

by rabb1t
aka
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Epic Fail
The Journal of a Homeless Gamer

Book 2
Rise of teh Bunnah

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Table of Contents

Week 53

- Day 365 – 7/1/9 – Beginnings
- Day 366 – 7/2 – Same as .pdf
- Day 367 – 7/3 – Ongoing conversion
- Day 368 – 7/4 – Pew pew day
- Day 369 – 7/5 – I has a guild
- Day 370 – 7/6 – I have all day
- Day 371 – 7/7 – Columnist

Week 54

- Day 372 – 7/8 – Fighting our nature
- Day 373 – 7/9 – Standing, horizontally
- Day 374 – 7/10 – Bruising in my sleep
- Day 375 – 7/11 – Sad life is saaaddd
- Day 376 – 7/12 – Didn't
- Day 377 – 7/13 – Happy endings (not mine)
- Day 378 – 7/14 – Not a speedbump

Week 55

- Day 379 – 7/15 – Old, but still strong
- Day 380 – 7/16 – Facebook day
- Day 381 – 7/17 – “Totally aced the test”
- Day 382 – 7/18 – Drama
- Day 383 – 7/19 – Sad Sunday
- Day 384 – 7/20 – Sleepy Monday
- Day 385 – 7/21 – Healthy attempt 1337

Week 56

- Day 386 – 7/22 – Ride it out
- Day 387 – 7/23 – The truth is right now the now kinda sucks
- Day 388 – 7/24 – Meh Friday
- Day 389 – 7/25 – Not my party
- Day 390 – 7/26 – Uneventful Sunday
- Day 391 – 7/27 – Possible reduction
- Day 392 – 7/28 – Small bits

Week 57

- Day 393 – 7/29 – Feels like Saturday
- Day 394 – 7/30 – Leaving the guild
- Day 395 – 7/31 – Random smile
- Day 396 – 8/1 – Bear Dr. to ER, stat
- Day 397 – 8/2 – Midevil ghosts
- Day 398 – 8/3 – Save my nuts
- Day 399 – 8/4 – Extention

Week 58

- Day 400 – 8/5 – Committed
- Day 401 – 8/6 – Tight pants
- Day 402 – 8/7 – CBEST prep
- Day 403 – 8/8 – Seat 01617
- Day 404 – 8/9 – Happening differently
- Day 405 – 8/10 – Altered evening
- Day 406 – 8/11 – Being watched

Week 59

- Day 407 – 8/12 – I has an ice cream
- Day 408 – 8/13 – Back to 15 hours –or– Concrete saw, jackhammers, big pile of dirt; oh my
- Day 409 – 8/14 – The independent variable
- Day 410 – 8/15 – Tiny entry
- Day 411 – 8/16 – Sad Sunday
- Day 412 – 8/17 – Your signature dish
- Day 413 – 8/18 – Stuff

Week 60

- Day 414 – 8/19 – The tax man not commeth
- Day 415 – 8/20 – Birthday +1
- Day 416 – 8/21 – Middle birthday
- Day 417 – 8/22 – Birthday day 3; movie night
- Day 418 – 8/23 – Birthday bit, the last
- Day 419 – 8/24 – Smooshed
- Day 420 – 8/25 – Week +1

Week 61

- Day 421 – 8/26 – The big scare
- Day 422 – 8/27 – Less than 13
- Day 423 – 8/28 – Brain melting heat
- Day 424 – 8/29 – 105F?
- Day 425 – 8/30 – Wishing for a better tomorrow
- Day 426 – 8/31 – Misstell
- Day 427 – 9/1 – Atlantis

Week 62

- Day 428 – 9/2 – lolling at each other
- Day 429 – 9/3 – Still warm
- Day 430 – 9/4 – Waving hi
- Day 431 – 9/5 – Lost little inchworm
- Day 432 – 9/6 – Getting the site ready
- Day 433 – 9/7 – Passed
- Day 434 – 9/8 – Launch

Week 63

- Day 435 – 9/9 – Things that are you
- Day 436 – 9/10 – Isolation, unwelcome, and changes
- Day 437 – 9/11 – Smashed in the face
- Day 438 – 9/12 – Farewell to summer
- Day 439 – 9/13 – Chilled cupcakes; flooded
- Day 440 – 9/14 – Folded
- Day 441 – 9/15 – Windshield sealed

Week 64

- Day 442 – 9/16 – A feast, of sorts
- Day 443 – 9/17 – Space invader
- Day 444 – 9/18 – Doesn't feel right
- Day 445 – 9/19 – Surprise fun
- Day 446 – 9/20 – Perpetual motion
- Day 447 – 9/21 – The new old
- Day 448 – 9/22 – The first class, not

Week 65

- Day 449 – 9/23 – Beautiful girls
- Day 450 – 9/24 – Finding the path

Day 451 – 9/25 – Not in the mood
Day 452 – 9/26 – Nothing special
Day 453 – 9/27 – The sitter
Day 454 – 9/28 – Still not feeling it
Day 455 – 9/29 – The first real school day

Week 66

Day 456 – 9/30 – Play
Day 457 – 10/1 – A late dinner
Day 458 – 10/2 – Yet another ghost
Day 459 – 10/3 – Worst ping ever
Day 460 – 10/4 – Feeling alone in the gathering cold
Day 461 – 10/5 – New pants
Day 462 – 10/6 – Something is missing

Week 67

Day 463 – 10/7 – Living in the fringe
Day 464 – 10/8 – Rabbit food for teh rabbIt
Day 465 – 10/9 – Plodding along
Day 466 – 10/10 –Swim meet, bicycles, and cars
Day 467 – 10/11 – A tentative deal
Day 468 – 10/12 – Deal or no deal?
Day 469 – 10/13 – The October storm

Week 68

Day 470 – 10/14 – Nothing to say
Day 471 – 10/15 – A long time ago, in a galaxy far far away
Day 472 – 10/16 – “I see you have constructed your own lightsaber.”
Day 473 – 10/17 – My poor ankle
Day 474 – 10/18 – Unseen in plain sight
Day 475 – 10/19 – Another sad Monday
Day 476 – 10/20 – Another sad Tuesday

Picture series 10

Week 69

Day 477 – 10/21 – Buying a camera
Day 478 – 10/22 – Hurting feets
Day 479 – 10/23 – Got the camera
Day 480 – 10/24 – Days passing by
Day 481 – 10/25 – First in; last out
Day 482 – 10/26 – The first one drops
Day 483 – 10/27 – I am defined

Week 70

Day 484 – 10/28 – A hole in my pants, but I’m not hip
Day 485 – 10/29 – Not tight pants
Day 486 – 10/30 – Just another homeless Friday
Day 487 – 10/31 – loloween
Day 488 – 11/1 – Sprains
Day 489 – 11/2 – Hail to the church
Day 490 – 11/3 – Being there

Week 71

Day 491 – 11/4 – Church connection has a fail
Day 492 – 11/5 – The sadness in the wind
Day 493 – 11/6 – Gray sky Friday
Day 494 – 11/7 – Sprinkling Saturday

Day 495 – 11/8 – Okish time
Day 496 – 11/9 – Being productive
Day 497 – 11/10 – Work gets more lame

Week 72

Day 498 – 11/11 – Brain has a fail
Day 499 – 11/12 – A, E, I, O, U, and sometimes keyboard
Day 500 – 11/13 – Thirteen
Day 501 – 11/14 – Sick and tired in the rain
Day 502 – 11/15 – Twelve hours
Day 503 – 11/16 – Two towels
Day 504 – 11/17 – Headache

Picture series 11

Week 73

Day 505 – 11/18 – “Too old to begin the training”
Day 506 – 11/19 – Tight money
Day 507 – 11/20 – lol at mister whitehair
Day 508 – 11/21 – Not my birthday party
Day 509 – 11/22 – Avoiding a frozen system
Day 510 – 11/23 – One day at a time
Day 511 – 11/24 – Aspects of me

Week 74

Day 512 – 11/25 – Pre-turkey
Day 513 – 11/26 – Turkey day not according to plans
Day 514 – 11/27 – Black Friday
Day 515 – 11/28 – A friends leftover Turkey movie day... what fun it could be
Day 516 – 11/29 – Wishes vs. Cans
Day 517 – 11/30 – Voice doesn't hurt
Day 518 – 12/1 – The end of this week

Week 75

Day 519 – 12/2 – The dream girl
Day 520 – 12/3 – 80 again
Day 521 – 12/4 – Poop talker
Day 522 – 12/5 – A little Xmas
Day 523 – 12/6 – End of another semester approaches
Day 524 – 12/7 – Hiding from the poliece
Day 525 – 12/8 – Frozen and feeling unsafe

Week 76

Day 526 – 12/9 – Second ice
Day 527 – 12/10 – Lack of control
Day 528 – 12/11 – Different in the shadows
Day 529 – 12/12 – Extended mall hours
Day 530 – 12/13 – The longest day
Day 531 – 12/14 – Wireless trouble
Day 532 – 12/15 – Wireless still broken

Picture series 12

Week 77

Day 533 – 12/16 – Fate's breadcrumbs
Day 534 – 12/17 – Starting the line
Day 535 – 12/18 – First Friday off
Day 536 – 12/19 – Too loud
Day 537 – 12/20 – Just past dawn at the mall

Day 538 – 12/21 – A gift... and a curse

Day 539 – 12/22 – Once upon a time

Week 78

Day 540 – 12/23 – Another lost tooth

Day 541 – 12/24 – Xmas eve ghost

Day 542 – 12/25 – Xmas hanging at work

Day 543 – 12/26 – Post Xmas

Day 544 – 12/27 – Quiet at last / gifts that don't exist

Day 545 – 12/28 – No more gym visits

Day 546 – 12/29 – My sad life

Week 79

Day 547 – 12/30 – Possible rabbit life restart

Day 548 – 12/31 – Same as it ever was

Day 549 – 1/1/2010 – Same so far

Day 550 – 1/2 – Strange days

Day 551 – 1/3 – The old lion

Day 552 – 1/4 – Sleeping in

Day 553 – 1/5 – Don't belong anywhere

Week 80

Day 554 – 1/6 – Want to game

Day 555 – 1/7 – Depressed

Day 556 – 1/8 – Chicken beats knife

Day 557 – 1/9 – The eye

Day 558 – 1/10 – Got sick, feel terrible

Day 559 – 1/11 – Fever dreams, still sick

Day 560 – 1/12 – Cold, stage two

Week 81

Day 561 – 1/13 – My poor ears

Day 562 – 1/14 – Poor ears still ringing

Day 563 – 1/15 – Senses still off – thumpa, thumpa, thumpa

Day 564 – 1/16 – Calling on sanctuary

Day 565 – 1/17 – 300% maximum congestion

Day 566 – 1/18 – Waking up dead

Day 567 – 1/19 – Set to see the doc tomorrow morning

Week 82

Day 568 – 1/20 – I has drugs

Day 569 – 1/21 – Car smells like a wet dog

Day 570 – 1/22 – The forever cold

Day 571 – 1/23 – Not so much with the getting better

Day 572 – 1/24 – There and back

Day 573 – 1/25 – Getting better or not?

Day 574 – 1/26 – Sad, sick, and rain

Picture series 13

Week 83

Day 575 – 1/27 – Just another face in the crowd

Day 576 – 1/28 – Cut it out; beware the mold

Day 577 – 1/29 – Words unspoken

Day 578 – 1/30 – Still sleeping late

Day 579 – 1/31 – A day at the not-sis'

Day 580 – 2/1 – What's with the mold?

Day 581 – 2/2 – Oops, nothing will be left

Week 84

- Day 582 – 2/3 – Tech addict
- Day 583 – 2/4 – Decision to eat the fines
- Day 584 – 2/5 – Slight relapse
- Day 585 – 2/6 – Waking up with wet blankets
- Day 586 – 2/7 – Little is big
- Day 587 – 2/8 – Thwump-a-thump; seriously?
- Day 588 – 2/9 – Fail at lunch

Week 85

- Day 589 – 2/10 – No valentines
- Day 590 – 2/11 – Still no return
- Day 591 – 2/12 – No charge cable?
- Day 592 – 2/13 – Mat underneath
- Day 593 – 2/14 – Game ban for kids
- Day 594 – 2/15 – Passed smog
- Day 595 – 2/16 – Caught something

Week 86

- Day 596 – 2/17 – Fatigued
- Day 597 – 2/18 – My cough drops are not cough drops
- Day 598 – 2/19 – No transitions or traditions
- Day 599 – 2/20 – Superheros
- Day 600 – 2/21 – More superheros
- Day 601 – 2/22 – C&H visit
- Day 602 – 2/23 – The dumb bookstore

Week 87

- Day 603 – 2/24 – -2 Homeless
- Day 604 – 2/25 – Tooooo late
- Day 605 – 2/26 – I can has
- Day 606 – 2/27 – Late night Saturday
- Day 607 – 2/28 – Late night Sunday
- Day 608 – 3/1 – Goin' to C&H's
- Day 609 – 3/2 – People love me

Week 88

- Day 610 – 3/3 – Moving the movies
- Day 611 – 3/4 – Up too late again
- Day 612 – 3/5 – The key
- Day 613 – 3/6 – Getting ready to play
- Day 614 – 3/7 – Looking for a monitor
- Day 615 – 3/8 – Time to play
- Day 616 – 3/9 – Adjustments

Week 89

- Day 617 – 3/10 – Fold it away
- Day 618 – 3/11 – Playing on my desktop
- Day 619 – 3/12 – Playing for real
- Day 620 – 3/13 – Busy Saturday
- Day 621 – 3/14 – Busy Sunday
- Day 622 – 3/15 – Last minute projects
- Day 623 – 3/16 – Gods and dragons

Week 90

- Day 624 – 3/17 – Stranded
- Day 625 – 3/18 – Dead car

Day 626 – 3/19 – Has no car
Day 627 – 3/20 – Plans to pick it up
Day 628 – 3/21 – Missing, seriously?
Day 629 – 3/22 – Car is sold
Day 630 – 3/23 – I feel strange

Week 91

Day 631 – 3/24 – Need to complain
Day 632 – 3/25 – So much driving
Day 633 – 3/26 – More driving
Day 634 – 3/27 – Blurry eye
Day 635 – 3/28 – Playing
Day 636 – 3/29 – When I'm sleeping sometimes I'm home
Day 637 – 3/30 – Early snack, late snack

Week 92

Day 638 – 3/31 – Sad and still homeless
Day 639 – 4/1 – Car search
Day 640 – 4/2 – Odd letter and card
Day 641 – 4/3 – Just one Easter candy
Day 642 – 4/4 – Bunnah day
Day 643 – 4/5 – Meh car
Day 644 – 4/6 – Longing for quiet

Picture series 14

Week 93

Day 645 – 4/7 – Sooooo tired; just visiting
Day 646 – 4/8 – A day off
Day 647 – 4/9 – Plodding along
Day 648 – 4/10 – Back at the not-sis'
Day 649 – 4/11 – Nap at work
Day 650 – 4/12 – Worn out
Day 651 – 4/13 – More sore

Week 94

Day 652 – 4/14 – Bad night
Day 653 – 4/15 – Another day off; not in private
Day 654 – 4/16 – Refusals
Day 655 – 4/17 – Not not-sis
Day 656 – 4/18 – Up early
Day 657 – 4/19 – Getting my monitor
Day 658 – 4/20 – Mixed day

Week 95

Day 659 – 4/21 – Half a wheel
Day 660 – 4/22 – Music
Day 661 – 4/23 – Dumb wheel
Day 662 – 4/24 – An (old-school) normal Saturday night
Day 663 – 4/25 – No more towels as blankets
Day 664 – 4/26 – Too much driving day
Day 665 – 4/27 – Vacation almost over

Week 96

Day 666 – 4/28 – Transitions of old
Day 667 – 4/29 – Altered plans
Day 668 – 4/30 – Dumb school projects
Day 669 – 5/1 – Another fun Saturday

Day 670 – 5/2 – Floating in my own space

Day 671 – 5/3 – Nothing of interest

Day 672 – 5/4 – Could be depression

Week 97

Day 673 – 5/5 – More than expected

Day 674 – 5/6 – On hold for nothing

Day 675 – 5/7 – Another day feeling icky and sad

Day 676 – 5/8 – Sad for me

Day 677 – 5/9 – The rain returns

Day 678 – 5/10 – Tick tock

Day 679 – 5/11 – Living for them

Week 98

Day 680 – 5/12 – An odd night's sleep

Day 681 – 5/13 – People wub me

Day 682 – 5/14 – Possible return to the street

Day 683 – 5/15 – A possible garage life

Day 684 – 5/16 – Early workin'

Day 685 – 5/17 – Gotta pee

Day 686 – 5/18 – Feeling sick

Week 99

Day 687 – 5/19 – It's all a blur

Day 688 – 5/20 – Still sick

Day 689 – 5/21 – Eyes and throat

Day 690 – 5/22 – Cold in my poor ears

Day 691 – 5/23 – Pondering shifts

Day 692 – 5/24 – Not shift

Day 693 – 5/25 – Done waiting for some fun

Week 100

Day 694 – 5/26 – Pretty ok

Day 695 – 5/27 – Boreor

Day 696 – 5/28 – No surprises

Day 697 – 5/29 – Sooooo burnt

Day 698 – 5/30 – Second degree

Day 699 – 5/31 – So exhausted

Day 700 – 6/1 – A calm moment

Week 101

Day 701 – 6/2 – Slipping

Day 702 – 6/3 – So hot

Day 703 – 6/4 – Peeling

Day 704 – 6/5 – Trying not to be sad

Day 705 – 6/6 – Trying not to think about it

Day 706 – 6/7 – No house cloths

Day 707 – 6/8 – "Today is a gift, that's why it's called the present."

Week 102

Day 708 – 6/9 – Visitation with my PC

Day 709 – 6/10 – Moving

Day 710 – 6/11 – Musical shifts

Day 711 – 6/12 – Getting to bed late

Day 712 – 6/13 – A sad morning

Day 713 – 6/14 – Back to car life

Day 714 – 6/15 – Smooshed toe?

Week 103

- Day 715 – 6/16 – One down
- Day 716 – 6/17 – Frustrating
- Day 717 – 6/18 – Shwoofwoosh
- Day 718 – 6/19 – A fair day
- Day 719 – 6/20 – Time is precious
- Day 720 – 6/21 – Altered
- Day 721 – 6/22 – Dazed

Week 104

- Day 722 – 6/23 – Oddity of upgrading
- Day 723 – 6/24 – Wondering
- Day 724 – 6/25 – Overslept
- Day 725 – 6/26 – Ok but sad
- Day 726 – 6/27 – Driving, driving, driving
- Day 727 – 6/28 – Strange thoughts
- Day 728 – 6/29 – Barely any left

Week 105

- Day 729 – 6/30 – Final day of year 2

Index

Where did I see it?

Glossary and Links

buff - An in-game benefit which lasts for a certain amount of time, typically boosting statistics or abilities.

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

Champions Online - An online game involving superheroes. [Official site](#)

cheezburger - Cheezeburger. See: [I can has cheezburger](#)

DS - Nintendo DS, a handheld gaming system.

EverQuest or EQ - The first 3d MMORPG, created by 989 Studios and Verant, and distributed by Sony Online Entertainment. Often considered the 'grandfather' to MMOGs although online games (Ultima Online and Meridian 59) existed prior to it, EQ was the first one to really become 'massive' in terms of player population.

Final Fantasy Xi Online or FFXi - A Final Fantasy based MMOG. [Official site](#)

hawt - lolspeak/leetspeak for physically beautiful. Often this also includes general attractiveness.

Free Realms - A child to teen targeted MMOG by Sony Online Entertainment that will be free to download and free to play. [Official site](#)

teh Intarwebs - lolspeak/leetspeak for The Internet.

Klingon - A warrior race in Star Trek (Classic).

LEGO Universe - A child to adult targeted MMOG by NetDevil. [Official site](#)

lolspeak / leetspeak - Originally a language used to hack, and to bypass text filters, this was adopted by gamers (I believe first used in strategy games) to distract and confuse the opponent. It also creates a comradery between players. Today it has become so mainstream in gaming it is often used as a silly or fun thing between some players.

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.

Lynch, David - A director / screenwriter / producer known for making odd films / shows, often just a bit askew from what is considered 'normal life'.

Michael Westen - The main character in Burn Notice.

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.

monies - lolspeak/leetspeak for "money".

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

nom - To eat, as in the sound you make when eating. Ex: "nom nom nom". See: [I can has cheezburger](#)

Nintendo Wii or Wii - The current Nintendo console.

PS3 - Sony Playstation 3, a console gaming system.

PSP - Sony PSP, a handheld gaming system.

Pure Pwnage - An internet show about a pro-gamer which celebrates, and kind of makes fun of, the entire industry. [Official site](#)

pwn or own - To "own", to be victorious or more successful than another person.

r0x0r or roxor - lolspeak/leetspeak for "rock". As per the expression "that rocks".

sex0r - lolspeak/leetspeak for "sex".

skillz - lolspeak/leetspeak for "skills". To have "leet skillz" is to be very skillful or knowledgeable in a particular field or at a particular task.

Star Wars The Old Republic - A massively multiplayer online game by BioWare and LucasArts set in the Star Wars universe. [Official site](#)

teh - lolspeak/leetspeak for "the". Adopted into the language as it is a common typo when typing quickly or without editing.

The Secret World (aka Dark Days are Coming) - A massively multiplayer online FPS game by Funcom set in an alternate present day that mixes magic and technology. [Official site](#)

Tank or Tanking - A role in a MMOG where you are in charge of keeping the attention of critters the group is fighting. Your character has abilities and equipment that are designed to survive taking high amounts of damage. If you fail at this role the group can quickly get killed.

Theorycrafting - The act of contemplating statistics in a game which are mostly invisible to a player in order to maximize your efficiency (without going beyond to a point where

you are gaining too little.) When I say I am 'tweaking my character' only on very rare occasion am I theorycrafting. See related concept: Min/Maxing.

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

Ultima X Odyssey or UXO - The next version of Ultima Online. The game was canceled and never released.

winz - lolspeak/leetspeak for "win". Ex: "Kill teh boss for teh winz."

woot - An expression of joy in lolspeak/leetspeak. Ex: "I just got free cookies, woot!"

World of Warcraft or WoW - Currently the most popular MMORPG. [Official site](#)

Xbox 360 - Microsoft Xbox 360, a console gaming system.

zomg - lolspeak/leetspeak for "oh my god".

TV show links

[24](#) on Fox

[24: Redemption](#) on Fox

[A-Team, the](#) on Hulu

[Big Bang Theory](#) on CBS

[Bones](#) on Fox

[Buffy, the Vampire Slayer](#) not aired, owned by Fox

[Burn Notice](#) on USA network

[Castle](#) on ABC

[Doctor Who](#) originally a series on BBC, now also airing on Sy-Fy (formerly Sci-Fi)

[Dollhouse](#) on Fox

[Eureka](#) on Sy-Fy (formerly Sci-Fi)

[Fringe](#) on Fox

[Ghost Hunters](#) on Sy-Fy (formerly Sci-Fi)

[Greg the Bunny](#) on iTunes and DVD

[the Guild](#) online and DVD

[Hell's Kitchen](#) on Fox

[Heroes](#) on NBC

[House](#) on Fox and USA

[How I Met Your Mother](#) on CBS

[Hulu](#) a place to watch TV shows online

[Knight Rider](#) on NBC network

[Macgyver](#) on CBS

[Monk](#) on USA network

[NCIS](#) on CBS

[the Office](#) on NBC

[Psych](#) on USA network

[Sanctuary](#) on Sy-Fy (formerly Sci-Fi)

[Secret Diary of a Call Girl](#) on Showtime

[Supernatural](#) on the CW

[Survivor](#) on CBS

[Star Trek](#) on various networks

[Star Wars: The Clone Wars](#) on the Cartoon Network and the Star Wars website

[Stargate SG-1](#) and [Stargate Atlantis](#) on Sy-Fy (formerly Sci-Fi)

[Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles](#) on Fox

[True Blood](#) on HBO

[Twilight Zone](#) on Sy-Fy (formerly Sci-Fi)

[the Unit](#) on CBS

[Warehouse 13](#) on Sy-Fy (formerly Sci-Fi)

[WCG Ultimate Gamer](#) on Sy-Fy (formerly Sci-Fi)

Other links

[Amazon](#)

[Doctor Horrible's Sing-Along Blog](#)

[euphNET \(gaming center\)](#)

[FilePlanet](#)

[Girl Genius](#)

[NewEgg](#)

[The Order of the Stick](#)

[Psycho Donuts](#)

[Rex Barrett and the Eye of God](#)

[Steampunk Convention](#)

[X-Pearl](#)

Week 53

Day 365 - 7/1/9 **Beginnings**

It's lunch time in the cafeteria. It is super crowded – full of life and chatter. I just pretty much messed around with boards so far today. My job sites continue to be beyond dead. My automatic email alerts have been dwindling to between 1-5 jobs per alert as well. What was hundreds of jobs a week a year ago has dwindled to a vast wasteland of nothing. Entire weeks will pass these days where boards will get only a few job postings total.

I'm ok today, but a bit sad. I never thought I would be homeless this long and what is making me the most sad is that I'm no closer to recovery today than one year ago. i have more hours of work per week but I still have just about the same near total absence of money in my account and savings as I did then. I am still the same estimated number of months away from getting back into a home as I was a year ago. I still have no sweetie, no friends, and no job prospects – be they new or old career paths.

Work is being kind of dumb lately. They have me working all these shifts that are at different times. Two hours here in the morning, three hours there in the evening, it's dumb. Apparently it "wouldn't be fair" to have a set schedule since they added people for the summer, so this likely will continue until mid September. I suppose money-wise it's ok, and with no sweetie or friends I don't have too many plans that would be disturbed by the chaos.

I could have gone on a raid tonight with some good peeps, but my work gets out 1.5 hours after they have started, so I'll have to wait and see if I can join them next week. You can do each raid once every five days, so I'm pretty much out that raid for a week if I want to go with them. I was thinking of playing both days this weekend since it is a holiday and all, but without raids to join I don't know if it would be worth the money. I guess there is plenty of time to decide that later.

My eyelids are heavy. I'm tired; so very tired of not being able to game when and how I want, watch movies or TV on my equipment, of needing to sleep in my car, of needing to hide from being discovered at night and in the early morning, of needing to

carry my stuff everywhere, of not being able to shower or dress choosing from anything in my collection... so very tired.

Day 366 - 7/2

Same as .pdf

It's 12:30. Lunch is over and I just installed Word 2007. I can *finally* save files as .pdf whenever I want. 😊 Back in the day I tried using a USB drive to save them then move back to the hard drive, but files weren't linking correctly, so that wasn't an option. I have about 4 hours left before aquatics mini work that I can start the monumental task of getting Epic Fail book/year one caught up to the end.

I'm ok today. Still a bit sad, but not as much. Over the next few days I can finally get the overdue bills all caught up. I may even have a little pay left over to start a very small bit of savings.

Not sure what else to say. I'm so tired lately that I've been feeling like I'm constantly dazed and at the edge of exhaustion. I guess I should take some vitamins. Maybe I'm off chemically again to the point that I need balancing. Having just the same 3-4 types of soup for meals all the time is really throwing me out of whack. Of course the chaotic work schedule being at different times really isn't helping.

It seems I have Friday night off due to the holiday. I haven't had any Friday nights off in over a year. The thought is so strange. I don't know what I'll do. The library is closed, so while I may be able to shower or use WiFi outside I can't access power while I do so. I guess I can work on Epic Fail book/year one. It will likely be quite a while to get it caught up.

That's all I can think of. Bye for now. 😊

Day 367 - 7/3

Ongoing conversion

Doin' laundry. I'm so hungry. It's about 11:30 and I just had to do a training thing for aquatics mini work. It was ok, not too bad. I chatted with some peeps I don't normally see because they work at a different pool. One cutie was like, "So, how old are you?" And I was all, "Old. 🙄" And she's like, "25?" And I'm all, "😊 No, hehe." So she's like, "30?" And I say, "No I'm ooollldddd. 🙄" So that was nice. She's like super religious girl though. She came from Oklahomah to go to church here? I don't know what that means exactly but it sounds suuuppper religious. Not my thing.

I got a mini raid set up for later tonight after work, so that should be fun.

Conversion to .pdf is going quick, about one week per 15 minutes since I've been spellchecking every week and such. It should only take a few more hours to finish. It just needs reformatting to the paperbook format. It's super quick.

I thought about getting a new razor yesterday, but decided to wait. They range from \$40-85 for the ones I'm looking at, so I decided to hold off and check Amazon and see what reviews say about the higher-end ones, as that uses a new/different head design. Plus, it would only be a two week wait. I'm ok with that as it leaves more spare in savings. I will, however, order my Death Knight and another T-shirt. It's been a few months since I've been using the four I have with me, so I'll swap a few of those out.

That's all for now. Gonna do some reformatting of the Epic Fail .pdf while the laundry goes.

K thx bye. 😊

Day 368 - 7/4

Pew pew day

Happy pew pew day everybody. 😊 It's some time around 11 and I'm having lunch. It's really quiet out in the world. Everyone has the day off pretty much and is at home in their or other people's back yards.

Nothing super special planned for today. I'll go play later, but until then I'll work on the .pdf conversion and play wirelessly.

To my surprise the showers were open at school. I got a super long private shower. 😊 I decided to hold off on my purchasing a new razor until next paycheck as well as holding off on the new shirts. It will allow me to have about \$150 for savings/reserve instead of like \$50. A laughable amount compared to what I need for re-establishing myself in a home, but still something none-the-less.

With half of yesterday off, today off, tomorrow and Monday off, I actually have enough days off in a row to relax my brain a bit. That's the longest number of days off in a row for as long as I can remember – probably close to four months since if I didn't have work I'd have class.

Guess that's all for now. 😊

Time passes

I decided some different things. I decided to not go to the game center unless I got a raid set up, and I decided to go eat at Panda if I didn't. So, here we are at Panda at around 6. It's early for dinner, but I didn't know if they would close early or not.

It's almost like apocalyptic world. Population is down to 20% of normal everywhere I've gone today.

I may rent a movie from the kiosk as well. I haven't decided yet because I don't know if there is anything worth it that I haven't seen yet. I know I have enough battery power to do it though if I wanted.

The Panda cup is all kinds of wrong. There is a picture of a panda with its tongue sticking out with a thought bubble that basically reads "I love chicken". For those who don't know Pandas are vegetarians. They eat bamboo and leaves, not meat. 🐼

Can't think of anything else to say. Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

The kiosk didn't have any good movies so I decided to spend more than I probably should have for a monthly two at a time deal at Blockbuster. (Which I'll cancel after this one month.) Though, that does have some good benefits over the kiosk movies. The main benefit is that I get access to all movies, new or old. The other huge benefit is they won't be messed up; at least not to the point of being unwatchable. If I wanted I could even activate it for games too, which is a benefit over NetFlix as well. Some nights I may even be able to sit outside and maybe cycle through the movies on the same night. Though if I'm not mistaken my battery won't last through two movies. I have two movies now, so we'll see how long the battery actually lasts.

It's so sad not being a regular person. Everyone is starting to hang out with friends now; earlier everyone was having BBQ fun. In years past I would always watch the Twilight Zone marathon on the SciFi channel. I suppose I'd be doing that now. It's sad to think I'd nearly forgotten what I did on this day just two years ago when I was in a home. It's been so strange to think about what everyone is doing today – all coming and going and being excited for fun they are having later. I have no plans really. I can't. While I can do things like watch movies on my netbook and play a few games, everything about my life is a very different experience than everyone else. No matter what you think of - sleeping, getting dressed, having dinner, getting ready for work – everything in my daily routine is not what a person thinks about for those daily routines.

My mind seems like it's in a constant haze now. I'm always sleepy and everything I experience seems clouded or diluted.

Day 369 - 7/5

I has a guild

It's 1:45; time for lunch. It's still pretty slow everywhere because of the holiday. It's a bit chilly too – warm, but there is a breeze making things cool.

No raids to join yet today. I'll go to the game center in a bit, but I'll do a new thing with my time. Today I'll just add time to my regular account. That way I can leave and

what's left will stay on there. In the future on weekends I'll do a 3-hour pass, which is cheaper than the 6-hour. Last time I was there the worker guy said it could be extended if I pay the difference. They go in 3-hour increments, so 3, 6, 9, so if I start with 3 and get no raid in that time I can just leave. (Pass time keeps running if you stay or not.) At 3 per weekend that's \$20 saved per month compared to getting 6 hours. If I need more I can get more, but if I just sit doing nothing I could save monies.

I'm so sleepy. I don't know why. It could just be my body catching up on things. I got about 9 hours of sleep, which is decent, but you know, it's car sleep, so it isn't as restful as 'regular' sleep.

I joined a guild with peeps I've raided with before. They are a tiny guild, but it will give me access to knowing when they are doing all their raid stuffs. So that means my time at the center will be better spent.

That's it so far today. Gonna see if I can watch a movie while I nom lunch. It's not too bright where I am, so I should be ok.

Day 370 - 7/6

I have all day

Today is an odd day as I have all day on campus to really do nothing. I think it's been about 6 months since I've had such a day off.

I slept really well after getting onto campus, but that sleep really only accounts for about 1/3 of my total. I'm still pretty tired physically and emotionally. I got up a bit early at around 9:30 and was 'out of bed' and on campus by 10. Since I have literally all day I decided to bring both lunch and dinner on campus so I won't have to go back to the car.

I decided, as my first act/project for the day, that I would work on the rather daunting task of checking all the links at my site and making changes as needed. Phase one is complete. I've got all of the notes and adjusted links ready. Phase two I'll do after lunch – placing those changes on the site. Back in the day in a home it was all done at once. But due to the limitations of the netbook resolution and WiFi speeds, it is easier to do phase one on a library computer with a landline.

It's been cooling off a bit lately. I'm in pants, a t-shirt, and an over-shirt. There is hardly anyone on campus. The crowd last week must be no more, as people decided to drop classes, couldn't get in to classes, or are simply not being on campus when they aren't in class.

It's sad I can't stop going to school and just live off my site. I love my site and helping peeps build uber systems and talking about games. 🤔 If I somehow got just \$1 from every visitor I'd have more than enough to get re-established and I'd make double my highest income ever. While it's true there really aren't any donation buttons in areas besides the Epic Fail pages I really never got any that weren't from Epic Fail readers. It's sad because I really love it and I'd be really happy getting hardware to test out and compare to refine my recommendations. Peeps always say do what you love and I've loved gaming ever since I was small when gaming first started. Sadly I've never been able to get into a career with it that I could have been really happy with. So far my experience in the industry has been limited to a single company on two games, not allowing me to *really* be free with recommendations or overall game/industry discussion with the community.

As we near the end of week one of year two things are basically the same. I just hope all of you can find jobs (and lives) you are happy doing, or are at least passionate about and enjoy doing.

Will my day ever come? Is it too late for me? In jobs? In love? In life? I don't know. There are many 'success stories' that didn't start in people's lives until half way through, so you never know. Maybe it is indeded not too late. Only time will tell.

That's all for now. 😊

Day 371 - 7/7 Columnist

I've got about 15 minutes until aquatics mini work. I just had a weekly meeting there. It's so lame when I have less than 1.5 hours between activities.

Last night I saw the jobs I should have gotten/applied for by now – part time Psychology and part time Sociology instructor at the junior colleges. Back in the day that

was the plan; get my Masters, teach intro level classes in Psychology and Sociology, and a few medium level classes, at the junior college. By now I should have gotten my Masters and be +2 years. But since the life derailment I no longer really know where I'm going and sometimes wonder if I even know how to get there. I'd like to think that's still the plan, but with all my various debt trouble I don't know how people will see past it to get that chance. I suppose passing the CBEST is still the first step towards recovery there. While the Associates level classes may help with a position in child care I don't think it is really helping (advance me) as they all want experience, which I currently lack.

I guess that's all for now. The meeting was most of my day so far. Again I had to hehe at peeps thinking I was 15 or so years younger than I am. 😊 Nice to be thought of as young and just starting my life, but I know the truth, and the chances of one of the half dozen cuties being single and interested is... well, just about impossible.

Off I go for now.

Time passes

All I can eat pizza and salad nom for teh cheap. 😎 So full of win a dinner. 😊 Nothing really special happened today so far. I guess things are ok though. I have a job that's a little bit fun, not stressful, the peeps are basically nice. I have a working car. Bill collectors only call me once or twice a day. I have access to teh Internets pretty much all the time. I can play my game. I can watch movies, sort of. Things aren't so bad I suppose – certainly much better than before and certainly better than as bad as things could be.

Ick. These tiny carrots in the salad taste like medicine. 🤢

I was watching Marley & Me the other night and I discovered that I'm a columnist. I talk about every day things and I have a subject (in the story). Thinking back on all of my writings over the years I've always written in that style. It may explain why I've never been really attracted to journalism. I always felt that reporting style was the only style there was. It seems there are different styles, which makes sense. I could totally be into being a columnist. Though, I don't know if I'd have enough ideas to draw upon to do it all the time, heh.

Note to self; don't put the pizza too close to the cinimon twists. The mixing smells are kind of unappealing to tummy.

The Fail week comes to an end and things are still basically the same. Though very different than a year ago it's not so different than a week or a month ago. My life continues. Though a true chance for change, growth, and recovery, still seem like a distant and unattainable goal.

Week +1.

Day 372 - 7/8 Fighting our nature

It's 11:30 and I'm nomming lunch. I'm soooo hungry today and soooo tired. I got a decent amount of rest falling asleep at around 11:30 PM and getting up around 9:45 (not counting the ½ hour at 6 to change sleeping spots), but I'm still so very tired. I'm wondering how long after being in a home, or at least on a couch, it will be before I start to feel regular and not sleepy again.

I've been thinking a lot lately about DPS (vs. tanking) on my Death Knight. The more I think about it the more I feel like 'yeah, I can do it, but it's not in my nature.' I've always been the one to put myself at risk in place of others, to get someone out of danger if I can. Several fields call it "temperment" – our natural tendencies and patterns that we have right at birth which define our daily routine, our likes, our interests, etc. What applies in gaming has also applied to my friends and even my work. If someone were to offer me double my pay at more hours to do something I didn't agree with or enjoy at all I couldn't do it. It's just not in my nature and I couldn't fight my nature. I think maybe some can fight it a lot more than others, having different tolerance points (the obedience experiments are likely an example of pushing this line), but I think that at some level a person must agree with something in order to continue. Like, if I were offered a terrible job I hated but I knew someone benefited by my doing it, I might be ok with doing it. But just a job I hated, like if it "paid the bills" and nothing more, I don't know. I've certainly never been one to do that in the past.

I guess I've just been thinking about it a lot lately. What is in our nature comes easy. If we can find a job doing that everything is easy and happy. But if not, what then? Is there suffering and sadness like I'm experiencing now? Is there emotional suffering and potential physical side effects like I experienced years ago at a bad/stressful job? How do we help those in sad places to be moved to happy places? Society certainly doesn't seem to have any resources set up to place people where they would be happy. (Certainly not for free.)

Less than an hour until aquatics mini work. Guess I should shoosh and finish eating. I've got a raid tonight, so I don't know if I'll write later or not.

Bye for now. 😊

Oh, PS to those who find my choice of Death Knight over Paladin curious; I've tried Paladin a few times over the years and in previous times I've found their spell system (Judgements) to be confusing and their lack of direct control (taunts) to be frustrating. I hate watching peeps die with little I can do to get a critter off of them and onto me besides yelling at the screen frustrating, heh.

Day 373 - 7/9

Standing, horizontally

It's a quiet day at aquatics mini work. I'm on my old lap swim shift, so things are quiet and calm compared to recreation swim when all the kids (and guards) are all here.

I got a UI add-on last night called X-Pearl. At first I was like infos overload and my brain was asploding, but now I've tuned it a lot. I get more infos than the base UI in WoW and a few extras like 3D portraits, larger player and target boxes/bars, spell casting warnings, and other stuff. I've even got it on my netbook, hehe. 😊

Sleep is still weird. It's not so much me laying down as me standing horizontally. I'm still about 10-15 degrees off of laying flat and I can only move my legs so much. I can sort of go on my left side, but my spine gets a bit crunched, and I can't really go on my right side much at all. I've been in the same area so long now that the regular noises no longer keep me up. (I think I've even been there longer than a few of the local residents in rental homes.) I suppose it's dangerous in some ways (that I now sleep through noises), but I really don't think anyone would bug me about it since it's a back church parking lot. Poor me needs a place to sleep, ya know?

That's really all that's different today. I'll be continuing raiding tonight from yesterday and I'll only have about 2.5 hours between work and doing that, so there won't be much time for anything unexpected to happen, but you never know. 😊

Day 374 - 7/10

Bruising in my sleep

It's super early, not even 10 yet. I got up super early around 8:45 for some reason. I don't have to be at aquatics mini work until 1 so I've got about 3 hours for whatever. It's sad I'm not in a home – as always – as that is plenty of time to do important things in my game or whatever else I wanted. Wirelessly I can't do the important game things. I can look for a job and check boards, but on a Friday that will take no time at all, as boards of any kind are dead on Fridays (and the weekend).

I have an odd bruise on the inside of my left knee. It only could have come from sleeping and smooshing onto the right knee. I slept pretty good for car sleep and dreamt of a sweetie much younger than me. (Likely because I was thinking of the beautiful redhead last night who turns 21 soonish and who has yet to email or call.) In the dream we'd only just met but we were instantly sweeties and snuggling. I told her thank you for the day, as being a lot older I figured she' wouldn't be interested for long, so the day was like a gift. She got sad and mad and thought that I meant I wanted to break up and leave her, but I managed to calm her down again. I meant that she made me happier than I'd been in a very long time. A chemistry with someone is rare indeed, especially an instant one. I suppose some of that happiness is lingering on still now that I'm awake.

Before I was about 10 years old I never really remembered my dreams at all. As I thought more and more about the Nightmare on Elm Street movies I tried more and more to become a dream warrior so I could remember, control, and shape my dreams. After several months I did, and it was then I started dreaming in color and more imagined objects had actual shape. Before that if I dreamt that I had a gun I'd be holding nothing. My mind wouldn't fill in the things I hadn't actually experienced yet. Every now and then after I've flown; often a symbol of feeling free. But lately I can't. Like in one dream this morning I sort of hovered around and in one part I couldn't get through a doorway because of the load I was carrying on the platform that I was sitting on. (For those not into dream symbolism the door would be life progression while the load is likely representative of a mental burden I'm carrying – most likely my homelessness.)

Anyways... with the school library closed this will likely be my Fridays. I've got some time to do wireless stuff before mini work – I suppose I could even consider doing laundry – then mini work, then a short 1.5 hour break, then another mini work.

Well... off I go for now. K thx bye. 😊

Time passes

Kind of a sad day for me. Some of the people at work were kind of mean and dumb to me the past few days, so that's not happy. My guild peeps are pretty much always friendly and nice though, and I got a friendly hello from someone I've chatted with before about my sad times. Things are still sad, but now and then I get reminders that peeps do care. 😊

Day 375 - 7/11

Sad life is saaaddd

It's super early, not even 9:15 and I've already showered. If I were in a home this would be a tired but great day. I'd have the whole day and night to relax, play games, watch movies, whatever. But, being homeless I can't relax because I'll constantly be surrounded by people and noise. If I want to play I'll have to be somewhere even noisier and if I want to group (without lag) I'll have to pay for my time. If I watch movies (which I likely will) it will be on a tiny 10" screen. There will be no chilling and watching whatever is on TV. (I actually enjoy the "bad" shows sometimes.) There will be no console gaming. There will be no dinner I've made that's extra fancy or spent extra time on. There will be no friends and no sweetie.

Back in the day 15 years ago boredom was common. The Internet was in its infancy and didn't really exist. There really weren't online games. (There were a few, but since you had to pay hourly people really didn't play much.) It was easy to be in your home and spend a day doing nothing. Well, it was never *easy*. It was... tiresome and boring, but you were used to it. Now... now the Internet is so huge, there are so many

stations on cable and satellite, there are so many movies out all the time; now having a completely free day and no freedom to do anything is a curse.

I'm not cut off completely, as I was in months past. I do have some access to some games and some access to some movies. But still, it pains me to hear everyone talking about their hobbies that they enjoy (in unrestricted ways) and life plans/advancements they are succeeding in. It still boggles my mind that I'm the only one who doesn't seem to have that opportunity to be ok. Oh sure, there are those around me I see failing; various homeless and destitute here and there, a few who are unhappy or refuse to really try. But those like me who should be ok and aren't, we seem very few and far between. We have growing numbers in recent times, but still I wonder why it seems so hard and so rare for someone else to give someone a chance to succeed. Why reserve that resource? Why hold back from letting someone try? Why require proof someone will succeed without giving them a chance or helping them to?

If everyone extended a hand of hope and help everyone who needed it would be ok and the world would be a better place.

Day 376 - 7/12

Didn't

I'm at an extra gym mini work shift. It's early at not even 9. I had to get up so early. I'm so hungry. My tummy is all grumbly.

Yesterday I just wound up playing wirelessly, got caught up with this week's Epic Fail, did a little bit of single player gaming, and watched a movie. Today I really don't know what I'll do. After my shift I've got laundry, I'll see if I can take a shower, and that's it. I'll probably just wind up playing wirelessly.

Um... yeah, that's really all I got so far. K thx bye. 😊

Time passes

It's just past 8:15, not quite dark enough to start my movie yet.

Today has felt strangely lonely, yet I've been surrounded by people all day. I didn't do anything special and nothing special happened to me. I didn't watch TV. I didn't visit friends. I didn't snuggle a sweetie. I didn't cook dinner. I didn't watch a rented Blu-

ray movie on a big screen. Today I felt uninspired, alone, helpless, lost, and forgotten. A beautiful, warm, and sunny summer day for those who could enjoy it.

Day 377 - 7/13

Happy endings (not mine)

Lunch time at just past 12:15. I guess I'm running a bit late, as I have to run off to aquatics mini work in about 15 minutes. It's really just lame that my schedule is 2-3 hours five days this week. It would be so much better at 3-4 hours for three days; such a waste of time going there for only a few hours a pop.

I've started on a pretty massive project. I'm adding icons and thoughts for *all* of the Death Knight talents in my tips file. I've wanted to add icons forever and since I can save as .pdf I can finally do that. I'm about 3/4 of the way done. I'll finish by the end of the day. I should be back around 4 from work and I expect I'll stay on campus until 7 or 8.

That's it so far. Ten minutes left to eat then I'm off. So lame to have to shut everything down and pack it up. Back in the day I'd have just left my project/system running until I got back to my room.

That's all for today. I slept in but got up at 9. Even with about 10 hours of sleep I'm soooo tired.

Time passes

I just watched He's Just *Not* That Into You as one of my movies for tonight. If you haven't seen it I totally recommend it. But then teh rabb1t is a romantic. 😍 It's about couples coming together, moving apart, moving on, and love. It's about signs too – knowing when someone is really into you or not. I've been asked before when I'll ask girls out (that I mention in Epic Fail) and, well, see this movie if you don't get why. I've always been very in tune with signals and body language and as sad as it may be I haven't found anyone that's been into me. That's just how it is. Maybe... some day... I keep holding on to hope. But for now it just isn't. And that's the way it is.

It's about 11:35, so it's way past my (homeless) 'bed time'. 'Night peeps. 😊

Day 378 - 7/14

Not a speedbump

It's all I can eat pizza/salad nom time. 😍 Work was pretty bleh today. There were sort of two bosses being kind of mean at me again. It's like they've got all these extra people on shift being bored and screwing around and then they get mad at me for stuff?! (I don't screw around) Anyways...

There was the most beautiful girl at work and she was like, 'I'm soooo hungry'. And I'm like, 'I have chips. You can has some.' 😊 And she's like, 'really?' So I made the hawtest girl at work happy. That's extra important because she was super sad the other day and stuff because a parent got all mad at her. 😞 I overheard her say she is Polish the other day. My ex-sweetie is Polish. 😊 I guess thin, tall, and blond isn't super common for Polish, but she and my ex are both that type.

Some poor person's car got busted up today. 😞 I got in for my shower on campus and this car comes whipping around the corner. I hear a 'kerklunka' and think, 'Wow, they really went over that speedbump fast.' Then my brain said, 'Wait a minute... there aren't any speedbumps in this entire section of the parking lot.' I look over at the car across from me and its bumper is torn off! 🚗 I go hopping after the car to get their licence number – they didn't even slow down – but it was too late. They'd gotten too far and all I could see was their rough shape and confirmed the exterior and interior colors. Hopefully they have a class and they can be found and caught. A campus officer happened by right after and tried to give chase, but it was too late. He came back after a bit and took my statement.

I don't have to work tomorrow, so that's nice. I don't have a raid, but I'm going to help with a guild thing. It was waaayyy too hot today, so I'll welcome being somewhere cooler tomorrow evening.

Um... don't really know what else to say. Kind of a bleh ending to the week I guess. Things are just plodding along as they have been with nothing really positive happening to move forward. I'm still on the outside looking in.

Day 379 - 7/15 Old, but still strong

It's lunch time right around noon. I'm so sleepy today. I could have slept in as long as I wanted, but as usual lately my body woke up around 8:45. I couldn't sleep until nearly 2 last night, so I've only gotten around 7 hours of sleep. It's pretty warm, but not hot like it was yesterday; at least not yet.

I suppose I don't have too much to complain about. I have showers, shelter of sorts, access to power, and with my ok income access to movies and games. While it's sad that it isn't as enjoyable as it could be they are more comforts than some have.

I was going to start on the cover for book 2 – maybe I should call it expansion 1 for teh lolz – but I was so sleepy I decided to just check boards and watch one of the movies I have. I seem to have oopsed and have two really long movies. One is just a hair over two hours and the other about 2.75 hours.

I still don't get how some people seem to do ok so easily. Passing by an auto lot the other day I saw sporty cars costing around 35k+ and SUVs around 75k+. How do peopole afford these things? There was a family at pizza nom the other night and it made me wonder how people afford families. Even though it's for teh cheap that was one adult at \$7 and six kids at \$4 each; Adding on cost of drinks that's about \$40 for that one meal. And that isn't even a lot for what you get. Cooking at home would be half that, but again that's just one meal. While this certainly isn't the norm it really makes me wonder how I'll ever recover. While I certainly qualify for jobs at 30k or higher, I've made far far less so far in my life. At this point in my life I should be making double that, or more, particularly if I want a family. How is that not happening? What am I doing wrong? Is it just because I've missed all the right windows? Because I didn't find love and stay married when I was in my early 20s? Because I didn't follow a standard career path since I was 16? Because I've never had stable friendships and people have moved in and out of my life every few years? As always, I remain confused.

With all the things I see for others it certainly wouldn't surprise me if there were things I were missing. If I don't or can't see them it is unlikely they will suddenly be

revealed to me. If noone points me in the right direction, if noone helps me with the things I am seemingly missing am I doomed to forever continue as I am?

Day 380 - 7/16

Facebook day

Lunch time; Nothing interesting going on today. I got about 9 hours of sleep, but I'm very sleepy, as usual. I'll be going to mini work soon; yet another mid day shift for a couple of hours. After I'll have a shower, but that's really it for my day. I'll do some wireless gaming and movie watching, but I have no real plans or anything.

I may sign up for the CBEST if I don't forget to check. I got paid today, so I may have the flexibility to sign up.

I cut my lip a bit last time I shaved. 😞 I'll have to be more careful. Manual razor shaving is a bit tougher, but I've decided to hold off a bit on an electric razor (or T-shirts). The disposables work ok and are like a couple of dollars for like a dozen, and I already have two or three left from a previous purchase. It is far less than ideal, but it works and it's for teh cheap.

Guess that's all for now. 😊

Time passes

Having dinner nom at just a bit before 7:45. Today has had a crazy development. I got notice from Facebook that I had pending friend invites. I don't reall ever signing up for it. Being distrustful yet curious I opened a link to Facebook. (By typing in the main URL – not by clicking the email link.) To my strange surprise it *is* genuine. I must have signed up years ago and created a sort of placeholder page. The invite was an awesome surprise. It's from someone who I'd say was a best friend back in the day, but due to various reasons we never got to hang out as much as I'd have liked. The last time I saw him was maybe 10 years ago, about two years after he'd moved to two to three hours drive away. He was/is married and worked a lot so he never really had time to see me at

all. I sent a message back and told him about teh rabb1t site, since that's new since he's last seen me.

It's odd that all these ghosts are appearing now that I'm homeless. First the ghost, who I hadn't seen in about 13 years or hung out with in probably 20. (Who oddly also emailed me today, which I got at the same time as the Facebook notice. He hasn't emailed for about three weeks or so.) Then the friend I helped who stayed in my home for a while who I'd not seen/heard from in like 13 years. And now this other friend who I've not seen in probably 10 years.

Pretty crazy times. Maybe it will provide something interesting to talk about over the next few days. Though I don't know how much I'll get to check email and such. Friday I'm working basically 11 AM to 10:15 PM and Saturday I'll be working roughly 1 PM to 8 PM.

Guess that's all for tonight. 😊

Day 381 - 7/17

"Totally aced the test"

It's around 1:45; getting an oil change. I had a no-stress shift at work, so that was ok, but I have to go for a training thing later before my evening shift. Busy busy the rest of the day.

Last night I was getting movies and I hear from behind me, "Hey, I remember you! 😊" And I was like 'whuuuutt?' It was one of the kids from the class I did my community service / TA thingy. She told her friend that I'd "totally helped her with math" and that she "totally aced the test after" I helped. 😊 Yeeaaaa for me. Yeeaaaa for helping. 😊 She asked how I was and stuff, but being like 10 I really couldn't answer honestly. It would have made her too sad/confused and she wouldn't be in a position to help. I've seen two other kids from the class as well over the past few months. They all seem to

remember me, so that's happy. I wonder if I will be an influential person in their lives when they are older since I helped them in a tough time. 😊

I heard back from the friend in a brief message. I guess he's going out of town for the weekend, so it's unlikely I'll get a real message back before next week. That's kind of exciting.

