

# EPIC FAIL

The Journal of a Homeless Gamer

## Book 14 Distant Memories

by rabb1t  
aka  
Eric Stryker



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**Epic Fail**  
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Book 14  
Distant Memories

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*Week 686*

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- Day 4798 (V: 522) – 8/20 – Not seedless
- Day 4799 (V: 523) – 8/21 – A bit heartbroken
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*Week 687*

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- Day 4804 (V: 528) – 8/26 – The return of hot food
- Day 4805 (V: 529) – 8/27 – Ouchie thing
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- Day 4810 (V: 534) – 9/1 – Maybe juror
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- Day 4812 (V: 536) – 9/3 – Won't be able to handle it
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*Week 689*

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- Day 4818 (V: 542) – 9/9 – Gray again
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- Day 4820 (V: 544) – 9/11 – What day is it?
- Day 4821 (V: 545) – 9/12 – Feeling bad
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*Week 690*

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*Week 691*

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#### Week 695

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#### *Week 706*

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#### *Week 710*

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#### Week 711

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Day 4988 (V: 712) – 2/26 – Beating  
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Day 4991 (V: 715) – 3/1 – Two left

#### Week 714

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Day 4994 (V: 718) – 3/4 – Scratches  
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*Week 717*

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*Week 720*

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*Week 721*

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*Week 723*

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Day 5057 (V: 781) – 5/6 – Rough throat, sneezing  
Day 5058 (V: 782) – 5/7 – Free comics  
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Day 5061 (V: 785) – 5/10 – Probably sniffly Tuesday

#### Week 724

Day 5062 (V: 786) – 5/11 – Cold, hot, cold, hot  
Day 5063 (V: 787) – 5/12 – Super tired  
Day 5064 (V: 788) – 5/13 – Spill day  
Day 5065 (V: 789) – 5/14 – Survey, twitching eyelid  
Day 5066 (V: 790) – 5/15 – Big bill paid  
Day 5067 (V: 791) – 5/16 – Sleepy ok  
Day 5068 (V: 792) – 5/17 – Maybe warm Today

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Day 5069 (V: 793) – 5/18 – Feeling odd  
Day 5070 (V: 794) – 5/19 – Ok feeling  
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Day 5074 (V: 798) – 5/23 – Reverse order day  
Day 5075 (V: 799) – 5/24 – New stuff, old shooter

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Day 5077 (V: 801) – 5/26 – No shower  
Day 5078 (V: 802) – 5/27 – Itchy day  
Day 5079 (V: 803) – 5/28 – Seems cold  
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Day 5081 (V: 805) – 5/30 – Accelerated first half  
Day 5082 (V: 806) – 5/31 – Back in Tuesday

#### Week 727

Day 5083 (V: 807) – 6/1 – Very tired  
Day 5084 (V: 808) – 6/2 – A bit  
Day 5085 (V: 809) – 6/3 – Warm to gray  
Day 5086 (V: 810) – 6/4 – Very homesick  
Day 5087 (V: 811) – 6/5 – Sleepy  
Day 5088 (V: 812) – 6/6 – Slow start  
Day 5089 (V: 813) – 6/7 – Hopefully new stuff

#### Week 728

Day 5090 (V: 814) – 6/8 – Super hot  
Day 5091 (V: 815) – 6/9 – Heat spike, again  
Day 5092 (V: 816) – 6/10 – Long  
Day 5093 (V: 817) – 6/11 – Pretty hot still  
Day 5094 (V: 818) – 6/12 – Hot to rain  
Day 5095 (V: 819) – 6/13 – Warm, not hot  
Day 5096 (V: 820) – 6/14 – Hopefully calm Tuesday

#### Week 729

Day 5097 (V: 821) – 6/15 – Do not feel great  
Day 5098 (V: 822) – 6/16 – Too cold  
Day 5099 (V: 823) – 6/17 – Cold and rainy to fair

Day 5100 (V: 824) – 6/18 – Recycle  
Day 5101 (V: 825) – 6/19 – Bad and shorted  
Day 5102 (V: 826) – 6/20 – Early writing  
Day 5103 (V: 827) – 6/21 – Hopefully nomal

*Week 730*

Day 5104 (V: 828) – 6/22 – Maybe sun sick  
Day 5105 (V: 829) – 6/23 – A bit less hot  
Day 5106 (V: 830) – 6/24 – A kind of big deal  
Day 5107 (V: 831) – 6/25 – Regret  
Day 5108 (V: 832) – 6/26 – Scary drops  
Day 5109 (V: 833) – 6/27 – Chilly  
Day 5110 (V: 834) – 6/28 – Maybe new battery

*Week 731*

Day 5111 (V: 835) – 6/29 – Green light  
Day 5112 (V: 836) – 6/30 – Banned for what?

*Year 15*

Day 5113 (V: 837) – 7/1 – Good sleep, but not feeling great  
Day 5114 (V: 838) – 7/2 – Slow day  
Day 5115 (V: 839) – 7/3 – Feeling very sad  
Day 5116 (V: 840) – 7/4 – Hopeful  
Day 5117 (V: 841) – 7/5 – Hopefully normal Tuesday

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*Where did I see it?*

## **Glossary and Links**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**MOBA** - Multiplayer Online Battle Arena.

**monies** - lolspeak/leetspeak for "money".

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

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

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

**Week 680**

**Day 4754 (V:478) - 7/7  
No shower, no micro, until September**

Today I guess I am pretty extra stressed, as I have been for a few days now. I found out on Tuesday that school is still completely closed in terms of services. When I tried to go in to the pool area a construction guy noticed I was trying to download an app to scan a QCR code to get in. He explained that even though there are classes things aren't open. So I guess the people in the water polo class and other P.E. classes will get sweaty and stinky, and then can't shower and change, they just have to go straight home? Seems weird. So I didn't bother checking if the micro area would be open. If they are locking up the changing rooms for the pool area then they would have no reason to have the microwave machines accessible to visitors.

Because of the extra stress my throat issues are back. In fact, just about 2 hours ago I took too large of a bite for 'dinner' while sneaking it in the library and it kind of got stuck in my throat and I had to go cough up some yuck after. My throat still feels pained and a little bit like it's still stuck in the center of my chest. I think tomorrow I'll be extra careful and just maybe have some grapes, cheese, and chips, which are easy to eat and bite into tiny parts.

I guess today was pretty good other than that. I had fun with watching and chatting in the stream I watch. I had fun with my games, though I didn't get a chance for anything fancy in my MMO. I even laughed out loud a few times.

But still I feel incredibly sad. 😢 And I continue to grow more and more worried about my health issues. 😟

## **Day 4755 (V:479) - 7/8**

### **Lost cheese**

Today I will probably lose cheese. I don't eat all of a small block usually in a single day, which is the smallest I can get, so that 1/4 that remains will probably be lost overnight due to the heat. It doesn't go well unless it's winter. I was tempted to change my grapes, cheese, and chips plan and get a four shredded cheese blend and some burrito shells. That I could eat in a single day. (Well, not all of the 10 burrito shells, but all the cheese.) But with how small of bites I have to take lately I was afraid the rolled burrito shells might be risky. (And that would be impossible to sneak eat in the library. I'd have to pack in and go outside.)

My lips are pretty dry lately. I'm not sure why. I was thinking it might be the extra mask wearing, but then I remembered in the early days I was wearing a mask twice as many hours as I do now, so that can't be it.

I guess today was pretty ok. I feel pretty exhausted, and pretty out of focus because of it. I guess it's just one of those times stress and sadness are getting to me.

But I had a pretty good time in my games today, and I guess that is something. And so I continue to try to hang on.

## **Day 4756 (V:480) - 7/9**

### **Maybe sick**

Today I am maybe sick. I'm congested and a bit sneezy. I'm pretty tired feeling too, but it's tough to tell if that is more or less than usual because I'm tired so often lately.

I guess in good news the library will be opening 3 hours earlier starting next week. I say I guess because it really doesn't change much since I started hanging out outside just across the grass field. I could just as easily be there since it's summer. Though today it got pretty hot, and it was pushing near 90F when I went in. So in these super hot days that would help in temperature, but for eating that would push lunch to 9:30, or I'd have to pack it up and take it downstairs outside. Which again, it feels like it might just be easier

to stay outside. But as with everything I will just have to adapt and see how it goes, and see how I feel about things, in the coming days.

Today was a bit weird as the outside bathroom was locked in the morning. So what would have been a morning shave turned into one around 12:30, where I was worried people might come in and interrupt things. I guess it worked out ok, no one came in, but I felt like I had to rush.

I am congested and sneezy, extremely tired, sad the connection started getting bad and started cutting things off an hour early, but as always, all I can do is try my best one day at a time. And hopefully with these very small steps I can eventually make it through to better days.

## **Day 4757 (V:481) - 7/10**

### **Very hungry**

Today I am very hungry, but barely eating. I think maybe my body wants things I can't have. I barely touched lunch chicken and chips, yet I was extremely hungry and didn't feel filled even when I felt full after eating.

I guess the day was ok. I had a few chances for fancy raids, but didn't get anything I needed. Though I did have a good time with my game things that I did.

Maybe with more things opening I can find something affordable my tummy would be happy eating and get some of the things I've been missing. But until I find them, all I can do is try to hang on.

## **Day 4758 (V:482) - 7/11**

### **Outside day**

Today felt weird for some reason. I was outside all day because the library is closed on Sundays, but I've been outside in that spot like 10 months now. For some reason it felt odd today, like it was something different.

I guess for what my sad life is though, today was pretty good. I had a good time in my games. I even got a chance for a fancy raid and got a couple of things I needed. I only need one more thing before a big goal is complete.

I feel both happy and sad. I did laugh a few times today, but I always feel very sad that my life is what it has become. And I fear both loss of what little remains, and lingering health issues or things lost during this time, that I may never get back. I continue to try to hang on as best as I can though. There is so little I can change, especially these days.

## **Day 4759 (V:483) - 7/12**

### **Almost all inside**

Today almost all of my 'day' part of my day was inside. It was... odd. I guess in a way it felt like the old days, but it kind of messed with my timing since I went in three hours early.

I guess I had a good time in my games. Though I really only did my MMO. Again, being off on timing threw me off on many things. I'm even rushing to finish this now before needing to leave the library to try and get it posted. It may have to get posted much later than usual.

I guess the day was ok though all things considered. Though I feel a bit weird with the shift, I hope I'll get used to it pretty quickly as it is basically my old schedule.

## **Day 4760 (V:484) - 7/13**

### **Unknown extended Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to expect. I'll have the extra hours inside instead of outside, but I'm not sure anything will really be different other than that. At least it's pretty quiet and not many know about the earlier hours, at least not yet.

Year 14 is only beginning, but we still seem very far from the ways of the before world. And I still feel further than ever from being back in a home with a normal life. ☹

### **Day 4761 (V:485) - 7/14**

#### **Tired**

Today I am very tired. I have been for a few days now, along with being very congested and a bit sneezy. If it's a cold it hasn't really gotten worse, but it's not really going away. It's probably just allergies.

Thankfully the library is still pretty quiet. It doesn't really start to get busy until about noon, and even then it's not until about 2 that it starts to get 50-65% full in my area. For some reason people don't really sit at my table. I'd guess because of my laptop cooling fan. It's not super loud, but for a library it's not super quiet either. It might also not be because of me, but because my table is way at the end of the table row. I'm sure it's not because of an icky smell, because people don't get close enough to have smelled me. I am glad I don't seem to bother people with my typing on my keyboard. The squishy base one on the laptop is totally silent, but a literal pain to use compared to the mechanical one. It takes way more force to push the squishy keys. It seems not the best though because of the amount of desk space. It's a pretty tight fit. As always, all I can do is see what my limited options are and try and pick the best one for me.

I'm pretty exhausted today, but I had fun with my games and a show. And I tried my best to continue to hang on.

### **Day 4762 (V:486) - 7/15**

#### **Don't know what to say**

Today I don't really know what to say. I had an ok time with my games and show, which doesn't always happen with my sad feelings. My tummy was upset for a while because I ate lunch in the morning before going into the library. It is easier than trying to sneak lunch, and technically only about an hour earlier than normal. Though it's a weird thought to be 'having lunch' at 9:30.

I do feel a bit more relaxed, but also not. My back has been rather stiff lately, and I am still taking the tiniest of bites just in case. I'm less sneezy, but still just as snifflly and exhausted.

I guess today was pretty good, but it still seems like it is taking all my strength just to try and hang on lately. 😞

## **Day 4763 (V:487) - 7/16**

### **Surprise inside**

Today I got some unexpected inside time. I had a pretty good time at the library, though things got a little wobbly at the end of the day.

In the evening I got to be sheltered inside, which meant I could watch a couple of shows at good volume and have the screen unblocked for the best view. (Though the privacy screen doesn't really hurt the image too much, it does dull the colors and brightness a bit.) And I get to sleep in, which is rare.

So today turned into a surprise better day.

## **Day 4764 (V:488) - 7/17**

### **Inside again**

Today I got to be inside again. I got to have fun with my games and a show. In the evening I got a cooked dinner, shower, and watched a movie.

Today was another good sheltered day, but when I wake up I'll be back to my regular homeless life. 😞

## **Day 4765 (V:489) - 7/18**

### **Hot again**

Today I was too hot in regular jeans. I guess in the few days I was inside it went from 75F back up to about 85F. And since the library is closed on Sundays, I was out in the heat all day. Now in the evening I'm getting a bit sweaty in my car, but there may be some hope as gray clouds and a slight breeze is starting now that we are in very early evening.

I guess I had a pretty good time with my games and shows. I didn't get a chance for anything fancy though, and I felt a bit lonely.

I guess for being back out to a regular homeless life I survived ok.

## **Day 4766 (V:490) - 7/19**

### **A bit closed throat**

Today my throat is a bit closed again. I have to take the tiniest bites of food to be careful. Drinking seems normal though, so it's not the worst. My back is very stiff and pained too. Though only better food and reduced stress will help my throat. I may have to find a way to at least do minimal stretching for my back and legs. They have been very stiff and bad lately.

I guess I'm ok other than that, though I feel exhausted. I feel pretty sad and lonely, though I think it's more just heartbroken at the thought of things not getting better. 😞 Or if things do, that there will be permanent loss and reminder of these sad days. But all I can do is try to continue to hang on.

## **Day 4767 (V:491) - 7/20**

### **Library Tuesday**

Today I expect will be just another regular inside the library most of the time Tuesday. I don't expect anything different, hopefully nothing bad, always hope for something good. But really it will probably just be yet another homeless day.

### **Day 4768 (V:492) - 7/21**

#### **Quiet day**

Today more than anything, I suppose, was a quiet day. There weren't very many at the library until about 2. When I went in I was actually the only one waiting outside to do so. In my game there was almost no one doing fancy raids, and I couldn't find one I needed.

My throat is still pretty tight. I'm still pretty sniffly and congested feeling. I'm still pretty sleepy and exhausted feeling. And I feel pretty sad, alone, and worried about my health and my future. 😞

### **Day 4769 (V:493) - 7/22**

#### **Nice compliment**

Today has been a bit weird. In the stream I watch in the morning I thought I was having fun and chatting and such, and someone made an odd comment about something I said that didn't feel great. I kind of felt like just leaving the stream and not watching anymore.

I had to get up about an hour early, and so I was super tired, which meant I got hungry early, which meant I ate before going into the library. I don't exactly know why, maybe it was something I ate, but a couple hours later I started not feeling great. Maybe it was a combination of the food and getting up early, but my tummy felt a bit upset. I felt a bit headache. And I started to feel just a bit dizzy. If I had the opportunity, I would have logged out and just laid down for a bit.

But a little later I was looking for fancy raids in my game and there was some chat. In an extremely rare surprise someone 'backed me up' in a 'they trusted my word and knowledge' kind of way. It was super nice. 😊 Normally because I speak 'in character' people just... give me poop, or devalue my opinions or me, which is dumb since the way

they speak is kind of a second language, which means the player must be smart enough to understand it. So, it was super nice to hear something nice about me instead.  A friend also sent me a super cute in game pet, so that was very nice too.

I guess now in early evening I feel better. But I'm still a bit exhausted, and a bit congested in my lungs. I hope I'll be ok. And I try my best to hang on.

## **Day 4770 (V:494) - 7/23**

### **Ok-ish, sad-ish**

Today I feel partly ok and partly sad. I guess the sad feelings aren't anything new really. Just the same heartbroken homesick and worried about my health feelings. I played just a little with some people I don't see much in game, so that was fun. I guess overall what enjoyment I had was blocked by my persistent sad feelings, so overall it's just a neutral slightly sad feeling.

I took the tiniest of food bites to be careful of my throat issue, much like the tiniest bites of life I can have. And I try to continue to hang on.

## **Day 4771 (V:495) - 7/24**

### **Whole new world**

Today was a little different. I am peeking at a new MMO that I may play suuuupper casually. I know it won't replace my current MMO because apparently a big part of this one's focus is PvP. But since it has PvE it may be interesting to check out its lore and world. It is doing something quite different from the usual 'fantasy', so that is pretty appealing. There is a beta happening for about another week, so I'm deciding if I really want it when it launches at the end of August. I only played about 2 hours today, but it seems not ready for launch. Things are a bit 'jenky'. I'll see though. Even at just a couple hours a day for a week that's a pretty long peek.

I guess today was ok. Things seemed quiet and slow, which is nice. Nothing special happened in my regular MMO though, so it was kind of disappointing. But I guess, overall, I hung on ok today.

## **Day 4773 (V:497) - 7/26**

### **Feeling... slow**

Today I feel... slow? The day is gray and rainy looking. I feel very tired. I am hungry, but my throat is still having issues, so I'm just taking small meals with tiny bites. I feel like if I were to lay down I'd fall right to sleep.

I guess things have been ok. The plug outside the library wasn't fixed, but that doesn't surprise me. The connection has been ok and the library has been pretty quiet so far today, so I guess it's an ok day. But I feel very sleepy, and as always, still a bit sad overall.

## **Day 4774 (V:498) - 7/27**

### **Maybe gray Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to expect. Monday was pretty gray and rainy looking, very odd for summer. Hopefully I can sleep ok and not have bad dreams. And hopefully today will be an ok day.

### **Day 4775 (V:499) - 7/28**

#### **Feels bad inside**

Today I feel kind of bad inside, mostly in my chest. I don't know if it's just the continuing throat/tummy issue, or if it's just physical effects of a deep depression. I don't really feel any more sad than usual, so I don't think it's extra depression. But with everything going on it might be.

There are many things to distract me, but I still feel very sad and heartbroken. And it doesn't feel like much will change with everything going on in the world.

### **Day 4776 (V:500) - 7/29**

#### **Feeling hungry**

Today I am feeling pretty hungry, so I guess that is something. So often lately I have little or no appetite. I feel congested, tired, and headache, so I may have a cold. There was no stream in the morning to watch and won't be tomorrow either, so that was odd. But it was kind of nice to have things quiet. Normally I prefer quiet, but with my life so sad it seems like I need to be distracted more often than not so I don't feel too sad.

I guess today was ok though. Things weren't quiet, they could have been better, but I suppose they could have been much worse. I suppose I survived another day, and so that is something.

### **Day 4777 (V:501) - 7/30**

#### **Waaaggg**

Today was probably pretty good. I played quite a bit in the beta for the new casual MMO so I could get into a dungeon. The people weren't using tactics at all. Everyone was just all 'waaaggg' attacking crazy out of control. I joined as a tank but I never got the

chance to pull or establish any threat. I guess everyone lived, so it was ok, but it was the total opposite of what I expected. The important thing is, yes, it's fun enough to keep post launch. I've already spent 30 hours playing, and I figured at \$40 if I play even just 40 hours it would be fair at that price. At the rate it's going I think I'll probably hit 100+ hours post launch before I get to max level.

I feel not the best though physically. I'm congested, had a few sneezes, a tiny bit dizzy, and pretty tired. If I do have a cold I think my symptoms are lessening pretty quickly. Though knowing my health it could be a month before I'm fully recovered.

But I guess I hung on ok. And hopefully I can tomorrow too.

## **Day 4778 (V:502) - 7/31**

### **Feels weird**

Today feels weird. It's early evening and I'm in my night spot, but it really feels like it's around 2. I don't know why it feels like only half the time has passed since going in the library, but I guess maybe that's a good thing?

I guess I was pretty distracted with my game things and 'having a good time', but I still felt pretty sad overall. My eyes are half closed from exhaustion, my chest feels congested, and while I don't think I've been sneezing it feels like I need to. I guess though I'm warm enough and have enough food, and that is something.

## **Day 4779 (V:503) - 8/1**

### **Definitely sick**

Today I am definitely sick feeling. I'm pretty sure the lady that sat at the library table Tuesday made me sick. Even though I always had my mask on she was frequently half wearing hers, or not at all, clearing her throat every couple of minutes, and maybe every 15 coughing horribly into a napkin without her mask on at all. She was like that the week before when I saw her the first time. If I ever see her again I'll be like, 'no, don't sit

here.' And if she pushes it I'll let the library kick her out. You aren't supposed to be there if you are sick.

So today I felt pretty congested, coughed a decent amount, kind of feel like throwing up, and maybe a bit chilled? I think it was supposed to be in the 80s, and even though I was in the shade where it was cooler, I never took off my hoodie or long shirt all day.

I guess I held on ok other than that. I still don't like being in the back of the building. It does give me 2 extra hours or more of shade since the sun never goes there, so I don't have a blinding hour, but the ground is gross with yuck on it, and just over the railing if you look directly down you can usually see the person who is living downstairs.

But I guess it was warm. I had enough to eat. And I was in relatively ok health. And so hopefully I can continue to hang on.

## **Day 4780 (V:504) - 8/2**

### **Feeling sicker, hurting legs**

Today I am feeling a bit sicker. I guess I feel more ok than I did this morning, but I am super congested in my lungs and feel coughy. Thankfully the library air circulation is helping so I can usually not cough, so I'm not too bad. I don't know if it's related, but my upper thighs hurt a ton. It feels like I've walked up like 30 flights of stairs.

I guess emotionally I feel a bit better. I'm a bit ahead on doing my podcast, so I guess I feel good about that. Though I really still wonder if anyone cares. I have no idea how many are listening, and views for videos is averaging at 4, of which my checking the video is usually one.

As always all I can do is try to hang on.

## **Day 4781 (V:505) - 8/3**

### **Hopefully clear**

Today hopefully my cold will clear up a bit. If I see that lady again I will tell her not to sit at my table. I'm pretty sure she's only come on Tuesdays before.

I don't know what to expect for today. It's just another homeless day with nothing special. Hopefully I can continue to hang on ok.

**Day 4782 (V:506) - 8/4**  
**Unexpected**

Today I have some unexpected inside time, so I am safe and ... comfortable enough. It's way more comfortable emotionally and in terms of physical safety, but not being at the library with A.C. it has been pretty warm. It hasn't been too hot yet, but if it were 10 degrees cooler that would be a lot better.

I also decided to check the college schedule even though I can't sign up for anything until the end of the month. But it looks like they are still almost entirely closed and will pretty much remain online only at least next quarter, which is heartbreaking news as it means no shower or cooked food through at least the end of the year. So I'll have to seriously weigh if I should or even can take classes, because the classes I have left to take would be extremely difficult or impossible to take online.

I guess today has been pretty good. The beta for the new MMO has closed, so I miss that. What is even more sad is there was an announcement that due to beta feedback they are delaying launch another month from the end of this month to the end of next. While that isn't a super long time, my current MMO is kind of stagnating, as I just do daily things for about an hour, and then I just sit waiting sometimes hours for raids that I don't usually get invites to.

But I guess my day has been good other than that. I have enough food. I got to sleep in. I have a movie to watch. I am comfortable enough, though it's a bit warm. And overall even though I'm not in a home, being where I am is overall better than the library. And so hanging on today was a bit easier.

## **Day 4783 (V:507) - 8/5**

### **A bit better**

Today feels a bit better. I'm sheltered still, so it's been pretty warm, but private. I got a special food and have a live show I get to watch that I don't normally get to watch. So hanging on is a bit easier today.

## **Day 4784 (V:508) - 8/6**

### **Calm hot day**

Today was a pretty calm, but hot day. I slept in. I played my game. I tried to not be too hot, as it got super hot. In the evening I got a shower and got to watch a movie. Apparently I can do laundry tomorrow, so I at least will be able to sleep in again and have all day and evening tomorrow as well.

I do miss my new MMO quite a bit. It was both oddly peaceful and new and different in a way that got my brain thinking 'what about this build', 'what about trying this thing.' With the announced delay until the end of September that will be a long wait. My current/old MMO is still great, but now doing it for about 7 years there isn't much for me to do unless it's near a new content drop. So, about 3 of every 4 months I'm just basically doing the same things as before.

But today was a bit easier to hang on.

## **Day 4785 (V:509) - 8/7**

### **Unexpected amount**

Today has been pretty good so far. I slept quite a bit, apparently about 10 hours, so it's good my body caught up a bit. I had fun with my regular MMO, but after doing the daily things I got a bit sad just sitting and not finding a raid. That is when I would have swapped to my new MMO. And with it not coming out for another 7.5 more weeks that will be a rough wait.

I got an early birthday card with money from dad and it was much bigger than usual. No reason given as to why it was more, so maybe he is worried about me with everything going on, as giving money was always his way of showing that. Or maybe he is worried about his own end, because if he lives to his dad's age he only has about 6 years left. I expect I'll wind up saving most of it, but it would mean if I wanted to get a game I wouldn't have to really worry about the cost. There isn't anything new I really want that couldn't be gotten later on sale though, so maybe I'll see if any sales happen and get something older for cheap.

But even though I'm getting pretty hot now, today has been pretty good, and a bit easier to hang on.

## **Day 4786 (V:510) - 8/8** **Back out**

Today I will be back out in the evening. It's not like it wasn't expected. And I suppose I'm more used to being out now than being in with it happening so rarely. But I worry about my health long-term, especially now with everything going on and the extra news that things won't be changing for me for at least 5 more months. ☹

I suppose the day was pretty good though. I got to sleep in, and while I didn't sleep a ton I do think I slept 9 hours. I played my MMO until I was tired of just standing around waiting for a raid that wasn't likely to happen. I had plenty of food, though it wasn't great, just ready to eat lunch meat stuff. I did grab a bit of grapes at the store last night though, so I did have that at least. So I hung on a bit easier today, but tomorrow things will return to my regular homeless life. 😊

## **Day 4787 (V:511) - 8/9**

**No class**

Today has been ok, I suppose. I'm back to regular homeless life in the library. I suppose it's much cooler than where I was, and I can go to the bathroom whenever I want/need. I guess that's something.

I decided to check what classes were when and what my options might be in a few weeks when I can sign up. It seems my options are none. Classes overall are cut to about half the normal offerings, and of the ones I need there really is only one since other classes require I have taken that one. And that one is only offered twice this upcoming quarter (normally it has 4-5 offerings) and both of those show as already full, so there would be no way I could get in when I'm allowed to sign up in a few weeks since I don't have 'priority registration'.

So, I guess for good or bad, like it or not, it seems my life won't change for at least 5 months. (Not counting anything bad happening that's unexpected, or things like financial aid relentlessly coming after me for not making payments or postponing with more classes.)

I suppose in a way I feel even more out of control in my life usual. But in a way, assuming nothing bad results of it, I kind of feel 'better' being reasonably isolated in the library and not returning to a more 'regular life' surrounded by hundreds of people going to and from class.

## **Day 4788 (V:512) - 8/10**

**Hopefully calm Tuesday**

Today will hopefully be calm and quiet. The library has been pretty calm and quiet lately. Usually half the day will pass before someone sits near me. And since people are required to wear masks I feel... safe enough.

Hopefully I can continue to feel safe-ish, and find comfort in the few things I have left. And hopefully I can continue to hang on.

**Day 4789 (V:513) - 8/11**  
**Yummy spaghetti smell**

Tonight in my evening spot I'm pretty hot and the windows are open. I can smell yummy spaghetti smell coming from someone's home close by. It makes me sad I can't have it. 😞 I miss my basic cooked foods, and for whatever reason I probably miss spaghetti the most.

I guess today was ok. I played my MMO daily things for about an hour. Then basically for the next 2 I just sat and did little nothings while looking for a raid. In 7 weeks I can put such 'otherwise wasted' time like that to better use in my new MMO.

I'm pretty extra sad about the school news. I mean, yeah, I don't know if I'm ready to go back to somewhere with a bunch of people in tight physical proximity. But these current limitations mean I won't ever get the classes that I really need to continue. And with things like recent job searches coming up with things at a minimum of 30 miles away (and often more like 400+) it doesn't help me feel better.

I guess all things considered it could be worse, and I did hang on ok, as sad as I was. And hopefully I can continue to hang on.

**Day 4790 (V:514) - 8/12**  
**Gray and headachey**

Today the world is gray again and I have had a bit of a headache most of the day. It's pretty mild by comparison to most, but I'm exhausted, and so the headache feels... more than it is. I'm a bit sad too, so that probably doesn't help.

I guess overall things are ok enough... and so I held on ok.

## **Day 4791 (V:515) - 8/13**

### **A day**

Today was a day. There wasn't much to say about it. In the morning someone came in to the bathroom when I was shaving, but they came in through the employee door, so I had plenty of time to duck into the stall while I heard their keys jingling and they undid the lock. I don't even think they knew I was there. They didn't seem to pay any attention.

I was also very distracted today and my timing was all thrown off. But it didn't really matter. I had no specific times that I needed to do anything. And nothing special happened.

But I guess I held on ok. It was pretty warm, but looks very gray. So hopefully the days ahead will cool, and tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 4792 (V:516) - 8/14**

### **Feeling heavy**

Today for some reason I feel heavy. I guess I feel like I weigh 40 pounds heavier than I am. Mostly it's in walking more than anything else. I feel pretty regular sitting still. I don't know what this is.

Today was slow. I played my MMO, but was out of things to do before noon. I looked and looked for raids, but no one was doing one, especially the ones I need. In the past two weeks or so people have kind of stopped doing them. I don't know if it's that school has started up again, or if people are just doing things with guilds, or what.

I'm extremely tired, pretty sad, really would like a shower, spaghetti with garlic bread, or a burrito with just a bit of beef, mixed cheese, green onions, and a bit of rice. But I have none of these. But, I guess I made it through the day.

## **Day 4793 (V:517) - 8/15**

### **Super hot**

Today is super hot. Not so hot I had to worry about my system, as I went to the building back and had constant shade. It showed 85F at the peak, but it felt 10F cooler in the shade.

I guess I had an ok time today. I played my MMO and found no raids, so again I was pretty much done with things by about noon. I watched some stuff, and played a bit of my card game. It's fun, but I don't know. I struggle and struggle every season and only stay in the lower ranks. I don't know if I'll fully quit because it rewards really well for play, but I may at least have to consider not playing ranked because I'm rarely having fun struggling so much at such a low rank.

I guess I got a bit of a bad deal with food. I got some chicken and it didn't sit well in my tummy. I actually threw out about \$1 of it because it made me feel icky. I don't know if the store isn't cooking it right or what, but lately a lot of the time that chicken just wrecks me.

I guess overall today was ok. It's starting into evening and it's starting to cool off, so that at least is something.

## **Day 4794 (V:518) - 8/16**

### **Half a burrito**

Today I have half a burrito for food. I got the shell, cheese, and some green onions, which are super fresh and tasty. 😊 I had a bit too many for lunch though, which upset my tummy a bit, but I'm ok now. It came in a pack of 10, so I'm trying to have as many as I can, as I don't know if they will survive through the night or not. Honestly though with as much as these parts cost individually it probably would have been cheaper to get it from the restaurant (that serves the college.) Those are about \$8 from what I recall and pretty much a whole day of food for me. I paid more than that for the individual parts. I don't know where the restaurant is, but it must be close to the college. I do suppose I couldn't use my food stamp money for that, so that would be a big downside.

I did my fancy raid in my MMO and completed my big goal. It's weird to think I finally did the thing. Now I have daily things and that is really it until the next DLC. Which I guess is rumored for the end of the month, but I'm not sure if that has an official date or not. I don't recall seeing a date.

But today my tummy is pretty happy. I feel heavy again though, and my legs and back hurt a lot. I'm not sure what is up with that. But I guess today I held on a little easier.

## **Day 4795 (V:519) - 8/17**

### **Cooler Tuesday**

Hopefully today will be a cooler Tuesday. It's been pretty extra hot lately. But in the evenings it's been gray, so I'm still hoping that means things will calm down to a reasonable warm.

There are definitely no kids at the library. I guess starting this week the chance of that disappeared, as I saw a stream of little ones and parents walking down the street yesterday when I got outside the library.

Whatever today holds, hopefully I can try to stay warm enough, have enough food, and maybe relax a little. My life has far too much stress and sadness. 

### **Day 4796 (V:520) - 8/18**

#### **Super cold**

Today it has been dark gray all day and the sun never fully showed. I'd be surprised if the temperature ever got over 75F.

I guess today was ok. My mind as been a similar dull gray, feeling half asleep, and half confused, all day. My eyelids have been barely half open this past week. And when looking at my screen I have a hard time focusing on even half of it.

But I guess there was one good side effect, and that's the day passed quickly. And I had a pretty ok time I guess. And so, I continue to hang on.

### **Day 4797 (V:521) - 8/19**

#### **Blood red**

Today was ok, I guess. Honestly I don't remember much of it. I did my daily MMO things and left not too long after, since there isn't much reason to stick around after. The new DLC has a date of the 9th, so when that comes out there will be new things for me to get. But until then I basically have everything I need.

I didn't remember what I did after that very much. I watched some stuff. I played my card game, which today didn't seem quite as upsetting, but that was about it.

Yesterday the sun was blood red in the evening. I wonder if some stuff is trapped in the clouds. There are some fires on our coast, so I suppose it's possible it's not just rain clouds, but smoke as well. Though the fires aren't that close I don't think.

But I suppose I made it through the day, and hopefully I can continue on ok.

## **Day 4798 (V:522) - 8/20**

### **Not seedless**

Today I had some terrible grapes. They were supposed to be seedless, but every other grape I ate I wound up spitting stuff out. It was super gross and I wound up tossing about 15% of them, which was pretty pricy to do. 😞 I only had that for lunch too, as I decided to get a nice fancy food for a homeless birthday dinner.

I guess today was ok, but my mood feels much like the murky gray that the sky is. It's still I guess partly smoky. It's made me sneeze a few times these past few days, but nothing too bad. There was some well-wishing for my birthday, but nothing extremely unusual. So I try to keep my spirits up as best as I can, and I try to continue to hang on.

## **Day 4799 (V:523) - 8/21**

### **A bit heartbroken**

Today I feel a bit heartbroken. In the morning I decided to do something I don't normally do. I decided to return a game I'd gotten for myself for my birthday. It was a new version of an old-school arcade game. And while I knew it wouldn't be something I'd play hundreds of hours, after less than 1.25 I'd finished the single player levels. And the bulk of the game after that is online play against or with others. But it just didn't seem super interesting to me, and even if it were the library firewall blocked the online connection. So I'd have to use my super limited VPN time to break through to play, which I'd much rather use playing other things. So, with less than 2 hours played total, I asked for a refund. They granted it and the money return is pending, which is good as it's \$30. If it had been half that I would have kept it, but at \$30 that's way too high for something I don't even think I'd play an hour a month with my current limitations.

My heart feels extra bad lately. I hope I'm ok. I don't feel sick exactly, nor faint, nor have any other odd effects. It just... feels bad around my heart, and maybe in it.

The day overall was bad after the morning too. When I got in to the library it barely had a connection. I struggled through doing my daily things in my MMO, but after that it really just couldn't stay connected. I had stuff to watch, so it was ok. But it was,

again, heartbreaking to not have a choice on what to do. It mostly buffered video ok, so I suppose I didn't lose too much.

So overall today I feel bad, sad, and heartbroken; emotionally and physically.

## **Day 4800 (V:524) - 8/22**

### **Guess it was quiet**

Today was, I guess, quiet. I was in the back of the building where people don't really go by me. I saw two people walk past me, and two other groups turn and not pass me, which I'm glad of. Especially since one was the guy who, for the past two weeks on Sunday, has walked around me in circles a dozen times. Maybe he finally got the hint that because I put my mask on I'm not comfortable with him doing that.

I did my daily MMO things and then not much other gaming for the day. The connection was bad again and it was disconnecting me for a minute about every 20 minutes, so it's not fun to try and play things when that's happening. A few days ago I decided to do a 'month of movies' for my birthday, so I have several TV series to catch up on with the streaming service I signed up for, so I had plenty to watch. (Which buffers, so brief interruptions like that don't usually affect it.)

I guess the day was ok. It was pretty quiet. It was a bit gray, so the weather was calm and cool. My heart still feels not the best, though I think it's more that there's stuff around it than the heart itself is bad. It's either just an extreme level of my gas/tummy issue, or it's a combination of congestion due to a cold. I've felt pretty congested in my lungs and have sneezed or coughed a few times a day for the past few days.

I guess I held on ok for the day. Hopefully I'll feel better soon, and tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 4801 (V:525) - 8/23**

### **Unexpected DLC**

Today my MMO got its expansion, which is weird because I thought I saw that it was coming out on the 9th. I guess maybe I saw something else? Or that is an oddly delayed console date? Historically console has gotten the patches and expansions one week after PC, but that date is 2.5 weeks, so that seems odd if that's correct.

I guess I'm ok. I feel very super tired. I had a lot of trouble getting to sleep last night for some reason. My heart issue doesn't seem as bad today. And thinking about it last night when it was feeling bad I thought it must be my tummy issue and my esophagus, not my heart. The weird feeling is in the center, behind my breastbone, and the heart is on the left side, so I'd think if it were a heart issue it wouldn't feel weird in that spot.

I guess things seem ok today. It's pretty cold in the library though, so I may not wear shorts anymore. I'm only in the hot times a few hours a day, and lately it hasn't been getting hot.

So today I hope to continue to feel better, and hopefully I can continue on to better days.

## **Day 4802 (V:526) - 8/24**

### **Different Tuesday**

Today may be slightly different, at least in my MMO. I will have my new DLC dungeons so there are things I'll be trying to get. I don't know what else the day will hold though. I don't really expect anything special or unusual. So I try my best to stay as calm and healthy as I can in these very terrible times. And hopefully I can continue to hang on.

**Day 4803 (V:527) - 8/25**  
**Mostly just a day**

Today was mostly just a day. It went pretty much as expected. Though I did have a bit more to do in terms of game stuff, as a few things launched lately, so I had plenty to play.

The throat or maybe heart issue seems better today. Though there was some pretty extreme tooth pain. One is nearly gone, so it is hurting a lot lately, and another has gotten a big cavity near the top, so that one hurts off and on. But now in the evening those both seem to have settled to 'normal' levels of pain.

I was again thinking how I can't even conceive of a life where I'm not in some kind of pain. But I keep hoping, maybe, someday, I'll see such a time.

