards, but it would have taken too much gas to get there. I have maybe a week left, and it would use half a week probably to get there, so I just don't have the extra \$3 or so right now. 😞

I guess the good news there is by staying at the food store I saved nearly a full day of gas, so at least there was that. And it wasn't too bad emotionally. It was a tolerable connection, and even though it was super crowded I was able to be distracted and not pay attention to the crowd. But it wasn't too hard to ignore them, as besides the very rare bunch of alcohol being purchased, there were very few getting just BBQ food and chips. It seemed the majority were doing just general shopping things, so it felt like just a crowded weekend day.

Despite not feeling out of place, it is getting difficult to not be extremely depressed about my overdue car insurance, and the very few days remaining before it's more than a month overdue. Even though I was very hungry for lunch and dinner, I could barely bring myself to eat, feeling like I am doomed and the end of things is coming soon either way. Without car insurance I can't risk moving the car, let alone risk driving places. With the registration due in about 1.5 months, even if I could get the money I can't register the car without also having car insurance. Without it seems in a very rapid amount of time my car would need to be sold or towed. And not having a car where I am is super terrible enough as it's needed to get around, for me far more so since I'm homeless.

So I try to not be too depressed. I try to remember to eat, even if it's a smaller amount than normal. And I try to keep hoping help will come in the next few days; after all the just over \$40 is a pretty small amount to people with regular lives, and if I can at least do the overdue month I should be ok for a while longer. And hopefully that will be long enough for more help to come and maybe opportunity. So I try to keep hoping. 😞
And hopefully I can make it to better days. 😞

Day 3619 - 5/29

Hope and despair

Today seems weird as I go through periods of remembering and forgetting it's Tuesday. I got an update from the game company about my pre-order code and that they are still looking into things, so that is hopeful. But in general Tuesday has both the most hope and most despair.

Hope, in that it's the day I post the week's sad story, and with that I hope people will hear the sad things and send help.

Despair, in that if no help comes I feel it is unlikely to come for at least another week, feeling more and more hopeless and helpless as more weeks go without help.

So for the moment I am hopeful, but as the day continues I will likely become more and more depressed. 😞 But for the moment I am hopeful. I am settled in at school freshly showered, have foods to micro later, and should be able to play my games and watch my shows. And that is something.

Week 518

Day 3620 - 5/30 **Just in time**

Today was good, but still very sad. In the morning there was a donation waiting for me from the one who sends donations pretty regularly. So, phew, that is just in time to keep me from being more than a month over. I'll be able to pay the overdue amount in the morning. But, since the day after I will be overdue again, and I have nothing for that or the registration in a month and a quarter, I am still pretty worried and down.

I tried to have fun in my game, and I did, but I actually played too much. In part because I am very sad and want to stay distracted. In part because I'm still super spaced out due to my cold. And in part because, not counting a couple of shows to watch, there really isn't much else for me to do. My life really consists of waiting for opportunities, and scanning possibilities when they do come.

But with the payment I will have a lot of stress reduced, and that is something. So I try to hang on for better days.

Day 3621 - 5/31 **Identity**

Today was an odd mix of feelings. The day started at the car insurance place. I burnt a day and a half getting there and back, which is pretty bad, but the overdue amount is paid. At least until tomorrow when I'm again overdue.

When I got back to school and settled in to my MMO I got something pretty exciting. I spent all my in game gold monies I'd saved up for the past few weeks and got a thing that I've been wanting since even before the expansion released. (Since I'd seen previews of it before hand.) This was a piece of a set of things that allows me to change the look of my chest armor; one of the more defining pieces that people do. I quickly burnt through resources, which in some cases have taken months to gather, and headed over to the dye station to change the color.

This was very important to me, as it is the most visible and often most distinct piece. It is of an order that comes with the new expansion. This NPC order have beliefs that align with me very strongly. They believe in acquiring knowledge, learning, observing, understanding, but also compassion, and selflessness; all things I very strongly believe in and support. Of all of the NPC organizations this has been the first to truly resonate with me.

But I had some strange thoughts as I wore this new piece through the day. No one commented on it. No one noticed. Which, granted is the norm, so that wasn't different. But as the hours passed and I saw my character in my view, a couple of things really stood out.

First, the look is pretty good, but for a completely virtual item it felt very different. (It's a crafted item, so the in game stats are the exact same as what I had.) Part of that may be that my character has worn the same thing for probably about two years.

But it also didn't feel right on me. All of the people in the order are pretty much high elves with only a few exceptions. My character is a cat person. Who not only looks very different, but the entire race are basically considered outcasts and troublemakers; an undesirable people. The look I had previously been wearing was half from the thieves' expansion, where the look is worn by members of outcasts and thief guild members, and also some pieces of a mercenary set, which aren't really an organized or represented group in the game, and a look that almost no one wears.

So it felt strange. This new style which aligns with my personal philosophical beliefs felt 'wrong' for both of these reasons; external and internal. The old look felt 'more comfortable', and 'familiar'.

It made me ponder external and internal perception of identity. I thought about how I look, my own beliefs and personality. Would people assume different things about me if I were, say, wearing a suit compared to what I normally wear? In real life, yes, absolutely. Because as a stranger that's all they have to go on. But in a game, not really. No one pays attention or really cares in a game where you can have so many different looks.

I thought about personality; does what I wear change how I perceive and believe of myself? Absolutely not. Unless, of course, I am playing a part, a character, in which

case the personality connects to the symbols presented by the cloths. So in that case there is a connection.

So ultimately, at least for now, I have partly gone back to my old look. (I kept a few pieces with the new look.) It feels more familiar, more comfortable, and in a strange way, seeing my character in those cloths I can imagine them as if it were a nice blanket around me. It is ultimately all meaningless, and absolutely not something others will notice. (Only maybe once a year has someone commented on my look.)