Guess that's it for now. Might be it for today due to limited time to write.

Time passes

The Fates have altered my path tonight. The "big TV" I normally do my Friday movies on has been moved to a storage closet and hooked up to a Karaoke machine. I could move it and alter the hookups, but I'll just leave it. Also, instead of grabbing a Salisbury steak TV dinner off the top of the stack I seem to have gotten a pork rib thing. I hate when people put stuff in the wrong stacks and I forget to verify which I have. 😞 Odd twists to my evening for sure, but I can watch my movies on my netbook and BBQ pork is meh. (I also have some micro pizza for my main dinner. The Salisbury steak (pork this time) is small, about as big as the palm of your hand.)

Guess that's all for tonight. The rest of the night is me at work. Not terribly interesting I expect.

Day 382 - 7/18

Drama

It's just past 2:15 at aquatics mini work. Lots of drama today. The drama started at 12:10 when one of the bosses called and asked why I wasn't on shift. I was like 'my shift is x on the schedule'. Instead of him listening to my explanation he's like "don't talk back" bla bla "you were supposed to be here already". So after I look at the schedule again after hanging up I see that *every other person* listed for today has 'X: time - time', where X is a code for the shift. By my understanding the time reference is a modification of X. I was assuming X was my shift since it wasn't noted as modified. I'll make a note to take it to a higher level if need be, but if X is really Y on the weekend and it isn't noted on the

schedule as such it's not my fault for misunderstanding – particularly since part of a meeting yesterday was upper level bosses saying 'check your schedule for your hours, don't call and ask when you work.'

The drama continued at 12:30 when one of the guild peeps left the guild. Not a huge deal, but he is one of the two friends (they are a couple) that I joined the guild for. Unfortunately I didn't get to hear the story of why he quit, so I didn't know if I should leave as well or not. I probably will, as the people are ok, but they were only like six people I really like. I could basically just add them as friends and leave the guild and be just about the same. Unfortunately I'm here basically the rest of the night, so I don't think I'll have more info until later.

Bye for now I guess 😊 possibly the day. 😞

Time passes

It's nearly 1:45 AM. I can't sleep. I'm not sure why. Maybe it's the heat. Maybe it's the various drama of the day. I'm not sure. It could be both.

Drama at work is, well, work drama. I think my dad may be both right and wrong in that I don't want to work. He's right in that I don't want traditional work. Of all my potential career paths I can say I probably wouldn't love any of them 100% for 100% of the time. So, no, in that sense I don't want to work. Yet he is wrong in thinking that I don't want to contribute and be productive. I would *love* the financial freedom to keep playing with higher-end gaming and have enough money to test out the new hotness as well as keeping an eye on what can be gotten super cheap and still be playable – as well as everything inbetween. I would love the freedom to write more articles and reviews and talk about hardware on boards. I think I would be very happy serving the gaming community in that way. So no, not traditional "work" as it is, more "play" than work, but it serves a community of people - one that's growing larger and larger over time. (Both in visitors to my site and gamers around the world in general.)

The gaming drama seems more troubling. It seems that the person left over a loot drop. Seriously? It seems the nice person I followed in to the guild may have basically cheated another person out of a loot. Wow. That's just sad on so many levels. I'll likely stay with the guild for a bit. I certainly don't think I'll follow the person out. I won't unfriend them or anything just yet. I may leave the guild for other reasons though. For one I really need to be raiding to gain loots. While I'm ok with not doing it all the time the

potential has to be there and this guild is really too small to do any real raiding. The two I followed in were the driving force behind the raids. With them gone a lot of momentum is likely to be lost. But also I really can't help the guild much. Sure I'm funny and make them lol, but being limited by WiFi gaming I can't even really do a lot of regular dungeon runs. So, I may leave just to go back to putting myself on hold while homeless, as I was prior to being guilded. I'll be pondering that more as time goes on. It's nice to have peeps to talk to, but there should be more than that.

Well, maybe now that I've got these thoughts down I'll be able to sleep. Tonight I really do wish I were in a home, with no job, with financial freedom to play my games or watch my movies or fiddle with hardware as I wished. I just want to play my games, watch my movies and shows, enjoy my life, and help others to better enjoy their lives as well. I don't think it's too much to ask.

Day 383 - 7/19

Sad Sunday

It's just past 10:45 and I'm having an early lunch. I actually slept until around 10. I was glad to see my body decided to keep sleeping to get enough since I couldn't sleep until about 2. So many times lately I've been getting up around 9 regardless of how much sleep I've been getting.

I think lately work has been getting me down. Not in the sense 'it isn't enough hours', that's completely uncontrollable, but in the 'it's most days of the week right in the middle of the day interrupting any other activities' sense. It makes me constantly worried and thinking about if I have to work on a day and when I have to work. Back when it was just Friday (or Thursday) I didn't have to worry about it at all (save for random extra shifts.)

I'm not sure what I'll do for the bulk of my day. I'll probably try to stick to wireless activities. I considered sitting on campus and watching a movie in the locker room. It's dark enough and there is power. I may do that on future weekend days, but

I prefer movies to be in the evening. And on the weekends once I move away from there I'm usually not back in the area again.

I am balanced of sorts, but still stuck where I don't want to be. Again I wonder; has it always been so?

Day 384 - 7/20

Sleepy Monday

Lunch time at just after noon. I have about 20 minutes until I need to leave for aquatics mini work. Last night early evening I got what I thought would be a raid call, so I rushed over to the game center. When I arrived there weren't enough people to start, and the raid leader was so drunk he was talking smack and slurring words in voice chat. Gee, I wonder why they were losing people. Since I'd already dropped the money to be there I suggested we take a guildie who'd just hit 80 around to some heroics. (You need to be 80 to do them.) So I just wound up doing that.

I slept in until around 10, but I'm so very tired. So very tired and so very sad about all of my limitations. Motivation is much more difficult today. I was going to tweak my resume and start on the Epic Fail book 2 cover, but I did neither. I just slowly/sleepily meandered around between boards. As usual I gave out some tech advice, so the day hasn't been a total waste so far. After work I'll do a small laundry load, then I'll only have a few hours until dinner time and my web access is over. (Baring parking outside of a closed Starbucks.)

Likely I'll have an uneventful few hours at work, do my laundry, watch a something I rented, play wirelessly for a bit, and that will be it for my evening. No word back from the friend yet. He must still be out on Holliday.

Guess that's it for now. 😊

Day 385 - 7/21

Healthy attempt 1337

At aquatics mini work at almost 11:30. I may eat soon. I'm pretty hungry. I signed up for the CBEST which is the second Saturday in August. I'll have to study for that in a bit. It's about three weeks away. Of course even if I pass with flying colors it won't instantly change things. I would still be a lower priority candidate for jobs as I still lack experience. It's getting even crazier now, as I heard the local Safeway and Starbucks are sending people home early if there are no customers around to help cut costs. I don't know how I'd be managing if I were still on five hours a week. I guess it's just like a storm and I gotta ride it out, however long that may be.

I guess the good news is that I'm now so completely behind on PC upgrades that if I did a completely new build at the end of the year I would be two generations beyond what I have. I'd have skipped an entire PC build. 🤖 Hopefully I'll be back in a home by the end of the year to do the new build and have some fun and be in a nice place for the Holidays.

What with the economy what it is though... I may still be just about how I am now at that time.

That's it so far. After work I'll do a shower, watch some more True Blood (which is not what you'd expect from a vampire series), play wirelessly for a bit, then I've got all I can eat pizza/salad nom. 😍 Oh, I'll finish the new cover sometime today as well, so that should be full of lol and win. 😊

That's it for now I guess. 😊

Time passes

Om nom nom. So tasty a dinner. 😍 Salad is super healthy for me too, since I get so few fresh veggies or leafy greens these days. I'm trying out a new-school Gatoraid drink. It has way less sugar and fewer calories than Pepsi, but it's so very much more expensive. I've tried to change over like that in the past, but availability has only really been mainstream in recent years. I'll have to do some serious cost comparisons though.

Not much else to say. I guess I haven't started inputting this week yet, so, eek! So far behind. Off to nom and input this week. 😊

Week 56

Day 386 - 7/22

Ride it out

It's nearing 6:45, time for dinner. I had an ok time this morning and at work right up until the end. The boss that called me the other weekend gave me more poop about something that didn't matter; something that's been ignored for over two solid months. I really don't get what's up with that. It's like he's giving me poop just to give me poop. Well... I'm going to try and not worry about it and just ride it out with the rest of the storm.

There was a shop cutie at the movie rental store that asked how I'm liking True Blood. 🥰 We talked for a few minutes. I knew she meant it as an actual question, not just shop small talk. But it's extremely unlikely anything is there. I'd go out with her though, she's a cutie. 😊

I'm continuing my healthy experiment and replacing some of my drinks. The Gatoraid drinks are 1.5-1.75 times the cost, so like all things more healthy for me than my regular stuff they are quite a bit more expensive. I doubt I'd see any change in weight in such a short time, but energy level and overall mood may be altered.

Not much left of the night. I'll likely just watch more True Blood, work on Epic Fail book 2's cover, and play wirelessly for a bit. Oddly there is still no message from my friend.

Guess that's all for now. 😊

Day 387 - 7/23

The truth is right now the now kinda sucks

It's just past 11:30 with the early shift at aquatics mini work. This is the stress free shift as I'm the only one for the most part. There are two lower level guards, but they are out at the pool.

Not much going on today. Still pretty sad about my life. My daily routine is far from ideal, but I still have at least some luxury time privelidges.

I didn't finish the cover yet. I was going to this morning but wound up helping a few people with system builds, so my time before work ran out pretty quick.

That's it so far today.

Time passes

Having fast food dinner nom. Tummy has been going crazy for solid foods lately. Mostly it's under control and I save the budgeted fast food money for pizza/salad so it should be fine.

I've had a lingering sad all day. I'm still sad about having to shower at school, having to basically eat soups all the time, about having to game or watch movies on my netbook. I think maybe too I'm sad about the weekend coming because for me it's meaningless. There is no big sleep-in, no extended time to game, no time for friends, no movies with extended times to spend with them, no long periods of relaxing time to set up and prepare dinner. My weekends are effectively the exact same as my weekdays. In fact, if anything, they are lessened by the fact that more things are closed.

Though I don't have stresses of not being able to plan vacations like going to BlizzCon, or stress of monthly bills, like cable, Internet, power, water; I also don't have any of the luxuries those bring. Nearly all of my luxuries and comeforts are in storage.

Things do still strike me as very odd about my life – not counting the general strangeness. Like not too long ago there was a bachelor in one of the movies I was watching. I thought he had a pretty nice couch and it struck me that I don't have a couch. I don't even really have chairs. I've never really had lasting furniture, just sort of cheap temporary stuff I made or that broke apart after a few years. My life has always been very spartan, but it is so spartan that if you were to discount the 4-6 boxes of permanent childhood storage items my life could fit into maybe two cars.

I know *stuff* certainly is no indication of having *lived*, but I wonder... I have very little stuff. I have effectively zero value. (What I have in cash is vastly exceeded by debt

I owe.) My career path(s) seem non-existent... Have I ever lived? Have I ever been allowed to try to live? Will I ever get a chance to really live again?

Day 388 - 7/24

Meh Friday

It's pretty early, not even 9:30 yet. I got up a while ago and took a shower. Yet another lame day. I don't have to work leave for mini work until just over 3 hours from now. Plenty of time to do stuff in a home, but since I'm not my options are limited. I can still look for a new job, so that's good. But if I want to game I'm severely gimped due to my netbook, and there would be the WiFi limitations, and sooo much noise. If I want to watch a movie it would have to be in the locker room. The (school) library is closed today. And the headphones would smoosh my ears. I thought about just hanging out in the locker room. On the weekend it is the most quiet and solitary space there is. But outside of movies and single player games there isn't anything I could do in the locker room.

Today seems to have started out as another 'poor me' day in a long line of 'poor me' days. I do still have more than others, and more than I had before, but there are still so many sad things and still so many that continue to not get better.

Time passes

I have such a headache. 😞 It's 5, almost time for gym mini work and dinner. I spent most of my break making a post about the new Intel 1156 socket. Someone is like 'should I get A or B for my new system bits' and I'm like 'neither, wait a few months for the new socket'. I think they will understand the reasons soon, though they are in sort of shock right now at everyone's resistance at their system builder choice. Odd though that they would resist/question my advice when they can just read other posts I've made or look at my sig (which links to my site) to verify that I'm not a crazy person and do have some idea about what I'm talking about.

An ok day I suppose. Aquatics work wasn't too bad, but I still feel like an (unwelcome) outsider a lot of the time. Here at gym mini work I'm alone and the

basketballers are all basically nice. (Only had an issue once ever with someone complaining and being poopy because they were upset at another group.)

My sleep has been good, but uncomfortable lately. For some reason the car has been feeling super cramped and uncomfortable to be in. Maybe it's just because I'm spending more time in it lately or because I've been doing more driving around what with all the short work shifts.

Well, off I go. Maybe more later 😊 but probably not. 😞

Day 389 - 7/25

Not my party

It's 11:30, so hungry a lunch time. Today will be the mystery day. Outside of adjusting the cover for book 2 I have no idea what I'll do with the rest of my day. I got up kind of late at around 10, then took a super long shower. I've found if I use the foam and after shave stuff when shaving and go suuuppppeeerrr slow the manual razor does a really good job and I don't get cut at all.

The healthy drinking experiment still continues. I'm replacing about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of my normal drinks with healthier drinks. Though I guess this won't continue for long because the regular price would be 10x the sale price of my normal Pepsi drinks. On sale it's like 1.5-1.75x sale/regular price, so it's a tollerable increase.

There is this total dummy at the sleeping spot now. This camper has been there for about a week in the exact same spot unmoving. Until now it's been fine, but last night they were being idiots. They were blasting their music non-stop from about 10:30 to past 2 AM. If I would have been a regular neighbor I'd have called the poliece to get them quiet/evict them. If poliece are called to evict those in the lot that would put that lot and all other local sleeping spots at risk. I really hope they are just visiting someone and leave very soon. I can't have that kind of risk with my spot. 😞

Guess that's all today so far. 😊

Time passes

It's late, exactly 11. I'm in the sleeping spot, but for some reason I'm not really tired. Somewhere close by there is a party. Lots of thumpa thumpa can be heard. It may be a concert, but I don't know of any places close enough to generate that kind of noise. It has far too much subwoofer and tonal range to be the camper, which is good as that means the other night will likely not be repeated.

I stopped by the ex-house to drop off a backup disk. There were balloons, the metal gate and back yard gate were open – a party of some kind. I wasn't invited, but then I haven't been invited to really anything in the past year. I did just that one night with my friend/ex-roomie and that was it. She did write me the other day, but that was the first I'd heard from her in I think months. I saw her come in the store I was playing from wirelessly Friday but I don't think she saw me. She didn't look my way or acknowledge that she saw or might have seen me.

Someone in the guild was kind of freaking out in tells to me. I asked for details on a raid he's doing tomorrow and he was like all mad that people weren't signing up and were talking about leaving (the guild). Well, that's understandable and logical. We don't have enough class coverage to even do 10 person raids regularly let alone 25, and we aren't recruiting at all. In such a situation such a small guild based entirely around raiding would crumble.

But, I understand why he's mad. You join a guild often because you are following friends. You hope to meet new people, find more friends, and happily progress forward. Much like what happened when I moved in to my ex-place I hoped to find new friends and move forward. It didn't happen. The friends were their friends (my ex-roomies). I made no new ones, and met no new ones on my own. What of a life I thought I was building there has since crumbled around me. Unlike the game, I have no solid base to continue moving forward from. My stuff in storage continues to decline in usefulness and value. What stuff I have with me is in rapid decline due to being used up at a much higher rate because wear isn't spread across multiple sources. We attach ourselves and invest ourselves emotionally and physically to others. We hope for permanent positive movement forward. But anytime people are involved with others various forces are at work. Things change. Things move in different directions. Forward isn't always together. There is no way to stop movement no matter how much we wish to. There is no way to guarantee movement and progress is forward despite how it appears.

Virtual and real life are not always happy not always progressing in a positive way; no matter how much we hope or wish it to be.

Day 390 - 7/26

Uneventful Sunday

Way too early at the extra gym mini work at just past 9. I had a real hard time getting to sleep last night. I couldn't fall asleep until after 2. Then this morning at the school sleeping spot I lost about 1.5 hours of sleep due to people slamming doors getting out of their cars for a swim meet. I guess I've gotten around 5 hours of sleep total. 😊

I suppose I'll be ok though. I'll likely be here alone for a bit. This work shift is pretty stress free. I'll do laundry after, then have about 3 hours to play wirelessly or do board stuff until the guild thing in the evening.

I expect it will be an uneventful day, but you never know. The only unusual thing is that lately it's been looking like it's going to rain; very unusual weather for Summer.

Day 391 - 7/27

Possible reduction

It's 12:45 at aquatics mini work. Not much going on that's new. I saw a trailer for Tron Legacy, woot! Full of win. I'll be here at work for a few more hours then I've got a raid. I don't expect anything else to happen, so that will likely be my day. 😊

Time passes

It's just past 1 and I can't sleep. I think it's partly because I'm not tired for some reason but also for other reasons. There was more drama at work today. I'm getting really tired of the drama. My primary job function is to take money and help customers, but this one boss keeps giving me poop about how I'm "always supposed to be productive". And

by that she means doing things like clean the office area, wash windows, etc. Not only are these things that only need to be done once a month, once a week at the most, but they are things that require me to ignore the primary function of the job. If I'm away from the desk I'm not there to help people and they have to wait. Sriosly - I don't need to be constantly doing things that don't need doing while ignoring the main function of my job. It's just stupid to tell someone to do that. She also mentioned they were questioning if two of us need to be on at the same time during a certain shift. Well duh, no, not really. I'm pretty sure I mentioned over a month ago that I didn't understand why there were two of us there. On the one hand it's like 'yea, more monies', but the larger part of me would be happy to lose a shift or two per week. Working for only 1.5-2.5 hours per day right in the middle of the day is extremely disruptive to my homeless life. Back when I was just working one to two shifts a week (at the gym) I was *far* more emotionally balanced. (Even though I was also far less financially balanced.) Most of the time I was not thinking about or traveling to/from a work shift. It was far easier to do my job searching and focus on things like studying or thinking of ways to maybe improve job finding, or even just to plan my day in terms of showering and surfing boards. It may sound crazy, but yeah, I wouldn't mind fewer shifts if it meant I wasn't going to and from work every day for these little dinky shifts and they eased off micromanaging me with 'busy work' all of the time.

In other news the raid went ok and I had fun. The noise and sights/smells of the game center bugged me, as usual, but that will always happen. I really much prefer my alone time outside of the closed shop in my car playing wirelessly at night. I do regret not having a gamer class laptop, as I'd just stick to wireless play all the time if I could. (Though I wouldn't risk doing a raid wirelessly.)

My friend finally wrote again. He had some kind words to say. 😊 I guess he's working 60-70 hours a week so that's why he didn't write until now.

I always knew I liked things quiet with space between me and others, but I never really realized until I was homeless just how important time alone in an environment that I controlled was. It's like everyone wants to be in a relationship, but so many forget that some individuality and private time should remain. Sitting in my car at night, no sounds around me save for some crickets chirping, and for the occassional car passing by in the distance, no offensive smells, things set how I like; these are important things. In the hustle and bussle of the day – people surrounding me, their conversations intruding into

my thoughts, their smells pushed into my nose, worrying about work, bosses nit-picking about things that don't matter, heat and cold always changing – all these things crush me. It's like being smashed by a heavy weight I can't get off me that's been on me so long I forget what it's like without the weight.

Everyone should be able to live without that weight. Everyone should have space for themselves. Everyone should have peace in their mind and soul – for that is true freedom. And only in freedom can we truly be happy. And only when we are truly happy are we our best in all things.

Day 392 - 7/28

Small bits

All I can nom salad and pizza time. 🤪 I've been so busy with nothing today. I had like less than one hour after getting up until a dumb meeting, then a 45 minute break until my shift, then the 2.75 hour shift, then like 1.5 hours to shower and check boards, and now we are here. My day has been chopped into these little bits too small to do anything with. That seems to be the way of everything in my life lately.

My friend posted some bla bla on my page and my friend/ex-roomie said hi.

That's really it. Another day; nothing more, nothing less. It seems though these past few weeks that things have settled into a slow regular. I'm safe in that I have food and my car - a bit more food than usual lately. Been spending more on extra/special foods than I probably should.

Things are winding down at aquatics mini work as we approach the end of summer. I should start to try and keep costs low where I can to stockpile what isn't immediately needed. My savings is still ridiculously small, not even \$100, and in the coming days my shifts are likely to continue to go back towards the previous 5 hours a week more often than not. I won't have to worry for a few more weeks, so I'll still have time to build at least a little more cushion. And there is whatever dad sends for b-day money in about three weeks.

Guess that's it for this week. I don't think any has been entered yet, so eek! 🙊

K thx bye. 😊

Week 57

Day 393 - 7/29 Feels like Saturday

Bit of an early lunch nom at just after 11. I slept so well for once last night / this morning. I don't know if it's because I have the day off or if maybe I've had a bit of a cold and my body really needed the sleep.

Not sure what to talk about. After getting up I checked fun boards; nothing going on there. After I finish lunch I'll try and update my resume a bit and check job boards. Since I have pizza to nom for dinner I'll probably leave campus early around 3 and go do some wireless gaming. (I always get a small to go box at all you can eat night, hehe. 😊)

Unless there is a surprise in my email, or a call, or something else, I expect today will be uneventful.

Guess that's it for now. K thx bye. 😊

Day 394 - 7/30 Leaving the guild

It's way too early in the morning time at around 8:45. I couldn't get any school sleep because someone has been banging and crashing with chairs and planks – there is a storgae area near where I park. I suppose though that with a regular hour / full time job it's more than likely I'd need to be at work by 8 every morning, so I suppose it's not too bad.

Yesterday was almost like a Saturday. I had an ok time in the morning, save for getting my new schedule for the next two weeks which stressed me out. And in the afternoon I decided to go see one of the movies that are out that I've been interested in. I played for a little bit wirelessly then watched a rental movie; A decent day considering my limitations.

It is again cloudy and cold today. It looks like it will rain either later today or very soon. I don't know what's up with that. It's very unusual weather for the summer.

Well, once I leave the car I'll have about 3 hours before a mini work shift. I need to catch up with Burn Notice, so I may do that. I may update my resume, or I may update my older domain. I'm thinking I'll more likely grab what I need to do those updates on Sunday or Friday during my gym work shift since I'm basically free to do whatever.

I suppose it's a good thing that I didn't get a ticket to BlizzCon. With just some very minor changes to my "monthly budget" due to a more realistic food figure and rising gas costs, I haven't managed to save up anywhere near what I would have needed for hotel, food, and air-fare. (Of course, I *didn't* get a ticket, so I also haven't been sacrificing to save every penny I could.) I think at this point I'd be very lucky to have half of the estimated savings by the time we get to late August.

I suppose it's ok. I forgot to account for school costs, so what I do save between now and late August will basically need to go towards next semester.

Planning a real budget would prevent forgetting about that kind of stuff. Back when I was in a room I did have a budget that projected as far as a year forward. But since I've been homeless there has been no need. I've either simply not had the money or would have found a real budget too depressing. I have one of sorts in my wallet, but it only projects two weeks (with a few rare notes further down the line.) That's as far as I can really think ahead these days – the span of my current work schedule. I never know what will happen beyond that. I suppose that gives me some sense of freedom and hope for things to improve, yet it is more often a sense of fear and despair.

That's all for now. Guess I'll go start my day.

Time passes

It's around 7:30, time for dinner nom. The inevitable has happened. I was playing wirelessly and the four people I added to my friend list from the guild no longer showed up in the guild. Now all the people I liked in the guild are gone. So, later tonight just before I 'go to sleep' I'll leave the guild as well. I haven't yet decided if I'll look for a new one right away or stay unguilded. I'll probably stay unguilded at least for a while.

My friend wrote a pretty long email. 🤔 It seems he's not working 60-70 hours like I read on his page somewhere, but is in fact 'between jobs'. 🙄 Hopefully though he isn't too bad off, as he's getting unemployment. (His 'paycheck' is 3x-4x what I'm making, heh.) He's taking care of his little one, which is good, but ones that little can make finding work tough. (She's like one year old.)

I had a pretty ok time at work (for once). Tomorrow will be a crazy day though. I've got a shift, then a meeting, then a gym shift.

Guess that's it for today. K thx bye. 😊

Day 395 - 7/31

Random smile

I seem to have gotten the time wrong for work and I'm here 15 minutes early. It's really annoying to have a different shift (of a possible 5) every day. Well, a few more weeks and all the extra stuff is over and it's back to a solid schedule.

Nothing much going on today so far. I was woken up earlier than I would have otherwise slept by construction at the school pool spot. Hopefully that won't be going on during the weekend as well.

It was different being in the game and being on my own again this morning. Though, even if I had still been in the guild noone was on that I knew.

It will be nice to have gym mini work tonight. While not super quiet with all the thumpa-thumpa of the basketballers, it is one of the few mostly private times I have. If that dumb camper weren't in the sleeping spot I could go there at my earlier time and get some privacy then, but they have been there like three weeks now. With them there I fear going earlier because they may discover me, or they may cause a commotion that attracts unwanted attention.

Guess that's it for now. I can't think of much else to say. A girl (like 8 years old) was at the Starbucks this morning sitting outside. She smiled at me through the window. That was nice. 😊

Day 396 - 8/1

Bear Dr. to ER, stat

It's early lunch time at just past 11:15. I rescued a (stuffed) bear yesterday. Soooo sad. He was by the roadside at an onramp to a freeway around 11, still there later at

around 4, and then I picked him up around 10:30 at night. I dried him off as best I could and he looks realitvely ok. He's dressed like a 1920's aviator and the only real skuff marks are on his pants and flying scarf. Unfortunately those can't really be removed. I just dropped him off at my friend/ex-roomies so she could clean him up and give him to her niece or donate him.

I grabbed lunch and changed out my rental movies. The month of rentals is just about up. I settled into a parking spot to have lunch; then, funny thing, my friend/ex-roomie comes boping up to one of my windows and asks what the bear is for. Lawl. 🤔 I told her the story. Don't have to email her on that now. (She was going out shopping and stopped to get a coffee.)

I also chatted for a bit with an old boss of mine at a store; An actual chat, not just chit-chat. One of those where you say, 'hey, you are a good guy and people care about you' without actually saying the words.

That's it so far. It's only 11:30 now, so the day is still just starting; though I doubt anything really interesting will happen.

Day 397 - 8/2

Midevil ghosts

It's laundry time at almost 1:30. There was a gym shift, now laundry, wireless play and boards later, and that's really my day. I don't know how interesting it will be to read about. Then again my days probably aren't all that interesting for the most part, heh.

That's it so far I guess. K thx bye.

Time passes

Nothing much exciting today. I did send/get some hello messages from some ghosts from my SCA past due to my Facebook page. I expect I'll probably see more in the coming days. One is married now with a new baby, the other divorced since I last saw him. He's recently ben laid off and he's taking a break touring in Germany a bit.

The healthy drink experiment is going ok I suppose. I don't feel any healthier in weight or energy levels, but I have noticed my tummy feels... lighter when I drink the lemonsaid compared to Pepsi. I don't really know how to describe it. It's tough though due to higher cost and far less of it being in stock at the store. Even if I could afford as much as I wanted it would be tough to get as that flavor is often out of stock, and even when it is in stock there isn't much.

This weekend has seemed long and relaxing. I'm not looking forward to the chaos of next week as I've got all kinds of crazyness with my schedule. At least I think these two weeks are the last of it, then it should settle back in to its winter schedule.

I'll have to try to not forget to study for the CBEST as well. I may get completely caught off guard if I forget to study as I'm sure if it were super easy everyone would do it.

Guess that's it for tonight. 😊

Day 398 - 8/3

Save my nuts

I have a moment of quiet during aquatics mini work at just past 12:30. I'm here for a longer shift today, so I won't be free until 3:45. It's cold today and it actually sprinkled a bit on the car when I moved at around 6.

I was thinking of writing something in particular this morning but I seem to have forgotten what I wanted to write. Maybe it was just a dream.

Hopefully I can find study materials for the CBEST at the library. That's my big thing this week.

It looks like I'll get a decent amount of hours and pay next paycheck (comparitvely speaking) but I'll have to be like a squirl and start to save my nuts for the winter. As hours get cut back again and costs like school and car insurance come back around I'll need a bit of savings for that, not to mention taxes.

Guess that's all for today. Outside of starting to/looking for CBEST study materials that's likely all that will happen today. K thx bye. 😊

Day 399 - 8/4

Extention

It's nearing 11:45 at aquatics mini work. I'm about to nom lunch, so hungry.

I called to get an extention on my taxes. They sent a 'call in 10 days or else' letter. I really hope they don't charge me too extra. When I filed taxes there was an option to pay monthly for \$100 extra. What the poop?! How would it be fair or logical to charge me \$100 more if I don't have the original \$250 in the first place?! How about a max 20% beyond what you owe? That would be fine. A 40% increase on someone who is so close to not being taxed at all is absurd and completely unfair.

Guess that's really it so far. A few new ghosts are haunting me on Facebook. I'm totally looking forward to salad and pizza nom tonight. 😍 That's it for now. Haven't started studying for the test yet. 😞

Time passes

All I can nom dinner time. 😍 Didn't do much today; spent most of it working, which is good. I remembered that I'm still behind a bit on Burn Notice, so I watched an episode of that. I feel bad about hesitating on studying for the CBEST, but with my life in such a disaster it's difficult to focus on anything work or school (advancement) related.

I got a very unexpected and happy friend invite. 😊 It's from a person I haven't seen in probably 15 years. We weren't ever really close in the sense that we were separated a lot, but we were always very close in that I could tell he genuinely cared and we had fun when he was around. He's always had a seemingly exciting life traveling off to live/work in various areas. He was in L.A. for a while, then I think New York. I've always been a little jealous of that. I've wondered what a life would be like traveling in different places. I sent him a hello message, but this just happened so I may not hear back for a bit. (And you certainly won't see an update on it for this week's fail.)

WoW is being updated to patch 3.2 so there are lots of changes going on. I'll check in to that later. I figure the servers will be jammed up for a while and it will be hell on my netbook and wireless connection to try and get in right when the servers are back up. I should have many new and interesting gem cuts to look forward to and a new

dungeon, which I can't get to until I've passed through and gotten the loots for the ones before it.

Will getting in touch with various ghosts bring anything new to my life? I guess we'll see. It has made things seem just a little bit brighter knowing peeps are out there that think of me and want to say hi; certainly more than I would have guessed it would.

Guess that's it for this week. K thx bye. 😊

Week 58

Day 400 - 8/5 Committed

It's nearing 1, having a late lunch. I got some nice messages from a few of the ghosts that have surfaced lately. There is one person (an ex) who added where things are a bit aquard. She still seems clingy and not someone I'd hang out with or date again, so that's kind of weird.

I still haven't had the mental focus to start looking into studying for the test yet. I'm getting pretty upset at myself about that. I was thinking about random things last night though, the things that are disrupting my focus. I figured I'm losing roughly *three hours every day* to travel. (This isn't counting time to and from work.) Going to/from the sleeping spots, to/from the showers, to/from the library, to/from the cafeteria, to/from my wireless access spot, all the time packing and unpacking my stuff; it all adds up to a ridiculous amount of lost time *every day*. And, my day is cut up into chunks because of it. I rarely have more than two hours at any given time in one spot.

The focus and efficiency I easily had in a home is long since gone. I'm constantly in a mental haze, like when you've been awake way too long and are then driving home; you know the way, so your sleepy brain just runs on reactive auto-pilot, no real thought is involved. The fact that I have a different work shift every day likely doesn't help either. There seems almost no consistency or regularity with my daily routine lately.

Lots of fun new things to look forward to in my game. Tons of gem cuts to buy – more than sites originally estimated. It will be nearly a year I think of doing daily quests to get them all. (Though there is a something I can buy to speed that up a touch if I have the gold to do so.)

I've decided to try and be committed to doing a little workout. As I think I mentioned, when I was put out I'd just started doing a little workout now and then and was at the beginning stages of getting into a touch better shape and getting my tummy a bit gone. (I doubt I'll ever get a '6-pack'.) It's really tough though as I'll mostly have to do it in the car, but I'll try. As long as I have enough food to have the energy it's more than

nothing. Maybe having one thing back in my life I have full control of will help me regain some focus.

Guess that's it for now. I should try and go study.

I have like 4 hours until I need to go for a work shift.

Time passes

It's almost 7, just nommed dinner at aquatics mini work. What I was expecting to be a quiet stress-free shift has had some stress. Some of the staff are here doing some training, so there is stress that the grumpy boss may grump at me about something. And one of the people who were in the 'opening rush' complained about a lady who was in front of him because I let her fill out a form. Seriously? Like the extra 5-10 seconds for her to do that is going to somehow disrupt your evening? And it will do so to the point that you took another 10 seconds out of everyone's time to complain about it instead of just letting things progress? I'm sure none of my readers are like that, but if you ever find yourself in a position where being delayed in a line of people for 5-10 seconds stresses you out to the point you *must* complain you should seriously re-examine your life because something is very wrong.

I finally got around to looking at the practice test and did it. I did as good as I expected I would with an 85% on math and 86% on reading. I'll look for materials to study tomorrow, but as I feared it really isn't something I could learn quickly. Really studying and re-learning concepts I've forgotten could take weeks and require a tutor. Thankfully some of my wrong answers were due to not quite reading the question super carefully, so had I done that I'd likely have gotten closer to 90%. 😊

I checked my resume too, but it really didn't need major updating. Job sites are still dead. Of the city sites I check three of the four had zero postings. The main site I check jobs at had maybe two dozen postings across all sections. I tried to sign up for classes too, but the site was giving errors and failed.

I'll be doing some wireless gaming after work so that will be fun, but that will likely be all for my day. K thx bye. 😊

Day 401 - 8/6

Tight pants

Lunch time at around 12:15. I've got less than a half-hour until I need to go to mini work. After I may spend a tiny bit, like \$5, at the game center. With needing to raid two days per raid in most cases I've been getting more and more sad as I can't afford that much time more often than every few weeks. The small visit will allow me some progress for teh cheap. My wireless play does allow me to progress with my crafting stuff, but not really with my adventuring stuff. After, I'll likely head over to the public library to grab a book to study a bit tonight and tomorrow night.

I think it may have actually rained sometime this morning. When I came to the library the ground was wet pretty much everywhere.

Not sure what else to say. I'm soooo sleepy even though I slept really well. I did a tiny workout. I find it's best to alternate between regular sized workouts, small workouts, and rest days.

Guess that's it for now.

Time passes

It's 8:15, dinner nom. My day has gone differently than I planned. After work I decided to go ahead and take a shower because I'd changed my mind about the game center. I thought more and more and even though it is cheap for a few hours during the week, there is no guarentee I'll see gain during that time. I could wind up doing nothing. So, I decided not to chance it and just stick to wireless. After my shower I went to the slow (public) library to get a couple of books to study for the test. I also decided to get some cheap fast food. Tummy decided it really wanted something closer to solid food. This particular cheap fast food is only 30% more (+\$1) more expensive than a good soup on sale, so it isn't too much more than what a fair homeless dinner costs.

I'm still mad at myself for not getting the study books earlier in the week or last week, but motivation has been very difficult lately. Back in the day in a home I'd have easily gotten it last week, maybe the day I signed up for the test or the day after. I'd have been happily studying and taking breaks playing my game. I find I study best by doing small repeated sessions mixed up with play. But I can't do that now. My study locations can't connect to the game and the places that do are too noisy/distracting to study in. I'll

have to do it old school and study a bit in my car after dinner, at the library tomorrow, and at gym mini work tomorrow evening. Honestly by not having weeks to study my score is more likely to improve by answering the questions super carefully than it is by quick reminders of concepts I've long since fallen out of practice on.

My pants are tight. I don't know when or how it happened, but the 10 pounds I'd once lost seem to be back. I noticed the pants were tight when I put them on after my shower and sure enough the scale verified it wasn't the pants but my tummy indeed being a bit bigger again. While not terrible at ~185, it's sad to think that the weight somehow came back without my noticing.

Guess that's it for tonight. Time to start the first test study session. 😊

Day 402 - 8/7

CBEST prep

Quiet shift at aquatics mini work. It's about 11:30, so I'll be eating soon. I brought in one of the books to study for the CBEST. I don't get it though. The book says like 52% is passing. Seriously? What counts as a failing grade is passing? So if you actually pass the 8th grade level you have already passed tests at a *higher* grade score than the CBEST requires? Wouldn't it just make more sense to not do the test and say anyone who passes high-school qualifies? People forget, sure, but it seems silly to me.

I made a big fancy chart for my game, hehe. 😊 The cuts they added were too many to do it in the format I had it before. It looks all fancy and nice this way.

😊 I can't print in color until I can get to my printer. I'll probably try and do that Monday. I saw my friend/ex-roomie with her boyfriend who hates me this morning when I was playing wirelessly, so they will likely be at their place at various times today. She used to work at home / take Friday off all the time, so I never know if she's out or not on Fridays.

I'll probably just do laundry, study, and play wirelessly the rest of the day until my gym mini work.

K thx bye. 😊

Day 403 - 8/8

Seat 01617

It's nearing 8:30 at the test. There were like 1,000 peeps waiting outside at the main area. 🤖 I don't see how there can be a teacher shortage with 1k people taking the test at one center alone. (The test happens at multiple sites each time.) Unless, of course, several fail the test. It wouldn't surprise me if lots failed though since many seem unable to find the correct room or seat number. You would think that should be part of the math test.

So sleepy. I couldn't get to sleep until around 1 so I probably got somewhere around 6-6.5 hours of sleep. I pounded a Pepsi and hot chocolate before coming here. Kind of icky, but hopefully that will jump start me enough so my brain works ok. I don't understand why they don't offer a test in the afternoon when people are more awake. I suppose though that I may have to get up this early regularly if I do get in to a teaching position.

Hopefully I won't have to work later unless I finish super early. I'd rather skip the shift because I'm so sleepy than get the few extra hours. (I know it sounds bad to say that, but that's how I feel right now.)

Test is starting now, gotta go.

Time passes

It's nearing noon; test is over. 😊 I think I did ok, but I guess I won't know until like mid-September. I think I did super good on math. There were only like two questions I wasn't sure about (or couldn't check by just using the possible answers.) Reading I don't know. Since that's comprehension, I either got it or not. There is no alternate solution method or check like there is with math. I hope I did ok on the writing. I write all the time, but they are looking for specific things.

I was supposed to be at work at 11:45. I told my boss I'd be late, as I couldn't find a replacement in over a week of looking. I'm going to take some time for me first and have some food, I'm starving, take a minute to upload something I changed, and take a few minutes for myself. I'd put on my time card that I would be there at 1:30, so only being not even noon now I should be earlier than that, so I'm sure it will be fine.

Off I go for now, but with being at work until 5 that's likely all for today's writing.



Day 404 - 8/9 Happening differently

It's a quiet Sunday morning shift at gym mini work. I really wish I had 3-4 of these shifts a week. It would be so much less stressful and a 100% predictable schedule (vs. the one gym shift and upwards to seven aquatic shifts per week.)

I was going to raid tonight but I'm on "standby". I'll go in early and get some stuff done I normally can't, have some fun doing that, then see if I'm needed for the raid. If not I'll likely leave very early compared to when I would have for the raid and then call it a night or just continue wirelessly.

I'm still so tired from the test, but I think I did super good on the math and reading. The writing I may have gotten a bit rably and unfocused, but that often seems the case with test topics where I'm timed and they aren't topics of my choosing.

Hope everyone's Sunday is going good. As always I'd love nothing more than to be in a home where I could game and watch my movies like a regular person on a

Sunday. 🙄

Time passes

Tonight went differently than I expected. The weather finally turned from cold to the nice summery 95F that it should be. I didn't get the dinner I expected, I got something else that was on sale. I didn't get in to the raid I planned on, I got in to another.

I suppose all-in-all a good day, particularly since peeps were nice to me online. I may help them continue their raid tomorrow, I don't know yet.

I have shelter. I have food. I have plenty of warmth. Things are still sad and falling behind, but other things seem ok and are holding at fair levels.

Guess that's all for tonight. 'Night peeps. 😊

Day 405 - 8/10

Altered evening

At aquatics mini work. It's pretty quiet, but there are some extra people here now. It's around 11:45 and I'm nomming lunch. It's weird because I was starving before I made it, but now that I've eaten half I'm feeling full. It could be the heat because it's pretty warm. There were cupcakes here for some unknown reason, so I can has treat. 🍰

I think I'll go play for a bit at the game center today. I've really missed grouping. I can go for the cheap hours once a week since raids are getting less frequent due to the time required. It's ok. With the right group I can get some tokens that eventually let me buy raid level gear. It's the slow way, but possibly the best way for me at this time.

School was pretty empty today. It may be we are nearing the weeks they are closed. I'll have to check that later.

Oh, there was an online ghost yesterday. I logged in, and there standing 10 virtual feet from me is someone I knew back in the day 4-5 years ago. It was like woah! 🤖👤 He's not local anymore – he used to live somewhat close – but he's doing ok in life considering how many seem to be struggling.

Guess that's all for now. 😊

Time passes

My day is over. It's 10:45 and I'm having a bit of a snack. Things went differently than expected but not in a bad way. I didn't do any raiding, just a few regular shifts. Also, the people I was going to raid with didn't even show up, so I just grouped with someone I knew.

I don't think school will shut down for a bit. I checked online and some classes did end last week, but some go to the 20th, so that was likely the change.

A few more ghosts showed up on Facebook, so that's nice (knowing that I'm remembered and people want to add me.)

That's really it. Nothing terribly new. Oh, I added classes for Fall, which starts in late September, so I guess that's sort of new. More of the same small steps toward seemingly going nowhere though.

Night peeps. 😊

Day 406 - 8/11

Being watched

I had quite the scare this morning. I was slowly woken up by the sound of a nearby idling car. When I was awake enough that all of my senses were working I realized that the car was behind me. I peeked over to verify distance and direction and I saw a police car. 🚔 He was parked across the spots in an incorrect position for parking (across them at a 90 degree angle from their parking angle.) He had a clear and direct view of me out his driver side window. I ducked back down and quickly scooted over to the driver's seat, popped in my contacts, and drove off the lot. He didn't follow and he was just sitting in his car seemingly drinking coffee. But as I turned the corner nearly out of view of the church's lot I did see him peeking out to leave. (At that point in time he would have had no clue which of the 3 possible directions I'd gone.)

I suspect that since I left around 7:05 AM that possibly "Pianno Man" had called it in. I don't know if I've mentioned Pianno Man before, but he practices pianno at the church from 6-7 AM every weekday and has done so for a few months now. Usually I leave before he's done, but a few times now recently I've still been there past when he left. While you would have to walk within 10 feet of my car to see me – Pianno Man parks about 60' away – it's possible he walked to one of the structures they have near where I park. Since those are elevated one could more easily see down and in to the front of my car and see me. But, I am easily seen as a parked car (next to the small trailer the church has parked there (what I call 'the shield')) when you enter that section of the lot. So, he's seen me basically every day for months.

I suppose it's also possible that the camper owner called it in. Though, without permission from the church to be there I don't see how they would think it's ok for them to park there weeks at a time and not ok for me.

The past few days there have been lights on the outside of the buildings behind me that have been on that have been off in recent times, and last night it looked like someone was moving in to a place that has, I think, been empty lately. So, those are a possibility as well.

I suppose it's also entirely possible the police officer just randomly came in and chose that place to park to have his morning snack and angled himself at that direction in case he had to speed out of the lot.

Whatever the reason the spot seems compromised, so I'll go back to setting my alarm for the ridiculously early 5:45 time instead of the nice 7:30 time I have been using lately. If it was Pianno Man or some other early morning passer-by that time should be fine. If not... I'll have to find another spot and sleepless nights could begin all over again.

Hopefully my spot isn't compromised and I can continue to stay there. I don't know if the camper being gone or still there would be a good sign or bad at this point. They can be seen from the street and it's possible the police were watching them (not me). The camper has been there for weeks now sticking out like a sore thumb.

In other news it's now just past 10:30 and a bit ago I discovered that, yes indeed, the library and cafeteria area are now closed until late September. I'll check the showers after a dumb work meeting I have to go to. (I have the day off save for a 1 hour meeting. How lame is that?) I'm sure the showers will remain open. If I recall correctly from last year swim and soccer continued during the time the other bits of campus were closed, so parking over there and showering should be fine. I suppose the wireless is still on, but I doubt there will be more than a few times I'd want to walk over and have said private Internet time.

That's all for now. All I can nom pizza and salad tonight. 😊 It's another nice summer day. I'm glad I have some online in-game friends to share it with and that I can at least do some gaming and web stuff now. (And during the closed campus time looking for jobs will be infinitely easier than last year.) But still... I seem to be in the middle of yet another summer that I'm missing out on the real fun, as I have no friends, sweetie, or way to share my nicer things.

Time passes

All I can eat dinner! 😊 I guess I missed out some tonight, as it runs from 5-8 but for some reason I was remembering that it starts at 6. 🕒 Two hours is plenty, though I wish I had a sweetie or friends to share it with.

I think I ruined my shorts at the dumb meeting today. The grass was all freshly cut and wet and they had us sit on it. Now my shorts have grass stains, and without spray and a washing machine to immediately put them in they likely will remain stained.

Another fail week has come and gone. I guess I'm ok, but still there is seemingly no progress forward to recovery. People from my past are adding me on Facebook and wishing me well, I made a few new friends in-game, I probably easily passed the CBEST, I continue to check job boards that continue to be empty, and I signed up for next semester's classes. Are these steps forward? Is it progress? They seem like fairly insignificant steps towards recovery, but they are the only ones I know how to take.

Week 59

Day 407 - 8/12

I has an ice cream

It's early morning, just past 9:45, and I've already showered and gone to get a few items I needed at the store. I'm waiting in front of another store to get breakfast. I'll go get more WoW time once they open.

Today should be ok. It feels ok so far. The day is sunny and warming up quickly. Save for a car pulling through the lot last night at around 2:30 the night was uneventful. I don't have to be at mini work until the evening, so it's almost like a day off. Most days I'd be grumpy about it, but today I think I would rather work in the early evening than the early morning. I suppose it's because it's the quietist shift and even though I've gotten ok sleep I'm still very sleepy. (Likely due to my various sads and the hot weather.)

I'm not sure what will become of the rest of my day. I can do wireless gaming and check for jobs/fun boards but that's really it.

I guess we'll see how the day unfolds as it unfolds, eh? With my life I can't really plan anything big or regular. About the biggest I can get these days is that I'm thinking of going to G.I. Joe tomorrow since I have the day off and Thursdays are for teh cheap at the theater.

That's all for now. 😊

Time passes

It's about 9:30. I has a single scoop a Cookies 'n Cream ice cream. 🍪 It's still pretty warm. I don't know the temperature, but I'd guess it's around 78-80F. There is going to be a lot of activity tonight, so it would be best if I stayed away from the sleeping spot until after at least 10:30. Due to the scare with the poliece I probably don't want to get there too early these days.

After my ice cream I'll try and play wirelessly I guess, but at 4:30 or so it was really unstable and not connecting, so I don't know if I'll be able to connect or not.

Guess that's it really. At times like this my mind wanders to happier times; times when I could buy a whole pint of ice cream and put it in the fridge, share it with my

roomie, grab a movie to watch while nomming pizza and ice cream, or play my game super late because it's too warm to sleep under the covers on a warm night.

I don't really feel safe in my sleeping spot anymore; not since the camper showed up, not with the police watching. Movies are small and the sound flat and barely audible at times. Gaming is fun, but on a smaller screen than I'm used to, at far lower settings and speeds.

I suppose things aren't terrible because I *do* have these things. I'm not sleeping on the street with two changes of cloths on, too weak to walk to the showers because I have no car. Things aren't that bad yet, but they still seem fragile enough they *could* be, and recovery seems just as unattainable as ever.

Day 408 - 8/13

Back to 15 hours

-or-

Concrete saw, jackhammers, big piles of dirt; oh my

It's nearing 9 and I've just finished a shower. I was woken up a while ago by concrete saws and jackhammers. They are doing something to the parking lot over near the pool at one of my school sleeping spots.

Well, I guess I have plenty of time for my day off to do stuff. It's a shame that what I can do is limited by funds or my netbook. Still, it's far more than what I could do last year and I *can* do many of the things I'd do on a day off in a home, all-be them a reduced level of quality.

Food is going to be a bit more expensive now that I've lost access to the micro here at school. Additionally, in two weeks I'll be back to my 15 hour a week work schedule. (This one coming up I put a smaller availability on my schedule to have some time off for my b-day or in the event I made it to BlizzCon.) Times will be tough again, money will be thin, but if things hold as they are I should have enough for the very most basic costs and a tiny bit left over to do some Internet things to keep from going crazy.

I won't have much savings to speak of but it is slowly getting to where it could cover a small emergency or unexpected bill. (It's around a couple hundred.)

Since I couldn't afford BlizzCon for my b-day I will probably just get a shirt and/or Blu-ray movie or two. No doubt dad will send some monies, so I don't have to completely ignore it and be sad like I did last year. I will probably look into a hotel room for a night around then as well, but that will depend on cost. I plan on getting the BlizzCon webcast, so it would be nice to have access to a landline for at least one of the days.

Tonight I'll likely go see G.I. Joe and have a cheaper fast food dinner. That will make for a nice summer day off for teh cheap. That will leave about 10 hours between now and then for wireless gaming, job and fun board checking, and picking up lunch. I actually had somewhere to send a resume yesterday, but it would really just be a part time replacement job for my aquatics mini work. The job is from noon to 4:30, so it still wouldn't be enough hours.

Well, guess I'll be moving off to somewhere else. It's so loud here. Then again it isn't much quieter elsewhere. 🙄

Day 409 - 8/14

The independant varriable

Quiet shift at aquatics mini work at around 11:45. I was so hungry this morning, but again I'm half way through my soup and I'm full. Though, there were some foods left over from a meeting this morning, so I did have a doughnut.

Um... that's it so far. It will be a busy day with micro activities. I've got about a 2 hour shift here, 2 hours off, a 1 hour meeting, then half an hour to grab dinner, then the 5 hours at the gym. Not much time to do fun stuff, just ½ hour before I came to this shift, then the two hour window.

The hawtest lifeguard is here looking for her monies and going to help teach a class. She just redid her hair and it's kind of a blond with some colored lighter streaks. (It was always blond though.) She's a sweetie. 🍷

That's all so far today. K thx bye.

Time passes

So I was looking at my tummy earlier and thinking that my getting these 10 or so pounds back has happened more recently than not. Though unlikely I'm wondering if the heathly drink has caused it. Maybe not directly, but more indirectly due to the reduction in cafeen. A lot of the time I'm sleepy now, and with sleepyness comes listfulness, so I'm wondering if the slowdown has caused the weight gain. I'll reverse the experiment now. Not entirely mind you, I'm at about a 50% or 60% healthy drink ratio, so I'll cut that back to about 25% and see if I lighten up again (and regain some energy).

Sadly I doubt I'll really be able to rebalance myself without being in a home. Without proper food and a properly controled environment to clear up my nose and lungs I doubt I'll really get into good physical shape. Not that I'm really bad at ~180 pounds, but I'm sleepy and tired a lot of the time, listless, and congested.

I'm not looking forward to working tomorrow. It doesn't really matter I suppose. All my days are basically the same regardless of what day of the week it is. But still, something makes me extra sad working (a lot) on weekend days.

Well, it's nearing 10 and my mini gym shift is nearly over. 'Night peeps. Hope you are all snuggled happily in yer beds. 😊

Day 410 - 8/15

Tiny entry

It's a slow time at aquatics mini work at 1:30. I wouldn't be surprised if they cut people and sent them home early. If they don't I'll be here pretty much all day. Later I may go to a movie and have some cheap fast food.

Um... that's it really. Nothin' goin' on that's new or special so far.

Day 411 - 8/16

Sad Sunday

It's nearing 1:30 and it's time for lunch. I'm tired now. I got up at just past 9. I had a tough time getting to sleep last night, but I likely got around 8 hours. I don't know what it is about being out in the hustle and bustle of crowded areas but they always seem to tire me out.

I do think my healthy drink reversal is getting some of my energy back. No doubt if I were in a home and eating and sleeping 'right' it would be the opposite, but what with all of the energy draining factors currently in my life I think I may *need* the caffeine.

I was too burnt from work yesterday to go to the movie after, so I'll do that tonight. 😊 I may do a raid tonight, but that starts at 4:30 (roughly 3 hours from now), but without a 100% 'yes, we need your help with it' from the friend in the raid within the next ½ hour I'll pass, as I would need the time to see the movie. I really do want to see the movie tonight.

Still so sad to think about my being homeless. I think about how much fun I could be having in a home and see everyone around me coming and going. I still wonder what I did to deserve this bad karma. I'm the only one *not* going to/from my home to these shops. I'm the only one who seems to be getting hit hard by the current job market/economy who *doesn't* have someone to help me out with a couch or garage to stay in during tough times.

Bleh... sad life is sad, but I suppose it's a lot better than last year at this time.

Day 412 - 8/17

Your signature dish

It's quiet early morning time at aquatics mini work. I was woken up pretty early at the school pool sleeping spot by construction again but I slept ok until around 8:45. I took a shower then played wirelessly for a very short while. It's nearly 10:45 now and I'm sooo hungry.

A few days ago I noticed a note taped to the camper's passenger side window. I've been tempted to see what the note says, but it is tough to find a time without someone nearby potentially seeing me go from my car to over there. It's very odd that it's on the passenger side though (facing the parking lot). You would think it would go on the driver's side, the windshield, or the camper side door. The person must not go to the camper often, as it's been there at least a week and it's easily seen because the note is always in the light.