**Day 4804 (V:528) - 8/26**  
**The return of hot food**

Today, mostly because it was my birthday recently, and so I had some gift money, I decided to detour to the fancy food store to see if the open hot food area had any new offerings. I know the cheap food store started serving hot soup again a few months ago, so I figured maybe the fancy food store put more out. To my surprise the hot food area was all up (as was the cold food area.) Some areas are a bit different, in that there were only a couple of meats, and now several areas have hot sandwiches that are individually wrapped, but many of my old choices were there. Well, that sounds like a lot, but of all the food I only eat about six, so 'many' is about three. There were different options than the food I previously got, but they do different things on different days. I think Saturday was my usual day in the before time. So my options for things like spaghetti may be a more realistic option these days. So today I had a super yummy dinner. 😊

The day overall was pretty good. It seemed to pass pretty quickly. I think that is because there are extra things going on in my games, so I have a lot extra to do. But I wasn't too sad, of course I was a bit sad, I usually am even on the 'best' days. And my tooth pain has settled, so I just took one pain medicine dose in the morning and that was it.

So today was ok. But hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 4805 (V:529) - 8/27**

### **Ouchie thing**

Today there is an ouchie thing on my back. I noticed it late yesterday, but today it seems to sort of bother me. I don't know what it is. I'd guess it's a bite or irritated scratched spot. If it continues to hurt I'll see if I can maybe get a picture of it. Though seeing it really won't help much I guess.

The heat seems to be returning. It was cooler for a while there, but I think I saw it was roughly in the high 80s today. Thankfully my time in the library avoids most of it.

Tomorrow I'm supposed to check on jury duty. I'd gotten a notice for that about a month ago and actually forgot it was maybe a thing until a few days ago. I signed up at the website, so theoretically it should automatically email me info. I guess tomorrow is the soonest I can check. I really hope I don't have to do that. I'm not really opposed to the idea in general, but with everything going on I'd rather not be sitting in a juror box a few feet from 11 others. I am already worried enough going to the library (where commonly only 0-2 people are within 10 feet of me.)

But today I managed to hang on, and hopefully I'll have good news that I'm 'dismissed from duty' in the morning and I can stop worrying about jury duty. And so, I try my best to hang on.

## **Day 4806 (V:530) - 8/28**

### **Feels weird**

Today my chest feels weird, or more specifically the inside along my ribs. I don't quite know how to describe it. To try, I could describe it in two ways. One is like I've been super punched in the center of my chest and it shattered the sides of my ribs. The other is that I haven't eaten in like 24 or more hours. But both of those are too intense, as maybe it only feels about 10% as 'intense' as those sound. I probably just slept on my side wrong and so I sprained the sides and center.

I guess other than that it was a pretty regular day. The connection at the library was still a little bad, but not as bad as it has been lately. The weather has gotten super hot again. It's probably in the high 80s now in the early evening, and peaked at the mid 90s. My jury duty is on hold. I have to "check between noon and 1 PM" on Monday to see if there is a status change. Which usually means I'll be officially dismissed at that point. (At least it has the last 2 times I had something similar.)

I guess today wasn't terrible, but for a few reasons it could have been better. So I try to hang on, and hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 4807 (V:531) - 8/29**

### **Cooler, sad Sunday**

Today is much cooler than yesterday. I don't know how hot it got, but I think it was only in the high 80s for most of the day, only briefly getting hotter. In my spot in the 'back' of the building I was shaded all of my time there, so it felt 5-10F cooler than it was.

The day was a bit sadder though. Being Sunday and needing to be in the back because they still haven't restored power to the side I used to sit on, that meant I was very aware of the homeless guy who must live in the bottom area of the building. His stuff was scattered all over the tables when I looked over the balcony near where I sit. I suppose he's easy enough to ignore, but every now and then I hear his noise and that reminds me he's down there, which of course reminds me I hear that because I am homeless and being here is the best option.

I guess the day wasn't really bad other than that. The connection was a bit wobbly in the morning, but not too bad, and it cleared by noon. I had enough food, though it wasn't great. And I had a craving for some cheese I've been getting lately, but I'd be outside today and it would not at all survive in hot weather, so Sundays are not a cheese day. At least not until we are in cooler weather again.

Not much happened today. I did get some 'likes' on a comment I made, so that was nice to see. I got to play my games and watch shows without really being disturbed, so that was good.

So I guess, today I hung on ok.

## **Day 4808 (V:532) - 8/30**

### **Warm outside**

Today it is warm outside. I had to go out of the library out to the car to get something, so it was nice and warm. Inside the library is pretty chilly. I'm considering putting regular pants on instead of shorts because most of the warm part of the day I'm inside, and cold from too much air conditioning.

I guess today has been pretty calm and quiet so far. There is a slightly less than regular number of people here. It's early afternoon and there are only 2 people at most tables around me. (There can be 4 per table.)

I guess I'm ok so far today. Though I'm pretty stressed as the jury thing said I need to check again after 5. I wish they would hurry up and fully dismiss me. Worrying if I may or may not go to a court place is very stressful in my life. 😞 I guess other than that I am ok and continue to hang on.

## **Day 4809 (V:533) - 8/31**

### **Hopefully regular Tuesday**

Today will hopefully be a pretty regular Tuesday. Hopefully I won't have to do court stuff. Hopefully the library connection will be good. And hopefully everything will

be calm and restful, and I can continue to be safe and healthy as I can during these terrible times.

**Day 4810 (V:534) - 9/1**  
**Maybe juror**

Today was, I guess, not as bad as I thought it would be. I had to go for jury duty at 1:30. Since I didn't want to drive my car on the freeway to keep its load light, I left about 1.5 hours early for the estimated 20-30 minute drive. I think it was right around 25 minutes, so without traffic it was a good estimate. I had to go into a room full of possible jurors, sitting one chair apart, to wait to be called. Then was called into an actual courtroom maybe 30 minutes later. Of course, all the courtroom TV show themes played in my head as I walked in. It was pretty surreal. The judge did a big presentation for maybe 30 minutes going over the rough details of things and how serving is a great honor. Then we were given a pretty big questionnaire, I'd guess about 60 questions. If they can read mine, I would guess this will give them more of an idea about my background and if I should be immediately dismissed based on that information. I have to go back for more questions if I'm not in a touch over two weeks.

My most recent car theory was if I avoid going fast I could go longer before any issues show up and that seems to have held true. I don't think any issues happened on the way there. On the way back, about 3 hours after my arrival, I did notice the oil light blink on for a few seconds then blink off, and there was just the very slightest RPM slowdown when that happened. It only happened a few times, and I didn't need to push the gas to increase RPMs to keep things going.

I checked online and it looks like the part for the sensor is about \$10. Apparently if it's going bad you can see oil in the connection wire. My model seems to be a pain to get to though, as someone had a video showing you have to take off the tire and get to it from underneath the car. So that's not something I can change on my own and if I were to try to have it changed that would likely be an hour of labor charge.

I do hope with everything going on I'm dismissed. With everything normal, with the car not having any issues, this might actually be an interesting case. But with my health being the worst ever in my life due to being homeless, things even more worse due

to the closures, and the car issues, now is not a time for that, and it feels like it may end the car, or worse, end me.

As always though, only time will tell, and all I can do is hope for the best and try to hang on.

## **Day 4811 (V:535) - 9/2**

### **Sad and worried**

Today I am very sad and worried about needing to go to jury duty. My brain would not stop thinking about things last night. I'm just maybe a bit obsessive compulsive, or fixate on things due to anxiety issues, so I'm always over thinking things, and repeating the thoughts and worries over and over. One thing that worried me is that of all of the potential jurors for the case, if those in the room were it, then I maybe only have, at most, a 30% chance of being dismissed.

And then there is the worry I would feel about being in a small courtroom sitting very close to other people. The jury area did not look like it had room to separate people. It looked like everyone would still be shoulder to shoulder. And even though they say the courthouse has filtered air, I can't help but worry that's one courtroom of several, with all people being there all day. 😊

But it seems I have no control. There were no opt out options I saw that I would qualify under. So it seems out of my hands. All I can do is hope Fate is in my favor and in the two weeks time before I need to report again I am dismissed. And all I can do is try and stay calm and not fixate on things, and hopefully I can hang on until better days.

## **Day 4812 (V:536) - 9/3**

### **Won't be able to handle it**

Today I am certain I wouldn't be able to handle being in the courtroom since last night my brain has spiraled and it feels like the early days of the virus all over again. The thought of being in a small room so close to people has me on the verge of a panic attack

or collapse into a crying fit. If I'm not dismissed before the return date I will have to say I'm not at all mentally or physically fit enough to be a juror.

I guess my day was ok, at least as ok as I could try to be. I was continually worrying, but there was a decent enough connection to play on. Though with all my worry and sadness I played less than normal and just watched stuff the rest of the time.

All I can do is hope I'm released from duty soon so my extremely elevated stress and worry can go away, and I can try to go back to being as calm as I can in my very sad and worrisome life. 😞 And try my best to hang on until better days.

## **Day 4813 (V:537) - 9/4**

### **Suddenly hot again**

Today it is suddenly hot again. In the library I was chilly, but now that I've left, even though it's early evening, I'm kind of starting to sweat a bit in the car.

I'm still pretty worried about jury duty. I wrote a one page long explanation of things going on with me and why I should be dismissed, but I guess there is no way to submit it to the judge or court. If the judge doesn't contact me before I need to report for duty again I'll have to go in and, I guess, submit it in person to add to my other information. I do hope they release me soon. Every day that goes by my system becomes more and more stressed at the thought of things. I'm back to being on the edge of breaking down crying or getting so nervous I throw up again. 😞

I tried to have fun today though. I didn't play as much as normal because of my sad and worried feelings. So I spent a bit of time catching up with a show that was recently posted for free.

I'm extremely hot. Extremely tired due to lost sleep from extra stress and fear. But I'm trying to hang on as best as I can.

## **Day 4814 (V:538) - 9/5**

### **Too much stress**

Today I have too much stress. Last night my chest started to feel pretty bad, possibly even before that. It feels like things are being poked by needles sort of in the center of my chest, behind the breastbone, and along the sides of my ribs (again inside). I lost more than three hours of sleep last night (and 2-3 hours every night since the summons). I'm honestly really shocked there is no place to claim homelessness or other emotional or physical hardship to be dismissed as a juror. (The only one I saw was under a category for age, if you were 70 or over.)

But I have to try to put it out of my mind or the stress will get even worse. Sadly though I don't think it will really lessen until I'm dismissed from duty. And even then I expect I'll remain shaken for a week or two before I start to have normal levels of stress again.

Today felt kind of bad, as it was a day I heard the homeless guy in the bottom area of the building. Thankfully it was only for about the last hour before I left. But anytime I'm there more than an hour my brain starts to fixate on how uncomfortable it feels with him there, even if I don't see him. I suppose on the plus side the only people I saw turned long before they got close to me. There was only the walker, who passed by me once one direction. No one else came by me, and there was no sign of the guy who repeatedly walks around me. So I guess there was at least a little less stress in that regard.

I guess it was about as good of a day as it could be with all of my stress. I had a good connection for playing. But again with the extra stress and sadness and not feeling great I didn't play as long as I could. I spent some time watching some shows, which I guess was ok.

As always, things seem out of my control, and all I can do is try to let go of what I can't control, and try my best to hang on.

## **Day 4815 (V:539) - 9/6**

### **Feeling not great**

Today I'm not feeling great. My tummy and... attached parts don't feel good. It was probably some chicken I had left over from yesterday. I even had to run to the bathroom and I'm very glad it's still open. (They often close it on holidays, or at least close it earlier.) Food being saved overnight in summer is never the best. It may be stress from potential jury duty too, but I'm trying my best to not worry about that since I have no control over it.

I guess, at least so far, today is about as good as it could have been. I got time to do extra in the bathroom this morning. Since no one is around today I figured I wouldn't be interrupted, so I got an extra good shave. But, as always, it seems all I can do is try to let go of what I can't control, and try my best to hang on until better days.

## **Day 4816 (V:540) - 9/7**

### **Hopefully feeling better**

Today hopefully I will feel better from eating not the best food on Monday and being extra stressed about potential jury duty. It's the first day they will be going over things for dismissals as far as I know, so hopefully a few of the answers I gave on the questionnaire will show them I'm not a great choice for either side. I almost even broke down and started crying Monday morning when I was at the store due to stress and worry. ☹

All I can do is try to hang on, hope things turn out ok, and do my best for me with what few options I have.

**Day 4817 (V:541) - 9/8**  
**Not yet**

Today I am sad I'm not yet excused from possible jury duty. But I'm also not super worried, as today was only really the mid-way point for the between time. There are still four more 'for sure work days' that they should be meeting and deciding things before I'm called back in again.

My heart felt nervous all day. I felt like I might have a panic attack about needing to go in when I was at the food store in the morning. So I still very much hope I do get dismissed soon so my nerves can start going back to normal.

I suppose besides that the day was about as good as could be expected. The connection at the library was a little wobbly, but mostly stable. And it was almost completely empty of people until just a few hours before I left. I'm still nervous when there are people in the library, but it's usually a reasonable number, and people usually aren't closer than about 15 feet from me (and are often double that distance.)

But as always, I can't control things. All I can do is try my best to do the best options for me that are controllable. And hopefully I can continue to hang on until better days.

**Day 4818 (V:542) - 9/9**  
**Gray again**

Today it's gray again. It was warmish in the morning, but in the late morning it started to get rainy and gray looking. Now in the early evening it's actually kind of chilly and I expect I'll change back to pants tomorrow.

I was less fixated on possible jury duty, but it was still in the back of my mind constantly. My heart has felt bad and nervous all day. I hope things aren't getting

permanently worse for my health due to this extra stress. 😞 I was going to check my blood pressure, but there aren't any machines around that I know of.

I got some time with my open beta for my new MMO. It's happening for the next few days. It's still super fun, even though this is basically a re-do of stuff I've done before. And it's good I got to do it because I may be changing my mind on the weapons I'll use. I mean, sure, I expect to go back and forth even after launch, but to have a plan before launch will be helpful.

I guess, all in all, I hung on as best as I could today. Still no release for jury duty, but we are about half way through the before time, so there are still a few days left that could release me before needing to go back for on location questions. But all I can do is try my best to hang on.

## **Day 4819 (V:543) - 9/10**

### **Forgot to shave**

Today I felt not great. I've been feeling pretty congested, coughing a bit, and it feels like there is a bunch of hair stuck on the back of my throat? That may be due to the mask fraying. As they get older they start to fray apart. Though it could also be nerves. There was still no dismissal, meaning technically there are only two more work days they could dismiss me before I need to go back.

I guess today was pretty good though. I apparently forgot to shave in the morning. I guess I forgot it was Friday when I was heading to my outside the library spot and didn't even think about it until I felt hairy and itchy in the afternoon. I thought about doing it after the library closed, but there are a lot of people around then. I'll just wait until the morning when the bathroom should be empty of people.

As always, all I can do is continue to hope things get better, and try to hang on until then.

## **Day 4820 (V:544) - 9/11**

### **What day is it?**

Today my brain seems whacky. It forgot to shave yesterday, then today it didn't feel like Saturday. It felt more like Sunday. Though I did remember to shave in the morning, so I'm nice and smooth and not itchy.

I got enough sleep, though I'm still losing some due to stress of possible jury duty. Someone mentioned we lost more to the virus yesterday, in a single day of the pandemic, than we did in the terrorist attacks so many years ago on this day. And that's an on-going daily number.

But I guess today was ok. My game had a touch of lag early on, but most of the day it was ok. I had time with my new MMO beta, and it's good because some things have changed, so I do still want to think about this and that. And I watched a show in the evening.

I feel very tired. I think maybe because of this cold. I was sneezy a few times today, and I'm extremely hungry, both are usually signs of a cold. But, as always, all I can do is try my best to rest as well as I can, and try to hang on. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 4821 (V:545) - 9/12**

### **Feeling bad**

Today I'm feeling pretty bad. I've had a pretty bad headache most of the day, I'm feeling hotter than it seems I should be, and I'm exhausted. It may be due to my cold, it may be due to the heat, or it may be due to another lost 2-3 hours of sleep last night in a long line of lost sleep nights.

I guess today was about all I could hope for. There were only a couple of people who came by, and the homeless guy that lives in the building downstairs either wasn't there, or was completely silent, so I didn't get reminded of my own homelessness. (Though that's never really fully out of my mind.) The connection was basically solid and stable all day. And today was the last day for the beta of my new MMO, which is

launching in two weeks. Which is good because they made some changes since last test, so I had a chance to re-think things, and I learned a bit more about what things I want for what different roles. So I have an even better idea of what to look for once the game actually launches.

I watched some shows too. One was a few episodes of a comedy, and the other was a more serious show, so that was nice.

But I'm still very stressed about going to jury duty this week. I still hope I'm released because even the thought of being back in that small room for 8 hours a day for several weeks is freaking me out. I tried looking for a way to send the document I wrote to them, but there are only phone numbers listed. And the judge I'm with isn't even listed at all on the site. So I guess I have to still keep waiting to give them the document in person on Thursday. And try to keep hoping in the between time I get a call or email and I'm released before then, so I can go back to my normal levels of homeless stress.

Until then I try my best to relax where I can. And try to hang on until better days.

## **Day 4822 (V:546) - 9/13**

### **More lost sleep**

Today I'm pretty exhausted. Last night my heart started freaking out when I 'went to bed' thinking about jury duty. I couldn't sleep for like 3 or more hours. 😞 I guess technically they shouldn't be meeting today, but I still hope I'll get dismissed as soon as possible so my life can go back to just my normal homeless worries.

Nothing really different today. There was a beautiful girl here for a bit. I think she works nearby or something. She only stays about an hour when she does visit, and it's almost always around the same time. There is a new special show posted, so that will be fun to watch. But that was really the only things different today.

I continue to try to hang on, and hopefully I'll be dismissed from duty soon.

## **Day 4823 (V:547) - 9/14**

### **Hoping for dismissal**

Today I don't know what to expect. Hopefully everything will be fairly homeless normal. And hopefully maybe I will get the good news that I'm dismissed from jury duty and my stress can start to calm down again. But all I can do is try my best to hang on. And hopefully I can make it to better days.

**Day 4824 (V:548) - 9/15**  
**Hardship form**

Today I called the court to see if I could submit the document I made about my physical and emotional condition. I was sent a form to fill out. And it was kind of upsetting / disappointing because it looks like it's a single form for financial hardship and emotional/medical hardship, meaning when the judge asked people to stay if being on the jury would "cause financial hardship, such as losing their job or being unable to pay rent or buy food," it should also have included physical and/or emotional hardship. I submitted it around 10:15 in the morning, and as of 5 I hadn't heard back. 😞 I will try to get online later tonight, and maybe quickly before I head there in the morning, but all I can do is hope I'm released at this point. My heart was racing most of the day at the thought of needing to go back and be surrounded by people. 😞 Possibly for as long as all day. 😞

I guess my day was ok other than that, but I really can't remember much of it. So much of it was lost due to constant stress and worry. 😞

**Day 4825 (V:549) - 9/16**  
**Officially released**

Today started pretty stressful, but became quite a relief. I got up a bit early to head to the court summon since I never heard back last night or this morning. My heart rate was somewhat calm on the drive there, as it was a pretty nice street and area for most of the drive. When I got in I started to get pretty nervous being around so many people, especially with the thought I may be there 8 hours. I counted about 60 potential jurors from what I saw waiting outside in the hall, most within arms reach of one another. My hands were getting shaky and I was starting to feel a touch sweaty as we went into the courtroom. I guess it is bigger than it seems, as all the jurors fit with the 8 or so staff, and

most were 1 or 2 spaces apart from one another. (Still far closer than the 6' they should be. They probably weren't even 3' apart.) They took roll and my heart was racing.

But my name wasn't called. At the end the judge asked if anyone was here who wasn't called. Me and about one other person raised our hands. She asked who I was first and I said my name. The bailiff asked if I had emailed yesterday and I replied yeah in the morning. As he was looking me up, the judge said she thought she remembered I asked for a dismissal. I said yes, and she said she had approved it, said I was officially dismissed, and thanked me for responding to the summons and coming in today. She seemed super nice about it. It seemed odd I had to go in to get a response though.

A small part of me felt sad about hearing I was dismissed. I think it was the part of me that always thought it might be cool to be on an important case like this. But too I think it's the part of me that wants to be picked for things; to be seen as having value, being desired, and appreciated, for doing a thing.

But the emotional and health side of me is very relieved to be dismissed. I was becoming a wreck for just the 45 minutes I was there. And now, my system is starting to relax. My heart feels calm, and slow, for the first time in probably two weeks. I can't remember the last time I felt like this. I'd been stressed so much for so long it put me out of whack. I'd guess it is maybe like dancing or doing an exercise for a prolonged time, when your heart rate is high, and you just kind of get used to it like that. It's only when it stops being like that and things that go back down to normal you notice how off it had been.

Of course not going is also good for the car. While it didn't show bad signs on the first trip, returning an hour later it did blink the oil light a few times. And I felt just the very slightest reduction in RPM when stopping a few times.

I got back basically just in time for the library opening. I think I got there about 5 minutes after. There were about 3 people total in the side I sit in that I could see (spread over a space that is likely 6x or more larger than the courtroom). I think within about 30 minutes my heart rate had mostly calmed down to how I feel now. I still think it may take a while to fully recover and go back down all the time. But the day was pretty good, though the connection was kind of garbage. I got a minimum amount of playing done, but even videos that buffer were starting to have issues playing by the afternoon.

So today I am released. I am far less stressed. Though it will probably be a bit to get back to 'homeless normal', I feel much much safer. At least as safe as I can be with being homeless these days. And hopefully I can start sleeping again. And maybe I can hang on a little bit easier again.

## **Day 4826 (V:550) - 9/17**

### **Surprise time**

Today I got a bit of a surprise. I get to spend a few days in sanctuary. Which is good because the connection at the library was super terrible again. It again even had trouble playing buffered videos. Hopefully in a couple of days when I am back it will be clear and stable again.

So today I got to sort of have inside time, and a good connection, and will be able to sleep in. At least for a short bit. And I can try to relax where I can, and continue to try to hang on as best as I can.

## **Day 4827 (V:551) - 9/18**

### **Feel a bit sad**

Today I feel a bit sad. I got to do a laundry and take a shower, but I'll be back on the street soon. I'm sad that I don't know when I'll be in a home again. I'm sad I don't know when I'll have a chance at a regular life again. At this point I don't even know when I'll have regular public showers or access to a microwave again.

All I can do is continue to try my best to hang on. And hopefully I can make it through.

## **Day 4828 (V:552) - 9/19**

### **Maybe recycling again**

Today I was back out and homeless again. 😞 I feel pretty sad and my heart feels... weird. It may be related to a lot of congestion I'm feeling in my throat and neck (lymph nodes), but it could just be my generally poor health and extra depression.

About a few weeks ago I noticed a big vending type machine with a full sized screen at the food store. This is a huge screen, like 5' tall by 3' wide. Maybe about a week ago it became functional and appeared to be some kind of new school recycling. So I've been putting together how to do that. I tried this morning, but I guess I was missing a step. There was a lady using it on my way out, so I asked her and saw what I was missing. In theory that is set up now, so over the next few days I'll turn in what I have. (I figure since you have to put them in one at a time I'll do a bit a day until done, as once I'm caught up I can do it just once a week super easy.) It's supposed to be the same value as the place that's too far to safely drive in my car, so that is great, especially since that saves me like \$3 in gas and about an hour of time.

I guess the day was just about as good as expected though. It was a bit chilly, but with the cloths I have on the weather was fine. Only two people came by all day, so I didn't feel really at risk. And though I did hear the downstairs homeless guy a few times, he was basically quiet all day. The connection was strong and stable, so I could play, watch, or do what I wanted without trouble.

I guess today was about all I could hope for lately. 😞

## **Day 4829 (V:553) - 9/20**

### **Library without power**

Today apparently the library has no power. They don't know why, and it's now a bit past noon and they still seem to be without power. They only let people in to do pickups, no one could stay or browse, so I've been outside, as I was yesterday.

I guess it's not terrible. It's a warm enough day with a slight fresh breeze. And since it's a weekday the downstairs homeless guy isn't here. There was even a worker

eating lunch there a few minutes ago. The connection is stable and strong, and outside even has a less strict firewall, so I have access to actually more things than I otherwise would. (Though I can access games that are firewalled in the library through a vpn. It's just that has a limited amount of time per month without paying.) So I guess besides having to pack up to go to the bathroom some 50 feet away today will really be pretty much the same as inside.

I did do recycling this morning. Things are finally set up on that. It will take a few more days to empty the car, since there's a limit of like 50 recycled items of each type per day, but that's fine.

Oh, there was one very bad thing this morning that's put me in a sad mood. Someone mentioned a critical update was ready, so I tried updating my tablet. It didn't work wirelessly, so I tried connecting it to my laptop. It said the update was 4.6 gig, which explains why it didn't do it wireless, as my tablet is always like 98% full. The OS is like 10 gig of the 16 gig, so I barely have any room for anything. So that took about 45 minutes to download. When it was done it gave an error updating. And again. And so I had to abandon the update and restore it from scratch, which took another 45 minutes. It seems like it fully restored ok, but that was a whole lot of extra stress and sadness I didn't need.

So a lot of disappointing, heartbreakin, and sad things at the start of today. I guess I'll be outside the library today, but hopefully the rest of the day will go as any outside day would.

## **Day 4830 (V:554) - 9/21**

### **Hopefully power again**

Today hopefully the library will have power and be open as normal. I don't know what to expect today, as it will be a pretty regular day. It is one week until my new MMO launches, so that is pretty exciting. But there isn't anything new or exciting this week save for all of the court ups and downs. But hopefully things will settle back down to normal today.

### **Day 4831 (V:555) - 9/22**

#### **More insideish**

Today I got some more insideish time. So I'm safe and totally isolated until sometime Friday before I have to go back to regular homeless life again.

Today was pretty good, but it got pretty hot. I was sweating a bit when I went outside and around in the early afternoon.

I'm trying to calm down from my scare of potentially doing jury duty during this terrible pandemic. It's strange to think it's not even been a week since I was released. I still remember going there twice. I still remember the panic I felt while there, even though they were supposedly being careful and protected.

I have a show to catch up on, some movies, and a good connection to do my games and other things. So I'm trying to relax as best as I can. Trying to recover from the extra stress. Trying to maybe fight a cold? I was sneezing a ton yesterday and don't feel super great today. But hopefully I can hang on just a little bit easier for a few days.

### **Day 4832 (V:556) - 9/23**

#### **Cut short**

Today I got news my insideish time will be cut short and I'll be back out tonight instead of tomorrow night. I guess it's ok. I don't really have any big or important plans. My days are just going normally. The only big or new plans are after my new MMO comes out on Tuesday.

I guess today was pretty good. I am super sneezy again lately. But I wasn't before I visited inside and got a shower. Since I was petting a kitty for a bit it seems more likely it's allergies than a cold. But I have been sleeping quite a bit. Oh, I did sleep like 10-11 hours last night, which is crazy. That might indicate a cold or recovery from the recent stress as well.

I guess today I hung on just a little bit easier, but tomorrow will be back to homeless normal. 😞

## **Day 4833 (V:557) - 9/24**

### **Upset system**

Today my system is a bit upset. I would bet because my meat for today was bought 3 days ago. Even in the best of times most at room temperature meats don't do great for that long. It pretty much has to be winter to last that long. I am not super sick feeling or anything, but it's quickly running through me.

I guess I'm ok other than that today. It was a regular homeless day pretty much. So it wasn't terrible, and about as good as could be expected. I am very distracted looking forward to my new MMO next week, so that helped to pass a bit quicker than normal.

I guess today I held on ok, but I did feel sad and miss some things that I don't have.

## **Day 4834 (V:558) - 9/25**

### **Theorycrafting**

Today was just a touch chilly to looking like winter and gray and rainy looking. It's early evening and it looks about two hours later than it normally would at this time.

One sad thing did happen today. I very gently bumped my usb dongle for my wireless headphones and the sound went out. It seems at this point it's gotten so old and fussy that it needs to be at a pretty specific angle in the usb spot. It seemed ok after I wedged a paper towel to hold it in place at that angle, but it is disappointing because a new one is \$30. I do have my old wired headphones, which are actually still my favorite of like 6 I've used, so I can use those if it fully fails. But it is disappointing that the replacement item is so expensive. That's 40% of brand new wired headphones, or 25% of brand new wireless ones which would have more than double the battery life and better sound than my current ones.

I was pretty distracted with theorycrafting things for the new MMO. I suppose it's pretty pointless to try to plan builds around 'perfect gear' for a couple of reasons. First, I don't know if I'd ever hit perfect gear levels. Next, I have heard the drop rates are really low for the very high end stuff. And lastly I may not even need it. Yes, the stats are based on getting good perks for x level, but I don't know if I really 'need' max level in things. If the gear I get puts me down a perk level, but up in another, and that works ok, maybe that would be better. With randomized gear that can sometimes happen. I shouldn't get too crazy, and just wait and see what I get along the way.

So today my brain was pretty distracted. I guess in a good way since I also felt a bit sad and only played about half the day. The rest I didn't really feel like playing much.

But I guess I hung on ok. I guess winter is coming. And hopefully I can hang on until better days.

## **Day 4835 (V:559) - 9/26**

### **Quiet gray**

Today it has been pretty quiet. I think only two people passed by me. I saw a couple of others around the corner, but that was it.

The sky is between blue and gray. It's pretty cold, showing just 70F. I've had all my layers on and even had my hood up, and am considering if I should put on my winter under pants layer tomorrow. I've been kind of clenching my jaw from cold all day.

I guess it's been an ok day. Earlier I was sneezing like crazy, so I took one of my last decongestants and an allergy pill. I've stopped sneezing, at least for the moment, but still feel like I might start again. I had some fun with my games, but again didn't feel like playing as much as I could. I guess I just feel a bit sad and don't really feel like playing much. Maybe I'm super tired. My new MMO comes out Tuesday morning, so I expect I'll be playing that a lot.

I guess I hung on ok today. But I'm pretty sneezy and tired, so I may still have a cold.

## **Day 4836 (V:560) - 9/27**

### **Feeling calm**

Today I guess, besides having a big headache, I've been feeling pretty calm. I think that is mostly because it's a regular low population day at the library, only 1 per table, whereas Saturday it got pretty crowded and started not feeling very safe at 2-3 per table.

Part of it too might be that I downloaded my new MMO client, so that is all ready and set up for tomorrow. So that is super exciting. Also, my phone said it wanted to get the update, so I was a bit nervous about that as it's the same update that had massive problems on my tablet, but that seems to have gone just fine, and it was super quick.

I'm pretty exhausted. I'm super headachy, even behind my eyes hurts a lot, so I guess that's a migraine. I've only sneezed a couple of times. But I guess, overall, I feel pretty ok.

## **Day 4837 (V:561) - 9/28**

### **Much excite**

Today should be the first day for the new MMO. Hopefully everything will work out ok, and hopefully there will be a minimum of shut downs for emergency things. Most MMO launches aren't the greatest. But being on the west coast my server group will be the last of four, with hours between each area. So hopefully by the time they get to my group any issues will be sorted out.

That will be all that's new. Hopefully it will be fun, nice, and it will be a little bit easier to hang on until better days.

### **Day 4838 (V:562) - 9/29**

#### **No fries today**

Today I am feeling pretty sick. There were just a few sneezes, but I feel pretty headachy, exhausted, kind of like I have a fever though I don't feel warm, kind of like I'm chilled, my ears are ringing, and I'm extra hungry.

I looked the other day to see if I could get hot food with my card and it seems some places do let you. The close place sells chicken and fries, and the regular fries is priced ok, but the large is pretty pricy, and their chicken is ridiculously priced. I mean, it's ok for restaurant prices, but it's like 2-3 times the cost for the same amount I could get cold at the food store. I wanted to get fries, but their machine didn't work. I'm sad the close sandwich place closed, because they take my card and they would have had hot soups. But with the local one closed there isn't one close to me anymore.

I guess other than that I'm pretty ok. I'm trying to have fun in my new MMO, but launch has been a bit stressful. Yesterday, because of how I change locations, of the 12 hours I could have played I lost 8 hours sitting in a queue not playing, and only 4 hours after that playing. Today so far hasn't been too bad, with about 30 minutes then 1 hour played, and after my move about a 2 hour queue with 5 hours played after. I get another chance to play in a bit, but I don't know. It will depend how long the queue is because it's a pretty short window.

I guess besides feeling sick and extra hunger I feel ok today. And maybe I can try and get some extra rest tonight and I can hang on a bit easier tomorrow.

### **Day 4839 (V:563) - 9/30**

#### **Headphone comparison**

Today I have settled on my headphone decision. In the past couple of days I've gone back and forth between my old wired ones, which have a bit better sound, and my newer ones with the fussy breaking connection. I actually do like the newer ones better

overall. Yes, it doesn't have as quite as good of sound, but in doing a lot of research it seems that better sound is only possible with wired connections. Also, the comfort of the newer ones is a lot better in general because the ear cuffs rotate. My old ones can't do that. They are rigid and only extend up or down, not to the side at all. This can be a hugely important point as my ears kind of prefer them at just a slightly rotated angle. Also, I can put them at a 90 degree angle over the top half of my ears to hear what's around me and that works fine. I can't do that with the old ones. Or if I put them down around my neck they rotate against my chest fine. My old ones just kind of clamp together and choke my throat when around my neck.

Also in doing a lot of research the majority of headphones seem to have that stiff non-rotating style. And the wireless ones have an average charge of closer to 15-20 hours than not, which is about the same as my newer pair. So getting new ones, regardless of cost, really wouldn't be worth an upgrade with the current available sound technology and design. So I'm fine with sticking with my current newer pair. I just hope that the fussy part that talks to the headphones doesn't get worse or I'll have no choice. At this point it disconnects with literally the slightest breeze or gentlest touch of my sleeve, so hopefully it will last until I get the spare \$30 to get the replacement part.

I am a bit more sad than usual. I checked my money and I effectively have nothing for the web space bill that's due in mid December. I'll have to pray and save any money that comes for Halloween or Thanksgiving, or any early Xmas gifts, or I won't be able to pay it. 

I still feel pretty sick. I am still sneezing a bit, still feel feverish inside (but don't feel warm) and am still extra hungry and sensitive to stimulus overall.

But I guess today went ok. And I hung on as best as I could.

## **Day 4840 (V:564) - 10/1 Exhausted**

Today I am exhausted. I got 'in bed' pretty late, then couldn't sleep for a few hours, then basically woke up more than an hour before I needed to. I probably only got 5 hours of sleep total. 

I'm feeling a bit better from the cold. I don't feel quite as bad and my appetite is returning to normal. I'm actually super hungry and I wish I could eat restaurant cooked foods.

There was hardly anyone in the library today, so it was very calm feeling, quiet, and everyone was spread out. And I had a lot of fun in my new game. I'm starting to see new things and get past the previous areas I'd been in the tests.

I guess I'm a bit better today, though still have a cold, am still exhausted, and am still pretty hungry.

## **Day 4841 (V:565) - 10/2**

### **Tired eyes**

Today my eyes are very tired. They have been slow to focus and half closed all day. I guess really I'm just super tired overall. I feel like I could sleep an extra 4 hours if I got the chance.

Overall I'm starving too. I think maybe because my body is still fighting the cold, so it wants extra food. I really want to get some chicken soup, but I'd have to use cash for that, which I don't have, or what little is on a food store gift card I'd rather save for emergencies.

I guess overall the day was pretty ok though, so I try to continue to hang on.

## **Day 4842 (V:566) - 10/3**

### **Not very hungry**

Today I'm not very hungry. I guess I ate a regular sized lunch, and I'm hungry for dinner. But I feel like I may only eat half my normal amount or less. My eyes hurt a lot too, and everything is blurry. I don't know if that is because I've had a migraine most of the day or if it's because of this cold.

I had a pretty fun time in my new MMO, but I can see myself backing off to pretty casual play the higher I get. It's not like a regular MMO, at least not yet, in that the server

populations are tiny, and people don't really interact since there is a big PvP focus. I am just now, at about 50 hours played, starting to see new things that I hadn't seen before during the beta week that I played. Leveling has gotten pretty slow. I think I got two levels all day. So I don't know if that's because I played a bit more casual today, or if things just start to get really slow once you reach mid-levels.

Besides still feeling sick I guess I hung on ok today. Though if these sick feelings continue much longer I may have to use some of my food store gift card money to get some hot soups to help me get better.

## **Day 4843 (V:567) - 10/4**

### **Chilly, maybe slightly better**

Today I'm super chilly in the library, and I'm eating... carefully. I feel maybe a bit better. I am having a super fun time playing and watching the stream I watch, so the time has passed quickly. I am getting very worried about my headphone issue though. Today it's cut out several times and the connection is getting very fussy. I may not be able to use them much longer and be forced to use my old pair until the part is replaced. But overall I guess today I hung on a little bit easier.

## **Day 4844 (V:568) - 10/5**

### **Probably chilly Tuesday**

Today it is supposed to start getting cold. I'll probably start wearing pants with a winter layer to help stay warmer. The library is still blasting the A.C. so it's cold in there regardless. But hopefully today will be ok. I can try to relax. And hopefully I can continue to hang on.

**Day 4845 (V:569) - 10/6**  
**Winter pants**

Today I have regular pants and long underwear on underneath. I was probably just about right inside the library and outside. My jaw hurts a little, so I may have been a bit cold and clenching my teeth a bit in the library, but I'll pay attention to that in the future. If it keeps happening I'll add more layers.

Outside it was pretty cold. The sky actually turned gray, about half way to night level dark, by about 3 PM. It looks like if it gets much darker it will start to rain. Rain by tonight wouldn't surprise me.

I guess I'm feeling a bit better from my cold. I'm still tired. My eyes still hurt. And my ears are still ringing quite a bit.

There was a new sign at the food store about E.B.T.. It didn't really say anything, but I wonder if that means they are allowing hot food purchases now. I keep forgetting to check on that. If they do I will definitely get some soups maybe twice a week, and every few weeks maybe a fancy Chinese food dinner. Though they are ridiculously priced there, charging like \$11 for what I can get at the fast food place for about \$9. If I waited until the hot food area was closing though they put out pre-made ones on sale for \$5 and then that's a good deal.

I guess overall today was pretty ok.

**Day 4846 (V:570) - 10/7**  
**Itchy ears**

Today I have a very odd sensation. My ears are itching on the inside, where there is the ear canal, but like deeper. I don't know if I've ever felt that before. They are ringing a lot. Not super loud, or otherwise painful, just a constant low ringing.

I guess today was pretty good. The library was just a touch chilly. I wonder if maybe they are actually putting the heat on. The building is supposed to be smart and

automatically do that, but I really don't think it does. At the very least it's never done a good job of it.