But I found myself wondering. Do I feel more comfortable in these cloths because my character's race is often looked down upon and considered outcast by both NPCs and players? Is it because I am just so used to them? Is it because I know ultimately that players really won't come to discover my personal beliefs align with the order that has that new look, and since they don't care I suddenly feel sad or let down by trying to show others what I believe in and stand for and they won't care?

I was hit by more feelings near the end of my game day when I was storing the newly made gear away in my home. (In case I do want to use that look in the future.) When I was in my home there was the sounds of various pets I'd put in there. There was food and a fire ready. There was the bed. I laid down for a minute. There were lights and knick-knacks placed around the room; like my balls of yarn I'd collected. And I started to cry.

It was just a few tears before I quickly left the home and wiped the tears away, but it seemed very sad. There is a place for all my things in the game. The things which were chosen, their placement, are signs and symbols of who I am, what I've done, and where I've been. Yet no one will see my home. (Save for the like two online friends who have.) No one will come to in the future. Just as no one will see me, or come to learn about my character.

And more importantly I have no (real world) home. My things which show who I am in real life, the things I've chosen, the things from where I've been. There is no real place to arrange my things.

And it made me very sad that right now the only home I have is virtual.

Day 3622 - 6/1

On soft paws

Today was pretty good emotionally, though I was continually worried about the car insurance and rapidly approaching registration.

The day started with sending the game company yet another inquiry about the pre-order things. I still have not heard back from the retailer I ordered it from, and it's been a week since I sent the game company my proof of purchase. When I wrote I again questioned why there is a delay and confusion, since the game purchase qualifies for a pre-order until the 5th. And since I've already applied my game code, which requires an order, why aren't pre-order things automatically applied? I played for a tiny bit, then went offline to have lunch and watch a show.

When I came back my account made a bwong noise of something being added to my collection and I noticed had an email and all of the pre-order things in my collection.

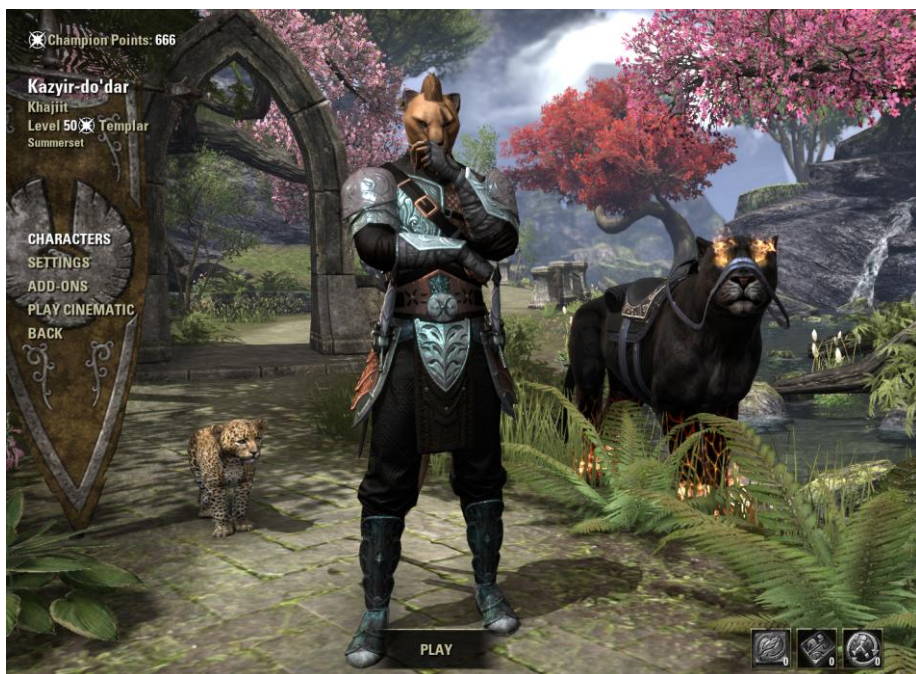
😊 I immediately switched to the fancy cat mount. He makes me smile very much. 😊

He's super cute and runs on almost silent paws; quite different from the clip-clops of the horse I've had for like three years.

It seems strange for such a thing to make me smile, but it does. There was another thing I noticed in the game like that. Someone had a heavy plate armor helmet who was a cat person like me, and the helmet was shaped like a cat head and had the cutest little ear armor covers. In all the game so far only a few pieces have accounted for the cat or lizard people's head shape. It's why I basically never have my hat showing. But that made me happy and smile in a similar way. It looks like with the newest expansion all the head armor have special looks for all three head types. No more smooshed ears for my character. 😊

Sure, these are very inconsequential things, especially since they are virtual in a game. But they make me feel like my choices matter, are valid, and the game developers care. Small details like quiet cat paws compared to horse hooves (or squish squish of a bug mount I have), special ears on hats for cat people, these details matter. Much like small details and choices in real life matter. They define and validate who we are. And that is something.

So, even though I am filled with worry about money, and super exhausted from my cold or allergies (I'm still sneezing tons), I feel a bit happier emotionally. I have a bit more hope for the future. And I continue to look forward to better days.



Cutest kitty mount ever... ON FIRE!!!

Day 3623 - 6/2

Open later, drop early

Today was mixed feelings. No donations came, nor other help, so I felt very sad about that. I'm also nearly out of food money, so I am again at a point of having to be extremely careful so I don't fall short before the cycle date.