District 9 was so awesome. 🥰 It's best if you don't know anything about the movie when you go – other than that it's science fiction and done in documentary style. Just go see it. 🥰

That's it so far. Laundry later today, but that and wireless gaming are all that's planned.

Time passes

Just past 2, laundry time. For some reason I'm soooo hungry. It's a shame it isn't Tuesday because I'll have to spend more than I planned if I want a happy tummy at dinner. Having already eaten lunch and a snack and I'm hungry for more food at 2... I'll be way super hungry by dinner time.

I pulled out my old socks to toss them instead of washing them and put in the new socks. I was down to I guess just three pair, which would explain why I was always having to re-use them.

The less healthy drink experiment – technically reversal of experiment – continues. I'm still sleepy, but not as much so; still in a mental haze, but not as much.

I'm still so sad I couldn't get a ticket to BlizzCon, but with what I've saved I'd only have about half of what I expected (more if I'd had really pinched pennies), so I guess it's ok financially. Obviously it's an important b-day and an important happy event I would have enjoyed going to, so missing those can never be replaced. Whatever happens is what happens. As long as my sad story helps others to not miss the things that are important to them that's what's important I guess. Knowing there are (young) readers out there and that maybe my story has helped them to understand themselves better, understand others better, be open to new thoughts and experiences, well that's at least something to be happy about.

Time passes

Tummy was too hungry not to get a fast food meal. It is surprising though, as the burger is cooked quite excellently with a hint of pepper. It seems like a much higher quality than I'd have ever expected at a fast food place.

I really do miss cooking even though I really only have three really good dishes that I cook. I haven't felt like sharing them before, but today I feel like sharing so at least someone can continue to cook them. 😊 (Note though that it's been over a year since I've been able to cook, so be very very careful that you cook your meats thoroughly. My memory may be off and times/temperatures may need to be adjusted.)

''(rabb1t's) Pepper Strips''

Serves 2-3, Moderate difficulty.

(First because it's my most favorite. 😍)

Ingredients:

- 1 pound steak (medium or high grade is better)
- 1 Green bell pepper
- 1 Orange (or Yellow) bell pepper
- 1 Red bell pepper
- 2 Tablespoons(?) Black pepper – fresh ground is best
- 1 Package of Wild Rice (or enough non-packaged to serve 2-3)
- 1 Tablespoon olive/vegetable/peanut oil – I prefer olive
- Green salad is good to serve with this dish.

Preparation:

- Cut the steak into strips roughly ¼” thick by about 4” long. (One pound of steak is typically about 4” by 1” thick by 10” long.) It will be difficult to cut it this thin, so a bit thicker is ok, but try not to exceed ½” thick.
- Place the cut steak onto a plate for later.
- Cut the bell peppers into strips. Usually I cut them (each) into 4 pieces (from the top down) then cut them into ½” wide strips.

- Place the cut bell peppers onto a single plate all mixed together.

Cook:

- Time the rice so that it will be ready when the rest is ready. The steak and peppers will take about 20 minutes to cook.
- Place a small amount of oil onto the pan you will be cooking on and set the pan to medium-high. Once the pan is hot, drop in the steak.
- Brown the steak *lightly* on both sides. This should be about 5-7 minutes per side. As you are browning be sure to *generously* pepper and re-pepper each side. (The steak should be 'noticeably spotted' with pepper and it should easily be smelled.) Note that the light browning will not have completely cooked the steak.
- Turn the heat down to the lowest setting. Drop in the mixed bell peppers on top of the steak. *Lightly* pepper the peppers. Cover the now completed mix. Let it simmer for a total of 5 minutes, stirring occasionally (I do it about every 1.5 minutes.) Be sure when you stir to mix the steak juices around as this will help spread the black pepper and bell pepper flavors. This will warm the bell peppers. Be careful not to have the heat too high or leave it on too long, as the bell peppers will lose their 'snappiness'. We just want them warmed enough to soften up a touch.

Serve:

- Place the rice on a plate. Place the completed Pepper Strip mix on top of the rice.
- If desired drizzle one to three tablespoons of the mixed juices on top of the serving plate. Caution: if there is 'too much' black pepper it will pool into one area. Avoid scooping out such a pool. Mix up the juice before scooping it out of the pan to be safe.

“(rabbIt’s) Citrus Chicken”

Serves 2-3, Low difficulty

Ingredients:

? Chicken – I tend to use about 3 "strips" per person, but this can be done with different cuts and sizes

1 Orange

1 Lemon

1 Package of flavored Rice (or enough non-packaged to serve 2-3)

Mixed vegetables are a good vegetable for this dish.

Preparation:

- Cut the orange and lemon into quarters.

Cook:

- Time the rice so that it will be ready when the rest is ready. The chicken will take about 15 minutes to cook.
- Place a thin layer of orange and lemon juice into the pan you will be cooking the chicken in. No oil is required as the juice will be all you need. I tend to use about a 3:1 or 4:1 orange:lemon ratio. I typically put enough to have about a 1/8" deep pool.
- Cook the chicken on medium to medium high (depending on thickness) for five minutes per side. Covered is best, as it seals in the flavor better and reduces the amount of juice that will boil off. Add juice as needed as it will boil off fairly quickly. Try to not let the sauce get below 1/16".
- Though, it is ok if the juice starts to boil off a little bit. You just have to be very careful as it will burn quickly once it does. As it boils off it caramelizes, which is where the best flavor will come from.
- Repeat cooking on both sides for 5 minutes each.
- Repeat cycling each side as necessary for 3 to 5 minutes per side. (Only thicker cuts should require more than the initial 10 minutes.)

Serve:

- Place the rice on part of a plate. Place the citrus chicken next to the rice. Place the vegetables next to those.
- If desired drizzle out a small bit of the orange/lemon juice from the pan and place it on top of the chicken and rice.

Expert trick:

If you want to try an expert level trick, after the chicken is done cooking remove it from the pan. Put in enough orange/lemon juice to be about 1/16" deep. Turn the heat up to high. The juice will quickly boil and start to caramelize as it burns off. Once it starts, very quickly place the chicken back into the pan and remove the pan from the heat. After about 10 seconds flip the chicken over onto a different section of the caramelizing juice.

Note that the expert trick is very difficult to do correctly, as the slightest bit of off timing will cause the juice to burn which will cause an overpowering flavor compared to the other, more subtle, citrus flavors.

''(rabbIt's) Steak and Potatoes with sautéed mushrooms and onion''

Serves 2, High difficulty

Ingredients:

1 pound steak (medium or high grade is better)

6-8 Small Red Potatoes

1 Package pre-cut Mushrooms, or about 1 handful of mushrooms per person (like 4-5 per?)

1 Onion

¼ Tablespoon butter – though other things can be substituted butter is best due to the mix of flavors

1 Tablespoon olive/vegetable/peanut oil – I prefer olive

Green salad is good to serve with this dish.

Preparation:

- Cut the steak into their serving sizes if necessary.
- Cut the onion across the rings. Cut the rings in half. (So they basically make C shapes.)
- If necessary cut the mushrooms.

Cook:

- Time the potatoes so that they will be ready when the rest is ready. These usually take about 20-30 minutes to boil. The steak, mushrooms, and onion, will take about 15-20 minutes to cook.
- Place a small amount of oil onto the pan you will be cooking on and set the pan to medium-high. Once the pan is hot, drop in the steak.
- Brown the steak *lightly* on both sides. This should be about 5-7 minutes per side.
- Turn the heat down to the low. Place about 1/3 to 1/2 of your butter into the pan and let it melt. Once melted place the mushrooms around the steak. Cover and let sit for about 2 minutes. Uncover, mix in a bit more butter as needed, add in the onions and flip over the steak. Cover and let sit for another 2 minutes.
- The food should be ready at this point. The onion should be clear, but still a touch snappy. The mushrooms should be soft, but not too soft. If things are not ready, mix the mushrooms and onions and flip the steak and cover. Check again at 1-2 minute intervals.

Serve:

- Place the potatoes on a plate. (I tend to cut them into quarters.) Place a bit of steak next to the potatoes. Place mushrooms and onions and melted butter on top of the steak.

Day 413 - 8/18

Stuff

It's 1, so hungry a lunch time. 😊

The construction people kept me up this morning at the school sleeping spot, so sadly I didn't get to sleep in as much as I'd have liked. There are indeed continuing summer classes, so I'm pretty well disguised in the mornings. I shouldn't be bugged. But then, I've never had any issues about being shooed from the school sleeping spot.

Um... took a long shower and shaved all my parts this morning, checked job boards, checked fun boards, played a bit wirelessly, got all I can nom salad and pizza nom later, that's really my day.

I'm pretty sleepy, but good I suppose. It's still so strange being homeless. We live in such a consumeristic society it's like 'here is this new product you may like', yet I can't really consider buying any as I don't have anywhere to put them. (Nor the money to buy them.) I suppose that's the way it would be everywhere though. You buy stuff and stuff to hold the other stuff. Unless you are talking about ready to consume food you are going to be getting stuff.

I wish I could stop being tired all the time. I wish I wasn't always burnt out from traveling all over the place to do simple daily things that should almost literally be within arm's reach. I looked in to costs for a hotel room to take a break from it all, but as I suspected even cheap rates are \$75 a night. With as dead as the vacation spots are lately it may be cheaper to look into flying somewhere else and staying there. 🤔

Guess that's all for now. Gonna finish up writing my recipies for my rabb1t peeps so you can has tasty nom. 😊

Week 60

Day 414 - 8/19

The tax man not commeth

So tired and sniffly today. I may take a little nap after my lunch. It's just past 12:30.

No clue what to say. Nothing up on job or fun boards really. I slept in a bit this morning and took a shower but still got up early at around 8. Played for a few hours wirelessly. Oh, I've been doing a new Priest (alt) character for a bit now. I figure that's as different from my main character these days. Plus, it seems tanks and healers are always in demand.

I got notice from the tax peeps. I indeed do not have to pay any kind of bad penalty fees, just like 1% of what I owe a month in interest. So, I've got until December to pay off that like \$260 I owe them.

This morning it was super foggy/cloudy, like it was going to rain. It's still a bit gray now, but it at least cleared up a bit.

Think I'll close my eyes for a bit. Soooo sleepy.

Day 415 - 8/20

Birthday +1

Welp, here we are at the now second homeless birthday. 😞 In a home this could have been an awesome day. It's not even 9 yet, so I'd have the whole day to have fun, make a special dinner, get cupcakes and ice cream... but homeless, homeless my day will be a bit different. I showered and shaved, so that's the same, though it took about three times longer than it would have in a home. I'll spend a few hours wirelessly and get a hot chocolate. Just before noon I'll go over to the game center for a raid I signed up for. (Though recently the game has been changed a bit and you can often get better gain by

doing daily runs. Sadly it could take me months of doing runs since I can only do them about one day a week.)

That's basically my day. I may get a present or two, but it's been probably a good 15 years since there have been any real holidays or occasions where friends came over and there were lots of gifts. There will be no fancy dinner out or cooked; it will be soup. There will be no cupcakes or large amount of ice cream; though I do have a loaf cake and may get a single serving scoop of ice cream if I leave the game center early enough. There will be no joking about being an official old number – which I suppose I'm thankful for – though there will also be no 'kidding, kidding, we love you' that follows afterwards.

The life and celebrations I once had are gone. The ones seen in TV and movies seem all but impossible fantasy for me now. It's true that everything changes, and maybe the day will surprise me somehow. But, so far I expect that today will be nothing more than +1.

Time passes

The night is over. It's nearing 11:45. The birthday didn't go as planned and has been split into two parts. The first part was tonight. It seems I didn't get three free hours at the center like I remembered it being, but instead the entire night, woot! So I stayed longer than I was originally planning and spent \$0 instead of the \$10 I was planning to spend. The second half will happen Saturday night with a lower cost fast food meal, movie, and small ice cream after.

An old RL friend sent me b-day monies, so did my dad, so I got three Blu-ray movies. They are once I've seen, but ones I love and have been wanting for a while. I'll also get a new shirt, as one is getting all busted up from over-wearing.

I had fun at the center, but, even though I take my keyboard and mouse, I'm getting really tired of it not being my system. I had to adjust several settings to match what I normally use. I would almost prefer my netbook that has my settings and conditions I'm used to than the chaos of the center. I may go more often with smaller goals, as I *was* very out of practice for grouping, but I don't know. Not being *mine* is really starting to annoy me. I think if I had a gaming laptop I'd be fine with not going hardly ever, or if I did I could just play on my laptop (for super cheap). Well, I can't consider that without spending a lot more money.

Anyways. I should scoot 'off to bed' as it's nearing midnight. I do miss my old place and my friends, but I think what I miss most is *my* environment, *my* stuff, having things set up how *I* want in an environment that I can at least partly control all the time. Out in the wild, forced to be around others all the time, that I don't like so much. Though, being at the Starbucks wirelessly there are peeps that kind of know me and at school I have some private space. That is at least something a bit comfortably familiar.

Physical space, time, and control over the environment; these are the things I miss the most about not having my own place and my own stuff in their proper places.

Day 416 - 8/21

Middle birthday

It's nearing 11:30 and I'm going to eat lunch. I'm soooo hungry. 🤤 I was again woken up by jackhammers and concrete saws this morning at around 7:30. I suppose I could go somewhere not school to sleep after I move, but school is really safest. I can sleep in until around 7 at the church spot on weekends and school won't have construction at all, so I should catch up ok soon enough.

I tried to watch the BlizzCon web footage, but the network connection was failing after about a minute or two of being connected. I don't know if the site is being hit too hard or if it's the WiFi. It seems, like all conventions, that there are events, and of those events there are only a few I want to watch, so I'll try again at around two when the event I want to watch is running.

I suppose my multi-phase b-day is going ok. I had fun yesterday and today should be good if the stream clears up. A movie and cheaper fast food tomorrow is always fun.

My neck is still fairly cramped and the weather is still pretty cold.

Not sure what else to say. Nothin' else goin' on. 🤔

I suppose I could mention that my Priest will have over 33 abilities once I get them all. 🤖 Most of the time if I get more than two hotkey bars worth of abilities my brain just explodes. I suppose some I can choose not to use, and some are only rarely

used, so those can go into extra bars I don't use all that often. But still, that's a lot. I like it ok. It's a nice break to group and get experience and level instead of doing the same dozen things over and over. Plus, it's something I've always considered because it seems that tanks and healers are the two most recent classes. (Not to mention I started MMOG gaming back in the day as Cleric, which is a healer.) So, after I get to max, when I'm on my main if there is someone else who can tank I could flip over to my healer if it's necessary.

I do really pretty much prefer gaming on my little netbook now. Don't get me wrong, framerate is totally unplayable poo most of the time hovering between 5-10 FPS, but the fact that it's *my* system, with *my* resolution settings, *my* UI settings, *my* chat settings, all easily remembered or copied between characters; it all makes a huge difference when you are playing on your own system which is familiar and set up exactly how you want. I don't know, maybe I'm just getting more picky as I age and more easily distracted.

Well, it's fun and I'm very glad I have my gaming again. As always, it would be nice if it were closer to what I'd have in a home, but for the time being it is enough.

Day 417 - 8/22

Birthday day 3; movie night

It's nearing 1:30 and I'm starving. I was listening to the BlizzCon stream and they were saying too many interesting things and I couldn't leave to eat for fear of missing something. 😊 I guess, while super cool this year, next year will be the one not to miss. Diablo 3 and Starcraft 2 have playable bits at the con, as well as the newly announced WoW expansion Cataclysm. But there was no news about the next MMO, so it seems next year will be where all the pre-launch hype will be for those three titles.

Hopefully by next year I'll be re-established in a home and have the extra monies to go to the con; better still that I'm re-established soon and can do a new system build late this year / early next in order to play all the new games on. 😊

It still amazes me that it's been a year already with effectively no movement. I *have* finally taken the CBEST and I feel very confident about that, so that may be a step

forward. I *do* have a touch more income and now don't have to worry about food and can spare a bit for fun stuff, so I don't go completely crazy. I *do* have (at least) a netbook so I can connect quickly to the web and get/do my job searching.

Yet as I make these small steps forward I seem to still be slipping further and further away from recovery. The job postings have almost completely stopped. My search agents now send me about two listings per email where, once upon a time, it was closer to 40+. Every few days I seem to hear about tightening down, either from a person or a person talking about their workplace. My system and stuff sit in the garage becoming more outdated and unused day by day.

At times my life feels like I'm swimming against a current, and while I am moving forward it is at such an incredibly slow rate that I'll never get to shore, let alone to the dock to board that luxury cruise yaht everyone seems to be boarding. Where is Julie the cruise director to throw you a line when you need her?

Time passes

It's later than I thought that my night would end at some time past 11. I didn't get ice cream because the night took an unexpected turn. I went by the ex-house to drop my bags that I carry everywhere into the ex-garage for safe keeping while I was at the movie and I heard my friend/ex-roomie peek around the corner of the back yard. Her boyfriend that hates me was out so we hung out and talked about the changes the WoW expansion will bring for a bit. I haven't seen her in I don't know how long, well not counting recent visits where I'm playing wirelessly where we just bump into one another. She gave me a b-day present of tickets to get in to see movies and a drink, so I got to see the movie for teh free, woot. 😊 It did delay which showing I saw though, which is fine. And, it was longer than I guessed it would have been, so it wasn't done until later than I expected. Not that it really matters, I've nothing else to do most days as the things I need to do are often done quickly in the mornings.

A pretty decent continuing b-day day all things considered. Oh, one of her kitties said hi to me too. He always peeks at me and stuff when I'm near by. He came close and said 'merawr?', so I picked him up and held him in my arms for a bit. 😊 I'm sad my kitten pictures didn't come out. The first time I saw the kitties they weren't much bigger than my whole hand from nose to tail. Tonight his body, not counting tail, was longer than all the way across my chest. His head and front paws were flopped over my left arm

while I held as much of him as I could on his middle and back with my right arm. They are some kind of crazy cat/raccoon hybrid, so they are way bigger than regular cats. (But they look like regular cats, just way bigger.)

And that's my day. Now I sit in my car writing in the dark hoping that noone distrubs me. I think back on my day thinking about the 25,000 some people who had fun at BlizzCon, many of whom packed up and headed home tonight, thinking about what my friend/ex-roomie may be doing now, thinking about the people who work at the shop where I connect wirelessly from, wondering what they are doing; are they with their sweeties? Are they sleeping? Did they have fun today? And while my life is certainly better this year compared to last I still can't help but wonder what all the people 'with normal lives' did today, how differently my day/night would have gone if I had a home, a sweetie, friends.

While my life is not so terrible I still wonder and wish... maybe I always will.

Day 418 - 8/23

Birthday bit, the last

It's nearing 1:45 on a slow Sunday. I'm ok, but a bit tired. Being in Starbucks always makes me tired what with all the hustle and bussle of the people and the constant (slow) music.

I've been playing wirelessly for I guess about four hours now. I got a compliment on my chart that I made for gem crafting. 🍪 I tried to watch some of the BlizzCon footage I missed, but the connection was horrible and it kept resetting. I'm not sure how long the footage will be available, but I'm sure it will be up long enough to see all the interesting bits.

I think the healthy drink experiment was indeed part of the reason for my slow down. Since I've basically stopped entirely over the past few days my energy, focus, and alertness levels have returned to (homeless) normal. Again, I'm sure it would almost be the opposite if I were in a home getting real rest and real meals, but while I'm homeless it seems the cafeen is almost critical now in helping maintain regular energy levels. This

may be partly due to the dumb camper still being there making me feel insecure and causing poor sleep.

Can't think of what else to say. Guess that's all for now. 😊

Time passes

It's just past 8:15. I just had dinner and I'm outside of where I'm going to get a single serving ice cream. I'm going to wait a bit though to let dinner settle first.

I felt so terribly alone today. Even though I got the email appreciating my work on the gem chart, even though there are posts on boards and PM messages thanking me and praising my hardware site, even though I know there are those out there who care about and maybe even love me, I feel so very alone. It seems odd because I know I'm not; and I'm surrounded constantly by people all day. Yet oddly I'd love nothing more than to be able to go into a room and close the door to have some quiet private time.

Maybe it isn't that I feel alone so much as isolated and disconnected from everything. I have no job prospects. I have no love prospects. I have no new friend prospects. I spend my game time alone because I have to (though I do group in my alt bod). I go to see movies alone. I eat alone. I'm spending the majority of my time in one place, yet noone really talks to me or knows me.

I guess it's just one of those times lately where I feel like I am in the world yet apart from it - the outsider not really welcomed to join.

Day 419 - 8/24

Smooshed

It's nearing 11 at aquatics mini work. I'm having lunch 'cuase I'm super hungry. I slept ok I suppose, but my parts are being smooshed. A few days ago I guess I smashed my lip on the pillow. It's a bit swollen/cut. I've smooshed my left eye a bit and it's been blurry the past few mornings for about 5 minutes after I've woken up. And last night I think I smooshed my left knee a bit.

I played wirelessly for about an hour this morning and made a few board posts, but that's really all that's gone on so far. After work I'll do my laundry and drop off some monies dad sent for my b-day at the bank.

I guess middle school started back up recently and high school starts today. That would be pretty fun. A new start again; Possibilities for a sweetie, new friends, new classes, reunions with old friends, never the same thing twice. If I ever make it to being a teacher I'll have that refresh / change every semester / quarter / whatever. I'd go completely crazy in a static job that never changed.

I suppose I'm thankful/grateful to have enough hours to maintain minimal life and a teeny bit of fun, but it still seems so sad and odd to see everyone else coming, going, and progressing in life while I seem to not get anywhere. Is that how it really is, or is everyone just afraid to talk about how, even though they appear to be fine, they are, in fact, just barely hanging on?

Time passes

It's just past 8:45. I had a much more expensive dinner than I was originally planning. It's ok though, as I decided to try out a fast food place I've never eaten at before. It was pretty good, but more expensive than most fast food places.

I've been just sitting in my car for about ½ hour, kind of like the old days, just staring off into space. It's nice though. I get so little alone time lately. I think I've lost a good deal of that because of the camper being in my sleeping area. I was going in as early as 9, but ever since the camper has been there I've been too afraid to pull in much before 11. I've lost a lot of alone time this past, what, month or so due to that.

It's become freezing cold again. It was super cold this morning, got really nice and warm briefly during this afternoon, then got cold again starting around 4. Now, as I did last night, I've got two shirt layers on and my hoodie.

I don't know why, but all my sad lately makes me feel like life is more about hanging on to things than it is about being an adventure. Places want to old on to customers. Consumers want to hold on to their hobbies. Companies want to hold on to customers, so they change products, which causes customers to change. When I was young it seemed like such an adventure, everything new and wonderful. I couldn't wait for something new to come along. Lately it seems like my lack of money has stopped the adventure. I'm seeing the world now as a means to just get these few pennies out of people, and that things weren't done out of pleasure of doing them, but to help people hang on and get that one penny more.

I hate that thought. I hate these feelings. While it may be socialistic or Star Trek of me to think this way, it would be really nice to live in a world where everyone could do the job they wanted for the love of doing that job well and people appreciating their work for it. I know it likely won't happen, even if we account for the nearly 50 remaining years of my life – at least not without a revolutionary inexhaustable power source, meeting an alien race, or a zombie apocalypse.

But to live where people did what they wanted and contributed because *they* loved what they were doing; there is where I want to live.

Day 420 - 8/25

Week +1

It's right around 12:30. Gonna have lunch after the high schoolers are done with their lunch raid. Every weekday around now they come over from the high school and raid this little shopping center for foods.

Today started out super cold again, again seeming like rain, but now it's warmed up pretty good.

Checked job boards this morning; as expected, nothing. I checked a few of my fun boards, but not all. I played for a bit, but they had to shut the game server down; something about maintenance to clean up the maintenance they did, hehe.

That's really it for my day. I've got salad/pizza tonight and posting this week's fail, but so far that's all that has really happened. There was this really beautiful girl in the shop reading one of those 'required reading authors' – made me feel silly and dumb since my bla bla will very likely never be a 'must read' on anyone's list. (My site may, but probably not my "books" that I write.) I guess what is really important is how *you* feel about what you are doing more than how others feel or the recognition you do or do not get for that.

Maybe more later; that's all for now.

Time passes

I'm early for all I can eat salad/pizza nom. 🍷 I'm so totally starving. I've been hungry a lot lately. I think it's because I have this cold.

Today someone from the Starbucks waved at me when I was in my car having lunch. It was a guy's sort of 'hey, how's it going' kind of wave, but I know he wasn't just pretend being friendly as he was about 25' from me. Noone from the shop has said 'hey, let's hang out and be friends' or anything, but it's nice to know that I'm not totally viewed as unwelcome or an outsider for being there all the time. There's a super cute girl there too that I've very lightly been flirting with, though she doesn't flirt back. Days like today she had to get up at 4 and I can tell when she's sleepy, and other times I've seen her work the night shift then be there in the morning the next day, so we've talked about that before.

I guess that's really it for the week. I did my job searching for the day, did lots of playing, and that's really all there is for me (until dinner). Life is a bit slower at the moment with ~18 hours of work a week at a regular time, a car that's basically working, and a system I can regularly connect with. While I miss the money I would/should be getting with full-time hours life isn't intollerable at the moment. It's ok and I have time to myself to play my game, think about stuff, and if I can muster the focus ponder life or make advances with my site.

That's probably it for the week. 🤔 Week +1.

Day 421 - 8/26
The big scare

Last night I had a surprise. 🤗 (Well, it was two, a good one and a bad one, but we'll get to the bad one in a minute.) I went to check for my b-day moives at the ex-house and my friend/ex-roomie heard me coming. She came out and was like 'close yer eyes' and I'm all 'whuuutt?' and she's like, 'Surprise! Happy birth day! 🤗' and gave me more presents. 🥰 So now I have the movie tickets, a couple of WoW time cards, the movies I got, and a t-shirt I got 🥰.

I went to try and get to sleep early, the first time in probably a month, and there were cars in the lot. So, I had to cruise past and just hung out on the Internets for a bit then went back to the spot at just past 11. I couldn't sleep for some reason. I just wasn't sleepy, but I was very tired. I was layin' there trying to sleep when I got the big scare. I heard a car pulling in to the rear section of the lot. The engine had a patrol car sound. They lit up a side area I can see from my hidden position and I scooped down a bit as best I could. The lights continued past and the engine got very loud behind me. I thought for a second he was going to stop behind or next to me, then I realized he was using his spotlight. The engine continued shortly past me while the light hovered on/near me for about three seconds. Thankfully I was below the threshold of being seen (as I am when next to the shield unless being viewed from the left side), but I was worried because with that search light they could have easily seen my passenger seat was down. I couldn't really peek over without revealing myself, but I think the light quickly swept through the rest of the area before being turned off and the car slowly pulled out of the back area. I peeked over the threshold at the very last second and confirmed the black and white color. I rapidly put in my contacts and cautiously peeked out some more. I saw nor heard anything, so I put on my shoes and snuck out to peek around the corner of the building. The car was indeed nowhere to be seen.

I guess, like about a week ago, it was simply coincidence. I stayed up for a bit with 'my bed' put away just in case, but I didn't see or hear from any other poliece in the

area. All the cars (or sirens) I could hear were off in the distance. Statistically speaking I'm very safe in the spot. Only three visits in the probably 400+ days I've likely been in the spot/area with only three visits is less than 1%; by far a statistical anomaly. But still, with two of those being in my section of the lot and occurring within the last few weeks I worry if this is an indication that frequency will increase. I'm sure it's just a random occurrence and they were looking for someone who is not me, but I will likely keep an eye out and be wary of future patrols at least for a few nights to be sure these aren't going to become random searches that eventually escalate to booting me out.

I feel my safety is in question and I will likely lose more sleep in the coming days because of the increase in activity. But still, the humanitarian side of me wonders – what would really be the 'worst case scenario'? With no people walking through the lot there is really no chance of anyone raging out and smashing up me or my car. The only person I've seen, who I haven't seen in months, is the Night Walker; a person in his late teens who would likely feel more pity and confusion over my regularly being there than anything else. I haven't seen Piano Man since I changed (back) to my 5:45 leaving time, so we don't have to worry about any local regulars. And, I'd think any church-goers would be more compassionate to my position than not. Heck, it still wouldn't at all surprise me to get an invitation from the church to stay in one of their five rooms / storage areas back there. And the law is set up to, first and foremost, protect citizens from harm. If I'm in an empty parking lot, one that 10 people regularly park their cars in at night, would police really boot me out of there if I'm not hurting anything and need a place to sleep? I'd think not. I move every morning, I don't put my trash outside my car; it's no more or less than the 10 others do. (Outside of the fact that they go to a home instead of staying in their car.) I even researched loitering a bit on the web and it seems that the law is basically designed to prevent gang activity, not so much for single people just waiting around. In fact, under dangerous weather conditions the law even allows trespassing to get to safe shelter (such as going in a barn during a rain/snow storm.) So I really wonder... with my do no harm position, with the fact that I move every day, with the fact that others put their cars in the lot at night at the same time I do, would they really put me out somewhere when I'm not hurting the area and the other places I would be put out to may not be safe?

I guess only time will tell. Hopefully I'll never be put in a position to find out the answers.

Time passes

I had a bit of a sad earlier (someone kind of mean at work and lower hours than normal for at least the next few weeks) and more and more as the night went on my brain wanted to do something different. I said, 'you know what self, let's get a movie', so I got a movie for teh cheap. (Hopefully it won't get stuck elebentybillion times.) Tummy chimed in too, so I got a loaf cake so I could have some dessert / snack foods, and I got the yummiest fries ever. I don't know what Wing Stop does to their fries, but there is a sweetness and a little bit of spice that makes them super yummy. I got a large order and woah! It is literally a huge bag of fries. 🍷 I don't know if that's normal (guess it is) or if it's because I made the guys lol chatting with them for a few minutes.

The tasty foods and soon movie have lifted my mood a bit, but the diminished hours at work concerns me. Yeah, it will still be enough if I tighten up a bit, but I've never get out of the hole and back on my feet at the rate I'm not moving at. Plus, I did some job searching and, as usual, found nothing. So that was disappointing and just reminded me I'm still trapped, regardless of how I feel about my current money.

Well, no sad talk. I don't want to make myself more sad. Hopefully everyone's day is going well and you have nothing bad to worry about. 😊

Day 422 - 8/27

Less than 13

I'm at aquatics mini work at around 10:40. I'm still sleepy from a cold and the construction at the morning sleeping spot. I've had lots of sneezing, congestion difficulty breathing, confusion, and a bit of coughing. Hopefully I'll be my happy hoppy bunny self again soon.

I didn't shower this morning. I only need a five minute shower and I didn't feel like spending the ½ hour to do that. (What with all the packing, walking, unpacking, repacking, more walking; it always is a big investment to shower.) I played for about an hour then had to go to work. I got a plastic bin that I was going to use in the car the other

day, but I decided against it, so I picked that up from the ex-house storage. (I'd put it in there when I decided against using it.) I'll be playing for a bit at the game center, so that should be good fun for teh cheap.

Things will be tightening up in the next few weeks though. I'm only scheduled for about 13 hours for the next few weeks. It's enough to cover critical costs, but a few things will have to be cut back a bit. Not like my ~\$35 or so allotment every two weeks is exactly a ton of budgeted fun to start with, heh. I suppose things should still be ok. I don't think hours will get smaller than that. Work, while not super fulfilling emotionally/spiritually is at least not stressful or depressing. (Other than the low hour count and meh pay rate.) I am always sad at the lack of job/sweetie/friend prospects, but I also am not on the street and I do have enough money to mostly be ok. (Enough I've gotten a touch chubby again due to more fast food lately.) Things are tough and sad, but they are a little less sad compared to last year, and they have at least stabalized for the moment.

Oh there was no patrol car that I noticed last night or this morning, so that is something.

I suppose though there won't be much to talk about today. It seems a warmish, nice, but slow, kind of day. As always surprsies would be welcome – nice ones at least – but predictable prospects and activities seem to be few to none.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

It's later in the evening, nearing 9:45 outside of Starbucks to do wireless stuff, maybe game for a bit in my alt bod. I had fun at the game center, but not quite as much as I'd hoped. I suppose as much as could be expected, as I was grouped the whole time there, but I can gain so little with my small and infrequent visits. I'm still undecided if I'll go somewhat regularly or not.

It's elebentybillion degrees out. If I had to guess it is probably near 83F. It would probably be safer to stay out longer than not, but I'm pretty tired. I don't know if that's the cold or the homelessness.

Tonight is one of those nights to stay up late and watch movies or play because of the heat – maybe even drive to the coast and spend the night if you have friends there. While I can do two of those things, it's just not the same (as it would be in a home).

Though the thought of being in a home and having a place to put my stuff and do my hobbies seems like such a foreign and unattainable goal for me now. It still seems so strange that I'm still homeless. It's beginning to feel like I'm trapped between worlds and I don't know which is, or was, real. Am I still in a home and this is just a bad nightmare? Or is this the reality and being in a home was just a very long and nice dream?

Day 423 - 8/28

Brain melting heat

It's lunch time, probably somewhere closer to 12:30 than not since the high-schoolers are headed back to school.

I suppose it's an ok day so far. I couldn't sleep until after 1 last night due to the heat, then the construction people woke me up early again. I probably got a decent 7 or so hours of sleep. I'm sleepy, but feel more positive than not. I checked fun boards, job emails, played for a little bit, had a shower this morning, bumped in to my friend/ex-roomie as she was getting a coffee, but that's it really so far. I have a gym shift tonight, so that should be ok.

I love surprises. 😊 Some of the kids have Hawaiian lays, and I wonder what that's about. Events are fun, particularly if you don't know they are coming. 😊 I guess that's what I dislike most about "adult life". I mean, sure, in part it's because of the company I've kept, which right now is noone, but everything gets planned. You plan this, you plan that, you pay bills regularly, you have to save up for fun things or make calendars; it's like life loses its spontaneity and that's just the way it's supposed to be. It makes me sad that it's seemingly so hard to find a sweetie or friends who surprise you later in life. I guess I just haven't been around the right people lately but it seems like everything in my life right now is so planned and predictable.

Well, the area seems clear of teens, so it's probably safe to go back out and not be trampled. 😊 Bye for now at least. 😊

Time passes

It's almost 9:45 and it's still so incredibly hot. It's been strange weather. A few days ago it was chilly and looked like rain, now it's probably nearly 100F, maybe more. It's so hot I've felt like I'm going to pass out, still do, and it's getting later in the evening (when it should be cooling). I think it's probably been a good five years since it's been this hot if this isn't some kind of 25 year record heat. I guess we'll be getting one of those "Indian summers" again where September and October are warmer than June and July were.

I have the day off Saturday and Sunday, so at least I can stay in the Starbucks and keep cook. It will likely be super crowded, but it's there, a movie theater, or the game center if I want somewhere air conditioned.

Not sure what else to say.

Those of you who can, go out there and *live* your life. Have fun with your hobbies. Don't be afraid to try new things or meet new people – an experience is an experience. If you want to go somewhere and take a trip, go. Have those around you that you care for and do the things that make you happy. You never know when you'll lose them or the chance to do the things you enjoy in the way you enjoy them. Don't let life just trickle by.

Day 424 - 8/29 105F?

It's 1:30, lunch time. 😊

Last night was crazy. I didn't use any blankets at all until after 3 AM, and I had the passenger window open almost the entire night. (The one on the side the shield is on.)

During part of the night I was sleeping with no pants on, hehe. 😊 I heard someone mention 105F today, but that has to be for yesterday. Today isn't quite as warm and it's actually a bit breezy. Yesterday I was sweating in my car and stuff and today it's quite tolerable to me, so I'd guess it's closer to 82F in the shade. Although there was no

construction this morning I didn't really sleep in. For whatever reason I got up around 8:45.

I may take a bit of a nap after lunch, but I can't think of what else to write about.

Guess that's all for now. 😊

My Car is not a Home

My car has windows

My car has doors

But it is not a home.

Though it can be locked

I don't feel safe or secure.

It is not a home.

No sweetie will be coming over on a date

No friends will come over to hang out.

It is not a home.

Though I may have places for my stuff

It is not a place for my stuff.

It is not a home.

There will be no bar-b-ques in the back yard

There will be no trick-or-treaters at the front door.

It is not a home.

I will not hear my children laughing or playing

I will not reminis about their graduation or marriage in my old age.

It is not a home.

There will be no showering myself

There will be no cooking for others.

It is not a home.

There is loneliness

There is driving.

The car is not a home.

Day 425 - 8/30

Wishing for a better tomorrow

It's early morning at around 9. No work or anything I need to do today so I'll just spend the day wirelessly. I'll likely just be gaming, because boards are dead on the weekends, but I'll make a check of the job and fun boards regardless. I suppose it will be an ok day all things considered. While I can game ok the framerate and connection limitations are frustrating. I can't even try to run video if any of my shows are new. I keep hoping Nvidia or Asus will be like, 'hey, our employees have watched your site over the years and we see you are in a tight spot right now; here's a 15" laptop with 1920x1080 res, a GTX 260, and Blu-ray player to help ease your troubles until you get back on your feet'. With my (good) luck it could certainly happen. Odder things certainly have happened to me along my journey so far. Having my netbook has certainly eased my life now that I can access my job stuff all the time, (try to) play my game, and watch (non-Blu-ray) movies. That and my car certainly put me above many, even more so if we consider the majority of the population globally. But still, it's a bit sad since I'm so much above so many, yet still lack what everyone around me (locally) considers basic every-day things. (Well, Blu-ray isn't every-day, at least not yet. But I'd rather have that than an iPhone with teeny tiny movies on digital download.)

Of course, most of all, as seems ever common for me on weekdays, I'd like nothing more than to have a (at least moderately) happy job with enough income to be

back in a home where I have enough extra to do a new computer build and start collecting my movies again. Friends and a sweetie would be very nice too.

Guess that's all for now. 😊

Day 426 - 8/31

Misstell

It's somewhat early in the day at aquatics mini work at almost 11. I'm pretty hungry, so I'm going to eat soon. 😊

Nothing really different going on. Recently I've decided to go back to the default UI in WoW. I saw a video that showed some default UI things that I didn't know it could do, so I'm trying it out again. 😊 It seems that it has almost everything I want. It would be nice to control the independant size on a few things and see a few things that I can't currently see, but I'm guessing those will be added with Cataclysm, if not a bit sooner to fix the bugs before launch. Seeing UI and friend's list changes go in to WoW to test them before the launch of the other games would not at all surprise me.

I chatted with some people online for a bit while I was playing wirelessly. I almost flirted with a cutie at the Starbucks. She's often there but hasn't *really* been more friendly than she is towards other customers, and there is a lack of telling body language; such as subtle leaning towards me, averting her eyes, blushing, talking with me when she is sweeping/cleaning nearby, so I haven't yet flirted.

So that's probably my day. I've got laundry after work, maybe use one of those cleaning stations to clean my car (depends on cost), but no other plans or anything besides more wireless stuff.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

So hungry a dinner time. 😊 I was so hungry I decided to splurge and get a slightly more expensive fast food meal. I'm in the parking lot of a shopping center across

the corner from where I normally stay. There is a yogurt shop here and a vegetarian Indian food restaurant and a sandwich shop. Recently duplicates of those opened in the center I'm normally at. Why would someone want to have the same shop as one across the corner that already exists? Competition and all sure, but still.

The car vacuum was only \$1, so it's nice and clean inside now. 😊 Though the water for washing outside was \$2 which seemed a bit much, so I passed on that.

I seem to have accidentally scheduled myself for a raid tomorrow night during all you can eat pizza/salad time. They also do it during lunch time, so I think I'll do it then so I don't miss out on my healthy salad foods. 😊 I don't know what I'll do in the future though, as I'll have class on Tuesday nights.

Oh, I got a rather interesting mistell in-game. I forget what started the conversation, but it seems that someone was talking to a friend about not wanting to get involved with an exchange student. I was trying to convince him to try and see what happens. Love is still love if it's short or long. Yes, we all want it to be happily ever after, but as the saying goes, 'it's better to have loved and lost...' But in this kind of situation there isn't anything lost. A parting of the ways may be sad, but if you part when happy then it was a love worth having. A short love is still a love. 😊 We never know how short or long love will last in any situation. Plus, he seems to have ignored the other benefits. He says last time he learned Japanese and this time German, woah! So you get love and were inspired to learn another language; that's totally something worthwhile. 😊

I guess this is just another of my reminders to not let opportunities pass you by, particularly ones which touch you in ways that move you. Don't ignore something because it may not seem to make long-term sense (or whatever). If something moves you, let yourself be moved. You never know what adventures await. 😊

Day 427 - 9/1 Atlantis

All I can nom lunch. 😊 I have the raid tonight during dinner time, so I figured I'd go for lunch and have some extra for dinner – peeps always take some to go, heh.

I suppose it's an ok day today. Construction woke me up again pretty early, but I'd had a super deep sleep with an awesome dream before that. I was in a super high-tech traveling/touring vehicle. It was like the size of two busses long. I was driving around a city and at one point I decided I wanted to go somewhere more interesting. I set the navigation computer to go underground through a lake. (Though it was more the size of a large pool.) After a bit I'd navigated us deep underwater to Atlantis. (Though it wasn't so much a sunken city as it was a city built at the bottom of the ocean.) I pushed some buttons and the vehicle became transparent like glass. There were half a dozen of us in the vehicle as we floated over Atlantis and I showed them the cool features of the city.

I got a nice shower at school; only one other person in there. I'm going to miss my private / quiet shower time once school starts back up. Even my regular pants are a bit tight now. I checked the scale and it seems I'm up to 190 lbs now. 🍌 I guess the all I can eat and other fast food meals, possibly the hot chocolates, are getting to me. Of course I am also not having soups for most meals, as I so rarely have access to a microwave.

I got to Starbucks early, so I got a hot chocolate. (I only get them if I get there super early, otherwise I just wait for lunch.) There was the cute redhead worker in line and I was like, 'lawlz, yer on the wrong side. 😊' We chatted for a bit. I tried to flirt, but she just did friendly person chat and didn't seem at all interested.

I've been doing research on the WiFi slowness with my system and found new drivers. The web seemed a bit snappier, though video still choked badly when streaming. I couldn't really watch Burn Notice, but The Guild buffered and worked ok.

Guess that's it so far. I did non-gaming things this morning so far. I have my raid at the game center which I'll leave for in a bit, but that's all I expect to happen today.

That's it for now. Have to nom and type in Epic Fail. 😊

Week 62

Day 428 - 9/2 Ioling at each other

It's early morning at 8:45. I guess I got up so early that I did a quick shower and it's still super early.

I had an ok time last night, but as usual I didn't gain much in terms of progression, and there was too much noise and stuff to be ideal for me. Funny story; remember how the other day I'd gone back to the default WoW UI because I didn't *really* feel like I needed the changes (with the add-on)? Well, during the raid in the higher resolution at the game center they did seem to have a bigger impact. I decided to go back to X-Pearl. However, and this is the funny part, the newest version is bugged to the point that it generates several errors and several critical game features don't work at all, heh. So, if I want to go back I'll have to use the old version or wait for an update. (One of the reasons I stopped using it was for bugs.) I'll probably wait a few weeks and see if it gets updated or if news about Blizzard UI changes are announced. Really I just need four changes that are not critical but would be helpful to have.

That's all so far really, just catching things up from last night. I have the smallest shift ever today; 2.5 hours. Can you believe that? That may be great for a teen who lives close by, but for me... not so much. It will take like 20-30 minutes each way because of traffic, plus a couple of minutes to change. So lame. 🙄

I'm not sure what I'll do about lunch and dinner today with no micro access. I guess I'll just get \$1 fast food items. That's as cheap as cheap soup, but terrible for my system. Maybe I'll get stuff to make a sandwich, but that's \$2-3, so it's quite a bit more. Plus, if it gets hot, and it's already a bit warm, lunch meat won't last long in the car.

Well, the day will bring what it brings I guess. Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

Just finished a \$1 fast food lunch. It must be around 12:15 because the lunch raiders are starting to meander back to school. It's a pretty warm day and most peeps are smiling and happy. I miss that security and certainty that 'this is your place in life until x time' that high school has. So much of life after isn't guaranteed or secure.

There have been some British sounding soccer players around lately. They must be doing some kind of expo or tour locally. How fun would that be to be on a pro team in another country? Pro gamers do that sometimes, but I doubt I'll make it on to a pro team mostly due to my limitations in terms of being able to play (due to needing to work), but also a bit due to age. Maybe when I win my millions I'll do it for fun/challenge. 😊

I suppose it's an ok day all things considered. I'd rather have too little work with very little work stress and plenty of time to look for other work / go to interviews than I would too much work and too much stress and no time to really look or do interviews.

I'm so tired lately. I feel like if I closed my eyes I'd zonk right out. It's not that I can't, but with work in a few hours I probably shouldn't.

Guess that's it for now. Pretty standard day for me lately. Plodding along one inch per day at a time.

Time passes

I kind of flirted with some girls. 😍 I was at Starbucks doing some wireless gaming and there were about three girls sitting outside one table away from me. Just the glass separates them from my side and they are about 3' away. The girls were super hawt and attractive and the inside guy directly next to them seemed like he was staring at them. But he was on the phone and his computer, so he was more staring through them. The girls were being silly and doing funny things to see if the guy (who was kind of staring through them and creeping them out) would notice. Meanwhile I would peek over now and then at their hawtness. Normal peeking at cuties not in a staring way stuff. So, they would do something silly, then lol at the guy for not noticing. Then I'd lol at them because I caught them being silly, and they'd lol at me for catching them. They did several silly things over the course of a few hours. 😊 One of the cutest ones would blush extra red when I caught her. 😊 Before they left one came in to pee and as she passed me she said 'hi 😊 hehe'. As she passed by she gently touched my shoulder to scootch past the chairs. I suppose I could have asked if she/they were single and might be interested. That certainly was an opening. 😍 Sadly they were smoking bascially the entire time. 🤢 I'm allergic and cough horribly when anyone has smoked recently near me. There is no way I could date someone who is a smoker. (Yes, I know for sure. My ex-wife was a light smoker trying to quit and even the 2-3 she had during the entire day was noticable.)

So... it was nice to flirt again. 😏 Even if it was sort of in-directly through a glass just lolling mutually at how oblivious this guy was. (Though I think he must have known at least one of them.) It does make me sad they didn't actually approach me – though they were all totally pretty enough to have guys that make way too much money – and it does make me sad that in elebentybillion years my first sort of real flirting (girls at me) were hazardous to my health to the point that I couldn't ask them out.

Ah well. I'm sure there is a sweetie out there for me. And if one of those cuties is for me then I'm sure Fate will have us cross paths again.

Day 429 - 9/3

Still warm

It's pretty early at mini work at about 11. I was super hungry so I just finished my lunch soup. There was some cake here from the other day, so I'm nomming a small piece of that. 😋

It's already pretty warm. I've got shorts and my work t-shirt on with a fan blowing on me on low and I'm still a touch towards sweaty.

I may go to the game center for a bit today to stay out of the heat and to have access to a micro. The Starbucks has AC too (it's almost always *too* cold there). I haven't fully decided. It would be the same cost as a fast food meal if I went; not expensive, because some time is on my account, but not super cheap. It would be medium cost at around \$5 for like five hours. If I get hungrier I'm more likely to go as I already have soups ready to go.

It's so lame this is what my days have come to – figuring out what is cheapest to eat and stay out of the heat to kill time until job board posts refresh. Things could be worse though. For now I plod on.

Day 430 - 9/4

Waving hi

I feel... odd today. It's probably just poor car sleep. I've got a bad headache, neck cramps, back soreness, and I'm tired. It's lunch raid time, so I'm nomming lunch and took some pain meds.

I had a thought today; if I don't forget I'll ask the friendly gym peep if he gets an employee discount at Sony on laptops. If he's got a big enough discount a couple of system models could be cheap enough for me to afford. I could upgrade to a gaming capable system, possibly one with high-res and a Blu-ray player. I guess we'll see. He'll probably have to research prices he gets and get back to me. With a gaming capable system I could greatly reduce the cost of my visits for gaming, as I could do it wirelessly on a \$10 day pass, which is what I spend now for a 4-hour visit. Or, I could simply play wirelessly from Starbucks (provided lag ins't terrible, which some days it is, some days it isn't.) Well, we'll have to see what options there are if/when he gets me his discounted prices. I expect it is unlikely as he'd need to have like 40% or more off of the web site listed prices for me to consider doing an upgrade, otherwise it would just be too expensive of a change.

Not sure what else to say. Less than 2 hours until I'm off to a super mini 2.5 hour shift, then my normal 5 hour gym shift. I'm looking forward to having Saturday/Sunday off. But, as usual, what fun I can have with be pretty limited. But still, there will be *some* fun, so that's something.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

It's time for dinner during gym mini work. When I was leaving for work earlier I saw three of the (silly) hawt girls from the other day. They saw me and the one who said hi before waved at me through the window and was like 'hi 😊 *wave*'. I was like '😊 *wave*' I was shocked she like said hi to me (through the window). She's so beautiful and attractive. 😊 Sadly though she's a pretty heavy smoker, so I couldn't ever date her. 😞 I'd be like '*nuzzle* *sniff* 🤢' And that's no good, but you never know. She makes

me smiley and there is a chemistry there when I see her, so that's always at least good to be reminded that can be out there for me. 😊

Well, dinner and more work time. Bye for now. 😊

Day 431 - 9/5

Lost little inchworm

It's way too early in the morning at just past 8. I couldn't sleep at the school sleeping spot for some reason. There was a pretty high level of campus patrol activity today. They have this flea market on the first Saturday of the month, so that was going on. (Though I was in what would have been an overflow lot, so I wouldn't really have been disturbed for a while.) But, I think the increased patrol activity was due to the power being out. For some reason the power was out yesterday, possibly the day before, and today they didn't even have the emergency backup lights.

I don't really know what will happen today, if anything. I'll be wireless all day since I have no work. I will probably get a pizza, as I have a coupon for 50% off a large. That will cut the price down to about \$7-8 and with that being 3-4 meals that becomes super cheap nom. 😊

Oh, I asked about the nice person's discount, but apparently his discount is less than 5% on laptops. Since most parts are created by other companies and they just put the system together their profit is almost zero on laptops (which kind of surprises me.) He said that the guys he works with get the best deals outside of the company by just waiting for sales or checking on good Amazon deals. So I guess if I were to consider it we are back to holding on to money and seeing how things look closer to the end of the year.

I still hold hope every day that I won't need to consider upgrading to a gaming laptop to really game, that I'll be in a home and can instead look at upgrading what is now reaching a five year old system core with a three year old graphics card.

It still seems like positive change will need to come from outside; someone helping me find a job, a loving sweetie, new friends, a book deal to publish Epic Fail in print form (though it's unabridged form likely lacks mass appeal; huge wall of text!),

winning some lottery money, etc. As usual lately it seems that without help, without a sudden and unexpected change from Fate, that I will continue to plod along inch by inch seemingly gaining very little towards real recovery or true happiness.

Time passes

It's considerably after lunch; I think sometime after 1:45 but before 2. I decided to run a test while I was at Round Table. They have a secure WiFi and last time I was there someone gave me the code to access it. It is considerably faster than Starbucks at 130 whatevers compared to 54. If I recall the school library and most other places are at the 54 speed as well. So it seems that my netbook's WiFi *can* go a lot faster and be a lot more stable. I watched some shows to test it out. I noticed Eureka is on again after being off the air for about a full year. I didn't think it was coming back, so I wasn't looking for it, and I guess I've missed about three episodes I can't catch up on (until they come out on DVD.) I also found a new show called Warehouse 13. I only watched one episode and I've come in to it mid-season so there is a lot I've missed. It seems sort of like a new school Friday The 13th The Series.

I think, at least until school is open again, I'll try to input Epic Fail before Tuesday so that I can watch shows while I'm there. It's not like Starbucks where I can just hang out there all the time. I mean the people seem nice enough that I probably could, but it's not that kind of place.

It seems so weird to be all miffed about missing out on new sci-fi shows, but it something which defines me. Yes, nomming pizza and surfing the Internet on my netbook at the same time is a far cry from starving to death from lack of food in an African desert (which so many are) but it is something that defines me. I play my games. I watch my Blu-ray movies. I watch my sci-fi (and comedy) shows. But now that I can't, now that these activities are restricted, I feel... a bit lost and a bit sad, all the time.

Time passes

Welp, it's nearing 9 and my day is basically over. I saw a few of the beautiful smoker girls again. 😊 Two of them (independantly) smiled and blushed/waved at me again. 😊 One was the one I seem to have a chemistry with. The other I also have a bit of chemistry with, but not quite as much. On the condition that they would give up smoking I'd date either in a heartbeat. 😊 Though a lot younger I may have actually asked them in

already had they been non-smokers. (Ask them "in" as opposed to "out" because I can't afford out. Plus, I do much better "in" being a decent cook and liking movies and all.) They were being a bit silly again today, hehe. I think the two who are usually there must be sisters or cousins. They look related but about 5 years apart. I think one is under 20 and the other is in her early to mid 20s. They had a guy join them today, probably in his early 20s. I'm not quite sure about what ethnicity they are, but they seem to just have friends who are their ethnicity. If I were to guess I'd guess middle-eastern, Egyptian, or Greek. They have had a few items with Sanskrit looking type writing which I'm not familiar with. Anyways, they seemed flirty at the boy. He may have been with the third girl (one who didn't wave/blush at me.) Doubt anything will happen there what with my being allergic, but it's nice to know they still say hi and lol at/with me through the window. 😊

Though gimped I had a lot of fun in my game today. I played a ton, even with the show watching. Hum, probably over eight hours total. Not at all unusual for me back in the day, but lately I seem to be more into 4-6 hour play days. Of course I really don't have anything else to do on weekends. The boards, both for fun and job, are so dead they are hardly even worth checking.