I had fun in my games today, though lately there hasn't been much to watch. Some shows I was watching I lost interest in. And a couple of shows I like to watch are on break.

I think I found out what the signs were about at the food store. I did a quick search last night and found that the food store now allows online orders with the food stamps card. So, not hot food news, or something important to me, but I guess important for some.

But I guess today I don't miss the things I don't have too much, so I survived ok.

## **Day 4847 (V:571) - 10/8**

### **Still itchy inside**

Today my ears are still itchy inside, though not as much. I maybe should check online if that is a sign of something I should worry about. It's probably not, but with how little I can control anything I worry about the smallest things.

I was pretty chilly today in general. I may add another under layer to be warmer. The warmth of summer is rapidly changing to winter. 

I had a pretty good day today. I played online things with some people from the stream I watch, so that was super fun. And I had fun in my game. I didn't meet a goal I had for my new game, but it's fine, as with any MMO you should be playing for the journey, not specific levels or loot. As long as I'm having fun, specific goals aren't really that important.

I'm pretty tired, and pretty cold, and getting very worried about my not having money for upcoming bills or even gas, but today was a pretty good day.

## **Day 4848 (V:572) - 10/9**

### **Still no fries**

Today ended a bit sad. I went to the fast food restaurant I can use my food stamps card at and the machine still isn't working. That is like three times in the past few weeks I've tried to get fries and couldn't. I guess it's more than just me trying to use the card because they had a sign posted saying the machine is down 'today'. Hopefully they fix it soon. ☹ I have no other way to get special / cooked foods. ☹

## **Day 4849 (V:573) - 10/10**

### **Surprisingly warm**

Today I wore my extra hoodie and sweats, expecting to be cold all day. And the morning did start out very cold, but by noon I was starting to get pretty warm. At around 1:30 or so I took them off, and an hour later I was even considering taking off my regular hoodie. But I decided not to, as it would only be a few hours before I left, and a few hours after that it would start to be getting cold again.

Today was actually pretty good. I played my games, maybe too much. My brain wanted to take a break and watch some stuff, but there wasn't anything I could think of to watch.

But I still feel a bit bad, I guess from my cold. My ears are still a bit itchy inside, I have had a few sneezes, my eyes hurt from headaches, my ears are ringing, and I'm suuuupper exhausted. And though I'm not really hungry I have a craving for pasta type things; spaghetti, lasagna, even pizza. I'm not really sure what's up with that, but I'd guess it's something to do with the noodles and maybe the sauce.

But today was a pretty good day I suppose. And tomorrow will pretty much be the exact same I expect. So hopefully I continue to hang on ok.

## **Day 4850 (V:574) - 10/11**

### **More sick**

Today I'm feeling more sick. Last night I felt like my skin had chills, but I felt like I had a bit of a fever inside. My ears are ringing a lot. When I cough, yuck comes out. And I've got a low level dizziness, not enough to affect my balance, but it feels like I'm not quite stable. My eyes still hurt too. I took a multi-vitamin, so hopefully that will help.

It's pretty cold again, and there is a wind that's blowing dust everywhere. I'm cold even in my extra hoodie, so I may leave the spot outside a bit earlier than usual to spend extra time in my car. (The library is closed today.) I expect sealed inside would maybe even be a bit warmer since there wouldn't be wind. I probably won't leave too early though, maybe 1-1.5 hours earlier than usual.

I'm having a pretty good time with my games. I do kind of still feel like taking a break and just watching stuff, but there is nothing to watch. But that's not surprising, as I always feel less like playing games when I'm sick.

Hopefully I can rest and recover soon enough.

## **Day 4851 (V:575) - 10/12**

### **Hopefully better**

Today will hopefully be better. Hopefully I'll feel better. Hopefully I'll recover more inside the library. Hopefully I'll be warmer. And hopefully overall things will be better.

**Day 4852 (V:576) - 10/13**  
**Two lunches**

Today I am safe and sound in my sanctuary place. I can be here again for a few days. I came in late yesterday afternoon and have been as restful as I can to try and recover from my cold. I put in my symptoms in the online checker and it is most confident about, well, it has a very fancy name, but it's basically some kind of super cold. I guess the parts of the body that fight colds have apparently gotten 'stuck' in fight mode and have sort of jammed up the cold fighting parts of my system. Apparently this can take four weeks to clear up. I feel a bit better today though. The ear ringing is bugging me the most, and I have just a touch of dizziness when I walk. But my congestion has settled a lot, I've only coughed a dozen times all day, which were all in the morning before doing an inhaler, and then really the other symptoms are almost gone. But, with it being so long a time to clear they may come back.

I had two small lunches today. Mostly I eat smaller meals these days, as it's a lot easier on my tummy. But I guess today I was extra hungry.

I got to sleep in. I think I slept about 10 hours. And I've had fun with my new game. I'm going to have a late dinner and watch some shows. I may even 'get to bed' early and try to get a lot of sleep again.

So today was a bit easier to hang on.

**Day 4853 (V:577) - 10/14**  
**Distorted sound**

Today was pretty good. I only got about 8 hours of sleep even though I could have slept more. I'm not sure if I woke up totally on my own or because there was beeping and super loud gardeners nearby. I do feel a bit better still, but I am a bit more congested and sniffly.

I got very tired of my newer headphones disconnecting from the gentlest bump near them, so I put in my old wired headphones. And, sadly, I learned that a lot of the highest, or maybe lowest, sounds are being distorted by the faulty connector. So that is sad. I guess it's not damaging anything (in the laptop), just seemingly sending some incorrect sounds to the headphones. But I do worry, so I'll probably just continue to mostly use my old wired pair until I can afford to replace the wireless dongle that is faulty. That may not happen for a while though because I have no money. 😞 Even gas money will be difficult at this point, and I'm very worried about my important year end bill. I'm hoping dad sends cash help for Halloween and Thanksgiving and maybe I can get enough from that. Other help would always be great, but I don't think many are reading these days, as help has been very rare since these terrible virus times started.

But I was inside-ish today. Things were quiet. I was warm enough. I had ok food. And I got to play my games and watch shows, so that was happy. So I hung on maybe just a bit easier.

## **Day 4854 (V:578) - 10/15**

### **Smell like flowers**

Today was pretty good. I got to sleep in again. I got a shower and laundry. And I was invited to have a dinner and watch a fun movie. Of course, I got to spend the rest of the day playing games, which was fun.

I did go to the bathroom and used a spray, but I guess it was way stronger than I expected, and now my shirt(s?) smell like flowers. I put it out to hang out, so hopefully it won't smell too bad tomorrow, as my nose and lips have gotten a bit puffy from the smell. If it's still too much tomorrow I may have to use a different outer shirt and leave the perfumed one out to air out longer.

But today was a good day. And there is still tomorrow. But after that things will be back to my regular sad homeless life.

## **Day 4855 (V:579) - 10/16**

### **The last bit**

Today I have been feeling sad, more and more as my time inside runs out. It's just a few hours until I'm back out to my regular homeless life. And I suppose there are some freedoms, but there are so many things I miss and may never really have again.

But I have to hope the world will recover. Hope things will go back to some kind of normal. And when it does, I too can hopefully go back to some kind of normal...

Before there is nothing left of me. 😞

## **Day 4856 (V:580) - 10/17**

### **Sad gas**

Today I had to do a sad thing. I have effectively no cash. But I was almost out of gas, so I took one of my only gift card money gift cards and used half of it for gas. That should last about 5 weeks I hope. But it always makes me very sad to use the special gift money on not gifts. Doubly so if I'm going to use a card like that, it should be for school since that is almost exactly the amount and I don't normally have money to sign up otherwise.

I guess the day was pretty ok other than that. It was quiet and calm. Only two people came by all day.

I guess I am sort of better, sort of worse, from my super cold. I think the dizziness has almost stopped. But today I had a few sneezes in the morning, and I'm a bit more congested in my head and neck sinuses.

I'm pretty tired feeling. It feels like it's hours later than it is. There is a mix of regular clouds and gray rain clouds in the sky. I wouldn't be surprised if it rained soon. And it's pretty cold, probably in the low 70s. But I guess today was pretty ok overall.

## **Day 4857 (V:581) - 10/18**

### **Dead dongle**

Today has been pretty rainy. It started sprinkling last night just after I did my writing, and fully raining about an hour later. It stopped sometime in the night. It's just been a bit sprinkly today, with mixed cloudy and clear sky so far. But I wouldn't be surprised if it rained again tonight.

I guess I feel pretty good. Not too many super cold symptoms. I'm a bit extra hungry. A bit snifflly and contested with a few sneezes so far today. Ears are ringing, as usual.

Today the warless headphone dongle seems fully dead. It's not being recognized in any position. I guess I'll just fully switch back to my old wired ones I've been using until that gets replace. It's not super expensive, but with no money for even gas these days I can't afford to replace it. Well, it's on my wish list so I can hopefully get it soon, or maybe as a gift at Xmas.

But I guess I'm hanging on ok today, even though it's back to regular homeless times.

## **Day 4858 (V:582) - 10/19**

### **Probably rainy Tuesday**

Today will probably be pretty rainy. Things are getting pretty cold too, but the library is warm enough, so at least there is that. With the rain and the cold it may stay pretty empty too. Monday was a very light crowd, so there is that at least.

Hopefully I can continue on. And hopefully I can make it through to better days.

**Day 4859 (V:583) - 10/20**  
**Unexpected bill**

Today I am very sad. I got news that in addition to my yearly \$150 for the web space in the middle of December it seems they are going to start charging \$60 more for the email I've been getting free. I'm hoping that is some kind of additional optional service they are transitioning, as I've never opted in to any and the change won't really affect me, but the customer service person I talked to seemed to imply it was a forced change. (Though I'm uncertain they are correct, as they seemed to be referencing a script and not really responding to what I was asking.) That change apparently won't happen until mid-January though, so I'm going to wait a bit before trying to confirm if this affects me or not.

I guess I'm ok other than that, but I am very very worried about the upcoming bills. This means there is the big web bill, this new one, then another two in May, then the huge car registration in mid July. 😞 It all seems very overwhelming, and like it's coming very quickly. 😞

All I can do is try to hang on and hope help comes. It has before, so I'm trying to stay hopeful. But these days with everything being so bad it is difficult. 😞

**Day 4860 (V:584) - 10/21**  
**Heartbroken**

Today I am feeling pretty heartbroken. Dad sent an early Halloween gift money, but it was in the form of an online store gift card. While it did mean I could immediately order a new headphone dongle for my wireless headphones, and have enough to do something like look for a tiny hard USB case to keep it in, it does mean I won't have that

money for important bills in less than two months time. 😞 That \$50 in actual cash would have been extremely helpful towards the now \$210 I need for web stuff. 😞

I am feeling kind of sick too. Since last night my tummy has been pretty upset. I would guess the chicken I had, which was gotten the morning before, didn't last overnight very well. Things have... not stayed in my system today. 😞 I was going to try to get some hot food from one of the few places that takes my food stamp card last night, but they *still* have the sign that says their machine is not working "today" up on the door. I'd love to get food from my favorite fast food place, but I used the last gift card money for there months ago. 😞

So today I am feeling very heartbroken. And though my games are having holiday celebrations I am too sad to really enjoy them like I otherwise would. 😞

Hopefully I can continue to hang on until better days. And hopefully enough help will come in time for the bills. 😞 I don't know what I will do if I can't get enough to cover them. 😞

## **Day 4861 (V:585) - 10/22**

### **Put the lights on**

Today I had to put the car lights on in the morning because it was super rainy last night and this morning. And after leaving the library I had to put them on too, because it's starting to get pretty dark pretty quickly in the evening these days.

I guess in a bit of good news I got word my headphone dongle as shipped and should be here Saturday instead of Sunday. So that will be nice. I never really realized until now how much better they fit and feel than the old ones. And I guess too I'd forgotten how I actually feel safer walking away from my system with it running with the wireless headphones. If anyone messed with my game, or moved the laptop, I'd know because the sound would change or it would drop out of range. So that makes me feel 'safer' if it doesn't. Plus I have zero worries about kicking a cord and yanking something.

I had fun in the evening playing a game with some people from the stream I watch. It was silly fun. I tried to have fun in my MMO games. And while I did, I didn't have as much fun as I could have because I still feel so heartbroken about the upcoming bills.

😢 I'm going to just have to try and stay hopeful and hope that help comes in time.

There isn't anyone to reach out to. 😢 And previous attempts to reach out to 'strangers'

haven't really gotten much help. 😢

But all I can do is try to hang on one day at a time. Try to continue to see the good with the things I have left and can have. And try to enjoy them when they come. And hopefully I can hang on long enough until help comes. And hope that it comes in time.

## **Day 4862 (V:586) - 10/23**

### **Ears ringing**

Today my ears are ringing and I'm pretty sniffly. I sneezed a couple of times too. I have maybe a bit of a headache too. I feel ok in general though. I did do a special thing in my MMO for the holiday event. And I got to max level in my new MMO. So now I can work on getting gear and leveling up crafting things.

I guess today was pretty good. Though I don't feel great physically or emotionally. But maybe I feel a little less bad overall. I had a couple of nice chats with people in game, and helped out a guildie, so maybe I feel a little more hopeful.

And so, I continue to try to hang on.

## **Day 4863 (V:587) - 10/24**

### **Storm of the century**

Today there has been the storm of the century. It started since last night. I remember hearing it rain throughout the night. It even gave me some weird dreams about being in an underwater station and being somewhere dry, but getting ready to transition into an area that was either leaking or underwater. There is a pretty crazy wind that was

blowing the trees all night and all day. Thankfully the back of the building spot I was in was dry and safe and sound. I guess because it's effectively a balcony I wasn't hit by rain drops nearby. It was a touch cold, but I had on my extra sweats, so I was fine. I did leave earlier than usual though, as I figured parking might be difficult being both a Sunday and a day where people will probably be staying inside to avoid the storm.

Last night was a bit rough. I guess with all the extra stress over the upcoming bills I'm more stressed than even my usual extremely stressed homeless life, which has pushed my throat back to a bad state. I took a medium bite of chicken last night and it got kind of stuck on the way down. 😞 I threw up quite a bit to get it back out. 😞 It was probably 15 minutes off and on. But about 30 minutes after I stopped and things calmed down I felt mostly ok again, and had dinner taking the tiniest of bites. I stuck to tiny bites today too and was fine. Though I threw out the half of the chicken container I had left for today. After eating a couple of pieces I noticed it kind of smelt like feet and didn't taste great. I don't think it lasted overnight very well.

I guess today was ok. I had a good time in my MMOs. I reached a goal I was trying for in my new MMO that I wanted to reach. 😊 Though I'd hoped to make some gear progress, I found no groups, so I made no progress there at all.

So today I smell like a wet dog. It's still raining heavily. But I had fun with the game things and show watching that I did do, accomplished a goal I was trying for, and did have about as good of a time as I could in this sad life.

## Day 4864 (V:588) - 10/25

### Poked tongue

Today my tongue feels like it's poked. I don't know if it's swollen, and so it squished between what teeth are left, or if it got scraped up by jagged ones, or both. But it's felt poked on the sides and I keep swallowing, I guess reflexively thinking something is stuck to it.

I guess today has been good, but I feel bad and sad. The rain has stopped has gone for the moment, and it's actually pretty sunny outside. I'm not too cold in the library.

Things are quiet and calm. The stream I watch was super fun. But... I feel sad and bad. 

I guess maybe because, so far, I've had a bad time in my new MMO. I don't know where to go to progress. It seems like I need to go group things, but no one is doing the high level group things. And so I've just repeatedly been dying to hard things I shouldn't be trying to solo. I guess it just feels like a reminder of how alone and troubled I feel in my regular life.

But I try to stay as hopeful as I can. I try to not worry about the bills or other troubles. And hopefully I can continue to hang on.

## **Day 4865 (V:589) - 10/26** **Hopefully not too rainy Tuesday**

Today is hopefully not too rainy. The storm on Sunday was super crazy, but by Monday late morning it seemed to be clearing. It looks like the weather shows mostly cloudy through the week, so it may take a while to clear.

I'm back to my wireless headphones, so that is super nice. And I have a new hard case to put the headphone dongle in, which goes in the hard headphone case, so it should be super protected. I just have to be careful not to bump it while it's in the laptop.

But hopefully today will be reasonably calm. And I can be reasonably restful to try and recover from my super cold. And hopefully help will come for the bills in time.

**Day 4866 (V:590) - 10/27**  
**Maybe showers**

Today I still feel sort of clean from yesterday. I decided to check if school was really and truly locked down tight like it was in spring. To my surprise the locker room area was open. The showers were not blocked. And the water was super hot. Though I don't know if this was a fluke or a special event, because there were no paper towels in the machines, and all of the safety mats were removed and nowhere to be seen. Also there was an area marked with "surplus" signs where I normally change, and the entire 8x8 foot area was piled high with sportball stuff. So I figure maybe once a week I'll go to shower. That will keep my shaved parts reasonably under control, not cost too much extra gas, and not risk my being there for more than the 30 minute the free parking area allows too often (reducing the risk any over-zealous student tickets me because I'm one minute over or whatever.)

I guess I'm feeling pretty sad, but ok today. I'm pretty snifflly with a bit of a rough throat. I don't know if that is due to extra congestion or from getting sick yet again yesterday from something getting stuck in my throat due to my stress throat and tummy issues. The stress over the upcoming bills is not at all helping. 😞 Especially since I no longer have any fast food gift cards to buy good hot foods. 😞

But I guess the library was actually warm. The rain has seemingly completely gone and the skies are clear. It's early evening and I've taken off my outer shirt and hoodie. So, I guess, today I held on ok.

## **Day 4867 (V:591) - 10/28**

### **Sniffly day**

Today there really isn't much to talk about. Since some time yesterday I've been extra sniffly. I was sneezy last night. And have had crazy congestion since then. It wasn't quite as bad today with just a few more sneezes, but I've still been pretty sniffly.

I'm still very sad and worried about the bills, but I'm trying my best to hang on to hope, and trying to hang on emotionally.

## **Day 4868 (V:592) - 10/29**

### **In a bad way**

Today it feels like Saturday, in a bad way. Several times today I've felt like 'that's it, my week is over' and I would have a cold outside time tomorrow. I'm not really sure why.

My only guess is the overall 'it's over' feelings are due to my sad homeless feelings overall and specific fears about one of my teeth. There's one nearby with a hole, and it's the last one near my bottom K9. I've already lost my favorite K9, and the other upper one has likely lost 25% of its side, so it won't last long. So it feels like the one with the hole is going to shatter, and then the ones in the front on the bottom will start to

go. 😞 Roughly counting that's about 50% that are either completely destroyed or way beyond repair, and the remaining other half is no doubt bad, just in a way it's not obvious or painful yet.

So I think, since I can't ignore it or get it out of my head anymore, it has just been getting to me today. It seems like a reminder that even if I make it back into a home, even if I find a happy job, even if the memory of these painful days fade, at least this part of me will not survive through. 😞

## **Day 4869 (V:593) - 10/30**

### **Chips for days**

Today there was a crazy sale on chips at the food store. It was buy 2 bags, the medium sized ones not the biggest, and get three free. So I have chips for probably a few weeks. I'm sure I'll do a bag then take a break, then do the next bag. Thankfully I had space in my trunk for them. Somehow my trunk has mostly gotten full more often than it's not.

I guess the day was ok. It still feels like it should be Sunday instead of Saturday. I had fun with my game, but I mostly did solo things, and felt pretty sad and alone. I did help out some people, and I guess the last tank left part way through the dungeon. But they said it was so much better and I was awesome.

Though I am still very sad and worried about the bills, very sad and homesick because of the holiday coming up and not being able to celebrate, I try my best to keep my chin up. I try to focus on the good things. And I try to continue to hang on.

## **Day 4870 (V:594) - 10/31**

### **No candies, no celebration**

Today I feel pretty sad. I thought about getting some candies to celebrate, at least alone, but with how bad my teeth have become that has an extremely high chance of just being an extremely painful experience. And if not, if things were fine, with how terrible my life is in general I just don't feel like I would enjoy it at all. Part of me is still considering getting some tomorrow, but I don't know, it may just make me more sad. Besides, I have yummy sugar cookies in pumpkin shapes. Those are ok for a small celebration.

I kind of had a bad time in my new MMO too. People were mean in chat, a group I tried to do something with failed and effectively I was abandoned, and in general I don't feel like I gained much, even though I did advance a few quests.

I suppose the day could have been worse, but it also could have been better in so many ways.

## **Day 4871 (V:595) - 11/1**

### **Bird chase**

Today there is a bird in the library. I tried to capture them to take them outside to their family, but so far no luck.

The rain has returned, so it's a bit cold and rainy today. I guess it's good in that it didn't start last night, but then there really aren't really trick or treaters in the area.

The library has extended its hours a few hours for a few nights, so I guess that's something. It doesn't affect me too much, but it's a step towards being more open overall.

I have my games and some shows today, but not much else. Hopefully that is enough to continue to hang on.

## **Day 4872 (V:596) - 11/2**

### **Probably rainy Tuesday**

Today will probably be rainy. I got my shower on Monday, so that is something to at least get a shower and good shave now and then. I haven't checked if a cafeteria microwave is accessible, but it seems doubtful. I may check on that next week though. Without a parking sticker I shouldn't be around too much, but at least one microwaved meal a week would be more than nothing. Though it would only be for this month. December they have finals that first week, then are closed for a month.

But hopefully my games, shows, and trying to relax as much as I can, will help me make it through my extreme stress. And hopefully I can continue on until help comes, and hopefully make it to better days.

**Day 4873 (V:597) - 11/3**  
**Lucky I'm honest**

Today has been weird weather. The morning started chilly, with a deep fog you typically see in the city. I could only see about 50 feet in the thick parts, maybe 100 in the thinner parts. But by about 11 it had completely cleared.

I again saw no sign of the bird today after not seeing them yesterday. I think they were reunited with their bird family Monday night, because neither yesterday nor today was there any sign of them or their family on the trees outside.

Yesterday someone was very lucky I am an honest guy. In the late morning, not quite noon, I got up to pee and noticed a check and an envelope on the chair behind me. There was an older guy sitting there maybe half an hour or an hour before, and he must have left it. I assumed the envelop might be some kind of contract that went along with the check, as it looked to be about the thickness of maybe a 10-15 page contract.

(Probably 1/2 or 3/4 inch thick.) I grabbed them both and was shocked to see a bank logo on the other side of the envelope. I thought to myself, 'no, this surely can't be a fat envelope from a bank full of cash.' I gently pulled apart one corner. Since it was the rubber cement type of seal I knew it could open a little without damaging the seal. And with a pinch on the corner it was open enough to verify. Sure enough, a bunch of cash. And no small amount as I counted several 20s before they turned to what I think were 100s. Many many 100s. I'd guess this was some kind of give me cash and I'll give you a check deals, and if so this was more than \$2000 in cash. I took it downstairs to lost and found suggested they try and contact that person through their library card ASAP.

I hope that person gets it back. You don't pull that kind of cash unless it's a real emergency. But I couldn't help but think how much help that would be in my sad life if I had kept it. 😊

## **Day 4874 (V:598) - 11/4**

### **None for me**

Today was ok, I guess. There was nothing really special that happened. I did decide to detour to get an extra shower, which was nice. On the way out of the parking lot I noticed there was a 'free parking' sign taped to the parking ticket machine. If that's the case I won't have to worry about parking there at all. Though that may have just been for a special event and they didn't remove the sign. I'll check on Monday. I will probably take a canned soup too, just in case the cafeteria area is open just a little and there is access to a microwave. Once I can confirm that I could consider doing something like hot dogs to have at least something different to eat for a few days in addition to a once or twice hot microwave meal.

The person who lost their money apparently came back to get it. The librarian said their boss who gave it to them noticed they didn't seem very excited or relieved to get it back. I'm not sure how to feel about that. Well, it means whatever the amount it was won't be coming back to me after not being picked up, if that was even a possibility, so that is disappointing.

So for now I remain the same; overly concerned about everything, and hoping help comes in time.

## **Day 4875 (V:599) - 11/5**

### **Feeling weird**

Today I feel weird. I've kind of felt like I've been forgetting something. I guess in a way that I was supposed to get something or pick something up somewhere.

I've been feeling pretty homesick too. 😞 I guess that is just part of the holidays though. As people plan or do things with others it really just reminds me of what I don't have. And what I may have had once upon a time, but may never happen again. 😞

## Day 4876 (V:600) - 11/6

### Verified change

Today I feel not the best. I guess I could only describe it like my tendons under my muscles feel... weird. I guess it's sort of like a low level dehydration, but on a much less severe scale.

I decided in the morning, since I was already feeling bleh, to check in on the email change. I guess they are changing due to the old system not being able to do things the (business) industry requires, and that most businesses have already changed over. The person said that the older customers like me are getting a cheaper deal they negotiated with the company that's doing the new system. Looking at doing the system on my own would be more than double the cost, so I guess it's a good deal. And I really don't want to change to an entirely different host, especially after looking around a bit and seeing most would be vastly more than what I'm paying. So I guess I really have no choice. 😞 I guess the 'good news' is that I don't have to pay that new bill until mid-January.

In the morning I played my old MMO. There is some new content I was super sad about because I thought I didn't have access to, but I discovered that it's already unlocked. I don't remember getting it, so it must have come with something I already got, or someone gifted it to me and I forgot that happened. Well, this morning I looked at it for just a little bit. But, as usual, I got a bit too sad because it felt like this very nice thing I have to experience in a very limited way. I set it aside and will probably try again later.

I played my new MMO after. I guess I had a good time. I made some progress towards fancy end game things and some good random group activities.

I did want to get a special hot food to cheer myself up, but checking the map and double checking which fast food places take my food stamp card, there really isn't a close place that is affordable in gas. With having no money for gas, the distance to the closest one, which isn't really that far, would be 60% of my gas money for the week. With no money for gas, that's really much too much to spend right now. 😞

I guess overall today was 'better', but I am still terribly worried about the bills, and very homesick feeling. 😞

## Day 4877 (V:601) - 11/7

### Early due to cold

Today I left the Sunday spot early due to cold. It wasn't really because of the time change, even though it was right around an hour early. It was just really cold all day. It had started to get colder on Wednesday, and even with an extra hoodie on today I guess I was clenching my teeth most of the day from the cold. I probably should have worn my extra sweats too, but I didn't really realize how cold I was until the early afternoon, just a few hours before I was going to leave.

I even decided to stop playing my MMO early due to the cold making it difficult for me to use my keyboard and mouse. I watched a show and played my card game. Which I suppose is still pretty fun, but it has gotten to that point where if I play ranked I just pretty much repeatedly lose, and really never get out of the lowest rank. Which is not very fun and makes me question if I should continue playing. I probably haven't played in nearly two months before today.

Today was difficult. The cold and clenching my teeth just emphasized the problems and pain I have. And with that it reminded me of the overall loss and suffering during my sad times, and thinking about how much longer it will continue.

Someone randomly invited me to a guild in my new MMO. I did my usual question of what are their beliefs and interests and they gave the typical response of this and that content and they were friendly people. And while it's true they said the same thing 95% of everyone else says, I guess I was kind of mean to them. I suppose it is really difficult to know if the people in the guild would be kind and caring and genuinely interested in having me there. But I don't know... I've always had difficulty understanding why I should accept a random invite when their recruitment is the exact same as all the others. But they were trying to be friendly and nice, and now that time has passed since then, I realize I was probably just lashing out at them a bit because I am extremely sad, cold, and in pain.

Today seemed difficult. 😞 But I suppose what makes me the most sad is... this is what my life has become. 😞 I don't know when that will change. 😞 And I don't know if I will ever truly feel safe or comforted again. 😞

## **Day 4878 (V:602) - 11/8**

### **Hot soup**

Today I got my shower and confirmed the free parking signs are everywhere. So I took maybe a little bit longer shower, being extra sure everything was shaved carefully and nicely. After, I drove over to the cafeteria area with my canned soup that I got this morning. Surprisingly all of the administration area was gated and dark. The bookstore was gated, but the lights were on and some staff looked like they were planning things, even though there were signs saying it was closed for the quarter. This didn't bode well for the cafeteria area being open, but as I approached the building I noticed someone else was heading towards it, implying she knew it would be open. It was completely open, and even the food cooking area was open, with a sign showing they were open Monday through Thursday from 7 AM to 5 PM.

There were about a dozen in the food court area, with about 2/3 of that number being in one small group. The old floor was taken out and completely redone. Which thinking back on it would make sense, as when I was last there they had some kind of line issue and parts of the ground had cracked open. But it also seems they tore out all of the old booths that were along one wall. While some were getting pretty bad and a bit torn up, it's sad to seem them completely gone, as they were very comfy sitting for people to gather in tighter groups.

On my way off campus, since it was just a slight detour, I decided to visit my old sitting spot in the film/graphic arts building. It felt strange to be there. No one was around, and I didn't expect there to be. But there were suddenly a lot of old memories and feelings. Mostly of the students I'd met and helped along the way, but also a lot of feelings of hope for the future for the students. And of myself.

While I hope these students moved on and found a happy forever job (I know of a handful who have for sure), the memories kind of broke my heart. It reminded me of the times professors tried to help me find a job, and I wasn't qualified for whatever reason. And it reminded me how the professor I TAed for repeatedly promised and failed to help me find temporary or permanent work.

I was reminded of all the hope I felt when I was there. And now I can't help but be reminded that I feel like all of that time, for me, has again seemingly turned out to be a

dead end. And that those around me I hoped would help me either couldn't help, or simply abandoned me.

I do hope those I met and helped are doing well and moved on to find at least some of their dreams. But I can't help but wonder what has it meant for me? Was I just an instrument of Fate to help others achieve their goals or better their lives? Or is it indeed like my time with my previous degree and amounted to nothing?

## **Day 4879 (V:603) - 11/9**

### **Hopefully forgiving Tuesday**

Today will hopefully be forgiving. Hopefully it won't be too cold. Hopefully it won't feel too sad. Hopefully my feelings from Monday will fade and I can try and look to the future.

But hopefully most of all I can forgive myself for my choices, knowing they felt the best and most promising at the time. Hopefully I can continue to trust my instincts and they will lead me where I need to be. And hopefully I can continue to hang on emotionally and physically until better days. And hopefully I can continue to hang on to hope that help will come soon, and I will be able to cover the bills that seem to be fast approaching. 😊

**Day 4880 (V:604) - 11/10**  
**Inside for a minute**

Today I got to be inside and safe. I had a pretty good day playing and watching stuff. I got a cooked dinner and got to see a movie.

Not much else to say for the day. It was pretty good, though I couldn't help but feel sad and worried about the bills.

**Day 4881 (V:605) - 11/11**  
**Back out**

Today was another day inside. I actually almost forgot to do my writing, so I guess I was pretty distracted. I played and watched a show.

But again I couldn't stop worrying about the bills. 😔 And in the evening I will be back out to my regular sad homeless life. 😞

**Day 4882 (V:606) - 11/12**  
**A scare**

Today was ok I guess. I'm back to my regular homeless life. I suppose I had fun with my games, but in my new MMO I'm at a point where pretty much no one is doing the things I need, so it may be a very long time before I complete them. My old MMO has a new area I haven't explored yet, so I may spend more time doing that.

But last night I had a scare. I was watching a show where one of the characters died and people were mourning them and it was one of those times I suddenly became very fearful and worried about my own death. I cried just for a minute and almost had to stop watching.

I think because of that today I felt very sad and alone. I missed a lot of very 'simple pleasures'. Things like basic foods, a soft blanket, and stuff like watching a show with a friend. I guess I am just a bit extra shaken for the moment by my usual extreme worries and fears about the bills lately.

But I have to try and hold things together. I have to try to hold on, as difficult as it is. And hopefully help will come soon, and I can pay the bills in time.

## **Day 4883 (V:607) - 11/13**

### **Couldn't stop worrying**

Today I couldn't stop worrying. I can't shake the feeling that help won't come, and if I do get something for Thanksgiving gifts it will be in gift cards I can't use for bills. 😞 I don't know what will happen if that is true. 😞 There is no one I can ask for help. The only way I can even try to ask is indirectly, like here with the sad writings. And at this point I really think only a couple of people even read anymore. 😞

There was a cute couple on the way out of the library. Young-ish, maybe in their early 30s, and they had a pretty small daughter, maybe five. The mom rushed ahead to take a picture of dad and the daughter coming out of the library and she said to say cheese, which the daughter did. It was super cute. It made me a bit sad. With what my life is I may never find love again. And if I do, the odds of her wanting kids is effectively zero, because she probably would already have had kids and they would be in their early 20s or older. It seems so much of life has passed me by. 😞

## **Day 4884 (V:608) - 11/14**

### **Intestinal issues**

Today started out pretty poorly. I was extremely hungry in the morning. My tummy was very grumbly, so I was eating and drinking a bit quickly to quiet things down. I guess though it was a bit too much, as some of the drink got stuck in my throat. I spent

probably 15 minutes throwing up four or five times. 😞 I probably lost half of my breakfast foods. 😞

I haven't felt super great after. It's 'dinner time' and I still don't know that I would say I have fully recovered from it. I still feel pretty bad. 😞 I will try to eat gently and have easier foods, but I really can't do much else. With no money for cooked food I don't have any good choices.

I can eat a bit better in the morning though. I'll be over at school getting a shower and then can micro a meal. It still feels super weird basically no one is around, but honestly I'd probably even go more often than once or twice a week if I had the spare gas money to do so. At this point I am maybe a week or two from needing to use the last of my gift card money. 😞 (Which while that is an option, I'd rather use it to sign up for more school classes, some other emergency thing, or even an actual gift. Using it on every-day costs feels very bad.)

So today I felt very bad physically. And since I am still very worried about my bills coming in about a month, I still feel very bad emotionally. 😞

But all I can do is try to hang on and be as restful as I can. Try to hang on. And continue to hope help comes in time.

## **Day 4885 (V:609) - 11/15 Quiet day**

Today has been a pretty quiet day in the library so far. Only about six people have been in my quarter of the floor I stay on. Things have been pretty quiet and calm overall. Though that may have more to do with the overall gray outside. It looks like the rain may come back soon.

I got a shower at school in the morning. I didn't get the microwave food I was expecting to. I guess it was out at the store due to a sale, or it is not being produced due to changes in the industry since all of this started. But I did get a yummy spaghetti, and some hot dogs for dinner and tomorrow. So that will at least give me something different

to eat for a bit. It's been the entire like 1.5 years since things started since I've had either of those.

I'm slowing down on my new MMO. Pretty much there is only a single place to 'grind' for high level loot currently. Which is weird after doing dungeons up to three times a day (until about a week ago). I'm in this limbo spot where I have to wait until I have better gear before I can do them again. I could do crafting stuff, but that's gotten so incredibly slow at the level I'm at it doesn't feel very exciting to do. There are rumor that there are six more dungeons ready to go, so we may see those in the game very soon.

I'm still very worried about the bills. And still very worried help may not come in time. 

## **Day 4886 (V:610) - 11/16**

### **Hoping more comes**

Today I have word that dad sent some cash for Turkey day. It was about all I could have expected from him, which is a huge help for the bills, but I'm still pretty short on having enough to cover them. And the first is due in mid-December. 

Hopefully more help will come soon. And hopefully I can continue to hang on.

**Day 4887 (V:611) - 11/17**  
**Finally fries**

Today I finally have a hot cooked fries snack. After something like two months of the fast food place food stamp card machine not working it is finally working again.

I have been starving since about 2 when someone started openly eating in the library. For a while I was smelling some super yummy soup that smelt like some kind of vegetable beef with carrots. Right when I was about to get up to go investigate I heard a librarian ask them to take it outside, so they packed up and went out before I could investigate what it was.

Other than that I still feel extremely depressed. I am about out of gas, so I am going to have to use what would be emergency / school gift card money for that. And I am still pretty far from covering the bill that's due soon. 😞 All I can do is continue to try and hang on and hope help comes in time. 😞

**Day 4888 (V:612) - 11/18**  
**I do miss it**

Today I got a nice shower at school. No one was around, which felt a bit weird, but it's also easier. I microed one of my favorite micro meals. Weirdly it made me overly full. Back in the before time I could have that and half a roll and it would have been just the right amount of food.

I decided to visit my old sitting spot in the department for a minute before leaving. I do miss being a T.A. I do miss interacting with and helping the students. I'd always felt like I would find a permanent place there. Maybe not something with amazing pay and perfect hours, probably less pay with a bit of a struggle, but something happy. Something I'd have lots of time off for other things, or just enjoying my time. Something where I could continue to help students. While I suppose such a position isn't completely

impossible, I feel like I won't get any help getting such a position. And as such I will fall by the wayside and become forgotten, as I seemingly have been so many times before.

I feel a bit sad today. Sad about my far future. Sad about my immediate future and the bills. And worried I won't get help for them in time.

But all I can do is try to stay hopeful. Try to hope that I am on the right path that will lead somewhere. Hope that help for the bills will come in time. And hope that someday I can have at least some kind of regular life again.

## **Day 4889 (V:613) - 11/19**

### **Fixated on death**

Today my mind has been fixated on my death. About five times today I nearly started panicking about it. 😞 More and more lately my mind has not been able to shake my fear and worry that it will happen soon. 😞

I think maybe the big trigger lately is winter and my poor health. It is difficult to make it through the cold months, but with my poor health it may prove even more so than usual, especially with all the limitations due to closures and other restrictions hindering both my diet and possibly trying to do at least some kind of working out. And of course it is a cycle; the less I have, the worse I feel, the worse I become. 😞

I otherwise had a pretty good day. I played my games. The stream I watch had some extra stuff going on, so that was fun. And I got to chat with people more than usual. So I'm not really sure why I was extra sad and worried about death. It could be the holidays too, since I have no one and am reminded of how alone I am.

Whatever the reason, all I can do is try to not focus on it. Try to focus on what I do have. Hope help comes in time. And try to make it through.

## **Day 4890 (V:614) - 11/20**

### **A quick day**

Today felt like it passed pretty quickly. I don't think it was because I was having fun so much as it was because I was sad, worried, and afraid. 😞 I haven't gotten any help yet, so I continue to worry about the bills. Nothing bad happened, but since nothing good happened it seemed all I had to focus on was the bad. 😞

## **Day 4891 (V:615) - 11/21**

### **Salad**

Today I had salad. I actually had forgotten to even look for it. Back when things started there were several weeks at a time where they had none at all. And when they came back most looked pretty disgusting looking. I guess my brain put them so far out of my mind I just forgot about salad entirely. The more depressed I get the less my brain seems to remember, and the less divergently it tends to think in terms of coming up with options for things. 😞 Hopefully with at least once or twice a week being able to micro things again I will start to remember old foods, as well as get at least a tiny bit healthier.

I think I had fun today, but I felt very sad and alone today. 😞 My mind would not stop worrying or feeling sad about the bills and the holidays. 😞 And it was tougher to hang on today.