I did pick up a series I'm behind on from the library, so there is that to watch. And I had a decent amount of fun in my game. I thought I'd have an extra half hour more to play, as the library again changed their hours and they are open a touch later on weekends now, but the wireless unexpectedly dropped about an hour before closing. I waited 5 minutes, 10, 15, and at that point it seemed extremely unlikely it would come back up, as

historically if the library isn't up in less than 15 minutes it typically takes hours. But then with only half an hour left until closing there wasn't much point in doing anything but continuing to wait.

I guess the day was pretty good other than that. It has turned back to super warm weather and I will again be back to wearing shorts. I did have some fun, but the day seemed to fly by. Which I guess is good, but it feels like only half as much time passed as really did. And above all I survived the day. Nothing got worse, at least nothing I could currently observe, and things seem ok emotionally. So I try to hang on to hope. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3624 - 6/3 **Not the day I wanted**

Today was not at all how I wanted it to go. 😞 I started at the library in the morning. There was still no signal. I waited and waited and waited. All day, and all evening. The library never got its wireless back. I guess it was ok in that I had my offline game to play, and the TV series to catch up on, and a tiny bit of other stuff. But it wasn't at all what I planned or hoped for the day.

At the end, when I should have gone in to my restful night spot, there was some weirdness. I was uneasy and out of my spot for several hours, also losing what I'd planned or hoped for the evening.

And today my tablet fell, only about 1.5 feet, but enough that one of its cover feet broke off. Thankfully the three remaining hold it in place well enough, but it's basically exactly the same kind of break as before. And while I'm sure they would replace it, I recall it costing something like \$10-15 for shipping, which I don't have. 😞

On top of that the bills became more worrisome. I am on day more overdue on the insurance, and a day closer to the registration. And gas is almost completely out. I'm putting a huge bet and hope I can make it to Tuesday and that the person who has helped Tuesday nights will help again. Because if not I will be out and have to immediately stop

driving. I may have one or two more days if I'm lucky, but not enough to keep driving every day. 😞

So today was all kinds of bad. 😞 Mostly emotional. Some physical, such as being exhausted and not getting rest when I expected and being extra on guard and worried for hours. But gas is more critical than it's ever been. And I grow more and more worried I'll not be able to cover registration when it comes due. 😞

Day 3625 - 6/4

Proper ears

Today was not worse, but it wasn't really better. As with all days things move one day closer to bad things. 😞

Oh, there were sad things I forgot yesterday. In the evening there were lots of friends meeting others to go out and do things in the summer evening. I can't remember the last time I did that. 😞 I also listened to one of my gaming playlists I made. It has environmental sounds. One part has a forest campfire near a stream, which reminded me of when I was young at camp. Much like last night, I was up when I did not want to be, doing things in conditions I did not want. But it also reminded me of a hanging out with the Gray Ghost and a few others in a park at night. Or at a cabin in the woods which had nothing but a record player and tape player. Simpler times. I wonder if all this connectivity and technology is good for us. It makes it so much easier to detach from others, favoring a hive mind mentality and attitude over individuals.

I did try and focus on being at school. It was warm. I wore shorts. Most of the day one of the girls who is 'as cute as a button' sat nearby. And I saw two others I sometimes see pass by. Of course all are much too young for me, and don't even acknowledge I exist. But it's a nice reminder that there are women out there who I'm still interested in (or could be if they weren't too young), so at least I am not so detached or old to have given up on love.

I played my game and tried to focus on that. I got lucky and found the hat style I was looking for at one vendor for a reasonable price, so that is super happy.

But I tried to have fun today. I tried to forget my worries, though they will never really be forgotten with things left undone. I did have fun in my game, and I did have micro food, so that is something. And with that I continue to try and hang on to hope that tomorrow will be a better day.



Best helmet ever. Has ear armor! (Helmet off and on for comparison.)

Day 3626 - 6/5

Hopeful Tuesday

Today feels hopeful. I'm pretty tired physically, but I got good sleep for a change. I dreamt of having money to move to L.A. and start my career as a producer, finally being free in my job, and able to live how I want. So that helps me feel hopeful, as I have not yet given up on my (literal) dreams.

No donations or change yet, but it's just now morning, so that is as expected. I talked with my professor last night a bit as we hung out and she asked how things were. I replied, 'the worst, because each day is the new worst.' And I mentioned how I expect if

help doesn't come Wednesday will be my first day of walking everywhere all the time. She seemed genuinely sad and said she didn't have any cash on her. I will try to stay hopeful that means she may help, but with plenty of opportunity before, and knowing I've needed help for years, it seems unlikely she actually will. She has a few times in the past though, so you never know.

The Tuesday person checked in last week by email. The class got out early and she had to run, so she didn't come by. So maybe that was an implication she wants to help and she will help me tonight, I guess we'll see.

But I feel hopeful today. I am still physically exhausted, though not as tired mentally. At least not at the moment. It's cooled off a bit so I'm back to pants, which is probably better overall. The recent 90s is a bit much. But I try to stay hopeful help will come. And maybe opportunity will come someday. And until then I try to have a good time with my game and shows, and I try to hang on and survive another day. And hopefully it will be a better day.

Day 3627 - 6/6 Burning eyes

Today was the end of a pair of contacts. I don't know how long I've been wearing this pair. It feels like probably three months. I had a bit of an itch in one eye at the start of the day, and as the day went on that turned into a kind of burning. Taking the contact out would alleviate the issue, and the rinse in its case helped keep the issue down, but it was most definitely the burn of too old contacts.