Tomorrow will be a big day in a manner of speaking... provided I don't forget or change my mind. What with Intel's new socket rumored for release on Wednesday I will go through my recommended systems and do all the AMD systems now and as much of the Intel ones as I can prepare. I figure I can do that and a sort of paperwork thing for the next system generation and be about 85% done with it before Wednesday. That way I can just plug in those final bits and drop it onto the web. 😊

I was thinking of 'going global' with the system recommendations, but I think that will have to wait a bit. Sites not in the U.S. tend to take a while to load as it is, so I wouldn't want to try it wirelessly. As much as those recommendations may help Canada, England, and probably Germany, it will require system builds that take into account the availability and price breakouts of all the areas. That kind of comparison would best be done in multiple windows, an arrangement which would be very difficult on the netbook's small size.

I guess that's all. Nothing too exciting I'm sure. A bit of sort of flirting, which *is* very exciting, but I'm sure will pass in time. I'm grateful to have it and my gaming and

shows. I certainly wouldn't have that interaction if I had enough money to be in a home. But then if I did have a home would it really be a benefit to spend hours upon hours not at home to try and force such situations to happen? I doubt it.

Night peeps. Hope everyone is having a good long weekend. 😊

Day 432 - 9/6

Getting the site ready

It's a bit later in the day at 4:30. Today has been... unusual. I got up at my weekend 7:00 time but I didn't get more rest at the school spot. It looked like power was still down at the school so I decided to pass on staying. I figured there would be patrols and all.

I grabbed a doughnut for breakfast and spent the next four hours working on getting the changes for my site ready for Intel's socket 1156. After I nommed lunch, played, and now we are here.

The cute redhead (that works at the shop) said hi, and bye to me when she got off shift. But again I think it was just a regular friendliness, not a flirting kind of friendliness.

Not sure how the rest of my day will go. I'll likely just take a rest/nap in the car for a bit then go back to wireless play.

What I really want is a healthy apple with cheese snack, but that can't happen. Well, maybe it could, but the cheese would be ridiculously expensive due to the kinds I have access to. Right now I'd love nothing more than that and to be able to make a nice dinner with chicken and rice and to watch some TV for a while. Maybe it's because that's what I'd normally do on a weekend. Maybe I want just that because I'm so tired of not doing it.

Today seems like one of those sad days where I wonder if I'll ever be able to really do the things I enjoy again in the way I enjoy them. 😞

Day 433 - 9/7

Passed

At aquatics work at about 2. Things started slow but now it's ok since some people are here. There are laughing/happy sounds. 😊

I got results from the CBEST. I passed. 😊 Apparently I didn't pass by very much though. I got like 43-46 in each section out of a total 80. I don't know how I did so bad though. (Since I'd gotten 85-90% on the practice test.) I felt really positive about it when I was taking it. Well, passing is passing and it's the teaching that really matters. I can re-learn / get better at the material as things go on. Will this change anything? I really don't know. I don't know where to look that I'm not already looking (save for local middle school and maybe high school sites.)

Still here at work for a few more hours so not much is likely to happen today.

Oh, I have decided to try and eat a bit more healthy. What with the homelessness and not having access to a micro while school is closed I've been eating a lot of bad food. I got a grape snack that will last for two snacks, and in the future I'll try and do apples, oranges, or maybe carrots, instead of so much cake and chips. It's difficult though due to cost and because the food goes bad so much faster than junk food. Well, maybe it is at least one small step I can try and do to get back into shape.

I guess that's all for now. One small step for bunnah. 😊

Day 434 - 9/8

Launch

It's about noon, lunch time, and a couple of important things have happened so far.

😊 On the hobby front Intel's socket 1156 has launched, woot! 😊 NewEgg wasn't searchable yet, but they had a few parts up. So they are likely in a state of semi-launch that will be more complete later in the day. I should be able to track down some links and get those on my site after lunch. More importantly I decided to update my resume and check local high schools and middle schools for substitute positions now that I passed the

CBEST. I didn't find any sub openings, but I did find a general office position which had an application closing time of 4 PM today, so that may have very much been the hand of Fate there. 😊

I feel pretty good, but I'm awfully sleepy. School had power, so I did get to sleep in a bit. I took a super long shower and shaved my parts. Besides the one super quick shower, on I think it was Thursday, I haven't had a chance to get cleaned up lately.

phew So, some excitement today so far; product launch, possible job for a me re-launch. That's probably all the excitement for today though, heh. 😊

Time passes

I just finished entering this week's Epic Fail; so much to say this week. I was having a good time at all I can eat pizza watching my shows when something fairly terrible happened. My teeth, which I haven't been able to afford to keep in good shape, have been getting worse and worse through this terrible experience. Not surprisingly one which was extra bad has started to fracture. A good 20% of it broke off and it looks like I'll lose another 10% before too much longer. It actually surprises me that my teeth have been holding up this well what with already being in a very bad state when my homelessness started due to lack of money and insurance from work to cover them. Well, needless to say I now feel super sad, embarrassed, a bit like I'm going to cry because I have no idea how long it will be before I can fix that and that it will just continue to get worse and worse as time goes on.

I've always been one to do a lot of soul searching and pondering what defines me, physically, mentally, and emotionally. These most recent trials seem no different. I change how others define me by jumping through hoops to get various 'proof' that I can do certain things. I wonder if I am still me even though I can't do what I used to do on a regular basis. I wonder if the fact that I have to do things differently makes me different; it certainly makes me feel different. And now, as important pieces of me crumble away I wonder if I am still me as my body deteriorates and ages and goes through changes that can't be undone even when I am back in a home doing things with the frequency and in the manner I used to before this whole ordeal started.

Am I still me? Am I just a shadow of me passing along the ground after the true me has died? Am I a phoenix burning and being reborn far quicker and far more times than I should be?

Week 63

Day 435 - 9/9 Things that are you

My poor anchles are being strangled by my new socks. They are dented from where the stretchy part is because they are too tight. I'll have to start stretching them out like you would a baloon before wearing them to hopefully speed up the acclimation to my size. I guess that and softness contribute to really great socks. I'd never really thought about why I liked one particular type of sock over another.

It's nearing 9:30 at the school spot. I'm sort of waiting a few minutes for someone. She didn't have the \$2 for parking yesterday and she was asking if anyone had change for a \$10. She kind of begged me for the \$2 since I had like \$7.50. I said I probably shouldn't because I was homeless, but I gave her \$2 for parking. It's how I roll. She later found me at my car and said she would pay me back tomorrow when she was here again. (I think she is with yet another unmarked class / training through this week.)

I was talking to an online friend last night about my tooth sad. It made her super sad and she seemed determined to try and find me some help. To my knowledge no such medical help exists (only non-dental stuff does). But you never know, she may find a something. I suppose I have a dumb for not looking for low cost / free services already myself, but I did once upon a time and filed that in the 'no such creature file' and then forgot about it ever since.

Going to be wireless for most of today. I'm on "stand by" for my raid, so I don't know if I'll do that or not. If I don't I'll just do regular group things I can't otherwise do wirelessly. Today will likely be my last visit to the game center for quite a while. My hours on the next two week pay period are rediculously low at 8.5 *total* hours per week. If that continues for long... well... let's just say I'm going to very much be needing those nuts I stored up for winter. Thankfully school will be open again soon, so if necessary I can go back to cheap soups for many of my meals and that will help to cut costs back down again. Plus, with work only two days a week down from 4-5 that should greatly reduce my gas cost.

Well, gonna stop writing. As long as I am still in the world, still looking, still my attractive cute self, still chatting with various people, still contemplating life, we never know what the day could bring.

Time passes

Lunch raid time. I'm nomming some pizza left over from last night. 🤓 I saw my friend/ex-roomie today. We chatted for a bit about her sister. I guess she recently moved back to the area and is local now. My friend/ex-roomie's boyfriend who hates me is going out of town for the weekend so I tentatively have a hang out plan with the friend/ex-roomie, her sis, and her sis' two little ones. (I guess they are like 10 and 8 now?) That should be fun. 😊

My online friend peeps concern prompted me to do some looking around. I left a message with someone who is with people who do free cleaning/x-rays, so maybe she knows of someone who could do major work. I highly doubt I'll get my problems fixed what with probably needing over \$10k worth of work, but, well, maybe there will be someone who would be willing to help me with one or two critical items for super cheap.

Lately I've been thinking a lot about the what-ifs if I could go back to x and do things over again. I really don't think I did anything wrong. Thinking back the important values just weren't put in place by my parents. I was never told *why* I should do this or that. They were just bossy (dad) or ignored (mom) what I did. The parenting and raising is far more important than what the child does. Don't worry about if they are staying out too late. That kind of thing has it's own consequences they can observe. Focus on the unobservable, the long-term things. Don't tell them to 'brush their teeth or else', explain why it's important in terms and consequences they will understand. Tell them you don't want them out with person x, not because you don't trust your child, but because you don't trust the other child. Don't focus on bad grades, but instead focus on what they do well, what they enjoy, and talk about how much easier their lives will be if they do something that they are happy with.

If you are young and reading this take care of your body for you, so all your parts will be good as long as you live. Find a way to take care of yourself and eat right in a way *you* like. Don't just give up because you don't like the way someone else does it. There are so many ways to achieve a goal. Don't worry about work and a career so much as worry

about figuring out what it is that you really enjoy and then find ways to do that. Over time a job or career will become a clear and obvious choice.

Above all be happy and at peace with yourself and those around you. Know what *you* enjoy. Know what defines *you*. Find ways that work for *you* to keep yourself healthy, strong, and in a job that makes you happy by doing those things.

Time passes

I fail at snack buying. I needed some soup type foods for lunch and I got tiny chocolate doughnuts for a snack, heh. I'll probably get something more healthy when I buy whatever it is I'm getting for lunch tomorrow.

I had a meh time at the game center. It wasn't really bad per-say, but grouping with people I don't really know is sad, particularly on nights like tonight when I gain so little. I don't really know how often I'll go back. I know I keep saying I'm not so interested, that I'd rather just play in a more controlled environment on my netbook; yet I keep going back. This time though it's more about the people. So much of a good or bad experience relies on the people. It's why I think larger servers are really kind of counter productive to a game. Yes, it increases the chance to find groups, but it decreases the frequency with which people run into one another. Back in the day with EQ the servers were pretty small and I'd often see the same people. It made for what I felt was a lot stronger community. It's like the difference between a single classroom of people compared to an entire shopping mall. With the smaller group you know more people. People seem friendlier even if they are just seeing each other regularly in passing. With the newer games I just don't feel that connection. Yes, that's what guilds are for but there are so many. And, even they can feel unwelcoming due to not seeing the same people regularly.

Maybe it's just more of my loneliness within a big world creeping in, but I'm starting to feel more and more lost in more and more places.

Day 436 - 9/10

Isolation, unwelcome, and changes

Time for lunch; yeeaaaa lunch. 🍷 I'm eating super healthy to counter the bad mini doughnut snack I got. I got grapes, roast beef, and crackers. 🍷

I did some calls for dental stuff and that's not going to happen. "Low income" discount ranges from 50% for light work to 0% on major work, which is what I need done. So, as expected, I have to continue to wait until I get a "real job" and get coverage through their. (Which is typically around 80% if I recall.) We soooo need socialized medicine here in the states so people like me don't develop irrational fears of dentists - being pushed in and out of offices as fast as possible with no information or choices on procedures being done does not foster a feeling of trust, value, care, concern, or answer why the fees are what they are. The people who need the most help can't get it. It's simply too far out o freach.

Mmmm super yummy, healthy, picnic style lunch is win. 🍷

Can't think of what else to say. *cough* 🤮 Smoker is like 25 feet from me, ick!

It seems, for the most part in my travels, that the older people get (until they hit "old age") the less likely they are to be with others. Teens and college people have friends and travel in groups, but (working) adults are almost always single. I almost never see adults going to lunch together. (It seems day laborers / construction people are really the only ones who do.) At aquatics mini work that's pretty much true as well. Even when going to movies they are mostly paired if adult age, lunch it seems even more obvious. Is it an effect of my area? The fact that they get jobs too far apart from one another? Or simply that the sad truth is that as we grow up (at least here in the states) there is a greater and greater migration towards solitude and egocentrism than when we are young. Mind you it's a different kind of egocentrism than in youth. In youth it's more about perspective and understanding, while in adulthood there seems to be an egocentrism focused around isolation and needing to feel like we must do things alone.

I was talking with an online friend yesterday about something like that. She had a sad because her boyfriend didn't include her in an activity he was doing. He didn't get how it was important to her to be included. This isn't uncommon, particularly for males.

So much in adult life we are expected to do things ourselves, to move forward in ways that get us the most gain and we are seemingly punished or left out in some way if we aren't selfish.

Like with my site. I update and post for the love of the hobby. Sure, in a way it's like a glorified note to myself, hehe, but everyone benefits. This is totally opposite to pretty much everyone. Almost every other site has obvious or hidden agenda - be that advertising or sponsorship. Sure, the people who work on the site may love doing it, but they still get some fame and money through ads and sponsors allowing them to have a much broader reach. Would they still do it if they suddenly lost all income? If they were told that their work won't be able to further their careers in any way? I very much doubt it.

Anyways, mostly rambling I guess. I guess I just feel - as I've always felt - that the world would be a lot better place with less greed and an increased concern for helping others as much as possible. There is far more to be gained from cooperation and an open dialog than by competition and secrets.

Time passes

Having a snack; Tummy is hungry.

I was having fun with my online friend and I overheard the manager person (at the Starbucks I play wirelessly from) talking to the friendly worker guy who waved at me the other day. I didn't hear clearly, but I heard something about what sounded like he was commenting about "being on the network for more than two hours". It probably caught my attention because from his perspective I'd been there for over two hours and hadn't bought anything. He wasn't there in the morning at 10 when the girls were who know me and I got my hot chocolate. So, I don't know if he was talking about me, or talking about something else, some other kind of network, or what. It would be sad if he was talking about me and I was unwelcome there. 😞 There is one other local shop and I could bounce between them (there used to be two others), but it would be sad if I were unwelcome now. If I see the friendly worker guy again soon I'll ask.

That would be sad if that were the case. It's not like I use up space that's needed. Often times during the day I'm the only one in there and I do leave during the very busy lunch limer. I suppose it's ok. There is this weekend, next week, and next weekend, and then school is open again. I can't game from school, so there isn't much to keep my

attention / distract me from my sad other than my shows, but it will be easier to cut my play time down to just being after 7.

So now I'm sad. Somewhere that I thought I might be kind of welcome because the peeps were friendly towards me may turn out I'm secretly unwelcome.

I guess I'll go to the shop near school, or maybe just do some stuff offline in the lockerroom on campus for a bit. I have a sad, and feel unwelcome, and don't feel like being around people I'm normally around right now. 😞

Day 437 - 9/11

Smashed in the face

Upset and sad right now. I'm at gym mini work and I was trying to fix something that's been broken here and I smashed myself in the face. It's really dumb they haven't fixed that. If it wasn't me it would be someone else. So now I'm made and upset and feel sick. I suppose it will be ok. It's still normal color, but it is on my orbital bone near my right eye, which is a super fragile bone, so I'm worried. (Looking this up later it seems that it is not the orbital bone, which is actually the eye socket, but the "Zygomatic bone".)

Pretty regular day outside of that. I wish so much that I had a regular job with a regular home and regular friends/sweetie. 😞

Day 438 - 9/12

Farewell to summer

So much construction today. I wasn't expecting that. I did sleep ok though at the school spot until just after 9. It's nearing 9:45 now and I just had a long shower. 😊

It rained last night. Not a sprinkle, but not enough to actually wash off my car (which it desperately needs); Maybe a 10 minute sprinkle total.

Where has summer gone? A second homeless summer has come and gone. So much is being renewed; kids at my work are going back to college, kids here on sport

teams are starting to practice, high schools and middle schools have already started, yet so much is collapsing. My friend/ex-roomie that I'll be visiting later said everyone at her company (which is small, maybe a dozen people) took a 15% temporary pay cut so no one would have to be let go. Her boyfriend who hates me still hasn't found a new job for what seems like a year now. The nice person I talked to at Wing Stop before, whose name I think is Mike, was saying they don't get paid anywhere near what they should for the number of hours they work. What is going on to cause this? It seems like it's not ever going to get better. People say "the economy", but for those of us who aren't economists what does that *really* mean? Is it that person A doesn't buy goods, so person B and C don't get work hours and so on? Someone, somewhere, has to still be making money. If it's that no one has any to spend and so everything keeps going lower and lower, well that doesn't seem like anything that will change anytime soon. That sounds like something that could take years, maybe even a decade to fix. Seems to me that people will need to find ways out. This seems the perfect time to adopt more communal/socialist views on things (for those of us in countries like the U.S. who aren't already). Now, more than ever, it seems the time for those who do have resources to be kind and to share them with others who don't or who have very limited resources. I think the only way we will come out of it is together, yet it also seems that no one wants to act together and that in their fear they are still hoarding what they have.

Time passes

Lunch time, sort of a picnic in my car again. I dropped off a bread and cupcakes for the hangout/party at the ex-house. Yeeeeaaaaa for cupcakes. 🥰 I can't remember the last time I had them. Weather disallows most foods for about 75% of the year. (Of course, the fact that they are sold in 6-packs (or more) has a bit to do with it as well.) I'd kind of forgotten that fact with the mini doughnuts. They got all melted and ewww by the next day. I still have them, but, bleh.

Sitting in the parking lot at the tennis park. There are people with balloons, people doing parties, volleyball, a bouncy room thing; it's fairly quiet and there is a cool / fresh smelling breeze. It seems so odd to have so much more than other parts of the world while homeless here, yet compared to 99.5% of everyone around me I'm poorer than the poorest person here.

I can see how easy it is for everyone to forget the world and become wrapped up in just their own lives. If you don't watch or read news your "world" consists of only the surrounding 50 or so mile radius around where you live. It doesn't matter how many are in a desert starving, or who is bombing whom, who live without a constant smell of destruction or factories, have no playgrounds, no safety; all you see are those immediately around you. But then does it matter that most don't? Yes, we can certainly learn of the plight of others, but what can we really *do* about it? Even with wealth and power could real change really occur? Or would it require such radical restructuring and change that noone would accept it?

I will almost certainly be back on my feet and match those around me, but I likely will not live long enough to see any society really change. Sadly we seem to all be too stubborn, self-centered, or feel too helpless (and genuinely are) to affect real change. Real change will have to come from ideas, and emotion acting upon those ideas. I hope we, as a people, have it within us to do so. We certainly do as individuals, but are we strong enough as a society?

Day 439 - 9/13

Chilled cupcakes; Flooded

It's pretty early around 9. I slept ok all things considered. I drank too much soda yesterday, something I sometimes do to counteract my allergies since I don't have medicine, so I had trouble sleeping before 2 AM. Also, I couldn't sleep in the school sleeping spot because there was some fund raising jogging event going on. (It ends at noon, so I may try for a shower later in the day.)

I had a good time with my friend/ex-roomie and her sis and her kids. I took over bread and cupcakes to put in the fridge to chill around 2:30 to be sure I could get them. (Cupcakes and other cake things are usually gone if you wait too late in the day.) The 'party' didn't start until 4:30, so I had to leave again. I came back at 4:30 and basically just hung out with my friend/ex-roomie while she played WoW. Her sis called around 5:30 saying she couldn't find the key to their car (she just moved to the area, so she is borrowing one of their cars.) We had to go over to take her a key. We did a quick tour of

their new place. (I'd guess the place was about 40 years old with 25-30 year old carpets / wall paneling; Though the property is much older, dating back to farming days.) We didn't get back to the ex-house until around 6:30. It took until about 7:15 for her sis to get the key made, so we were getting dinner ready and just playing with her kitties until then. They are so huge now. 🤗 We ate, watched a kids movie, then the kids went into a back room and watched shows on the Internet while 'the adults' watched Supernatural. Her sis was in the middle of last season, so they were all shows I'd seen, but the new one started last week, so I've got that to look forward to once I'm at a connection I can watch shows again. 🤗

It was weird being back in the place I'd lived at so long, doing laundry, having BBQ, and watching shows with the friend/ex-roomie like I used to. Besides my room being my ex-room now nothing really has changed in the last 1.25 years.

I didn't stay the night; wasn't invited, nor was I invited to come back today when her sis and kids come back for another visit. But I guess it's ok. I was pretty allergic to the kitties. Though I wasn't super bad, I wasn't actively sneezing or anything, I was a bit weazy and glad to be in my (mostly) allergy free car when I was going to sleep.

Such a simple life; playing games, watching my movies and shows, making a nice dinner now and then. Yet, still I continue to lack the opportunity to have it.

I don't know what the day will bring, but it seems warm and I feel positive and hopeful. I'll likely wind up doing nothing more than going to play wirelessly at one location (avoiding the one I'd previously been at where I may no longer be welcome), seeing if I can take a shower, play wirelessly at a different location, and killing about 4-6 hours at random parts throughout the day.

Well, off I go. K thx bye. 🤗

Time passes

It's a few minutes after 7 and my day is basically over. In a bit I'll go get something for dinner, but now I'm chilling in my car for a bit. It's chilly and actually has been raining for a short while. It couldn't have been for long because my car is still dirty. I expect though that before the night is over it will be clean.

As far as days go, I suppose it wasn't terrible. I slept ok, played my game for a bit, took a moderately cold shower (hot wasn't working), had a fairly healthy lunch, played a bit more, and now I'm just chilling a bit in the car.

Things have played out so I'll be bouncing between locations again. I won't be staying anywhere more than three hours. Once school starts things will go back to their 'be at school almost all the time save for when I'm at work', so in a week it will really be a non-issue. But it's sad. I seem to keep going from feeling somewhat secure in an area and then getting a scare and feeling insecure or unwelcome and needing to move on. I mean I'm homeless and all, yeah, so I guess there really isn't anywhere out in the world that really wants me around for much more than a few hours. But still, it would be nice if there were.

How strange... sitting here in the mostly dark evening light, with the rain coming down, I suddenly got an overwhelming feeling: it was near to X-mas, and I was about to dash out of the car (a much nicer one than the one I'm in), through the rain, and go in to the store (not these stores or this shopping center) to buy myself and my friends lots of fun movies. I have lots of money, so price doesn't matter. (Blu-ray are much more expensive in physical stores than they are online.) And it is close enough to a party at someone's house that the gifts would be unwrapped in only a few days, yet it is far enough from X-mas that I'd be able to get everything on my list without fear of them being out of stock.

Just a passing wish? A flash of X-mas future? If I won money or found an amazing job such a vision (to match the clothing, car, and emotional feelings I felt) certainly could come true. Just my imagination? As I've "grown up" ever since my mom died when I was 12 such imagination and fantasy has become more and more rare. Such strong feelings/vision is almost unheard of for years at a time.

Like chilled cupcakes the vision/fantasy seems like something that could only come true in fairy tales these days, something I alone can not accomplish. But, wishes can come true. And when such things are only a matter of money, they come true for lots of people every day - why not me too?

Time passes

Well, I seem to be flooded. Here I was enjoying a movie for teh cheap and my feet feel a wet. I investigate and it seems in the corner of the window I've got a major leak. My

cloths bag bottom is wet, my pants at the bottom are somewhat wet, and there is no way I can sleep in the passenger side where I normally sleep while it's raining. If it stops I could dry it out enough, but as long as it rains it will continue to leak where my feet go. I don't know how I'll sleep tonight. And I have no idea how long or how much this will take to fix. I left a message with the shop that did the work and if they don't offer to inspect and fix it in the next few days saying I will go ballistic would be putting it lightly. I've nowhere dry to sleep with this happening unless I completely rearrange my car and sleep in a very cramped manner. I have no choice, so that's what I'll do tonight, but I don't know what I'll do in the coming rainy days. 😞

Day 440 - 9/14

Folded

Pretty good day so far I think. Last night I had to spend nearly the entire night folded into an L shape due to the leak. It stopped pretty early in the night and by morning it was mostly dried in that section (due to my having those plastic mats there). What was left over I wiped up before moving to the school sleeping spot. After, I got there I got a few more hours of (construction in the background) sleep. I didn't have much time after getting up before aquatics mini work, so I just hopped into the shower. When I got here one of the nicer bosses asked about my bump, as have several customers, so it's like 'yeeaaaa, peeps worry if I'm ok. 😊'

I put in a call to the fix it shop and the guy who answered the phone remembered me/my car. 😊 He said to bring the car in and they'll fix me right up. So, yea, should be no problem there. I'll go do that immediately after work gets out. It actually works out better to go from work as it's a little easier to get to from here since I can hop on to a different freeway instead of driving through the city.

I may go spend a tiny bit (\$5) at the game center after that. I haven't decided yet and it will likely depend on when everything is settled from my window leak.

That's it so far, but so far it seems like a positive day.

Day 441 - 9/15

Windshield sealed

It's just after 10:15 at the repair shop. I'll be chilling here for a few hours while the guy does the re-sealing and it dries. I'm chilling in their break room. It's a touch loud 'cause it's next to machine stuff, but they have a micro and a TV. 🤔 I'll enter Epic Fail and when I know it's clear I may even watch some TV.

That's all for now. 😊

Time passes

The day has gone somewhat differently. The guy sealed the window in a different way that didn't require taking it off again, so that was done and I had eaten lunch and left by just after 11. It's now 6 at all I can nom pizza. Again I've had a double helping of salad, which is probably only the size of a normal person's salad, and will be having less pizza than I used to. All-in-all it will still be a bit more than I normally eat for any meal, but seeing as I will be eating soups for almost all the rest of my meals I think it's ok. It bulks me up on healthy foods I don't normally have access to, and gets me some tasty pizza nom. In the future, since I'll have class at this time, I'll probably stop by and do this at lunch every now and then. It may be every week, but I don't know. I may go to less frequently than that to save money and all.

I did some looking around on the web today and have re-joined a forum I left long ago. It's for The Secret World, which has finally gotten some real/solid news out about it. The game was announced... I don't know when. I'd have to guess back sometime about 1.5 years ago, but there wasn't really much news about it. It seems now news is finally starting to trickle out, though it is still pretty early in development. Hopefully, like with all the other games I want to play coming in the coming days, I'll be re-established in a home with a new system so that I can really enjoy it.

I guess that's it for my day. I'll be watching some shows and posting this week's Epic Fail, but I don't expect anything else to happen. I'll be staying here until my night is over and I go to my sleeping spot, so nothing interesting is likely to happen. Though I suppose these days, what with my busted up eye, my still swollen/cut tongue from the

tooth shattering, my car leak, I suppose these days nothing else happening may be preferable.

K thx bye. 😊

Day 442 - 9/16 A feast, of sorts

Lunch time; left over pizza. 🍕 At the end of the night last night (hours after all you can eat ended) I saw a friend of one of the workers collecting up the leftovers into a box. It's awesome they don't waste it. It was more than a whole large. I guess I won't feel bad about taking a few pieces for my lunch, heh.

I'm outside of the "food court" here at the local mall. Someone mentioned they have the best and most stable wireless around. I'd forgotten though that without power I'll only have a few hours, so we'll see what is what soon enough I guess.

I took a shower then checked boards. The job boards are still as dead and quiet as ever. I played for a bit wirelessly with a friend, and updated my site a tiny bit. I feel pretty positive about the day and I'm looking forward to class next week. Though, I'd still prefer the greater level of depression from not getting any nibbles on the many job applications I'm putting out over an almost depression free inability to even apply due to lack of job postings.

I'm parked next to a Smart car. They are so tiny and cute. I see them pretty frequently these days. I'd totally consider getting one if I were looking for a new car. I was buying some foods with a contest entry for them not too long ago, but sadly I didn't win. I've never been a big car guy. I'm more of a style guy. I prefer the tiny and cute cars or little sporty cars over the bigger or muscle cars. Those SUVs, forget about it; Huge and ugly if you ask me. Even the smaller SUVs are like eeewww. I guess if you've got a family or if you need it for outdoor camping stuff it would be ok though. I wonder how many can really pick the car they want? Like just go out and get what they want even if it's a bit older or used. I think I've only met one person ever who was like, 'yeah, I picked this car and I love it.' Oh, and my friend/ex-roomie, so I guess two people ever.

Anyways... rambling. Not sure if I'll have anything interesting to say today. 😊

Time passes

I had an ok day today. It's after 6:45 and things are winding down.

The mall connection is really good and I found a place to sit and have power, so I may do that more in the future. I didn't check video watching, but it was pretty empty in there and pretty quiet, so I expect it's fine. Weekends it will probably be too busy to be quiet, but we'll see I guess. Playing wirelessly was good. There was only a few bad lag/disconnect points. If my laptop were gamer grade I'd do just fine there. The netbook did pretty ok though, and due to the stronger connection I tried doing some stuff I normally can't wirelessly. It did fair.

I had a pretty bad headache, still do, so I got a fancy dinner. I got some chicken strips from the store (which I shouldn't be eating anymore what with my tummy not being ok with fried foods), some will be left over for lunch, some grapes, some Wing Stop fries (lightly seasoned this time), and one of those single serving apple pies for dessert. More than I should probably spend, but I figure if the headache is food related this should fix it.

Oh, I also got the new Wolverine movie from the kiosk for \$1, so hopefully that will be fun and not scratched up since it came out like yesterday or today.

That's all for now. 😊

Time passes

It's just past 9:15 and I'm feeling better now. My headache is mostly gone and I have a super full tummy (probably too much so, heh.) I wanted to talk a bit about Epic Fail. (I didn't earlier due to my headache and stuff.) My online friend had a sad earlier and she cried. 😞 In part due to just lots of stuff going on in her life, but also in part because of things and perspectives that Epic Fail has made her consider. Note that it is not directly my intent to make peopl sad or cry with these ramblings, only to make you feel and consider your lives, the lives of others, and your position in the world. I hope that Epic Fail serves as a reminder to never forget what is *really* important. For many of us our position is quite a bit higher than we consider it to be. We get accustomed to what we have, and we expect and feel we deserve these things. Everyone deserves a great many things, but we should also remember we may already have a great many things that others do not; nice foods, shelter, a family, love, friends, etc. We must never be in a position to forget how rare and precious these things are – to never become complacant and take them for granted.


I think I've said this before but it is my hopes that Epic Fail serves as a reminder to everyone. Know what it is that makes you happy, but also acknowledge what makes

others happy, what used to make you happy that you may have forgotten about.

Acknowledge the things that may be very very small, but are actually very important. But above all remember that life is so very precious and fragile. You don't have to be sad that it is that way, it just is. Just be mindful to try and remember that all of the time because so very many things can be lost at any moment.

Day 443 - 9/17

Space invader

Lunch time. I'm not sure what to say, as today has been uneventful so far. Oh, someone did reference my site on a board where someone had asked for system advice, so that's always nice to see.  I did some board checking and played wirelessly a bit so far, had a shower too, but that's it really. I've moved to the mall where I'll do more wirelessly and then later today I've got a dumb work meeting, so I'll probably do my laundry before that since it's in the area. I'm considering going to a movie tonight since Thursday is cheap movie night. I've got the free coupon too, so I could use that whenever. I guess what happens tonight happens. I've got no plans, and with these being the final days before school classes start my routine will be changing.

I'm tired. I've noticed I really only have three states lately; awake, asleep, and exhausted. I really can't remember a time while homeless where my body had that sleepy winding down slowness you get when you are sleepy tired or after just waking up. I don't get that anymore. I'm awake one minute, then I'll be asleep. And if something startles me or my alarm goes off I'm awake again. I guess it has to do with safety. You can only really be tired and listless if you are somewhere safe. I don't have that. I mean, sure, I live in an area where realistically I should never have to worry about being physically attacked or having stuff swollen, but it's not the same feelings of safety and security you get in a home. There is no soft bed to curl up in, no chair to settle in to while watching TV, no controlled environment around my computer to ease myself in to. All the space around me outside of my car is not my space and I am the invader.

Day 444 - 9/18

Doesn't feel right

It's just after 5:30 at gym mini work. I spent most of today at the mall playing wirelessly. I keep forgetting to check the mileage, but whatever it is way more than even the cheaper hourly rate at the game center. There are, of course, advantages and disadvantages to each, but for now the mall wins by a fair margin.

I took my keyboard and gamer mouse to hook up while playing, but the keyboard was way too large for the space, and the mouse just didn't feel right. The mouse is fine with the larger system, but now when I use it with the netbook it seems far too large – bulky and slow despite its lighter weight compared to other gaming mice and vastly higher DPI than the laptop mouse.

The meeting yesterday was dumb. It took around 4x as much time on the road driving as I spent actually at the meeting. It could have easily been done by email or new school webcast video style. The new gym boss wants to impliment new rules. Some are ok, I'm fine with them, but there are others that just are a waste of everyone's time and that make no sense since the visitors will not likely obey those rules. I don't recall when I talked about it, but this is one of those times you question why the rule exists. I understand why she is doing the changes, but the implimentation is fail and noone will follow them. It seems like since she took over aquatics at the start of summer, and now the gym about a month ago, she's making changes for the sake of change - to make it appear like she is a good boss because she is "making changes".

Well, dinner is ready and my movies for teh cheap await. 😊

Day 445 - 9/19

Surprise fun

It's nearing 10 and I don't know what I'll do today. I'll go get lunch foods after I write then go to the mall to play wirelessly until just before they close at 5. After that I've no clue what I'll do. That will be about 6+ hours of play which is usually enough for me (in WoW) on the weekend if I'm not raiding. In a home I'd take a break after, do other

things, then probably watch a movie or play different games. But right now WoW and my two single player off-line casual games are really my only options for games. There are three to a half dozen I could play if I had a gamer grade system, but I don't. They are getting cheaper though and I fully expect a good one to be on sale around X-mas at \$700 or so, but I'll have no money unless things change. I've got a decent savings amount now but after paying for car insurance for the year and taxes that I owe it's back at zero. By the end of the year all I saved up will be gone again.

I live. I eat enough. I sleep pretty good. My allergies are pretty bad and I'm congested a lot lately, but I'm mostly ok. Day by day I wonder; are these changes, classes, and setbacks towards certificates really helping? Or am I plodding away not really going anywhere? Most of the time I feel – despite my gains – that recovery is still slipping further and further away.

Time passes

It's late, or early depending, at just after 1:15 in the morning. I got a surprise email invite from my friend/ex-roomie to hang out with her and her sis+kids. The boyfriend who hates me is out of town today and Sunday morning. So, from about 10 to 4 I was playing wirelessly at the mall. I'd actually gotten a few compliments on my tanking. 😊 Which are even more cool to hear since the netbook and wireless connection both gimp my ability / reaction speed by a bit. At 4 I went to buy food for cooking for dinner and to pick up the friend/ex-roomie's sis and kids. We got back to the ex-house just after 5. We watched a few kid friendly movies then watched some True Blood. I'm a touch wheezy now, so I know I won't sleep for a bit, so I thought I'd jot down my day.

During the night I did make a few trips to my ex-room. It was super sad. I almost cried. I was thinking back about I had my bed set up, where my computer was, where my movies went. It felt like I could turn the corner to go from the bathroom or kitchen and there would be my stuff with a game running on my computer waiting for me to get back. Mostly though it seemed abandoned... lost... like something that lost its soul and was filled back in with other things. I thought it seemed too different in color. I thought that it seemed much smaller and darker than I remember it feeling. But most of all it lacked a feeling of hope of a sweetie being there, of a game being played on my system, of a movie being watched. It felt... changed... sterile. But most certainly a craft room, a room

for visiting – not a room for live, not a room for love and laughing. I don't belong in there anymore, yet there seems to be nowhere I belong instead.

Day 446 - 9/20

Perpetual motion

It's 8:45 at night and my day is basically over. I could have sworn I wrote something earlier, but it appears not. I started my day around 9 with a colder side of a luke-warm shower. It will be the last for quite some time, as school starts tomorrow and the water will be warm again. After, I grabbed a couple of foods at the store that I needed then headed over to the mall. I checked the times and it is open much later than I thought. I played wirelessly and watched a few shows for about 8 hours total. (Again I got compliments on my tanking, and a few in different groups apologized for others being kind of rude to me. 😊) It seems solid enough that I'll go ahead and cancel my \$20 monthly unlimited access. I got that so I could spend long periods of time online when school was closed, but now that I've found the mall access (which is free) that is unnecessary.

I checked the job boards thoroughly as well, going back over the entire week again. The number of postings continue to dwindle. What was an entire week's worth of postings was less than what was being posted in a single day a year and a half ago when I was first looking.

Here at the end of my day I feel a bit dizzy, like someone has been moving images around my head all day. And upon reflection that's exactly what's happened. In fact, it's been happening for this past year and a quarter. It's basically perpetual motion. And that's bothered me possibly the most about being homeless. I'm always moving, or others are always moving around me. Even when I'm sitting still everything around me is not; people move, cars move, everyone is coming and going.

Back in a home I was sitting still. I would get up to go to the bathroom, or the kitchen, or laundry room – even if I was going to class I'd move then stop. In every situation I'd be still, move, then be still again. Out here in the wild everything is constantly moving. It's probably why I was never attracted to big cities and some are. I

suppose not a very interesting or useful piece of information – certainly one I can't do anything about until I'm no longer homeless and able to stop and be in a still environment. But there it is.

There was my day. Got to play decently, tried to inch forward with my job stuff but couldn't as usual, and realized that it's the perpetual motion that's getting to me the most. Of course the constant noise, lights, and sounds bombarding all my senses doesn't help, heh. 😊

Day 447 - 9/21

The new old

Dinner time at just past 6:30. Today is the first day of my new old routine. Since the camper has been gone I've been getting to sleep pretty quickly, so I was asleep last night by around 10:30. I slept really well until 6:45. Since Pianno Man also no longer comes I've been back to the 6:45 time on weekdays. I moved to the school spot and slept until just after 9. I had the craziest dreams though, likely due to noise of people moving and talking around me. I had a shift at mini work, did laundry, then got to school around 3:30. I spent the past few hours watching the season premeers of Bones, Fringe, and The Office, and got caught up a bit more with Psych. After I'm done nomming dinner I'll head off campus to the mall to do some wireless play.

Tuesday and Wednesday I should solidly be in my new old routine of sleeping in at school, then going on campus to check boards and watch my shows. I have class Tuesday and Wednesday night, so hopefully that will be fun and interesting and help me progress forward.

I feel pretty good now that I've been here a while and I'm doing familiar things again. When I first got here I felt sad and lonely, again feeling like I don't belong here – due to age as well as emotional and social expectations.

I'm sure everything will be fine in time, but for the moment I still very much feel like there is nowhere I belong in the world. There are many cute young girls around I would like to date, but it isn't proper to think that. Everyone is full of hope of change and ready to move forward in life, but I am long past the point I should have progressed.

And now, here we are getting on in the evening and most are going home getting ready for their evening, yet mine has no end.

Day 448 - 9/22

The first class, not

It's so loud in the cafeteria. My poor ears. 🙄 It's 12:30 and I'm nomming lunch. I've seen a few of the friendly librarian people I know, and some of the regulars still seem to be here in the cafeteria. It's strange, I've always liked the sounds of young people; be that a playground or kids in middle school, high school, or college. I guess it just reminds me of hope and life in the world. Businesses, offices, they always seem as cold and stagnant as a graveyard, but without the cool mystique that is an old graveyard at night.

My day is just starting. I watched the premiere of Heroes and that's it so far. I actually managed to sleep past 10 this morning, a first I think since school was last open. I guess I will get to do that often as my hours for the next few weeks continue to be reduced at 8.5 per week.

My first class is tonight. What will the day, the night, and the class bring? I can't say. I certainly don't expect anything as the last 10 years of classes seems to have brought nothing. Will it be just another class that feels like little more than something taking up my time? Will I finally find friends or a sweetie? We may find out... in time.

Time passes

Bit of an odd turn of events; there was no class tonight. After waiting a very long time a professor happened by and mentioned she thought that the professor for the class had a meeting and wasn't going to show up. Odd that there was no notification of this fact left on the door. So, for quite some time the class was waiting around outside just chit-chatting and stuff. There are a few cuties in class, and I bla-blaed with people around me in line for class for a bit, but we had no actual class. Due to being out early I got to help a lost person on campus get a bit closer to their class. He said he was hopelessly lost. I wouldn't have bumped in to him had I gotten out at the regular time. (I didn't take him directly to the door, as he was kind of across campus, but I got him to the campus center

and pointed him in the direction his class should be and helped him start a mental map of where things are.)

I watched another show since I had time, and that's pretty much my night. I'm finishing up Epic Fail and I'll be off to upload it and play wirelessly to do my gem crafting daily. A pretty good day I suppose if seemingly uneventful. Perhaps some unseen things have been set in motion that may not reveal themselves until later. 😊

Day 449 - 9/23
Beautiful girls

It's just after 5:30, waiting for my second class. It's not until 6, so I'm early.

I'm soooo hungry. Class being from 6-9:40 is the dumbest time. That's right in the middle of everyone's dinner. I'd have eaten early, but I only had one non-lunch food and tummy didn't want it. I'll probably wind up eating a cafeteria food early now and then before class due to it's poor timing.

I had an ok time today. I basically just got caught up on my shows. I did a site update due to a few new graphic cards launching.

Can't think of anything to say really, pretty regular and uneventful day so far. K thx bye. 😊

Time passes

Just a quick note about beautiful girls. 🥰 There was one in class with a pen out, but no paper. I asked if she needed any and she was like, 'yeah 😊'. She was in the wrong class though and left. Class got out early. It's about 7:30 now (not after 9 as it normally would) and I noticed about three beautiful girls on the way out. (I tend to sit in the frontish, so I don't see many people when the classroom is tiny if my back is to the door.) I noticed the prettiest one had a tag with string in a bag hanging out of her sweater. (Either it's brand new or she was maybe going to return it and didn't take them out.)

I pointed them out to her and she was like, 'Oops. 😊 Yeah, I forgot about them.' I left the classroom and we went different ways, but I noticed her path was meeting back up with where I was going and that she was looking at a map. I asked if she knew where she was going and she said, "Sort of. I'm going to the book store. Do you know where it is?" I said yeah and that I'd take her most of the way there. 😊 So, teh bunnah and the beautiful redhead talked for a bit. She's young, but not too young, as she has her bachelors and is considering doing social work (which requires a Masters.) We did friendly chatting, but I tried to flirt a tiny bit. She didn't introduce herself or anything and we just parted ways

when she got near to the store and I pointed the way. I doubt anything will come of it or the other girls in either class, but you never know. 😊 I always hope. 😊

Day 450 - 9/24

Finding the path

It's nearing 3:15 and I'm in my car. I'm about to leave campus and go play wirelessly for a bit at the mall.

I haven't felt right lately. During the summer I was always looking forward to classes restarting – to be back in school around young people, to be continuing on my path towards teaching (or counseling). Yet now that it's here, now that I've had a class go over requirements and been among other students, now that lots of young people are around me again... I feel like I'm in the wrong place doing the wrong thing.

I don't know if there is anywhere else I can be though. I love young peeps. I act, in many ways, a lot younger than I am. I think and act differently than so many. I'm always thinking about social interaction, about romantic connections, about caring connections, about logical and rational progress for so many... yet I'm trapped. I lack the credentials or (job) experience to get into a field doing anything I enjoy or do on a daily basis.

In an episode of Eureka I saw today they were talking about people's paths and what to do with themselves and it was mentioned that mistakes can seem unimportant but they can actually alter our paths to where we should be.

I certainly don't feel like I'm where I should be lately. Many times I don't feel like I belong. Yet even still Fate sends me little reminders; I helped the girl with the paper yesterday by noting logical clues as well as body language, I helped the other girl by noticing overt clues, I helped the guy by keeping my ears open to people I pass by, and just now after thinking about these things and being very sad and deciding to leave campus one of the friendly librarian people was outside the library on my way to my car and she waved, smiled, and said hi in passing.

I very much feel like I don't belong, but I seem to have a place. I have a place at work for a few hours a week. I have a place through my site and on boards helping others. I seem to have a place on campus. But, like a porcelain figure set on a shelf I don't know if

just having a place is enough to make me real. I so very much want to have and feel all the things you have when you are real.

Day 451 - 9/25

Not in the mood

It's just past 5:30 at gym mini work and I'm microing dinner. I'm not sure what to say for today. I couldn't sleep last night until like 1, not sure why. I slept in at school until just past 9. I got a doughnut and juice for breakfast. 😊 I can't remember when I last did that. I went to aquatics mini work and had a meh time. I played for a bit wirelessly after and had a meh time. (I invented the best laptop cooler. The tables are about two feet big each and arranged 2x1, so I took the two I sit at and moved them about five inches apart and placed my netbook across the gap. It barely got warm on top and was cool beneath it the entire time. 😊) Now I'm here.

I'm just not in the mood for anything today. I don't care about either works, as they aren't my true path and aren't fulfilling. I wasn't in the mood to study, as I just seem to be repeating things over and over without progressing forward in my true careerpath of teaching or counseling. And I even wasn't thrilled at the thought of gaming, as I'm heavily gimped by my system speed and the WiFi connection (or frequent lack thereof causing disconnects.)

I really wish I could just wake up one day and be happy and not have to worry about money, friends, a sweetie, or being happy. I'm so tired of all the sad things in my life. 😞

Day 452 - 9/26

Nothing special

It's the end of my day at just past about 8:30. Nothing special happened. I took the fastest shower yet (the coach was shooping peeps out because the locker room was closing

and just football peeps could be in there.) And I played wirelessly for a bit. I talked to a few of my online friends, but that was really it. Boards are dead on the weekend.

I've got dinner to nom and got a cheap \$1 movie, so I guess that's a little something nice.

Uneventful day; I suppose with my current life that's probably more often a good thing than bad.

Day 453 - 9/27

The sitter

The day went rather strangely. It's nearing 10 and my day is over. I took a shower in the morning and when I got back to the car there was a message from my friend/ex-roomie's sis asking if I would watch her eight year old daughter. I really don't have much else to do with my day, so I said sure. So, I played wirelessly from about 11 to 3, then was watching the youngling from 4 to about 9:30. I really can't do that very often though as they have two cats and a dog so I'm pretty allergic to their place. It will take a while for me to be breathing regularly again I'm sure.

It's almost time to go to sleep. I may want to try and kill extra time as the shield was gone Friday and Saturday nights, so I was exposed by the light and didn't sleep too well. (It was also missing last Friday.)

I'd like to say I'm happy (after doing something with the closest thing I have to a daughter I have these days, which is sad to say as I've only seen the child about four times total now over the years) and positive about the coming week, but I feel more like my doors of opportunity aren't closing per-say, but that they certainly aren't where I expected and it is taking forever to find them.

Day 454 - 9/28

Still not feeling it

It's pretty early at aquatics mini work at almost 10:45; My whopping one shift here for the week.

I guess I feel ok today, but still sad overall. I was at school in the library for about half an hour this morning – I needed to try and see if I could get a temporary parking sticker as mine hasn't come in the mail yet. Things still didn't feel right about being there (on campus). I guess it's just an unexpected lingering sadness about classes and my career progress. Like in the class the other night, as is common for child development classes, the professor asked how many were already in childcare and like 95% of the people raised their hand. I'm like why don't I have a job yet? Why aren't I in a happy position and taking classes to be more happy (than I already am)? I mean I know logically why I'm not in childcare yet, I lack experience. But at the same time it seems to make no sense that people who babysat when young yet have zero classes seem to be in a position while I have over double the class units and I'm not.

I guess I just feel trapped again lately. These baby steps, while often positive like the CBEST, seem to not be helping. Yet I lack money and opportunity to try bigger changes like reapplying for a Masters somewhere as I lack grades or money to move or travel.

Well, gonna eat. So hungry. 🤤 Laundry after my whopping 2.5 hour shift then probably some wireless play for a few hours, then a brief visit to school to use the micro for dinner. That's all for now.

Time passes

It's dinner time. I actually didn't know it had gotten so late, it's nearing 9:45. It's just about "bed time".

I tried the new socks I got over the weekend and they fit fine with no bad tightness. 🤓 I guess I'll take the old ones to a donation place when I get the chance.

Tomorrow will be the first school day, or I will try to make it so at least. I mean in the sense that I'll first focus on checking reading, doing reading, doing assignments, etc., that are due for the class for that day. I'll try to do that both Tuesday and Wednesdays for their respective classes.

It's still so hard to focus. It's still so very hard for me to be in a positive mood about it, or anything really. I study so much better when I can study what I want when I want. Forced and limited to certain times I'm so much less efficient and have such a vastly more difficult time being in the right mood at the right time. I don't think anyone should force themselves to study (or work) on something which is counter to your mood at the time. It's just not as productive and just risks you frustrating yourself or doing a bad/sloppy job.

Well, it's nearly closing time. I should scoot off for the night to slink back into the shadows yet again.

Day 455 - 9/29

The real first school day

Lunch time at just after noon. I've actually been in line for the micro for about 20 minutes. It was pretty ridiculous. It's super crazy busy on campus today. The library was completely packed, so I didn't do any studying yet. I did, however, get these packet things I needed to get for my classes. One of them might be a couple hundred pages. I really don't understand why professors don't do them electronically. Why should all the students burn resources and have to pay \$14 + whatever for books on a resource that has to be thrown away at the end of the semester when it could instead be electronic and be zero cost unless the student chooses to print it out?

Maybe I'm just tired and I has a grumpy today.

Since the library was packed I went to watch some shows. I watched Heroes and Dollhouse. 🍿 Still others to catch up on, but I should study later today, so they will likely wait. Plus there are really only about five hours left between when I finish lunch and when I should be going to class.

I've gone in a backpack circle. I'm using the one I had a year ago. I don't even remember why I stopped using it. I think it was to move away from an old me in combination with only having exactly enough space for my stuff and a tiny meal/snack. I moved to a messenger bag, a different sling bag, a backpack, a different messenger bag, a different backpack, now back to the original bag I was using. It sounds much more

expensive than it is. I think I will have spent about \$30 total after I return the most recent backpack. I returned pretty much all of them, so it's been ok.

I was thinking about it a lot last night and I think the reason I want to find a perfect pack isn't so much about function but how it makes me feel. I thought about a 'perfect life' where I was free to carry or not carry what I wanted while back in a home and what kind of pack I'd want. There is one that's super slim – designed for holding a laptop – that has pads that make it look like it's armor. That would be what I'd use, as my netbook, a very slim notebook, and a few pens would be all I'd really need to carry. I realized no matter what that wouldn't be possible for me right now. I will have to carry my lunches. I will want to carry my (large) headphones. I feel like I need to carry my gym bag with my cloths and stuff in it. At the very least in order for that change to happen I'd have to have a car that I could lock to keep the bag and extra stuff locked away out of view. While not impossible that is highly improbable to happen as I lack the income to even begin to think about changing cars.

As usual lately I feel sad, out of place, without (offline) friends (save for my friend/ex-roomie, and her sis and her kids) and trapped in a place in life where I may never find a home or love. Maybe later tonight I'll feel better/differently.

Time passes

It's nearing 10:30. Class is over and I'm in my car doing the final bits of this week's fail for uploading on the way "to bed".

Class wasn't too bad. It wasn't boring, so the time passed pretty quickly. There are half a dozen cuties in class, so that's good. 🥰 This class has big tables where six people sit together, so the activities we did involved people at my table. The peeps seemed nice, and we had some lols during the assignment. As is common for classes at the start of the semester there were some activities that involved the whole class as well. So, I got to mingle a bit, talk to some peeps, be helpful to peeps, and in general I feel a bit better. The sadness still lingers, but it seems lifted a bit after interacting with others and validating that I've got some opinions and thoughts that seemed helpful to people.

Guess that's all for this week. I'll finish this off, put it into book form, then scoot off to post it and sleep. 😊

Week 66

Day 456 - 9/30

Play

It's nearing 1:30, time to nom lunch. 🤤 I was hungry just after 11, but I wanted to try and wait until after 1 for the crowd to die down. I managed to hold out until about 1:15 and the plan worked. I was able to easily find a table and there was only one person waiting to use the micro.

I've been bad and haven't done any school (or job) stuff yet. I've been really exhausted lately and my brain just wasn't working well this morning. For some reason I've had trouble getting to sleep lately and haven't fallen asleep until midnight or 1 the past few nights. Even though I can sleep in once I move to the sleeping spot I haven't slept much past 9. I'll do an assignment after lunch, but I can't do reading for tonight's class as it seems they don't have the books in the library. That may prove to be problematic as time goes on.

I think my Tuesday night professor should be ok. The class wasn't boring and at one point she was talking about how important play was and we did an activity where she's like, 'ok, talk to your table (people) about the last time you played as an adult.' And I peeked up at her and she smiled. I think she figured out that I was playing a game. I was like (to my table), 'I'll start. The last time I played was three seconds ago. lol 😄'

I found another game coming soon I'd be interested in playing, and beta applications started for a MMOG I'm interested in, so yet again I'm limited by the fact that I don't have a gaming capable laptop. 😞 Besides that though I guess I'm ok. I'm still sad that no real progress seems to be happening, but I'm feeling a touch less sad about things since last night.

More later maybe. 😊

Day 457 - 10/1

A late dinner

It's late, just after 10. I'm only now having dinner. I don't really know what to say.

I slept in until about 10. I watched a few shows. I had a late lunch at around 1:30. I moved over to the mall for wireless play. I played wirelessly and had good groups and a pretty good time until 7 when the connection started going to poop. I left the game and watched Supernatural. I left the mall and took a shower at school at 9. I was going to eat there, but it was already 9:40, so I decided to get some chicken strips and grapes instead since I also needed a few other items at the store. Oh, I checked for jobs and applied for a journalism job at an online gaming site. I'm underqualified in the journalsim sense, but very qualified in the gaming sense.

It's been a pretty regular play day Thursday... save for an overwhelming feeling of loneliness and a pretty high level of sadness about not being able to cook. While I *am* very glad I can have soups twice a day again (most days), walking through the store tonight I felt very sad. Seeing all kinds of summer sausage, salami, pastrami, and other lunch meats I can't have (due to the quantity they come in) as well as rekindled sadness about not being able to cook proper dinners.