## **Day 4892 (V:616) - 11/22**

### **Odd hello**

Today was shower and micro at school day. I thought I might be in trouble when I heard an older adult say, "Are you almost finished," from out of my view to the side. I looked over and almost didn't recognize who it was. He's probably 6'6", so a taller guy, but I'd guess he's gained about 50 or more pounds since I last saw him a few years ago. It

was the chef, who has known I've been in a bad spot, as he saw me outside a few times back years ago when I used to be outside of school when it was closed (and the library limited online use to 2 hours a day.) He clarified by asking if I was almost done with classes. So we chatted for a bit and I explained how that's a rough question now with things being online and my having a degree, so I have to sign up in the last group of people, and basically everything is full by the time I get a chance. So that was an unexpected surprise to see someone who kind of knows me.

I guess the library is pretty calm and quiet, but I feel pretty sad about everything. 😢 I kind of feel like I'm going to start crying. 😢 But all I can do is try to stay hopeful help will come, and that I can hang on until things get better.

## **Day 4893 (V:617) - 11/23** **Hopefully ok Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to hope for. Hopefully it won't be too cold. Hopefully things will be quiet and calm. Hopefully I can be restful and try to recover from my poor health and extreme stress. And hopefully help will come to pay the bills.

Hopefully I won't be too sad, and I can continue to try to hang on.

### **Day 4894 (V:618) - 11/24**

#### **Soon a week off**

Today there is some happy news. For the next Fail week I will pretty much be inside and safe. I will be warm enough hopefully, sheltered, but private, so I will have quiet, can control lighting a bit, and no one will be around me to cause me any worry.

I guess today was ok. I got a shower and cooked food, but I am pretty sad and worried feeling. 😞 And I don't know when that will change. 😞

### **Day 4895 (V:619) - 11/25**

#### **Path of loss**

Today was very sad. While I am in shelter and have many nice things, I guess maybe because it's Thanksgiving and people are gathering and saying what they are thankful for, I am thinking back to over 20 years ago, basically 40% of my entire life ago. A life that has no longer been short, and in cases like my Mom, longer than many others already. I was a few years divorced. I had to sell the condo. While I was down and lost many things, I was in a position to kind of start over. I was going to school to start a career, hopefully a new forever career. And since my friends had all abandoned me, I had hopes I would find new friends along the way. While not everything was possible, it felt like I had enough freedom to start over in many ways, and could even go wherever I wanted geographically.

But now... alone... sad... eating basically ready to eat snack or lunch foods... not sharing success stories or thankful stories... I feel... disconnected and lost. I used to feel abandoned, but that doesn't really seem accurate, as only those you know can abandon you. It is really that in my journey to that new life has ultimately been alone. While some have believed in me, really no one new has come along to support me along that new journey to become more. No one helped me to realize a potential I could become.

I am thankful to those along the way who did truly care. I am very thankful in these terrible trying times to those who do send help for me to pay what bills remain so I can survive day to day.

But a thanksgiving where I can say I am ok. I am safe. I am doing at least well enough to make it the rest of the way on my own... that is not today.

## **Day 4896 (V:620) - 11/26**

### **Worried**

Today was sort of ok. I slept in. I played my games. I have some shows to watch. But I felt pretty sad and alone. Most of all I feel worried. No help has come for the bills for Thanksgiving yet, and there are only about 3.5 weeks until the first big one is due. But I can't think about it because I will stress and worry and cry and throw up from all the stress and worry. I just have to keep hanging on to hope that enough help will come in time and that I can make it. I don't need a whole lot to make this one, then have another month until the next bill, so I am trying to stay hopeful help will come in time.

## **Day 4897 (V:621) - 11/27**

### **Sadderday**

Today was kind of sad feeling. I got to sleep in, but it was a bit colder, so there was no point in the day that I could take off any layers. And once it started to get dark I additionally had to bundle up under covers.

I wasn't on the verge of crying over bills like I was the other day, but I did feel an overall greater level of sadness about things I miss, things I may never have again, and things I may yet lose very soon. 😢

## **Day 4898 (V:622) - 11/28**

### **Less sad, still sad**

Today I feel maybe less sad overall than yesterday, but still extremely sad and worried about the bills overall. At this point it feels like any late Turkey day help would have come by now, and so none is on the way. So I am very very worried no help or gift money will come until Xmas or after, which would be too late to pay the important bill coming due soon. 😞

I guess I had fun with my games. I did some different things, and a person was mean to me in my old MMO, so that didn't feel great. I'm losing interest in my new MMO because I'm in this weird limbo space where I shouldn't do the last two dungeons because of how gear works, and really the only way to meet that gap is to repeatedly grind about four areas that have a 24 hour lockout and are not things I find fun or interesting. I could also maybe do crafting, but I'm guessing it's going to be a minimum of 75 hours of just crafting to get even my highest level one to max where I can even try to start to craft max gear. Which does not guarantee I'll get what I want, because stats are randomized. So at this point I'm beginning to wonder if it's worth continuing or if I should just wait for more content to come that's what I enjoy doing, because the game doesn't feel like it's being respectful of my time.

So, I guess today I feel a bit more relaxed for being able to sleep in, being insideish and warm enough to at least take off my hoodie for a bit. But I am extremely sad and worried about the bills. 😞 And with it being the holidays, I feel extra sad and down in general. 😞

## **Day 4899 (V:623) - 11/29**

### **Last inside day**

Today feels extra sad. I am still very worried about the bills. And today is my last full day insideish. Tomorrow afternoon I'll be back out to my sad homeless life. It feels

very sad and lonely, but I know I am trying to control and manage things as best as I can with everything going on.

I guess I had fun with my games today. Again there was a bad experience. But some online friends said hi and they were worried about me, so that was nice.

Dad asked about the bills and said he would help if he could. Really if he sends Xmas cash money early than he normally would that should be enough. So maybe that will happen. I haven't heard anything back.

Today I don't feel great. I don't know if it's from eating basically the same foods for so many days in a row, the reduced movement, the extra cold, or just general sadness. But I feel tired, extra achy, and my tummy feels upset.

But still really all I can do is try to hang on.

## **Day 4900 (V:624) - 11/30**

### **Back out**

Today I don't really know what to expect. It will depend when I need to be back out to my regular homeless life. If it's pretty early I'll do a regular day, if it's later in the day it wouldn't be worth the gas to go to my daytime spot just for a few hours. If gas weren't an issue I wouldn't need to worry so much. 😊

It will likely be extra sad regardless. 😊

**Day 4901 (V:625) - 12/1**  
**Help in time**

Today is a fair bit less stressful. Dad confirmed he sent Xmas money early, so that will be here this weekend or early next week. And my friend who sends help monthly sent some extra help. So that is super good. My bills now will definitely be covered. I'll have to see what is left, but it is very possible there will be enough for a few months of gas or even one of the May bills now, so that is taken care of early.

This morning I also went to school to get a shower and micro food. So I'm finally showering again after about a week not. I actually considered staying at school, but it would be too weird. I mean, I probably wouldn't really be noticed, but still. Most who visit the cafeteria area only stay about 30 minutes I'd guess.

I guess today was pretty ok. It will be a bit before things cycle and the bills are actually paid, and I may want to wait a few days to make it more invisible in case the food stamp people want to check my bank account statement. (Not that what is on there should generate any attention, but still, it's a thing that can happen.) But soon I should hopefully be less stressed. Though after next week I lose access to school things, so there may be more stress from that.

But for the moment maybe it's a bit easier to hang on.

**Day 4902 (V:626) - 12/2**  
**Fairly less stressed**

Today I started to feel less stressed about the bills. I didn't count it all up yet, as I don't have it all yet, that will be a bit. But hopefully I will feel less stressed soon and back to my normal stress from my regular homeless life.

I guess today was ok. I played my old MMO. I played my shooter. But I only dabbled in my new MMO, just doing a couple of quick things for about an hour. With

what I'm most interested in out of reach, and the remaining things I could do to get there being complete grinds, I'm rapidly losing interest.

But things were very quiet at the library almost all day. I think there were fewer than 6 people in my half of the floor until about 3 PM. So overall things felt quiet, calm, and I was able to hang on a bit easier.

## **Day 4903 (V:627) - 12/3**

### **A bit better**

Today I was feeling a bit better. Though my life still forces me to play and keep active doing things that distract me from my sad life and thoughts of death much more than I'd like to do them. I did feel a bit less stressed though, so that is something.

Dad's money came earlier than expected, so that is good. Though it will still be a bit to cycle things around. But with it I can take some official counts of monies and plan the things and see what is what.

So today was a bit easier to hang on.

## **Day 4904 (V:628) - 12/4**

### **No power in the morning**

Today started off a bit differently. The spot outside of the building next door to the library has no power. I was frustrated at first, thinking my preferred spot was out again. But it was actually the whole building. (I wouldn't be surprised if that meant my preferred spot was again out for several months.) So I just went to my car to listen to stuff instead of being online for a bit until the library opened.

I guess the day was pretty regular besides that. It was warm enough. It was quiet enough. There was a super beautiful lawyer school girl across the table from me for a bit, so that was different. After she left someone was there who spilled some of his coffee, so that was a bit of excitement. I was actually tempted to ask what it was, as it was one of

the only coffees I've smelt that actually seemed like it would taste good. But overall it was a pretty regular homeless day.

With money for the bills cycling, I feel a bit safer knowing there is enough money. And so I hung on a bit easier, though I was still very sad and lonely feeling.

## **Day 4905 (V:629) - 12/5**

### **Weird and cold day**

Today has been very weird and super cold. I had expected my preferred spot would still be out of power, and it is, but so is the spot in back that I had been using in its place. I'm in the spot on the parking side of the building. It's been pretty busy with people driving by every few minutes. At first I was guessing maybe people were using the entrance furthest from the grass field to drive around and do dog stuff, but I just saw some people go into the community building, so maybe some kind of event is going on.

I was hoping to be in my former regular spot, which would have gotten some sun in the afternoon, and I could have warmed up a bit. But the spot I had to use is on the opposite side of the building, where there is only sun in the morning, which today was super foggy, and so it stayed cold all day. It's early afternoon as I write this and I may leave even earlier than I expected to because it would be warmer in my car, and I just feel weird and out of sorts being over on this side of the building.

Today has been weird from changing positions, causing extra depression, which causes changes in how much and what I play or do to keep myself distracted. It wasn't a very good day. 

## **Day 4906 (V:630) - 12/6**

### **Hot to cold**

Today has been very weird. It started with a sort of shower. The water was almost burning hot, but there was no pressure at all, it barely dribbled out, and the water smelt a

bit off? It was as if the cold water source were shut off, and they were pulling from a hot puddle with a hand pump.

When I got to the library it was the opposite, as it seemed like they had no heat on at all. Things were freezing cold, and after less than an hour of being there I'd put back on my hoodie that I'd taken off, and put up the hood over my head to keep warm.

I did get some good news that I can be in my safe insideish spot Tuesday through Thursday, so that will be nice. And in a bit I'll do final planning and money moving for the bills, so I can pay that soon.

It's pretty terrible with the cold at the library, but I got a sort of shower in the morning, so that is something.

## **Day 4907 (V:631) - 12/7**

### **Briefly insideish**

Today I will be briefly insideish, so that will be nice. It won't be warm, so that will be sad. But hopefully I'll be warm enough, and things will be quiet and calm, and I won't have to worry about being near others.

But I guess maybe hopefully I will be able to hang on a little bit easier.

### **Day 4908 (V:632) - 12/8**

#### **Feeling worse**

Today was pretty good. I had fun with 'older games'. I did my (old) MMO in the morning, and then a fair bit of my shooter. I've pretty much set my new MMO aside for now. There are some good changes coming soon, but until they do I will just play super super casually. It doesn't seem respectful of my time (as a purely PvE player) so until there is more there to do worth my time I'll just do other things.

I have been feeling progressively worse since Monday. A touch dizzy or off balance sometimes. An ickiness in my tummy. A lot of congestion in the cold times. And lately, pretty much just a bit yesterday and today, headache feelings and eye stress. I'm sure it's just a cold, or maybe extreme allergies, but it makes me feel not the best.

Yesterday I did all the bill paying. So, phew, the yearly web space, and the new email fee, are both taken care of for a year. I was also going to pay the domain name early, but it looks like with the little bit of the boost money I got a while ago I already paid that for two years, so that's covered until early 2023. So that means the extra bill money I would have paid to that could be saved for other bills. But the immediate worries are over, and I will be ok until the next bill comes in May.

I slept probably 11 hours last night, a further indication of a cold or something going on. I can sleep in again tomorrow, but tomorrow night I will be back out to my sad homeless life. 😞

### **Day 4909 (V:633) - 12/9**

#### **Approved**

Today I feel both sad and a bit better. In the early afternoon I got word my food stamp money was approved again. And it's actually about \$70 more than it was in the before time. I don't know if that's an additional bump because of just normal time passing,

or a continued boost because of the virus times. At this point with the previous boost, and not being able to get micro food all the time, I have about three months of food money saved up. So this will help further increase that. I still worry if they ever stop my benefits that they'd take that away immediately instead of letting me drain it down. I don't think they would, but I still worry.

But I am sad because tonight I will be back out to a regular homeless life, and it is continuing to get colder and colder. ☹

But the important bills are paid. I have confirmation I will be able to eat through next year. And that is something.

## **Day 4910 (V:634) - 12/10**

### **Fixed shower**

Today I decided to check if the school showers were still open and fixed. They were, so that was super good. It may be my last shower for a while, as I may not get one for the next 3-4 weeks. I may check next week, as they had them open that week in the past, but since this week was finals for a quarter that's almost entirely online I won't be surprised if it's completely closed.

I didn't get to have my cooked lunch. The cafeteria was weirdly unblocked, with the roller metal dividers opened, but everything was locked up tight. So the soup I got will have to wait until next quarter.

Today passed pretty quickly. I don't know if that was the usual homeless start, or being refreshed from my inside time, but for a regular homeless day it seemed to pass twice as fast as normal. I guess that is a good thing, as it was much more difficult to focus on sad things. Though now it's night, and it is rapidly getting cold, so that may change.

But so far at least, it seemed a bit easier to hang on.

## **Day 4911 (V:635) - 12/11**

### **Broken back**

Today my back is killing me. I think maybe it got cricked when I was sleeping. Yesterday it wasn't as bad, but today it just doesn't want to bend at all. Like if I'm standing, bending over is very difficult. And the reverse was true when I was in the library. When I got up from sitting it had a hard time getting straight to stand.

There was a bit of a scare right after the library opened. The power shut off. I went to look around to see if it was just the library or surrounding buildings and deciding how long I'd wait before going out into the cold, but the power came on only about 15 minutes after it had gone out. So it seemed fine after that.

I guess after that the day was reasonably ok. I still don't feel great. I have a bit of a headache, have had it most of the day, and I'm very tired. My left eye kind of shut and slowly opened a few times, as if its blink muscle was too tired to open at normal speed. That was a bit odd. I'm not sure what was up with that. And I'm pretty congested feeling during the cold weather times, like when I'm outside, I don't really feel congested inside.

I guess today was ok, but I would have preferred to be warmer. I would have preferred to be inside. And I'd have preferred to have cooked food. 😞

## **Day 4912 (V:636) - 12/12**

### **Broken belt**

Today when I was sitting in the morning I went to adjust my pants and heard a pop. I was worried it was my pants button popping off, but it was actually my belt. It's cloth with a pre-set size length and metal clasps to hold it, so over the years it's gotten more and more worn thin, until today when it got so thin it snapped. I've had one on my wish list that's only about \$17, so maybe I'll have to look at getting that soon. (I only have 2 pairs of pants that need a belt, and the other 2 don't.)

Today was much too cold. It wasn't as cold as yesterday, but it was so cold I left my outside spot about 1.5 hours earlier than I otherwise would. I was on the old side of the building since it has power again, and I'd hoped in the afternoon it would get some

sun and warm up. There was no such luck as it was gray and cloudy all day. In fact, now at about 3 it's started raining.

My back is still killing me. I can barely bend. I'll have to maybe try and stretch, but I don't really have anywhere to try. I still feel sick too, but in different ways today. There is a bit of headache, eye strain feelings, and ear ringing. My tummy feels a touch odd, but more in an 'I'm sick and want specific food' craving kinds of ways. I'm considering going to the fast food place that will take my food stamp card and getting some fries and chicken. I wish they had other food. A soup would be great, but really that's all this place does. My only other option would be a hamburger place, but that's 5-10 minutes away and is similarly limited.

I guess overall today was ok. So far I have lived through it. But it is extremely cold, my options on what I can do are limited because of that, and I feel pretty sick and sad. 😞

## **Day 4913 (V:637) - 12/13**

### **Almost constant rain**

Today has been almost constantly raining. It's only briefly stopped for a bit, but it looks like it may keep going for days.

I guess today has been ok so far. I was kind of surprised to get a shower, though the water was really cold to start. It probably took more than 10 minutes to get even a bit warm. But it was warm enough to do regular shower things after that.

My back is still pretty bad, but not as it has been, so that is good. I still feel extra tired though, and my ears are ringing pretty badly. I have just a teeny bit of a headache though, so that is nice.

I guess today has been ok. I still have many sads, but I may always have them. 😞

**Day 4914 (V:638) - 12/14**  
**Probably rainy Tuesday**

Today I don't really know what to expect. I will guess it will be pretty cold and rainy. But for my day I don't really expect anything new or different. I am still calming down from bill stress, but still struggling to avoid being too sad from extra holiday things.

But all I can do is continue to try to hang on.

**Day 4915 (V:639) - 12/15**  
**Windy**

Today was pretty windy. Yesterday was stormy rain and wind, but for the moment the rain is gone, or just a light sprinkle. I guess today was ok. I don't really remember much. I did my MMO, shooter, and watched a show. The day passed pretty quickly and I didn't feel too bad. Mostly now I just have ringing ears and congestion if I'm out in the cold. My back still hurts a fair bit. It was kind of spacing out from unknown stress sources for a bit, but overall it isn't as bad as it has been lately, so I guess that's something.

So today I guess I held on ok. And most days it seems that is all I can hope for.

**Day 4916 (V:640) - 12/16**  
**Maybe not a last shower**

Today I did a shower in the morning. I noticed last time I was here the board showed there was a Tuesday game. I confirmed that is indeed next week, so this may not be the last shower for the year. I guess I'll check on Monday and see if they are open. They have been open this week probably due to practice.

I felt pretty sad today I think overall. I still feel a bit sick with headaches and congestion, so maybe that is part of it. But I don't know. I just feel very sad and sorry for everything I've lost, and all the opportunities I may never have. I guess in part too I just feel unappreciated, like those I've helped in the past recent years have moved on to better lives, while I have been unpaid, unrecognized, unappreciated, and not rewarded. And most of all, stuck, unaided by those I helped, or who were in positions to help.

But I guess I made it through the day. And with that there is still a chance things will be better. And so, I continue to try my best to hang on.

## **Day 4917 (V:641) - 12/17**

### **Late surprise**

Today had a late surprise. As it got into early evening I got word I could be in my safe insideish spot for a bit. It's not for super long, just Saturday and then sometime Sunday, but I can be insideish for at least a little bit. So today was mostly normal, but in the evening I got a little bit of a special dinner, special dessert, and watched some shows.

Hopefully the next two mornings I can sleep in and get some extra rest. The insideish spot will be pretty chilly, so I'll have to wrap up, but I am trading one inside day and one freezing outside day for two insideish days. It will probably be a fair trade.

Hopefully I can hang on a bit easier.

## **Day 4918 (V:642) - 12/18**

### **Colder than expected**

Today my insideish spot was colder than expected. I had to stay bundled under blankets the entire time. I had a good time though and played quite a bit. I did stop earlier than I usually would though due to the cold then watched stuff as bundled up as I could be. I did feel pretty sad, as I often do lately, but things were a little better.

## **Day 4919 (V:643) - 12/19**

### **Half numb**

Today my parts have been half numb. I did get to sleep in, but now I am back out to my regular homeless life. I've left my outside spot early to be in my car. It is so cold outside my hands and feet have been half numb. It wasn't until the sun started coming into the spot that it barely got warm enough that my hands started to just feel pretty cold instead of half numb. Now in the car I'm getting better. It's not a whole lot better, but my parts are starting to feel just chilly as opposed to my extremities being half numb.

I didn't get to play as much as I'd have liked due to the cold today, but I did 'do my dailies', so I guess it's ok. My back is starting to feel less stiff, and it's not killing me like it has been for the past while. I'm still a little slow to get up, but it's not a total struggle or pained. It could really use stretching and stuff I'm sure, but I won't have a chance to do that until things start to warm up again.

I guess it wasn't a terrible day. But as all homeless days, especially during holidays like now, it could have been better. 😞

## **Day 4920 (V:644) - 12/20**

### **Extra tired**

Today I feel headachey and extra tired. I was right in guessing school showers would be open, so I took an extra long one to do super careful shaving. I hopefully won't get too bad in the time before the next shower, but I'll for sure have to shave in bathroom sink three times. So those may be bad and rushed.

I think my cold is worse is why I feel bad. I don't feel terrible, but I do feel headachey, my eyeballs hurt, and I'm very tired. I guess the good news is the library is warm, and due to almost no one here, very quiet and calm.

## **Day 4921 (V:645) - 12/21**

### **Sad Xmas thoughts**

Today and lately I feel pretty sad. I've briefly been spending a little time in my new MMO due to a special holiday event. But it's kind of making me sad. There are big trees with huge piles of presents. I can't remember when I had a pile of presents, either for myself or for others. For so many years I've only had a few presents, and not gotten a tree over one foot tall for probably 25 years. And the last 15 years, none at all.

I guess it will be another sad Xmas this year, like many others recently, but it still makes me very sad.

**Day 4922 (V:646) - 12/22**  
**Almost did a thing**

Today I was, probably not less depressed than usual, but almost able to step back from my distractions and do some stuff on my sites that I've been meaning to do. The big overall thing is still the feeling that either no one cares, or in the case of the PC hardware recommendations due to supply and demand, it won't really matter to anyone.

I mean, sure, you should always live your life and do things for you. But so much lately I feel like I'm unnecessary, no one cares about my specific thoughts or understanding or that because there are so many people I am effectively redundant and simply not something people want or need in their lives.

I expect over the break this week or next there will be several points it will be either too cold to play, or I will be too cold to think or react properly, and I will do the things then. But today it was a bit rougher to hang on, feeling like I have to keep in motion and can't stop or change direction for fear of depression and sadness consuming me completely. 😞

**Day 4923 (V:647) - 12/23**  
**Only one shave**

Today I almost decided to get a free pass to a local gym for a couple of days. The more I thought about the timing of things, the more I realized I really only need to shave Sunday, because a shave really doesn't start to bug me until 4 or 5 days later. So if I shaved Sunday when no one should be around in the bathroom it should be easy. And then it's a week and one day until I could do the next at school when it's open again.

So I considered getting a free pass to have access to a hot shower instead of doing it in the bathroom. The thing that stopped me was that it required I give them both my

email and phone number. Since my phone only has x time and then is pay as I go, and that is a very tiny amount that I'm currently out of, I didn't want to be hit per minute or per message for advertising. And what if they sold my information and one message became 10, or 100? So I figured it just wasn't worth the risk for a single shower.

I feel pretty burnt out though. Maybe it's still my cold. My ears are ringing. I have a bit of a headache. And I'm suuper tired. I guess I'm ok other than that. But tomorrow and the next day I have no library, so my outside Xmas time weekend of cold will officially begin. 😞

## **Day 4924 (V:648) - 12/24**

### **Decided to shave**

Today when I got to the outdoor spot there were only a couple of people around. I decided to go ahead and do a shave since parts were beginning to bug me. It was fine. I was not interrupted at all. I will likely do one Sunday, as it's best to do every 3-4 days.

The people surprised me. It actually became a normal busy weekend type of day. From about noon on there were quite a lot out and about near my spot. I do have a vague memory of that happening in other years. It would be best if it were like that. I always feel better with others around. I feel like I'll get in trouble if I'm the only one out there on holidays.

But I guess as it always is, it is what it is. I can't control the other people, only try to do what is the best option for me to keep going mentally and physically.

## **Day 4925 (V:649) - 12/25**

### **Just tonight**

Today I got word I could be in my insideish spot tonight and get a bit of Xmas dinner. It probably won't be too fancy, but it will be something cooked, so that will be good. 🤗

That will be later though. It's only late afternoon now. I guess the day was ok. It was warmer than yesterday. My feet were only a teeny bit numb. Mostly I was ok, just a bit chilly. I had an ok time with my games.

I am feeling pretty sad and down though. I actually considered doing games where I didn't have to talk to anyone, or setting myself to show that I was offline. I suppose I would be almost as sad in a home though. But in a home I would be warm, shaved, able to cook, and hopefully half all clean cloths, and plenty of sleep. I hope this is my last homeless Xmas, but things don't seem to be getting better in my life. And with everything going on it feels like my future has fewer options than ever. 😞

## **Day 4926 (V:650) - 12/26**

### **Squirrel's grapes**

Today I noticed a squirrel run by with something in their mouth. They paused and smelled one of the grapes I left for them yesterday. They seemed sad, as if confused and distraught over keeping the thing in their mouth or taking the grape. But then they hopped off and came bouncing back a minute later to also get the grape. It was super cute. I put out four more for them to take, but they didn't seem to come back to investigate the area.

But a bit later another squirrel came by and took one of the four. 😊

I didn't stay in my outside spot for long though. It was much colder than I expected and after only a few hours my parts were starting to feel a bit numb at the extremities, so I decided to go back to my car earlier than expected.

I guess today was ok. It's later afternoon now. I did my dailies in my MMO and shooter, and kind of did a bit in my new MMO for the special holiday event. Though again I'm not sure if I will stay once the event ends, as I'm primarily only interested in dungeons and groups since crafting doesn't seem to be worth my time at high-end, and it's current game design makes that kind of impossible for someone who's solo like me.

I guess I made it through the day ok. But I am very much looking forward to tomorrow where I can just wait in my car for the library to open, then be inside nice and warm.

## **Day 4927 (V:651) - 12/27**

### **A bit down**

Today I feel a bit down. I suppose I'm still a little sick, and maybe pretty depressed overall. I also feel interested in doing a couple of things in my games, so I suppose that's a little positive something. And I'm happy there was enough Xmas to get a game pre-ordered (while still theoretically holding enough to cover the car registration and one other bill). But maybe it's because I still feel a bit sick, or am very tired, but I feel a bit down.

I'm back to my warm spot in the library today though, so that is something.

## **Day 4928 (V:652) - 12/28**

### **Expecting rain Tuesday**

Today I will be in the library hopefully warm and reasonably comfortable. I expect it will be pretty rainy though. It has been for about a week now. I'm not really sure what to expect for the day or what the day will bring. With all my limitations I don't have a lot of variability from day to day these days.

Hopefully I can continue to hang on.

**Day 4929 (V:653) - 12/29**  
**Angry day**

Today is apparently angry day. In the morning someone was talking about a game, and so I typed some big responses thinking they were asking for thoughts/help with it, and they replied with something that didn't seem very nice. So I said fine and deleted it all and was mad and considering blocking them. A few minutes later they said they were sorry if they seemed rude, but they weren't asking for thoughts/help. I saw their point and calmed down.

Later in the day someone sat across from me at my table in the last few hours I was at the library. I was about to tell them to leave, but it was close enough I just tried my best to ignore what they were doing. I suppose he wasn't really doing anything 'bad' or 'wrong', but he was constantly, like 1 out of every 3 minutes, for a couple hours, messing with his belt, shirt, pants, or flipping his hair around. If he comes to my table again I'll, as politely as I can, ask him to sit somewhere else.

Then, when I was driving around after the library closed it was completely pouring rain. I go around a turn, then the road merged from two lanes down to one. This person comes flying up from the straight direction, probably speeding to run the light, going way too fast, I'm ahead of them merging, but they are trying to push past me. I'm like, 'nope, you are going way too fast, at night, in the pouring rain, I'm not slamming on my brakes and swerving hard so you can rudely push past me.' Since I apparently didn't do what they wanted after they were behind me they start slamming on their horn and flashing their lights. I ignored it the first time, they needed to slow the hell down. But then they do it again, and I'm like, no, slam on my horn and start pumping my breaks to flash them back, indicating, 'no, you are wrong, back the hell off.' This repeated a couple of times, each time I got slower, indicating if they don't slow down and keep being an ass I'll just be an ass back. It got to the point where if they did it a fourth time I probably would have stopped my car completely and gotten out and had words with them. But after the 100 or so feet after turning I'd reached my turn and turned into a shopping area. To my shock, immediately after they turned the other way into an apartment area. Yes, that

meant in the space of maybe 50 feet they had slammed on their horn and flashed me repeatedly several times. They couldn't wait the extra probably 10 seconds more my driving at a reasonable speed would have cost them.

So, today was mad day. I probably wouldn't have done anything differently if it happened again. But I do know my life is not in a position to be ok or just shrug things like this off when they happen. 😞 And that makes me sad. 😞

## **Day 4930 (V:654) - 12/30**

### **Did a bit**

Today I didn't feel like playing as much as I usually do. I stopped a couple of hours before the library closed and I spent a bit of time working on my site a bit. It wasn't all of what I need/want to do, maybe 1/3 of it, but it was progress. And even though probably no one will really feel it's useful information, I feel good that I updated. I suppose now it is returning to its original purpose more than not; personal notes and parts for me to remember, just in case I can ever do a desktop build again.

Overall I just feel very extremely tired. I guess maybe it's because of the past few nights I've not fallen asleep until after midnight and lost some sleep, but it could just be a cold too. I'm more congested than usual. It's still almost exclusively when I'm out in the cold. In the library where I'm warm I'm not really congested, so I'm not sure.

I guess today emotionally I feel both a bit more sad, and a bit more ok than usual. Hopefully I can continue to hang on.

## **Day 4931 (V:655) - 12/31**

### **Cold Eve**

Today it was ridiculously cold. I guess we have a cold front right now or something because the weather shows it will be ridiculously cold for a few more days. It was so cold I only stayed in the outside spot a few hours then spent time in my car while

there was still sun on it. I saw the coldest part of today was just about 35F and it peaked at barely 50F. If it will be this cold the next few days I don't know what I'll do.

Needless to say I didn't play much today, probably not even half of what I normally would have on such a day. And I'm extremely tired. When I was in my car killing time I kind of fell asleep for probably 15 minutes, and was half asleep another 15.

It's only later afternoon now, and there are a few very scary hours ahead for me. I hope this year with so many staying home things are more quiet and calm than normal. All the excitement is too scary for me these days. But hopefully I can continue to hang on.

## **Day 4932 (V:656) - 1/1/2022**

### **Almost more**

Today it is still super cold. The car was a bit frozen over in the morning. I was maybe a bit more ok feeling and wanted to do more with my site work. But due to my limitations I didn't. I was too cold to really think clearly, and my hands and feet were half numb.

When the sun started to get into my area in the early afternoon I started to briefly warm up. I was considering doing it then, but with the sun in the area it was difficult to see. So playing, or doing things that required me to see the screen, were difficult. And if I moved out of the sun I'd be right back to freezing.

I became pretty depressed at that point. I wanted to do the thing, but due to different limitations at different times, I couldn't. Or at the very least I felt so depressed by my limitations I no longer wanted to. I still want to now, hours later, and I may still do some stuff later. But again, it would be limited, in my car, maybe in the dark, without a connection.

And, as always, that made me more sad, wondering how many chances, how many opportunities, I've lost, where maybe I could do, or be, more than I am, because I am not in a positive, or even neutral, environment that would give me the opportunity.

## **Day 4933 (V:657) - 1/2**

### **Frozen again**

Today was super cold most of the day. In the morning the car was frozen over again. My hands and feet were half numb until probably about noon when they were barely not. In the later morning/early afternoon I actually felt like I wanted to work on my site, but I was too cold. My brain felt like I had a headache from the cold, so I didn't. By the time I warmed up a few hours later I wasn't really in a good mood to do it. I thought I may do it after I changed spots, but the thought of doing stuff in my car didn't appeal to me.

Tomorrow the library will be open again. And in theory school for taking a shower and microing lunch. I guess we'll see about that. I saw no indication of any negative change in terms of classes or move back to in person classes, so I expect it will be the same as last quarter. As to the library, in theory I should be able to be inside most of the time now. Though I think there will be president type holidays in January and February, so I expect I'll miss a Monday or Friday each month, but hopefully not much more.

It's early evening now and not as cold. This cold weather is basically supposed to start passing by today, and by Wednesday it should be back to about 40-45F at night instead of 35F, with highs around 55-60F instead of 45-50F. So hopefully starting tomorrow things should feel a bit better.

## **Day 4934 (V:658) - 1/3**

### **Headache**

Today was good and maybe bad. It wasn't as cold in the morning, so that made things easier. School started again, so even though I don't have classes it should be fine to shower there and micro an early lunch twice a week. It surprised me though as there were maybe 5-10% of the normal amount of people walking around campus and in the cafeteria area. Which is odd because both of the departments I am taking classes in are

still fully online. I thought only P.E. classes were doing in person meetings. Maybe they were just there for a 'first meeting in person' kind of thing and will be online after today.

I've had some pretty big headaches so far today though. My eyes, especially my left, are doing that weird blood flow pressure thing where the eyelids flutter and sometimes my vision gets a little wobbly in that eye. It hasn't happened a lot, but it's happened maybe 3-4 times in the past 1.5 hours.

I did feel in the mood to do some stuff on my personal site last night. It's extremely basic, but it should be done to the point of being postable soon (replacing the now non-supported Flash version.) I don't think anyone will care, but I guess it means something to me that it's viewable and intact. It was strange going through some of the old poems and stories and seeing bits of the me who was.

I guess I'm kind of ok though. Things are warming up, so that's good. And I can be back in the library most days again, so that is good. Hopefully I can continue to hang on.

## **Day 4935 (V:659) - 1/4** **Mystery Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to expect. The cold seems to be going away. While it's not 'warm', it doesn't seem as freezing. The rain seems to be threatening to come back, so it may start raining again.

Hopefully it will be calm and restful and it will be a little easier to hang on.

### **Day 4936 (V:660) - 1/5**

#### **Like a terrible nightmare**

Today was pretty bad. Things got bad Monday night and everything seems like a terrible nightmare I'm hoping I will wake up from. I was playing a game, like I often do, and it crashed and locked up. I thought it odd, but that can happen on even the newest of systems. I did `ctrl+alt+delete` to clear it and it closed and everything looked fine on the regular desktop. I shrugged and tried to restart the game. Almost immediately the system went dead. It was basically 100% game load speed, then a fraction of a second later, nothing, as if it had been off for minutes. I wasn't super worried, and just assumed the crash was worse than I thought and thought I'd just turn the system back on. No response. Hold the button for about 10 seconds, still no response. I noticed it had no 'I have power plugged in' light, so I pulled out the AC power to just start on battery. Nope, still nothing. The system never came back on.

I contacted the company to see if Acer would look at it. They said since it's barely FOUR months past it's ONE YEAR coverage I would have to pay them \$730 for them to take it back and look at / replace the unit. That's ridiculous and embarrassing for someone who claims to be the #1 brand. (Though looking around lately I see none of those claims anymore.)

Today at the library I spent much of the day checking various things, pushing the button for a long period to reset the battery, unplugging the battery, unplugging the cmos battery, still nothing. I was going to take it to a laptop repair place for a free estimate on Tuesday, but when I got there there was a sign on the glass saying they were closed due to short staff. I contacted someone online and they said there wasn't any notice from that location, so they should be open. I waited there Wednesday morning with the laptop, and gave up waiting 15 minutes post-open time, as it was apparent the sign wasn't just for Tuesday. So I had to drive to their next closest location about 15 minutes away.

I'm pretty sure it's a battery issue. I did confirm with the person that being a newer internal type battery if there were anything wrong with it that could prevent the system

from potentially turning on, unlike older systems like my previous Asus, which can run just fine even though it detects the battery is at 0% and never charges.

So at this point I'm waiting, heartbroken, to hear back. They said they could maybe get to it tomorrow, but they are super busy. I'm praying it's the battery, power supply, or maybe somehow the ram, as each is around the same cost, and all the money I have to spend on repairs. If it's worse issues, I don't know what I'll do. 😞

## Day 4937 (V:661) - 1/6 Hopefully tomorrow

Today passed pretty quickly. I struggled to be properly distracted. My MMO things take nearly twice as long to do on the old system. My shooter is difficult to, as I'll do a move that should have an effect, like stunning the enemy or exploding shots, and everything takes 1/2-1 full second later than it should happen due to my system's slower connection and ability to animate things. 😞 I suppose though that I am very grateful that doing it at all is still an option. I at least won't lose too much. If I weren't able to do at least that I'd have to do everything on my tablet, and couldn't game at all. Though with the old system's power issues and overall age, I feel like it's on borrowed time.

Because of this disruption, in general, but more specifically the reminder that everything is broken, I feel very bad about myself. I am again fixated on my own issues, my own eventual death, and the fact that I probably only have 40% of my life left. 😞 I don't want to be gone. 😞 Several times a day now I am borderline P.T.S.D. and start to panic and hyperventilate and I have to do my best to quickly calm down before I lose it. I really really hope the new laptop is fixable and I can afford to do so. I was barely remaining stable with it.

I called them around 3:30 to check things and the person said they just recently started testing it and it likely wouldn't be done until tomorrow. I guess that made me feel good. It means they will do way more testing than I could do. I read about one shop's testing methodology that talked about removing the motherboard and testing all the

things. If I were to try to check things myself, I'd have to buy the extra thing, check it, and return it if it didn't fix the issue.

So again I end today trying to remain hopeful the news is a problem that's very easy to fix. I don't really care as much about time now. As extremely tough as it is to hang on, it's more important that I get my new system back in working order for an amount I can afford to lose. 😞

## **Day 4938 (V:662) - 1/7**

### **Fearful of death**

Today I have been very fearful of death. 😞 I had two micro panic attacks during the day, and a few last night. Having the old laptop, in its own stages of death, and the new laptop in possible permanent death (since there's no way I could get the \$730 to send to the manufacturer), I am unable to stop fixating on my own death. The fear that I too may 'just shut down and never start up again', or worse, some kind of terrible accident and made very aware of the fact that I'm dying as it's happening, repeat over and over in my mind. 😞

There was no news all day on my new laptop. Which, considering they are doing this all free, is I suppose fair. But, I absolutely will call them and bug them about it tomorrow since I gave them the system Wednesday, they said they were starting tests Thursday, and then that would be a few days total, which is starting to push that to an extreme amount of time. I'm still trying to remain hopeful it's cheap, and ideally something I could do myself if their labor charge would be too high. But all I can do is try to stay hopeful and wait.

I guess I am getting a little more used to my old system. I had a bit more fun than yesterday, but the games are still horribly slow in comparison. My MMO and shooter are playable, yes, and I did so on this old laptop for years. But now having been on the new one for 1.25 years, and the MMO running 50-100% faster, and the shooter closer to 100% faster all the time, not to mention the screen running at faster speeds too, it's a pretty bad experience in comparison.