I've set aside a new pair, one of my last two. I don't know how long these two pair will last. I will have to prey it is long enough. This next cycle may be extra difficult as my previous eye doctor would let me order a single box at a time if need be (a box has three pairs.) But he retired, and I don't know if the new doc he recommended would be as understanding. 😞

But setting aside the sometimes searing pain in my eyes, I managed to have a pretty good day. I got a couple of donations last night, so probably tomorrow morning they will have cycled in and I can pay the overdue car insurance and up my phone to have at least some time on it, and maybe a tiny bit left for gas or registration, depending how well I can hang onto what's left. My food money also recycled, so I got regular food, and have a couple of different tasty snacks. 😊

Oh, that reminds me. I didn't see the Tuesday person and she hasn't said anything, so no help there. The professor also ducked out yesterday early and flew past me. I guess she had somewhere to be. Though it seemed like she was purposely avoiding the implied proposal of help. Hanging out with her though (for a longer than usual time) tonight she made no mention of it, but did mention she was buying a new system for editing. Yet when I started to ask her about parts, not like I know anything about that or run a site recommending parts or anything, she brushed me off and said, 'I'm doing it, boom, it's done.'

It makes me wonder if she doesn't really value my help at all. It seemed like she did in the past, but so often she just ignores when I need help, or when I'm hurting. It's like I'm sort of a therapist for her troubles, worries, fears, gripes, yet she does nothing for

me. I half wonder if I should just stop going by to hang out and not bother anymore. It seems like she doesn't really care for me and doesn't really seem to care to try to get me reinstated as a helper, paid or not. And now, weeks after, it seems very clear she isn't going to follow through on help she basically promised and said would be no problem at all, either direct or in-direct through doing work for her.

But I try to move on from y worries and sad things. Today is done. Tomorrow is a new day. And so I will try and stay hopeful. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3628 - 6/7

Feeling sick

Today was pretty good. The connection was kind of bad in the morning, so I did different game things than I thought I would. I suppose it doesn't matter though, as by about 11 in the morning I started to feel pretty sick. I've had a pretty mild headache, congestion in my lungs and tummy, and a bit of sneezing. I'm also pretty motion sensitive and a bit off balance. Hopefully I'll be ok. It may be allergies, or it may be a layer of exhaustion, I'm not sure.

I had an ok time in my game though. So I tried to relax and stay restful. The money hasn't moved into my account yet so no change on paying bills. That should be available in the morning and be fine.

Due to my illness I fixated on my mortality constantly. 🙄 My brain kept thinking of death by various accidental things or extreme pain. 🙄 On a normal day I'd have been able to keep that at bay. I don't feel warm, but usually repeating obsessive thoughts like that happen when I'm running a fever. Hopefully it won't continue and I can go back to my regular sad homeless feelings.

But the day was ok in general, and I survived, so there is that. Tomorrow is another day, and I will try and hang onto hope it is a better day.

Day 3629 - 6/8

Not even half

Today was okish. It started with paying the overdue car insurance. So for the moment I am current again. I tried doing my phone but it said I had the wrong password. I sent a message to customer support about it. It seems like the website just wasn't working and it kept giving errors. So I gave up and I'll try again tomorrow.

My day was pretty good. It was quiet on campus and there were only a few around me. I played my game and had a pretty good time. But because I am sick feeling I was not the best company, so I purposely just did solo stuff all day.

In the evening I tried to do the laundry. I say try because of the laundry I took, which was not even everything I need to do, I couldn't even do half. And of my more than half dozen shower towels I could only fit in two of the smallest, barely the size of a mid-size towel. (The kind you typically put on your head.) So I had to air dry all my outer shirts, hoodie, all the pants, and some other items. Thankfully most of them don't really have a horrible smell, but it's very sad to think my socks, underwear, t-shirts, and one pair of shorts were the only things to be washed.

But that is my sad life. And I have been thinking all day about how I am sick and how not normal my life is. And how I feel extra sad and alone because of it. 😞

But I continue to hope someday things get better. I continue to hope someday I'll have a normal life again. And I try to continue to hang on to hope until then.

Day 3630 - 6/9

Not movie

Today was pretty good except for a bit of connection weirdness. It was not the best at the library and it dropped me a few times and I worried it would completely break again, but it hung on ok.

I had my game to play and I had fun. My in game friend showed up, who I haven't seen in a while, so that was nice. We didn't group or do any stuff together. I also saw some E3 announcements. The most important was updates on Anthem, which still looks

super great. It has a new release date of February 22nd, and I have almost enough to get it in gift card money already. So by the time it comes I should definitely have enough. The problem is I doubt my system will be able to handle it. If it could it would probably be at really low settings. The last game from that company had trouble running on my system in single player mode, and it really couldn't handle online play. Since Anthem is almost certainly 100% online I may not be able to play on my current system. 😞 Hopefully I can get into a beta and get a peek.

My phone is officially back on, at least for a few months. Sadly that was almost everything I had. The car insurance and phone left me with only enough for about a week's worth of gas. Which is sad, as I was hoping to take my movie gift cards to see a movie. I'm guessing it would take 3-4 days of gas to get to the theater, which is way too much to spare. 😞

But overall today was pretty good. I had a fun time and there was some game news, and more to come tomorrow and the days after. So I continue to hang on to hope for all the things. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day too.

Day 3631 - 6/10

Not stream

Today was mostly pretty good. I spent the day at the library and while it wasn't a great connection it was good enough to do solo stuff in my MMO. It was lonelier than it otherwise would have been if I could do group stuff, but that is just how my sad life goes sometimes. Similarly I had no control of my evening connection. For about a week I've been looking forward to a stream with news at the food store, but it had zero connection. Well, not completely zero. The site registered I was there, and showed about one frame every few minutes, but basically I stared at an unmoving picture of a stream. 😞

There was a high point. At the end of my time at the library my in game friend came in and sent me a super important DLC as a gift. 😊 We got to hang out for about 10 minutes before I left, but that was it.