I guess I'm just feeling lost again in life. I still don't feel any closer or that I have any real chance at finding a job I'll be happy with or re-established than I did a year ago. If anything I feel less likely than I did a year ago. More and more games and Blu-ray movies are coming that I can't play/watch, so life continues to pass me by unlive. And everywhere I go people are with friends and/or sweeties laughing and having a good time.

Sad day is sssaaadd. 😞

Day 458 - 10/2

Yet another ghost

It's late, just after 10, after mini work. I suppose I had an ok day today. I slept in then headed over to play wirelessly at the mall. I tried hooking up my keyboard again, but it's so much bigger than my netbook. I'm so unused to it now. It feels unfamiliar. It no longer feels like a part of me as it once did. I tweaked some stuff with my Death Knight and I've gone back to just tanking; doing damage and ignoring safety of others just isn't me.

I saw another ghost at the store (before work). This one I'd seen somewhat recently, I guess 2-3 years ago. I gave him a rabbit card, but I doubt he'll say hi. At least he'll have my site if he needs advice or wants to say hi in the future. When I last saw him I gave him my actual card, but in these past so many years he's never contacted me. He was a sort of male best friend to my ex-wife and I really haven't seen or heard from him in the over 12 years since the divorce. Not really surprising as it seems people follow their original people after breakups. It seemed odd though that even though I only talked with him for about 10 minutes that his life is still basically the same. I'm beginning to wonder... does big and happy changes really only happen to a very small number of people? It seems the more ghosts I find, the more people I talk to, the more people really seem to just stay roughly where they are in life.

Well, seems everyone is out; Time to lock up and go.

Day 459 - 10/3

Worst ping ever

It's just past 2:15 at the mall. I've been trying to play and stuff since about 11, but it's the worst ping ever. I'm averaging closer to 1,200 than not and I've seen as high as 13,000. (Much over 850 you get lag pauses/locks.) I did some tweaks to my Death Knight, but it isn't a good enough connection to try and group to test it out. I'll just do quest stuff with my Priest I guess. It should be ok for that.

I got a ticket for Zombieland tonight. That should be full of lol.

That's really it for today. Nothing special in email and even though I haven't checked the boards I don't expect anything to be going on there since it's the weekend.

I'm still sadder than most days about being homeless and more cool games are coming that I'll miss as well as other stuff, but there is nothing I can do about it that I'm not already trying to do. 😞

Day 460 - 10/4

Feeling alone in the gathering cold

It's late in the day around 6:45. I spent most of my day here at the mall. I had some fun playing with online friends. The connection was better to the point that I could play and be fine. I tried to watch a video, but it was too slow to stream or download the video. I've decided to see if there is a movie at the cheap kiosk to rent. That would be an ok way to spend the rest of the night.

I guess I feel mostly ok, but I still feel very sad and lonely lately. I had a lot of fun at the movie last night – the most lols I've had in maybe as long as a year. But I was by myself. And now I'm still alone and the rest of my evening will be spent alone. I guess getting a good enough job to get re-established wouldn't change that, but at least it would help somewhat by allowing me to enjoy my hobbies at higher levels that could distract me from my sads.

It's been cold lately. I've been having to wear my hoodie. Hopefully the warm will come back, but with it being windy most of last night I doubt it will.

Well, off I go to eat not cooked (by me) food, watch a movie on my tiny screen with headphones, and to be in my car alone. 😞

Day 461 - 10/5

New pants

It's 2:30, doin' my laundry. I slept so much yesterday and this morning. I haven't done much today. I got up right when I needed to leave, so I went straight to mini work. I got caught up on Epic Fail while there, so that was good. I stopped by to get some new school night urban digital cammo pants. With the cold weather coming I'll need more pants. My pair in storage is smaller, and one of the ones I have with me is too small, so this gets me back to two pair that fit. I tend to run lighter in the summer, but now averaging 185 more often than not I figured I'd just get ones that are bigger. And now we are here doing laundry. There is the craziest thing here. There are two drinks with grannie panties on them. They aren't really cold, so they've likely been here a while, but that is the craziest thing I've seen in quite some time.

I'll be doing wireless play tonight and I may get something not soup for dinner. Though they are the best deal for the cost my tummy is very tired of not solid foods. I haven't really decided what to do for dinner. Time will tell. 😊

Guess that's all for now. 😊

Time passes

It's another late dinner at just past 9:30. I guess I had an ok time wirelessly, but again the connection went to poo after 7.

I decided to stop at the store on my way to get a cheap fast food dinner since I needed sodas. (It's still very difficult for me to try and transfer more to water while homeless.) Someone being checked out was like, "you crushed my cilantro," but her tone sounded more like, "you broke my heart." I felt kinda sorry for her, but at the same time there is tons more and two different checkers pointed out she could just trade it for a new one. Yes, as someone who cooks I can appreciate nicely fluffy greens, but seriously?

The pants I got earlier were a bigger size I used to get. My tummy is a touch on the heavier side and it wouldn't surprise me if I'm over 185 now. 😞

I suppose though that the good news about the cold weather is that soon (in about a month) I could consider getting salad, as the days will be cold enough I could keep the extra a day or two while I eat it up. I suppose too I could get chicken strips and tear one

up and drop it in. I used to do that back in the day (in a home). I'd take some salad and a couple of chicken strips and cook them up and cut them into pieces to sprinkle on the salad. I'm sad I didn't think of that earlier or I'd have tried to do that for dinner.

Oh, there was a school job to apply for today – an office type position. I doubt I'm qualified though. I mean, yes, I'm "qualified", but if I didn't get a call for the other position it isn't likely I will for this one as this one is higher up. It would be \$21-25 per hour to start, full time, so that would be pretty awesome pay. That's about 50% more than my budget figure at quick estimate. At that pay level I *could* afford an apartment on my own. It would be so nice to be able to *choose* to live with others and share my life compared to my being forced to. I thought I had that with my friend/ex-roomie, but I guess not so much since it turns out her guy hates me.

Well, it's nearly 10 so I should finish my dinner and chill for a bit "before bed". I had such crazy and scary dreams this morning at the school spot. In one the students discovered that I was homeless and I woke up with cans of food on my hood to taunt me. In another I was on a Star Wars type world and I was an alien. I'd bought a 'kitchen' (which was a single room with various food dispensing machines) but it turns out none of the machines worked. I did find a key to a secret room though. The secret room was actually a device that froze me for a few seconds then transformed me into a mid-teen human male. Since my regular skills couldn't help me survive (I was homeless in that dream too) I was grateful that it transformed me into a form people found welcoming and kind, as well as it gave me high levels of high tech lockpicking skills. I figured the previous owner must have been a thief/smuggler of some kind. But again, as per the first dream, I was hunted and disliked by those around me. In the first dream it actually turned out someone was putting me on trial. He and his friends were taunting and harrasing me throughout the dream. But it was again an alternate world, and I somehow wound up slicing his fingers off of one hand in retaliation at one point in the dream. I did that because killing was illegal in that world (for retaliation) otherwise I would have 'ended him'. (I said that to someone in the dream who was a friend.)

Anyways... hopefully better dreams tonight; maybe dreams of a sweetie. 😊

Day 462 - 10/6

Something is missing

It's 4:45. I've had fun watching TV shows. I watched Heroes, Psych for teh lawlz, the first episode of season 2 of Clone Wars, and the pilot for Stargate Universe. I didn't really feel like doing school stuff this morning, so I was bad about that, but I'll do it now while I eat supper before class.

I've been feeling like I've been missing something all day. It's an odd mix of feeling like I'm supposed to be somewhere else; not quite counseling others, but not quite being an administrator. It also feels like I'm missing something in the sense of forgetting something I'm supposed to be doing. I don't quite know what that's about. Maybe I'm sick. I've been heavily congested, sneezing quite a bit, and last night I must have slept between 10-11 hours total of decent sleep.

There have been lots of cute and attractive girls around today. 🥰 Of course they are all about 10+ years younger than I should consider, but... well... life sometimes surprises you and you can find wonderful things in unexpected places.

That's it for now. Gotta study for class. Maybe more later, but that's probably it for tonight. 😊

Week 67

Day 463 - 10/7 Living in the fringe

Late lunch at just past 2. I'm sadder today than most days I suppose. It seems that as time goes on the more I'd hoped things would change the more they seem to be standing still unchanging. The things I planned to do as steps forward seem to not be helping. My life plan that I thought I'd laid out 10 years ago has not at all gone according to plan. And due to complete lack of money it would seem I'm unable to even consider some steps in order to redirect those original plans. While there are those around me who are friendly I seem unable to make any (new) real friends. It seems I'm stuck at the fringe, unable to truly enjoy new things like I normally would, not completely failing, but not really progressing forward at all, continually slipping further and further behind on everything.

Day 464 - 10/8 Rabbit food for teh rabb1t

It's around 2:15. I'm playing in the mall. Well, trying to. The ping was fine until recently, but now it's horrible again.

I got a super healthy salad for lunch and dinner. I got chicken strips to tear up and put in there with it. It was pretty tasty. 😊

I suppose it's an ok day, but I'm still so sad that I have to go to various places to watch my shows, have all my stuff with me, lug all this food with me, worry about everything if I want to go to the bathroom without packing up all my stuff, etc. I suppose though it could still be worse. I don't know how I'd be managing without my car. 😞

I still has a sad, but I suppose things are ok for what they can be.

Time passes

It's about 8:30 now and my night is basically over. My evening went to poo. There has been someone calling a lot lately and I thought it was about school loans, so I picked

up. Turns out it was a debt collector and he tried his stupid word twisting tactics and it got me all mad and sad and I was yelling at this guy for probably 10 minutes. I told him I was homeless and working 8.5 hours a week and at most I could afford \$10, maybe \$15 a month in payments. He said he'd take that to his boss, but there is really no way they will accept that. I guess it would be ok if they did. Although this paycheck I'll pretty much exactly break even at zero, I could *maybe* do one or two \$15 a month payments to creditors if it was totally necessary. I don't know though, maybe I really would be better off looking at bankruptcy. With being unable to really pay creditors for about 2.5 years now that's a lot of the time the bankruptcy could have been cooling off had I done it right off the bat. I guess I can look at some books on it at the library next week if there are any. I think it dings your credit for 5-7 years, maybe more. So for someone... not so young anymore 😞 ... that could be fairly devastating if I did find a sweetie and we wanted to buy a home, or even just for me trying to get an apartment or credit line to pay for a used car.

Well, the sad times continue. Maybe this weekend I can relax a little and next week something happy will happen.

Day 465 - 10/9

Plodding along

It's just past 8:45 at mini work. I had an ok day I suppose. I slept ok until some dummy sat running their car for like 15 minutes, so that woke me up early at the school sleeping spot around 9:15. I went on campus and watched some shows. It was super quiet and calm on campus; Fridays always are. I may do studying in the future on Fridays because of that. I left around noon to go play wirelessly at the mall. I tried to play until around 4, but the connection was pretty bad again/still. And that was really my day. Nothing exciting or new or different has happened.

I continue to be sad about not being in an ok place in life. But I suppose with school and access to my shows and showers and having my netbook to play wirelessly things aren't terrible. But still, I'm sad because when everyone is out, in a sense I'm in. When everyone is leaving to go back to their sweeties, friends, and warm home I'm left out in the cold alone.

I checked my weight the other day and I'm bad but not super terrible at 188. I think I'll try and do some of the cheaper soups again with crackers. I know I can sort of afford to do the expensive soups regularly, but they are actually about 15-20% too much food for me (per meal). I think maybe that's a smaller part of my recent weight gain. Of course my getting terrible snacks don't help, but they do keep the best/longest. I'll try and cut those down a bit and see if I can go back to healthier type snacks. But, as always, portion control may be difficult as I can't do something like put away half of an apple. Sure, I can put it in a container, but that only helps so much without a fridge. I'll try to do my mini workout too. I've been forgetting to do it in my car and I really don't have anywhere else to do it since I need a flat surface.

A sad day among many. I seem to be doing worse than just about everyone around me, yet all I can do is keep trying the things I'm trying and plodding along day by day.

Day 466 - 10/10

Swim meet, bicycles, and cars

Pretty early morning at 9. I moved to the school sleeping spot around 7 but there were a bunch of cars in the swap meet area, and in my sleeping area were a bunch of younglings for a swim meet. I peeked over the balcony after parking one level higher than I normally park and saw cyclists gathered as well. It was quiet enough to sleep but I couldn't. At probably around 8:45 I "got out of bed", put the blankets away, and went to take a shower.

Back in the day I'd have been very thankful for an earlier start, despite being a touch sleepier. (Mostly my eyes feel sleepy.) I could have studied, done extra gaming, extra stuff on my site or who knows what. While I will get a few hours more than planned I can't study, as I don't have a peaceful (and private) environment to study in, nor the books, as they are both on super short loan timers. Plus, the (school) library is closed today. I can try and do some extra play but the mall connection has been fairly poor lately, limiting what I can do. Life isn't all bad though. I still have quite a bit more than last year.

I suppose part of why I'm so sad is that I don't just want to be somewhere with others, I want to be wanted. I want the people I like to like me and want me around. I don't want to feel like I'm pushing my way in for my gains, but I want to feel welcomed for what I have to offer. I suppose we all do – we all want to be the superstar. But I really don't think it needs to go that far. I think we simply want to feel a sense of belonging; not because we are a part in the machine, but because we are a special part, *our* part, and that while another part may replace us some day it would do so in a different way and that *our* way would be missed.

Day 467 - 10/11

A tentative deal

It's just after 7. Things are closing down here at the mall. The area doesn't close in that it's an open area and the theater usually runs movies 'till midnight. So the stores are just all closed. It's actually pretty busy with peeps eating. A few shops are staying open late due to the crowd.

Another pesky creditor called yesterday. I have a tentative deal to buy them out at like \$250 (of the \$1k total I owe them). I'll have to research if that's a good idea or not though before committing. Yes, it's like 80-85% off what I owe, but if the others see I did that, if they could find out, the others I owe around 9k too could come after me with a vengeance, so it may not be a good idea. I'll see if I can get ahold of free counseling tomorrow and see what they say. I'll also ask if they think I should do bankruptcy. It's not a good option, I know that, but with next to no income it's not like I could afford any kind of settlement plan. Without wiping what I owe clean I'd owe somewhere around \$1100 a month if I were to be paying off student loans and doing a credit debt settlement. That wouldn't be out of the question if I were earning the \$30-35k a year which is more average than not in my area (for an adult person with a few years experience), but being closer to ¼ or 1/3 of that income level I just don't know how I'll ever get out of debt. I really think there should be job placement services in place at the school you go to that you borrow money from. It's like, um I accumulated about a \$500 a month payment at this one school (in student loans). Since their degree hasn't helped me find a job the least

they can do is let me continue to check their job boards for free until the debt is paid off. Anyways...

There were more swimmers this morning. I slept through the noise ok I guess. I kept sleeping until 10.

I played most of the day and had fun. I had a pretty good time, but I'm sad I'm not in a home. In a home I could have also done studying, taken a nice shower alone, played different games, maybe relaxed with some TV or a movie. I still may watch a \$1 kiosk movie in the hours I have left "before bed", but I kind of want to do some school stuff and I can't due to lack of a quiet private place or books.

Speaking of different games... one of the cuties in my Tuesday class is a console gamer. 🧐 One activity was to talk to other peeps, so I went over near her to see if she would talk to me. I don't know if she does a lot of gaming, she said she did Halo 3 'cause her brothers have it, but that's a something. 🧐 Likely too young for me and has a guy, but there's an opening if she were interested and single. 😊 I saw a super beautiful girl at the store the other day too. I was bla-blaing with an old boss (I think one of only two I've ever actually liked) and there was a super beautiful girl getting flowers. She was thin, had short blond hair, tall, cute button nose, and cheek dimples. Her guy came up and started talking to her. I think she was Polish or Czech. My ex-sweetie is Polish. 🧐

Well... I think I'll go. While there are still plenty of people around now (at 7:30) I'm kind of tired of the bright lights, noise, and smells. Maybe on future Sundays I'll stay later, but now I need some alone time. Not like I ever *really* get alone time, but still.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 468 - 10/12

Deal or no deal?

It's "late" at just after 9:15 PM. My day is over. I suppose it was good enough. I slept ok until my phone alarm woke me up at just before 10 for mini work. The people on shift with me were nicer ones, so I had an ok time. (I'm so not looking forward to the mandatory training from 12:30-2:30 on Saturday. It's like, seriously? Right in the middle

of the weekend day?) After, I did laundry and played wirelessly. I had a craving, so I was bad and had a full fast food meal there, but it did allow me to play longer.

It's cold tonight, has been all day. There are rain clouds overhead. I'm thinking it may rain tonight. If it does I pray the leak really is fixed. Waking up to soaked sheets and wet feet in a puddle would not be cool – not to mention my just washed cloths being wet.

Tomorrow should be ok. I checked the greensheet and I only need to read like four pages of stuff; easy peasy. I'll spend most of my day catching up on shows. I do need to do an observation for that class, so hopefully I won't forget that.

While I was at mini work I went over my estimated pay and bills. There just isn't any way I can pay what bills and stuff I'm paying now *and* other creditor bills. I'm breaking even to zero, so by not taking on new bills I retain a few hundred in savings. By paying anything I'm negative cash. ... I was right. There is a very light sprinkle on the car as I'm writing this. ... So tomorrow I'll have to remember to tell that creditor, "Sorry, but no deal. I can't afford it." It's sad because paying people off would be nice, but there really is no way I can afford it with my current (lack of) income.

As always, my time here in the car – where it is as close to private time as I get – is nice, but sad. My ears are so tired from being smooshed by the headphones for a few hours, so tired from being assaulted by constant mall music. I wish so very much I was in a home, somewhere I could be warm and look outside to the night sprinkles, where I could watch TV gameshows quietly while I'm cooking dinner, eat a nice home cooked meal that isn't microwaved, and relax on my bed for a bit before falling fast asleep.

It all seems like such a strange dream now. My memories from long ago, old friends, old homes, old adventures, they are still with me. They are as strong and vivid as they ever were. But the new things, the current things, those memories tied to places or things I *could* have in a home, they no longer exist. As teh keyboard and mouse I've used for years seem so unfamiliar and foreign to me now, so too does a life in a home. While my things are visible in storage I haven't touched them in over a year. The thought of seeing them daily and interacting with them regularly seems so foreign, like a dream just as strange and confusing as any other I have these days.

Day 469 - 10/13

The October storm

It's nearly 10:45 and I'm at the mall. Why not school you ask? Because it's storming outside. The rain is pouring. The wind is blowing. Tree parts are getting broken off. People's umbrellas are almost getting blown out of their hands. But most importantly school lost power around 10. When I got to the library I overheard a librarian on a phone talking about an estimate of over 2 hours. So, I decided to come to the mall and stay until it's time for my class. I'll leave around 4 to be sure I can get covered parking. I have what I need to study, so no worries there, but I'll have to buy a little something for lunch (since I don't have access to a micro.) I'm not sure what I'll do about dinner. While I could micro at school, if it's raining I'll have to walk all over campus. (Food is cross-campus from class.)

Well, what happens happens. 😊

Oh, the leak is mostly better. After probably 3 hours of pouring rain last night there was maybe 1/8th cup in that section, so I don't have to worry too much.

That's it for now. Off I go to check job boards and have fun. 😊

Time passes

It's later. I was wrong in my estimate. After driving around a bit the leak got worse. It is indeed as bad as it always was. I guess what they did didn't really fix it.

I had fun at the mall, got some quick groups. Unfortunately due to all of my moving around I really didn't get into a studying mood, nor did I check job boards. Well, it will be fine I'm sure. There are so few job postings I'm sure I won't miss anything by waiting until the morning. The leak is sad though, could keep raining for a few days. Well, more stuff going on that I can't control. No big surprise there.

Time passes

It's super late now, after 10:30 and I'm just now having dinner. I was so hungry I had one of those 'you haven't eaten' headaches.

I guess today was ok but I was unfocused all day. I was really focused before the power outage, but after I was completely off my game. I was all ready to study and progress, but then pbt, nothin'. I don't even know if I'll regain my focus before the weekend with how I feel currently. I think it's just one of those times where I was

reminded how not normal my life is right now. With the crowd outside the library people were talking about what they'd do instead of class, but me, that was it. Looking forward to my shows and time to study was the highlight of my day. When I saw there was no power, bam, that was the end of it. Where would I go? Where could I go? What would I do? How would I study? I thought of the public library, but my car would be in the open all day. I thought of all I could eat pizza lunch nom, but again the car would have been in the open during those hours. As with most of my life these days it wasn't what did I *want* to do, but what *could* I do.

Today is one of those days where I'm reminded of my life being a disaster and in crisis. If I were a counselor hearing the story of me I don't really know what I could do to help. Everything is a mess and there really is very little positive. Normally when you hang out with someone you talk about what's good and positive and things which are moving forward in their lives, but really I don't have that. Oh sure, I have my game. Like today I felt really good about my spec choices because there were several times during both good groups where I changed and each had it's tactical advantages or that I got a decent loot that I can use for my off off spec of DPS. But is it really a big picture thing? Not so much. It's one teeny baby step in one single game.

I wonder if maybe this is why I've had trouble finding friends – people look for something to help with but they don't know how to help me. Sure, they offer support and express concern or sometimes even a brotherly kind of love, but I wonder if some kind of sense of my being in a difficult spot is keeping people at bay. I don't know though. I've been without friends or a sweetie for 10 years now and in much of that time I was doing just fine in terms of emotional balance and having a place to stay and fun stuff to share with others.

I guess I'm ok over all, but as I was leaving campus, walking across and seeing not a single other person walking to their car, I couldn't help but wonder what was wrong with me. Why was I the only one on campus walking to my car so late? Why am I one of only a small number taking classes because I'm not in a good place in a career? Why am I the only one not going to a home, where maybe a warmed dinner, sweetie, and recorded show is waiting for me? What is it I'm doing or did wrong to have this kind of karma?

I wonder and prey that noone else is having as hard of a time as me, and that my story will help to prevent it from happening to others. Love and care for those around you who you care about. Let them know. Noone should suffer and be sad.

Week 68

Day 470 - 10/14

Nothing to say

My day is over. I'm still at school, but everything is closed. It's nearing 9:30, so I'll be leaving soon.

Nothing to say really. I slept in a bit, watched some shows, checked job boards, went to class, and that was really it.

Maybe tomorrow something interesting will happen. 😊

Day 471 - 10/15

A long time ago, in a galaxy far far away

Lunch time at around 12:30. I have such a headache today. I have been getting them lately. I think I may have yet another cold, as I've been congested and sleeping a lot as well (though I've had trouble getting *to* sleep.)

With thoughts of Halloween fun lately my days have become sadder than most. While I don't usually dress up I've always wanted a Jedi outfit. With excitement surrounding Star Wars The Old Republic building thoughts of the game and my Jedi-like life have filled my thoughts more and more. Not too long ago there was a lightsaber kit. Uebergeeks who always wanted to build their own lightsaber could do so. For a Jedi this is the last step in training. I've always wanted to do that and it made me realize that I have no toys with me – yet another piece of my life forced to be in storage. Oh sure, I have my netbook with games, but it isn't a toy. A toy – something that you play with which sparks creativity and imagination – is very different from a (video) game (system). While a toy can be a prop in a game, a game cannot be a toy on its own. A game has formal rules and restrictions. A toy is limitless.

Last Halloween I had Halloween Poose to give out candy, as I have had every year since I got him some 16 years before. This year, what would be his 18th birthday, he's locked away in storage and I can't get to him. I find myself very sad and missing my toys.

Recently I've been considering getting a lightsaber kit so I could at least have that. But for me, maybe just due to my love of Star Wars, I don't know if I should. Constructing my own lightsaber will have a lot of meaning for me. While the manner or place where I get it will be unimportant the location and ways I construct it will be. While it would be done while I'm homeless (if I do it anytime soon) I don't want to remember I did it in such-n-such place while homeless because it was the only place I could. I'll have to think about it more, but no good places to build it immediately come to mind.

Children (and grown ups) not having toys or a place to play makes me feel like crying. Once upon a time one Xmas I did. I thought of all the children who had no toys, nowhere to play, and sad home life, and I cried. I packed up a big box of stuffies I had and some board games and took it to a donation place. I am without my toys now, but I know I will see them again. I can certainly get a lightsaber kit. But playing with it, the having it, means so very much more than a person may think.

Day 472 - 10/16

"I see you have constructed your own lightsaber."

It's nearing 6 at mini work; eating and watching my Friday movie soon.

I decided to go ahead and construct my own lightsaber last night. 🥰 It was pretty expensive all things considered, but worth it for the happy. 🥰 (I should get gift money from dad for the holidays soon, so I'll be ok on monies.) After opening the box I pondered the parts for a while. As part of the training I did not look at the directions. I made it in a way which is more basic than it could be. There are four sections and I only used two of them, the other two I left empty (the base has some designed look to it.) It has a size, shape, and weight I'm very happy with. For the curious I picked a green blade color. (In Star Wars lore this means I'm more of a judge or negotiator type person.) Although I won't be actually fighting with it, the blade is exactly the length I would have chosen (a few inches longer than my arm from fingertip to shoulder.) Having done fencing and other swordplay before I know a little something about weight, balance, and length of swords that are good for my style. It seems so silly, but it means a lot to me and I'll hold onto it until after Halloween (then put it into storage). Until then I will be carrying it

around in my bag with me everywhere. I decided to construct it at a school I used to play at. I mentioned the Nerf Wars before and this was the school we used to use. I figured that in all of my adult life that's really the only place I could still go to that had happy memorys/times attached to it.

That's really all that's new today besides doing an observation I had to do for class. Bye for now. 😊

Day 473 - 10/17

My poor ankle

It's late in the evening at about 9:45. My day is basically over. I'm having some quiet time in my car while I eat (late) dinner.

I suppose I had an ok day all in all. I got up just after 9, took a shower, then went to play at the mall for a short while before my mandatory training at mini work. Half way through the training I was let out early, so I went to the store to get food, and I dropped off the first set of pictures (for book two) for developing. After I went back to play at the mall.

I spent the bulk of the day online playing. I was chatting with my online friend most of that time. It's odd that she's the third friend (in a couple) that I've been chatting with. The first couple I'd met way back in the day in December when I got that free month of play. During that first break between January and around April when I couldn't afford to play I kind of lost touch with them. I saw them a few times after, but that's been it. The second couple I met and did a lot of raids with. They were the ones I followed into the guild. I saw them only a few times after the falling out and now I can't even remember the last time I've seen them, probably been a few months. This most recent couple I see the girl every day (that I'm on), we chat quite a bit, and her boy is probably in every few days (when I'm on). I think I met them about four months ago?

That seems to be the nature of online gaming though. You make friends with people, you play together for a while, they get bored or max gear, and they move on. At least that's how it is with me. I don't know if it's because I play games more/longer than others or what.

My poor ankle is more noticeably swollen and messed up looking. I think all this walking has aggravated my age old injury. I'll try and remember to see if I can hook myself up with an appointment on Monday at the free clinic someone told me about. Supposedly they should be able to hook me up with a free diagnosis and x-rays if needed. I'm guessing they will need to in order to be sure the stuff causing the messed up area is indeed cartilage or incorrect bone growth (or I guess re-growth). I still have full function and all, but I notice it... pressing against parts... in certain positions. It's not painful, but it's most certainly a 'hum, that's definitely not right,' kind of thing.

I should have done school stuff today. I'm sad about that. I should just go to the public library and just do it, but I know me, and I know the public library. I just wouldn't be able to focus with that noise and those people. School at least has desks with like study blinders blocking the view of people nearby. Back in the day I'd have easily mixed my day with study, play, and relaxing with a movie.

It's not all bad, but I'm so very tired of being out in public all the time; So tired of the mental disruption, the bombarding of my senses, and the lack of control. Sometimes I think maybe I should spend more time in my car just to get some private time, but unfortunately the only place that really comes close to working is in the sleeping spot at the church. And, of course, once I'm there I'd have to be in stealth mode. So even though my mind may slow, calm, and become focused enough to study, do papers, do reading, or whatever other school thing I need, I lack the resources to do that (books, etc.) or I can't due to needing to stay stealthed.

Someday soon I'll hopefully get re-established. Someday soon I'll hopefully only be out in public spaces when I *want* to be. Someday soon I'll hopefully consider fast food and pizza a rare treat instead of something necessary if I want to eat solid food. For now I am still spinning out of control at the mercy of the world around me.

Day 474 - 10/18

Unseen in plain sight

My day is over. It's just past 8:15 and I'm killing time in my car before bed. My dinner last night didn't agree with my tummy, so I ate healthier today. I had 1/3 of a salad

with chicken – only 1/3 because I thought it had probably gone bad and tossed the rest to be safe. I picked up some bread, a couple of apples, and a couple of oranges. I had an orange earlier, drank lemonaid, and may have another snack before bed.

I suppose I had an ok enough time. As I said way back in the day if I could find a connection to play from and got ok speeds that's what I'd do. It certainly seems passable at the mall, so I've settled in to a pattern of playing pretty much all day on Saturday and Sunday. There are still so many things I can't do, and due to the hardware limitations WoW is just about the only game I *can* play; but at least it's something.

I'm sad though. I'm always sad these days. I had a feeling my friend/ex-roomie was going to call to hang out and watch a something or two with her, but I guess not. It doesn't surprise me, as her boyfriend hates me and it was basically a year before we really did hang out. (There was that one day a few months after I left then a long period of nothing.)

It "smells like rain". I just put my trench away last night but it feels like I should go get it again. It wouldn't surprise me if it rained tomorrow or Tuesday.

I couldn't sleep hardly at all last night; no clue why. I just lay there "in bed" and couldn't sleep. It was after 2:30 AM before I finally fell asleep and after moving to the school sleeping spot I got up early for some reason at 8:45. I'd be lucky if I got 6 hours of sleep total. I'm exhausted.

While my days pass quickly now, and they are more often fun than they are not (compared to pre-notebook), I'm still so very sad all the time. I'm lonely, confused, cold, and hungry (for real food). I still don't know what I did (karmically) wrong or what I'm doing wrong now. I checked job boards today, and as expected there were no posts. The last four applications I sent out over the past month or so have gotten zero reply. They basically never get a reply. I smell and look ok. None of the students treat me different or have any clue that I'm homeless or without a (real) job. Yet I continue to be an outsider in all things. While I seem very normal and regular there really isn't anything regular about me. I suppose there never was. I have always been just askew, off in the shadows, never really seen, understood, acknowledged, or truly welcomed.

Day 475 - 10/19

Another sad Monday

It's laundry time at just about 2. I like doing laundry on weekdays. It's usually pretty quiet. I'm the only one here now and I got to watch some Jerry Springer and Steve Wilkos for teh lawlz. 😊

I just tried for a free appointment two minutes before they were supposed to take appointments and they are full. I guess I'll try again next week.

I snuck in time to work on my assignment for school at mini work and I actually finished it. 😊 So, yeeaaaa, that's done. I still have another due, reading to do, and anything new for this week. So, I've got other stuff to busy myself with but I'll probably just go have fun for the rest of today. Tuesday and Wednesday should be plenty of time for that.

That's it so far. I'm soooo tired even though I got like 10+ hours of sleep. (Interrupted by someone who thought it was a good idea to do skate tricks at the church at 1 AM.) It sprinkled this morning, but it's not raining now.

Maybe more bla bla later. 😊

Time passes

I'm killing a bit of time before going off to sleep. I rapidly became depressed when I got my pictures and found out that, despite my clearly writing on teh envelope, they were not the highest res possible. Again these were less than 1/3 of the maximum size. I'd have to stretch the image to get 1080 compatibility.

I just didn't feel like playing after that. I did for a bit, but it too let me down by dropping me every 15-20 minutes and having horrible ping. I realize now that it wasn't that I didn't want to play but I didn't want to play under those conditions. I'd love nothing more tonight to be in my old room with my stuff set up. I'd have the blinds open, maybe even the window (while running a half a dozen candles) and I'd play my game for a few hours, then do some school stuff before flopping in to bed.

I don't know why I'm meant to have so much trouble or why my struggle has been going on so long. I just hope signs like the friendly daughter (somewhere around 7 to 8 years old I'd guess) and her mom who I giggled at her daughter with and chatted about

talk shows for a few minutes is a sign from Fate that I *am* being moved where and when I should be. I made them both smile and laugh and had I not been there that wouldn't have happened. I have to believe my suffering serves a purpose – be that to tell my sad story or just to make a little girl smile for a few minutes.

Day 476 - 10/20

Another sad Tuesday

It's another sad Tuesday. I haven't been at all motivated to do school stuff today, which is sad, but ok as only a small bit of reading is due. I've done similar readings in at least three other classes, so I'm sure I'll be fine.

I'm having an early dinner because I'm starving and I don't want to wait until 9 to eat.

It was pouring yesterday but today it's back to clear skies.

Noone at the photo place can figure out how to get the pictures higher res. The 'expert' is out until like Saturday, so I won't be able to get higher res versions until then - if I can at all. I may indeed have to consider getting a digital camera instead of disposables. It would allow me to control my resolution and I *could* sell it to recover some money later when I no longer need it. I'll have to research more as even \$100 would take nearly half of my savings.

I'm beginning to wonder how many people actually form strong and close friendships with people beyond college. It seems that of everyone I've known college age really seems to be a cutoff. Of course I've not made any friendships since then, but it seems when I hear people talking about friends they always trace back to a long time ago. I've never really found anyone who said, 'this is my very good friend, we met when I was 33' (or whatever age). I suppose it could happen through marriage, but it seems outside of that social circles really are rare to form or add new members. It would be interesting to research, but I suppose without data I'm just rambling.

I suppose it's just another sad ending for a sad day in sad times for me. My life could be so much better, but I suppose it could still be worse. I still seem to be stuck in

the middle. Hopefully as Halloween fun starts the next few weeks will be a bit more interesting/fun.

Picture series 10



Old car is ooolllddd



Old car is ooolllddd, other side



oh noes, their bumper



Aviator bear



Death Knight shirt



So cute a pool visitor



B-day 09



More b-day 09



Kid safe movies



For those dirty little thoughts



Homeless hardcore style



Grannie panties?



Sooooo cute a passenger



My final test



My training is complete

Day 477 - 10/21
Buying a camera

It's a late lunch time; I'd guess around 1:15. I was sort of bad today. I looked at what the most recent development cost me and added the cost of the camera to find out what the new total will be. Apparently they were undercharging me (and others) for film development. Anyways, the total is now roughly \$15-20 a pop (compared to the previous \$10-15.) That's been on my mind since a few days ago as that seems really wasteful. I thought and thought and thought. This morning I did some looking around at digital cameras. The good news is that I found something for 2/3 the cost of something that I previously found and had on my wish list (like 10 months ago?). And it's 50% higher pixel resolution, so that was awesome. The sad news is that it took just about everything I had in emergency / re-establishment savings. I still have money to pay my overdue taxes, but that's it really. I felt slightly sick making that purchase, as it's all I have, but it *is* an investment. And, with the 'extra' hours I'll be doing on Halloween and money I will probably get from dad, I should recover the money within a few weeks. Plus, once my sad times are over I can sell it and get even more back. And if I should remain homeless much longer after about eight more picture series I will indeed have saved money compared to doing film cameras and development. Of course the main limitation is the digital size is the digital size; without film it can't ever be bigger.

I've also been bad and not done any school stuff yet. I've just been watching TV shows. I've got about 4 hours before I need to leave for class, so that should be plenty of time to do an assignment and skim read. (I'm familiar enough with the material from several other classes that skimming should be fine.)

Well, full now so off I go. I'm sad about spending my monies, but more sad that I'm in a position that I needed to. Hopefully these ramblings and pictures can some day produce positive change or reactions in others. 😊 Until then... I continue to endure.

Day 478 - 10/22

Hurting feet

Lunch nom at 1:30. I've just been watching shows so far today and chatting on a few boards. Thursday is pretty much a decompressing from class day for me, so I've been doing that. 😊 I have mid-terms in a few weeks, so I'll be all 'eek!' about that soon. I figure over the weekend I can try and study a bit for one. The other is a take home thing, so that's not as stressful.

There is a job fair thing going on here today so I'll probably check that out. I'll check job boards too when I can. Mostly though I'll be playing my game wirelessly at the mall.

I suppose I feel a bit happier today than I have been lately, so that's good.

My feet hurt a super lot today though. I noticed a bit ago it's not just odd growth on my right ankle, but a whole (slight) distortion in the angle of my bone from mid-calf down. It could be due to walking oddly ever since the injury or it could be a whole other crazy growth thing and the injury has nothing to do with it. I'll keep trying for a free appointment to find my way to a doc to look at it. I may wind up being a bunny with no hop down the line. 😞

That's all I can think of so far. Maybe more later. 😊

Day 479 - 10/23

Got the camera

It's almost noon, lunch time. 😊

I got the camera last night. Delivery was super quick. I guess I put in the order just in time for shipments to go out that day, so my free two day shipping effectively became overnight. Unfortunately the memory card (new-school film) is going by slow shipment (unknown to me at the time I ordered it) and may take upwards to a week to get to me.

I watched some shows this morning and that's it so far. I did a subscription thing to most of them at Hulu, so it will tell me when they are new. That will make it a lot

easier to know which I've got to watch. At least I don't have to worry about accidentally missing or getting behind on any shows there.

After lunch I'll see about getting my book to study for a final. I'll only have a couple of more hours to play and have fun after that before I have to go to a meeting then mini work. It's like seriously, these kids do just fine without the meetings and training (they have to pass a test to be certified before being hired.) The reality is that most will only be there for four months, maybe a year, and then they will move on. All this micro-managing with meetings is lame. Noone likes them. It just stresses everyone out. It was pretty hilarious. The new boss during the last meeting was like, "There is a new policy that you have to request time off more than two weeks in advance. Is that ok with everyone?" And I'm thinking to myself, 'Seriously? You expect people who don't know what they are doing *two days* from now to give you an honest answer that they are ok with you requiring two weeks notice for time off?!" Workers are going to be dropping out at an astounding rate once we hit the holidays, and not in a good way. I don't think she realizes how many will simply quit because she says they can't go to a holiday function that they didn't have more than two weeks notice on. Guess I'm just rambling again, but if you guys become leaders do everyone some favors; really consider *why* you are making a rule, consider if there *needs* to be that rule, consider how things have gone so far *without* that rule, consider *who* the rule applies to and consider *their* feelings / thoughts / lifestyle. Break things down to the most basic level and really think about it. In most cases rule changes and rules don't actually help anyone, they just make things more complicated. Most people are of the personality type that more complicated will not achieve the desired result.

Well, off I go. Maybe more later. 😊

Time passes

I had an ok day I guess. It's about 4:30 and I got let out of my mandatory meeting early. Yes, yet again I spent more time driving than I did in the meeting.

I'm a bit sad though, as I got an email earlier about an Evga / Nvidia launch event party on the 30th. It's the one evening I work during the week and only the first 300 people who responded get to go. There was no way I could get a replacement to go quickly, and since sick and vacation time don't exist for me going without a replacement isn't an option. It's not the Nvidia series 3 launch, but it could be another card type

I precited they may launch what with the rumors of three cards hitting end of life. What with the event being only a 20-30 minute drive south of me I'm very sad my work prevents me from going. I'd have gone in a heartbeat and posted pictures and news it it were any other day.

Well, with ½ hour extra I really can't do much since it would take 1/3 of that time to go somewhere and get set up to do anything. Guess maybe I can try and study or something.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 480 - 10/24

Days passing by

My day is almost over. It's sometime around 7:45 and I'm about to leave the mall to get dinner. I don't know what I'll do with the rest of my evening. My final I can study for isn't for two weeks, so less stress there. I may wind up studying for it though.

I may see if there is a kiosk movie to get, but I don't know. I feel odd. Earlier I felt like I had a home, friends, and that I would be getting ready to go out with my sweetie and friends to dinner and a movie, but I have none of those. I spent the day playing offline and checked a few boards.

I suppose my day was vastly better than days gone by, but still a sadness of what I'm missing out on permiates everything.

Day 481 - 10/25

First in; last out

My day is over. It's nearing 9:30. I suppose it was an ok day over all. I was moderately happy and could play my game basically lag free. Despite my having good groups and was chatty with some friends for a bit I felt overly lonely. I was the first in to the mall food court area and the last to leave.

I didn't really do any studying, but I should be fine. I can do some at mini work and the laundry tomorrow and I'll spend the evening studying at school too.

My day was interrupted by a bill collector – the same company as a few weeks ago. That guy who made me the special offer never mailed me anything as I told him to do. I suppose it doesn't matter as even a \$10-15 commitment a month is too risky (with my current income). I guess though this is a reminder from Fate that I really should consider bankruptcy. There really appears to be no end in sight and it's been roughly two years since I could afford to make any credit payments. I guess I should see if I can get in contact with someone about (discussing) that. My bigger debt is school loans though. The ~10k in credit debt is nothing compared to the ~65k in school loans. I'd rather not blow those off, as I think that would do horrendous credit damage, but I guess we'll see. Personally I still think I should get some kind of free job placement help from them as long as I owe money.

Anyways... while I would have normally planned to spend some of my day playing, I really didn't plan to spend *all* of it playing. I don't really regret it, I lack a good place to study so getting into a studying mood is difficult. And with my current situation there is little else I *could* do (particularly on a weekend day.) I am always sad that I don't have that *choice*; to play, study, watch movies, cook a nice dinner, relax with TV, etc.

Such a simple concept. We all want a choice. We don't want to be forced into anything or given no choice.

Day 482 - 10/26

The first one drops

It's nearing 11 at aquatics mini work. I have a sleepy. I slept until my alarm went off at just about 10. It's strange because I've had a lot of trouble getting to sleep lately. I got 'in bed' at 9:45 but I couldn't sleep until after 12:30. (Which I guess isn't super surprising as that is when my body would fall asleep in a bed in a home.) It's strange because my body knows I'm safe in these colder months. There really hasn't been any passer-bys (car or on foot). So it's like after 9:30 it's totally quiet and safe for me to be there, yet my body and mind can't settle.

The first of the lifeguards has quit. It's the person I think I talked about the other day. The reasons? Big surprise; stress caused by these meetings, trainings, being micro-managed all the time, and now they have to get there earlier than before to do poop cleaning stuff. She loves being a lifeguard. She has another lifeguard job and she's totally happy there. I expect more will drop over time as the needless pressure continues. Yes, guarding lives is important, but these people are kids, mostly between 17-20. They don't need all this extra junk piled on them stressing them out. Anyways...

I bought in my book today to get study notes ready. I'm too sleepy for my brain to function right now, so I'll likely eat lunch first. It shouldn't be too tough. This one is just making 3x5s to study from and I've got until the Tuesday after this one to study. I looked at my other one, the 'take home' one, and it's fine. The questions are ones that are taken from every single (child development) class I've had before, so it's stuff I've gone over half a dozen times already.

After work I'll do laundry then finally a visit to do some filing and organizing of my garage stuff. The ex-roomie who hates me has so many boxes and junk in the way I had to ask my friend/ex-roomie to set a special time for me to go. Since he's always home now and often in the garage I never have enough time to move his junk around to get to my stuff. If it weren't so expensive to store my stuff myself (it's around \$100-150 a month here) I'd just do that. Heck if the storage unit had power I could even set up my stuff and watch a movie or play some console games now and then. 🤖 I've never known storage units to have power though.

After I do that I'll check on the pictures, which they probably couldn't fix, and after that more study time over at school.

As always the day goes how it goes. Fate steers my course and I try and make the best choices I can along the way.

It's just after 12:45, time for lunch nom. I think there's a storm coming. I had a hard time getting to sleep last night, again, and starting at around 1 AM the wind really started going. It's going pretty strong still.

I really love my new camera. 🥰 When you go to take a shot on auto it's all 'pew pew the targeting squares, bam! the picture!' 😊 It was pretty funny when I took one of some Blu-ray movies with people on the cover. It saw the faces and tried to do auto compensation stuff, hehe. 😊

People say we define ourselves, but ourselves define us in the stuff we buy. As I've been able to buy some movies lately (due to b-day and other gift monies) and I've been able to stay subscribed to my game and play regularly (again mostly due to gift time cards) I've been feeling more and more myself than I have in quite some time. While some of my older elements don't quite fit – my new-school digital cammo shorts and pants have a waxy/hard feel that I don't like – other old things are being renewed and feel right. As I looked through my old movies as I was putting the new ones away I thought again about my collection – not just of my movies, but my games and other stuff. How we arrange our stuff, what we collect, what we wear, it all defines us. It doesn't define us in the sense that if you force someone to wear x they become x, but in the sense that they chose y, and examining y reveals who they are. If you take a look around someone's space you can get a sense of *who* someone is. (I've always been very happy and hopeful when a cute girl has been in my room and said she liked my space, movies, or felt comfortable.) If we have to put away our things, if we don't have access to them, if we can't continue to collect and do the hobbies we enjoy, we can feel lost. We may feel a part of ourselves is slipping away.

I guess that's how I've felt a lot lately. That added to my feeling lost in my career path has made me feel very lost and sad lately. But recent reminders have made me... I guess even more comfortable with who I am. I may not make the best choices; I spend money on things I shouldn't when there are "more important things". Yet these are exactly the choices which define me – to myself and the rest of the world. They may not make sense. They may not be the best choices. But they are mine, and they are me.

Week 70

Day 484 - 10/28

A hole in my pants, but I'm not hip

It's nearing noon – lunch time – but I just got up. My body *finally* got caught up on the lost sleep and I slept from about midnight until 11 AM (not counting moving the car at first light.) My body still feels a bit grogy and tired but my mind feels ok. That's good because it may mean I'll finally be able to do that take home mid-term that's due tonight.

There's a hole in my pants. It's about 1" big and 3" long. It looks like one of those holes they put in pants to fake that they are old, and thus hip, but it's not. I've got old pants but I don't think that makes me hip. It makes me have a kinda cold leg above my right knee is what it makes me.

Seems the same for my... well, my me. I'm old, but not hip despite all the vampire 'he has older ways, isn't that quaint' fandom that's going around these days. Maybe it's because most of it is all about teen fampire angst these days.

Anyways... guess I'll try and work on my paper and eat soon. I'll likely watch shows after until class. I've got candy to give out, as I did last night. Peeps were all like, 'candy? yeeaaaaa 🍪'. They always are.

Day 485 - 10/29

Not tight pants

My day is over. It's 9:45 at night and I'm in my car nomming dinner. Today was a play day. I got up just before 10, watched a couple of shows, took a shower, then spent the rest of the day playing my game. 🧐 While playing I did check for jobs and checked fun boards. As usual lately no jobs to apply to. I decided to leave two of the boards I was posting too though as those games have launched and I'm not playing them. One was very sad to leave, as I'd gotten the invite to beta over a year ago around August. Had I not been

without a gaming system I could have been helping with beta for over a year prior to launch. I think the other board was similar, but not quite as old of an invite.

Last night when I put some stuff away in storage I decided to check a pair of pants in there. They fit just fine so I took them with me. It would seem that at some unknown point I switched one pair I had with the super tight pair I had in storage (from even before I had been homeless). So the pants I recently thought had become too tight from rapid weight gain was in fact mostly due to being (accidentally and unknowingly) switched to a pair I knew was too tight. Now, this isn't to say I haven't gained weight lately. I have gotten to just over 190, so I'm upwards to 10 pounds higher than shortly before this school semester started. (I think I last weighed myself roughly 1.5 months ago.) So yes, I *am* heavier and I am about 20 pounds over where I'd like to be. I'm still trying to have a bit less soda and fewer snacks that are bad for me, but I think it's the school schedule forcing fast food meals on me a couple of nights a week that is doing me in. At least back during the summer with all I could nom pizza night I could have salad, so it wasn't too bad, but my dinner options after class are very limited.

Anyways... I suppose an ok day all in all but, as usual, I'm out in the cold with no home. What with the fun holiday times coming up I begin to wonder more and more if I will ever have a home or ever really had one in my adult life at all; a place that is warm, safe, where I'm accepted for who I am, and maybe even loved by friends and a sweetie.

Day 486 - 10/30

Just another homeless Friday

The fun part of my day is over. I'm at mini work now. I watched some shows in the morning, then went over to play wirelessly at the mall most of the day. That's really my day.

Oh, lol, I saw a pink bunny suited person on a motorcycle going down the street, hehe. 😊 Haven't really seen many costumes other than that. I think I saw two at school and that was it. They didn't do the haunted house thing this year, which is kinda sad.

I guess that's it really. Some peeps said I was an awesome tank, which makes me happy since I'm heavily gimped due to my netbook and the instability of the network

(which was actually very stable today.) My Priest is getting up in levels – now nearly 60 of a total 80. I'm worried that I'll get to 80 and be just as stuck on that bod as I am on my main. It would be sad to be stuck and unable to progress with both characters.

Well, my life is what it is. I have very little control over it at the moment. All I can do is continue to apply for what few jobs I find and hope for change. Well, that and try to win the lottery. 😊

Day 487 - 10/31 loloween

I'm taking a pause break from a very interesting documentary I got about Monty Python. (For those who don't know they were the inspiration for the generation 10 system recommendation names.) It's really very interesting to see how they got together. There's a lot of history in there. There were a lot of reminders about the way the world was for me. I'd forgotten that I used to listen to them on the radio back in the day. While black and white TV was around when I was a baby, and color shortly after sometime before I was like five, a lot of stuff was on radio that was more... controversial or untested. A lot of the stuff, like British shows, weren't on TV until I was in my early teens.

Probably not very interesting bla bla but it was odd to be reminded of my own history while watching the history of someone else (who was a big part of my childhood comedy source). I guess that's just one of those shared experiences you tend to forget about until reminded.

Time passes

My night is over. I'm about to go to the car and try and get in my sleeping spot to 'go to bed'. The night was pretty lol with several little ones in silly costumes at the mall. It's weird because that wasn't something people did when I was their age.

Um... not really anything else to say. A sad evening for me, but I suppose it could have been worse. Hope everyone had a good and fun Halloween time. 😊

Day 488 - 11/1

Sprains

It's late at around 8:30. I'm having dinner in my car. Aside from the time change today was fairly uneventful. I got to the school (pool) sleeping spot and slept pretty good until around 9 (new time). Yesterday there was a ton of construction noise but today it was pretty quiet. (There were some sports people making some noise but not a lot.) After, I got up I went to the mall to play wirelessly.

I got to spend time with my online friend which was good. 😊 With my having class twice a week and her new job I don't actually see her all that often anymore. I always find it strange that we can feel closer or further from someone in an online game even though they are exactly the same distance regardless of where their avatar is. I suppose that feeling would be greatly reduced if I could use voice chat. (I don't even want to try since I have barely enough bandwidth for the game by itself.) After, I watched Supernatural then left to come here.

My jaw, wrists, and sort of my knees, have been hurting today. It's like I sprained my jaw muscle or something. I don't understand how that could have happened. I suppose we can sprain or bruise any muscle, and there are colds that can cause joint swelling. It's probably a cold or I smooshed it against the car seat long enough while sleeping to mess it up. I do have to smash my cheeks a bit if I'm in a certain position (which I often am).

I was very bad and didn't study. I'm still having an extremely difficult time focusing and being calm and settled enough to try and study. It's a *little* easier at school but I'm still not used to not having my quiet, warm, peaceful, nice flat floor or desk environment to study. On a day exactly like today – where the difference is that I'm in a home – I'd have easily been able to mix play with study. But instead I just played all day, lost in a swirl of constant movement of people and sound. Tomorrow I'll try and print my notes. That should hopefully make things a bit easier to study.

I had a reasonably good time but, as always, as the night goes on and the world begins to quite I find myself much lonelier, sadder, and less hopeful about my future than I'd like to be.

Day 489 - 11/2

Hail to the church

It's 10:45 at aquatics mini work. It's a pretty good day so far. 😊 I got up around 8:45 so I got a chance to go on campus to print my notes and watch Stargate Universe.



Last night to kill some time before bed I went over to a church lot to use their wireless. I've used it a few times at night now. It's probably the most stable (free) connection I've found. 😊 I watched an episode of Castle, tried to go to the sleeping spot around 10:30, but someone was blocking me, so I returned to watch a second episode. Of both episodes only about four times total did the signal pause, and two of those were around one second or shorter. I've played my game from there twice now. I've never been disconnected completely, though there were some minor pauses during play. If it weren't for the fact that this is an outside connection – I'm out in the cold in my car with no power – it would be one of the best options. It *does* give me a great option for a mostly private, basically dark, spot to play or watch video, or whatever from. 😊

There were several cuties on campus during my brief visit this morning. I had some dreams about cuties too. 😊 I slept pretty good and had good dreams, so I'm doing ok for sleep. I'm still getting smooshed parts and my back is in horrible shape because of it, but at least it's not like the early days where I was getting next to no sleep.

Well... I doubt anything will happen today to write about. I've got laundry, a bit of play and study time after, then I'll probably eat and take a shower at school and that's it.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 490 - 11/3

Being there

It's kind of an early lunch at just between 11:15 and 11:30. I got up a bit late at 9:45 – had a hard time getting to sleep yet *again* – then watched a show. After lunch I'll go to the mall to study and play my game. I may vote on the way.

There are lots of beautiful girls around 🥰 but noone would be interested in this silly ol' rabbit. I'm feeling very out of place today. I think I could accomplish more by going to the mall to play and study. I just don't think I could study here. I overheard someone the other day in the cafeteria saying to his friends, "WoW is real life; everywhere else is AFK." In a way he's right. In-game we have very specific rolls; we know what our characters are capable of doing. In the 'regular' world, particularly as we are growing up or between careers, we can feel lost, unsure of our role, don't know where to go – there are so many unknown and uncontrollable variables.

I suppose I'll do ok on my test later, but I'm worried. Information isn't as salient as it was once upon a time. Though this is all information, theories and theorists I've had in a half dozen classes before I'm not as confident with the speed of information retrieval as I think I should be. I guess all I can do is try my best. I suppose that is all we ever *can* do or be expected to do.