I was very worried about the old laptop always complaining about it's battery. Today it put itself to sleep twice because of it. So I decided to try just fully removing it and seeing how it did. It seems fine. It shows 225% charge on no battery, which is kind of hilarious, so I'll just leave the battery in storage.

Oh, there was some good news at the end of the day. Dad said he sent some surprise New Year money. Hopefully I don't need it for repairs and can keep it for bills, but I guess I'll see. I'm afraid I may not have enough for the year end bills as recent checks on what I would normally get puts me a bit short, so I'll need everything I get.

So today was maybe a teeny bit good, and mostly bad. It was good in that I made it ok on the old laptop. It was bad because there was no laptop repair news and I am having horrible P.T.S.D. panic attacks over my own death. 😞

## **Day 4939 (V:663) - 1/8** **Brief return, on to the next**

Today the new laptop has briefly returned to me. On Monday morning I'll be taking it to a different place to get diagnosed and hopefully fixed. The shop it's been at is guessing it has a motherboard issue, which they apparently aren't equipped to diagnose or repair. (Which seems ridiculous they wouldn't have warned me about that to start.)

I am trying to remain hopeful it's a fast and easy fix. A video site recommended some videos to me with exactly the issue I have (not powering on), and in about four different videos the person opens up the laptop, diagnoses the issue, and repairs it in about 20 minutes, usually just by removing/replacing one very minor part. So I'm hopeful mine is a similar issue and that parts costs almost nothing, and labor is like half an hour of labor. I guess we'll see. Hopefully the next place won't take as long to diagnose or fix it. Again, all the videos were less than 30 minutes, so that seems extreme the last place took nearly four full business days to do it.

I guess today was ok. I feel pretty heartbroken about the news, and felt pretty sad before that. I'm not panicking or worrying about death or injury as much as I had been, but it's still ever-present in my mind.

But I'm trying my best to not be too sad. And I'm trying my best to hang on to hope I'll have my new laptop back and fixed cheaply soon.

## **Day 4940 (V:664) - 1/9**

### **Just too cold**

Today it was just too cold to be outside. I stayed in my outside spot maybe 4 hours and that was it, about half what I would have on a less cold Sunday. My tummy is pretty upset feeling, in spite of barely eating due to stress and worry. I suppose I could have done things a bit earlier on Saturday to have my laptop at the new shop, but since it wouldn't be open Sunday I didn't see the point.

I feel pretty bad and sad in general and hope very soon things will be better for me. ☹

## **Day 4941 (V:665) - 1/10**

### **Hopefully soon**

Today pretty early in the morning I dropped off my laptop at the now second repair shop. I checked when they were last open on Saturday to be sure they could do the repair if it was a motherboard issue. The guy seemed pretty hopeful they would get me an answer today, the person that does that work is an afternoon shift person, but felt it would be absolutely before the end of Tuesday if not today.

I'm still trying to stay hopeful it's 'good news' in terms of repairs, is cheap, and there is no effective chance it will just happen again once repaired. I still feel overall extra sad, and am having a difficult time playing games on my old system. I play for about half the time, doing basically just daily things to keep current. Doing more can be difficult in some cases due to the slow speeds, so it's kind of heartbreakingly try.

So I continue to try to stay hopeful in its testing. And try to hang on to hope it's affordable and not too much, and my laptop comes back soon.

## **Day 4942 (V:666) - 1/11**

### **Maybe returned**

Today I am hoping my new laptop will be returned to me after an affordable fix. Or maybe I got it Monday night and I'm starting a return to my regular homeless life. Things have been extra difficult, and many things are on hold, or feel like it, due to the (returned) extra limitations.

But all I can do is continue to try to do my best with what I have, and try to hang on as best as I can; to hope, to life, and to what is left of my sanity and happiness.

### **Day 4943 (V:667) - 1/12**

#### **Forcing myself to eat**

Today I have been forcing myself to eat. I guess my tummy is hungry, but I am so heartbroken and depressed the rest of me doesn't want to, or care to. I have kind of forced myself to eat some, and I probably only had half what I normally would, with each bite kind of feeling like bland clay that had no taste. (I mean, yes, I tasted the flavor, I'm not sick or anything, but my brain didn't care to really register it.)

I called the place to check on my system. They seem to have taken their time so far. Today they said the same as the last place, which I expected, that tests confirmed it wasn't the battery or power supply. They wanted \$100 to keep looking, if it's repairable or not. If it is repairable that would change to \$300. I panicked, explained I didn't have that much, and that I was homeless and unemployed, and the person felt bad and said she'd do it for \$200 if it's repairable, but still has to charge the base fee. She said she would call back after testing, but I haven't heard back since this afternoon. She did say it would be a few hours, so I guess that makes sense. But at this point it's not much more than an hour until they close, so it seems unlikely I'll hear back today.

So I am heartbroken and very sad. Even if it can be fixed it will cost everything I got recently from dad as a surprise gift, and everything I have saved, leaving me with nothing. If the normal money that comes between now and when the car registration is due I will maybe have enough. But I'd have nothing for SMOG, nothing for the membership fee for my insurance, and absolutely nothing for the insurance just 3 months later, nor the \$200 for web stuff at the end of the year.

I had a pretty bad nightmare last night, and I guess it was my brain just expressing how I feel. In the dream my arms from just above the elbows down had been burnt very badly, and the outer skin layer was off, and everything was under skin layer, blood, and muscle. I guess that is kind of how I feel in general lately. I couldn't help myself in the dream because I was in a great deal of pain, and I couldn't find anyone else to help

me. 

I have to keep hoping what help I do get is enough, that more help comes in the future, and continue to hope what seemed like some stability in my life doesn't further destabilize.



## Day 4944 (V:668) - 1/13

### Pronounced dead

Today there isn't much to say. The shop confirmed my laptop is unrepeatable by them. So my only option for it is to send it back to Acer with \$730. Which is not at all an option. Even if I had that much I would question if it would be worth it compared to getting a new Asus, returning to my preferred brand. I don't know that I would trust Acer again. And I certainly will warn everyone away who asks my opinion due to this terrible customer support. My old laptop that I'm back to is nearing 9 years old, and its only issue besides its age is it doesn't talk to the battery correctly, meaning I have to remove it and just run plugged in. It runs fine like that. And the Asus laptop I had before that lasted about 3 years before I upgraded it and gave that one to a friend. (Which I heard lasted a couple more years before fully dying.) This new Acer is barely over ONE year old, and its full death is unacceptable. The response for repair/replacement cost is unacceptable. The fact that Acer is using a 3rd party company for their support is unacceptable. The fact their forum is run by fans and 3rd parties is unacceptable.

There really isn't anything to say. I'm now right back to where I was at the start of the pandemic. The old laptop can barely play games, but I'm very thankful it can try. If I did get a graphic design job there is no way I could do anything color accurate on the old laptop. And what work I could do runs very very slowly. I can do most things in my MMO and shooter, but it's extremely doubtful I could do anything new, as its graphics chip was declared obsolete and hasn't been supported with new drivers in something like 4 years now.

It seems all I can do is try my best to hang on. Try not to sink too deeply into depression, or collapse into P.T.S.D. attacks focusing on death. And I suppose, put newer

laptops on my wish list and go back to the improbability that someone would gift me one in the future. 😊

## Day 4945 (V:669) - 1/14

### A lunch

Today I met with someone I probably haven't seen in about 7 years. It's kind of crazy to think it's been that long. It doesn't feel like it because almost nothing has changed for me. If my car weren't picky about its driving I could have been going for semi-regular game night visits.

I guess I am slightly better. I was actually pretty hungry during the lunch visit. Though I again had pretty disturbing dreams. Nothing special or unusual, just the sleeping brain repeating thoughts about losing the new laptop and now being back to the old, back to where I was effectively 1.5 years ago (emotionally and in job / gaming potential.)

I was worried about my old laptop though. I don't know what was going on when I got back from lunch but it took nearly 30 minutes to turn back on. It's like it was doing some kind of update that it didn't warn me about. And then because it's so old in general, it took its average 5 minutes after that to get the basic things up and loaded before I was back in my game. Games and things don't usually take too long to load once it's gotten fully back up, but it's still minutes compared to what would be seconds on a newer system.

But now I'm back to it possibly being years before I could replace it. I am very lucky I've gotten enough help each year to pay the bills and emergency needs, but I've really never had much more extra to do more than a couple of games and school. Even an extra \$800 to get something equivalent of what I had on sale is not going to happen. I don't usually even have a quarter of that much extra. And I've pretty much settled on not wanting to give that money to Acer to replace the broken one. I've already given them nearly \$1400. I'm not giving them more to get back to where I was. I'll just save what I can and go back to Asus, as well as getting full coverage a new system would have. Fixing the old system would really mean I just paid way more than I should have, and it

likely wouldn't have much, if any, coverage after the repair. And with how they've treated me, they don't deserve it. (And that would be how they treat everyone.)

So I am back to effectively 1.5 years ago. I pray and hope my now nearing 9 year old laptop hangs on. I put a couple of current laptops on my wish list, just in case. (Though new models are coming in February, so one of them may change.) And I have to try my best to not let fear and worry about death consume me, either of my remaining laptop or myself. 😞

## **Day 4946 (V:670) - 1/15**

### **Recovered data**

Today there isn't much to say. I still feel very heartbroken, down, and defeated. 😞 I guess my appetite is kind of returning, so I suppose that's good.

The old laptop is basically recovered now to being the main system again. It was surprisingly easy to get the Windows user data from the new one. I expected not to be able to get it, or at least to need to enter the password. But I connected it to an external housing, attached it to my old laptop, clicked the folder, it said it was locked and asked if I wanted to unlock it, I said yes, and that was it. I was in. Effectively zero security. (Though I wonder if that's because, even though I was offline, it recognized I was the same user of both copies of Windows.) Sadly, I'd forgotten how ridiculously small the old drive was. I put my MMO and shooter on, and there is just barely room for one medium-big game and that's about it. So I guess I will play my other (non MMO / shooter) games one at a time. Though with as few games as it will be able to run that probably won't be much of an issue, as I won't have much to choose from. I'm praying the one game I pre-ordered that comes in late March will do ok, but I guess we'll see. The mmr and shooter won't really change their required specs, so those should be ok, even though some aspects aren't the best with how poorly my old laptop handles them.

That is really it for today. I am very heartbroken and hardly feel like doing anything, so I barely played today. I don't even really remember most of the day, save for

some parts of copying data. I guess all I can do is try to hang on and keep the laptops on the wish list current for the best value, and the best newest one that is cheaper. 😊

## **Day 4947 (V:671) - 1/16**

### **Didn't do much**

Today I didn't do much. It wasn't as cold as I expected it to be. While still cold enough that I was clenching my teeth a little bit, it was not so cold to make me shiver or make my parts numb.

But because of being heartbroken, because my old laptop is so slow and its wireless so much less powerful, I barely did my MMO at all and only managed to do the most critical daily things in my shooter. I went to just sit in my car having done probably less than half what I normally would have done because it was having such a hard struggle staying connected.

I guess I don't feel as I did in days before. I tried to put out some complaints about my laptop, but they will no doubt fall on deaf ears. It's truly shameful they treat customers like this. I even noticed lots of posts about people being told similar stories, or were completely ignored by customer support.

All I can do is try to stay warm, and try my best to hang on until better days. 😊

## **Day 4948 (V:672) - 1/17**

### **Tummy issues**

Today I am having tummy issues. Things started to get really bad last night around 9:30. My tummy felt suddenly both completely starving and super painful. It was like just the front of me, at about the 3" under my ribs, and about 3" deep into my body. If it weren't for the odd starving feeling it would almost have felt more like a muscular issue. I'd guess maybe it's where my large intestines are? I've never felt anything quite like it. I was pretty bad and it kept me up until around 2 in the morning. After that it sort of calmed down and I passed out and got some sleep. Now at just over 12 hours since the

start it's mostly back to normal, but it still feels off and not great. I'm just having some bread and fruit today so far. If I feel better in a few hours I may do some chicken and fries at the fast food place. Due to the extra I've been getting per month, and not being able to micro reducing my food costs, I've gotten over 900 saved on the food card, so a few pricier cooked meals now and then won't worry me as much.

Still no movement on the dead laptop complaints. I expect nothing will come. I may try taking out the ram later and seeing if that makes any difference, but I'm sure nothing will come of it. Though due to the game engine having a major crash right before the death drop I do wonder if it wasn't ram or CPU related. But I'd think the shop would have checked ram. Though when I took out the drives everything inside looked completely untouched, so I really wonder if anything was taken out and looked at at all.

I guess all I can really do is try my best to hang on and try to settle in as best as I can with the old laptop.

## **Day 4949 (V:673) - 1/18** **Hopefully not the worst Tuesday**

Today will hopefully not be the worst Tuesday. The last couple of weeks have been pretty much the worst. As bad as things have been though, they could always get worse. So I continue to try to hang on as best as I can and hope that they don't get worse. 😞

### **Day 4950 (V:674) - 1/19**

#### **Three last tries**

Today I did three last tries to get the laptop on. Not surprisingly, even though it was a different order of what was unattached and what was attached, nothing changed. It is still cold and dead. It still feels like a weird and terrible dream how I gave the company \$1200 just over a year ago (double checking the bill the previous \$1400 I thought it was included the 1 tb M.2 drive), it's catastrophic and sudden death, and the company really not caring at all. There is no way what they are asking for replacement is just or fair.

There is really not much to say about it. I guess maybe over the next week I will do final things with it, then put it up for sale and hope I can at least get a few hundred for it. But with it being such a fatal death, unless some hobbyist repair person wants to make an attempt at it there is no way it would sell. It's beyond even someone like me who could probably literally put together a desktop blindfolded, but has effectively zero electrical knowledge.

My tummy is still being weird. I got another cooked meal to help and it feels a little better. But it's still feeling weird almost all the time. The strangest part is it's like if hunger and hunger pain were a 1 to 10 scale, it seems like my tummy now goes 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10. All of the middle seems to be missing where it's like, "I feel hungry, I should eat soon," and it just jumps to straight 'I've been starving for days and am in great pain.' I hope it's not a serious issue. 😕

That's really it for today. I'm trying to hang on, but with the dead laptop I'm extremely broken hearted feeling all the time in addition to my lingering depression. This will probably take quite a while to recover from. 😕

## **Day 4951 (V:675) - 1/20**

### **One final test**

Today I decided to go ahead and get something for one final test on the dead laptop. If it doesn't work I can return the test item and probably lose no more than \$10 for the purchase/return, if anything. Which is well worth it for peace of mind that if I do decide to sell it for what will probably be a fraction of its value, the buyer won't turn around and say it was a super simple thing I could have easily replaced. Without this test I may always wonder if a really simple thing was the issue. Both shops should have checked for this issue, but the more I thought about it, the more I worried what if they just claimed they did.

I am still very heartbroken, and I'm barely playing anything to try to be happier. It's such a struggle at times. The low frame rate and struggle is as painful as simply not playing. I hope in time I will feel more ok, but I worry I will remain heartbroken and low until I can get another new laptop. Plus with the old one on its way to 9-years-old I always feel like it could die at any time.

My tummy is still a bit off. I hope it goes back to normal soon. It doesn't feel bad exactly, but it doesn't feel like it should or used to.

I guess all I can do is try my best to hang on in these worst of days. 

## **Day 4952 (V:676) - 1/21**

### **The final nail**

Today I did one final test of the laptop. As I expected, but not hoped, it failed. So at this point I am ready to bury the new laptop, confident in that I went above and beyond all testing and there is nothing I can do to save it. A friend said she may know someone, but in our brief chat it seems the issues would be beyond their experience, so I am not hopeful.

I expect by the end of next week I will have put its carcass up for sale. It's been so long since I used that site I don't remember what the longest sale period is. I'd like to probably have it up a week or maybe two, maybe start it at \$250 with a buyout at \$550

(offering to cover up to \$50 in shipping). I'll be happy to get something in the middle of those. I mean, I won't ever be "happy" outside of the company offering to repair it for \$100 or less, but since it was only one year of coverage, legally they are in their right to charge whatever they want for a repair. Even if it is unfair to charge much more than \$100 as any single part retails for that or less.

I guess I feel a bit more settled in to my old life, but having this brick I paid \$1200 for is still mind boggling. In all my life, in all my purchases, only once thing ever has come this close to as catastrophic of an unjust travesty against me.

I still don't know how I'll recover. All I can do is try to regain what I can. And maybe someday put this behind me, though I'm sure I'll never fully forget. And maybe hopefully soon a miracle will happen and I can again try to have a new laptop that can do all the things, hopefully for years to come.

## **Day 4953 (V:677) - 1/22**

### **A big sleep**

Today started very unusual. I got a chance to sleep in and I guess I got about 12 hours of sleep. 😊 I haven't slept that much since years ago when I think I was running a fever and throwing up. I guess all this extra stress from the dead laptop is taking a much bigger toll than I thought.

I'm trying to be ok and have a normal homeless life, but it is still extremely rough to be back on the old system. I am having a hard time having fun in my games and playing like I used to. I am watching more shows, which I guess is good, but my mind is always thinking about my loss, my limitations, and how restricted I feel again.

All I can do is try my best to feel as ok as I can. Maybe some extra help will come this year and I can get back on a new laptop soon. 😊

## **Day 4954 (V:678) - 1/23**

### **Pictures of the corpse**

Today I took pictures of the new laptop corpse. I don't think I'll hold onto it much longer, maybe just through the first week in February. I keep hoping my complaints will get noted or I'll find somewhere else to reach someone that gives me a reasonable repair option. I did find a different area of the 'official' site to input a request for repair, but the page fails. I enter the information requested, and nothing happens. It just sits there. I did decide to complain to a 3rd party arbitration site, but I am going to guess the company will say, 'neener neener you are out of coverage period, so too bad', since legally they are in their right to charge whatever they want, no matter how unfair it is to the customer.

My tummy still feels a bit off. It seems mostly upset at salami. I guess I'll just try to avoid it and get more chicken items. But the store often overcooks the tenders and they are way too dry, and tends to undercook the shredded chicken, so that often makes me feel sick.

I guess I'm okish today, but I am still too cold all the time. And I am still just completely baffled and heartbroken at the sudden new laptop brick death.

## **Day 4955 (V:679) - 1/24**

### **Still very low**

Today I am still feeling very low. I haven't heard anything on my special complaint about the laptop repair, but that may take maybe a week for them to get back to me. And again, I really don't have any 'legal stance', just moral/ethical, which a big company likely won't care about at all.

Feeling pretty sad I'm barely playing or doing stuff of any real value or lasting effect. I'm more just killing time or watching little nothing things. Hopefully I'll feel better soon.

## **Day 4956 (V:680) - 1/25**

### **Hopefully not too sad Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to expect. It should be a pretty regular homeless day. I may see some news at the library about an hours change, as I heard a rumor they may start expanding hours and be open on Sundays, so that would be great. That would mean I don't have to be outside and cold unless it's a holiday or I choose to be. Maybe a miracle will happen and my dead laptop complaint will get some positive momentum.

All I can do is continue to hope for the best and try to hang on.

### **Day 4957 (V:681) - 1/26**

#### **Feeling defeated**

Today was not a very good day. I felt extremely sad, and very defeated. I confirmed yesterday at the library hours are back to their every day open times. And I think it had just hit me more and more since then, especially with the likelihood of not being able to get more classes until September at the soonest, added to the loss of my new laptop, that this is it. My days feel like they will indefinitely bleed into each other, never changing, never a hope to find a new job, let alone a good one. Never a real break on food because school will remain closed-ish for at least the next 8 months from the looks of it. And being on my old laptop even new games are practically impossiblity.

I haven't given up on the (dead) laptop. The place I complained to said they notified the company and they should respond within 10 days. And I have a lead on a shop someone has said has been helpful to them in the past.

And I am trying not to give up on me. I try to remember I am creative. I can solve problems. I have not become too old, too forgotten, or too discarded.

But things are very difficult. Things are very restricted, low, and limited. And I am having the hardest times. 😞

### **Day 4958 (V:682) - 1/27**

#### **Blinded by stress**

Today a few times my eyes got a C shaped blind spot and very slowly cleared over about 45 minutes. I guess it wasn't too terrible. I was just watching videos at the time, but still. I can only guess it's from the stress of the dead laptop. I tried something last night and actually made a discovery that may be a hint at what is wrong. The power brick has always had a slight 'bzzz' when plugged in. I never thought much of it because over the years I've had maybe 6-7 power bricks and at least two others before had a

similar sound when charged. But what I noticed is that now, after the death, when the power brick is also plugged in to the dead laptop that changes to a 'bzzzClick... bzzzClick...' that cycles about every second. It sounds like an old school phone line trying to connect. Which makes sense I guess, as both repair places said it wasn't a power issue. Whatever it is, based on that sound, it seems like maybe the laptop isn't correctly connecting to the power supply anymore.

I haven't heard back from the fancy complaint place. They are waiting for the company to respond. I didn't see anywhere too add this new information in my ticket, but I guess I'll try to get a recording. It's maybe like -60 db, so it will be tough, but I think my recording stuff should be able to pick it up.

I think the spider is gone from the car. The mirror doesn't have any web on it, just the remains of one that was there maybe a week ago. I still remember trying to 'encourage' the spider to go to nearby plants when I first saw them by destroying their web and scaring them. But then I immediately felt very sad seeing them jump into the mirror to hide, and their home destroyed. I never did it again after that first time. And many times their web was actually quite beautiful, especially if it had some dew or was partly frozen. I don't know how long spiders normally live, but I hope they found a better place to make a home and live than my sad car.

## **Day 4959 (V:683) - 1/28**

### **Sort of contact**

Today I got a sort of contact about the laptop. I got an email late morning with a 'do not reply' style return address from a person at the company saying she called two days ago, yesterday, and today. Yet I have no listing of her number on my phone, nor was it listed in the blocked numbers. I am hoping what happened is that she called very early my time, when the phone is told to not let calls through. (Though I'm pretty sure it would have still told me there was a call.) But why wait until the third day of trying to call before sending an email? And why when you do would you not use an address someone could respond to?

I am still trying to hope for a good replacement offer, but at this point I am down to only about \$100, and none of that should be spent. Additionally since I didn't get a hold of her today when I tried calling, that means I won't hear back until Monday at the earliest. I really hope she responds via email like I asked though. I can attach things if need be, and I won't forget what was said that way. Plus, email won't burn up what few monthly minutes I have since it's infinite.

I am still very broken hearted and exhausted from all of this. Someone invited me to something fun in my MMO today, but I had to pass because of how sad I feel. I didn't want to ruin their fun by saying or doing something because I feel sad, brokenhearted, and a little mad.

But all I can do is try to continue to hang on. And try to stay hopeful for a fix or replacement for my lost laptop.

## **Day 4960 (V:684) - 1/29**

### **Ate outside**

Today I was pretty super sad and brokenhearted again. I took a break and ate outside when I got hungry for afternoon snack. I didn't play much, so I watched a lot of cat and bunny videos to try and feel better.

No news about the laptop, but that won't happen until Monday, so I tried to hang on. And hopefully I can make it to better days.

## **Day 4961 (V:685) - 1/30**

### **Found messages**

Today I feel pretty brokenhearted and sad still. I've hardly played anything at all. It was the first inside Sunday in a long time, so at least there is that.

Last night I couldn't sleep. Ever since getting the email from the laptop person my mind has kept going over and over things and obsessing about what may or may not be said or done. I checked, double checked, and triple checked that I showed no calls or

messages from her. Though I don't see how I would have, since I had the phone propped up on my laptop right in my view ever since I got that email. Though when I pressed the messages button on the phone app it showed 'visual voicemail unavailable', so I manually had it call to check for messages. And there were five messages left by her at some point. (They didn't reference the time or day.) And there were 15 messages in total. This made me wonder, who were these other people? And why did I not see their calls?

It occurred to me that I had Wi-Fi calling off forever, maybe ever since way back in the before time when I was at school. But about a month ago I made sure it was on and I was connected at the library so I could, in theory, get calls about the laptop repair and talk for free. (Though I guess my plan no longer has free Wi-Fi call time.) But then I realized, I never got calls from either of the two repair places, who only would have been open while I was at the library. I always had to call them to get updates. So I turned off the Wi-Fi calling. I wonder; is it possible it has done the opposite of what I wanted? By turning it on, was it somehow not getting calls, not registering them, and just automatically pushing them to voice mail, where it then didn't show I had a message?

Since turning it off last night, I have gotten two spam calls, and both left messages, so it seems maybe having Wi-Fi calling on at the library was indeed somehow blocking a majority of the calls. (I was previously still getting spam calls, but not message notification.) I guess I'll know for sure if I get a call from the laptop person tomorrow.

I do hope it's super good news. I do hope she feels very sad and has the authority to help me for free. At this point I barely have \$100 left in total due to losing a lot in the other repair attempts. And even if I don't spend any of that, I'll still be short on the mid-year bills coming in just a few months. (Assuming no unexpected help comes, and I get no gift money useable for bills.)

So for today all I can do is just keep trying to hang on. And hopefully more bad things don't happen. And maybe even with the phone change she can get through to me with good news.

## Day 4962 (V:686) - 1/31

### Corpse in the trunk

Today I have had the corpse of the dead laptop in my trunk. I was hoping for good news on the laptop and I'd be rushing it off to be mailed as soon as possible, but I guess it will likely be remaining a corpse. I finally got a hold of the person and their 'very best offer' was to charge half of the original statement, and that would cover shipping both ways, which after tax would be around \$425. There is no way I have that much. I have already lost nearly \$200 that's unrecoverable in costs trying to fix it, and maybe if that had been the original estimate I could have considered it. But I don't know, even if I could afford that, really? Half the cost of the real world value of such a laptop that's brand new with full coverage? For something that died way too soon, and after repair would barely have 90 days more of coverage?

The offer will stand for 30 days, but I really think it's better to not give them more money. I just don't trust them. They should be doing this free, especially since I didn't cause any damage to the system, and they seem to have no understanding of why it died. This would have huge value to research and development. If they found the fault, and it would be avoidable, that would greatly benefit their laptop design in the future, and their brand name for adding improvements in protection. But saying, 'whelp, you had 1 year coverage, you are past that, so too bad you have to pay replacement cost,' is ridiculous.

So I am back to where I was one year and nearly five months ago, waiting and hoping to somehow save up enough for a new laptop. (Ideally from the brand I trust.) And hanging on to my nearing 9-year-old laptop and hoping it doesn't die in the meantime.

I can't believe the \$1200 I got for stimulus is just wasted like this. Gone as if it never happened. Maybe I will sell the corpse in a month when the offer wears off (but keep the OS drive to be safe). But being let down by the hardware dying at just over a year when it should have lasted at least 3 years, and being let down by a brand who at the time were claiming to be the "#1 brand" at the time of purchase, is mindboggling and heartbreaking.

## **Day 4963 (V:687) - 2/1**

### **Return to where you were before**

Today I will be fully settling in to my life I had before my new laptop; physically and emotionally. I will try and put this travesty of a tragedy behind me. I will never trust Acer again, and recommend everyone else avoid them as well. Not supporting products after a far too short coverage period is unacceptable, and shameful.

But all I can do is try to set aside the pain and loss, try to move forward, and try to hang on to hope that someday I can try to get a new laptop again, or that someone will do the unthinkable and send one from my wish list. And hopefully next time it can be with the brand I've known and trusted for 13 years.

### **Day 4964 (V:688) - 2/2** **Corpse surgery in the morning**

Today I was obsessed about the dead laptop. My brain still can't fathom how it just went flat dead. In checking and finding dozens of posts in the past few years with effectively the same issue as mine there were more than a couple like me who reference never having a problem like this with years of use of other manufacturer's laptops. It seems not completely uncommon for this brand to have laptops just die for no reason. It is truly mindboggling they don't take them back and send the customer a new one to research what is going on. I guess they figure a few customers out of probably hundreds of thousands a year should just be blown off and ignored.

At this point there are only two checks left I'm willing to try before leaving it sealed until my offer runs out (on the off chance I get the money and feel they are worthy of it), then abandon the corpse. The first is pretty simple, yet I expect no new results, and that is simply leave everything plugged in overnight. Maybe if it's just a connection difficulty issue that will jump start what is stuck. And the second and final thing will be surgery in the morning. I'll pull off the cpu/gpu/cpu chips heat sync and see if anything looks weird. There were a couple of posts from people who said the system had the same symptoms as mine and they found the issue was this gum-like thermal pad had slipped off position and caused a short since things were then touching the copper cooler directly. So what I'll do is pop that off, and see if when I plug it in it shows the power connected ready light. Then I'll do just a very brief start to see if it starts. If it does then I'll order new paste, take it off again when it comes and repaste all the things.

I don't know, I don't feel very hopeful. At this point mentally I've accepted it's death, but emotionally it still is keeping me up at night. And often during the day I can't stop obsessing about it and being stressed out. Especially on days like today when my old one can't play a game that I'm playing at a decent enough frame rate for me to progress, or like how it dropped wireless connection about every 30 minutes, then as often as every 5 minutes as the day went on. Everything is such a struggle to barely hang on with the old

one. ... Much like how I feel all the time. Old. Tired. And barely able to hang on and get through even things that should be enjoyable to do. 😊

## Day 4965 (V:689) - 2/3

### Necromancy failure

Today I feel sad. I was kept up last night. I'm not sure why, but I barely got 4-5 hours of sleep. My throat feels a bit rough, and I've been sneezing a few times a day, and my eyes still have that migraine and eyelid pulsing going on.

My attempt at necromancy failed. I expected that would probably be the case. But there were a couple of posts with my exact 'no lights, doesn't power on' issue that mentioned removing the copper cooler revealed the cheap and terrible thermal paste had slipped out of place and contact with stuff caused shorts. I did try to pop it off, but didn't fully remove it due to keeping it connected so it would register the fans were still attached. I know it can boot without the hard drive, so I left that in storage. Sadly it showed no signs of life. The same dead state. I did get a peek at the utter garbage they used for thermal paste though. The only way I can describe it is like pink play dough that got overly dried and cracked, and was completely powdered to dust in some parts. But, with showing no signs of possible life, there is no point in removing it all the way, buying new paste, and repasting it.

So that's it. I now officially fully give up. I will keep it until the end of the month when the reduced replacement offer expires, but really even at the reduced price of about \$425 that seems unreasonable. Sure, that would replace everything, but at what cost? I have no guarantee something won't happen again after the few months coverage it would have after that. And honestly I'd rather do something like get a laptop I found for cheap at like \$850, or one on sale for as low as maybe \$650, and then have something brand new, especially if I had the extra money to do the special 4 years of coverage (usually about +\$150).

So today I feel sad. I feel taken advantage of. I feel sick and broken and exhausted. But all I can do at this point is try to let go. And try to move on, pretending I

never got the stimulus money, never bought the system, and that company that is treating me badly does not exist.

## **Day 4966 (V:690) - 2/4**

### **Difficulty letting go**

Today I am having a lot of difficulty letting go of the dead laptop. I again got obsessed for a few hours with searching for posts and videos of things to try. I did find a new place to ask for help, but have effectively tried all versions of 'remove this, reset that' several times by now. I really don't expect to get any suggestions of things to try I haven't done. And really I wonder as more time passes if my battery is dead. Even if it only lost 3% of charge per day there is really no chance it would still have a charge. The power supply is supposed to be good, but what if that has gone bad too? It's very difficult letting go. In all my years of using computers and console systems, never have I ever lost hardware like this. Going from fully working with no indications of issues to completely dead and not repairable by easy fixes is mindboggling.

I've regained a lot of stress today. 😞 And my throat still doesn't feel great with this cold. I've had about four sneezes today, and some lung congestion, but I'm mostly just exhausted. There is a new very minor ear ringing, but thankfully the extreme migraines seem to have stopped.

All I can do is continue to try to let go. Continue to maybe hope someone sees my posts and has a solution. And try to continue to make it through to better days.

## **Day 4967 (V:691) - 2/5**

### **Pulling it all off**

Today I was talking with someone about an issue they were having with their system and I was reminded of one of the things I used to say to help troubleshoot things, which was, 'detach everything that can be, and see if it works then.' I suppose, while everything is needed in a laptop, I technically haven't tried detaching everything. I guess I

forgot to reattach the battery after my test yesterday, so that has been unattached for about 24 hours by the time I can get back to it. But I guess there is no harm in trying to detach the fans, keyboard, daughterboard, speakers, and anything else I see, then see if it shows the 'I'm plugged in' light, and put things back a few at a time if it does.

I'm not hopeful though. At this point I've tested everything possible without engineering knowledge of how to fix a dead motherboard. But you never know, I suppose a miracle can still happen.

I'm very super tired today. I feel very defeated and worn out. I suppose nothing new that is bad happened, so there is that. But nothing good happened either, at least not yet. So things seem the same forever bad that they always are.

## **Day 4968 (V:692) - 2/6**

### **Avoid brown experiment**

Today I am avoiding brown soda that I normally drink. More and more lately my tummy has been very upset, having maybe a ginger or earthy type acid flavor. I think that flavor is in my brown soda, so I will avoid it for a few days and see if I feel better.

I've had pretty massive headaches and eye pain today though, so I hope that is not a caffeine withdrawal from not having brown soda. It may be from stress due to the dead laptop. I've had a pretty unbelievable lot of extra stress and depression from that. I hope I can let it go soon. Yesterday I did some very last tests of unplugging things in the system I could unplug. While not much, maybe eight things, as expected there was no change. Nor did putting them back a few at a time have any change. So, with having done all the plug, unplug, reset, tests possible several times, it is very clear whatever is wrong is something I can't fix, leaving me to pay the company a minimum of \$425 by the end of the month to swap for a refurbished one that would have a couple months coverage, or saving double to triple that for something brand new from my preferred manufacturer with way better coverage and hopefully a bit extra to get the special four years of extra coverage from the online site I'd buy it from.

I guess the day was pretty regular other than that. I am tired, sad, exhausted, heartbroken, and have lost interest in doing much of anything. But I'm trying to hang on as best as I can.

## **Day 4969 (V:693) - 2/7**

### **Lost interest in everything**

Today I have pretty much lost interest in everything. I did just the minimal daily things in my MMO and shooter and don't really feel like playing more or watching anything.

I hope I stop feeling depressed soon. I hope the migraines and extreme exhaustion go away. After all these tests, so many times, and not spilling on or dropping the laptop, its death was not my fault. And there is nothing I can do to revive it. The manufacturer treating everyone badly is a thing that happened to me. My being in a bad spot 1.25 years ago and not being able to go with the manufacturer I know and trust is a thing that happened to me. These things are not my fault. Getting past that seems difficult, and I can't stop feeling like, "why me?"

All I can do is try to hang on as best as I can. ☹

## **Day 4970 (V:694) - 2/8**

### **Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to expect. I have been very extra depressed since the laptop death and being thrown back to where I was emotionally over a year ago. And I've had some kind of cold lately, so that doesn't help.

It seems all I can do is try to deal with things one day at a time. And try my best to hang on until better days.

**Day 4971 (V:695) - 2/9**  
**Very sad**

Today I am very extremely sad. There have been some reminders lately of just how sad and bad my life is, and how it may get worse, so I am feeling very low today. There really isn't much to say more than that other than how I posted a bare bones update to my personal site, but I really don't think anyone cares about my poems or stories.

Today really I just tried my best to hang on.

**Day 4972 (V:696) - 2/10**  
**Second dinner**

Today I still feel broken hearted and sad, but I did feel ok enough to make some steps forward. And I am recovering ok, so that seems good.

I am super exhausted though, and so hungry I ate my microed dinner and got something else to eat after as well. I don't know if that was due to the undue extreme stress from the dead laptop, or recovering from the cold, or what. (Today I've had some headaches, some eye twitching, some congestion, and just a few coughs, but most other symptoms seem gone.)

I guess I hung on ok, but I still feel very set back. And I still worry that I am further from a chance at recovery. But all I can do is hang on, deal with surviving one day at a time, and continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 4973 (V:697) - 2/11**

### **Like a bear**

Today my body wants to be like a bear. It feels like I just want to pass out and wake up when things are better. It's not the weather, as it's very spring-like weather, sitting around the mid-70s. I think it's just all the stress and sadness. I have a bit of a constant headache, I'm a bit extra hungry, and I'm extremely exhausted. I was, in fact, so tired I sat back while watching a video and was on the edge of fully falling asleep.

I tried to do some stuff on the laptop today and it was truly a struggle, both in that I'm having to recreate something I could have used a template for on the old system and in that the old system has a much harder time even just running the program. I will get through it eventually, but it probably would have been 15 minutes on the new system since I'd basically filling in the blanks with the template.

I tried to cheer myself up with a new free to play game today, but I just feel meh about it. I had a preview with a closed beta for it about three months ago and barely played an hour during a three day window. I'll play at least 10 hours though to see if it gets more interesting, but I really don't think it's my kind of game.

Today I feel extremely sad. I feel trapped in that I feel like spending the ~\$425 on sending the dead laptop to be refurbished will be the best option I have. But so far there has been no help or support to get there, so even doing that feels like it will be impossible. I'd still really prefer to save any money to get something new from my preferred manufacturer, but I don't think I'll get enough help to do that.

So today I still feel very heartbroken, very crippled (in terms of options), very set back, and very alone in my struggles and pain. 😞

## **Day 4974 (V:698) - 2/12**

### **Fearful of death, again**

Today and last night I have been very fearful of death. Last night for maybe an hour I was on the verge of tears and crying a little fixating on various sudden deaths from

accidents, or other illness, that I may suffer. 😢 And even if I have all of what is left, from when my grandpas died it's only 35 years, much less than it feels like I have. 😢

I think though what scares me more than the actual number is the quality of what remains if what I have today, and less, is all I have to look forward to. No happy job, no love, no family, no friends, few other worlds to escape to in games.

But I try my best to hang on. Though my mind will fade the further I go, 35 years behind is really much further than I clearly remember today. So hopefully I can still find a happy future in time. Hopefully I can find at least some of the things I miss. And maybe someday these sad days will be a distant faded memory and I will still have days ahead to look forward to, leaving my sadness long behind me.

## **Day 4975 (V:699) - 2/13**

### **Cold corpse**

Today isn't really anything new. I did try to continue to play the new free to play game, and while I did start to see some depth in terms of character builds, I still don't know if it's for me.

Someone asked about the dead laptop today, and because I was passing by the storage anyways I decided to try to check to see if, by some strange miracle, it showed any signs of life. Nope, it did not, it's still a cold dead corpse. Which makes me very sad because even with its flaws it was a solid little system I liked quite a bit.