Oh, I overdosed on pain meds, so I almost forgot, but through most of the day I had pretty intense tooth pain. 😞 There is maybe 75% of the tooth left that is hurting, but it's next to one that's only about 5% left. So I have been feeling very sad today thinking about when they are both gone. Since they are the two biggest at the end of that side I will effectively be missing about 25% of my bottom tooth area. 😞

So today was mostly a low day, with an extreme low of tooth pain and sadness, and a high of my online friend giving me an expansion I needed. So I try to put the day behind me as it comes to a close. I try to hope what is left goes ok. And I try to hang on to hope that tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3632 - 6/11

Supposedly hot

Today it was supposedly hot. Down in the bottom floor at school I didn't feel it. Maybe it's because I'm still sneezy sick. Maybe it's because it was heavily air conditioned. I'm not sure.

I tried to relax and be restful though. I tried to play my game and have some fun. I wasn't in too much pain, as I overdosed a few times during the day to keep it down.

I did watch more news about games. Sadly I think the three games I want most will either run very poorly on my old laptop or not at all. One is a sequel to a game my system could barely run at poor speeds, and another is on a similar engine. I suppose though if I did get money for the game(s), or got it as a gift, in theory I would always have it. So even if I couldn't play at launch on this system I could someday. Though it would really be safer to not get it if it probably won't run, as the price will always go down. But the prospect of my laptop getting too old to continue gaming is very sad. 😞 I can still play my MMO, and a mobile game was announced that I'm interested in that I could play on my tablet, so there is that.

So for the moment I hang on to hope for change. I hope I get over my cold. And I hope for better days ahead.

Day 3633 - 6/12

Already so warm

Today I am already borderline hot outside. I'll still be inside in the air conditioned basement, so I'll only feel the effects when making lunch and dinner.

I've been up and about for about an hour and I've sneezed half a dozen times. I'm still suffering from allergies or a cold, whatever this is. I lost about three hours of sleep last night because of it too. 😞

No donations yet, so I try to stay hopeful some will come as it's only about a month until the big registration bill is due. I did get one surprise today though. There were rewards for watching the live stream Sunday, but since I had zero bandwidth I worried I wouldn't qualify. I guess though the site did recognize I'd logged in, and this morning I got a reward for it. So yay for rewards. 😊

But the day is just starting. I'm still sick and worried about bills, but I feel positive and try to stay hopeful. I should be able to rest and play in my spot all day, so hopefully that will help me recover physically and stay ok emotionally. And, as always, I hope there are better days ahead.



Stream watching Wolf mount reward.

Day 3634 - 6/13

Apparently not

Today was pretty good. I got to be restful in my spot. It was warm. And I got to play my game and watch shows.

In the evening things were weird. I saw the professor go by me around 8 with no stuff. (Which is about 1.25 hours before the class is scheduled to be done.) I asked, "Done early or late break?" She mostly seemed to keep walking and ignore my question, but half turned her head and said, "Something like that." I was watching a new show either way so I didn't worry about it. About 45 minutes later someone asked if I'd seen her. I asked if she was in the classroom, she wasn't, so I guessed they ended early.

So I guess we aren't really friends. That's like the third time in the past few weeks she's left and seemingly intentionally ducked past me, or tried to. So, years of effectively being her counselor, her confidant, discussed ideas, hopes, and dreams, and yet she has returned none of it really. She's never really talked about my life save for that one time. And with the promise of wanting to help with \$50 for classes for the quarter, then later saying \$180-220 a month with off-loaded work would be "psh, no problem, totally doable" and then nothing.... ok. I no longer care. There is a week more and then finals week, but I will not visit her anymore. If she has no intention of following through on promises of help when she knows I only need a tiny bit, after years of emotionally helping her through stuff... ok, I'm done with an apparently one sided relationship. I won't intentionally avoid her, but no more going by out of my way.

I guess my exhaustion and cold effects are visible. On my way off campus I saw someone I haven't seen in a while and even in the evening's low light he could see my eyes were 'puffy'. I guess my sneezing and scratching is showing. Well, at least some care to look deeper than the surface or what immediate outward appearances are.

I guess overall today was a good day emotionally. I had fun. I tried to rest and relax. I saw some shows. Though I did worry about the upcoming bills. 😞 But for the moment I try to continue to hang on to hope that tomorrow is a better day.

Day 3635 - 6/14

Feels weird

Today I've been feeling weird. Emotionally I was pretty good, though no donations or help came so that is very sad.

But physically I felt weird. I felt kind of fat, like my tummy is overstuffed and may burst out of the skin. I'm sleepy. I'm congested. I've been clenching my jaw and causing jaw pain most of the day. (Likely due to the congestion, though it seems similar to what you do when overly cold.) My eyes kind of hurt and itch. And even though I'd been hyper aware of where my body is, I have also had this out of body feeling, as if I'm in a third person perspective and first person at the same time.

I'm sure it's all just various effects of my cold, or exhaustion, or both together. At least I hope so.

But I try to focus on having fun with my games and shows. And I try to hang on to the hope that help will come to cover the next insurance and car registration in time. And I try to hope for better days ahead.

Day 3636 - 6/15

Odd end

Today was pretty good. The morning and day were super quiet. Even more so than a normal Friday because labs were closed at 2:30 instead of staying open the whole time. So I got to play my games and watch shows relatively alone.

I got a donation in the evening, so that was good. And there was a student film show. I only knew a couple of people's work, so it is strange to now see an almost entirely different group of people doing stuff.

There has been a lucky shift in grouping in my game too. Whereas a month ago I was hitting a lot of selfish elitists, recently there have been regular or even somewhat friendly people. One even said she liked how I didn't stop being a cat person (they speak a certain way), and she complimented me on being a super good healer, which is rare enough but doubly so since the cat people's racials don't help with healing.