Time passes

My night is almost over. I just finished the test and I think I did pretty good. 😊 I do think though that I probably would have done just about as well on the first day as I did after all my recent studying. There really wasn't anything unfamiliar on the test. I probably got a B; don't think I got an A 'cause there were a few questions that I was like 'hum' on. We'll see. I get what I get.

I'm gonna drop fail on teh Internets then head over to the church to play for a bit in celebration (and to kill some time.) It's nice to have that bit of stress off my back now.

I guess I feel pretty ok today all things considered, but I still feel lost and out of place. As I sadly feared, actually passing the CBEST seems to have changed nothing. No new jobs have suddenly appeared on the market that weren't there before, and the jobs I have applied to (though they are only two or three) really weren't helped by having the passing grade.

Well, my life goes how it goes. I don't really have control over its direction. Oh, Fate may have given me a small nudge in that regard. Today I went along a completely different path than I would normally take at a completely different time. I found \$4 on the floor with no people anywhere in sight. 😊 Fate saying to me that unexpected paths can lead to (monetary) reward? Hum. Who can say for sure.

Week 71

Day 491 - 11/4

Church connection has a fail

It's super early lunch time at around 10:30. I was woken up early by lots of stupid car alarms and people with absurdly loud motors.

The church connection had a lot of fail last night. I got there at around 8:30 but it failed to connect until around 9. It went ok until about 10, but from 10:30-11 (when I gave up) it was at absurd ping levels (over 9000!) and I couldn't play at all. That happened one other night I was there. In total it's been two bad nights out of five visits, so hopefully those were just anomalies.

I feel out of place again. I'll leave to play at the mall after I finish lunch. I just don't feel right here lately or that I belong. I almost feel as if I'm lost in another country. (But I somehow expect that if I were people would actually see I'm lost and give me help, while here I'm just invisible.)

Today feels like a moderate and sad day. The sun is moderately shining. The weather is between cold and warm. There is a very gentle breeze. There is some morning fog left. It feels like a day I'd just sit at home and play all day instead of going to work or school, like one of those days you know will be average and ho-hum.

Day 492 - 11/5

The sadness in the wind

It's 11:15. You won't guess where I am. 😊 I'm at all I can nom pizza/salad lunch.



I haven't been able to do this for dinner since school started and I've missed it. I think it's been about a month and a half since I've had pizza, not counting a single slice at the school cafeteria.

I got my paycheck today, but even with the extra it's pathetically small. The total for two weeks is what I should be making in about three days. (And my average week is close to what I'd make in a single day.) Things are going to be getting super tight as

winter continues. Paying my taxes by early December when they are due will be very difficult. I guess dad didn't send any Halloween monies. I didn't really expect it, but it really would have helped to pay taxes. I suppose I should have paid it sooner when I had more money but I was more concerned with emotional survival in recent times.

It's windy and gray outside again. The wind carries with it a sadness, a final farewell to summer and hello to fall. Jobs are already scarce enough but with the coming Hollidays things are bound to thin out more. I'll check jobs while I have lunch but I don't expect anything. It seems I may be stuck homeless with little to no movement for quite some time. 😞

Day 493 - 11/6

Gray sky Friday

It's later in the evening at nearly 5:45 at gym mini work. I haven't written earlier because there really hasn't been anything to say. It's just a regular Friday save for the gray clouds and very light sprinkle. I got up a bit early at around 8:45 and watched a show. I picked up chicken and salad for a chicken salad – the chicken was so hot it warped the plastic fork, hehe 😊. I played wirelessly for a bit after that and that's been my day.

I did do a touch more research on laptops and found a cool Sony. Tweaked with a slightly better CPU, 4 gig (for +\$20), Nvidia GT 230M (for +\$50), Icy White color, 14" screen (base), 1366x768 resolution (base), free Blu-ray upgrade, all for \$840-890 (final price depending on if I get the larger battery upgrade or not). So that would be super win if I could upgrade to that. 😍 That would be a powerful enough graphics chip to play any game I wanted as well as allowing me access to my Blu-ray movies. I could carry around a half dozen at any one time if I liked.

Sadly there really is no movement towards higher pay or a new job. I did get out one resume but that's it. I saw a burb on TV at the mall that said unemployment was near 10% now (which means where I am is likely closer to 13-15%, as we were at 10%+ when the overall nation was only at 6%.) It's crazy and all I can do is just keep plodding along.

I did come up with an idea for a site tweak. I'll probably slowly work on that and have it ready for 2010. Not a huge deal, just a menu re-design, so that it's horizontal instead of vertical. It should be cool.

That's all for now. 😊

Day 494 - 11/7 Sprinkling Saturday

It's late, I think around 9. I'm having dinner in my car while trying to watch shows. The church wireless is pausing but mostly ok. I spent the day playing at the mall and that's it really. Nothing going on on the boards; no jobs to apply for, no emails or calls.

It sprinkled very lightly but I don't think it will rain until later tonight or maybe tomorrow.

That's it really.

Day 495 - 11/8 Okish time

It's dinner time later in the evening, probably around 8. I had an okish time today. I got to sleep in. I played wirelessly mostly lag free. And now we are at the wireless church spot to watch some shows "before bed".

I'm balancing a touch more now that I can watch shows (or movies) in the evenings (in relative privacy in a quiet area.) It seems more... normal... more *me*.

That was really my day. I chatted very briefly on fun boards, checked job boards, checked news; but mostly I played. Nothing good or special happened, but I suppose that nothing bad has happened either.

Day 496 - 11/9

Being productive

Early lunch at mini work. Something I overheard someone say to his friends yesterday at the mall has been bouncing around in my head. He said something like, "I couldn't sit and play games all day. I have to work or I don't feel productive." I glanced up at the guy, listened to a bit more of what they were talking about, and I thought to myself that this guy would do just fine in life. He wouldn't have the problems I've had. He'll have a wife, kids, and buy a home. But the thing is, twenty years from now he'll look back and ask himself what he's accomplished. Besides his wife, kids, and home, he'll have nothing. I think that's the greatest difference between us. To me "being productive" means *producing* something. I don't see changing tires or oil (what he did), or selling stuff in a department store, or working at a fast food restaurant, or here at the pool or gym, as "productive". To me that's maintenance. To me being productive is about creating or applying knowledge and affecting change. Sure, he changes tires, he changes oil, but I'd disagree that he's being truly productive. Now, if he were writing discussion on which oil is better and why, or which tires have better grip on the road, I could see that as producing something. But to me (doing it one person at a time) that's just maintaining. Sure, it accomplishes something and I'd agree there, or that the janitors I see at the mall cleaning tables and taking out the trash accomplish something, but I'd disagree that they are producing.

Maybe it's just poor word choice. Maybe I'm being overly picky. But I've heard it before, particularly from my dad. While playing a game may not be productive you could certainly apply the knowledge you gain from playing in ways such as creating a strategy guide or comparing different games in discussion, which could lead to production. I suppose that's never sat well with me in my life in terms of a job – so many just seem like maintenance, not production. I would be happiest where I can generate or pass on knowledge and affect change. Maintaining what is, minor changes that don't alter a person's experience, these kinds of jobs don't interest me. Sure, I could do them, but so could anyone else. You need to do what you love and you need to know if you would enjoy a job that maintains or one that produces.

Day 497 - 11/10

Work gets more lame

A little bit later lunch at around 1. The cafeteria is full of life and busyness what with everyone being with friends and nomming lunch. I keep forgetting to mention that I got 100% on the test for my Wednesday class. In theory we get the Tuesday class test back tonight. (We did; I got a B/B-, which is about what I expected.) I'm still feeling a bit sad and apart from everyone. Maybe it's my continuing stagnation in my career/job path. More likely though it is due to how different my life is from what is "normal". I watch shows, movies, and play games just like everyone else, but the way in which I do so is different. I eat and shower, but again in a different way than everyone else. I'm here when campus is completely packed and when it is completely empty, yet neither time do I feel like I belong - I'm only here out of necessity.

Two new games launched lately that I've been wanting to play. Yet more fun everyone else is having that I can't have.

After lunch I'll work on my site redesign a bit then try and do the reading for Wednesday's class. The professor found an older book that she's letting me borrow as long as I need, but it would be nice to get through it quickly so I can return it. Since I got 100% on the mid-term I'm sure using the one on hold in the library is fine for future study needs.

Well... I guess I'm off to find somewhere quieter than the crazy cafeteria to do my stuffs. Bye for now.

Time passes

It's dinner time before class around 5. I got to finish my new menu redesign and it's full of win. 🥳 It actually shouldn't take too long to tweak the site pages, certainly less effort and time than I expected. It's possible the redesign could go up within a week.

Unfortunately I was distracted and unable to do much studying. I got an email from the new pool boss person saying that at these mandatory trainings she's going to force we who are general office people to do swimming and other exercise. This caused a bit of panic as there is no way I can keep up with kids half my age who go swimming all the time. The reality is that I haven't been in "good" shape since longer than most of them have been alone. While not in terrible shape at roughly 190 pounds (at 5'8") the reality is

that when I walk more than about 100 feet I'm winded and breathing a bit heavy. I would *love* to get into shape, as you all know, but there is no way I can do that with my current life limitations. And even if I had the money to buy any food I wished and time to do any workout I wished I would also like to check in with a fitness expert before/during to be sure I'm ok. There is no way someone is going to snap their fingers and I'll be in shape. If anything forcing me into heavy excersize would be hazardous to my health and I certainly don't trust anyone without at least a masters in physical education to push me in any way. (Particularly when said person's most recent rule change was to impliment a "parka log". Yes, the guards who sit out in the cold with no shelter now must check in/out a jacket to keep them warm during their shift.)

So, bit of a panic there. While it won't influence my 5 hours at the gym it may become forced/necessary to drop the 3.25 hours at the pool because people who answer the phones are now somehow required to be in similar shape as the lifeguards. Sorry, but I just don't fit that description and I won't be getting there anytime soon.

Well, just a short while before class and my night is rapidly over. 😞 Guess that's all for this week. Bye for now. 😊

Day 498 - 11/11

Brain has a fail

My mind has a total fail today. It's been all sleepy and doesn't really seem to remember anything. If I try and think about something it just fizzles. It's super early dinner time before class.

I have a vague recollection of checking job boards. I sent an app out yesterday but nothing today. I finished the reading for my Wednesday class too, so I can return the book. It was only two chapters total.

Back in the day I was told by my web hosting people that my site would work with or without the www; it was optional. With the recent redesign I decided to finally make a check on that. The site works fine. However, for some unknown reason the flash menu does not. Without the www the menu acts as if it has no scripting for the buttons, but with the www it works just fine. The truly puzzling thing is that my everbecoming site, which is entirely flash, works just fine with or without the www. There were a few different lines of code which I tried changing out but that doesn't make any difference. My only guess is that it has to do with how the site was set up (incorrectly) by the web hosting people. I'd change it if that is the case, but I'd have to change my \$7 a month plan to double that. Right now that would be a cost I don't need to spend.

I was thinking about 3D gaming again today. The monitors available for Nvidia's 3D Vision have remained exactly the same since launch roughly 10 months ago. To me this indicates a potential problem with production of compatible monitors. The puzzling thing is they now have a "Vision Discover" set of glasses which supposedly work just fine (in a lesser and red/blue colored kind of way). If you have a strong enough Nvidia graphics card (and a certain type of driver or higher, which you can download free). It strikes me as odd that they aren't selling those glasses at a low cost (say \$10-15). Apparently they can be gotten at special trade shows and conventions. While this seems perfectly logical in that they can go 'here is what the Discover version looks like, but look how much cooler the full version is.' But it doesn't seem logical that they aren't dropping the glasses on the market to drum up more interest in the full product. This, and the lack

of 1080 compatible monitors really makes me wonder if the product was launched prematurely or if it is in flux for some reason. I wrote to them and asked the questions but I doubt they will answer a crazy rabbling homeless bunnah. 😊

I'm still feeling sad lately but I'm sleeping well enough. Though I'm still cramped up and not sleeping well physically, I feel safe enough at the sleeping spot and school to get enough rest mentally. (Not counting days like today where my brain and memory seems completely non-functional.)

I wonder if I have a cold. My tummy has been very active and wants lots of different cafeteria food. Usually it's all super hungry and wants different food when I'm sick. The brain fail combined with various cravings could be an indication of a cold.

Well, that's all the ramblings for now I guess. Oh, I did the site change last night. It actually took hardly any time. Just had to copy and paste something to about 40 different files and it was done. Easy peasy. 😊

Day 499 - 11/12

A, E, I, O, U, and sometimes keyboard

It's dinner time at the gym. I can't call it an extra shift so much as an unexpected one. With the upcoming Hollidays I'll be down to about 35% of my normal income during the last two weeks of December. So that, in addition to the fact that I really need to be working 25+ hours a week, really makes anything less than that not so much "extra" as 'more than I was expecting / scheduled for'.

I had a pretty good day I guess. I slept ok and had a fun time gaming at the mall. No job apps or replies though, so that's sad.

I got a reply back from Nvidia last night. It seems that they *do* sell the glasses at their online store in 10 packs for \$10. There is also apparently a kiosk with a demo system set up in a store not too far from me. I'll have to go check that out. It still strikes me as odd that they wouldn't pack in free glasses and advertising with every single graphics card of x level and higher. Maybe the free ones are just 'gimicy' and aren't designed for long-term wear (unlike the full version). Maybe too they are afraid that the level of performance would deter sales more than help them. I suppose I won't know the

answers until I either see a comparison at the kiosk or upgrade to my Sony that I want and try them out myself.

I found that I really do like to still use my keyboard when I'm in my car, but not at any other time. I guess it's partly because I have to sit far from my netbook because it's on the dash as well as it being more like a normal multi-level desktop setup.

That's it for now. 😊

Day 500 - 11/13 Thirteen

Ooooh. Spooky Friday the 13th. I haven't seen anything funny today. Sometimes people dress funny at school or work on Friday the 13th. School was closed today though due to a postponed Veteran's day from Wednesday, so I spent the day at the mall.

I actually didn't get too much sleep because of that, as I had nowhere to sleep safely after it started to get lite. I did go to the church wireless spot and get a little bit more sleep, but I've probably only gotten about 6 hours total.

I guess I had an ok time. I mean, yeah, it's like 'yeeeeaaa for my system and gaming and teh Internets 😊'. So, life is much better than just seven months ago. But at the same time, everything else that is my life is the same, or worse. I've had another tooth go super bad, the weather is getting colder again, and it seems I'm wearing out the fabric on my car seats. The driver's side has a big exposed section of the seat foam now.

It's nearing 5:45 at gym mini work so my night is basically over. I have another dumb "manditory training" tomorrow. It's an hour. In the middle of the day. And it takes like 10-15 minutes for me to drive each direction, not counting the time to pack/unpack and go to/from my car. It's so completely unnessary. Nothing at all has changed at the pool or gym in the past month, or even the past nearly three months since summer ended. It's just a waste of city payroll and everyone's time if you ask me. But then maybe that's just because I've got a degree in Psychology and know these kids aren't going to care or learn at this job. It's too temporary. It would be like trying to teach camp counselors how to do accounting spreadsheets. Sure, it may come up in a one in a million situation as part of their job but it's not likely. Anyways... rambling.

My days are still better now with my system but I still feel lost, sad, alone, behind everyone else, and gimped (in game, entertainment, and most of all career).

That's all for now I guess.

Day 501 - 11/14

Sick and tired in the rain

I guess I'm having an ok enough time today. It's after 6 and I'm just taking a break from the game (mostly because my ears hurt from being smooshed.)

I'm definately sick. I started getting tired and winded easily back on Tuesday night, but now I've got congestion, fatigue, sleepyness, and I get winded just walking a short distance.

I called my boss to tell her I'm too sick to swim and ask if I should come in to the meeting or not. She said, "don't worry about it." I guess I should have asked for clarification. I took that to mean 'don't worry about not swimming', not 'don't worry about it, stay at home and don't come to the meeting.' I did however mention that I was checking to see if I should come or not due to that, and she again repated "don't worry about it". I responded, "k. I guess I'll see you at 12:30 then." To which there was a pause and I said bye and hung up. When I showed up for the meeting she was like, "What are you doing here? I thought I told you don't worry about it." So that trip wasted an hour driving/parking/walking and a couple of dollars in gas / car costs.

Nothing else going on today save for playing at the mall. I've been bad and been putting off an observation for school that's due on Tuesday. I should try and contact people for that.

It rained lightly last night. Early this morning my car was wet when I got up at 6:30 (but not the last time my sleep was disturbed at around 3.) Thankfully it wasn't enough to leak. It hadn't rained since, but it's dark outside now so I can't see if it's raining or not.

That's all. Hopefully I can get some extra rest over the next few days and get better. It's been super cold lately. 🙄

Day 502 - 11/15

Twelve hours

It's later in the evening nearing 9:45. My day is basically over, though I may watch a show "before bed". I'm at the wireless church spot and I basically just finished 12 hours of being at the mall. I got there around 9:30 in the morning after taking a 5 minute mostly cold shower at school. (I'll likely stop trying on weekends as it's always colder water.) I did do a quick job and board check but I basically just played my game all day. Mostly there were good groups and I was with my two online friends for a bit. 😊 One has a sad though and I don't know how to cheer her up. 😞

I'm a lot better today though I'm still getting winded pretty quickly. I stayed bundled up with an extra shirt layer and my sweater all day (so I had an undershirt, t-shirt, house shirt, and sweater on my upper bits.) In a home I likely would have just had an undershirt, house shirt, sweats, and thrown a throw blanket on me to keep me warm while gaming.

People are starting to recognize me at the mall. One of the workers said hi to me as I was settling in this morning and a kid who chatted with me about the game about a week ago waved. Since it's getting so cold at night I'll likely be there a lot in the coming days, particularly days when school is closed.

"For here or to go?" struck me as a very odd question tonight as I got a couple of dollars of cheap fast food. I've probably been asked that a hundred times or more in the past nearly year and a half, but tonight it seemed different. I flashed to happier times. Times when I actually had somewhere to go; physically and mentally. I thought of the times when I was young with friends and we got food to go on the way places, or in more recent times when I was coming back from classes (during the days of my Associates and Bachelors) and it was later in the evening and I was too tired to cook. These days I'm always driving everywhere, yet never *going* anywhere.

Day 503 - 11/16

Two towels

I'm a bit better from my cold, but I've still got quite a bit of chest, throat, and nose congestion. I've been coughing less, but sneezing more.

I slept with two towels last night. One has to go under me to protect me from cold air cycling in from under the seat, and the other goes between me and the blankets. It keeps me decently warm but the towel that goes under me gets totally smooshed; and both must be dry in order to do it. Having a smooshed towel isn't a super big deal, but it is one of those come-forts people normally take for granted. Having a super fluffy (and warm) towel after a shower for drying off is win. 🥰

That's really it so far. I'm at mini work so nothing has happened yet today. I haven't decided what to do with the rest of my day yet. I need to do laundry but after I don't know if I'll spend extra time at school to watch shows or if I'll go play at the mall for a bit. So lame having to choose and there being such a big time sink of a difference between locations. All this going back and forth and here and there just to do simple things I could do around a home is so annoying and sad. 😞

Well, that's it for now. 😊

Day 504 - 11/17

Headache

It's around 4:30 and I've been bad and been in the cafeteria since lunch working on updating my tips file for Death Knight. I haven't gotten any replies for my observation paper (which is actually due tonight), so I guess that will have to be late. That's really all that's happened today. I spent the first half sleeping in a bit and watching shows, had lunch, then worked on the update. I have the worst headach so I may be bad and eat some real food. I don't know if that's because I'm still a bit sick, because I've been in a noisy cafeteria for the past 3 hours, a combination of those, or what.

I've got class in a bit and I may play for a brief while or watch a show "before bed" but that's really it for my day. Sadly nothing interesting to really talk about today. But then, I rarely have anything truly interesting to talk about. 😞😏

Picture series 11



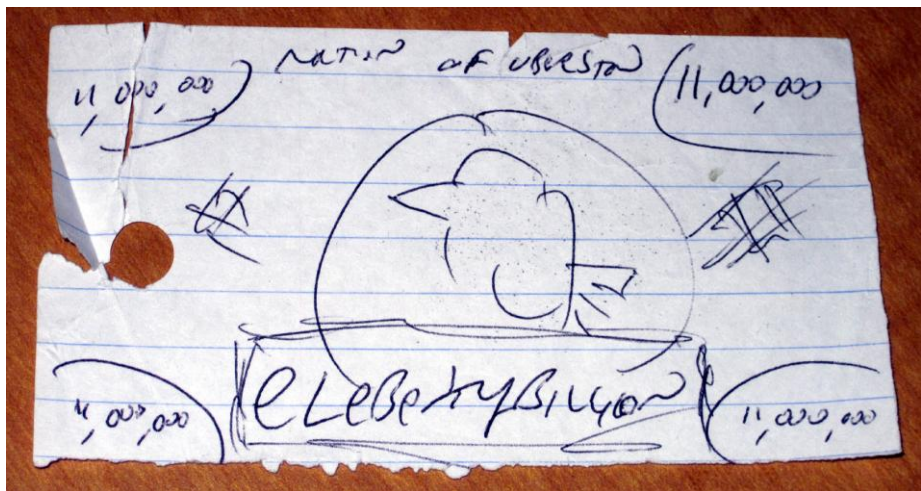
Late October sale is irresistible



Statue and moon (a recreation from picture series 1)



Statue in the dark (it's actually pastic)



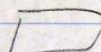
The elebentybillion dollar bill (from day 352, week 51),
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RABBIT, com 2010?



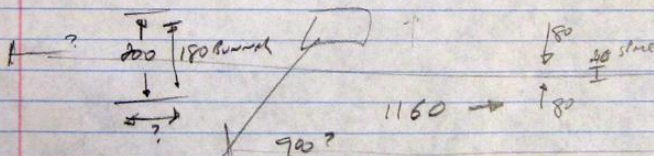
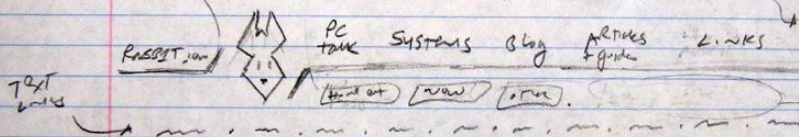
Burnish 216 ↑
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 - 85 + x 25 + or 45 ↓

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Eh... (unclear)

Blue line

who is Rabbit? Email

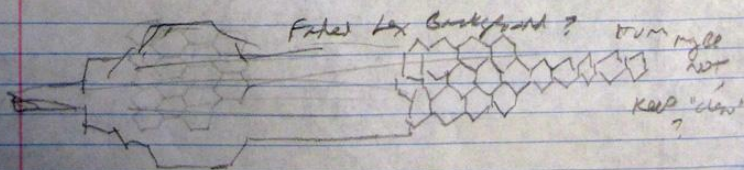


RABBIT, com - named by picture, outlined by
some invisible
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Get rid of all errors

At a last
minute LOT?

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100 x 80?



rabbIt 2010 menu scribbling

Day 505 - 11/18

"Too old to begin the training"

It's been a pretty quiet day so far in terms of nothing going on. I slept in a decent amount. I'm still sick. My throat is still messed up, I'm a bit hungrier than usual, a bit of a headache, and I still tire/get winded quickly.

I watched some of my shows then borrowed the land line to patch my game. There were still no phone or email messages about doing my observation so I guess I'll have to make a bunch of calls tomorrow and be more pushy to get this set up. I updated my site a bit after lunch and tried to do some work on a group final for class.

I still feel between worlds. I felt out of place watching my shows this morning, but looking around I saw that 90-95% of people were all messing around with online web games, social sites, or watching shows. I felt a touch less out of place after noticing that. At lunch, and now too during an early dinner, only a few people are single. Most are with a friend or several friends. The quarter is winding down and people are picking new classes. All on their way down a path that will take them to jobs and careers. Meanwhile I feel lost, as if I'm throwing darts at a dartboard while blindfolded. I don't have money for classes yet, so that will have to wait. Again I question if it will really help. I don't really feel like I'm moving forward. Still, like my degrees and certificates I already have, if they aren't helping I really suppose taking a class or two doesn't exactly hurt. I'd find no more jobs I could take without them, even if I could stop taking classes and completely free up my schedule.

As the days pass I doubt myself more and more. Yes, I'm great at my game. I'm good at doing stuff as well as considering tactics and strategies. I'm good at figuring people out, their patterns and habits. People I see regularly still say hello in passing and are reasonably friendly. Yet in a career... well I apparently have none. Day by day all the paths I thought were open seem to be closing. I feel less confident about my ability to do them and less and less hopeful that I'll actually find one. Am I forever doomed to be menial job guy because no one trusts me to do more? Because I lack experience in a

particular job? Or because some mysterious force compells those around me so I follow a specific path?

Day 506 - 11/19

Tight money

Unexpected work shift. It's about 5:45. My boss got here like one minute after I did. Odd that both times I've been here to cover for someone she's been here. I suppose though this time seemed more like she was here to be sure I covered the shift, but after working here more than 1.5 years and covering shifts several times in the past I can't help but feel more like it's checking up on me to micromanage me. I hate when bosses do that to remote workers. It's like either you trust them or you don't. Anyways...

Not much going on today. I slept in at school but got up early around 8:45. I went over to play at the mall wirelessly, checked for jobs, checked on my observation that's already overdue, and now I'm here.

I haven't had a chance to check my "budget" yet but things will be tight. I have to pay my overdue taxes soon and that will drain me past all my savings into my real money. Hopefully I can time it so they can't cash the check until I'm paid again, but it will be close. I'm basically counting on at least a little money from dad to balance back out. I really wasn't expecting to be back down to this few number of hours per week, so I really didn't get a chance to save up much. (Nor was I expecting to need to drop \$165 on a camera or be paying upwards to \$20 a picture series.) Hopefully too I can remember to charge and try to sell my iPod that I never use. That should get me around \$50, maybe more.

I found out why my online friend has a sad. She has an online boyfriend who is kind of pressuring her into playing and raiding way more than she wants. I feared that may be the case, which is why I've recently been suggesting fun movies for her to rent and spend time with outside of the game. The thing is she has a sick (in a nursing home) mom, he has a young son, and they live across the country from one another. The game is really the only place/time they see one another. I tried suggesting video chat type activities like dinner, social games, or whatever, but she said those don't really work out.

I'm worried he's obsessive about the game and she's feeling forced to be equally obsessive and that there won't be anything between them when one of them moves on.

Well... that's it for my rambling tonight. Suuuper hungry. 😊

Day 507 - 11/20

lol at mister whitehair

Mini work at about 5:45; nothing new or interesting to say really. I finally got ahold of someone for the observation I need to do. It only took contacting four different schools to find someone who would actually talk to me. 🤔 There is a party tomorrow for the husband of one of the ghosts. It will cost like \$7 in gas to go, but I guess that's ok. I can meet some peeps and you never know what may happen because of that.

I got to lol at the ex-roomie who hates me. Back when I was living there he had gotten I'd say maybe 40% white/gray. Today I stopped by the garage super quick and he's 100% bright white. I was like (to myself), 'lol, in the past year he's gone completely gray.' His hair isn't short either. It's long 70s pony tail style. Here I am nearly 10 years old and I'm less gray than he was at 25. lol. 😊 I probably shouldn't be so hard on myself about my age. While I am "middle age" now I look and act 10-15 years younger. Even people who I tell "I'm older" have no idea really. 😊

Anyways... that's really it. I changed my WiFi card drivers last night and I seem to have much better stability now. I played wirelessly at the mall for about 6.5 hours and I think I only dropped once ever (compared to 15-20 times in that same amount previously.) Hopefully the new drivers will be good to go. I'm still heavily gimped at minimum settings running at 10-15 FPS compared to a decent 30-45 or good 60+, so my experience still could be a lot better. And I believe that processing speed plays a part in (wireless) video watching, as I've seen others at school streaming video without issue where I typically struggle with the simplest things. Well, hopefully Xmas gifts and hopefully a tax stimulus next year will allow me an upgrade if I still can't find more/new work.

Um... oh I got a movie I didn't think the kiosk would ever rent as I've heard it's pushing the R rating, so that should hopefully be full of lol.

That's it really. Bye for now. 😊

Day 508 - 11/21

Not my birthday party

It's nearing 9:45 at night and my day is just about over. I've spent the past 12 hours with one of my ghosts at her husband's b-day party. It was pretty fun, but she was the only one I actually knew. The peeps seemed nice enough though. They have two kitties and two doggies so I was surprised that I lasted about 3 to 4 hours before I really started to feel my allergies and 4 or so more before they got bad. Their house is all hardwood floors, so that was likely a big part of it. I'm not sure when I'll see them again, and I didn't really bond with any of their friends (mostly I suspect because they were all couples, but also because of varying hobby interests.) I seemed welcome enough, so that was good. I guess though their friends with food flaked so they wound up getting pretty expensive food. Oh, the day started at this place called Psycho Donuts. I guess it's a local thing. You can peep the pic and see how fancy the doughnuts were. They are all kinds of crazy.

So... that was my day. I'm off to play my game for an hour or two "before bed" while my body recovers from my allergies. Bye peeps. 😊

Day 509 - 11/22

Avoiding a frozen system

It's nearing 9 and my day is basically over. I slept in a touch and got up around 9. I grabbed some lunch meat then headed over to the mall. I played all day, checked fun boards, checked job boards, and made a comment on a bla bla that the party ghost wrote.

Yesterday morning when I got up and went to use my system at about 8:30 it was super cold. So cold that the screen had moisture on it from the keys and metal below. I

feared letting that happen would eventually damage the screen so I thought and thought and thought and came up with a spot to put it against my bag under my legs. It seems to have worked as it wasn't too cold this morning. It wasn't warm, but it certainly didn't feel frosty cold. Back in the day when it was new I used to just keep my whole backpack under my feet – and I may start doing that again if my feet start getting too cold. It's pretty big now though what with the large headphones, camera, dvd drive, etc. I'd have to take at least some of that out and it just seems easier to keep the system out.

Well, that's really it. Money is super tight, but that's no fun to talk about. I miss my basic things in life, but there isn't anything I can do about it. So that's really all for tonight.

Hope everyone has an awesome fun Turkey weekend this weekend. 😊

Day 510 - 11/23

One day at a time

Laundry time. Nothing really going on today of interest. I did mini work this morning, doing laundry now, I'll be playing for a bit wirelessly, then I have a dumb meeting with some group project people. These projects are always fail. I always wind up with lazy people and/or wind up doing all the work. This time a couple of the people were blowing off my ideas saying it would be super easy. One sent a something a week ago and it didn't meet any of the grading criteria points, as if she didn't even look at the greensheet. I pointed that out and now everyone else is in a panic.

Sooo... yeah, that's it so far. Nothing interesting; just all daily maintenance type things. My life very much seems to be one day at a time these days.

Day 511 - 11/24

Aspects of me

It's around 1:30. I'm soooooo hungry, but my soup is a bit too hot to eat, heh. I'm super sleepy because I had to get up early for my observation project. It went pretty good.

The kids were nice and friendly towards me. 😊 It would be super fun to teach kids. Hopefully someday I can do that, though my path is no longer as clear as it once seemed. I met with some class peeps for a group project we have to do last night and that looks much better than it did before. It should work out ok.

I still don't feel like I belong here. I still feel lost and out of place. Today I feel like maybe the only place I would belong is on some desert island, banished from the rest of the world for failing to fit in with what anyone else considers normal.

I'm tempted to run away from school and play my game at the mall, but I can't because I have to type up the observation for tonight. I guess after lunch I'll only have about 3.5 hours for that but it shouldn't take more than an hour, so it should be fine.

My schedule since I found the wireless church spot has returned to being a bit more of what I used to do. Now, after I leave campus, I can watch a show or play for a bit "before bed" and I'm settling in closer to the 11 to midnight time that I normally would in a home. I'm falling to sleep pretty much right away and having some pretty frequent (and often crazy) dreams. Unfortunately that time between about 9 and 11 is really my only private time. At the mall I can allow myself to be consumed with what I'm doing and mostly tune out others around me, but it's not truly private as my time would be in a home. On campus everywhere is way too noisy and busy to have private time – even if there are some nice distractions of cute girls. 😍

I am often still surrounded by me things; the soups I like to eat, the drinks or sodas I like, I have my most important game, when I get gift money I can still collect Blu-ray movies – so I have things that anchor me to me-ness, yet I still feel like I'm drifting and lost. Aspects of me are in flux, changing and growing, while others are held in limbo unable to change.

I don't know when my journey will end. Although sometimes very interesting, it is far too lonely and chaotic for my tastes.

Time passes

In class now. It's probably going to go the whole time, which is laaaammmeeee. I hope all you peeps have a good turkey weekend. 😊 Eat enough tasty foods to make yer tummy happy but don't eat so much you get all sick. Have a good weekend peeps. Be kind, caring, and sharing to one another. 😊

Week 74

Day 512 - 11/25 Pre-turkey

It's about 7. I'm packed up and ready to leave the mall a touch early. I've got a headache from all the noise and people. I need some quiet private time, even if said time will be rapidly cold after I stop my car.

I was kind of hoping to get a Turkey day invite of some kind, but none have come. At this point that likely means the three or so people who may have invited me to a something are busy. I guess it's ok. I'll just chill and play my game, maybe watch some shows. The Internets were pretty laggy and dropped me several times, so the coming days may not be the best experience, but they are what they are. I got a schedule for the mall. Friday they are open late, but there is no time note for Tomorrow. I'd put bets it will close early and I'll wind up moving to the wireless church spot and bouncing between various parks. I guess we'll see when we see.

I'd honestly rather be alone playing my game doing regular weekend stuff then like with a family I haven't seen in forever who don't know *me* at all. It would be really nice if I were in a home. I could have cooked up a game hen, some stuffing, maybe some gravy, gotten a pumpkin pie, and had some movies rented. I've done that before and I enjoy the me time. Unfortunately with my income and lack of job prospects I think it may be quite some time before I have a normal Turkey day - be that with a family that does care for me and love me or in a home alone with the freedom to cook and eat how I like.

Day 513 - 11/26 Turkey day not according to plans

It's nearing 10; Happy Turkey day everyone! As I feared, even though the schedule I got did not say "closed" for today the mall is indeed closed. My options for gaming have rapidly dwindled to wireless at the church spot or paying for time at the

game center. Since I couldn't afford more than a few hours I don't even know if I'll go. I am selling my iPod today, so that's some money, but after paying taxes I'll only have about \$50 left in my account – all the money I'd have in the world. And \$10 of that needs to be used to go see a movie for one of my classes (which is one I'd see anyways.)

Even though I didn't expect much I think today will not turn out nearly as fun as I'd hoped. Oh wait... there may be some hope. I see some boxes near the church building. It's possible that's an outside plug. If it is I could play without needing to stop (unless it gets too bright, which is very possible with outside gaming.) I'll go investigate that now.



Time passes

Nope. Power is going from inside to outside, but it isn't an outlet. It's one of those shielded things. Ah well. Since I can't afford to spend much today will likely wind up being switches between gaming and putting my netbook in storage to charge up on power for a few hours; certainly not the Turkey day I had planned. 😞

Time passes

It seems the game center isn't an option either. I double checked my email from them and they aren't open until 6. I didn't remember that until I saw it. I have a vague memory of expecting them to open early last year as well. By then it will be dark and my system will be recharged. (I just dropped it off at the garage and plugged it in. It should hit full charge in 4-5 hours.)

I considered going to a movie, but the movie I need to see for a class is no longer there, so that would really just waste time and money as there aren't any movies out now that I can't wait to see.

I'm tempted to see if the store with the Nvidia 3D Vision kiosk is open. That would help to kill a bit of time. I know they are open tomorrow and pretty sure they are open today. Other than sitting in parking lots all day that's really all I can think of to do today until the early evening.

It's actually super warm today despite being a touch cloudy – A good day for visiting family/loved ones and having back yard gatherings.

Time passes

It seems too this was destined not to be. Upon arrival at the store it was closed and there were already half a dozen people waiting for Black Friday.

My night is over now and I basically just killed some time then went and got my netbook for wireless play and hid in various parking lots. By the time the game center was open it wasn't worth considering going "before bed".

Day 514 - 11/27

Black Friday

It's after 10:30 at night and my day is over. Today was... strange to say the least. I had a pretty good time spending most of my day playing, but I was very out of place all day.

My day started around 7:10 when a garbage truck came into the sleeping area. I went ahead and moved to the wireless church spot. It was sprinkling, cold, and Black Friday, so there were only one or two other cars. I napped for about 1.5 more hours during which time I was the only car in the lot. From there I went to the mall. When I got there around 8.45 it was already packed. I'd forgotten the crazyness of Black Friday. All day I was surrounded by shoppers. The place was packed. Noone had to wait for a table to sit, but it did feel strange being the only one not shopping. Most only had one bag of stuff, but still.

I was thinking about how different my life is; how rare I am among so many. Every day I must pass by homes of thousands and thousands of people, being around 10,000 or more in a day if I got to school. Yet, my life isn't like any of them. I suppose I should be thankful but I can't help but wonder why. Yes, I have fairly large unemployment gaps on my resumes that show the dates; for school or otherwise. But besides that... is it just experience, or more accurately a lack thereof? Of all those people if even a fraction were looking for local jobs am I competing against 5 years experience? 10? 15? More?

Everyone I pass by as I drive down the streets have a home. They were home or with family for last night's dinner. Some may still be there today and this weekend.

There is one house on my route – I call it the festive house. They always have decorations up for the Holliday that's near. It makes me think of all the other families in all the other houses. Everyone is doing it. Everyone is ok. (Save for the three or four

homelss along my daily route, which includes me.) With so many being able to do holliday things, so many in a home, so many in happy relationships or families, so many with friends... I think not so much about why I'm failing – the employment gaps, the lack of experience in some fields, the lack of job postings to apply for - and I wonder more why *not* me? Out of these thousands and thousands who are literally close enough to hear me shouting as I passed them by if I were to do so... why *not* me too?

Day 515 - 11/28

A friends leftover Turkey movie day... what fun it could be

Too early in the morning at 8:45. Apparently I'm the only one who could cover a shift for a few hours today. The gym was supposed to be closed but there are jazzersize people here. I would guess the person running it demanded we open for her. Well, the good thing is they need zero tending. They have their own locker and stuff so I'm going to go take a long shower while they do their thing.

It rained a bit yesterday. I'm not sure how much as there was only a mild sprinkle in the morning, but the ground was all wet when I left the mall. Today so far the clouds are gone and it's a bright blue skies happy day. This would be an awesome day for a leftovers movie party with friends in the afternoon and evening. You know, bring your leftover turkey, stuffing, pie, whatever, share with others, and add in some new foods, maybe some pizza and salad, and watch some movies. Back in the day I used to do a BBQ movie party every few months and that would be a great theme. You could even make it a theme by having what people consider "turkey" type movies, like Repo! The Genetic Opera. Maybe some day when I have friends again I can start the leftover movie tradition. It would be a great day for (local) friends to gather for a friends turkey celebration, you know? 😊

Day 516 - 11/29

Wishes vs. Cans

It's nearing 9 and my day is effectively over. I got to finally sleep in a bit. I played all day, had some lolz, had some good groups, and chatted with some nice peeps. I'll have a snack and watch a show or two "before bed" but that's really it.

It seems my life is all about what I wish I had or did vs. what I can. Sadly there are still far more wishes than can-dos, but there isn't anything I can do about it. 😞

As always, I still hope tomorrow is a better day. 😊

By Order of the Black Rose

The moon is full this night. That is perfect as the company of my two brothers in arms, Johanas and Dumont, 6th company of the Order of the Black Rose, have a mission tonight. We are not a normal order of Paladins. We three are all there are in the 6th, and we three are all that shall be required. We are not a company of twelve, as the other orders are. Nor do we travel openly in the light of day. We succeed when they are restricted.

Viscount Edmond DuLock was given charge to return the star ruby he'd stolen from the church a week ago. We know he has been using it to research the black arts. The Order of the Light did give their final demand for its return this very afternoon. As expected the Viscount refused. As he stands 100 men strong in his castle Light's company is now on their way home, and it is the charge of my company by order of the Black Rose to retrieve the item.

My brothers prepare. We don blackened breastplate over our leather and chain armor, high softened sued boots and chainmail coif covered by cowel complete our uniform. Shortsword and

shortlance are our weapons. No mercy will be given to the wrongdoers this eve. Those who disturb our path and the guilty shall fall.

We are not the paladins you know of. Our armor does not shine in the bright sun. Our lances do not bear the flags of our lords. Honor rules us and our justice is swift and final. We travel among the shadows, and are of the shadows, for it is there where evil lies - for we are the Order of the Black Rose.

- Sir Garrett DuLance, 6th company, Order of the Black Rose

Day 517 - 11/30

Voice doesn't hurt

It's nearing 9:45 and my day is about over. I'm nomming dinner in the car because I was in a raid for a bit. I got two very important pieces of gaming info tonight. First, it does seem that raids don't really hurt me any more than any other areas (which is somewhat surprising). I did one last night for a few hours and tonight as well and I was no worse off graphically than at other times. Second, I added on Ventrillo tonight and it too seemed to have no negative effects (though I didn't talk, I just listened.) It seems now confirmed most of the wireless gaming issues will be determined by the system CPU/GPU power as long as the network speed is at or above a minimum point. I updated the drivers the other day and since then my stability has been a lot stronger. It actually seems like that if I can indeed get a gaming system I'd do just fine for gaming in regular play as well as higher-end raids (provided the network speed stays at or above the minimum point.)

I had fun with the online friends I see the most (they ran the raids) and I was surprised by seeing a few I haven't seen in a while. They said they'd been worried about me. It's always good to hear there are people out there that care for and worry about me. I mean, sure, I know most of you reading this do, even if you never say so, but it is good to hear now and then.

School is meh. I still haven't progressed. It is still very difficult for me to focus on that and do what I need to do. And I'm still sort of mad at myself about that. In a home I'd be extremely motivated and everything would be done early, but here not in a home... it's very easy to get depressed and feel like nothing I do (to progress my careers) matters.

It's actually been quite a bit warmer lately. The past few nights/mornings there hasn't been frost on the windows. Even now they are 100% clear at nearly 10. Mind you, it's still between 45-55 for the most part, but that's a far cry from the zero some parts of the country are likely starting to reach at night.

Well... I guess I can check the job boards "before bed", watch a show maybe, and maybe tomorrow will be a day of progress for job prospects or other financial recovery.

Day 518 - 12/1

The end of this week

It's just after 1:15; lunch time. 😊 I had a surprise project came up this morning. I had the overwhelming urge to update my Home Entertainment page. I spent about an hour and a half researching changes. Though it was a lot of time there really weren't a lot of changes. The home entertainment tech changes very rarely, happening once a year or less, while PC hardware can change as quickly as every four months or so. So, that's all current for Holliday shopping. 😊

I should really try and do some school stuff after lunch, but I don't know if that will happen. I'm really out of it today. I think it is very likely an effect of car sleeping and lack of true private time to clear my thoughts and mind and rest myself. I feel pretty good though all things considered and it's a cool not uite warm day.

That's all for now. 😊

Time passes

It's time for class. Not much has really chaged. I did get out a couple of resumes, so that's good. One job I'm pretty qualified for, one not so much.

I checked my schedule and I'm gonna have to super scramble to do my projects in time. I have a few I need to do and I guess last week is the last week of the semester. I put

out some feelers for one project I need to do, but I've got a couple others I really don't know what I'm going to do about. I may wind up having to be stalker guy and stand outside of the library or something to get them done. I guess that's what I get for procrastinating, but I just haven't been able to focus and as a single guy with no friends with children in the age range the projects involve I really really didn't want to have to be stalker guy and ask random people I don't know.

I guess that's it for this week. I'm so tired, still so sad all the time, and just overall confused feeling about most things. I'm having fun with my game and I guess after I do my projects I'm really free to just have fun for nearly a month before next semester starts.

With the changing of the month to December I'm really hoping that next year I can start recovery. I was really expecting to be at that point a year ago, but that didn't happen. Sadly though with things as they are it really doesn't look like it will happen at the start of this next year either. I have a feeling I may be in for at least six more months of not finding anything and nothing changing. So few jobs come up during the winter Holliday times.

Well, that's it for this week I guess.

Day 519 - 12/2
The dream girl

Today I am happy. 😊 Why, you ask. Because today I have love. This morning while in the school sleeping spot I dreamt about a girl. She was a beautiful young redhead. I don't recall why I met her in the dream but it was love at first sight. 😍 She fell in love with me too and knew I was... older. She was just visiting though. She lived a few states over. But, during the dream I visited her twice. (We were together the majority of the dream time.) When we weren't together we chatted through a device she gave me – something closer to a high-tech wristband thing than a video phone that's out today. She played my game with me, but she was on a different server. She was a super casual player and she only played for a few hours on Saturdays. But I was happy, loved, and in love. Very rarely do I actually feel in a dream, and when I do it is typically negative emotions; fear, sadness, loss, helplessness, failure, etc. Not only did I feel wholly and truly happy and in love in the dream, the memories and feelings of my dream girl, called Amy in the dream, lasts even now at nearly 1 in the afternoon. Currently I could give a physical description of her – roughly 5'7", I'd guess around 125-135 lbs., red (copperish) wavy hair parted above her right eye which flopped a bit over her eyes and went to the bottom of her shoulder blades, just a touch of freckles on her nose near her cheeks – and I can describe the way she moved, her smile at seeing me, her laugh, and compare my love with her to others I've had before.

I am loved and not loved. The love and image of Amy could some day be real – no doubt created from what I have already felt and experienced in the past and could very well have again in the future. But it was just a dream. It was not real in the sense that it was just imagination and memory. But, it reminds me that I can feel that way still. I am not so broken that I can't experience love anymore despite that I often feel that way due to being single for so long.

How long will the feelings and memories last? I'm not sure. I think through the day, maybe the week. At some point it will fade and my sadness will return. But, for now, I feel loved. 😍

Day 520 - 12/3 80 again

It's just past 9:45. I'm sad and having a snack in my car. I think my sad is an accumulation of several events. Last night I got a paper back from a professor expressing her concern about my situation and asked if she could help. I thought and thought and there isn't really any way that anyone can help unless they can give me or help me find a job or have a place for me to stay. Yes, donation and gift money helps too in that I can buy food or small gifts to help me not go super crazy, but I really need a solid way out. I was looking through job postings today and almost cried. I am *so* tired of looking through postings. I want to *have* a decent job, with decent pay, decent hours, and benefits, just like most of everyone else in the (higher tech) world. I don't want to need to be looking for a job.

I do still feel happy and loved by the dream girl, but for the moment that is overshadowed by my sadness that none of my changes seem to be helping. Time continues to tick on and I feel further and further from any kind of goal.

Besides that I had a pretty good day. I played basically all day. It's been a while since I had an uninterrupted play day. My Priest hit 80 and I guess I'm a bit sad about that too. When I started that character back in early September I really thought I'd be finishing those levels in a home on a nice new much more powerful system (than my current desktop in storage). But, that doesn't seem to be the case. Here we are three months later and I'm no closer to finding a home, or even a new job. Network stability continues to be up though. I didn't disconnect once all day and my lag was almost completely nonexistent.

There was one other incident though. I went on a raid with 25 peeps and we failed kinda bad. Some people were blaming me (I didn't know the encounter) and left with no goodbye. The raid quickly fell apart because of their lack of patients and hot temper. So we did a couple of times; big deal. You explain the encounter to me, which

takes all of maybe 30 seconds for each of four bosses and we move on. Upon looking at my calendar I see that the encounter unlocks tomorrow. So these guys got all upset and blamed me for something that's not my fault, yell at me, break out of the group, all over something they could have tried again and can try again with a different group of people tomorrow? I just don't get it. What's the rush? Why don't people slow down and talk to one another? This current attitude of 'hurry hurry hurry, oops we died once so I'm going to give up' is really puzzling, disheartening, and confusing.

I have a short paycheck this time due to the turkey weekend Holiday. Things will be tight but I should be ok. I got some added hours Tuesday and this Sunday, so those will make up for a bit that I'll lose for Xmas and New Years.

Guess that's really all the news today. It's nearly time for "bed". 'Night peeps.

Day 521 - 12/4

Poop talker

At mini work. I'm soooooo hungry. I was at the store choosing a micro dinner and I was like 'I could nom that, I could nom that, I could nom that...'. My tummy wanted just about everything.

I was bad and didn't do any school stuff today... oh poo, I forgot I was going to get studying stuff ready for a final while I was here. I'll have to do that later. Though late I could also get it ready Sunday if need be. Mostly I can't do school assignments though because I lack access to kids. I'll have to figure something out to do at the mall or something over the weekend.

I had a pretty good day today I guess. There was one poop talker though. He has the distinction of being one of like four groups *ever* in the entire 10 years I've been doing MMOGs that I left the group with no goodbyes mid-dungeon. He was giving me poop saying, 'you should just stand there and heal me, nothing else. Don't DPS at all.' It's like I'm sorry but a five person run is about balance. You weigh the incoming damage against the outgoing and heal as needed. Since we were doing something that was timed and needed to rush I was helping to do damage between heals to keep us moving fast. If he's going to insult me and tell me how to play my character one specific way when you can

do it several ways, sorry I don't stand for that. Had he asked me nicely, had he expressed an opinion on tactics and strategy... things probably would have been fine. But telling me to effectively be his personal healbot and do nothing else... unacceptable. I got to laugh at him later though. Within five minutes of my leaving he was putting out a call for a DPS person saying they were at the first boss. About 10 minutes later he puts out a different call saying they were at the second boss. So, not only did he insult me enough for me to say it's not worth it and leave the group, but two others as well.

That's it for today. Gonna nom dinner and watch some movies. Bye for now. 😊

Day 522 - 12/5

A little Xmas

It's 9:45 at night and my day is mostly over. I had a good time playing all day today. There were a few sad lag points, but overall I played without trouble.

I got a card and monies from dad. I guess he sent it early because he only gets money once a month. It's a fair amount, enough to do stuff with. It solves my problem of where will I get money to pay for classes and a parking sticker. I'll also order the new Star Trek and Repo! The Genetic Opera so that I can have at least a little Xmas for myself. I'll get my friend/ex-roomie a little something. Though she doesn't invite me over all that often - it seems like once every six months. I'm sure that mostly has to do with her boyfriend hating me. Maybe once I get re-established and take my stuff out of their garage and can start paying them back a little something he will stop hating me so much. (Though I don't have a lot of stuff in their garage. I'd guess maybe 6'x3'x6' worth of stuff.) I'm sure he won't ever hang out with me again, but maybe I can come over and hang with my friend/ex-roomie and he'll go in the other room or go away. Plus, I really don't want her to have a sad Holliday. Her boyfriend is completely inept at gift giving and really doesn't do, or didn't even try to do them, when I was there. It's very sad to think of a relationship where you aren't sharing and celebrating. Yeah, gifts aren't necessary, but I think they are an extra nice surprise.

I think I just saw a bit of drama go down here. Someone drove up one side of the lot, stopped the car, got out of the driver's side, walked about 75 feet and around the

corner of a building and possibly 100 or more feet across to the other side of the lot. Meanwhile a passenger gets out of the car, gets into the driver's side, backs the car up, goes forward, backs up, goes forward, in an attempt to see the original driver on the other side of the building. Eventually the original driver comes out and gets back in to the car in the passenger's side. They turn and go to leave the lot. Right before exiting they come back over across the lot and the passenger gets out again. The car again goes to the exit to leave. After pausing at the exit a few seconds it goes, in reverse, back across the parking lot and all wiggly into a strange angle. It stays there for about a minute (in view of where the passenger went) then speeds off out of the lot. Seriously, if your son and you (a dad I'd guess) are that angry at one another... I'm sorry but if that isn't the first incident you are at risk of losing your son forever. It's sad really. That's the kind of stuff that happened with my dad and me. He never said he was sorry and never tried to repair things. I tried to repair things in my late 20s but he just didn't really get it, and I've never been able to stand up on my own and have him be proud of me or approve of what I've become. It's so sad to see that happening with others, but I guess it happens every day.

Day 523 - 12/6

End of another semester approaches

It's just after 12:30 at my short coverage shift. I'm nomming lunch. I don't expect anything interesting to happen today. I expect I'll just play my game all day after work and watch a show at night. I didn't bring a movie as there isn't anything I haven't seen, but more importantly I need to try and do some school assignments. I have a final to study for as well. Wednesday is easy as it's just going to class and watching presentations.

It seems so strange that classes are almost over. The past three and a half months have passed in the blink of an eye. It feels like I've just gotten started in the classes and now it's over. We are coming up on the close of yet another year as well.

I suppose my greatest sadness about this semester – not counting like I feel that I did far worse than I could have due to projects that involved children, which I don't have access to – is that the very beautiful and attractive redhead 🧐 in Wednesday's class never approached me after the first night. After I escorted her to the bookstore she never

gave me a thank you hug, shake, or introduced herself (from what I recall), so it doesn't surprise me she never showed any interest on other nights. I suppose though that with each passing year there are more new girls out there (coming of age) who I could potentially flirt with. 😏

Well, that's all I can think of for now. It's gray and somewhat sprinkling outside. I feel a touch sad, but mostly I'm so very sleepy.

Day 524 - 12/7

Hiding from the poliece

It's late and my day is just about over. I'm at the church wireless spot at around 10. Noone is here at all, which is not surprising considering it is super cold and raining earlier.

I got invited by a friend/ghost to a post New Year's Party. (The one who I went to a party for her husband for.) That should be pretty fun. It's on the 2nd so it's still nearly a month away.

I joined a new guild today. It's the guild the online friends I see the most are in. I've seen many of the guild peeps before too. They seem like one of those smaller guilds with 20-25 peeps in them, so hopefully it will be ok. Too large can have drama, but too small and you wind up just being alone most of the time. I don't think I'll be too sad, as I *can* do most things with my netbook. Plus too if I can get the \$800 to upgrade (or around \$600 if I sell my netbook first) then I'll be fine to group anywhere. It would be so very nice to upgrade. I could have my world back. I could play my game, watch my movies, and even carry around some of my movies from my collection with me.