So, nothing new today. I still feel very heartbroken over the loss. I am still pretty exhausted feeling from either my cold, or stress, or both. And with nothing good or happy that's new I still feel no closer to things improving. 😢

## **Day 4976 (V:700) - 2/14**

### **Special sads**

Today is a special day. And as with many special days it feels like I am just reminded of what I'm missing. Though sad, not having a special sweetie doesn't make me feel as sad as the reminder I feel like I am less because of it. That I have less. And while I don't want or need everything, especially on days where my system seems to be struggling like today so far, I feel very extra sad about what little I do have, and miss having just a little bit more. 😞

## **Day 4977 (V:701) - 2/15**

### **Unknown Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to expect. I haven't gotten any help lately, for bills or the laptop. I guess at this point I hope I will have at least enough to consider taking the repair deal within the two weeks that is still an option. But with no help so far, that doesn't seem like even that will be an option.

So I guess all I can do is try to continue with my broken heart, put back my shattered pieces, and try to get back to feeling good enough to try and continue to look forward.

### **Day 4978 (V:702) - 2/16**

#### **Trying to feel ok**

Today I am trying my best to feel ok. I am still very broken hearted about losing the new laptop. Now more than ever I know what I'm missing. 😞 I am still very hopeful to get the \$350-425 to get it fixed in the rapidly closing cheap window. I do actually miss my new laptop. 😞 And really the odds of my getting that much in the remaining two weeks from today seems much more achievable than the two to three times as much needed to get something brand new.

I'm inside for a bit, so that is good. I slept maybe as much as 11 hours. But I have a headache, my eyes hurt, I'm congested in my lungs with a little coughing, and more than anything broken hearted feeling. My shows are ok to enjoy. The old monitor has some blue shifting due to age and low color accuracy, but that is easier to ignore than the low FPS on games, or things like seeing the minimum specs for new games requiring things my laptop can't do at all.

So today has just a little bit of good, but feels like a bit of extra struggle. But I try to hang on to hope that help will come in time. And try to hang on until better days.

### **Day 4979 (V:703) - 2/17**

#### **Sad and headachey**

Today I still feel pretty broken hearted and sad. The time for the cheaper repair is running down and I still have no help. Which, of course, makes me feel like not only will I not make the window for the cheap repair, but that means no help will come to build up towards a replacement after I've missed that window, which feels even more difficult competing with money for upcoming bills. 😞

I've had a lot of headaches lately too. I don't know if it's stress or what. My eyes hurt, so it's probably migraines. I'm a bit congested, but it seems more likely it is from

stress and depression. I'm trying my best to hang on and not be sad, but with my recent low and everything still being bad in the world, it is the toughest to hang on these days. 😞

## **Day 4980 (V:704) - 2/18**

### **Still sad**

Today I am still feeling pretty sad, and still a bit sick. My tummy feels a bit off, and I'm still pretty headache. I still feel very sad about my cheap replacement window for the dead laptop rapidly ticking down. But with just under two weeks left I am still trying to stay hopeful help will come. But with no help so far, getting to the ~400 seems unlikely, but it doesn't feel impossible. Just a few helping a moderate amount would be enough. Though these days help has been extremely rare and far between.

But I try to rest as best as I can to get over what is hopefully just a cold. And hopefully help will come in time.

## **Day 4981 (V:705) - 2/19**

### **Somewhat productive**

Today I guess I was actually productive. The other day I noticed my systems page had only been half done, which was not as much as thought I'd done when the new system died. I finished the changes and changed all the links today. It was a pretty monumental effort, though not difficult or taxing, but it did take nearly 5 hours.

My tummy has felt a bit off the past couple of days. It feels, I'd guess a bit achy, but also a bit hungrier than it should. I guess it's still doing the odd thing of having no real 'middle values' in terms of hunger. It's either full, or feels like it needs to eat.

I guess I feel ok. I am still very disappointed and down that the cheap replacement window is running out to replace the dead new laptop. It very much feels like if I miss it, it could be years before I can get a new laptop again. And it seems unlikely my old laptop

could continue much longer. It's showing no signs of death, thankfully, but at already 8.5 years old that is incredibly old for a laptop.

I guess all I can do is try to continue to hang on and feel ok enough to do things. And hopefully help will come for bills and replacing the dead new laptop.

## **Day 4982 (V:706) - 2/20**

### **Quickly upset**

Today my tummy quickly got upset when I had just a few pieces of salami for lunch. I'll avoid more until tomorrow and be careful. I only had four pieces, but I guess I've become really susceptible to lunchmeat upsetting my tummy as time has gone on. It's about 6 hours after I ate them and things have settled down, but it felt bad for a bit.

There are still about 1.5 weeks left on my dead laptop repair offer, and it still seems it may be my best bet, as I still haven't gotten any help. I'm still hopeful I can get enough in time, because with as slow as help has been recently it feels like getting more would be impossible. 😞

But I try to hang on to hope. And try to make it to better days.

## **Day 4983 (V:707) - 2/21**

### **Feeling more sick**

Today I am feeling a bit more sick. I have a headache and my eyes are hurting again, and my tummy still feels a bit icky. I'm feeling pretty sad about everything overall, all the things going on with me emotionally and physically. I did get to sleep in again, and I got good sleep, so there is that. And I'm writing earlier than usual, so hopefully I can play and rest for the rest of the day.

But it seems, as always, all I can do is hope help comes to replace the laptop within the next week for cheap, or at least eventually to help with bills and eventually getting a new one.

## **Day 4984 (V:708) - 2/22**

### **New pew pew**

Today I don't know what to expect other than my shooter will be getting a big expansion. I did pre-order it, I think around Xmas, so that is already covered and not a concern. But other than that I don't know what the day will bring. I expect it will be a pretty regular homeless day.

Hopefully help will come to replace the dead laptop during the cheap window, and I can hang on a little easier with the new distraction.

**Day 4985 (V:709) - 2/23**  
**Sick with a cold**

Today there isn't much to say. I am feeling sick with a cold (still.) I have a headache and feel exhausted. My eyes have done the eyelid flutter a few times, and when I'm colder I am pretty congested in my lungs.

Today is exactly one week from the cheaper repair/replacement deal for my dead new laptop. I'm pretty sad about that. It seems no help will come. 

So today I would rather be having soup for dinner and be lying down all day, but I can't. But, I can continue to try to hold on to hope that help comes for the dead laptop replacement and bills.

**Day 4986 (V:710) - 2/24**  
**Still pretty sick**

Today I am still pretty sick. I guess I forgot to take decongestants I got, but there was some sneezing in the morning, and a bit of extra congestion in my lungs overall. I still have a lot of headache, eye hurting, and eyelid twitching.

I tried to rest today as well as I could. I had fun with the new stuff in my shooter, but overall I felt very extra worn out from my cold, so I was in a bit of a weird spot.

I am still trying to hold on to hope help comes for the cheap repair/replacement for the dead laptop in time, but the window is rapidly closing.  I am very thankful my old laptop is continuing to hang on for the moment. I don't know what I'd do if that died too. 

## Day 4987 (V:711) - 2/25

### Still feel off

Today I still feel pretty off. I guess today it's mostly a general slight dizziness, ears ringing, eyes hurting and headache, still a bit of eyelid fluttering, though that may be more stress related than a cold. My skin feels weird too, kind of like I have chills and a bit of fever, but from what I can tell I don't actually have either, so it's like phantom symptoms.

I finished my super challenging thing I was doing with my shooter's new expansion, so that is good. Now I'll settle in for the 'regular season stuff' which goes beyond the campaign. It does feel better than it did in the past. I'd say now it's starting to feel about like what I expected it to be all those years ago at launch.

I am still sad about my dead new laptop. And while I let it go for a while, as we near the end of the cheap repair/replacement window my mind is becoming increasingly fixated on if I will find anything wrong if I need to take it apart and try and fix it myself. It would be amazing if I could find what was damaged and managed to fix it with only spending a little bit for parts and tools. Repasting the thermal stuff would be \$10-25 depending on the quality of stuff, which I'd need to do to get access to the motherboard. Checking online prices a volt meter is as cheap as \$10, the soldering tool in the \$10-20 range, and I think I'd need a heat gun too. But it seems extremely unlikely I'd have the skill and knowledge of what to fix. More than likely I will open it up, take everything apart, and go 'nope, still don't see anything wrong', and have no idea how or what to fix.

Well, there are still 5 days in the window, so I can still try to continue to hang on to hope that help will come. But sadly so far there still has been none. 😞

So I try to hang on to hope help does come. Try to continue to hope my old laptop hangs on. And try to hope that I too can continue to hang on.

## **Day 4988 (V:712) - 2/26**

### **Beating**

Today was, I guess, ok. I still feel pretty sick though. One thing I've forgotten to say was the past few days my heart rate feels like it's elevated. Like I'm overdosed on caffeine or sugar. I just checked and it's actually probably closer to normal than not, what with my bad blood pressure. I suppose it could be the actual pressure that feels bad, not my heart rate.

Sadly there was no help for the dead laptop and with only a few days left it seems unlikely I will get the ~400 I need for the lower cost offer. It ends Wednesday, so there is still time for help to make it, so I am trying to hang on to hope.

But I guess today wasn't much other than that.

## **Day 4989 (V:713) - 2/27**

### **Still pretty sick**

Today I am still pretty sick feeling. I guess I'm getting used to it though, because I didn't really think to take decongestants or pain pills until the day was basically over.

Not much today other than that. Just feeling sick from sick, I guess. Feeling sick from stress over the dead laptop. Feeling sick from my overall physical decline. Feeling sick from too many sad things.

## **Day 4990 (V:714) - 2/28**

### **Very exhausted**

Today I am feeling very tired and exhausted. My cold may be winning. I was very congested earlier, but now that I'm warmed up I don't feel as congested. I'm ridiculously tired though. I suppose that could be because I lost 2-3 hours not sleeping last night, I'm not sure.

Lately I feel pretty extra depressed and alone in my struggles. 😞 I know that's not true, but there still has been no help for the dead laptop or bills. And looking here and there on social pages I see people doing or planning for 'frivolous things'. But I get it, those people deserve nice things, and should have a good time. It's just hard to see that when I feel like I'm barely hanging on, and a small bit of help for things I want and need would make an immense difference in my life.

There are only a few days left for the cheap dead laptop replacement/repair offer of ~400, so I try to hang on to hope help will come in time. And in the mean time I try to enjoy the things I still have.

## **Day 4991 (V:715) - 3/1** **Two left**

Today there are only two days left for the cheaper dead laptop replacement/repair. I still hope help comes in time. If not I will probably make another shot at trying to take everything apart and seeing if I can fix it myself. In theory a replacement should last nearly as long as a new unit. And if it lasted 3 years that would effectively offset the additional cost.

So I continue to hope help comes for the cheap replacement in time. And if not, that there is something obvious I find wrong taking it apart and can manage to fix it. And I try to continue to hang on until help comes for all the things.

### **Day 4992 (V:716) - 3/2**

#### **No power there anymore**

Today was a weird start. It had been pretty warm lately, so after quite a while of not being outside the library (just staying in my car on my tablet) I decided to be out with my laptop before it opened. To my shock and surprise, all four of the plugs around the building across from the library have been removed and replaced with a flat faceplate. That seems very rude and counter to the statement the person made a while ago when checking the plugs and saying they wanted to be sure 'people like you have access to power if they need it.' Why say that and then take completely the opposite stance about 1.5 years later?

I'm not completely without power there though. There are a few more plugs at the building closer to the library, and one at the corner shop along the library wall, which is also closed when the library is. So I will still probably be ok on holidays when the library isn't open. But it seemed weird, and very sad. I may check every now and then. Maybe it is because they are changing the plugs. Half of them had old cover housings around them that were kind of broken. Though it seems unlikely they'd remove those and not immediately put the new one on.

Today was also the last day for the cheaper laptop replacement/repair, so now that window is gone. 😞 I talked more to a person from the shop and they assured me the tech had like 30 years experience, and is like top in their field, and they assured me that if they said the laptop wasn't repairable it would have been due to cost reasons, so even if it could be repaired buying those parts would be more than just getting something new. So I guess that's it. There is no point in me putting in more time, or money, into trying. I guess, when I'm ready, I'll just try to reclaim what I can from the corpse and either put that towards bills, or hopefully save towards some kind of new laptop in the future.

So today I feel extra alone. I feel pushed out. I feel a bit more broken hearted and helpless. 😞 But I try my best to hang on.

## **Day 4993 (V:717) - 3/3**

### **Rain**

Today it seems is the first rain I remember in a while. I don't know how serious it will get, but I think it is the rainy season.

I feel pretty bad today. My ears were ringing a lot, I had a headache, and sort of felt like I had a fever, chills, and upset tummy. There was some sneezing in the morning too which kind of stopped after I took an allergy pill. It's evening now and things have lessened, but I still would have preferred to mostly have been laying down today.

I felt pretty sad about my dead laptop too. My shooter had a few times today where frame rate got real bad on my old system. It wasn't to the point of unplayable, as it was just a few seconds each time, but one of the times did have a crash. And what with the new system dying after a crash I was very worried. But it was a minor one, and the game closed itself when warning me of the crash, so it seemed contained.

I guess overall today was a pretty bad day. At the very least not what I would have preferred it to be. But I suppose I am alive. I continue on. And with that I will try to continue to hope days ahead will be better days. And hopefully I have more days to look forward to than I may think.

## **Day 4994 (V:718) - 3/4**

### **Scratches**

Today I am scratching myself a lot. I guess I have been for a while now, as there are scratches on my back and arms, and a bit on my legs. I would guess it's from stress and scratching without really realizing I'm doing it. I guess overall it's not a big deal, but it's sad that I'm stressed out to the point of doing something that I don't even realize I'm doing.

I am worried my old laptop may be showing signs of being closer to death. It had some issues tabbing, with programs getting stuck if I did tab. While it's easy to think just don't do that, I am pretty easily distracted, and will often tab out of one thing to do another and then go back. I guess this isn't really anything new though. I have a vague

memory it happened in the before time. But it worries me, as I have zero money to get a new laptop, so losing this one would leave me with none. 😊

But all I can do is try to hang on and hope help comes. And hope that both my laptop and I can make it until better days.

## Day 4995 (V:719) - 3/5

### Jittery

Today was pretty ok. I still feel possibly the most down, sad, and depressed ever, but I had a pretty fun time with my games. Though I did get pretty worried in my shooter. Several times I disconnected from a big group activity. It didn't remove me from the game, just the activity, but that doesn't normally happen. I still don't know if it was my system just being old and fussy or not. There were other symptoms I could only describe as being jerky. The game would be ok for 15 seconds, then pause for maybe 1/2 second. It did stop doing that though after I closed the program and waited a few minutes before restarting. So maybe it was just a memory leak, or some connection issue.

A guildie was pretty nice yesterday though. We were talking about stuff and after they said they appreciated that I was in the guild. 😊 So that was nice to hear that I was appreciated.

But I guess I tried my best to hang on today. These days lately things seem the worst ever, having briefly had a new laptop and seeing the potential of what it could do for possible work, overall happiness, and games. I guess I am still most heartbroken over the fact that, for the first time in a very long time, I felt truly hopeful for my future. I saw a path I could build upon. Maybe not anything guaranteed or promised, but I knew I could work remotely without issue. I knew I could make hobby videos or audio if I wanted to without issue. I knew it would run any new game for years to come. And then, with that death, it all seemed lost. And now I am reminded of all my limitations. And on days like today where my system struggles, or with seeing games I know it can't play at all due to hardware limitations, or when it takes 5 hours to render something that should normally be about 10-15 minutes... things feel hopeless again. And it seems all I see and feel around me is inevitable further loss.

## **Day 4996 (V:720) - 3/6**

### **Happy inside trying to come out**

Today I felt like there was a bit of happy trying to come out. I was a bit more interested during the morning, and a few times I even kind of laughed. But as the day went on I felt worse. I still feel pretty sick with headache, eye ache, fever-like, chill-like feelings, and an upset feeling system overall. Where a normal person would just feel bad, grab a blanket, and have soup, and be restful for a day, I can't. So I become more sad, and worrisome, as even simple colds feel vastly more dangerous and lingering to me. What may be one day for a person who can rest may be weeks for me, with possible chains into other illness.

I suppose tomorrow is shower and micro day, so if I don't forget I could definitely get some soup to maybe help feel a bit better. I will have to do.

But I tried to enjoy things today. I tried to be happy, and I suppose on some level I was. But the slow speeds and struggles of my system reminded me of my own struggles, which made everything difficult.

All I can do is continue to try to hand on as best as I can. And hopefully I can make it to better days.

## **Day 4997 (V:721) - 3/7**

### **Fast day**

Today seems to be passing pretty quickly. It's pretty quiet and calm in the library so far, which is good since I still don't feel amazing. I did remember to get a soup for lunch, so that was good. But I still feel kind of sick.

I'm having fun with my games though, and overall feel ok, but I am very exhausted feeling from my cold.

## **Day 4998 (V:722) - 3/8**

### **Maybe rainy Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to expect. Lately things have been moving towards rain. Hopefully I can be restful and recover from my cold. Hopefully things don't feel too sad overall. Hopefully I can try to move on from the new laptop death and the feelings that my future may have died with it.

Hopefully I can continue to hang on.

**Day 4999 (V:723) - 3/9**  
**New baby spider**

Today there may be a new baby spider living in the car mirror spider home. It's been months since I saw the last one, so there is no way I can see that this would be their child. Though they are so tiny I can barely see them, it's kind of nice to see another spider there again, trying to make the best home they can.

I am pretty exhausted still. My cold is still winning. I even decided to detour over to school to micro a soup and something to have later for dinner. (Thursday is the later in the week day I normally do this.) But I've been just ridiculously tired all day. And I've had a moderate headache pretty much all day, along with some pretty solid lung congestion in the morning, and a few sneezes throughout the day.

Dad sent some unexpected monies. I guess it was Saint Patrick's Day, which is weird to me no one mentioned it on the social pages. I guess because it's traditionally a big drinking day, and many places still aren't allowing big gatherings. But he told me a very similar story he told me, I think, the past two years, about my great grandma. I don't know if he's starting to lose his memory overall, or if he just didn't remember he'd told me that story before. If he lives to grandpa's age he has about 5 years left, so bad memory at this point wouldn't at all be surprising. It's not enough that it would have saved the dead laptop during its cheap window, but it will help with upcoming bills. And should any such help survive through the end of the year bills, maybe it can go to starting to save for a new laptop. I am still in disbelief at the other's death. And I'm still tempted to take it pretty much completely apart to inspect all of the motherboard myself. I really have nothing to lose. But again, there really isn't a reason to not trust that I would have the knowledge or skill, let alone the tools, to do any repairs.

But I guess I yet live, sick or not. And hopefully I can continue on until better days.

## **Day 5000 (V:724) - 3/10**

### **Forgot**

Today I've had a pretty bad headache and congestion all day. In the morning I thought I should do a decongestant and allergy pill once I settled in at the library. Apparently I completely forgot and just suffered through all day. I'm so used to being in various pain, or not having medicine, it didn't even occur to me that I'd forgotten.

I guess the day wasn't too bad other than that. I did decide to spend \$6 getting a magnifying glass though. That way I can take apart the dead laptop and be very sure I can see any kind of damage that may be on the board. If there isn't any visible damage I think I may be able to finally let the corpse rest. Because if I can't even get a hint at what is wrong there is basically no way I could even try to fix it. If there is visible damage, then I can ask some fix it themselves experts what the likelihood of fixing that part is. Either way that should get here Tuesday, so I should be able to do it Wednesday.

But today it was pretty warm in the bulk of the day. But now getting into night, it is rapidly getting cold. I guess I suffered pretty badly from my cold today, so I will try my best to continue to stay restful. But there is only so much I can do. And only so restful that I can be. But I try my best to continue on.

## **Day 5001 (V:725) - 3/11**

### **Don't feel great**

Today I don't feel great. I think my cold is worse. I have probably migraine level headaches. It feels like someone is smooshing my forehead, crushing my ears causing them to ring, and pushing my eyeballs, all at the same time. I have felt a touch dizzy today too.

I guess other than that things were ok. I'm not spending hardly any time in my MMO these days. There is the most recent DLC that came out a while ago that I still haven't gone through. Every time I think about it I feel like I want to save it for when I'm happier, or have a way to better enjoy it, or have a better laptop at the very least, or have better headphones to hear the sounds better since I can't use regular speakers. (Though I

suppose there really isn't anything wrong with the sound on my headphones. But the boom mic has sort of broken off. I taped it back into place, but it bends, and kind of hangs loosely always touching me in various places on my forehead.)

But my life is what it is. Though I wish it could be more, there is an extremely limited range of what it can be. Reminders of what is bad, my recent loss, and very few who are giving me any love or support emotionally, things feel the worst and most difficult ever. 😞

## **Day 5002 (V:726) - 3/12**

### **Special dinner**

Today I decided to get a special dinner to cheer myself up a bit. It was pricy, as I haven't received a gift card for the place I went in probably more than a year, so I had to pay cash. But with how down I've felt lately, and how sick, I felt it would be worth it. Lately I've been feeling more and more heartbroken and depressed about, well, everything. I've been losing interest in my games, and just felt like I wanted to stop playing, and just sit and do nothing.

But I didn't. I can't. I am forced to do the opposite, to keep my mind occupied with at least some kind of distraction. Because the less distraction I have, the more I focus on the negative things and loss, and the more depressed I become.

## **Day 5003 (V:727) - 3/13**

### **No sign of damage, no hope for a fix**

Today I had my magnifying glass early, so I decided to do the deep investigation. I was tempted to not do it today and wait until tomorrow, fearing a higher population due to it being the weekend. But there was actually almost no one at the library at all until about noon. Someone mentioned the time change, and I do suppose it's possible. People who don't have to get up and be out and about before pretty much everyone else are free

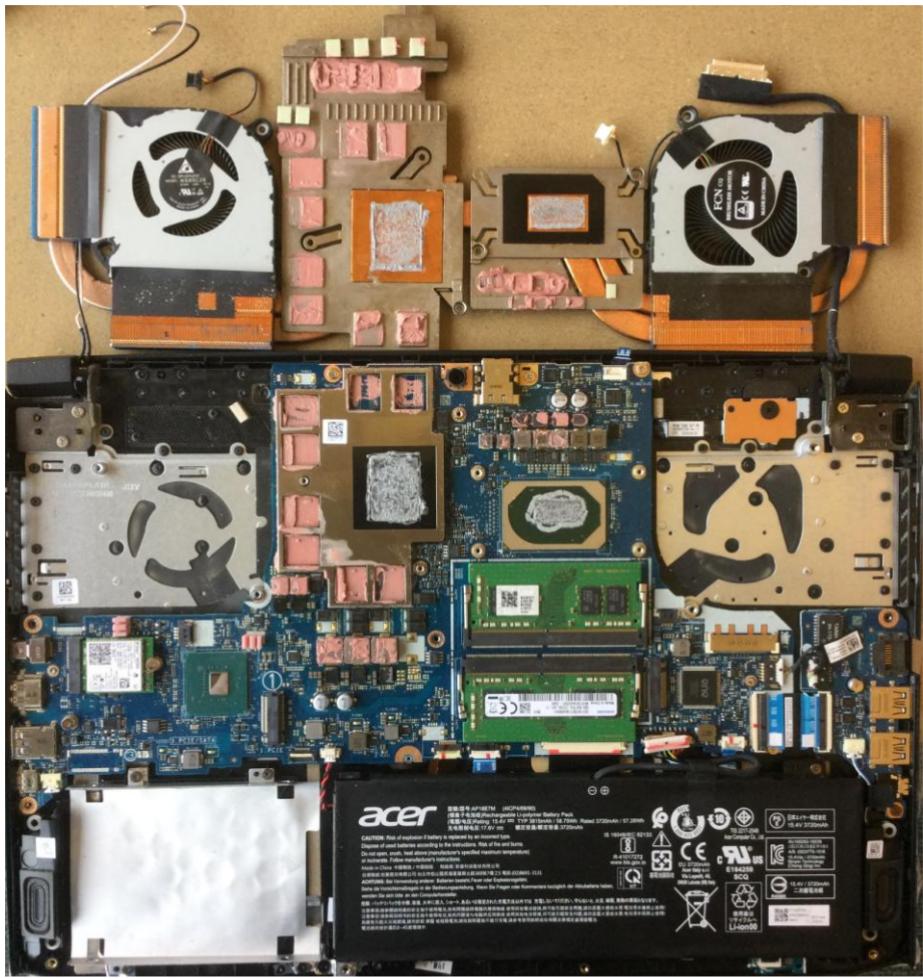
to just get up whenever. And with the time change, that meant it would be an hour later than before.

But the investigation was fruitless. Removing the cooler revealed no damage underneath. And testing the power with it removed showed no change. There was the garbage thermal paste, but I knew it was garbage from before. But there was no apparent damage from its poor quality or application. But a quick pass over the motherboard top revealed nothing new. And flipping it over, a few areas of the board looked brown, but I have no idea if that was due to application of chips to the board or some kind of damage. It didn't look like damage. And if it was damaged chips, there were far too many of them, and far too small, to even attempt to try to replace.

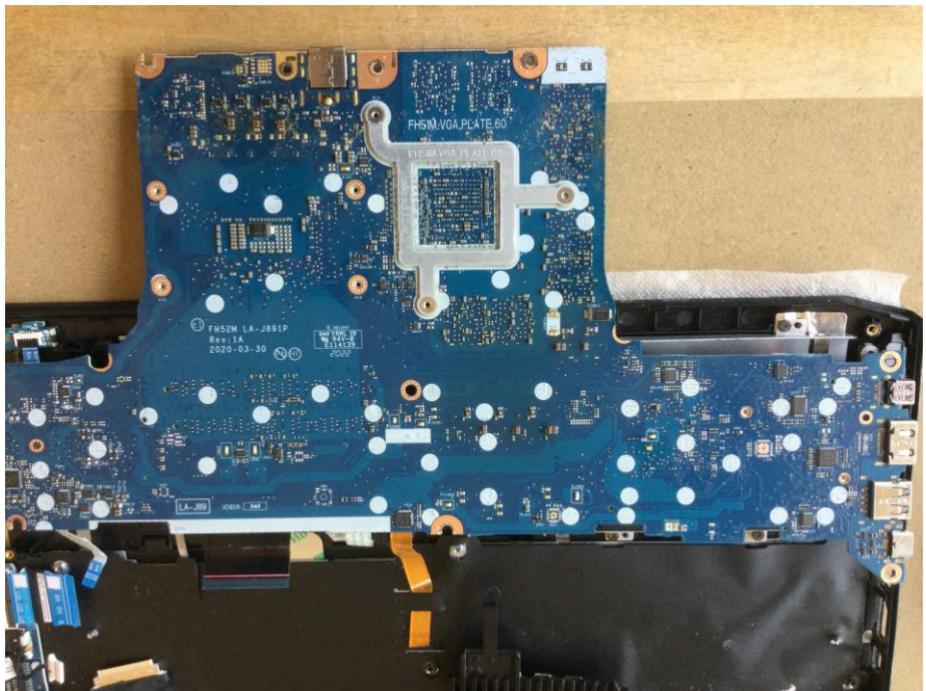
So that is it. My investigation, as I expected, but not hoped, has revealed no new hints as to the cause of the death. But I hope, at least, it has given me peace of mind that whatever is wrong is vastly beyond my ability to diagnose and repair. I stand zero chance of finding and fixing a problem, even if I had the tools, because I have zero knowledge beyond the things I've already done.

I will surely sell the corpse eventually. Maybe not immediately, or very soon. After all, \$730 is less than the \$1k something equivalent new would cost. But then again, something new would have at least a year coverage, and for only about \$150 more have four years of coverage, preventing any future failure and death, as this one suffered. Whereas trading the corpse for a refurbished one would only have a few months coverage, with no way to extend it. And if I spent as much as this one was new, around \$1200, it would get me a better more powerful laptop than the dead one in all respects. Not to mention the newer models coming out in the next few weeks, which would be even more powerful than what's available today for that same price.

But today... today I am left with a dead new laptop, confirmed to be absolutely beyond my knowledge, or finances, to repair or replace. With no idea how long it will be before I get another chance to have a new laptop... and the hopes for the future that comes with.



Horrid thermal paste.



No sign of damage; too complicated for me to fix.

## **Day 5004 (V:728) - 3/14** **Worse cold, maybe better feelings**

Today I feel more congested. I coughed up some yuck earlier. It's calmed down since I got to the library and warmed up though. I feel maybe a bit better emotionally though. There is a new DLC for my MMO, and I'm looking forward to doing the new dungeons and getting some new things. I may wait a few days to get it for myself though. There is a small chance someone might gift it to me, or maybe I could gather enough in game gold and get it from someone willing to spend their real money for that.

I guess there isn't much for today other than that. I'm just trying to hang on.

## **Day 5005 (V:729) - 3/15**

### **Maybe return Tuesday**

Today I may return the magnifying glass. On the one hand it's only \$6, but on the other I don't really need it at all. And while the money isn't a huge return, I would no doubt use it for other things more than I'd need a magnifying glass. It would probably just sit in storage for years if I kept it.

But all I can really hope is the day is calm and I can rest and try to recover, and continue to hang on until better days.

### **Day 5006 (V:730) - 3/16**

#### **Maybe feeling social**

Today I am maybe feeling a bit more social. I have been feeling more like spending time in my MMO lately. I got the new DLC and found strangers to do the new dungeons with. I've been working my way through the last story DLC too, which I'd kind of been putting off.

Overall though I still feel very exhausted. And I do feel maybe still more depressed and broken hearted than usual.

But I'm trying to hang on. And hopefully better days will come.

### **Day 5007 (V:731) - 3/17**

#### **A bit sleepy**

Today there isn't anything to say. I'm feeling a bit sleepy. I guess I've had a low grade headache most of the day. My eyes felt like they were literally half closed.

That is one thing I've noticed going back to the 17.3" laptop monitor. My eyes do feel slow moving and tired. I was so very very worried that moving to 15.6" would feel so much smaller, but I kind of feel like maybe the opposite has happened. I think because of the smaller size, and always being close to me, my eyes were moving just that little bit less to cross the monitor, and so visual sweeps took less time, making me feel faster and more alert. Of course I can't test if that is true, because there is also the faster frame rate. I'm pretty much running at 25-45 FPS at 60 Hz on average compared to the newer dead laptop that ran at probably 65-85+ FPS on a 144 Hz refresh rate. So it's entirely possible that it's an effect of the frame rate differences and not the visual scanning speed, that make me feel slower and sleepier on my bigger older laptop.

Whatever the reason, I can't help but think the old laptop is somehow contributing to my sleepy feelings either consciously or subconsciously. But I suppose the day wasn't bad. And that is maybe something.

## **Day 5008 (V:732) - 3/18**

### **Maybe feeling sad again**

Today I am maybe feeling sad again. I played a bit more in my MMO, and a bit less in my shooter. The shooter has gotten to the point where I have pretty much done all the important things for 'the season' and so it doesn't feel like there is much to do again, and it is much more of a slow grind for things that will barely matter.

I am maybe feeling a bit sad about my dead laptop again. There were a few things I found last night to try, and I couldn't help but try them. Not surprisingly there was no change. But really every time I find something to try, I find others who have posted that they have the exact same 'it shut off and has never turned back on' issue. I've seen maybe a couple of dozen now, ranging from a few years back in 2018 to one almost to the day that I posted (though their system was 2 months older.) Each one seems to be total failure and can't be repaired. I still can't believe how this can happen at all, and with as rare as it is that I got one of the systems it happened to.

I guess I had an ok time with my games, but I still feel very sad knowing I am not experiencing them 'as the devs intended'. It is much less, as my life is much less. And that makes me very sad. 😞

## **Day 5009 (V:733) - 3/19**

### **Rainy all day**

Today it was rainy all day. It was just a light sprinkle during some parts, a moderate pour in others, but it was pretty much all day into the evening. My cold feels a little better maybe. There is an odd tickle in my throat, but I think that is more from having to wear an old mask, as they get frayed and fuzzy, and I can't help but wonder if I'm breathing some lose particles in.

I guess I had a good time with my games. I played my MMO more than usual, barely played my shooter at all, and stopped a few hours earlier than I would normally stop playing to just sit and watch stuff. I guess I didn't feel like playing as much as usual, or as much as possible.

Overall I still feel very sad, but I try to continue to hang on.

## **Day 5010 (V:734) - 3/20**

### **Sniffles and sneezes**

Today my cold is maybe a touch worse. In the morning I took a hit of my asthma inhaler. It still feels a touch rough to breathe. I'm extra congested and sneezy too. I took some aspirin to calm my headache and some other meds to help with congestion and allergies, so now I'm pretty sleepy feeling. I had a pretty good time with my games, so there is that.

There have been a few 'what are you playing' posts on the social pages lately. And while I sometimes post, I have to list what I'd like to play if my laptop hadn't died. I hope it brings light to the issue, but really I don't think anyone cares. If it 'wasn't them then why should they care', ya know?

All I can do is try my best to stay as healthy as I can, and continue to try to hang on.

## **Day 5011 (V:735) - 3/21**

### **So much sleep**

Today I got to sleep extra. I slept 12 hours, so that's 50-100% more than normal. I feel a little tired still, but not exhausted like I normally do. It's pretty cold and windy out, so that is sad. I was hoping we were moving back to warmer days.

I got to watch a new game on the stream I watch that I've been wanting to get. Apparently it comes out in about a week, but sadly I don't have money for it. I need to save everything for bills since the huge loss of trying to fix my dead laptop. And if I do get any extra it should go to a new expansion for my MMO that's out in, I think, June. So it may be quite a while before I get any new games that aren't the one I already pre-ordered.

But I try to remain restful to recover from this cold. There is a bit of ear ringing and headache now, but things don't seem too bad. So for now I continue to try to hang on as best as I can.

## **Day 5012 (V:736) - 3/22**

### **Supposedly warmer**

Today is supposed to be a little warmer. But lately it's been cold, rainy, and windy, so I'm not sure I believe the weather prediction.

I'm not sure what to expect for today. My game I pre-ordered comes out either Thursday or Friday, and so I'm hoping I'll get word I can pre-load it today. It's pretty big at like 70 gig, so that will take quite a while to get. I am still very hopeful my old laptop can run it since it has system requirements lower than most new games, but I won't know for sure until I actually run it.

As always, it seems all I can do is hang on and hope for the best, as so much of my life is out of my control.

### **Day 5013 (V:737) - 3/23 24 hours of shock therapy**

Today I got to sleep in again. I had a lot of trouble getting to sleep though, I probably really only got about 9 hours. While, still, I suppose is about 25-50% more than normal.

I also ended what was a 24 hour period of leaving the dead laptop plugged in to check if it would mysteriously recover, as mysteriously as it died. I found reference to the buzz click being the power supply detecting a possible surge and disconnecting/shutting itself off internally. So my theory was it could maybe try a number of times, and one of those times maybe correctly connect and reset whatever has gotten stuck to cause its death. Sadly, though not surprisingly, there was no change. It is still cold and dead and that was really the last possible check I could do for it. It's still mindboggling with, checking online what is billions in laptop sales a year for the company, I happen to have gotten one of what seems to be one every 2-3 months that mysteriously dies. Of course that's just going off of the findable posts, who knows what the unreported number, or number under warrantee that go unreported, actually are. Though it did reinforce my displeasure with the Acer death when running a similar search for deaths I found none under Asus, which is my normal brand.

I still haven't decided what to do with the dead parts. Very rapidly people will be moving to new systems that don't use those parts. And of the older systems that do, what are the odds they could use something like the power supply or battery since it would likely be a different voltage or different connector? Or what if the replacement cost also lowers over time, then I'd need the corpse to send back. I don't know. I will probably keep it for at least a little while while I consider things.

I had a pretty good time playing today. I got a big goal I was trying for in my MMO, and so my 'schedule is clear' to do whatever there, or just do the minimum and play my new game more once it comes out.

As one can guess, the laptop death still bothers me. It's still mindboggling it worked fine and showed no issues right up until its sudden death. I treated it the same as

my one I'm back to now at 8.5 years, and the one before which lasted 5 years. But it is a thing that happened to me. And for good or bad, I have to accept that, and try to adapt and move forward. 😞

## Day 5014 (V:738) - 3/24

### New game

Today has been ok, and a bit frustrating, so far. In the morning I went over to school to shower and shave and have a micro meal. It may be my last chance for two weeks. I know for sure pretty much during the break the food area will be closed. I expect the shower area will be too, but I'll probably check on the Mondays to be sure.

At 4 my new game came out. They were super dumb and not only did they not send my code before that time to apply to my account, but they didn't do it days ago which would have allowed a pre-load time. I can't remember how many years it's been since I got a digital code and had to wait until launch before I got it. It was on a different game service, and I see why people say they dislike it. If this is how they normally manage orders that's terrible. It's 2022, and not having a pre-load period is mind-boggling. It finally showed up over an hour later, so it's downloading now, but it looks like it will be a few hours before it's done, so I probably won't get to play tonight at all.

I couldn't sleep last night for some reason. I could sleep in, but I was woken up early by truck noise, so I maybe only got 5 hours of sleep total. Oddly, I'm not sleepy. It's like from last evening on my system has felt a bit jittery maybe? Maybe that's why I couldn't sleep? I suppose it's possible it's good anxiety over the new game, but I don't know. I'd have preferred more sleep.

As always, today seems to be a reminder of everything I can't control. I suppose in good news the new laptop generation seems to be coming out and showing up at the online place I normally buy from, so I have a few on my wish list. And I have a couple of the older generation systems just in case their prices get lower. (That's always a weird balance of lowering price and increasing price due to rarity.) But with no money for one, it just remains a wish. And so, I continue to try to stay hopeful, and try my best to hang on.

## Day 5015 (V:739) - 3/25

### The lowest settings

Today I had a lot of fun with my new game. To get the FPS I was hoping for I had to put most things on the very lowest settings, and even reduce that with a resolution scaling setting down to 50%. It doesn't look as terrible as I expected it might at those settings, so that's good. It's very playable so far, though I can tell from the animation speed that this is probably still way below what it should be. But it's playable, and super fun, so I won't entirely miss out. At least not with this one.

I feel kind of sick today. I woke up feeling ok, then had some chicken for lunch, but it tasted super dry. I didn't feel great after. My insides felt kind of bad and I had to run out to the bathroom. Since then my insides feel better, but it's transformed into a migraine, eye hurting, and a bit of ear ringing. I'll take some meds when I have dinner and hopefully that will help. I so often don't have meds to take that I just literally don't think to immediately take them. The thought just doesn't occur to me.

I had a super fun time with my new game today, but I am pretty sad. I wonder when I will be able to have a new laptop again. And more-so I wonder when I will be able to be in a home and have a regular life again. 😞

## Day 5016 (V:740) - 3/26

### Hopefully barely made it

Today was probably more good than bad. I got to sleep in, though I didn't sleep much extra. I had fun with my games and even did a thing with my MMO guild. I didn't feel entirely great though. I had some bad lunchmeat at lunch maybe. I've had a low level headache and ear ringing much of the day. And a bit of sneezing.

