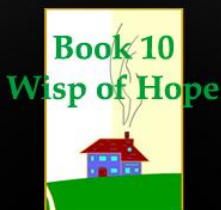


EPIC FAIL

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
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Table of Contents

Week 470

Day 3284 – 6/28 – Chilly

Day 3285 – 6/29 – Quiet

Day 3286 – 6/30 – Half cooked

Year 10

Day 3287 – 7/1/2017 – A passing

Day 3288 – 7/2 – Quiet again

Day 3289 – 7/3 – In body, but not mind

Day 3290 – 7/4 – Uncomfortable

Week 471

Day 3291 – 7/5 – Beginning again

Day 3292 – 7/6 – Worried

Day 3293 – 7/7 – Unfocused

Day 3294 – 7/8 – Another fast day

Day 3295 – 7/9 – Distracted

Day 3296 – 7/10 – So exhausted

Day 3297 – 7/11 – Super sad changes

Week 472

Day 3298 – 7/12 – Worried about me

Day 3299 – 7/13 – The bunny is gone

Day 3300 – 7/14 – Okish

Day 3301 – 7/15 – Not terrible

Day 3302 – 7/16 – Super hot

Day 3303 – 7/17 – Card from dad

Day 3304 – 7/18 – Tingles on my head

Week 473

Day 3305 – 7/19 – Long day

Day 3306 – 7/20 – In my head

Day 3307 – 7/21 – Quiet day

Day 3308 – 7/22 – Partyish

Day 3309 – 7/23 – Half laundry

Day 3310 – 7/24 – Hot chilly

Day 3311 – 7/25 – Quiet and slow

Week 474

Day 3312 – 7/26 – Slightly better

Day 3313 – 7/27 – Hopeful excited

Day 3314 – 7/28 – Panic, fear, distraction

Day 3315 – 7/29 – The crush

Day 3316 – 7/30 – Bad connection

Day 3317 – 7/31 – Not a good spider home

Day 3318 – 8/1 – Hopeful, but worried

Week 475

Day 3319 – 8/2 – Seeking

Day 3320 – 8/3 – Forced triple feature

Day 3321 – 8/4 – Cold hot

Day 3322 – 8/5 – Wrong movie

Day 3323 – 8/6 – Silly game

Day 3324 – 8/7 – Barely sleeping
Day 3325 – 8/8 – Maybe a game thing

Week 476

Day 3326 – 8/9 – Can't imagine it
Day 3327 – 8/10 – Pain
Day 3328 – 8/11 – Meh
Day 3329 – 8/12 – Meh again
Day 3330 – 8/13 – Complainers
Day 3331 – 8/14 – Cold shower
Day 3332 – 8/15 – Less than a week

Week 477

Day 3333 – 8/16 – Well rested?
Day 3334 – 8/17 – Warm shower
Day 3335 – 8/18 – Reduced desire
Day 3336 – 8/19 – Birthday present
Day 3337 – 8/20 – Ok B-day so far
Day 3338 – 8/21 – Hot and stinky
Day 3339 – 8/22 – Rough time sleeping

Week 478

Day 3340 – 8/23 – Thumpity thump
Day 3341 – 8/24 – New zone
Day 3342 – 8/25 – Little laundry
Day 3343 – 8/26 – Hot after
Day 3344 – 8/27 – Super hot
Day 3345 – 8/28 – Pew pew hopeful
Day 3346 – 8/29 – Old days

Week 479

Day 3347 – 8/30 – Panic, again
Day 3348 – 8/31 – Fearful and fast
Day 3349 – 9/1 – Hottest ever
Day 3350 – 9/2 – Over 110
Day 3351 – 9/3 – Still so hot
Day 3352 – 9/4 – Cool enough
Day 3353 – 9/5 – A sign of me

Week 480

Day 3354 – 9/6 – Cooling
Day 3355 – 9/7 – Chilly
Day 3356 – 9/8 – Spilt pills
Day 3357 – 9/9 – The reappearing doughnut
Day 3358 – 9/10 – So hot again, canceled
Day 3359 – 9/11 – 90F and rain
Day 3360 – 9/12 – Waiting

Week 481

Day 3361 – 9/13 – Almost tears
Day 3362 – 9/14 – Still sad
Day 3363 – 9/15 – Dizzy
Day 3364 – 9/16 – Itchy paws
Day 3365 – 9/17 – Maybe sick
Day 3366 – 9/18 – More sneezes
Day 3367 – 9/19 – Ear rain

Week 482

Day 3368 – 9/20 – Haircut-ish
Day 3369 – 9/21 – Winter-ish
Day 3370 – 9/22 – Sneezing
Day 3371 – 9/23 – Shivering
Day 3372 – 9/24 – Other characters
Day 3373 – 9/25 – Not too weird
Day 3374 – 9/26 – Worries

Week 483

Day 3375 – 9/27 – Touchstone
Day 3376 – 9/28 – Sneezing so much
Day 3377 – 9/29 – Almost out... of everything
Day 3378 – 9/30 – Slow and worried
Day 3379 – 10/1 – Of two and a half minds
Day 3380 – 10/2 – Sore thighs
Day 3381 – 10/3 – Still sneezing

Week 484

Day 3382 – 10/4 – Surreal
Day 3383 – 10/5 – Food goes flop
Day 3384 – 10/6 – Forgetting myself
Day 3385 – 10/7 – Movie
Day 3386 – 10/8 – Don't remember it
Day 3387 – 10/9 – Minimum
Day 3388 – 10/10 – Hopeful, but tired

Week 485

Day 3389 – 10/11 – He was missed
Day 3390 – 10/12 – Disconnect
Day 3391 – 10/13 – Just a few
Day 3392 – 10/14 – Outsider
Day 3393 – 10/15 – Forgotten for a day
Day 3394 – 10/16 – Unable
Day 3395 – 10/17 – Feeling sad

Index

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 though 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 ffffffff 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 along 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 pray 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. 😞

Week 476

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.

Week 477

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.

Week 478

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.

Week 479

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.

Week 481

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. 😞

Week 482

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.

Week 483

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.

Week 484

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.

Week 485

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. 😞

Index

Note that since this e-publication appears both on the web and in print form, this index will reference what day an item appears on rather than what page it appears on.

Alpha	3337
Dread	3337
Geek and Sundry	3337
Podcast	3335, 3381

Where did I see it?

Wondering where you may have seen my day subtitles before? Here's a list. 😊

Day 2592 - Song; "Bohemian Rhapsody", Queen, 1976.