I had a pretty good time today playing. I checked for jobs but there wasn't anything to apply to, as usual. What with the end of the year coming I likely won't see many jobs posted for the next few months. I'll win some money in the lottery anyways, am I right? 😊

Well, gonna watch a show while I have a snack, then I'm off "to bed". Hopefully the rain won't force me to seek shelter at 4:45 AM like it did last night. It got so loud and so cold that I couldn't stay asleep. I hid on the school lot and was fine after that.

Unfortunately I may only have like until a week past Friday to do that. It's closed the last couple of weeks this month.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

I just got the most terrible scare that could turn out very bad for me. 😬 Instead of having my snack and just going to the sleeping spot I stayed to watch a show. It got past 11 and the lights went dark. After leaving the lot a police car pulls up behind me and pulled me over. 😬 I ask, "Something wrong officer?" And they (there were two of them) ask 'what was I doing in a dark parking lot alone'. I tell them the truth, I was using the Internet. They ask with a disbelieving tone where my laptop was. I showed them and even took it out of the protective sleeve. They ask for my ID and proof of insurance and stuff. After fumbling around (I've no clue what these papers are exactly) I find all the papers. While one is checking things back at their car the other asks if there is anything 'he needs to worry about' and if he can look around in my car. I ask what for. He says for illegal things. I say, "well, if you are looking for drugs or weapons you aren't going to find any." He asks again and I reply, "I'd rather you not. I've got a lot of stuff in here." He presses on yet his tone remains... I wouldn't say polite, but not accusatory, and he asks why not. I reply, "Well, I'm at school a lot so I've got food and stuff back there, it was laundry day today, so I've got a bunch of laundry up here, and it would take you a real long time to go through all this stuff." He replied, somewhat sarcastically somewhat accusingly, "I've got all night." And I replied, "Well, if you are going to insist I can't really stop you, but I've got nothing bad and rather you didn't." I've been stopped in the past long ago a few times, and with the local officer recently telling me (when my car was crashed into that time) that being homeless is not a crime in and of itself, I was putting bets on the hope that he had no legal right to go through my personal property without probable cause. Since my statement of the basketball courts closing at 11 was true, even if they didn't believe me, and my statement that I was using the Internet wirelessly is totally viable, that does not give them probable cause. Now, it is suspicious, and I suspect that there may be drug dealers literally across the street at the bowling alley sometimes, but my facts add up and do not give him probable cause to question my story. He finally stops pressing and meanders back to the car and the other officer saying, "all right." The first

one returns a bit later and says he was sorry it took so long but he was running an extensive check on me. Finding nothing he asked me where I was staying now. I figure they'd seen the bag behind my seat (which I indicated was food for school) and possibly my blankets and bag and were suspicious of my being homeless. I told them my address and added, "just a few blocks from here around the corner there." He said that these notes were bla bla (it had some official name but I forget what) and that they wouldn't go into any record or through the system. It was just a little white paper that he made some notes on in certain pre-formed spaces and that it was just for his own record that we spoke.

So now I am scared and worried. 😞 Now there is what I think is a sheriff with my name, car info, etc., who seems to be on patrol at night in the area I normally am around and sleeping. This means there is a chance he may be checking the possible sleeping spots I'd use. Though, I've never seen a sheriff in the sleeping lot. The three times I've seen a car at the sleeping spot or on school campus they've been 'black and whites'; regular local police cars.

Now I'm hiding in the ex-house garage freezing even though I've got extra clothes on. I'll cover myself up with my blankets and towels soon, so that should help. But how safe am I now? I don't think they can go onto private property without permission, so I'm safe here from them. But, am I safe at the sleeping spot? If it's a sheriff am I safe at *any* sleeping spot within the entire county? Is this the only sheriff car in the county during this shift, or is he just one of many? Is this his regular area, or does he cover a huge section? Will his white note paper remain that and be filed away in a desk if needed later? Or will it be entered into some kind of system or electronic notebook that he can check easily later? How long will those notes exist and he remember the white jeep-like car with the black top (this is a pretty unusual car for the area)?

I've certainly been trying to find a job and a home. I don't have anyone who will help me. Where am I to go if I no longer am 'safe' anywhere but school, the mall, or the wireless spot only during times they are open? With the Holidays coming when everything is closed where will I go? If I'm suspect being places using wireless when they are closed and that's "stealing service" (the one officer said that who was trying to search my car) then how can I say that's what I'm doing near places that are closed? Basketballers laughed when they saw I was playing my game via the wireless. Others used to come by and use it outside of Starbucks when I was doing that; I wasn't the only

one. Why after all this time when things started to seem like they were settling in to an ok homeless life, why are they now turned upsideown?

I hide from them in the garage now, but how many other nights can I sleep in here without being noticed? The ex-roomies sometimes have guests and stay up until 11 or midnight. With only being able to stay at school or the mall until about 10 where will I go? Can I stay at the sleeping spot ever again? Will I really feel safe enough to sleep if I do? If not, where can I go?

I don't feel safe anymore. I don't feel welcome anymore. And there is nothing I can do to change it. I have nowhere to go and I have no home. Things which seemed just fine earlier tonight – a shopkeep welcoming me to his food shop at the mall and giving me a discount and free drink – now seem unstable. My days should be safe – those where things are open – but my nights now seem to be in great peril. 😞

Day 525 - 12/8

Frozen and feeling unsafe

Last night was terrible. 😞 I'm still nervous, unsettled, and don't know what to do. I spent last night in the ex-garage most of the night – freezing cold. When I went out to my car at just before 6 I found that it was literally freezing cold. My car (and all the others) had iced over windows and a layer of ice on the metal bits. I don't know if Fate had the police scare me to convince me to be in the garage to spare me that freezing or what. It is unlikely to get warmer anytime soon. I'll likely continue to try and stay hidden in the garage with my car nearby to the driveway for a few nights.

I suppose I shouldn't worry about it. My sleeping spot is 100% hidden from view from the street (unlike the church wireless spot which is completely exposed) and this is the first time in the past nearly 1.5 years any police have approached me. While school is open I can feel sort of safe in the lot, as all the patrol cars are campus 'black and whites'. There are no sheriff patrols. The sheriff(s?) do patrol near to school, but mostly stick to the area around the wireless church, which is also near to the bowling alley and food store. This likely means that entire hub (near my ex-home) is somewhat unsafe for now. While I highly doubt that sheriff and his partner are now going to be saying, 'lol,

let's drive around and see if we can catch this guy being homeless,' I can't help but be worried that somewhere out there is a note that says I claimed I was still living at my (former) home.

I suppose odds are still extremely low he will see me driving around the area (as the church sleeping spot is just a few miles from where he pulled me over and I often use that street to go to/from school) I still can't help but think 'what if they do decide to play catch the homeless guy?' At least as long as school is open, which may just be through this weekend, I only really have to worry about times between 10 PM and 6 AM. The mall is starting to stay open later so I should be able to go straight from the mall to wherever it is I do sleep. Still, I'd expect that 8 hour window is the majority of his shift with the implication of his partner saying "I've got all night."

I don't know what to do. I'm surrounded by kind people all day (or night) when I'm at mini work, a few of the mall people are starting to be kind to me, professors always seem concerned, I've got online friends and some RL people are re-connecting with me... but at night I'm so very alone. In the dark. In the cold. Not even a garage and parking spot offered to keep me sheltered until I can get back on my feet.

I suppose I'm not meant to understand Fate's path, only to recognize the directions to take when given a choice, and to recognize when my heart moves me certain ways. But whatever the end of this path is, I hope I find it soon. 😞

Time passes

I can't study or focus at all what with this worry. It's almost time to eat before the test, and I've done no studying at all yet. I did get a B-/B on the last test with very little studying, so hopefully I'll do just fine. I just can't focus at all with all this worry about what I'm going to do tonight. I'll probably try and stealth in to the ex-garage again, but each time I do so I'm at risk of being discovered.

One of the people at mini work chatted with me for a bit. She was sad that my situation isn't getting better, as she said I seemed like an intelligent, nice, kind, friendly, and good person, and that I'm trying to find jobs. At her church she goes to she said that there are 28 families in trouble/need because of the economy. I don't know what percent that is, but that is a ton of local families just at that one location. A co-worker who knows I'm homeless chatted with me for a bit too; he overheard part of my conversation with the lady. He confirmed that I'm really just 'loitering' and there really isn't anything that

police could do other than shoo me away. I had found that answer earlier, but I suppose there is some comfort hearing it from someone who is studying to be a police officer. But the question remains; will I feel safe enough to sleep in places? If I am shooed away, where will I go? If I'm shooed away, will I lose the only place I've been and felt safe enough to sleep fairly well in the past year+? And if I am no longer safe, how much longer will things continue and will my balance and mental agility, which have been so fragile lately, be shattered and become the lost soul I was early on when I didn't have a stable place to sleep?

I suppose all I can do is try and alter my schedule yet again. Since the mall is open a decent amount of time I'll just save my playing for there only. I'll wait and stealth in to the sleeping spot shortly after 10 with no additional stops or detours, taking a slightly different path than the one I was stopped on. I'll ignore the wireless church spot and try and think of alternate food shops that I can by from which aren't near that hub. But most of all, I suppose all I can do is continue to look for jobs, continue to try and do my best in school, continue to take extra time at work when offered, and just hope that things improve and/or one of the people from my past eventually step forward and offer me some kind of safe haven, even if it's just a friend of a friend's garage for those few hours during the night.

That's all for now, possibly for the week. This week was really starting to shape up, but now it seems split into my being recognized and welcome during the day, and my becoming an outcast and unwelcome at night. But then, I suppose it was always that way and I just hid among the shadows in places I know I could move mostly unseen.

Week 76

Day 526 - 12/9 Second ice

It's a very early lunch time at about 11:45. I had settled in a while ago and was ready to get some stuff offline to start my assignments but for some reason the wireless network is failing for me. What seems particularly odd is that others seem to be connected ok.

I'm so very tired. I ninjaed in to the ex-garage last night but had a difficult time getting to sleep. Every car and house door made me jump thinking an ex-roomie may discover me. I had to sleep on a chair, which is pretty terrible, but I was wrapped up warm enough to be ok. When I left at around 6:45 all the cars were again iced over. I had no trouble sleeping at the school sleeping spot, so the majority of my good sleep was a few hours on campus. That was only about three hours, so the other about six were cramped and odd.

I don't know how the next few weeks will go. Although campus isn't completely shut down until the 21st the last of the two classes will end Saturday, so Friday is very likely the last time I can sleep here in the morning until next semester. (Also I'm a bit worried about next semester because of budget cuts causing a lot of classes to be dropped. I'm first on one class waiting list, but 14th on another. Those are really the only ones I can take due to my taking all the others.) Soon the mall will start to open early enough that I could probably just go over when I get up around 7 and then wait in the lot for a bit, but I still wonder if my former sleeping spot is safe. I have to consider the fact that I've been in that spot for about 1.25 years and never once had an incident despite black and whites visiting the lot three times and once waking up with other cars parked nearby. A few weeks ago a 'restricted parking 24/7' sign appeared at the lot entrance, so that has me a bit worried. The ten regular cars that parked there on weeknights has dwindled to five. But again, I've never had an issue and only a few times has a church person ever been there when I was there. I think that recent camper that was there unmoving for several weeks may have prompted that sign. I expect they have not

requested patrols and would just call the towing company if they saw that a vehicle was left there for days on end.

I suppose the incident was just an outlier, one that won't be repeated (particularly if I go back to my previous pattern of stealthing in at 10 and stay off the streets and other places when others aren't around.) But still, I worry. What seemed "safe" a few days ago no longer seems *safe*. Though I can't change my situation I wonder how much I'll be bugged in the future – how many times police will stop me or find me and want to search my car or possibly ticket me for some reason. They should really just have an official policy of turning a blind eye to those in cars unless there is a complaint. If we aren't hurting anyone then there is no reason to make a bad situation worse. Well... as difficult as it may be I have to try to not worry about it.

Campus is pretty empty most places. Finals have started and the semester is ending. People are coming for their tests then going away to their warm homes. They were saying farewell to friends they won't see anymore and hello to new chapters in their lives. They are getting ready for the Holidays by planning trips to see family or other loved ones and getting ready for gift giving. But not me. I continue to be in some kind of quantum shifted parallel world where I can see them, move among them, yet not interact with them. Only a few seem capable of seeing me and no one seems willing or knowledgeable enough to quantum shift me back to the normal universe.

Time passes

It's a bit after 5 and my day is coming to a close. I did *finally* do my assignments for tonight's class, though I am not at all proud of how I did on them. In a home I'd have done them awesomely and earlier than the due date. But because of various sads I had a very difficult time. I expect I'll probably still manage high Cs or Bs in the classes. I suppose cramming and doing assignments at the last minute is more common than not, but still.

My right arm above my wrist has felt odd today. When I was like 14 I broke my arm there in gym class. I'd heard of people's injuries hurting in cold weather but never before experienced it. What with my being freezing during the nights lately it doesn't at all surprise me. It certainly seems much colder this year than in past years.

I posted to my Facebook that I'm going to the 3D IMAX midnight showing of Avatar. The sister of my friend/ex-roomie said she and her like 8 year old son will come.

The party ghost said she and her guy have his son that weekend, so they probably won't be able to make it. More local ghosts may say they will go. I guess we'll see.

I'm both happy and sad to say that the haze that's been around my mind lately seems to be lifting. It's been there for what seems like the better part of four months. It's sad that it's started to lift now, at the end of the semester. It would have been nice to have that clarity and focus back when school was in session.

I saw a sheriff car last night at the mall. I was worried for a second that it would be the same one and he would question me, but I could have shown him the presale movie ticket if it was. I don't think it was the same one though as he was in his car alone. Statistics so far show that I really shouldn't worry, but I can't help but worry. While it is easy to forget I'm homeless while I'm here at school, or even a bit at the mall, it becomes very clear at night that I don't really have anywhere to go, or anyone who can give me shelter. I drive in the cold alone, with only a few around me, all scurrying hurriedly to get back to warm shelter. I have safety at school. I am welcome at the mall. I am welcome on campus. There are those who worry about me at mini work and my online peeps, both in game and at my site. But I have no financial support. I have no home. I have no physical place that I belong. Knowing I have a place I belong mentally, spiritually, in the hearts and minds of some I know is enough for me. But not having shelter, not having the comforts of a home – even a home alone – it is sad, and as proven recently, makes me suspect and a questionable individual in the eyes of the law. It seems that being an outcast not of my own design automatically makes me an outlaw.

Time passes

It's late, just past 9:45. I don't want to go hide in the shadows. I'm so very sad. I'm so sad watching people go home. Thinking of them going to warm beds, having cooked meals, having night time snacks, watching shows or movies, playing games before bed... I don't want to be homeless anymore. I never did in the first place. While a place to put my stuff and sleep is not a home by itself I so very much want to have at least that. If no one in my real life cares to offer or share that with me I'm actually ok with it. But I don't want to be homeless and outcast anymore. It's so very lonely and sad. 🙄

Day 527 - 12/10

Lack of control

Not sure what to say for today. I'm still very worried about the sheriff. I saw a sheriff's car near the ex-home when I was at the food store getting dinner tonight. I suspect this is a new person who, for whatever reason, is heavily patrolling the ex-house hub area. I suppose if it was him the good news is that was at 4:30, so that would put his shift at an earlier time. I guess I shouldn't worry about it but I have a higher fear of that than I ever did from unpredictable passer-bys discovering me. This likely won't be a feeling that passes soon and unfortunately I can't just find a new place to sleep quickly or easily. I guess what happens happens and as usual I have no control over it.

A person dropped from one of the classes I was wait listed for, so I'm in that one for sure. I'm still on the list for the second.

I had a pretty good day playing, but as usual my system held me back from a few things. Added to all the extra driving around from sleeping spots and to get food and I've lost a lot of time today.

I'm tired, grumpy, sad, feeling helpless, alone, sick, and there is nothing more I can do to fix my situation than I am already trying to do.

Day 528 - 12/11

Different in the shadows

It's later in the evening at mini work. I decided to sweep with most of the lights off tonight to be different. Things always look different in the dark; shadows criss-cross, things shine which don't normally, things are hidden that you can normally see, and things normally hidden can come into focus.

I got two movies for tonight, but sadly I've already seen one of them. It's part of a series and I know I missed one or two, but this isn't one of the missed ones. I guess I can enter Epic Fail and do some site updates.

My day was fairly uneventful. It's been raining lately so there has been a bit of extra scampering. I forgot about the car leak when I got to my car and put my cloths bag

in to a puddle. 😞 Thankfully it just was wet on the surface so no harm was done to the stuff inside. Hopefully I won't do that again tonight. I put a bag there to remind me.

There are signs up that say we are closed next Friday. According to my schedule we aren't supposed to be closed until Saturday. I hope that's an error on the sign, because if it's not that's another nearly \$60 I'll lose at the end of the month due to work downtime.

Guess that's really all to say for now. My life remains in the sad unchanged state that it has been.

Day 529 - 12/12

Extended mall hours

It's nearing 10:45 at night. My day is over. Today was the first day of extended mall hours. I should be able to stay until 10:30 in the future without anyone really worrying about my being there. There were tons of teens there today, like school is out and they know the mall would be open late. (Though I'm pretty sure they still have school for a week.) There were still some inside, and some milling around outside, as I left.

I had a difficult time sleeping. I still haven't regained my trust or feel safe. I checked my scribbles from a year ago and it looks like I was able to sleep at the school spot all the way until Xmas Eve. I went to check school this morning and, sure enough, there were some people there when I got there at just before 7:30. I couldn't sleep much there either, even though I knew school is safe. I haven't seen any patrols lately and the few I have were black and white campus police.

I played all day and mostly had fun. There was a sadness though – returned feelings I knew would come back as I neared the content cap of what my system could handle. All I can do is try and do what I know my system can handle and slowly build up loot bit by bit.

Not a very interesting day to read about I'm sure, but I suppose the good news is that, at least for today, things haven't gotten worse.

Day 530 - 12/13

The longest day

It's just about 10 at night and my day is over, though the night is just beginning. I did manage to get some good sleep at the school sleeping spot. There were a few dozen cars in the lot area I was in so I felt fairly confident that I'd be ok. I didn't see a patrol car, nor did I hear one. I did, however, see what I refer to as an "electracop", which is a golfcart which 1-2 campus security people. I would say that thinking back over this school year so far I think I've seen two campus black and whites ever. Back during last year I used to see one in the lot every other day or so and often would see patrols every few hours. But this year so far it seems they are only out for special events (like those on the weekends) and that the electracop patrols are the main patrol; and they happen infrequently. Hopefully patrols will remain light and cars will remain somewhat heavy so I can feel confident enough to sleep ok on campus. I have a feeling it could be a while before I go back to good sleep at night. I'm still very fearful of patrols and jumping at the sound of cars close by.

I played my game all day and had a lot of fun for the most part. I certainly wouldn't have played 12 straight hours if I were in a home. I'd play maybe half that and do other fun things. But right now... right now with my life as it is I have little choice. Looking for jobs takes anywhere from 15 minutes to maybe one hour due to the near complete lack of posts. In the coming days I'll likely play a bit less of my total time and watch some shows.

I don't know what to say really. I'm cold. I'm so very sad. I'm tired. I'm sore. I wish I worked at least 20 hours every week – even if it were just with my current jobs. The sad truth is that even though these jobs aren't a career I do like interacting with the customer people who come by. There certainly could be less enjoyable jobs. While I said for the longest time, effectively for the better part of a year, that I'd love nothing more than a system to play my game this isn't what I'd do with my day if I had a choice. *I love* my game. I really like my guild peeps (though they are a tiny guild of maybe a dozen people, only about four of which are on at any given time.) Everyone who's read the story so far knows I'd like to be in a home where I can sleep in, shower, watch TV or my movies, play different games, and cook foods. I can do none of that. While I had a lot of

fun today it seemed like a very long day. And now... now it's night, where I don't feel safe and have to hide in the shadows. It is not at all the life I want, nor would wish upon anyone who has more. But it seems, at least for now, it is the only life(style) I have to choose from.

Day 531 - 12/14

Wireless trouble

It's 10:45 at mini work. I think today may be ok. It's a touch warmer - no frost/ice on the car this morning. I'm at mini work now and I'll do laundry after.

I saw four black and whites last night on my way to sleep that were parked around a guy who was sitting on the sidewalk. For the longest time after I thought they were harrassing a homeless guy, but then I finally realized he must have been a drunk driver and that they had towed away his car. Two of the cars were parked side-by-side with one in the shoulder and one blocking the first lane of the road. It took me a while to figure out why they parked like that. I was super worried and couldn't sleep for a while. I did, however, get some good sleep while at the school sleeping spot up until I needed to leave for mini work. I guess I got around 9 total hours, only half of which was really good though.

After laundry I'll play my game. My guild peeps want to do a raid thing, so that should be fun. I'm still sad I typically get such bad framerates that these areas are tough, but some I can manage ok in because I'm uber. 😊 It would be super awesome if I got enough gift money / donations to upgrade at the end of the year, but my dad already sent his money and it's been so long since I got a donation that I don't even remember when the last one was. (Plus, now I have to worry about three weeks of effectively only about 40% of my normal pay.) It has to be before around June. Donations this year are extremely scarce and I've only gotten a few.

I suppose I'm managing ok though. Some days are better than others. But my sadness, worry, and feeling scared and like I have no control over anything always linger on.

Time passes

Well, the wireless on my system has not been working for about 10 minutes. My system is currently shut down in the hopes that something will reset. I was playing my game then just flat out lost connection to everything. Resetting the modem shows that after a while it does reconnect, but it fails to get mail, connect to the Internet, or my game. It seems normal, but I can't connect to anything at all. This likely means something is wrong with the mall connection, so who knows how long that will take to fix.

It's just after 8:30, so I've still got about 2 hours that I can be at the mall and would want to try "going to bed". If it doesn't self repair by about 9 I'll go check at another local spot that I know. I'll try over there, then at school, and see if my system can see stuff. If I can't connect to the world I'll be almost entirely cut off. I'd only have a couple of hours of very slow access through public libraries.

I guess time will tell, but I feel like crying. It's like every single teen step I seem to make towards a normal life eventually gets shattered and I get put two steps back. I really don't understand why I'm this unlucky. Sure, I've won a few smaller items in drawings, a few small lottery wins, but why can't I be the guy to win 10k or more? Why can't I be the guy to land that good job that pays well? Why can't I be the guy to find a young sweetie and live happily ever after? Why does it seem pain, misery, suffering, and sadness are always following me. 😞

Day 532 - 12/15

Wireless still broken

It's nearing lunchtime. I'm so very sad. 😞 I got a good shower at school this morning, but the mall connection is still totally dead. There is a local shop that I eat at sometimes that it can see here in the food court but its speed is too slow to do anything besides check email, and it is completely unstable. I have only connected for maybe one minute out of the 30 that I've been here. I'm so very sad. I don't know what to do. I could go to school if I didn't mind being out in the cold. If the bad thing hadn't happened I'd consider going to the church wireless spot, but again I'd be in the cold with only a few hours of access due to battery life. Sometimes there are other wireless people here, but there aren't at the moment. If there were I could see if anyone else is having trouble. I did

a test last night at another location and it saw the login page just fine, plus I connected here to the store for that one minute just fine (though it is at 20% of the normal wireless speed.)

I don't know what to do. I don't understand why my life can't stay just the littlest bit stable lately. 😞

Time passes

I managed to stay connected long enough to let the mall know. The person said that he's got tech looking into it now, so hopefully that's good news. I have my doubts though that it will be fixed anytime soon. I'm personally expecting it will be at least a few days for it to be resolved.

The store connection continues to fail at being connected maybe 1 minute out of every 20. At least it connects long enough now and then to see if I have gotten a response from the mall people on their main connection.

Time passes

It's 3:45 and I was looking through my connection points and saw one that reminded me that today, being Tuesday, is all I can nom pizza night. I'll head over and do that now. If I recall it runs from 5-8, so getting there early at 4 and staying late until 8:30 or so should be just fine. The regular mall connection is still totally dead. I've been trying to connect to the store, but it hasn't connected for over an hour at all. The thing that I don't get is that someone is here now that was here yesterday and he's watching movies. I saw he couldn't connect when he got here so I warned him about the connection being broken since last night. I peeped at his system and saw he saw the connection points at 4-5 bars, while I only see them at 1-2. What the poop? Is it because my system isn't a full laptop and I've got a much weaker wireless modem? I'll have to do some more research and see about that. I hope my system hasn't been gimped from the very start. That would be terrible. I suppose I could RMA it if that's the case, but that would probably put me out a system for a few weeks. I'd really like to just wait until I can upgrade it to a real system (again the one I want is around \$800, of which I could probably get back \$200-300 for this system), but I don't know how soon that will happen.

Anyways... off I go for nom. That will likely be it for this week, as I don't know when I'll have a connection again after nom. I'll drop the Epic Fail update while I'm there

so peeps know what's going on with me lately. 😊 Seems a very sad two week posting indeed. 😞

Time passes

It's 4:30 and I'm at all I can nom pizza waiting for it to start. I connected to the pizza place with no prob at all. I got an email from the guy at the mall saying that the techs couldn't connect either and they will be working on it and hopefully have it back up and working later tonight. So, who knows, maybe after dinner nom is over it will be back up and running. I won't hold my breath, but ya never know. 😊

Picture series 12



Psycho Donuts



Single serving Turkey day



om nom nom teh pie



The answer to the answer of Life, the Universe and Everything...
is a cheezburger and fries



Xmas to self 2009, and to friend/ex-roomie

Day 533 - 12/16
Fate's breadcrumbs

It's just after 10 and I had an ok day I suppose. It seems Fate saw fit to give me a breadcrumb and say that I *could* be the guy. Last night I had a lottery ticket that won something – the first in quite a while. Sadly it's only \$1 or \$2, but if I *can* win then why not win a lot, right? I guess that's just another of Fate's timely reminders for me.

The Internet was working normally, so I watched Dollhouse, played my game, checked fun boards, checked job boards, and even managed to find a job to send an application to.

Um... I don't really know what else to say. I advanced in the game a tiny bit, so that was good. There were some carrolers at the mall, so that was unusual; little ones, so it was pretty cute. Oh, heh, at one point I saw a couple behind me watching me play being cute and snuggly with one another. When I noticed them they asked me all smiely "what server are you on?" Hehe, so they play too. 😊

Of course the more special Xmas things that happen and the more special Holiday things people do the sadder I get. I suppose this Xmas time will be less sad than last, but I'm still no closer to recovery, a home, a sweetie, or new (offline) friends. I continue trying and now and then people tell me they believe in me (in that I'll make it) but wherever I'm going this path seems set. It's like I'm going down a dark swamp river in a tiny canoe with no paddle. All I can hear are crickets nearby. All I see are the occasional fireflies. While occasionally very beautiful I have no control of where I'm going and I can't even see the river anymore.

Day 534 - 12/17
Starting the line

Starting the line for another midnight movie yet again, heh. It's just now 5, so I'm not super surprised that noone else is here. I'll bet it will be 8 before any others show up.

The ticket guy seemed like I was going to give him a panic attack because there isn't a line yet, it's not midnight, and he doesn't know what to do. Probably my bad for coming to a smaller theater so early though. They do have the 3D glasses out already so you'd think he'd be ready for people to show up at any minute.

I'm sad though. I had planned to watch Firefly in the meantime but I couldn't find it anywhere. I have a vague recollection of giving it to my friend/ex-roomie as a gift when I saw the Blu-ray version was out, but I didn't remember doing that until I was digging around in storage for it.

Guess that's it for now. Let the waiting commence. 😊

Day 535 - 12/18

First Friday off

Today was, I believe, the first Friday I've had off (that wasn't Thanksgiving weekend) in I think the entire like 1.5 years I've been at my mini work. It felt... weird. It wasn't like a normal day off since I don't ever get to relax and stuff. In a home I'd have slept in, watched some TV, played some different games, probably watched a movie in the evening... but with my life, well, I bury my head into my game and that's really it. I did watch one show in the morning when I got here, but after that it was really too loud to watch other shows. I mostly had fun with my game, but I still feel like I'm forced to play in order to escape from the sadness in my life that I can't change.

I don't really know what to say. I had an awesome time at Avatar last night. It was a very basic story concept but the actual story, graphics, and 3D, zomg so amazing. 😊 My friend/ex-roomies sister met me there with her older child. At one point we were talking about stuff and I mentioned the homeless and she seemed genuinely shocked, like she didn't know. How could she not know that her sister (had to) put me on the street with nowhere to go nearly a year and a half ago? It's like, she knew I'd been living there, did the subject of where I'd moved to never come up? It seems odd. It's certainly not something you remember about someone who looks normal, but to have never known, that seems strange.

Well, I guess everyone lives their lives and never really gives anyone else's much thought and that's how normal life goes. And for that bit I'm grateful not to be normal. I *do* care about others and how what I do or say may affect their lives in the future. For now I guess though, as so many told me back in the early days, I have to worry about me and not really worry about others. I do worry about me a lot. Mentally it is becoming more and more frustrating and saddening to be limited, and I can feel anger and rage more easily slipping in to my life; particularly when the things I'm behind on would be taken care of, or at least not so bad, with even just a steady 15-20 hours a week. But in knowing I have to take care of me, it's taking care of others that helps me to stay connected. It gives me a sense of belonging and purpose to be helpful to others. I guess that is part of the sadness and frustration as well - because of my limitations my ability to be helpful to others is also limited.

Well, hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 536 - 12/19

Too loud

It's late and my day is over. Gonna kill a bit of time "before bed" in the parking lot. I'd hoped to get some quiet, as it's been crowded and noisy in the mall all day – a constant buzz of noise and blur of motion. For some reason they made the music in the (food court) area where I stay louder. Unfortunately there are still a lot of people milling around out here in the parking lot, so it's not a whole lot quieter.

There were some cute puppies today though. I don't know if there was a dog show or something, but I saw a lady with a puppy not much bigger than their hands, and later a younger dog, maybe one year old, hopping around and playing with an older dog, and a smaller dog on a leash being with their owner at the mall.

Played all day and checked boards. I guess I had a pretty good day all things considered.

Day 537 - 12/20

Just past dawn at the mall

It's way too early to be at the mall at not even 8 yet. I went to move my car to the school sleeping spot but there was a campus black and white as I was coming in. I checked the pool area and the gates were closed with no cars around, so I turned to leave the lot. I was leaving as the black and white was rounding his patrol into the area. I didn't know where else to go what with that sheriff potentially looking for me, so I came to the mall. It's not officially open until 9, but some stores are already open.

It's way too early. I'm way too tired. I'd really rather be sleeping in with a sweetie, but this is my life right now. I can only do what I'm trying to do to change it and wait. It is much better than last year. I do have my system. I *can* watch my shows, play my game, and watch movies (though they are at greatly reduced enjoyment levels). I feel a lot less safe than I did last year at this time, but I guess that police involvement was bound to happen eventually, even if it was only on unofficial record with a single patrol.

I was hoping to watch some shows during the quiet time before most of the crowd comes at 9, but no such luck. The music is still super loud in my area. It will be difficult to hear my shows.

I'm exhausted, tired, beat, confused, and feeling helpless. All I can hope is my shows and games help me to escape, if even just for a little while.

Time passes

It's late, about 10:45 and my day is over. I spent way too much time here at the mall, but I had little choice; no choice really. I mostly played my game all day, but I did watch a few shows. It was tough to hear what with the extra loud music in my area.

I was soooooo very tired that I felt like I did during the Turkey weekend gaming marathon. Parts of my day I was falling to sleep for a few seconds. I hope that I can at least get some extra school sleep Monday and Tuesday. School isn't officially closed until Wednesday, so hopefully the pool area will be open and there will be people there and I can nap without worry. If not there really isn't anywhere else I'd feel comfortable/safe napping. These next few weeks may prove to be exceedingly difficult. I've also got a short paycheck coming up in a few weeks. Hopefully I'll be ok, but things will also be extremely tight.

I can't see outside the parking lot but it smells like rain and some of the cars do have evidence of being wet. Hopefully it won't get too wet or cold tonight. I've got enough stress and worry about patrols and the cold as it is already.

I guess all I can do is continue to take things one day at a time and hope for the best and that something good comes of my struggles. As always lately I'm doing everything I can and yet everything is out of my hands.

Day 538 - 12/21

A gift... and a curse

It's super late, nearing 11:30. There are still people at the mall and the bowling ally has been doing some special events, so there have been people coming and going and their music is super loud.

I played my game all day and watched a few shows. It was odd at first not working on Monday, but as I normally get off and I'm playing by 4 it didn't seem too different than normal. I have work in the morning tomorrow, so I'll do my normal Monday things then.

I'm happy to be different, to see things differently than others, but it's also a curse. Because I don't think/feel/percieve things like an 'average person' it puts me on a very different path. I suppose one that allows me to endure trials like the one I'm currently on, but at the same time it is very likely the cause of my being on this path.

I could talk about how I found an external Blu-ray player for under \$100, which I could maybe get or someone could give me as a gift off my Amazon wish list (so I could watch so many Blu-ray movies I already own), or how there are now two laptops on that list which would be good upgrades (one with a built-in Blu-ray drive)... but without a strong chance of that happening, without the income to make it happen for myself... it just feels like little more than trivial window shopping in a life that is otherwise unlikely to see real change anytime soon.

So... instead I'll say I hope everyone is having a good Holliday season and that you are surrounded by the family, friends, and other loved ones that you care about in your life. 😊

Day 539 - 12/22

Once upon a time

Once upon a time leaves blowing in the wind did not scare me. I used to hear them outside my window and was sad, but also glad, at the sound of the change of the season. Now the sound scares me. It tricks me into thinking it is the sound of close footfalls, the sound of someone approaching, the sound of someone hitting my roof. I am fearful at night, constantly fearing discovery.

Once upon a time the sound of rain on my window was a happy one. I would peek my window open just a touch, light some candles, and have the cool smell of fresh oxygenated air flowing through my room. I would lift open the shade to see the glittering of the moonlight on the raindrops. Now the sound worries me. Things will drip, things will leak, my stuff may get soaked, and I may wake up in a puddle if I don't bend myself into an awkward position.

I got some ok sleep last night but I was kept up a few hours by constantly jumping at every sound. I'm at mini work now, I'll do laundry after, then I'll post this week's fail and play. It's much better than it has been, but life is still bad and sad.

I had strange dreams last night and the night before. No doubt just thoughts of my sad life and less deep levels of sleep causing fear and worry from my day to creep in. This morning's dream had two strange bits. One bit was about one of the first ghosts that found me. He was moving in to a place two doors down from my ex-house. He (and about six others) was moving a couch that used to be mine from my ex-house into his. I was across the street in my car for some reason, so I had to quickly move my car around the corner before anyone saw me because it was 3 AM and I wasn't supposed to be there. He saw me though and came around the corner to meet me. We talked and agreed to go somewhere and he took me to a fast food place and we got fries. (Though it was one of those non-chain kind of individually owned places.) In another part of the dream I was trying to get into a place. It was really small, like a hotel room, but I think it was an apartment. The complex was a maze though and I couldn't find my room. Additionally my key was broken in half.

The second dream was pretty easy to understand – feelings about my inability to find a home, being lost, and my inability to get into a home. (Though I'd also recently

stepped wrong in my car and broken a key due to a lanyard being stepped on. Good thing I had two.) The first dream I'm not so sure. Maybe just feeling like I'm watching everyone I know getting on with their lives, a life like I used to have, and now I'm stuck outside looking in at hours I shouldn't be awake doing odd things at weird hours.

Well... I can play my game later (as much as I can on my netbook anyways) and maybe tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 540 - 12/23
Another lost tooth

It's early afternoon and I just lost most of another tooth. Upon inspection it's maybe 30% or so of what was there. It was one that was pretty badly damaged for a long time. It was one that was pretty badly damaged for a long time. It's got one of those older metal type fillings running through most of it. My concern though is that it's loose now. I fear the rest, still ok or not, may fall out in time. Damage on the tooth behind it can be seen as well. In a different section I've lost maybe 5% or so of a different tooth. I can feel a hole up there now.

I don't want to play my game. I don't want to watch my shows or movies. I don't want to be at the mall where I can do stuff. But where would I go? What would I do? There is no bed to curl up on and cry about it. There is no one to comfort me and say that things will be ok and we can fix it even if I did. 😞

I haven't had a job with dental care in over 10 years. And even when I did they never paid well enough to actually cover repairs. The low cost place I contacted recently offered 0-20% off, so I'm still looking at roughly \$800 for easily half a dozen teeth now. I fear that I may be toothless at this rate before I find a job and pay to cover repairs. 😞

Well, dentists did warn me as I was growing up to not drink soda, so I suppose I can try my very best to greatly reduce how much I drink, but I fear for the most part the damage is done and there really is no going back – at least not without genetic regrowth as an option. And I think we are still probably 20 years away from unlocking the genome enough for regrowth of any parts, if not closer to 50 or 100.

On an otherwise happy day, tentitively titled "Xmas eve's eve", I now find myself sadder than ever. All around me there are last minute shoppers and people on outings having fun. People are dressed warm and getting ready to see loved ones and celebrate with food and gift giving. Music fills the air all around me, with occasional live music. Lights are on trees in houses, and on the houses themselves. But I can have none of that. Everything is a constant reminder that I'm failing. While I may be quite good at the things I *can* do, I am failing at life. There is no getting around that. No one else I know or have

heard of ever has this much trouble. They find jobs, advance, get decent pay, afford homes and families, yet I'm failing. Maybe noone is meant to stand 100% on their own, I've certainly only heard of a few, but noone seems interested in standing by me. And without help, without someone doing the things I can't do for myself... I fear I may never be able to recover.

Day 541 - 12/24

Xmas eve ghost

I got a surprise email from the gray ghost last night. We met up for breakfast and he gave me some monies. 🍷 We mostly talked about Dragon Age but also a bit about what he'll do since he got laid off from his job.

It's early afternoon and I'm at the mall playing for a bit. At around 4:30 I'll head over to the ex-roomies sisters Xmas eve thing. I'll be there until it's over. She said I could stay over on her property overnight. She's got a lot of space around her house, which is very unusual for around here. There is even a barn like structure. I figure tomorrow evening I can kill some time with a movie, so I'll just need to think of things to keep me busy from about 9 or 10 AM when I get up until like 4 or 5 PM. The mall is 'closed' so I shouldn't play my game where I usually do. I may kill some time hanging out in the theater though.

That's it today so far. No surprises other than that.

Day 542 - 12/25

Xmas hanging at work

It's early afternoon and I'm nomming lunch at work. By that I mean I'm where I work, but not working. Everything is closed so I really had nowhere else to go. To my surprise there are half a dozen cars outside, but that makes sense as people are playing out on the school fields.

I started the day at my friend/ex-roomie's sister's place. I stayed overnight last night in my car. It was a bit colder than it's been but that may have been my bad as I didn't put up the seals (so the back window was likely bleeding heat like crazy all night.) After I got up we hung out a bit. I got a shower. I fixed the sound of one of the kid's systems (the drivers disappeared somehow even with parental permissions not accessible through his login). I tried to get the modem to work for all the systems too. It seems it does work, but only if you unplug the modem for at least 10 seconds and then turn it back on when attached to the different system. I went to the ex-garage on my way here and put out my wireless router for them. That *should* get their house set up with the previous router settings. Since it was easy to get to in the garage it's easy enough to let them borrow it until I need it again. If money allows (and the wireless router works) I'll just buy them one of their own to use in the future. It's like \$40 so that's an easy and good gift to get them.

So with nowhere to go and nowhere to eat I've come to work. I microed some food. I grabbed a couple of movies while at the ex-garage, so I can kill some time watching those. That should hold me until about 5 where I'll head over to find dinner and watch Sherlock Holmes.

Someone sent me a pretty big Xmas gift / donation, woot! 🥳 So I'll save most of that but I may also order me a something nice/fun. I'm very tempted to get the external Blu-ray player, but I'll wait to see if more gift/donations come first. If not I'll assume this one was the only gift/donation there will be. My friend/ex-roomie did give me a WoW time card and a gift card for some foods. 🥳 Also, she makes fudge candies to give away to peeps for Xmas and I got a few of those too.

Certainly not an average Xmas, certainly not a way I'd ever thought that I'd be spending the holiday, but my life is what it is. And even with all of the terrible things going on, I suppose they are all just temporary setbacks pausing my life.

Hope everyone has a good and happy New Year. 🥳

Time passes

So I'm in line an hour and a half before the movie. The mall security people had the mall blocked off half way down, so I couldn't go over to the food court and use the Internet. That's pretty sad. I was hoping to play a bit, but it seems like no play for me. The

security guy said he checked and it wasn't working at their station, so it's possible I might not have been able to play either way.

Tummy is a bit upset over fast food. It's really upset over about everything these days. There is little I can do to reset its balance save for salad and fruit. And because I don't eat those foods all that often even those will probably upset the tummy. I almost didn't get fast food, as almost everything is closed. Maybe it would have been better to just have crackers and mini muffins (that I already have.) I don't know. It's so difficult to predict if tummy will be upset at food or not lately. Fruit is expensive though.

There are a ton of people here for movies. I'm genuinely surprised. I thought it would be empty here but it's quite packed.

Such strange times for me lately; times likely to continue. Well, guess that's it for now.

Day 543 - 12/26

Post Xmas

It's later afternoon. I've been playing all day and watching shows. It's been a pretty good day so far save for my neck being super cramped from bad sleep. I'm soooooo tired from getting up early. Well, about 1.5 more weeks and I can get caught up on sleep again at school.

That's it so far; Nothing different or unexpected today yet. I suppose that's mostly a good thing these days.

Day 544 - 12/27

Quiet at last / gifts that don't exist

It's finally quiet at the mall, sort of. The overly loud Xmas music has stopped playing in the food court area. The crowd, while still surprisingly heavy, only shows up at around 11 or later, though it was still somewhat busy with people milling about at 10:30 last night when I left. It's just after 8:15 and really noone is here. There are two cleaning

people in my area and there were two old people walking (possibly others I couldn't see). I suppose it makes sense, a warm / dry / safe place to walk and exercise. But, not a single store is open yet, and I suspect it won't be for at least another hour+. Yet here I am, with nowhere else to go. I tried stopping by school for a nap, but it's been blocked off by concrete barriers since Wednesday morning. There are construction people in there, but I doubt they are doing much. Well, two Wednesdays from now I can start going back to my morning nap times.

It rained a bit last night. I feared I would be leaked on but it stopped fairly early in the night, I'd guess between 1 and 2. I've been passing out out of necessity at night, so I'm pretty exhausted as I don't feel safe off-campus.

That's really it. With the holidays there isn't much going on save for the occasional cute girl here at the mall (all way too young to even think about talking to). Job boards are completely dead, fun boards are very quiet, and even in game there are only a few people. Normally this is a time of sleeping in for me, a time of relaxing and not worrying about work or school, a time to have a month's time of movie rentals, the 'winter of movies'. But my life is all off track. I've adapted. I'll survive. But I have no idea when I'll really recover. And it's not an experience I'd wish on anyone. Hopefully you are snuggled tightly in bed with loved ones and (when awake) able to do all the things you enjoy in the normal manner you enjoy them.

Time passes

I was in my game today, I had to go shopping in one of the big cities, and there next to a holiday tree were gifts for me. I didn't expect them. They were all, of course, silly things; but it brought a tear to my eye. Yes, my friend/ex-roomie gave me gifts. I got a very good gift/donation. But gifts under a tree... that I never expected. It's been years since I've had a tree with gifts that I didn't put there. It brought some very small tears to my eyes. It wasn't "real". It was 'just programmed to happen', but it was the way things I have been hoping they would be for a while.

Time passes

I got a reply to a thank you email from my friend/ex-roomie about Xmas stuff. She said she was glad I got her gift monies because she was sad she couldn't share Xmas food with me and that she wanted me to have something special. It made me want to cry. I don't know why her boyfriend hates me so much that I can't still do stuff with her, or

stay there, or even stay in the garage. But also it made me sad because I spent half of it already on regular food for my homeless life. Even if I wanted something special I really can't have any due to my limitations of what I can buy. It's so sad to be cast aside and know the people who cast you out know you are hurting.

Her sister said I could stay on the property more if I wanted, but I don't know. It would be weird to drive like 15 minutes from this hub to down there (and back) just to sleep since she has two young kids (8 and 11). If they were teens I would consider it more, but being so young they really can't understand. Plus, with me being allergic I can only stay inside about 4 hours. I don't know. I may not have much choice since my current spots at this hub seem at risk.

I'm so very tired and sad lately. I feel like crying almost all the time. I'm so exhausted and feel like my life can't progress forward no matter what I try.

Day 545 - 12/28

No more gym visits

Laundry time. Today has been a bit odd so far. Since I had nowhere to be this morning, and I had work at 10, I thought I'd see if I could sneak in to the gym work. I got there at 7:30 and things were locked with no alarm set. (Like it was on Xmas eve.) I went in to the office. I got a mat, put a towel on it, put a me on it, covered myself up and eventually fell back to sleep. I had crazy dreams about being discovered and there being little children doing Xmas carols for parents over at the school. I got up around 9:50 and left the building at 10. Since the alarm was off and noone was supposed to be there I left things as they were. (The best ninja leaves no evidence.) I came back after work at around 2 to take a shower but I noticed the office light was on when I went in and the whole place smelled like paint. I assumed someone was there and looked around a bit. After a minute I noticed the alarm was going off. I quickly jumped in to the office to turn it off. Even though the lot was empty it seemed that from the evidence someone was there, did something, then left, possibly to return shortly, so they left the light on. After about a minute (mostly waiting to see if the alarm company called) I decided to re-set the alarm and just leave even though a shower would only have taken 15 minutes. So now I don't

know if it would be safe if I went there Wednesday before work. With nowhere to stay in the morning I don't know where I'll go over the next few days. I suppose New Years day should be safe – everyone on the planet just about has it off. But where to sleep that's safe... that remains in question.

Day 546 - 12/29

My sad life

It's early afternoon and I'm taking a break from my game. Not anything really new today save for the connection being poopy. I met some new peeps online that wished me well after telling them about my sad life.

I've decided to try and save my (so far) one gift towards a full laptop upgrade. That money, after getting a few Blu-ray movies on sale, would be about 10% of an upgrade. If/when I sell my netbook that's another 30%. So, with those two I'm at about 40% of a full upgrade. Since I'm looking at systems with built-in Blu-ray it seems unnecessary to get an external one. Of course that remaining \$600 will be impossible to gather right now.

I looked at classes and if I don't get the one I'm waitlisted for there really isn't another I can take. I've either taken the class or the class is offered in a time slot that I can't attend. I remain trapped. It seems more and more likely I'll have to consider bankruptcy at the start of next year when the Holidays settle.

That's all for now. Something good may yet happen later, we never know, but likely my sad life will remain the same.

Day 547 - 12/30 Possible rabb1t life restart

Today is off to an odd start. It's almost 9:40, so I've got about 20 minutes before I should head to work. The mall wireless is down again. It seems to be the same problem as before. I've been at the mall since 8, hung at my car for a bit and came inside around 8:30, so I've been here a while. I hopped on to the food store's wireless that I've used a few times (though the signal is so weak that I had to stand at their counter.) I got out an email to the mall tech and did a quick email check. The friend/ex-roomie's sister couldn't see the wireless network and that reminded me I had it turned off. (I'm the kind of guy to turn off / shut down features I'm not currently using.) I gave her the info that should allow her to turn it on. If it needs a password though I'd have to go over and do that myself, as it may not be a password I currently use, nor do I want to send it to her over email/phone.) A visit would be unexpected, but ok. I'll call after work and see if she is up and running or not. If not I'll go over instead of trying to shower at the gym then head to the mall. After that email check I spent a bit of time doing my weekly changes to Epic Fail to get it ready for next week's posting.

I also surfed a site which could be a possible rabb1t life restart. 🤔 A guildie mentioned it last night; I guess they are faculty at the college and their college has a program where they cover your housing, tuition, and all those fees *if* you work 20 hours a week as a teaching assistant and *if* you qualify for the program. I think qualifying would be the most difficult part, as only 10 such positions are given out each school year. They require a 3.0 GPA, so I'm not sure that I'd qualify. My current Associate's GPA is near 4.0, but my graduating Bachelor's GPA was, according to my records, 2.863, with my partial Masters at 2.986. (That reminds me, I still haven't checked my grades for last semester. I'm sure I did fine with a B or higher.) But it's kind of exciting. The college is focused on using technology to teach, so teaching teachers how to use tech in the classroom and emerging teaching technologies. I'm not sure if that would get me into a regular teaching position, but it could potentially get me a job setting up classrooms with various media and training teachers. I guess that'd be like a consulting thing more than a

full-time position. I'm sure they would help place me in a job after I graduated. But that could get me housing for a few years, a Masters level degree, possible job placement, a change of scenery to possibly restart social connectivity... who knows what could unfold if I qualify. I think I'm very qualified what with my analytical mind, how easily I can reach people, my understanding and passion for technology, psychology, and sociology. The question that remains is; will the board who reviews my application see my potential?

Time passes

It's just after 3:30. I called the friend/ex-roomie's sister and she does indeed need a password and stuff, so I'm going to go set that up in a bit. I'd totally forgotten that the wireless is down at the mall, so here I am, not connected. I guess it's ok. I'll be leaving to go set up the wireless for her in like an hour at most. I don't get what's wrong here. I got a reply from the tech saying that "they had a power outage this morning" and "it would be a while before it's up". Why is it taking so long? Wouldn't it just be a system restart? Shouldn't the system have already restarted since they have had power? It must be on its own power system that isn't working right or something. I don't really know anything about networks, so I guess I shouldn't bla bla about it. That's probably why network techs make like 60k+ eh? (Closer to 80-125k starting in my area, heh.)

I started writing with a bunch to say, but oddly now that I am writing my mind seems to have completely blanked out. As always my mind is wandering, thinking about my game, about watching my movies again, about upgrading my system, about if I will find at least a decent job if not a good one, about what I should do about my debt, about the cute girls I see around me who are with guys or friends and if I will find a sweetie and friends again, and if so when. ... I guess that's really it for now. Without connectivity to teh Intarwebs my life is kind of at a standstill. I'm sure I'll be connected again once I hook up the friend/ex-roomie's sis with my wireless router in a short while.

Day 548 - 12/31

Same as it ever was

It's after 5 and I'm at the mall. I only have about an hour before they close.

I stayed the night last night, so the day so far has been spent with the friend/ex-roomie's sister and her little ones. I wasn't quite as bad in terms of allergies as I was back during the summer, as they've gotten rid of a big/old carpet since then, but I was bad enough that I couldn't really stay longer and be super comfortable. I have to be away for a bit to let myself recover. I'll likely just hang out at various places and hide here and there and let myself de-allergify as I'll need to spend most of tomorrow over there since so many things will be closed. I'm guessing that the mall will not be open, but I may drive by and see later in the evening.

I have been wrong about school – it opens on Monday, not Wednesday. I don't know why I was thinking it wasn't open until Wednesday.

It seems that I was right about the special program. The guildie said she agreed that my GPA would likely hold me back. She thought I had said I had a 3.xx, not a 2.986, so it seems my life will remain the same as it's been, though I may send an application anyways.

Everyone is rushing about to get ready for their New Year's parties. I'd normally be watching a Twilight Zone marathon on TV but again I'm missing it this year. My life remains in its sad homeless state. While it isn't all bad it certainly is not a normal life of those around me.

Day 549 - 1/1/2010

Same so far

It's just after 5 and I'm about to have a fairly boring next 5 hours. I'm at the mall now and, as I feared, the connection *still* hasn't been repaired. This means it will more than likely be out tomorrow and Sunday and possibly some of next week. I did stop over for more rest and time with the friend/ex-roomie's sis and her kids, so I got some time on the Internet and my game this morning and spent some time with them. They were sad

though because they have no dad and my being around the past few days reminded them of what it could be like with a nice dad. 😞

I have these odd scratches on me in various spots, like above one eye, on the inside of one leg, on my chest on one side, like I've had an allergic reaction and scratched myself too much, tearing up my skin here and there. I don't recall doing that at all. I suppose it's possible I did after being in their house since they have animals I'm allergic to. (I guess maybe I could call her the not-sis? Have to think up a shorter term for being over there, heh.)

My paycheck came and, as I expected, it was super short. So short, in fact, that the gift/donation money basically has to be used to replace the not-pay. With everything I have I'm still shorter than what I'd normally have in a two week pay period. I should be ok if not too many monthly costs need to be paid during these two weeks, but it will be fairly tight. Sadly this means the 10% of my upgrade I could have had from the gift/donation is now being absorbed into critical survival money. 😞

Um... that's really it for my day. With no Internet access nothing else is likely to happen.

I've got a party tomorrow with one of the ghosts, the same one I went to a party with before, so that should be fun. 😊 I'll pick up about eight or so Blu-ray movies to take over for us to watch if we want. Last time some wound up playing cards while the rest of us surfed for something to watch. Lots of fun movies should help solve/prevent that this time. 😊

Guess that's it for now.

Day 550 – 1/2

Strange days

Today is yet another strange day. After I got up I had to go to the bathroom, so I stopped off at a food store. While there I grabbed some chips for me and for the party later. 😊 (They were on sale for teh cheap.) I decided to go ahead and check school even though construction has had it blocked off lately. There was the monthly flea market

there. I'd completely forgotten about that. I stayed in the lot about 1.5 hours but didn't sleep too much. I went to the library after to get directions to the party since I couldn't look them up on my system due to the mall connection being down. Now we are at the mall and, as expected, the connection is still broken.

It's just after 11 but I've nothing to do really until about 1:30 when I'm going to get ready for the party. I figure I can sneak in to the gym for a quick shower and shave.