I've been struggling to find the emotional energy to do school loan and tax stuff. Neither is hard, but with feeling so hopeless and depressed lately, particularly with school being almost entirely online, I just haven't felt emotionally ok enough lately to do it. I did it today and saw I may have missed the state grant deadline, so that was very worrisome. But technically I never get loan stuff from the state or federal branch, the school itself is

who waives the fees. Checking the school website, due to everything going on, that date was extended to next week, so hopefully I barely made it in time. I still don't know how that will work out. I have maybe one more part-time year I could stretch things out. Then I will have no way to keep financial aid people at bay. And it seems unlikely having a degree would suddenly make any jobs appear out of nowhere. So I am very afraid of what my future has become. 😞

Overall the day was pretty restful and pretty fun. Tomorrow at some point things will go back to my regular sad life. I will get to sleep in, but after that I don't know when I can again. And my schedule will be it's regular limited schedule. But I try my best to hang on.

## **Day 5017 (V:741) - 3/27** **Windy last day of sleeping in**

Today was my last day I could sleep in. Tomorrow will be back to my regular homeless schedule. I'm glad I slept extra. Originally I woke up after only 9 hours, which is still more than usual, but I pretty quickly fell asleep again and got 2 more hours. So I got quite a bit and hopefully caught up some.

I've felt ok, but not great. I'm still pretty congested and a bit headachy. It's been pretty windy and I've heard the trees blowing all day. It looks like the sky is a bit gray too. I don't know if we are headed to rain, but it sure looks like it.

Tomorrow I pretty much am assured I can't micro, so I won't even try. But I figure it's worth the detour to check if I can shower. Whatever tomorrow holds I have little control or influence. All I can do is try my best to hang on.

## **Day 5018 (V:742) - 3/28** **Too much morning stress**

Today I indeed got to shower at school. I probably should have taken a soup to micro if they were open in that area, and if not I could have saved it. I guess I can when I

go back Wednesday. Though I guess overall I had too much stress from my regular homeless life, because when I had breakfast it got kind of stuck in my throat and I threw half of it up. ☹ I feel ok now, it was just very bad GERD stress, so I just feel bad when it's happening and a tiny bit after. It's very worrisome when it happens even though I can feel myself breathing clearly. The throat being closed off feeling causes panic.

It got super rainy starting late afternoon yesterday and poured all night. It even did a bit this morning. It settled and stopped for a while, but it looks like it's starting up again now.

I'm having fun with my games and trying to be restful. At least as much as I can on a homeless day at the library. And so, I continue to try to hang on.

## **Day 5019 (V:743) - 3/29** **Probably rainy Tuesday**

Today will probably be pretty rainy. I don't know what to expect, but I have my super fun new game. Though my laptop does struggle with it, but it can play, and that is something. And I try to continue to hang on.

**Day 5020 (V:744) - 3/30**  
**Surprise soup**

Today I got a shower, as I expected, and to my surprise a micro soup as well. Though the main doors were closed to the food area, so I had to find a side door that was unlocked, and I wonder if it maybe wasn't supposed to be open. Though the special blocking gates were not rolled down, and the lights were on, so I would guess they just locked most of the doors to discourage the majority of people from coming in. Though really there wasn't anyone around.

I had a few sneezes today and felt pretty tired. My lungs actually feel dry, but in my head and very upper chest I feel a bit congested. I feel maybe a bit nervous or jittery too.

I guess it was a pretty ok day. There was nothing extra good or bad, so that is always something. Tomorrow will be extra rough though, as the library will be closed. I expect I will still go over and try to be outside, but the remaining plug spots are not very comfortable, or I guess, welcoming, so it will likely be rougher to hang on.

**Day 5021 (V:745) - 3/31**  
**Bad brakes**

Today is a very sad day. There has been a growing noise in one of my rear wheel wells for about a month. I thought it may be brakes, but looking it up that was estimated at about \$150 to repair, so having nothing I didn't check. Since the library was closed today I figured I'd go check at a shop in the same shopping center as the food store, since I knew they did free checks. It took a few hours, but then they confirmed one of the brakes was effectively completely gone and the front ones are very low as well. They said it would be about \$480 for each set. Which I knew likely would be vastly over priced since this was the same place that quoted me nearly \$300 to replace the two tires that I got another place to do for half that price. Calling a repair shop I've used before they pretty

much estimated a price at half the cost; \$300-350 for the rear set, and probably closer to \$250 for the front. I really should do the back as soon as I can, but at that cost there's no way I could do that anytime soon. I have no idea how long it will take to save that much up. In the before time if I were lucky I'd get that much 'extra' beyond bills for the entire year. This is even worse news for any kind of laptop replacement, as this puts me much further from getting anything. 😞

After that there wasn't enough time left to be worth the time to go to the library. I'd have had 1/3 the time for a normal full day's gas use, and I didn't really want to sit outside since I would likely wind up sitting in an uncovered spot.

So today has become a very sad day emotionally. And all I can do is hope things hang on physically.

## **Day 5022 (V:746) - 4/1 Voices in my ears**

Today there were voices in my ears all day. The streamer I watch was doing a special thing, so they went all day and more, instead of just the first half of my day. They were playing a game I'm not super interested in, so it was pretty much just background noise to distract me. If I still had my new laptop, and the \$200 lost in trying to repair it, I may have actually gotten this game at launch nearly a month ago. I was actually considering doing a pre-order, but not being one of my favorite types of games I decided to just wait for a sale and get it later. Now with the death of the new laptop, and my old one being unable to play it, I will not only have to wait for a sale, but also for a new laptop. I'm not worried though, it's not one I will be torn up over if I don't ever play it.

I guess it was a pretty ok day though. I had fun with the new game I played. I was sad there were no jobs to try for, but that isn't really anything new. My searches reveal jobs I'm not qualified for, or ones that are hundreds of miles away, so I'm used to not seeing anything. And the jobs I am maybe overqualified for, or ones that may be in office buildings, are places I may not feel safe. I still don't feel very safe even with wearing a mask since so many others don't, or wear them very casually.

But today I tried to forget my troubles and worries, tried to let go of the stress of the things I can't control. And I tried my best to continue to hang on.

## **Day 5023 (V:747) - 4/2**

### **Half sleep**

Today there isn't much to say because I don't clearly remember most of the day. It is all a blur of having stuff to listen to on in the background while I mostly played my new game.

For some reason I only slept half as much as I could last night. I just couldn't fall asleep for some unknown reason. I wasn't excited, angry, worried, or in any other kind of unusual mood. I actually felt reasonably at peace (for what I can with my life being terrible overall, having recently lost the new laptop, and now the news of the brakes.) I just didn't fall asleep for a very long time, so I guess my brain is pretty exhausted today. My body is tired but doesn't feel much more tired than usual.

I suppose it is a good thing I was reasonably happily distracted from my sad things today. And so, I continue to try to hang on.

## **Day 5024 (V:748) - 4/3**

### **Probably worried over nothing**

Today I was a bit worried about my old laptop. I noticed when I was watching a video the corner was a bit warm. It's not overly warm, just a bit over body temperature. It seems to be the spot where the old physical platter based hard drive is, which has the operating system on it. I have a vague memory of swapping their positions when I got my SSD because I was worried that it being warm under where I put my hand when gaming would generate additional warmth, so I don't think it's being warm is anything really new. But I did notice I could hear a bit of noise when I put my ear against the laptop. I suppose it is just normal spinning drive noise, but it seemed more rattly than I remember. And being the drive with the operating system, I may want to look at changing that to an SSD

as well while I still can because if it fails and I have to replace Windows that would be a huge cost I couldn't cover. I'll have to research if it's easy to just clone the drive to a new drive, or if I can just format the new one as bootable and copy things over. And if I can replace it easily now it might be a good idea, since I probably have the money to in gift card money at the online store. I was hoping to save it for a new laptop, but it's only a tiny amount, and with the recent tire news, a new laptop feels like impossibly far away.

I guess I had a pretty ok time today other than that. I felt pretty lonely. And my life feels extra sad lately, first with the new laptop death, then losing \$200 trying to fix it, and now news about the brakes, and now a small fear of what if my old laptop dies too. Not to mention all of the aspects of my own personal physical health being a worry too.

Things feel extra sad and lonely, and it feels difficult to hang on. 

## **Day 5025 (V:749) - 4/4**

### **Less laptop drive worry**

Today so far I am much less worried about my old laptop drive. It has stayed completely cool so far. I'll monitor it through the rest of the day though and see if different things affect it differently. It's possible there are only a few types of show watching or games that trigger the issue.

Though I may want to update the drive to an SSD anyways. That way it would be off of the old physical platter drive, and that 3-8 minutes to start from a cold boot before I can do anything would be much faster. And things like browser windows or email that can take 30 seconds to a few minutes to open should be greatly sped up as well. And I'd guess to general windows use, like when having multiple things open tabbing between them shouldn't be an issue, and things should run on the desktop smoother in general I'd hope.

I'm exhausted though for some reason. Maybe I didn't sleep great. But I guess so far today isn't bad. Though it feels like now I have more things that are broken, or soon will be, and have more sad and worrying things than ever. 

## **Day 5026 (V:750) - 4/5**

### **Trying**

Today I will be trying to forget my worries and troubles. Though any one I am reminded of or think of causes me to remember others, quickly cascading, so the more there are the tougher it is to forget them. And it feels like lately I have the most ever. ☹

But I will try to hang on as best as I can.

**Day 5027 (V:751) - 4/6**  
**I'll consider it insurance**

Today was pretty hot. I don't know it would get hot until mid-day in the library when I opened a browser window and saw in the top corner where it shows the weather that it had gotten up to 81F, which is crazy because that's basically summer temperatures and 10F higher than it's been lately.

I've been monitoring the laptop drive temperatures since I noticed it was warm that one day. Weirdly it has yet to reach that temperature and have the slightly rattly noise since I noticed it the other night. But yesterday I decided to go ahead and get a new SSD and call it insurance. After all, the system is around 8.5 years old and in that entire time I think I've had to replace the power supply twice and that's it. So, in terms of maintenance it's been pretty low cost. (A new power supply every 2-3 years seems average with the laptops I've owned.) So about \$55 seemed reasonable to 'buy insurance' just in case the old school platter disk is on its way to death. Back in the day I knew people who had several drives they'd use die within 5 years. So far in all my computer use I've never actually had a drive fail (just a couple of usb drives.) So I think I've been lucky. So tomorrow at the library I'll go through the process of removing the game drive, putting the to be cloned drive in its spot, clone the drive, put the game drive back in its original spot, the remove the original platter drive and put it in the new SSD box for safe keeping. Hopefully all goes well and I don't regret using all of the gift money at the online store that I have. (Like with something like the power supply dying, which would immediately kill any use of the laptop since it has no battery.)

But I guess so far the day has been ok. I have felt completely exhausted though. I had some very stressful and horrible dreams last night. One in particular was going to the department store and when I came out the car's wheel had been cut off from the brake cutting the axel, and it had scrunched up like a half smooshed can, because apparently without the wheel the drive train smashed it like some kind of overpowered rubber band snapping without the support. It was very weird, and I'm sure a distortion of my subconscious being worried I'll not be able to brake in time and crash into someone and

total the car. But that can't really happen. I only drive basically one mile each way, and only on city streets, so I typically don't go faster than about 35 mph, and if there's traffic, half that speed. I timed it a few weeks ago, and in total my day is about 10-30 seconds of very light braking time in total.

But hopefully the clone will work and my general windows use will be improved, at the very least my system should be safe from an operating system drive death. And hopefully someday I can get the help, or opportunity, to get some of the things I want and need, and at least restabilize a bit in my sad homeless life.

## **Day 5028 (V:752) - 4/7**

### **Misunderstood the term**

Today I am recovering from 4 hours of loss and frustration. It took forever to find a software that was free to do the drive cloning. And then when I thought it had done it, I uninstalled the original drive, put in the new one, put the game drive back in, and it didn't boot. I put it back to have both operating system drives, and tried to copy it a few more times, each time showing an error and then not starting as it should.

So I quit trying and figured I would try again in a day or two after finding my external housing for fear of accidentally copying the non-functional partly copied drive onto the old correctly working drive. But in talking with someone who knew the software I was using, apparently "clone" doesn't mean what I thought it meant. Apparently the cloning copies the drive data, and then moves over critical boot information from the original to the new drive. (Which is what wasn't moving and why it didn't work.) Which is not at all what I wanted, since that makes the original drive not a bootable drive. What I wanted was a full copy, to have the new drive in the old drive's place, and the old drive safely stored just in case.

So I guess I will just reformat the new drive so it's wiped clean and return it. I apparently can't do what I wanted, so I would be better off having the money for when an emergency does happen.

Not really anything else for today. I tried to relax from my frustration, stress, and worry. Though it's super hot today, like 90F, which is crazy. But really today I just tried to hang on.

## Day 5029 (V:753) - 4/8

### Apparently needed

Today I am mostly feeling defeated, but I guess a small part of me feels safer and maybe a bit happier. I noticed using that special copying software that once I had the game drive installed so it could see it, the software said it was in danger of failing due to high use and should be replaced immediately. I thought about it for a while, and verified that drive's launch date, so it's possible that I didn't get the drive when I got my current laptop, but the one before it, meaning the drive could be roughly 11 years old. Even for an SSD that's quite old, especially since this was one of the first generation to be larger than about 200 gig.

So it turns out that I did need to get a new SSD to replace a drive in my old laptop, it just wasn't the drive I thought it was. It took about 3 hours to copy the drive over, but it seems like everything was fine after. I did have to change some shortcuts and adjust some things though because I did change the drive name and letter. (I am not sure if matching the name would have prevented those issues or not.) There is a lingering issue that my movie playing software isn't working, so I put in a request for help with that. They better let me reactivate it because I've bought that software at least twice, possibly three times, over the years I've been on laptops, including most recently on the new laptop which is now a dead copy.

I guess everything turned out as it was supposed to. But it feels strange to me that I didn't think to get software to check 'hardware health' before ordering the new drive. I suppose if I had it would have ended with the same result, with it showing that the old SSD was failing, and the platter based drive is actually fine. But I can't help but think it feels like my own health. I so often lack the means to do the most basic checks (or buy medicine in personal health), that it doesn't even occur to my brain anymore to do them.

But today I was exhausted from effectively having lost 7 hours to these issues. And I am very low and sad feeling from upcoming bills, new unexpected costs with the brakes, and of course now being on my old laptop, seemingly further than ever from being able to replace it. But I try to rest and continue to hang on... because that is all I can do. 😞

## **Day 5030 (V:754) - 4/9**

### **Exhausted and cold**

Today I am very exhausted for some reason. I do remember I had a lot of bad dreams last night, so that may have stressed me out in my sleep. I'm very hungry lately too, which isn't really surprising as more and more lately the foods I could eat are no longer foods I can tolerate. Two years in a row of eating ready to eat, mostly lunchmeat type foods, starts to become very undesirable to the tummy. And it is pretty cold today too. Though getting up to the low 90s the other day was more unusual. It's back to I'd guess the low to mid 70s now, which feels pretty cold in comparison.

Not much of interest today. My brain has felt half asleep most of the day, so I don't remember much, nor did anything special happen to remember. So I continue to try to hang on, and hopefully I can make it through to better days, and can maybe have a new laptop and fewer worries before it's too late.

## **Day 5031 (V:755) - 4/10**

### **Overly cold**

Today I felt very cold. And still there is a bit of nervousness and worry. I guess it's just because of the increasing uncertainty of my future and all of my worry and fear of the things broken or on their way to being broken lately. 😞

I did get some stuff that may have fixed the movie software, though I couldn't check since my internal drive doesn't play movies anymore. It stopped right around when I got the new laptop. It just kind of spins the disk and tries to read but can't actually read

it. I'm not quite sure what's wrong. But I did replace it with an external one so I could watch things on the new laptop a while ago, so I can get that from the ex-garage and check if everything works again later.

I'm very sad today. I feel very nervous. To the point that I feel like I'm going to throw up. 😞 I'm barely sleeping or able to relax at all lately. 😞 Being very cold didn't help. I'd put back on some of the winter layers after the heat stopped, but I may need to put even more on.

As always, I try to let go of what I can't control, but it feels more and more lately like I have so little left. 😞 I am trying my best to hang on to what I can, but everything feels uncertain and like what little is left is crumbling around me. 😞

## Day 5032 (V:756) - 4/11 And now rain

Today it is cold and raining, after being 90F just a few days ago. The weather is being so crazy lately. My old laptop is having a bit of a struggle staying online today. (My tablet seems fine on the same connection.) There were so many pauses I stopped doing the extra things in my MMO. Thankfully since I play my new shooter solo, it doesn't care if my connection stops or not. It doesn't need one at all, so I'll just mostly do that.

I got a shower and some micro food today. I even got a bit extra food since I've been so hungry lately. Hopefully it will help. I'm still having a lot of bad stressful dreams though, so I still feel exhausted when I can manage to sleep.

But I guess the rain is nice, and I find it calming. And so I try to relax and not worry about my troubles. And hopefully I can continue on.

## **Day 5033 (V:757) - 4/12**

### **Trying not to worry**

Today I will try to not worry about my troubles. I've been sleeping horribly, and my back is starting to hurt from all the extra stress. I have to be careful how I eat too, as the stress makes my tummy more acidic, and causes my throat to close up, so I have to be sure to take the smallest of bites.

But I have to try my best to accept the things I can't control, or can't afford to fix (or replace), and try to hang on until better days. And hope that those days do come.

### **Day 5034 (V:758) - 4/13**

#### **Very exhausted**

Today I am very exhausted again. I'm not really sure why, but I feel like I could flop over and fall asleep at any moment. Maybe I have a cold? I've been sneezing and had sniffles maybe a week now, and I have been ridiculously hungry, especially when waking up. I don't know what else it could be other than the extra stress of everything going on just weighing down on me.

I guess I had an ok time today. It was cold, so I stayed in my car before the library time. But I did everything I wanted in my games when I played, so I had plenty of time. I was almost even going to watch a show, but ran out of time since I had to make a special trip to drop things off.

I guess today was an ok day, but the stress and sadness of all my worries about the coming bills, and all the new worries like laptop, tires, etc., has me depressed and down. 😞

### **Day 5035 (V:759) - 4/14**

#### **A sad hello**

Today was pretty forgettable, literally. I'm still so exhausted I'd almost completely forgotten that I took a shower and had a micro food by the end of the day. It was a pretty regular homeless day. There was one sad hello near the end of the day though. I got a message from someone I don't know who said they had the same kind of laptop death as mine, hoping in these past couple of months that I'd found some kind of fix. I told them from my research it seems it's been happening for at least the past 4 years with that model, and it seems Acer doesn't care at all about people outside their warranty period. I did suggest some stuff they could try to see if that reset it and it's not really the same issue though. Hopefully they can fix it.

But I guess today was ok. I am still exhausted. I tried my best to rest and recover, but I'm not sure how much recovery I can do with my life being what it is. 😊 But I continue to try my best to hang on. 😞

## **Day 5036 (V:760) - 4/15**

### **No special candy**

Today I am again exhausted. I barely remember the day, as all my brain could focus on was how tired I felt. I know the morning started with a special trip a different store to look for my favorite bunny day candy. But like the food store, they didn't have it either. In general both stores had barely any candies.

Other than that I guess the day was ok. I had an ok time with my games and shows, but I don't clearly remember much. I feel so very tried. 😞

## **Day 5037 (V:761) - 4/16**

### **Sad Saturday**

Today has been a very sad Saturday. People are wishing each other a happy bunny day weekend, and I too hope people have a good weekend. But I know, even if there do wind up being a few good surprises for me, it will still be a day of heartbreak, homesickness, sadness, and worry. It would be basically impossible for all the things to be suddenly better, on what is probably my favorite holiday time, and so I can't help but feel sad.

Bunny day is about celebrating what there is, the people in our lives, and being hopeful for what may come, and so I will try to let my spirits be affected by that. But there is so much out of my control. 😞 And so often I can't feel better or not sad, with so much feeling lost. 😞

## **Day 5038 (V:762) - 4/17**

### **Could have been worse**

Today could have been worse. It was chilly, but sunny, so I got to be in the outside spot. The connection was pretty bad where I was, unlike my old outside spot that was usually very strong and stable. It did hang on to do my normal daily things in my MMO though, and then I just played offline for a bit. I lost half of my online time compared to a normal day, but I guess it was only about 2 hours compared to what it could have been in my old outside spot, so I pretty much got what I expected for what was available.

Today was very sad, especially since I heard no news of bunny day gifts, or gift money, that was on the way. I am extremely worried about the bills, and what with my insane loss trying to fix the dead laptop I also lost any chance at getting games I know would run on my old system, such as the upcoming MMO expansion that is out in I think two months. But I suppose things could be worse. It would have been raining. I could have lost something important. And so, I guess that is something.

## **Day 5039 (V:763) - 4/18**

### **Unfocused eyes**

Today my eyes are pretty unfocused. That was happening yesterday too. I think the contacts might be old. I don't remember when I last changed them. I guess for now I should just try to remember to look away to focus on different distances. With how exhausted I feel typically my eyes are just half open due to exhaustion and stare at my screen.

I guess today I feel ok. I got a shower and micro lunch with a micro dinner for later, so that always helps to feel a bit better. Though I still feel like I have a cold, and am exhausted overall.

## **Day 5040 (V:764) - 4/19**

### **Pretty sleepy Tuesday**

Today I'm not sure what to expect. Though with how tired I've felt lately I expect I'll still feel exhausted. Hopefully if I am sick with a cold I can rest and recover. But with only a gift card from dad for the online place I shop for bunny day I worry if I will have enough for upcoming bills. Things will be extremely tight, and I know there won't be enough for the end of the year bills, leaving no room for games or restaurant foods. ☹

### **Day 5041 (V:765) - 4/20**

#### **Feel like crying**

Today I still have pretty weird cold symptoms. I still feel like I have a low level nervousness and low level chills all the time. And I've sneezed maybe four times during the day. A few times I had to almost shake myself awake because I felt so exhausted. And near the end of the day I kind of felt like I was going to start crying. 😢 I think it's just the continued pressure of everything broken and bad, or on its way to death. 😢 Including, in many ways, that I myself am among those things. 😢

The gray ghost did send quite a bit of help though. It was about 2/3 of what I need for the rear break replacement, so hopefully I can hang on to it until I have enough. It for sure secures the money for car registration in a few months. But how much of what exact bills... I guess we'll see. 😢

### **Day 5042 (V:766) - 4/21**

#### **Still so exhausted**

Today I am still so very exhausted. Again by the early afternoon I'd almost completely forgotten what happened just a few hours earlier. Though I suppose the more same my days become the more often that it is likely to happen. I am still very exhausted, and a bit sniffly and sneezy, so whatever cold or allergies I have going on may be contributing to that.

There was a new DLC for my new shooter that I'm having a lot of fun with. Since I bought a fancier edition back in the day, I already have the first three DLC covered. I didn't get to spend much time in the new area, but what I could seemed pretty fun.

I guess I survived the day, but I could barely focus. I feel so tired and sad all the time. 😢

## **Day 5043 (V:767) - 4/22**

### **Nice sandwich**

Today I got myself some fresh deli stuff at the food store. It was still lunchmeat type foods, but I guess about as good as it can get for that. It was a nice treat and better than pre-packaged. I may do that more often, but lunchmeat is still lunchmeat. It's not a whole lot better nutritionally than any other I'd bet.

I'm still a touch sick feeling and completely exhausted. I barely remember anything but trying to hang on today.

## **Day 5044 (V:768) - 4/23**

### **Very sad**

Today I am feeling very sad, almost like crying for most of the day. Maybe it's because of extra tooth pain reminding me of everything being broken, or already lost. Maybe it's my extreme exhaustion. Or maybe it's just worry, depression, and homesickness. I'm not sure the reason, but today felt harder to hang on. 😞

## **Day 5045 (V:769) - 4/24**

### **Still pretty sad and exhausted**

Today I am still pretty sad and exhausted. I did watch a psych video about living in survival mode for extended periods of time and most of my symptoms seem to match up. Though I kind of knew that already. So, I feel a little less worried at my exhaustion, confusion, inability to focus, and 'brain fog', aren't symptoms of some unknown deeper issue, or permanent loss due to increasing age. I mean, that's still possible I suppose, but it seems far more likely they are just effects of my overall terrible stress and living in survival mode for so long.

I guess I had an ok time today. I wanted to do some special stuff in my MMO, but the connection started to get bad, so I stopped and just watched a bunch of junk videos

and played my shooter game, which doesn't care about my connection at all since I play solo effectively offline. It is still very difficult to hang on lately with everything being so bad, but I continue to try my best.

## **Day 5046 (V:770) - 4/25**

### **Hurting back**

Today my back is hurting a bit, and I'm still exhausted feeling, but I guess emotionally I maybe feel a bit less sad. Though I think it's just a touch of acceptance. Last night I checked on the dead laptop, and not surprisingly it's still the same kind of dead. I don't have money for breaks, and certainly not enough for a new laptop, so I continue to wait. I check for jobs or opportunities. And try to stay hopeful. So hopefully I can hang on.

## **Day 5047 (V:771) - 4/26**

### **Maybe return to rain**

Today maybe the rain will return. There have been a few rainy days, but wavering to clear skies. There are so very many sads lately, so it's tough to hang on. But all I can do is continue to try my best to stay hopeful and hang on.

**Day 5048 (V:772) - 4/27**  
**A big sleep**

Today I feel a bit better, though I'm still pretty tired. I get to be inside-ish for a few days, so even though I stayed up too late last night, I got to sleep in. I got big sleep and probably slept about 11 hours. I very desperately need it. Though with all my extra stress and still living in survival mode with all the other bad things going on there is only so much stress relief I can get with a few nights of extra sleep.

I decided to get a bit of pumpkin pie and maybe that was a mistake. It's feeling way too spicy in my tummy and was only like a 1/3 normal sized piece. I wonder too if not eating bread has changed things. I haven't stopped completely, as I have some with a very rare sandwich, and bread-like food with donuts. But probably before the apocalypse, I used to get a French bread, or baguette probably once every other week. It's like 4-5 sandwiches worth, so that was part of why I stopped, as it's difficult to keep and I wasn't having that much lunch meat anymore. But I've wondered today if that change has maybe reduced the amount of acid absorption and part of why I've had such bad tummy issues since then. I heard bread is pretty bad for you health wise, and that's another reason I stopped having so much, but I wonder if it's worse than other things I am forced to eat in comparison.

I guess today is ok. I feel exhausted. Though my tummy is super acidic now, and there is a very low level dizziness going on. But maybe it's a bit easier to hang on.

**Day 5049 (V:773) - 4/28**  
**Feeling not great**

Today I feel not the best. Most of the day my tummy has been super acidic and upset. I have a bit of a headache and dizziness and sneezes too. I'm sure it's just extra stress and poor diet, but all I can do is try my best to manage things. I can sleep in tomorrow, so that will help. I think I slept only a bit extra last night around maybe 8 or 9

hours. But I got to 'stay in bed' for a bit until I was totally awake, instead of rush and race to move and not be discovered.

I guess today was pretty good. It was pretty restful, at least as much as it could be. I got to do laundry too, so that was very good as it was very overdue and it was starting to really get me down.

But I continue to try my best to hang on. I continue to try and manage things as best as I can. And hopefully I can continue to hang on, and get a chance to make sad things better, so at least everything is not completely terrible in what is left of my life. ☹

## **Day 5050 (V:774) - 4/29**

### **A good day**

Today was a pretty good day. I slept a bit extra, probably getting 9-10 hours total. I got to do a raid with my guild in my MMO, and had some laughs, and a bit of chat with someone about games. Things today felt a bit better.

But soon I will be back to my regular homeless life. And all good feelings will rapidly slip away. While my stress and terrible things in my life were not completely forgotten, or even really set to the side, they will probably come back to the forefront of my mind. And they will rapidly crush what little levity I'd regained. ☹

But I will try my best to hang on to happy things. And I will try my best to manage the crushingly sad things. ☹

## **Day 5051 (V:775) - 4/30**

### **Time extended**

Today I was pretty completely wrecked. I started ok, but by shortly after noon I was just about passing out from exhaustion.

I did feel a bit better, trying to hang on to better feelings, and accept all the sad things I can't fix or replace. And so I spent some real time in a DLC for my MMO that I

got what feels like forever ago. It must have been right around the time my new laptop died because I'd barely touched it. Normally, yes, I don't spend as much time in the newest MMO things immediately because usually I am too depressed and feel I kind of like I'd ruin it by going through it when I'm so very sad. But I started this one so long ago that I barely can remember when that was.

I did get word in the late afternoon that I could go back to my inside-ish spot for a few more days, so that was a total surprise, and hopefully I can continue to get more rest and recover. Hopefully I can continue to feel ok, and can continue to hang on in my worst of days. 😊

## **Day 5052 (V:776) - 5/1**

### **Calm day**

Today was a pretty calm day. I got to get a bit of extra sleep, so I maybe slept 9 hours. I don't feel that constant nervous-like or chill-like feeling, so if it was a cold maybe it's finally passing. And if it was exhaustion, well, for the moment I have a couple more extra sleeps before I will be back to my terrible life, so maybe I can recover a bit more.

Things are still the worst, but being inside-ish I guess I had about as good of a day as I could have. I rested. I played my games. I was isolated and safe from whatever people might otherwise pass to me. And though I couldn't control the temperature, I was warm enough. I even took off more layers than I would have been able to at the library, at least for a bit. There is still so much I miss. I am still hurting in so many ways. But I continue to try to hang on as best as I can with what little I have left.

## **Day 5053 (V:777) - 5/2**

### **Good sleep**

Today I got some good sleep. I think about 10 hours. I was a little worried because it was one of the times it felt like there was a pool of blood in the back 1/3 of my brain/head. When I sleep very deeply it sometimes feels like that when I'm waking up. I

don't know if it's just the part of my brain that is dreaming, or some kind of muscle sprain due to the angle I'm forced to sleep at that makes it feels like it's something inside my skull.

Today will hopefully be restful and I can play my games and watch some shows. Jobs were very few and mostly things I'm not qualified for which are too far away, but that has pretty much been the case for years. But hopefully I can continue to hang on.

## **Day 5054 (V:778) - 5/3**

### **Unknown time**

Today at an unknown time at the time of this writing, I will be back to my regular sad life. Hopefully I will be ok, but with having less and less each year I worry more and more as time goes on. My breaks and my laptop aren't likely to hang on much longer, and I don't even have money to cover the bills through the end of the year. But it's too much stress, too much worry. I have to just try to continue to focus on continuing on one day at a time. All I can try to deal with is today. 😞

**Day 5055 (V:779) - 5/4**  
**Tired and sad**

Today I am pretty tired and sad. I am back out to my normal homeless life and I'm pretty tired. I rapidly became sad when I was reminded how bad the connection can get at the library. I tried to do some stuff in my MMO and was getting destroyed because every 30 seconds to 5 minutes or so the connection would pause for between 5 and 30 seconds. So I couldn't do the extra things I wanted to do. I'll have to hope it doesn't stay terrible for long.

I guess overall the day was ok. I got to do what I expected. Though there were more people than usual. And we seem to be gaining a few more regulars to my area, one of whom sat at my table. I guess she's ok. I'd guess she's in her 40s and has stuff to study, so she seems pretty quiet and not disruptive. But still, I'd prefer distance from everyone with everything going on.

I guess though I hung on ok. And that is all I can really do.

**Day 5056 (V:780) - 5/5**  
**Crazy weather**

Today the weather was being crazy. Yesterday it was hot and summer-like, but in the evening it got windy. And today has had an overcast fog, is 15F colder, and has a 30% chance of rain. The weather doesn't know what to do with itself lately.

I got a surprise gift card for the online store I use from my dad, so that is good. If my laptop power supply dies I should mostly have enough for a new one.

I'm pretty much right back to being nearly exhausted again. My eyes are pretty closed and sleepy and I'm already having a bit of a tough time focusing on things. I think it's mostly the combination of everything terrible and ongoing stress. I think if one of those were relieved I could manage the other, as I did in days before the apocalypse, or even in times after I got my new laptop and started feeling better. But very little help is

coming these days, effectively none save for family or real life friends. So bills will be tough enough to manage with all these extra costs. ☹

But all I can do is try my best to hang on. And try to continue to stay hopeful.

## **Day 5057 (V:781) - 5/6**

### **Rough throat, sneezing**

Today I feel a bit more sick. I have a lot of headache, eye pain migraine type pain, sneezing, and through most of the day my throat felt rough with congestion. I don't know if it is my old cold or something the older student that has been sitting at my table passed to me. I feel super tired too, but that could just be depression.

In my MMO there is a sort of post max alternate advancement thing. It's not huge, things like 2% this, 10% that. They changed the system about a year ago and prior to that I was pretty much always maxed. While I haven't 'lost power' under the new system I am barely half way through. And doing the math, best case scenario at the speed I'm going, I'm looking at more than 3 years to max. I made a post about it in the forums because it feels like, because it's so slow, I'm being pushed away from the game. It feels like I'm being punished for having a character that can do multiple roles and have flexible choices. (If I were a single role I'd have 'more than enough points already'.) I doubt it will see much momentum, and there is effectively zero chance they will review the speed and change the speed. But I hope there is enough reaction that the devs do consider things. It just feels wrong and bad the way it currently is. Yeah, it only affects a probably very small percent of players, as most aren't even close to even the number of points I have, but I think it's very important to note that it 'feels bad' and doesn't encourage me to play more. It does the opposite.

Things are still the worst though. No change on anything. But I tried to hang on as best as I could with what I still have.

## **Day 5058 (V:782) - 5/7**

**Free comics**

Today was apparently free comic day. When I got up to walk around a little bit in the afternoon there was a sign in the library about it. I got four that look like things I'd be into. ☺ I'm sad I didn't know sooner. There may have been others I would have liked that they ran out of by the time I saw. I know in past homeless years when I tried there either weren't comic shops close to me, or by the time I got there was effectively nothing left. So this seemed like a nice surprise.

I felt pretty exhausted though. I even stopped playing games and just watched shows for a few hours. I even considered taking a nap outside the library in the morning. But often if I do that I risk messing up my sleep schedule at night. I had quite a bit of sniffling and sneezing too. Hopefully there will be a lot less people around tomorrow and I can try to be extra restful at a desk by myself. The older student hasn't come by the past couple of days, though someone has always sat at the table because it's starting to get kind of full again.

I felt pretty down and sad about everything today. I again tried to test the dead laptop last night, and not surprisingly it remains dead. I don't know why I bother to try every 2 to 4 weeks. But I suppose things were ok overall. And I continued to try to hang on as best as I could.

## **Day 5059 (V:783) - 5/8**

**Tired and cold**

Today I'm super tired and pretty cold. I was fine inside at the library, but outside is still turning more towards rain than anything else.

I suppose I had an ok day. In my game things were very quiet, likely due to mom's day. The library was pretty quiet too, though nowhere near as quiet as I expected it would be. I guess I had an ok day, though I left a bit earlier than necessary due to feeling very tired and sad. But today I tried my best to hang on.

## **Day 5060 (V:784) - 5/9**

### **Hungry, tired, and cold**

Today I feel extra hungry. I thought about getting something extra to micro, but it's tough to pick what since it would be sitting at the library all day in my bag. I suppose I could have done hot dogs, but didn't think of that until now.

I'm also still very tired and a bit cold feeling. I'm pretty sniffly and a little sneezy, but I guess ok overall. The library has been pretty quiet so far, and it seems like it may get rainy later, so things will probably stay pretty calm.

I'm still very sad and down about everything going on that is still terrible for me right now, but trying to hang on as best as I can.

## **Day 5061 (V:785) - 5/10**

### **Probably sniffly Tuesday**

Today I don't know what to expect, but I'd guess I will probably be very tired, pretty sniffly, and very sad about everything. I don't have anything special to look forward to, but hopefully I can continue to hang on.

**Day 5062 (V:786) - 5/11**  
**Cold, hot, cold, hot**

Today the weather has continued to bounce back and forth. It's still going from seeming like rain to trying to get warm. It's very confused and unstable.

I guess today was ok, but I still feel a constant overwhelming sadness. Without a new laptop I have my MMO, but could run extremely few new games coming out. And with the extra bills, on top of the loss for trying to save the new laptop from dying, getting any games even if I could run them is impossible since there is nothing left. So everything feels impossible right now, as everything is falling apart or needs attention, and I have just a little bit of money to cover only a little bit of it. 

But all I can do is hope my remaining things continue to hold on. And hopefully I can too. 

**Day 5063 (V:787) - 5/12**  
**Super tired**

Today I am super tired. I again feel like I may just fall asleep at pretty much any time. I think I have a cold beating me up. I've been sneezing quite a bit. I have some congestion in my throat. But when I sneezed a few times in the library I took a decongestant and an allergy pill and seemed to clear up.

I'm very sad and down about my bills and troubles lately. And now returning to my old laptop I'm very worried that won't hold on much longer.  But all I can do is try my best to hang on myself.  And hopefully I can make it to better days.

## **Day 5064 (V:788) - 5/13**

### **Spill day**

Today passed quickly. Not in a good way, but not in a bad way, I suppose. It started and then it felt like not much later it was over. The only real thing of note was that I spilled soda on my pants in the morning. Now at the end of the day the spill has long dried and disappeared. (Though it still shows on my car seat.)

I suppose the day passed quickly because of how sad I am. My mind was, I suppose, preoccupied and that's why it passed quickly.

Things feel the worst and I am the saddest ever, with seemingly more and more things occupying my mind. 😞 But I suppose I held on. 😞

## **Day 5065 (V:789) - 5/14**

### **Survey, twitching eyelid**

Today I had to get something out of my head. The past few weeks really I've been feeling extra down about the new 'alternate advancement' in my MMO. They changed it about a year ago, and since the change I just have felt behind, less than others, punished, forced to do things I don't want to do, or play in ways I don't want to play, and forced to play for longer periods, all because my main can do multiple roles. As a single role I have plenty of end game points, but with doing more than one I don't. I made a forum post about it a bit ago to see if others felt that way and it got little response.

Today I formalized a survey and posted it through a fancy survey website to gather responses and maybe correlate some data to see if others feel the same, or to see if I am an outlier. I also reached out to a few 'influencers' to see if they would pass the link to their communities. Well, I guess I didn't really find the limitations on a free account until it was 'too late'. I actually started getting responses pretty quickly, and by the end of the day I had 27, of which the free account only lets you see up to 10. So I already have data I can't see, and had I known it would limit me to 10 I probably wouldn't have bothered. I guess it's fine. The data will gather. But to even see 40 responses I would have to pay \$15. And if I wanted to see something like 1,000 I'd have to pay \$100. And to see

up to 2,500 I'd have to pay \$380. I think none of those are worth the cost really, though technically I suppose the \$15 tier would be 'greater than 35', which I recall was the minimum for surveys to be any kind of representative. I don't know what I'll do with the data. I had no idea I'd be capped at such a low amount.