So I guess today was a pretty good day. Though now I feel a bit odd. I don't know if it's because of my cold or because I've seen a lot of very different short films. My world perspective seems off, as if everything is over or under saturated.

But overall I guess I feel ok. I am still very concerned about bills, but I am still hanging on to hope. And hopefully tomorrow will be a good day.

Day 3637 - 6/16

Twenty percent

Today was pretty good. The food store in the morning connected enough to do stuff, and the library didn't drop at all. It was a touch slow, but faster than usual, so I got to do whatever all day. I just played my game really. There were a couple of quick things I watched while eating, but really I just did my MMO. I actually had some good groups and got some items I need, so phew, that set is almost complete.

I thought about taking my gift cards to see a movie. There are like four out that I want to see, but mathing it out it would take three or more days of what is probably two weeks of gas. That's 20% of the gas I have, much much too much to spend seeing a movie by myself. Yeah, it would be really nice, but with no friends to share it with there really isn't any reason for me to rush out and see it in theaters, even if one is a sequel I've been waiting to see since the first one years ago.

So emotionally today was pretty good. No donations, so no changes there, but nothing got worse. I had fun in my game and watched some shows, so the day was ok. Still, I try to hang on to hope opportunity for change comes and tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 3638 - 6/17

Not a dad's day

Today was a pretty quiet day. I would guess because of dad's day. The store was empty in the morning, and the library didn't get busy until probably afternoon.

I sent my dad an e-card, so that is about the extent of our contact really. I tried reaching out a little, saying I wonder what he does with his time and I remember he liked gardening, but he really didn't respond to that. He sent a thank you e-card and said his recent wife (I guess they got married about 8 years ago) was thinking of taking him to a casino, but that fell through, which he was glad of since he doesn't like gambling. I still feel sad our relationship has been what it has, but in my situation, and with him living two states away, I can't really try to change things. If I were as I am now, and I were him, I'd be terrified. He's 30 years older than me, so he has about 8 years left if he reaches grandpa's age before passing.

In the morning in my game I saw a cat I sometimes see. I thought of real cats, and their short lifespan, and what if I loved one and they were on their deathbed. And I cried a little. 😞 I would love so very much to have a cute critter in my life again, but I would be so terribly devastated when they passed.

But I guess the day was ok other than that. I played my game and had fun. Though I worried about bills. But I try to hang on to hope opportunity and help will come. And hopefully I can hang on until better days.

Day 3639 - 6/18

Warm to cold

Today the weather was a bit variable. In the morning it was super warm. I left my hoodie in the car and regretted not wearing shorts. When I settled in I even took off my outer shirt layer. I stayed that way until mid afternoon. From mid afternoon until early evening it shifted pretty quickly. I don't know if that was due to weather or because at that point what few students were on the floor had basically all left. But it got cold quickly. I even started to notice that I was clenching my jaw a bit.

I guess the day was ok emotionally. Job searches were pretty empty, and now some of the searches come up completely empty in some areas. Which I suppose is a good thing for the economy, but bad for me. There were no donations. I even saw the Tuesday evening helper as she passed quickly by and said hi. My professor passed by me

a couple of times, not really engaging, just saying nothing or little empty statements. Kind of like when you are living with someone and saw them just a few hours ago.

But I had a fun time in my game. I had enough food. (Which I'm super thankful I have the food stamp money for.) And I was warm and comfortable enough. I survived the day. And sometimes that has to be enough. Hopefully I can hang on until better days.

Day 3640 - 6/19

Priest

Today has started off a bit sad. Last night I was feeling through my faux-hawk, noticing how its back middle part is getting wider than I'd like, and I noticed the thinning part is now to about my ears. It's not so thin as to not be noticeable like the first 15% or so, but it feels pretty thin compared to the very back. It's probably only a couple of more years at the rate it's going before it's more like a pony tail, which is not a good look.

More importantly today is almost exactly one month before the registration is due. With missing the election day opportunity, and not yet getting a paid survey, I'm getting very worried that there is nothing saved for that. 😞 \$150 seems an impossible amount with no income, not counting the \$40 more for insurance before then. 😞

I was watching some shows lately, and in them there is a priest character. I was reminded how like a priest my life tends to be. I try to love all things. I'm celibate (though not by choice.) And most days I just try to understand my place in things as best as I can and hang on. Above all I try to have faith that people will help and opportunity will come. And hope that the world, as a whole, continues to move towards a kinder more understanding place.

So, as always, I try to hang on and stay hopeful that help will come and that I can make it to better days.

Week 521

Day 3641 - 6/20

A missing piece

Today was a bit sad, as there were still empty job searches, no paid survey calls, and no donations. The professor also seemingly came in, avoided going past me, and then left without saying goodbye. (This is her last class for the week.) I still don't know if she is avoiding me on purpose or what, but I'm done worrying about it until she comes to me. She seems to have made it pretty clear over the years, and more so recently, that she doesn't really want to find a way to help me.

Other than that I guess the day was ok emotionally. I am sad I can't change cloths very often, or make my hair better, but I had a pretty fun time with my game. I got a piece for a set I've been trying to get for like a month, so that is super happy. I've got tons to do in the game, so that can keep me distracted.

Late last week the firewall went a bit weird. I'd guess due to the secure site changes, so to get to the social and video pages I had to use my VPN. Today it looks like they fixed that and it's back to normal. Not a huge thing to celebrate, but it's nice when your routine is not disrupted.

A few different people stopped by to visit me yesterday. I think it was an informal goodbye because there aren't really classes in summer for our department (and most don't take them anyways.) Even though it was not a formal goodbye or a thank you for helping them (as I was helping out when they took those classes) it was nice to know I was thought of. It seems strange to find out so many recognize me, some finding comfort that I am a stable element in their lives, yet the majority of them never bother to find out who I am, or find out my story.