About four times today I've gotten a twitchy right eyelid. It's lasted 5-10 seconds per episode, but it's like it causes my vision on that side to have a strobe effect. I think it's just the eyelid because one time I held it up and it didn't have the strobe effect. I'm not super worried as I'm certain it's just extreme depression and stress related.

I did get a super huge donation today that will be helpful. An anonymous gift card came in the mail. And while it would be difficult to use for some things it kind of came at a perfect time, as my car registration also came, which I'm 75% sure it could be used for that since they have an online payment system. (I'm only mostly sure because some places require the name match, and if that's required then it would be rejected.) I can try tomorrow and see.

So today was eventful I suppose. Some good, some disappointing, some bad. But I continue to try and hang on.

## **Day 5066 (V:790) - 5/15**

### **Big bill paid**

Today I tried to pay the registration with the big gift card and it worked. So, yay for big bill paid. I also used a bit from a late bunny day present and got the cheap version of my upcoming MMO expansion. So, yay for more fun game in 3 weeks. And there is even a little left for gas after that.

My tummy was not the best today. I decided to not do lunchmeat and just have crackers and cheese, but the cheese made my tummy wobbly. It wasn't terrible, but it wasn't super happy. I'm still sneezy and have headaches and such, so if I remember tomorrow I'll get a soup for lunch.

I guess the day was pretty ok. There were the good things, but I still have many sad things. But I guess I held on ok.

## **Day 5067 (V:791) - 5/16**

### **Sleepy ok**

Today seems ok, but I am very sleepy. I feel maybe not quite as sad, but I got a shower and micro food, so that always gives me a little boost. I remembered to get a soup too, and I think I'm still fighting a cold, so that's good.

I'm super sleepy, but I guess I'm hanging on ok today. Still very sad about everything in my life, but I think I'm actually so sleepy that my brain can't focus on it.

## **Day 5068 (V:792) - 5/17**

### **Maybe warm Tuesday**

Today I hope will be warm. The weather is finally becoming more warm than not. It seems like the warm weather has been very delayed this year. I hate the cold.

Hopefully I can continue to be restful and recover from my cold and extra stress. And hopefully I can hang on until better days.

**Day 5069 (V:793) - 5/18**  
**Feeling odd**

Today I am feeling odd. I don't quite know how to explain. I guess it kind of feels like I forgot something that I was unaware of, if that makes any sense. I know it's not anything I actually forgot, as I had nothing special going on today. I thought maybe about getting a special dinner lately, but even if I did it wouldn't be today, so I don't know what it is.

I guess today was ok. A guildie checked in with me, so that was nice. Checking the survey reports they have slowed to a crawl around 70. While that is more than I thought I'd get, I'd need 385 according to a calculator I checked to have reliable results for the population size. And if I paid \$15 to access more than 10 answers I'd only see about half of that number. So that really wouldn't be worth it because it would be extremely inaccurate. So that feels a bit disappointing. I guess I'll leave it open to the end of the month and see, but if I did suddenly get the number I needed I'd have to pay \$100 to unlock them, which there is no way I have anything even close to that much spare to spend on something like that.

It's super hot out now, and while it's nice I'm in the sun, so I'm getting hot and sweaty. It is shower day in the morning, so hopefully things won't be too bad.

I still have so many sads, but I guess I held on today. And that has to be enough for now.

**Day 5070 (V:794) - 5/19**  
**Ok feeling**

Today seemed to pass quickly. I'm not sure why. I guess maybe because I did something for a couple of hours that was different, and so the rest of my day felt kind of rushed. But what I did do felt ok, and in spite of a very rough start with two bad dungeon groups in my MMO, the day felt mostly ok and not super sad.

I had not soup micro in the morning, though I still have the same sneezing and sniffles. But I do feel a bit better in general. But, I am still terribly sad and worried about everything all the time. And I continue to try my best to hang on.

## **Day 5071 (V:795) - 5/20**

### **Cold fights back**

Today I feel like the cold is returning and fighting back. I'm suuper tired, congested, and had some sneezing, and a touch of chill feelings. Not too much of chills, as it is more just feeling like I'm cold and don't have enough cloths on. I even considered getting extra fast food to eat, but even though I have 4-6 months of food money saved up, it just seems too overpriced to do more than once every few weeks. (Since I'm limited to the one choice that takes my food money card.)

But I guess I had fun in my games. The connection did feel a bit slow, but that may just be my old laptop. With doing harder things in my old shooter I'm reminded just how much it struggles. ☹️ But I did my best to try and hang on today.

## **Day 5072 (V:796) - 5/21**

### **Still fighting the cold**

Today I guess was pretty good, though there isn't much to say. I have been fighting the cold. I'm pretty exhausted, a bit extra hungry, and a bit headachey. Overall I guess I'm ok. I'm trying to stay hopeful and entering contests to win a laptop. But all I can do is try my best to hang on. ☹️

## **Day 5073 (V:797) - 5/22**

### **Very tired day**

Today I feel very tired. It feels like I barely got any sleep. I had a pretty fun time playing my games, but I didn't talk to anyone at all, so that felt maybe a bit lonely. Though I was very sad feeling about my laptop as I went to a few newer parts of my shooter and it was struggling pretty hard. I'd guess it was maybe in the 15-20 FPS range for those bits. 😔

But I tried to focus on the little bit of fun I was having. And tried not to be too sad about my limitations. And I hung on as best as I could.

## **Day 5074 (V:798) - 5/23**

### **Reverse order day**

Today has been in reverse order. I did my shooter first to be sure to get a ship for a special event that ends later today. I wanted all of my play time open to do that in case it took a while. It only took a few hours to finish, so I have the rest of the day to do my MMO or whatever. I accomplished the big goal I'd been working on for the past few days before my time ran out.

I'm pretty sleepy and a bit extra hungry. I got a little extra food today though, so that is at least something. I guess I feel ok, maybe a little less sad, but I was in the area of my shooter that my laptop has major struggles with, so that was very sad for a bit. But I continue to try my best to hang on.

## **Day 5075 (V:799) - 5/24**

### **New stuff, old shooter**

Today some new stuff comes out for my old shooter. Since I paid for the very most expensive version back a while ago I have all the things pre-paid for until around

September (when they start the next year cycle). So that should be something fun to look forward to.

It's supposed to be getting very warm, so that should be nice. It's been wavering between cold and warm, which is odd since it's usually pretty steadily heading towards warm this time of year. But hopefully today I can hang on a little bit easier.

### **Day 5076 (V:800) - 5/25**

**Super hot**

Today is super hot. It probably got up to about 100F today. It's a weird spike though, as it will cool 10F tomorrow, and 10F more the next day.

I get to be inside for a bit, so that was very nice but super hot. I was tempted to shut off my laptop or even go back out to the library, but things were ok enough.

I hung on a little easier today, but there are still so many sads in my life. ☹

### **Day 5077 (V:801) - 5/26**

**No shower**

Today there was no shower or micro. I could stay inside-ish again, so I got to sleep as much as I needed, which was apparently about 10 hours. Since I didn't need to go in the morning I didn't go to shower like I normally would. I'm sure it will be fine to skip.

I had fun today, but it was pretty hot again. Oh, I got an unexpected surprise gift from dad, which if it's not needed for anything else means I'm about 6-7% of the way to a new laptop. It's really not much at all towards that, but I guess it's something. It does feel a lot better than nothing at all. I do worry more and more about my old laptop. A few times today 'in the best conditions' for a connection it dropped the connection for a little bit, as well as freezing on web browsing windows for seemingly no reason at all.

Soon though my inside-ish time will end and I will be back out to a regular homeless life. ☹ So that will be very sad. Though the thought of sitting at a desk with more tolerable temperatures is nice.

So today I hung on a little bit easier I suppose, but things no doubt will feel very rough again very quickly. ☹

## **Day 5078 (V:802) - 5/27**

### **Itchy day**

Today I have been very itchy. Mostly it's been on the back of my forearms and hands, but a few other places as well. It's very odd too because I decided to check if the showers were open since I skipped yesterday, and they were, so I'm freshly showered. So unless it's a reaction to my soap, which I've used that type for years now, I'm not sure why I would be suddenly so itchy.

I guess I hung on ok today. There was a not great experience with a group in my shooter, but bad random groups happen. The connection was a bit fussy too. Though I never know if that is the connection or my old laptop. I'd guess it is my old laptop, since I don't recall having the issues when I had the new one. ☹

I guess I'm trying to continue to hold on and managing as best as I can. I felt so distracted from being itchy and sleepy I've been kind of out of it today.

## **Day 5079 (V:803) - 5/28**

### **Seems cold**

Today seems very cold in comparison to the day when it was nearly 100F. Of course, I was in the library which is always a bit too cold for me, but the day has been a touch chilly and there were gray clouds in the sky.

I guess I had an ok time playing my games. Nothing bad or exciting happened. Though I did test two of the remaining plugs outside of the library in preparation for when I'll be out on days like Monday and both were pretty rough. One spot had basically no signal. The other was poor, but useable, but being out in the open it was blasting with light and I could barely see. Even though there was a column making a 1 foot wide shadow so I could put my laptop there to protect it from the direct sun, all the light from the side and around me was just too much. There may be only one spot outside the coffee shop on the corner that's better, so it will depend on if anyone else is there when I get there or if it's open for use. They are closed when the library is, so hopefully there won't be much competition for the space. I thought about going over to school, as there are a

few outside spots there, but since they are also closed, and with everything going on these days, it would seem extra weird to be there, and possibly frowned upon.

I'm very sleepy too. For some reason I had an almost impossible time getting to sleep last night. I probably lost 3 or so hours that I could have been sleeping. 😞 But I guess today I hung on as best as I could. And hopefully I can hang on until better days.

## **Day 5080 (V:804) - 5/29**

### **Kinda sick, kinda sad**

Today I am feeling kind of sick and kind of sad. I've been getting pretty congested lately. And while it's not super bad, I am pretty congested, a bit sneezy, and have a few sneezes each day. My tummy feels kind of bad lately too, like there is a lump of yuck, which I'd guess is maybe from the congestion. I'd get some soup tomorrow, but things will be closed due to the holiday. I expect it will be a rough day.

I feel pretty sad too. I'm not entirely sure why. A guildie said hi this morning, which was super nice. But I think when I changed to my shooter I got sad. They changed some character options and I don't know how I feel about the new stuff. At first it was cool and exciting, but the more I've used it the more I've started to have mixed feelings. I may put my character back to how they were before. It's just a change of a few pieces of gear and a class option, so it's easily switched to one way or the other. I tried getting a group for some super hard group content, and while we spent about 3 hours trying we didn't finish. It's new, and we didn't have experience doing it, but there are videos online showing that if you know what to do you should finish in half that time. So I just don't know if the rewards are worth it from how much time and stress it takes compared to regular content. It is some of the hardest content, so I may just pass on doing it and stick to the easier stuff. Especially since I can solo the easier stuff, or doing the group stuff is usually very easy.

When I responded to dad about the unexpected gift card I guess I mentioned it will help for saving up for a laptop. He responded saying he wanted to help with that, but I explained how it would have to be pretty high end to do design work and my games, and it would be really expensive. Since he can only send maybe a few hundred a year, I don't

see how his adding like \$1500 on credit would be safe or good for him. He's retired on a very fixed and limited income, so that would probably wreck him. I told him not to worry about it, especially since I have the brakes needing to be done, and year end bills not yet paid, but we'll see. It's kind of weird though that the gift cards he sends are for the place I would buy one, and he hasn't realized that I have a wish list there. Though he is super old, 30 years older than me, so there's that.

I'm pretty exhausted. I have had a headache and various other pains most of the day. I again lost an hour or two trying to get to sleep last night for the same unknown reason, though it's probably overall stress. But I guess I held on today. And as always, I will look at what I had, how I felt, reassess options, and maybe tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 5081 (V:805) - 5/30**

### **Accelerated first half**

Today I think the first half of my day will be greatly accelerated. The connection that I'm at seems ok, but not great, and I am sitting at a chair and desk at the coffee shop attached to the corner of the library building, but it's freezing cold. There is a winter wind that is blowing my laptop monitor and ripping through all my clothing layers. I expect I'll just do minimal online things and go back to the car earlier than expected. So from then on my day will likely become extremely slow. But hopefully I can get through it and hang on ok today.

## **Day 5082 (V:806) - 5/31**

### **Back in Tuesday**

Today I will be back in the library, but I don't expect anything unusual, so hopefully I can hang on ok.

**Day 5083 (V:807) - 6/1**  
**Very tired**

Today I am very tired. I don't even really know what to say about the day. It feels like Friday with how tired I am and Monday throwing me off.

I haven't heard back from my dad about his wanting to help with a new laptop, but that isn't really surprising. I doubt he had any idea it would be so much. And with being retired and typically only sending 200-300 total in a year, most of which isn't in cash, even if he could put it all on credit or something I don't think he'd ever be able to pay it off. I think too I'll try to sell the dead laptop corpse this weekend if I continue to not hear from him. I wouldn't be completely opposed to resurrecting it, but at \$700+ even that would be very out of his price range.

It's 'Intel gamer days' for, I think, about two more weeks, so there are contests going on. I think I've signed up for about four different laptop prize contests. The odds seem low of winning, but if I got the one system out of who knows how many tens of thousands that died then I suppose the odds are actually higher for winning one than that. So, you never know.

The day seems pretty warm, but with a cool breeze. It still seems much cooler than it normally would be at this time of year. I guess, in a way, that made it a bit easier to hang on.

**Day 5084 (V:808) - 6/2**  
**A bit**

Today was, I suppose, pretty good. There was a shower in the morning. I had a micro soup, and I feel a bit less snifflly and sneezy. Though I suppose I still feel pretty exhausted. I had fun playing my games, though I didn't do anything special. Dad sent word he sent a bit of money for whatever, which will be helpful. It's only enough for part of breaks, or part of car insurance, so it certainly helps, but a laptop still feels impossibly

far off. And with the breaks being such a large unexpected bill I still expect that will dominate my money's attention for a while.

But I continue to try my best to hang on. And hopefully what little I have left can continue to hang on as well.

## **Day 5085 (V:809) - 6/3**

### **Warm to gray**

Today the weather continues to be weird. What started as an almost normal summer warm has turned to a cold and windy gray. I don't get what is up with the weather this year. I guess it's a very good thing I didn't change to shorts like I considered doing this morning.

I had fun with my games today. I didn't do anything super special in my mmo, but in my shooter I did get a good group for the super hard thing I tried to do before. We did it pretty quickly in 1 hour, so the guys wanted to do it again, and while it did take a bit longer at 1.5 hours, those two runs together were still faster than the previous time I tried.

I guess I kind of forgot I wanted to start gathering stuff to sell the corpse, so maybe I'll do that in a few days. I will still be surprised if I can get the minimum amount I put it up for, because who would want a dead system, especially these days. But I guess we'll see eventually.

I guess I held on pretty well today. And I feel maybe a bit happier than usual, so that is something.

## **Day 5086 (V:810) - 6/4**

### **Very homesick**

Today I guess I am feeling very homesick and depressed. My heart feels a bit bad lately too. I don't know if it's just blood pressure and stress, but the only way I could think to describe it is like right after you've done something strenuous and the endorphins are

starting to wear off. Or maybe like when you get a big scare, or hear terrible news and get chills, and your 'heart sinks'.

I had fun with my games, but not as much as regular. I wanted to do more in my mmo, but I had the 'it feels like its being ruined' feelings, so I stopped earlier than I wanted to. I couldn't find a group for my shooter, so I just did basically daily things and then left. I played a bit of a different game, but my old laptop has to play it with the lowest textures and details, so it looks pretty terrible (but plays fine.)

I guess today I just felt very depressed, homesick, extra stressed, and heartbroken, so today felt very rough. 😞

## **Day 5087 (V:811) - 6/5**

### **Sleepy**

Today I am pretty sleepy. I have a little bit of a headache, but feel pretty ok compared to how I've been feeling lately. I had a good time in my mmo, though I just did basic daily stuff. I had a group for the very tough thing in my shooter, but I really don't know if it was worth the hour it took since I didn't get anything I wanted or needed. I wanted to watch a show, but the show I wanted to watch didn't have anything new listed.

There were no donations, and nothing special happened today, but I suppose it was a bit easier to hang on.

## **Day 5088 (V:812) - 6/6**

### **Slow start**

Today feels pretty good, but it's a bit of a slow start. Though I guess that's not unexpected. I got a shower and micro and did my old shooter first so I could have the rest of the day for the new mmo content. But they extended maintenance, and extended it again, though it should be up pretty soon I hope.

I've been sneezing quite a bit today for some reason; maybe eight times in the past two hours. I'm not sure why. Maybe I should take an allergy and decongestant pill.

But hopefully my mmo will be up and playable soon, and hopefully I can hang on a bit easier.

## **Day 5089 (V:813) - 6/7**

### **Hopefully new stuff**

Today will hopefully be new mmo stuff. I don't really know what to else to expect, but hopefully my laptop can hang on, the connection stays stable, and I can have a little bit easier day.

### **Day 5090 (V:814) - 6/8**

#### **Super hot**

Today is super hot. It's weird because there is a cool breeze, but it feels hotter overall than the weather says it is. I'm sweating in my car with just a T-shirt and shorts on. I may have to consider dropping to a tank top if this keeps up. And, of course, in the library I was just a touch chilly with my two shirt layers on over my T-shirt.

I think I've got all the text ready for selling the laptop corpse. I'm still tempted to keep it and possibly RMA it, assuming the price continues to go down over time, but as more time passes it's worth vastly decreases. What I could get now for about 40% more than what they last asked would be better and newer hardware. And in another 6 months the rumored next generation CPUs will be out, bumping those currently double the RMA price down to the sub \$1k range, being an even better deal.

But really it's a bad deal, even at half what they asked, as there are bills I don't have money for that selling it could at least partly pay for compared to getting old tech with barely any coverage. I guess we'll see how things turn out in time. Again, I don't even know if I *can* sell the corpse. There just may be no interest at all. I'll probably resurrect my account on the sale page or need to make a new one, and post in the next few days if I remember.

I had a pretty good time in my new expansion for my MMO. I think I am lucky in that this is one of the times 'I feel ok' with the limitations I have. Things don't seem likely to change anytime soon, and even just a new laptop feels impossible at this point in time. So I have what I have, or I don't do it at all.

Overall I guess I hung on a little easier today. And hopefully I can tomorrow too.

## **Day 5091 (V:815) - 6/9**

### **Heat spike, again**

Today seems to be the start of another heat spike. It's now in the low 80s, and is supposed to be up to 95F tomorrow, which is crazy. And then, like last time, a 10F drop and nearly that much again the day after. It's almost like there is some crazy solar flare happening.

I guess today was pretty good. Things seemed very quiet and calm. Since school let out last week the library has been pretty empty. I guess parents that normally would be at the library are now having to stay home to take care of their kids since it's not the best idea to go out all the time like in the past? I'm not sure. I had fun in my mmo, and did the minimal dailies in my shooter since there isn't much to gain there currently.

I guess today I held on a little easier.

## **Day 5092 (V:816) - 6/10**

### **Long**

Today felt like a very long day. I'd say it basically felt twice as long as normal. By 3 I was wondering if it was almost time to go. I'm not sure why it felt so long. It might in part be because I've lost a lot of sleep lately. I'm pretty exhausted.

I guess I had a good time in my game. I did just a little in my shooter, and spent a lot of time in my new mmo expansion. I did get some progress on an important goal in my mmo, so that was good.

It was super hot today. I think around 95F by midday. But it is starting to cool down pretty quickly.

I hung on a little easier today, but I'm still very exhausted. Hopefully I can continue to hang on until better days.

## **Day 5093 (V:817) - 6/11**

### **Pretty hot still**

Today it was still pretty hot. It didn't come down as much as the weather predicted. It is certainly cooler, probably about 10F, but it's still pretty warm. I'm pretty exhausted. I had a hard time getting to sleep last night.

I guess I had a pretty good time in my games. I got more than the usual amount of job results for a Saturday, but as often happens they were things I wasn't qualified for, not in my area, or both. So that was disappointing, but that's not unusual.

I guess I forgot to post my dead laptop. I wanted to yesterday, but with how sad I feel about it still it's difficult to be motivated to do that. I mean, it's not going to be less dead, at this point that's obvious, but I think part of me knows that once it's up for sale it's not only a forced acceptance that I can't do anything to fix it, but it was a horrendous loss of money. And not only that, that money was my only real chance at a new laptop in years, and once it's posted, that's fully gone.

I guess I held on today, but it could have been better. Hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 5094 (V:818) - 6/12**

### **Hot to rain**

Today the weather has been the weirdest yet. It started like a hot summer day like it has been recently, but by late morning there were gray clouds. And by early afternoon, and even now hours later, it's been sprinkling. We really never get hot days with rain on this coast, so this is super weird.

I guess I had a fun time with my games. I felt pretty lonely. Though I did to a fancy raid two or three times. I don't even remember now how many I did because I'm so exhausted.

There are always things about my day I would have preferred to be better, but I guess it wasn't too bad, and I made it through ok.

## **Day 5095 (V:819) - 6/13**

### **Warm, not hot**

Today is warm, but not too hot. I'm very sleepy, but feel pretty clean on my person. I did a shower and did extra scrubbing because of the sweating recently. I wiped my cloths a bit to smell a bit better, but there is still a bit of stinkiness, which makes me sad. 

Hopefully today can be calm and restful. I've lost a lot of sleep lately, and been off balance due to all the extra heat, but things hopefully are calming down a bit now.

## **Day 5096 (V:820) - 6/14**

### **Hopefully calm Tuesday**

Today hopefully will be a calm day. I don't really know what to expect, but I hope to hear good news that I won one of the laptop giveaways I entered. I don't know when most of them close, I really don't keep track, but I will try to remain hopeful for about a month more to hear good news.

**Day 5097 (V:821) - 6/15**  
**Do not feel great**

Today I don't feel great. Overall I've been getting progressively more exhausted, but today I feel kind of sick. My tummy is a bit upset, I maybe have a low level fever, I'm physically tired, my ears are ringing, and my eyes feel a bit sore and more sensitive to light than usual. Tomorrow is a shower and micro day, so maybe I can get some foods that will help me feel better.

I had a pretty fun time with my games. And someone complimented me on the card game match we had in my mmo. (You have to go 'out of your way' to chat with people since it's not a shared chat by default.) But since I wasn't feeling great I actually stopped a bit early to watch a show.

There was much to feel sad about today, but I suppose I held on, and that matters most.

**Day 5098 (V:822) - 6/16**  
**Too cold**

Today I was too cold in the library. By noon I'd put on my two outer shirt layers, and shortly after that put on my hoodie too. I was wearing a long underwear under my pants, so I was basically in winter layers. I don't know why it was so cold inside.

It was pretty cold outside too. By the early afternoon there was a pretty big breeze, and when I got out at night I left all my layers on because it seemed no warmer than it was in the cold library.

I guess I had a good day with my games though. I did still feel sniffly, sneezy, and my eyes were very tired. My ears weren't ringing as much, but there is still a bit of ringing.

I'm exhausted, a bit sad, but try my best to continue to hang on.

## **Day 5099 (V:823) - 6/17**

### **Cold and rainy to fair**

Today started out looking very cold and rainy and turned to fair weather. I wouldn't say it's necessarily warm, as I have on genes, long underwear, underwear, a tank top, a T-shirt, my two outer long sleeve shirts, and my hoodie, and I am basically warm enough. But hopefully by next week the warm weather will return.

I still don't feel great. My forehead still feels warm to me, ears are ringing, eyes feel very tired and kind of aren't focusing easily, and my laptop screen seemed much darker than usual, and there is a bit of headache. I'm pretty hungry too, but unless I spend some special gift card money I can't get good food. I don't have a gift card for the nice Panda food, just my food stamp money I can use for chicken and fries.

I feel pretty sad and quiet today. I don't know if it's my overall sads or the recent sick feelings. I guess I forgot to put the laptop corpse up for sale again. I guess I should try to do that before the weekend is up. It's already been 5 months and it's not getting any younger.

I guess though overall I held on as best as I could.

## **Day 5100 (V:824) - 6/18**

### **Recycle**

Today really the only thing of note was that I could do recycling in the morning. The machine at the food store was finally not full, after like three weeks of being full all the time. It will still take probably two days of emptying my max allowed per day to clear what I have, so I hope it is re-emptied soon. With its 400 limit that's only 8 people per day if everyone puts in their max amount.

I guess the day was ok. I feel pretty sad though. I felt like I didn't get what I really wanted to do in my mmo done.

I guess things were ok though. I'll get a fast food dinner to get some fresh cooked chicken and fries, but I really would prefer to go to Panda and get something with vegetables. But I don't have any money or gift cards for that. ☹

I'm not too sure what to say about today other than I feel sad. Tomorrow and Monday are holidays, so the library will be closed, and school will be too, so I may only get to be online for a few hours each day. I guess I will manage. All I can do is try to take things one day at a time and try my best to hang on.

## **Day 5101 (V:825) - 6/19**

### **Bad and shorted**

Today felt pretty sad and was too short and too long. It's only half over, but the time I could be plugged in and connected online is over. Now I will just spend the next few hours listening to stuff. Maybe in the car, maybe not.

I guess what online time I had was ok. There weren't many jobs to check, but that's not surprising for both a Sunday and a double holiday. It was about the type of weather I expected, so that was good, as having too many extra layers just in case is never ideal.

I've been sleepy. I'm exhausted. I feel sad. My tummy still feels a bit upset. And I expect tomorrow will be the same with everything still closed. But I guess I held on the best that I could. And these days that's all I can do.

## **Day 5102 (V:826) - 6/20**

### **Early writing**

Today I am writing very early. I have about 40% of what I normally have online, so I don't want to be rushed by a rapidly ticking clock. It's cooler and a bit less bright, so that's good. But it's very loud, as there is some construction going on.

I'm still pretty sick feeling. I'm congested, my throat feel like there's yuck in it and tastes very slightly different, but I don't think I feel as warm.

I don't know what to expect for today, but hopefully I can at least get a bit of relaxing time.

## **Day 5103 (V:827) - 6/21**

### **Hopefully normal**

Today will hopefully be back to homeless normal. I should be able to shower and micro in the morning. And hopefully then I can have a regular day in the library. Hopefully it will be easier to hang on.

**Day 5104 (V:828) - 6/22**  
**Maybe sun sick**

Today I don't feel great. I was in a fair bit of sun on Sunday and Monday, and a bit yesterday, and now I feel like maybe my head, shoulders, and a bit of my chest are maybe sun burnt. Plus, I still have my sick feels from before, so overall I don't feel great.

Tomorrow I should be able to get a shower, micro, and be in the cool library. It wasn't so cool today. It may be struggling in the heat. But hopefully I can cool down, rest, and recover soon.

**Day 5105 (V:829) - 6/23**  
**A bit less hot**

Today was a bit less hot. It was borderline chilly in the library, so maybe the A.C. is back to normal. Outside it was pretty warm, but I think since most of my time is inside the library I'll be back to pants and see if that is more comfortable.

I had a pretty good time with my shows, so that was nice. But I still feel a bit sick, and still feel extra hungry and exhausted.

**Day 5106 (V:830) - 6/24**  
**A kind of bing deal**

Today was, I guess, more good than bad. In the morning I posted something trying to get help and a person was just saying a bunch of dumb stuff about it. So it was like, fine forget it, and I took it down. A nice person did message me privately about it and said they would help if they could, so that was super nice. But it kind of threw me off for the rest of the day.

A bit later in my mmo I finished a pretty big goal I'd been trying to do for the last 2.5 weeks. It kind of hasn't really sunk in yet, but it is just a big deal for a very rare sometimes thing. So that is really great that it's done and I can move on to other goals.

I guess today overall I feel a bit sad. I feel hot, tired, really would like to be somewhere cooler than I can shower and play my games more if I wanted. But all of that requires a home, which I don't have. 😞 It would be at least very nice to have my games on a new laptop again, one that wasn't struggling, old, and broken, which as it has so many times before, more and more is just reminding me of my own issues with being old, broken, and struggling. 😞

But all I can do is continue to try to move forward one small step at a time. And hopefully, in time, opportunity will come again.

## **Day 5107 (V:831) - 6/25**

### **Regret**

Today I feel pretty sad. Over and over my brain kept remembering things I've lost. Things that, had I known differently at the time, I would have made different choices. Or in some cases, I would not have done at all. I regret many things in my past today, specifically my childhood and I guess young adulthood. I suppose really my mind just focused on what would be comfort items the most, things that would have reminded me of better days and times in my life. But I think a lot of it is those feel like important pieces of me, what defines what I enjoy and makes me who I am, that are now lost, like so many other things in these recent years have been. 😞

But I think most of what makes me sad is, like everything now, even if I could get those things back again (new), since they wouldn't be the things I previously had, it could never be the same. 😞

## Day 5108 (V:832) - 6/26

### Scary drops

Today I had some scary laptop power drops. The first one was when I removed my phone/tablet charger. It wasn't immediate, but the system did shut off maybe 30 seconds later. I assume that I must have bumped the plug just enough it wasn't 100% stable. When it happened again maybe 5 minutes after restarting, I was very worried. But I re-seated the plug in the outlet, and checked all the connections on the laptop and power supply. After restarting again the laptop ran for another 3 hours without issue.

However, even though it seems fine, when the building lost power for 2 seconds and I dropped maybe a month ago, I promised myself the next time I dropped, for whatever reason, I'd seriously consider trying a new battery. So, since dad did send a bit of help between then and now I decided that since I'm so far from getting a new laptop I probably should protect the old one from as many drops as possible. I got a lower capacity one, which was \$25. It does mean I can't do as much with it, but with the full capacity one lasting only 45 minutes with very light tasks, and half that time in gaming (while running at 5-15 FPS), there isn't much point in spending double to get the full capacity one like the original. I expect I'll have half the original's time, which is just fine for the very brief power drops I'm wanting to protect it from.

I guess I'll know tomorrow or Tuesday if the new battery helps. I still am unsure if the issue is the battery, the port, or somehow the power supply. If it's the port then a new battery won't make a difference. It would have the same fail to charge issues as the old. So I'll have to keep an eye on the percentage charge, and maybe even do a test drain down to like 50% to see if it recharges after. If it does, great. If not, then I know it's definitely not the battery, and I can return it for a full refund within 30 days.

But I worry about the overall age of the laptop. At now pushing into its 9th year it seems very unlikely it will, or can, hang on much longer. And every day I am very grateful that it does, but I don't know what I'd do if I lost it and couldn't game. 😞

## **Day 5109 (V:833) - 6/27**

### **Chilly**

Today ticked me. My weather app on my tablet said it would be in the 90s today, but it's nearly noon and the online temperature for the area is only showing it's barely in the 70s. I have shorts on, so I'm pretty chilly.

I got some extra food to hopefully help with things, but I'm so very exhausted and tired. And still, I feel much regret and loss today. 😢

## **Day 5110 (V:834) - 6/28**

### **Maybe new battery**

Today I will maybe have the new battery to run tests on. Hopefully it works ok and I can feel a bit more secure about the old laptop. Though even with a new battery that won't do much for its overall old age.

Hopefully I can get some rest. Hopefully I can recover from my issues. And hopefully I can hang on and maybe not feel so sad.

**Day 5111 (V:835) - 6/29**  
**Green light**

Today my good news was rapidly ruined by frustration. I got my new battery last night. On startup it showed 84% and charging up. It made it to full. I pulled the plug, it stayed on, I let it drain 10%, plugged it back in, and it charged to full again. So the old battery definitely was the issue, and the laptop connection port seems fine, so that's a relief.

But today in the late morning I decided to set up my sale account and post the corpse. When I tried to sign up, it said I already had an account, which I thought I did but haven't used in probably 10 years. I tried to log on and was given repeated password failed errors. There was apparently also no way to request a password change. To make a long and frustrating story short, I spent the next 1.5 hours trying to clear up the issue, eventually just giving up on my main email for the account and creating an entirely new one.

I then spent the next half hour setting that up, and creating what seemed a hopeful post for the dead laptop. (It recommended a starting price about what I hoped for a minimum and a buyout price close to what I'd hoped the max would be.) But about 5 minutes later I checked my email and there was a notice that they'd not only made the listing invisible, but suspended my account. It didn't say why or for how long, so I just gave up and decided to try things from a different connection point on the thought that maybe the library partial firewall was causing some kind of issues.

That was really all the good news I could have had for today. I still feel good about the battery news, but the more than 2 hours lost, and full stop on progress with selling the dead laptop, I've been really thrown off. All I can do is hope it is cleared up quickly elsewhere, and I have a better day tomorrow.

## **Day 5112 (V:836) - 6/30**

### **Banned for what?**

Today I am wondering what I should do with the dead laptop. A crazy thing happened that's put me back in this position. After all my suffering yesterday to try and get things set up, when I contacted customer support in the email link I was told that I was banned permanently. My account, and any other accounts I may have had, or will try to create, will be banned. For what? Why? There was no reason given in the email, and no chance to correct anything they thought was wrong. My only thought is maybe because I used the phrase "dead laptop" and in the description I mentioned how I "was playing a game and it simply died." and maybe that triggered some kind of auto flag for 'dead'? But why would that be an auto ban? Especially one that's permanent. Why would that not flag it and prevent the input and recommend using alternate words? Why not flag it for a moderator who would see it and go 'oh I see why', and then they tell me to reword it? And if it wasn't for that, what would it have possibly have been for?

So after that I complained to the better business bureau and unsurprisingly they have a one star rating there (out of 5). I'm not very confident they will agree to reinstate my account, and less so they'd agree to just give me \$500 which would have been fair max value sale, in order to remove my complaint. A one star rating pretty much shows they don't care, and this likely has repeatedly happened to people.

It's mindboggling because if it was auto flagged for 'dead', what about all the other uses of that, like the music band the "Dead Kennedys", or the TV show "Dead Like Me", or who knows how many other uses.

I don't know, but now I am considering maybe I should put the smaller amount back into the dead laptop to RMA it. I guess when/if I ever get close to \$600+ I can check and see what the current amount would be. I certainly wouldn't want to pay much more than that. At the original price of \$1200 and using it a year, dropping it to a remaining value of about \$800, that would match to something comparable in power bought new. And if I spent even just \$600 to resurrect it, that would mean I'd have to use it an additional 5 years after I get it back (beyond the year I already had it) to get its value down to a reasonable per-year cost.

I guess, at least for the moment, I am back to just waiting, trying my best to hang on, and hoping my old laptop can hang on as well. 😞

## Year 15

### Day 5113 (V:837) - 7/1 Good sleep, but feeling not great

Today I had a good sleep last night and feel extra rested now, but overall I don't feel great. I've had a bit of a headache, ringing ears, eyes hurt, and some congestion. I guess I had an ok day, but overall I feel a bit extra sad, and maybe a bit hopeless.

I'm not sure why I slept better last night. I wonder if it was related to trying to sell the dead laptop. Like, maybe a part of me that was worrying about posting it was relieved by the attempt, even though it is on hold or failed. Or maybe the part of me that was freaking out how to ideally get \$1500 for a replacement that would be a slight upgrade is relieved at the thought of spending \$600 instead and just RMAing the corpse to resurrect it. (Though I'd really have to just ignore the loss of the initial \$1200, as it was money unexpected from stimulus, effectively pretending that I never got it, and thus never spent it on something that died.) I still worry about that though. To be worth the invested total cost that would have to last 5 more years after I get it back. And while my previous one did last that long, and my one I'm back to now pushing into year 9, I wonder if an RMA unit would also last that long. It's a different brand, and it did die super fast that first time.

I'm really just as far from \$600 as I am from \$1500+, as I have nothing. (I still don't have enough to cover both year end bills and the one set of brakes.) The reality of it may wind up being that as more time goes on, and the fewer there are of that old model, it may become more expensive to RMA instead of less, or they may simply not be able to do an RMA and just offer me trade in value towards something newer. (Which again, I don't know that I'd trust that company again.)

I guess I will know more as time goes on. I think the people have a week to respond to my complaint before it turns into a black mark on their record and stays a while. But at one of five stars it still seems very unlikely that they care about their rating or being fair to people.

As always though, all I can do is try to hang on, try to enjoy what I have and what remains, and hope to make it through to better days.

## Day 5114 (V:838) - 7/2

### Slow day

Today felt pretty slow and sad. I'm not really sure why. I had a good time I guess. I spent a bit of time helping some guildies in my MMO. And I watched some shows.

But for some reason I feel very small, ignored, insignificant, and not cared for. I don't really feel bad, in fact I had a good time helping the guildies, and for my terrible life overall kind of feel a bit happier. But in spite of that I feel those things deeper down, and I'm not sure why.

## Day 5115 (V:839) - 7/3

### Feeling very sad

Today I am feeling very sad. 😞 Last night or early this morning I had sad kitty dreams. 😞 I woke up feeling very sad and sorry for the kitty I put out. I cried over her for a bit. 😞 I know my younger self was starting to get older and because of that my allergies were getting worse and I was becoming very fearful of extreme asthma or eye swelling shut, but I loved her so much, and she loved me, and I should have found a way to keep her. 😞 And I should have let her stay inside until she had a place to be. 😞

My day was pretty calm at the library. There has been almost no one there lately. In my games I did just basic 'daily' things. I felt sad and left my online games early and spent a few hours in a single player game. I wouldn't be surprised if tomorrow was equally quiet in games due to the holiday. Hopefully I can have an ok day since I'll have to be outside.

I feel so very sad lately. And my struggles seem so difficult lately. But all I can do is try to continue to hang on as best as I can.

## **Day 5116 (V:840) - 7/4**

### **Hopeful**

Today I guess, so far, I feel a bit hopeful. It's actually a touch chilly, so I'm hopeful I don't get too hot. And part of that is that the sky is very gray and cloudy, so I'm hopeful it doesn't get brighter and I don't need to move from the spot I'm at. (It's a much stronger and more stable signal.) I'm still miffed about the plugs being removed from my previous area, as both heat and brightness wouldn't be a concern there until late afternoon, nor would there be several ants on me at any given time like there is in this or the bathroom spot.

I lost a chunk of tooth with lunch today. I guess at this point it's expected that I'll lose what's left. Probably 30% of everything is already gone, and what's left is likely corrupt to the point none of it could be saved. I think this one was probably mostly an old cavity that had been breached, so it just eventually popped out. But still, it's strange and heartbreaking how it's just a thing now that I no longer cry over because it can't be stopped. 😞

But I try my best to hang on. And hopefully today won't be too bad.

## **Day 5117 (V:841) - 7/5**

### **Hopefully normal Tuesday**

Today hopefully will be a homeless normal Tuesday. I'll shower and micro in the morning, so that will be unusual. But the library will be open and so things will hopefully be back to homeless normal.

## **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.

Acer 5013

Asus 5013

Podcast 4780

## **Where did I see it?**

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

Day 4771 - Movie; Aladdin (1992).