But I survived the day, even though there were many sad thoughts. But I continue to hope help comes, especially with the registry coming up so rapidly, and that I can hang on until better days.

Day 3642 - 6/21

Blink of an eye

Today went by super fast I did my regular job check, then played a bit and listened to shows in the background. And before I knew it it was already 4:30. I guess it doesn't matter really. It just seems odd that what felt like just past noon was already almost evening.

Nothing changed today. Though I did remember I am past due on car insurance. So that will go critical in a week. 😞 And, of course, there is registration right after in a month. 😞 So I'm super worried about both of those. 😞

But I tried to stay hopeful. I tried to focus on fun things, as I can't control the others. And hopefully help will come in time, and I can hang on until better days.

Day 3643 - 6/22

Another bill

Today was pretty good. I was pretty much alone all day emotionally and physically. I felt lonely. And I think due to the summer coming up and things winding down at school I am again reminded that I don't have friends to spend time off with, or to do fun things with.

I did get to play my game though, so that was good. And with hardly anyone on campus I had a solid connection, so I listened to a few videos in the background while playing.

The day was super warm, even borderline hot. Even down in the basement level I was pretty comfortable and wished I had shorts. But the day flew by, which I suppose is good as the worries of bills and lonely feelings about everything I'm missing in life was constantly on my mind.

In the evening I got yet another bill. I have to renew my license ID this year and I guess along with that there is a \$35 fee. I guess I'm approved to do it online, so there's that. But I have less than two months to pay that. So in addition to my \$40 for car

insurance already overdue, the \$150 for car registration in less than a month, there is now \$35 more a month after that. These bills feel crushing and insurmountable. 😞

There was again no word on jobs, or even paid surveys, so I have no idea how I'll get money for anything. All I can do is continue to hope that donations come in time. And hopefully I can hang on until they do.

Day 3644 - 6/23

Face melting

Today was super hot. Even by the get up and move around morning time it was already warm. Now, after the library has closed, I've moved my car out of the shade and in a matter of minutes I'm almost sweating.

Not much to say about today. The library connection was mostly ok. It started to fail around three, but I basically spent the day playing my game and having fun. Though with the super warm day this would have been a nice day to have friends over to play stuff and do a BBQ. But... that's not an option for me. And I don't know if it ever will be again. 😞

I worried about the bills in the back of my mind, but tried to relax and not worry about them. I continue to hope help comes in time, though that seems to be rapidly ticking away, and that I make it to better days ahead.

Day 3645 - 6/24

Second day meat

Today was ok. It was still warm, but much cooler compared to yesterday. It was strange to not buy food in the morning. They are doing maintenance on the food stamp server, so that service is down for everyone today. I bought all of yesterday and today's food yesterday. I got salami as it typically seems to be ok overnight. In the summer lunchmeat is more risky, but it was cool in the evening, and near to the AC in the library it is almost in low level fridge conditions, so it wasn't as bad as I feared.

The connection was ok and I played my game most of the day. I did feel a bit extra lonely, so I ran videos of game news in the background. Maybe I am just still affected by a bad dream a few nights ago. In it I was driving my car somewhere and suddenly there was a fzzot kerclunk and it shut down and the steering locked up (it's power assist), and I slowly arced into a streetlamp-like pole. I wasn't going too fast in the dream, but the feeling of not being able to fix the damages, and what would be a law suit for the damage since I'm not covered for that by my insurance, was pretty scary.

Thankfully it was just a bad dream, and like all dreams it was over in the morning. Each day is an opportunity for something good to change. So I continue to hope for that. I continue to hope help comes to pay the bills. And I hope I can hang on until better days.

Day 3646 - 6/25

Plugged for days

Today I've been super congested and sneezy. My right ear has been a bit plugged for more than 24 hours now. It's not painful or a bad pressure or anything, really it just blocks a bit of sound and alters tonal range, which is super annoying. 😞

My day started pretty sad. I had finished my shower and knew I was using a dirty towel. They have all been dirty a few weeks now. But when I was drying myself I caught a whiff of it and it smelled like butt. 😞 The little bit of nice smell from the shower was being replaced with butt. 😞 I stopped drying at only about 25% dried and then just sat there a few minutes to air dry the rest of the way. I've replaced it with another dirty one so that hopefully won't happen again. It's not clean, but it's not as dirty.

Still no calls for paid surveys or donations, so I am still extremely worried about the overdue car insurance, the bank fee in about a week (still ridiculous they charge you if you have less than \$1500 in the account), and of course the car registration in about three weeks. I don't know how I'll pay for any of it. 😞 Plus, I'll be out of gas in less than a week, which means even if I do get a paid survey I'd have no gas to get there. 😞

But I try to hope some find my sad story and send help. I hope donations come in time. I hope opportunity comes. And I hope I can hang on until better days.

Day 3647 - 6/26

International spy

Today I am still super congested. My right ear is still plugged, and my right eye feels a bit puffy too. I grabbed some allergy meds from the school medical center, but I don't know if it's helping.

I slept pretty good, but I'm pretty tired. I had a strange dream that someone wanted to take me to a secret place. The place had a trap door that went to a small floating boat with a few chairs on it, which turned into a water ride. Along a pretty far path we picked up a few others and eventually arrived at a tropical island. This was a secret base for an international organization of spies and I was going to join them. A bit later in the dream I was in love with a super cute French spy and we were very snuggly. 🤔 The funny part of the dream is that the tropical base had no roofs in the living areas, so one day I had gone to see her and we were snuggling and it started raining on everything.

Anyways... the morning is just starting. No one is at school. I think there are a total of three other people on the entire floor. I haven't started my system yet, so I don't know if there are any donations yet. But I try to stay hopeful help will come in time. And I try to hang on until better days.

Day 3648 - 6/27
No goodbye

Today was weird. I'm still super sick, or allergic to everything, or whatever. My ear has finally cleared, I think. After days plugged I don't know if it's fully clear or just clear enough it sounds much better. I'm still sneezing a ton and super congested. I still feel like I'm forgetting about a show or something. Like there is something on Wednesday nights I'm supposed to be watching or doing, but I can't think of what it could possibly be.

Yesterday someone was looking for the professor. They came over to me and said, 'you are her TA, right?' And just for a moment I felt glad. I felt valued and recognized, like back in the old days. I said 'yes', because the real answer is too complex, and helped them as best as I could. Because that's how I am. But tonight, her last night on campus until next September, while she did smile and wave at me two different times during the evening, that was it. No goodbye. No checking in. No offer or gift of help. No statement of feeling sorry for promising to help and then not helping. Maybe she simply expects to see me next year and knows she can get a hold of me if need be, and if so that brings me comfort. But it is unlikely, and I feel greatly hurt.

When I was working part time, helping out and not getting anything but a bit of recognition was fine. In the last few recent years after I'd lost that job, continuing with the promise that she was fighting to get me some kind of compensation or pay was enough. But after the year the dean said they couldn't have helpers anymore, and her seeming less and less caring these past two years, and now with these unfulfilled promises this last quarter... In a way I feel betrayed, like I was led on and taken advantage of. And in a way I feel like I let myself down. But I tried to stay put and safe and comfortable when I can. With many things in my life I've done similar things (like with still being an MVP for a company that gives me basically nothing.) It's odd because part of me feels I should break off connections like that. And part of me feels like connections like that are all I have that are even close to 'leads' or 'connections' to possible employment in jobs like the ones being done.

I've been having odd feelings in my game lately too. For the past few months I've been trying to beef up my gear for dungeons and hard raids. Yet I have really little to no desire to get a guild or do super hard stressful content like that. So it seems strange that I'm grinding for this gear in ways that often aren't fun, just to prepare for things I don't expect I'll do. The only thing I can figure is going on there is I like to be very good and flexible, and have the gear I need and be ready for all the things.

I suppose that was the same with the TA stuff. When there was the chance I could get paid for it, those were the best years ever (in terms of a job), so I still wanted to be ready for that. Though the odds of it happening now seem astronomical.

There were no donations today. I filled out a form for a paid survey coming up in a few weeks, so maybe it will pan out, maybe not. As always, all I can do is hope help comes, and that I can hang on until better days.

Day 3649 - 6/28

Probably still plugged

Today I showered and had a cleaner towel. A nice smell actually hung on for a bit. It was fighting with the old smell of the pants and shirts, but the bad smell and clean smell were both subtle enough they basically canceled each other out after a few hours.

I think I'm still sick. My nose is still congested. During the night it often gets plugged on one side and the other side is super runny. 🙄 And I think my ear is still a bit plugged. Maybe only about 5% because it's really subtle, but it still feels off.

I guess I had an ok day. I played my game and watched some shows. There were some other games I watched news of that I'd like to play, but I guess I had a pretty good time.

I'm getting super worried about bills. There was still no call for any of the paid surveys, and there were still no donations. 🙄 I feel super sad all the time being an outsider and missing out on so many things. But I try to stay hopeful help will come. And I try to hang on emotionally until then.

Day 3650 - 6/29

Final final

Today was the final final on campus. There was only one class on the floor and that was it all day. As always there were a few others doing stuff, so I was mostly alone, but not completely.

Even though this is, I guess, now the fourth summer where I'm unemployed it feels very different. (I guess fifth if we count the summer I had unemployment.) Before it felt like I would return. I felt my professor would miss me and look forward to seeing me back in September. I felt confident I'd have the money to be back. It all feels so uncertain now. I am behind on things to the point I don't even know if I'll still be able to have a car by the end of Summer, let alone the \$75 to sign up for classes and get a parking sticker in September. 🙄 And if I did there are pretty much only one or two classes I could do within my department. I'd have to change my major again to something else to continue with more.

I guess it was an ok day. I felt pretty lonely but a few stopped by to say bye. And I tried to have fun with my game and shows. It was quiet and restful, though I'm still very sneezy and my eyes have trouble staying open and focusing on anything.

But I try to stay hopeful. I try to continue to hope help will come. I try to stay hopeful enough help will come to cover what I need to cover. And I try to stay hopeful somewhere out there I still have a future.

Day 3651 - 6/30

First of many

Today was the first of many days in the library. At the very least it will be three months, barring any unexpected and unknown change. I guess it was ok. The connection was better than it has been for a weekend in a while, so that was good.

But all day there has been a very long list of sads in the back of my mind. I am a few days from being totally out of gas, and that is after recycling this morning. Food money is nearly out, so things will be tight for a week until they cycle. I will be more than

a month overdue on my car insurance tomorrow. I have nothing saved towards the car registration in less than three weeks. And today is the last day of the tenth year of being homeless. 😞 And these are just the immediate things. 😞 That doesn't list all of the things I feel I'm missing out on, especially with it being a season where most celebrate friends and have extra fun with games and such.

But I try to think that even though the list is long, it is actually pretty small in amount. And I guess I had an ok time and am distracted a bit from the sad things. So I continue to try to hope help comes in time. And I continue to hope I can make it to better days.

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Where did I see it?

Wondering where you may have seen my day subtitles before? Here's a list. 😊

Day 3502 - Game; Elder Scrolls Online.