I don't know what I'll do tomorrow. With the mall connection down all I can really do is watch any movies I happen to grab (which are standard DVD) or play single player casual games.

Guess that's it for now. K thx bye. 😊

Day 551 - 1/3

The old lion

It's just after 9 and I'm killing time in the Target lot after picking up some soups for teh cheap. I suspect the mall connection still hasn't been fixed, so I'm in no rush today. There are only a few dozen cars in the lot. Days are slow now what with the post Holliday time off. When I leave my sleeping spot in the morning I'm the only one around, not a single other sole in sight for miles.

I'm so very tired after getting about 6.5 hours of sleep, but I has a happy. 😊 I had a super good time at the party. Mostly we just wound up watching movies. We watched Star Trek, Zack and Miri Make a Porno, and Repo! The Genetic Opera (which four peeps hadn't seen and they all loved it.) The party was super small. I was first in and last out and mostly it was a few people would come in, stay an hour or so, then leave, so really only about 2-4 others were there at any given time (besides the two that lived there and me.) In the future I'll call them "C&H" as that's the first letter of their names and it's much easier than referencing which ghost she is.

It was kind of sad though; I was the only single person there. There was one other guy who came alone but I think he was just alone for that night. Pretty much everyone else came coupled. The only two who weren't a couple were, I believe, roomies of some people who came, and I know one of them was not with their sweetie because they were

out of town. Thinking back over my life I can't really remember any times that I didn't know people to have a sweetie until all the way back when I was like 8 years old. But even then they often had someone(s) they were interested in. As I got older people seemed to be single longer, likely due to a lack of social networks, but if they were they almost always seemed to be attached to roommates or a best friend. It still strikes me as odd that I'm well liked enough - several I'd met at the previous C&H party said hi to me this time - yet I'm still alone. I'm still single, still without a best friend, still without friends I regularly go places with, and most importantly without people who would (or can?) offer me shelter. Sometimes I feel like a tired old lion that all the gazelle and zebra know won't hurt them. They flock around me grazing and happily hopping about occasionally glancing over to check that I haven't moved with any real concern about me, yet instinctually fearing that I will pounce and they will need to run and hide.

Time passes

It's nearing 10:15. As I suspected/feared the mall connection is still dead. I really don't know what to do. I could go to Starbucks I suppose, spend money, and get 2 hours of access. I could go to the library and get 1 hour of bad/slow access. If I felt like risking being seen there I could go to the wireless church and get a few hours of access (before my batteries ran out). I suppose it would be safe enough to go to the gym work even if I wanted (though that would take about \$3 in gas). But why go anywhere? Access for a few hours or limited access doesn't really seem worth it, and while the closed work may give me total privacy, access to bathrooms and a microwave, would I really want to be completely isolated with nothing to do? I'll likely wind up doing something like going back and making a final grammatical pass on Epic Fail book 1, maybe even try and see if I can figure out how to get page numbers in and get it 100% finalized, but other than that there isn't really anything I can think of to do today other than maybe go back to the ex-garage and grab some DVDs to watch.

I so very much want to have a normal life. I probably wouldn't even be up now from last night's party. I'd love to be able to play my PS3, my Wii, have an Xbox 360, play WoW, watch movies, and hang out with friends. I would even look forward to an 8-hour day of work Monday and go to sleep maybe a touch early to be ready for restarting work after a few weeks off for the Holidays. (I saw the avatars on the 360 and they were really cool. As it's always been their network seems really strong. H even got a call at like

12:30 from a friend on the network and they were talking about if they wanted to play something together.)

I don't know what I'll do today, but it likely will wind up being a very very long and sad day. 😞

Day 552 – 1/4 Sleeping in

It's odd being able to sleep in at school again. A good portion of last night's sleep was there. 😊 I got an extra shift for tonight, so that will help my paycheck. I decided to use a coupon for pizza last night, so I got a connection for about four hours. I won't have time to go to the mall later today after laundry so I'll just use a connection point close to work. Well, I could drive down to the mall and back, but it will be better to just stay local and get about two hours of solid access instead of driving, maybe the mall works maybe it doesn't, driving back, and only getting around one hour or less.

Not much going on other than that; laundry now, a few hours of access where I *should* be able to play my game, and work where I'll get to watch a movie, maybe two.

I started work on final editing for Epic Fail Book 1. I got the page numbers set up in two sections correctly but I can't figure out how to get rid of it in the first section (where page numbers aren't needed). For some reason the program is like 'you have to give the entire document page numbers or none at all.' Initial page numbering formatting took a few hours, but I've estimated it will be closer to 40 more to continue reading word for word to do the first complete edit check. I only got to week four yesterday. It didn't seem quite as sad reading it through. I guess that's because I'm a bit further from those events. I can see how peeps say it's not so much sad as interesting. The early days have a lot more day-to-day, but that's how it is.

Anyways... that's it for now, possibly for the day. K thx bye. 😊

Day 553 - 1/5

Don't belong anywhere

It's 11:30 and I'm nomming lunch. I've been up for quite a while but I haven't done anything. I spent nearly 1.5 hours 'in bed' just sitting having alone time. I did sit up and remove most of the covers but I saw little point in rushing right on campus, nor was there a point to leaving campus since the mall connection is likely still broken. I guess, while excited for the new semester to start for me tonight, I still very much feel like I don't *belong* anywhere. Besides an occasional board thread there is nowhere/noone who really puts my knowledge to use. As I 'made my bed' last night and this morning I thought to myself, "What am I doing? What is going on?" I didn't feel right being homeless, but then I never did. But no friends can take me, or they don't want to take me; everyone has limits. Of all the new people I've met on campus, in all my travels, I've gained no new close friends. (A few maybe at C&H's parties, but they are likely just 'party friends.') Of the probably hundreds of applications sent over the past 1.5 years, no jobs want me. This morning I sat in my car alone and it all seemed to add up. It seems like while I'm at yet another potential new beginning it may not matter. Today it feels like this could be it. This could be my entire life now and in the future. It seems either I'll limp along making barely enough to survive, maybe in the next eight months scraping together enough for a system upgrade so I can play at least a few games, watch my Blu-ray movies, but that I'll never get ahead and the majority of my life will still decay and rot; my teeth getting worse, my car slowly getting worse, my cloths continuing to be destroyed one by one.

Today I wonder if anything has *really* made a difference in my life. Yes, I seem to maybe be reestablishing some social ties. Yes, I can occasionally get a movie I want to collect. Yes, I can still play at least one game that's important to me. Yes, more are happy and learning things at my site. Yes, more are learning about Epic Fail and possibly living fuller and happier lives because of my sad words. Yet despite all these gains it seems my life is not progressing. My new classes, passing the CBEST, all the applications I've sent, none seem to have put me in a better position with potential employers. Job board postings continue to dwindle and employers still seem to not reply when I do find a job to apply to.

While I know the world and people *can* surprise me, today feels very much like I am alone and falling through the cracks and that I'll never be able to return to the world on my own.

Day 554 - 1/6 Want to game

Tummy doesn't want soup today. It's feeling pretty icky, sick, and unstable from when I had a soup at lunch. 🤢 My poor tummy is so fragile these days. I guess I can see what school foods it may want later and get myself something solid to eat.

I haven't done much today. It's taken over an hour to do the most basic things due to the wireless at school moving so slowly. I'd have accomplished way more by 'checking out a computer' and then just swiping the landline and hooking it up to my system. (Which is easier due to my having all my bookmarks and such. I didn't because I needed to charge my netbook and phone and there aren't always power nodes near the systems.) I found one nearly perfect job to apply to but the network is so slow it can't send the email (and landlines block my email from going out for some reason.) It's 30 hours a week as a teacher's assistant at a K-12 school. The only major downside is it's pay is low at \$11 an hour. I'd have to completely wipe my debts to zero in order to be able to survive with that (and could only afford a single room in a shared house; no way I could get an apartment on my own.)

I still don't feel like I belong today. I slept a total of around 10 hours, so I'm catching up a bit. Today I really just wish I had enough money to not work and I could be in my home playing my games and talking about my experience at my site. Unfortunately I don't have the money for that (at least not yet) and there are only maybe one or two dozen game reviewer type jobs in basically the entire world, so getting paid to do that is very unlikely.

Oh, I checked my grades for last semester and I indeed did just fine getting an A in one class and a B+ in the other. I think both professors may have been a bit extra lenient with me due to my being homeless and all, but I did do all the assignments and was there every class (on time). I'm the only guy in my Tuesday class this semester, which is rare even for child development. The redhead cutie from last semester is in the class, but she didn't wave or say hi or anything. Hopefully I can get in to the class tonight and have two classes so I don't have to worry about financial aid coming after me (and to

get more classes done.) It would be nice to find the redheaded hottie I flirted with a year ago. I'm sad our two (?) dinner outings and ice cream with the other students never turned into an actual friendship.

I reserved my name on the Xbox network. I went to see if I could check for availability yesterday and, to my surprise, it let me sign up. I guess the network extends to being used on the PC, which makes sense for pairing with Microsoft Games. So, "gh0strabb1t" is now reserved for when I can manage to get a 360. (Of course "rabb1t" was taken, probably long long ago.)

That's all for today really. It's just about 2:30, so I've got about four hours until class. I guess I'll just do some Epic Fail stuff since I checked for jobs already and the stupid network is being too slow to reach my fun boards. Bye for now. 😊

Day 555 - 1/7

Depressed

I can't believe it; the mall connection is still down. It's been over a week, most of which was post New Years. I noticed a new food store connection that's unlocked, so I'm connected through there, but I'm getting dropped and have to re-load pages about every five minutes. I fear what gaming would be like.

I slept a total of about 10 hours again last night but I'm soooooo tired. My eyes are so sore and I'm all groggy, as if I were still in a home with a normal life but only got about 3-4 hours of sleep.

I don't know how the rest of my day will go. I was really looking forward to playing, but with web surfing impaired it's unlikely I'll be able to game at all. At this rate I'll wind up just going back to school because at least there I could 'check out a computer' and not be dropped.

I suppose the only real good news for the day so far is that I got my new DVD case, so I'm ready for movies on the go. All I need now is an upgrade to a regular laptop or an external Blu-ray drive to watch them. I looked at older movies on DVD I may want to watch from my collection but all of the stuff I really want to see is on Blu-ray.

I was one of only three allowed to add the Wednesday class, so that's something. There really aren't any roses this year. About three girls are cute enough, but not ones I even remotely think would be interested, so I don't know if I'll even do it this year. It would be sad not to after like 10 years, but still.

Time passes

It's just after 4:45. I'm having an early half-dinner. I stopped by Starbucks to play for a bit. I guess it's a good thing I put \$5 on my card so that I could use their internet the other day. I still can't believe the mall wireless is down. All I have to do today now is work on Epic Fail, single player casual games, or maybe seeing if there are any DVDs to watch at the library. I already did job and fun board stuff.

We had an in-class assignment last night. We were told to draw a picture (on large paper) that showed where we were (in our career) five years ago, today, and where we hope to be five years from now. I thought and thought and was sad. It really just reminded me that five years ago I was starting my masters and full of hope. I had one path I was really excited to get to and two or so fallback paths. None of these, or ones even remotely close to those, are where I am now. None of my class experience in the last 10 years – the entirety of my college career – has helped me one bit in getting a job. In fact, had I not left my path, had I remained in graphic arts, it's entirely possible I'd still be there, now with 15 total years experience probably earning 60-80k a year. Instead, here I am completely failing and about 80k in total debt (credit card and student loans.) (Not counting what I owe my ex-roomies or costs to get my teeth repaired.) And the only class knowledge I'm even using right now are the ones that were focused on writing. Two nights ago someone asked, "You have a Bachelors in Psychology, right?" And I replied, "Yeah." But I wondered to myself, "What has it all been for? What has almost 10 years of classes, gaining an Associates, Bachelors, and partial second Associates gained me?"

I guess all I can do is still hope that it wasn't all for nothing and that someday I'll find somewhere that I'm happy (and can help others to be happy).

Time passes

It's almost 7:45. I haven't worked on any Epic Fail stuff yet, I've just been watching game videos. There is a lot of new stuff coming out of CES. I'm so very tired. I so very much wish I had a bed to sleep in, a warm room, a good job that I need to get to in the morning. Mostly I want to be able to play my games. Maybe it was a mistake getting

the netbook instead of holding out for a full laptop, but I really don't think I would have gotten the money. It took all I had to get the netbook and I would have been about \$300-400 short of waiting for a full laptop. Now you can get them much cheaper around \$850 (with Blu-ray), but that seems impossibly far off. It seems like I will just continue to miss the games I want to play, not just on consoles that I already own, but also on the 360, and on the PC since my laptop can't run them.

I'm so very sad. I want to be warm. I want to be able to snuggle up cozy in my bed when I sleep. I want an at least moderately happy job to go to that has good pay and good hours. I want friends to laugh and play with. I want to be able to play games, both old and new. I want so very much to be a part of a normal life again. 😞

Day 556 - 1/8

Chicken beats knife

It's nearly 6 at mini work. Nothing really interesting to report today. The mall connection is *still* broken, so weekend play will be almost nonexistent. The only thing really interesting so far is that I got a whole roasted chicken for \$5 (which will be three meals) and I loled when I tried to cut it with the plastic knife and the knife broke. Chicken beats plastic knife, lol. 😏

That's really it. I could talk about how today was warm, cold, sunny, cloudy, sprinkled rain, or how my hands, feet, and knees were numbish from cold this morning, but that's not really new or terribly interesting.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 557 - 1/9

The eye

It's super late at night, after 11:45. I was actually fairly busy today. Not so much from being busy, but from my activity being held back so much. While I did research I

spent two hours trying to watch a 38 minute video. You see the mall was down still, so I had to gimp along on the fast food store wireless, which as I mentioned already drops me as frequently as every other minute. Today it was actually dropping me upwards to every 10-20 seconds and rarely stayed genuinely connected more than a couple of minutes.

But yes, today was research day for ATi's Eyefinity. I figured the mall wouldn't be connected fully so I planned to update my parts on my system builds. In the process I found a new article on the Eyefinity tech, found out exactly what it took to run, got solid figures on frame rates from several sources, and decided to alter my rank 4 and 5 builds to be Eyefinity based (and gave the rank 3 an option for it). It is super exciting to think my next monitor upgrade (which I hoped to do with my next system build) may actually instead be three 22" 1920x1080 monitors for a total of 5760x1080 viewing resolution total. I was figuring on spending around \$500 on the monitor upgrade, provided I could afford to, so calculating it out after finding those monitors that it would total around \$650 for the monitors and cables is pretty exciting. Of course, the base \$1000 or so to upgrade my system will have to come first, then another \$1000 to get a new HDTV after that, so getting all three upgrades right when I get re-established is highly unlikely.

After I did that I went over to the not-sis' house and I've been here ever since. They are busy in the morning, so after I get up I can have private time for a shower and gaming until around 1, which is super good since the mall could remain down for quite some time. Guess that's it for now. I'm still coughing from kitty and doggy fur, so I likely won't sleep for a bit, but off I go "to bed". 😊

Day 558 - 1/10

Got sick, feel terrible

I just got super sick not too long ago when I left the not-sis' place around 8. 😞
My tummy put out the last meal I had. 🤢 Not just a little sick, full-on no more last meal in the tummy left. I haven't been that sick in I don't know how many years. I think around four years? I don't know if I caught a bug, or if it's because I'd spent 6 hours inside

yesterday and 11 hours inside today, both well beyond what should be a 5 hour cap per day, or if it was a reaction to something I ate, or a reaction to it being 50F at the warmer times lately and they have no heat there really so I've been cold and shivering just about all day. I've felt a bit dizzy, had a funny tummy (likely from congestion), and a bit of chills/shivers, since about 2 in the afternoon, so I'm not entirely surprised I got sick. I'm still shivery, my throat is messed up, and my tummy still feels off, but I feel quite a bit better now that... well... that I got sick and I'm no longer being exposed to things I'm allergic too.

I *did* have some fun in my game since I spent more time at the not-sis' place than expected. I just hung out with her and her kids and watched some shows after I was done playing.

I've been feeling really weird about being naked lately too. When I'm in the shower my skin feels weird. Back in the day I'd get naked every night to sleep, and during the warmer weather sometimes I'd hang out naked before showers after I got up or for a bit before bed. Now I've been wearing cloths 24/7 for so long it feels very odd and wrong not to.

I'm so very sad I'm not in a warm home or at least a warm allergy free place. So very sad I'm going to be cold all night and probably most of the day. I wish this were all over (in a good way.)

Day 559 - 1/11

Fever dreams, still sick

It's almost 2, doin' laundry. Last night was pretty crazy. I had fever dreams most of the night; crazy repeating three second periods over and over and over. I felt like there were like five copies of me in and out of phase with the rest of the mes. I felt like multiple mes until somewhere around 4. I was getting waves of hot and cold. One second I was nice and toasty warm, the next it was like an ice cold breeze was running across me. I'm pretty sure I had a fever because my forehead and face seemed super hot. Now I feel mostly better, but my eyes hurt, the outer part of my ears hurt, I'm eating hardly anything, and my throat will likely be torn up for days before it recovers. I'm drinking about 50%

more than normal but the really unusual thing is that I'm peeing 4-5 times as much as normal.

I guess that's really it. I'll go to a store connection for a bit after laundry as I expect the mall will still be broken, but it will probably be a standard day of play and looking for jobs. Hopefully by dinner time I'll be ok enough to have a smaller regular dinner.

Bye for now.

Day 560 - 1/12

Cold, stage two

Still so very sick. It's just past 1:30 and I decided to come to the mall so there would be less people/activity around me. I probably should have just stayed at school in my car and rested. I still feel pretty terrible. The cold has morphed into a different stage. Now it's heavy lung and throat congestion, inner and outer ear pain, some eye pain, and throat soreness. I still must have a bit of fever too as I had fever dreams yet again last night. It's gotten better though. The 3-5 seconds repeating from before has changed to a line or chorus of lyrics, typically from Repo! The Genetic Opera or Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog, both of which I've seen recently so that makes sense.

I've got class tonight, but that's likely all that will happen.

Hopefully I can get better soon. It's so tough to take care of colds being homeless.



Time passes

It's just past 6, waiting for class to start. I ate lunch very very slowly, but I got hungry again pretty quickly after. I ate a small something else, and again I'm getting hungry again. My appetite is slowly returning, though tummy still doesn't want soup (though it wouldn't mind broth.) So I think I'm finally starting to really get better. 😊

I put out a few resumes for jobs lately, so that's good, though one was only a few hours a week and the other was not at all in any of my current career paths.

I guess that's really all to say for this week. Bye for now. 😊

Day 561 - 1/13
My poor ears

It is probably nearing 11:30 by now. I haven't yet left my car. I'm still terribly sick. 😞 Now the cold is in my lungs, nose, ears, and my skin feels... odd. I have what I think they call swimmer ear, where one ear is all plugged up and painful and won't unplug. I slept mostly ok, though I was heavily congested all night. At around 5 I woke up from coughing and couldn't stop coughing for about half an hour. It was another 45 minutes or so before I could get back to sleep. I remembered I had some noodles in back of the car that I could take the broth from, so I was planning to have broth for lunch and get a small chicken nuggets to nibble on through the day. With my ear pressure I fear what may happen if I leave my car. Sounds are all so loud and painful, and the cafeteria will no doubt be very loud. Plus, with my ear plugged I fear I may just suddenly fall over from getting dizzy. Thank the gods that I'm not already dizzy, but being my inner ear is plugged (which controls balance) I fear that may happen. Hopefully it will unplug enough to go soon as I can get decongestants and see the doc as soon as I can get on campus.

My lungs are so congested. I feel like my heart and lungs are drowning in slimy snot. 😞 Every cough jostles it around and my heart feels sad. If it weren't for the occasional cough and my ears screaming in/from pain I'd almost be feeling better again.

I don't know if I can do class tonight. If I were in a home I wouldn't worry about it at all. I'd stay home, drink warm broth, stay snuggled in a warm blanket, play games or watch shows that are less likely to make me dizzy and I'd ignore school. The thing is though that I'm already here on campus and there is a first, and very important, in-class assignment. I think I'll mention it to the teacher and just leave as soon as I can. Of course since I have no home I don't know what I'll do when I leave. I certainly can't do those things I mentioned. I'll probably just go and get some quiet time in my car.

Day 562 - 1/14

Poor ears still ringing

My poor ears are still ringing, have been since yesterday. My nose is now so plugged I can't even try to unpop them. My right one feels like someone has stabbed me in my ear. 😞

I'm at the mall, and since I got paid this morning I had some options for self medicating. I picked up a tumbler thingy, some teas, which much to my sadness I was reminded that they no longer make the Lemon Zinger I loved, so I had to get a berry sampler thing, some meds, and some crackers. Though I doubt I'll eat more than a few handfuls of food. Tummy is still so very sick. 😞 Usually the mall water in the bathroom gets up to super warm so I figure I can do those most of the day. Sadly they don't get past like warm at the moment but it's not even 11 yet, maybe the water isn't all the way hot yet.

I still had pretty crazy dreams last night and this morning. Last night I dreamt I was a bag (like the ones in my game) and I'd turned into hundreds of pieces of gear and had to find the set I matched to for that dungeon. This repeated several times. 😞 I also had some major disconnect after I moved to the school sleeping spot, as I heard myself mumbling in my sleep several times. Not actual words though, incoherent things. Things like 'web wub mung wub ah ah', and 'meh meh meh meh meh meh'. It was likely more out of ear pain than my brain still being hooked up to my mouth and ears while sleeping. I'm still peeing a lot, though it's become more proportionate to how much I've been drinking, so that's good. My heart is still pounding and racing all the time, so that's bad. Sometimes I feel hot. Like driving here I saw a sign that read 54F, but it felt more like 64F. I had my window down a bit and everything. Obviously my five senses are still working independently and out of sync from one another. As I write this my temperature is dropping from feeling warm to chilly and my skin feels cold.

Hopefully I'll feel better soon, but at this rate I may not feel well again until early to mid next week. 😞

Day 563 - 1/15

Senses still off - thumpa, thumpa, thumpa

It's evening time at mini work. I'm still horribly sick. Last night's crazy dreams were about my mind setting a 'goal' and then achieving it hundreds, possibly thousands of times during the night. I must have gotten up every hour; each time feeling like 3 or 4 had passed. My heart feels surrounded by snot, so I think 'the goal' was to be sure the heart had a 'clear path' from my mouth so it could always get enough oxygen to keep going. Ever since yesterday my ears have been ringing and in a lot of pain. I think so much pain I was like crying and whimpering in my sleep. It's not a pain you can avoid or get away from since it is inside your ears. All night long I heard the thumpa thumpa of my heart beat pounding in my poor plugged ears. I had mumbly sleep again last night. My ears are so off. The only way to possibly describe it is if you had earplugs made of a very thick liquid. It's like most sounds are muffled and off, but ones of a higher pitch seem almost amplified. The cold is in my eyes too. I lose vision as the day goes on. It's like there is so much snot in my insides of my ears and the insides of my eyes.

Hopefully I'll be better soon. I don't like being sick. 🙄 I suppose though that it is a more gentle way to remind us of our mortality.

Day 564 - 1/16

Calling on sanctuary

Today I've decided that I have to call on the ultimate sanctuary. I have no choice. A bit after the late shift at work I'll head over and spend the night there, and again tomorrow as well. I'll have to leave pretty early Sunday morning, but I should be able to stay as late as I need/want on Monday since it is a Holliday and schools are closed. I'm guessing the janitor doesn't come on weekends. I'm far too sick to continue not sleeping somewhere warm. I should be able to sleep (laying flat) with a single layer of cloths and be just fine, which will help me sleep tremendously.

I had thought last night may have been a start of recovery. Though I was woken up several times by hacking cough and congestion I had a single, solid, unified, non-

repeating dream. In fact, as odd as it seems, my brain gave me a choice when I first got up to pee. It 'asked', 'Tiger, or Dragon?' In my half asleep state when I got back 'into bed' I put up claws and stretched my neck and whispered 'rarrrrrr' like a sleek long black Chinese dragon would. I don't really remember the dreams that followed, but I know they followed the theme. (Odd that the Phoenix was not also a choice, but Tiger vs. Dragon is most common.)

Upon waking up to move to the school sleeping spot I had to actually wipe away the goop from my eyes before I could open them. I was no better in illness then when I'd gone to bed. When I got up at the school spot I immediately had a fit of coughing. So that's it. Tonight and tomorrow night I'm calling sanctuary. I'll try and rest a lot today before I go anywhere. It's already been nearly two hours since I 'got up', yet I'm still 'in bed' sideways. I had about four crackers for lunch and it wouldn't surprise me if that's about what I have for dinner too. Soon I'll try and take a shower to decongest myself and after I'll rest a bit more before going anywhere.

The incredible pain in my ears is my greatest concerns. Though they pop and unpop freely they are both horribly plugged. Things like eating crackers and the sound of my own heartbeat are the loudest noises in the world, yet outside sounds are muffled. Many things even just a few feet away are completely unheard. The congestion in my throat and lungs is horrible. It seems to come and go, mostly related to outside temperature - this is why I'm calling sanctuary. My voice is terrible. If I whisper it's fairly normal sounding, but volume over a whisper it cracks and simply may be inaudible. I think I still have a fever, which comes and goes with chills. At the moment that's fine and it too seems external temperature related. My tummy is... off is the only way I can think to phrase it. It's not sick feeling, but it's not hungry. It doesn't want to eat at all about 90% of the time. It's like it's been emptied of everything, both good and bad.

I don't know how or why I caught this cold. I hope I've found out why I'm not getting better and that calling on sanctuary will get me better. I'm going to have to 'call in sick' as there is simply no way I can work Monday or Tuesday. I'm beginning to wonder at this point if I'd even be ok for class Tuesday night.

I hate being sick. I don't understand how so many others seem unsympathetic. They just say, 'hope you feel better'. Once upon a time my friend/ex-roomie would have been such a sympathetic person and see if I needed anything, to check on me from time to

time, to pick me up meds if I needed, but I've never had any friends who didn't live with me make such an offer (save for a recent offer from the not-sis). I wonder why that is. Are those who are truly compassionate and go into health fields truly so rare? Is it just our economic non-socialistic base influencing people towards selfishness? I may never know.

Day 565 - 1/17

300% maximum congestion

I'm very glad I snuck in for sanctuary last night. It didn't help for my congestion too much, but when I woke up to cough once per hour it wasn't the horrible series of coughing that it has been. It was a quick cough-cough then done. One very important thing that did happen though (not counting being comfortably warm and laying flat all night) was that I had a dream that may prove to be very important. In the dream my subconscious left me a message. The message was "we are at 300% maximum congestion". During the coughing fit that followed that dream I thought about what it meant. Being far beyond my normal maximum congestion level would explain several things. It would explain my fatigue. It would explain the ick I feel around my heat. It would explain my ear pressure/plugged weirdness. It would explain why my tummy is so fragile (as congestion travels down the throat into your tummy). If I truly were vastly beyond my capacity to fight off my own congestion there would be no way I could clear my systems. This morning I picked up decongestants and more tissues. I just took my first triple dose of decongestants. If it seems necessary I'll do another, but I have so few in the pack that I'd like to save it for the evening. Single doses would be all I'd have through today and tomorrow, and on Tuesday I could then continue with a dosage I want for free from school.

I'm having a juice (also gotten this morning at the store) and medium fries with my meds. (Though I think they gave me a large; it would make sense since the next fry order is likely hours away and they would have gone bad by then.) Hopefully in a few hours the meds will kick in and my dream will be confirmed and I'll start to get better. I was going to get decongestants the other day but I took a chance on cold/flu meds which

supposedly had decongestant in them. I guess I should have simply over-medicated myself to begin with to be sure to breach the cold's tolerance level.

Well, here is hoping for the best. 😊

Time passes

My night is not going as planned; probably all in a bad way, but we'll see. Most of my day I was feeling ok, but by 6 my ears had started ringing and with it came mild dizziness and nausea. I left the mall a touch later than I expected and went to grab a micro dinner to have at work sanctuary. I've really been wanting to see a certain movie with dinner because it looked silly and I'm sick and figured it would lift my mood. They didn't have it locally. 'Well, no biggie.' I thought to myself. 'Maybe I can just get it at the store a few blocks from work.' So I drove the like 10 minutes up towards sanctuary and checked the kiosk there. Ta da, it was there. I made my way towards work/sanctuary. On my way in I see a patrol car pull out of the driveway. Well, that isn't entirely unexpected as it is attached to a (middle) school, so who knows what shenanigans could be going on because of that, and there were possibly homeless cars in the adjacent lot last night (and on other nights I've looked over). I think to myself, 'Well, damn. But, what are the odds he'll come back later?' I go ahead and slow down enough to pull in to the lot far enough behind him that he shouldn't see me (due to the curve in the road). I round the bend of the trees around the baceball field and make my way to the back where the gym is. There at the side of the building, poised like two barking dogs, are two other black and white patrol cars. I swiftly, yet casualy, turn right around and leave the lot. Whatever was going on likely would cause them to continue to monitor the area the rest of the night and remain on high allert if multiple cars had been on the scene. On my way out I saw a paddy wagon style car going the other direction.

Here I am now at the not-sis' waiting for them to return with my ears screaming, dinner defrosting in my passenger seat, a movie ready to watch, contemplating a night of cold sleep in my car instead of a nice warm sanctuary. 😞 They are here now much earlier than expected, so off I go. 😊

Day 566 - 1/18

Waking up dead

It's almost 3 and I'm doing laundry. I'm still super sick and want nothing more than to be in a warm, clean, allergy free, quiet home, where I can watch TV, movies, or play my game. I had a good time at the not-sis' last night and for a few hours this morning. Things turned out ok. Not what I expected last night, but it was probably for the best.

Last night was warm enough when sleeping but the first time I woke up coughing it was like I woke up dead. I had zero recollection of dreaming and had no connection to my body at all. I couldn't feel my heartbeat, my breathing, any sensory input from my skin, nor could I tell what body parts were where. I was worried I'd died. But as my brain seemed to function ok, and I became more aware as time went on, I figured it couldn't be, as you suffer brain damage pretty rapidly after death, so death for even just a minute would have had some majorly bad lasting effects.

My mind feels more clear and less concerned today, yet sad I still have so many symptoms. My spirit feels lighter and that I'll be better soon, but still heavy from the congestion, lingering cough, and disorientation from my ear problems. My body is coughing a lot less, but I still have no energy, get winded quickly, become unstable feeling easily, and I'm very sleepy all the time. I'm still very congested, feel a bit of chills and/or fever on occasion. I still have a hard time thinking of things that my body agrees it would like to eat, but my appetite is returning. I would love to have a small salad and Pepper Strips tonight, but that won't happen unless I go back to the not-sis' house (or someone else's). I'm extremely short on money though. I'm nearly out as I need to pay my car registration, which is over \$70, and from the class that I need to add, which likely will be \$30+. Hopefully I'll be ok, but it will be very tight for a while.

That's all I can think of for now. I'm sure once I feel better I'll be more interesting again, but it's times like this that I realize just how bad I eat and how all the sad things and limitations in my life greatly hinder my health and happiness, physically and emotionally. I hope all of you out there are doing ok and don't have such terrible worries. 😊

Day 567 - 1/19
Set to see the doc tomorrow morning

It's just past 4:30 and I'm still so very sick. My appetite is slowly returning on a regular basis. I had a craving for my Pepper Strips last night, so I asked if I could return to the not-sis' place to cook it for me/them. I figured with such a powerful craving and my tummy actually being hungry I should probably give it what it wants and hope that means the craving is for something that will help me to get better. It wound up being about double what an expensive fast food meal would have cost, but it likely was much healthier for me. (Plus, it fed me, the not-sis, and her two children vs. a fast food meal just feeding me.)

Things are still bad. My poor ears are still horribly plugged and ringing and things sound all distorted. During the day my congestion is manageable for the most part, but at night I am still drowning in snot constantly. It still feels like my poor heart is all clogged and being squozen by snot. My voice still sounds absolutely terrible. The cold is still getting in my eyes and making distance vision a fair bit blurry.

It's been pouring rain for days now. I don't think I mentioned that. For about two days now the passenger area has been lightly flooded and I've had to sleep crooked. I guess maybe that's ok though, as it likely means it's been a bit warmer at night than it otherwise would have been.

I went to the health center on campus and I'm all set up with an appointment to see the doc at 9:30 tomorrow morning. Hopefully she can figure out what's wrong and get me some perscription level drugs to clear me up.

This (fail) week seems like nothing but a whirlwind of feeling sick and being at the not-sis' so that I could shower in a steemy area and have a bit more quiet and reduced sensory input than campus would provide. (Though when the showers have hot water they *are* quite warm.) My dreams last night, while disturbing, were fairly normal. There was no repeating or altered time flow. My appetite is occasionally returning, and I don't destabilize quite as quickly as I have been in recent days, so I should be on the road to recovery very soon. Sadly I seem no closer to overall recovery though. While I did put out a few resumes lately, noone has called or emailed for an interview and job postings still seem very rare to apply to overall. Happily and thankfully it seems unlikely the cold

will end me in a bad way, but sadly it seems my life will return to its homeless normal with no good end in sight.

Day 568 - 1/20
I has drugs

It's just past 3:30 and I'm starving. I'm having a bit of an early dinner; which is both surprising in that I *am* genuinely hungry, and in that I'm hungry earlier than dinner after having a normal sized lunch at 11:30. I wasn't expecting to actually eat more than an orange and some crackers for dinner (what I had last night).

My day started a bit early to move the car to the covered school lot. Today is about day three of it absolutely pouring rain and being super windy. My puddle was about 1/2" deep when I tried to clear it later in the morning. After a bit more sleep at the school spot my alarm shocked me awake at 9 to go to my appointment. When I asked what she thought I had she said 'synusomethingsomething', which she described as something that can happen when we are under stress and extremely fatigued. It's basically that my sinuses have just gone totally crazy and are messing up all my other systems. She gave me drugs to clear me up that I'll be taking over the next 10 days (amoxicillin). I was glad to learn it wasn't something like pneumonia, bronchitis, or the ultra rare lay dormant for years H.I.V. infection. This would explain why noone else around me had been sick and how it could hit me suddenly.

My appetite is very slowly returning. I think with everything I will have eaten by the end of the day I will still only be 2/3 of normal food intake. Today *is* the first day my nose hasn't been constantly running since the start of the cold, so that in itself is a huge improvement. Also, last night I was only woken up about every other hour by coughing fits compared to every 45 minutes or so at the start of the cold. It's possible tonight I'll sleep through the night with next to no coughing at all and eat a normal amount tomorrow.

My nose and ears are hypersensitive though. I'm smelling all kinds of eww I don't want to smell in the cafeteria and the sounds seem like someone repeatedly stabbing me in the ears.

There is noone walking around on campus. It's a ghost town. People are either cutting class entirely or if they are on campus they come rushing in to class then go

rushing out again. Noone wants to be here in this weather. I would probably just stay home myself if I could. The doc was shocked at my situation. I'm likely one of only a very small handful in the state who is homeless with noone to help me. Some people mentioned that on one of my boards too. It always amazes me that I *am* in this situation at all, not counting how long I've been in the situation. All I can do is keep looking for / applying to jobs and try and keep my head up. Control is entirely out of my hands and I don't think anyone realizes just how alone you can be until you are in such a position.

Teh bunnah is lost in a deep dark hole with noone to help him. He's a saaaddd bunnah. 😞

Day 569 - 1/21

Car smells like a wet dog

It's just a bit after 1 and I'm feeling a bit better in some ways. My ears are plugged more than ever and I'm super congested, but my cough did only wake me up about three times last night total and my liquid intake/outtake is a lot closer to normal. My appetite is returning and I've got an almost larger than normal lunch and I expect I'll be hungry for dinner later.

I slept in until just after 11 today, so between my two sleeping spots I likely got close to 12 hours of sleep. It didn't seem like it rained that much last night but my ears must have just been too plugged to hear it as I again woke up to a ½" deep puddle on my normal sleeping side. Yesterday I moved the mats before leaving school and eeewww it smelt like a wet dog. Today I tried to soak up some of the water, but I fear the smell is coming from the foot lining. I may have to cut that out in a few days if it doesn't go away because that isn't going to dry out anytime soon. If it got moldy and stuff there is no way it could be purged until the summer, some six months from now. No way I could sleep in a moldy car that long. I dried it as best as I could and I've got the heater blowing down into the foot area. Hopefully that and keeping it in a covered spot at school and the mall will help.

That's really it for today. Maybe 10% better and my car smells like wet dog. Sad life continues to be sad. 😞

Time passes

It's nearing 8:45. I've been feeling like I've been missing something all night. I really don't know what it could be since I *have* nothing. My only guess is that my brain is clearing up from the cold and the sadness and shadows of my former life are returning; the brain wanting to cook, watch TV, watch a movie, listen to the rain from a safe, dry, warm spot, to go to bed early and snuggle under the covers and be warm and comfortable... but I have none of that. Nor do I have any unwatched shows. I checked for jobs, so I even did that.

I ate a pretty normal sized lunch, and although it took about 1.5 hours I ate a normal sized dinner as well. My liquid intake is still about 20% above normal, but that's a lot better than it has been.

I don't know what to do. I've done everything I can. I think I'll just wind up going and sitting in the car for an hour and being sad. There is really nothing else to do, and even then I'd be "going to bed early" at that point. 😞

Day 570 - 1/22

The forever cold

I'm still sick. My ears are still completely plugged and I'm pretty congested. I started sneezing today too. I don't know if that's a good sign or not.

Um... nothing really to say. I slept until nearly noon, about 14 hours of sleep. The car still smells like a wet dog or tar and paint. The passenger seat foot area is still soaked. It's raining a lot and I'm having to move early to try and get out of the rain. With my ears plugged I don't actually hear the rain so much at night, which I guess is a good thing.

I'm still so very out of it because of my cold, still so very sad because of my life in general. I don't know how long it will be before either is better. 😞

Day 571 - 1/23

Not so much with the getting better

It's just before noon and I'm drying some stuff. The car leaked again last night so again I had to dry the floor with towels and hope the heater can do the rest, which so far it isn't. I keep my work shirt under my passenger seat – a fact I forgot while sick – so that got completely soaked over the rainy days as well.

I expect today won't be all that interesting until 5. I'll just be at the mall until then. At 5 I'll go grab dinner to cook at the not-sis' (for just me) and get my monitor from storage. They don't have a regular TV connection and watch almost everything from the Internets. They only have netbooks like mine, so a family of like 3+ watching a 10" screen is less than ideal. Though it wouldn't surprise me if the 24" 1920x1200 screen turns out to be little more than a pixilated slideshow. At least, if it were tolerable, it would be a lot bigger with much better viewing angles. I hope to upgrade my monitor to an Eyefinity setup when I get re-established so I may let them just keep it. (While it is a very high-end screen it is also 5 years old now and even the lower-end Eyefinity screens out today would beat it out and be three screens for half what I paid for the one back in the day.)

I'm not so much with the getting better yet. I'm still very congested and my ears are still completely plugged and ringing. My appetite has fully returned though and my liquid intake is just about normal, so outside of the ears I'm showing signs of improvement.

That's all for now. I hope everyone is in a warm, dry, safe, happy home. 😊

Day 572 - 1/24

There and back

It's late, past 11:15 PM. I'm at the not-sis' house. I've been here all day actually. At first I didn't want to leave because I've been really sad lately, but as the night went on I figured I may as well stay because things were going to close down and I'd have nowhere to go. I had a good time though. While the kids feel like I'm dad-ish I too feel like I'm in

an actual family with kids to a degree. I finally left at just after 10, way later than I should have stayed. Though when I got to the ex-garage to drop something off the light was on, which made me feel unwelcome as it was a reminder that I'm not allowed to stay in there. When driving towards the sleeping spot I saw a sheriff's car, which made me worry, so I didn't feel safe about going to the regular sleeping spot. So now I'm back on the not-sis' property in her huge back yard.

I'm so very sad I can't stay in the ex-house's garage. 🙄 It would be safe, dry, free from worry about the weather or poliece, probably much warmer and more comefortable than my car, and I'd be near to my stuff which would be tremendously spiritually uplifting. I'm so very worried since the police incident. I no longer feel safe as I once did sleeping in my sleeping spot. I don't know what to do. I can't have the between step of the ex-garage, and I no longer feel safe where I was staying. I guess I'm just about back to where I started. Coming here to the not-sis' is ok once in a while, but at \$2-3 a visit I can't do it all the time. Plus it's not really good emotionally for the kids, or probably for me either for the reverse reason. I don't know what to do anymore. But, I don't think it's a question of options and what I want to do so much as what I need to do and what little there is that I can do.

At least at the moment it isn't raining and I can set up my passenger area to sleep normally. At least I seem to be getting slightly better, even though my ears are still completely plugged and screaming.

But lately I'm so very sad. I have no control, no real options, no true movement towards recovery or even improvements on what I do have. All I have is hope. All I have are a few bits of my old life to help me cling to sanity. But I wonder lately if it will be enough. I wonder if I will still wake up in the morning after the cold lonely night. And I wonder if I do, what will truly be left of me.

Day 573 - 1/25

Getting better or not?

It's laundry time at about 2:45. I still don't know if I'm getting better or not. I'm fatiguing easily, have a bit of the cough still, my voice is still messed up, the cold is still

sometimes getting in my eyes and making my vision blurry, my appetite is mostly normal but liquid intake is still high, but most of all my ears are still totally plugged and ringing.

I don't know how today will turn out. I'll go to the mall, check boards, check jobs, play my game, probably watch some shows, but that's it. I'm still so very sad and worried about my life. With the increased patrols in my regular sleeping area lately I just don't really feel safe. But, I can't go to the not-sis' place every night. Since I can only stay inside for a limited time and there are the kids there I can only be there so often. I suppose I *could* go and sleep there every night if I had the income to cover gas and extra car repairs, but I don't.

I am still hopeful my life will get better and I can go back to *my* life, but lately it seems like nothing I do is helping and my sleeping areas are no longer safe as they once were. What once seemed like a safe but not really improving gentle ride down a calm river now seems like a never-ending ocean and I'm right in the middle of it burning in the sun and what little resources I have keep spoiling.

Day 574 - 1/26

Sad, sick, and rain

It's 10:45 at mini work. I have two morning shifts this week. I did last week too but I was way too sick to work. That's actually the only time I've been too sick to work in this entire year and nine months I've been working for the city.

I was super sad last night. I didn't want to be alone in my car killing time after the mall while waiting to go to my sleeping spot. I decided to see if a single serving apple pie treat would help; they've been on sale for \$0.65 lately. And then I figured I could stop by the not-sis' and see what she and her childrens were doing. They usually make me lol, so I figured that might cheer me up a bit. There weren't any apple pies at the store, they were all gone. The only ones they had were ones not on sale for \$1.50, which is just too much to pay for such a small treat. I was so sad I nearly cried. I've been so fragile lately. 🙄 I got a loaf cake instead which I could share with others, something I couldn't have done with the snack pie. I went to the not-sis' and we watched some shows while she and her kids packed for a trip. They are going to Vegas and visiting a friend.

Not much else happened yesterday. I put out two resumes, so that's good. They were for a super prestigious school, so even though they say only an Associates is required I'm sure I'll be competing with people who have 10 years experience or more.

I don't expect today to be super interesting. I've got work for a few hours, then I'll likely play at the mall for a bit, then head to school to micro dinner and go to class.

I expect I'll be extremely sad again tonight. My life seems extra sad lately because it seems there is no way out, like nothing is improving or changing. While I *am* reconnecting with a few ghosts and I *am* sort of starting to make new connections, it really seems like I'm making zero job progress, worse yet zero career progress. I have no idea where to find a sweetie without paying lots of money for dating events or clubs. The weather isn't getting better, so I'm still sleeping in a coldish wet car (though I have devised a way to deflect the leak with my plastic foot area covers if it's only lightly raining so that I can sleep normally on the passenger side.) As long as I am in my car I don't feel safe from the recently heightened police activity. *sigh* It seems like nothing is getting better really and that nothing I'm doing is helping things to improve. I guess I just have to continue to accept that things are completely out of my control and keep trying what I'm trying and hope that things somehow get better in time. 😞

Time passes

It's nearing 6:15 and I'm stressing out over my bills before class. Going over it in my head I have no idea how I'm going to pay for everything that's due. I'll get paid about \$200 on Thursday, and with that I need to pay \$72 for my car registration, \$40+ for a smog test, like \$30 for the added class, and that doesn't even count food or gas, or other bills that are due like car insurance, phone, and at least a minimal book purchase for classes (like \$15 x2). Maybe that's been stressing me out in the back of my mind, maybe I've just been ignoring it because I have no idea how I'll make it through the next few weeks. I can't not pay for the car stuff, that'll be a huge red flag to get pulled over if I don't. I can't not pay for the class I'm adding, as I'd get dropped out of it if I don't. What's left even with just paying those is only about half what I normally have for food and gas for the two weeks, and normally I can pay my car insurance or my phone bill on top of that. *sigh* I feel so helpless and lost lately with no one to call on for help or other aid.



Picture series 13



Xmas eve breakfast nom



Xmas '09 wrapped



Xmas '09 opened



So good a post Xmas sale; \$10 each!



Car puddle, eeew

Day 575 - 1/27
Just another face in the crowd

It's just past 1:30, lunchie time. 😊 I only recently got up at about 12:45. My sick self is still sleeping in quite a bit. I don't know how long it's been since I got up after noon. I suppose it's good that I have the *luxury* to do that, what with my not working, but then again if I were working (more) I likely wouldn't be in my car and most certainly be over my cold. I'm still sick; plugged up and sore and ringing ears, congestion, not too much coughing but a tough of sneezing now. The clouds are not as thick as they have been and it hasn't rained since yesterday, so maybe the rain is finally clearing. After lunch I'll do some stuff online and see about doing reading for my classes. What with this terrible cold and not being able to afford books and stuff I haven't been able to do anything for either class yet save for showing up.

I saw the cutie Kelly just now. I haven't seen her in I don't know how long. She didn't even glance towards me. It isn't really surprising. She said she had a bad memory for people and I really was never more than just a face in the crowd to her. That seems to be the way of my life. People don't have any interest in me because I'm not connected to their circle of friends. I'm still the outsider noone is letting in or taking an interest in. I suppose, unlike high school, there is no real connection felt. In high school the clicks watch other clicks. They see who is interacting how and make new invitations for people to join them. Outside... if you aren't in the circle you will likely never get in it seems. Maybe it's not true though. Maybe the world has simply changed since I was in high school. Maybe it is and it is connected to a feeling of possibilities and discovering who you are – the closer to a solid path you have the less likely you are to invite someone into your circle without a shared conflict or experience.

But what about those of us who are lost and alone? Are we doomed to be so from then on? I continue to float along alone lost in a sea of nothing. 😞

Time passes

My life seems to be weighing down on me extra heavily today. It seems no matter what I do I'm failing. I tried to do studying but neither class has a book on reserve that I

can borrow. I tried to print a coupon and directions to get my car smogged but I didn't even have the \$0.30 on my school card to do that nor the spare cash to charge it up. (Let alone the money to really afford the \$40-50 for the test and \$72 to register the car to begin with.) I tried to look for jobs but none were posted. I thought about getting February's system builds started but some new parts I was going to consider aren't on the market yet. And as has happened several times now, another very cool game I want to play has launched and I can't play it.

All I wanted today was to be somewhere quiet, somewhere private that I could rest, where I had someone to care for me and tell me not to worry about dinner, to be in a position I didn't have to worry about school or work.

I don't know if it's my lingering cold, my sad life, or just overwhelming feelings of depression lately. I'm so very tired all the time. Most of the time I'm so very sad.

Everyone's life progresses, or at the very least moves on. Everyone but me. It doesn't bother me so much that it's me that's left behind. Yes it's sad, particularly for me, but what I don't understand is how does it happen. How is it that I can have no one in my life that truly cares about me who can provide help? How is it that everyone is left behind by others or they have blinders on and pretend the bad things aren't happening to someone they know. I could understand more if it were a stranger, particularly someone in another country, but those right nearby to me all the time, those around me who know; why is it they don't offer help? Do they feel incapable of helping? Are they afraid they themselves would be hurt somehow? Or is it that I'm wrong about people and that most simply lack the emotional capacity to truly care about people and look beyond the temporary material things?

As always my questions may never be answered, but hopefully they will help you regardless to understand yourselves and others more.

Day 576 - 1/28

Cut it out; beware the mold

It's 2:30 and I'm nomming lunch. 😊 Several things to talk about today. I guess I'll go in order by time. I got up around 11 at the school sleeping spot and I decided to tear

out the wet car liner. It was the most horrid sewer stench I've ever smelt. 🤢 While the topmost layer was mostly dry the under pad was soaked, and some parts even muddy and swamp like, so it's a good thing I tore it out. I investigated under the seats and while it seemed mostly dry there was minor indications of very small mold colonies. Later when I get back to my car I'll try and get rid of all of the liner to be sure. The problem is that I don't think I can get much more out, as the seats seem to be pinning the liner down in some spots. I may have to beg the college automotive department to take my seats out in order to remove it. While the cold doesn't have traditional mold symptoms that I'm familiar with I would rather get it out to be sure. I'm sure it isn't helping my health.

After leaving my car I checked in with the nurse doctor person. She said my ears did indeed not appear better – she calls them "angry" – but she said my lungs were clear and there is no danger to my something somethings in my ears, so permanent hearing loss or damage is not a risk. She extended my prescription and we set up an appointment for Wednesday. If my ears aren't better by then she said she will refer me somewhere for a second opinion and to get a different, apparently expensive, medication for teh free/cheap.

I checked on my paycheck deposit and it is surprisingly low, about 20% below what it should be. It's likely the person who filled out my time card didn't get all of my hours. Even with all of my hours though I still don't know how I'm going to manage to pay for the \$45+ smog check, \$72 registration, \$35+ for class registration, and other things I need to pay for. That alone leaves me with roughly \$50 for everything else after adjustment. Split out a very conservative \$20 for gas that leaves \$30 for food for two weeks, or approximately \$2 a day. I don't see how I could manage on that. That's one big soup for the day for *all* of my food and really nothing more.

I have my tax thing from work so I can do that (I've been forgetting), but I doubt I'll get any kind of refund nor that it would happen quickly enough to save me.

The sky is actually blue today and the clouds are finally leaving. Despite all of my troubles and my horrible life I feel hopeful today. I feel like despite seeing no way out that things will be ok and somehow work out for the best. Maybe it's just because I've seen a half dozen extremely beautiful and attractive girls today. 😍 That always cheers me up. 😊 Well, almost always. 😊

I'll report more later if anything else develops. I have my car liner project I want to try and finish, my taxes if I remember, and a bit of play time, so something interesting may develop to talk about later. Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

Bad news, bad news, good news, could be good news... Biggest bad news is that it looks like my short paycheck is likely correct. I think it covers a different two weeks than I originally thought. 😞 Other bad news; my cute little mouse is dead. It fails to work 90% of the time. I've had to use my big clunky mouse for a few days now. It's odd that over years of using it that it just doesn't feel right anymore. 😞 Good news; I was wrong about my tax return. It will be over \$600, woot! I figure \$200 will go to reestablishing a savings, \$50ish for an overdue oil change, and the rest potentially saved for a system upgrade. Though I may take \$150 and get an external Blu-ray player and a few movies. With only about \$400 total for a system upgrade (+\$200 after selling my netbook) I'm still about \$300 from having enough to upgrade, which at the rate I've been going is a long long ways away. I'll think about it and investigate it more in the coming weeks. I also managed to get rid of 85% of the car interior carpet on the passenger side. There was even more sludge yuck than I thought there would be. Hopefully that got rid of the moldy yuck that was hurting me. It took a long time to do it because it kicked eeew into the air once I started doing it and I coughed and hacked anytime I got near the car. Once it was done though and the bits were thrown away I aired out the car and let it air out on the way here (to the mall) and the air smelled fresh and mold free. So hopefully it won't cause me any more trouble. Once it's totally dry on that side I'll move stuff over and try and do the driver's side. I have covers for the passenger side front area that I've been using, and I may find more at work to cover the back, so hopefully that will turn out ok.

Exciting stuff. 😊 The question is though, with only about \$30 or so for food and gas total will I make it until the refund comes. It's supposed to be "7 to 14 days" so that may be ok. I'm going to be treading on *very* thin ice until it comes though, like millimeter thick gonna snap and drop me into the frozen lake below at any second kind.

Hopefully everything will turn out ok in time. 😊

Day 577 - 1/29

Words unspoken

It's about 2:15 and I'm having lunch on an empty campus. So far today I watched Burn Notice and tried to look for a laptop upgrade, particularly ones with Blu-ray as I have my doubts my netbook could handle an external player. Sadly things really are in the \$850+ range, maybe \$700 if I go with something refurbished, so my options are really limited. I'll likely just have to wait until I have more money and more systems that qualify filter into the sale bins (due to being outdated by newer models.) I'm more worried about my current lack of money though. Doing more calling around it seems because my car is an "older car", being a 1992, an extra fee will apply to smog, making it closer to \$70 at most places. That plus registration plus about \$10 in food tonight and my paycheck is completely gone. The mandatory car stuff is going to eat a ton of my tax return money.

😞 I'll have to just wait on any kind of upgrades and hold on to what is left as best as I can.

I guess I slept ok. I was worried it would be a lot colder with the reduction in carpeting and not using the seals to plug the holes in my back cover but things weren't too bad. I did cough and smell the mold when I got in my car, so it may linger on for a few days. I'll drop my blankets at the ex-house to reduce exposure, maybe that will help. It seems sunny and "warm" out so hopefully I can put the car in the sun over the weekend and help burn out the mold. I'll try and get rid of a bit more interior over the coming days as well, but it should be clear of the bad stuff.

I don't know what to do about my monies. I'm so sad and worried I won't have enough. Car stuff at \$150 and school stuff at like \$35 is more than I have. I asked the not-sis for help but she hasn't replied yet. I don't know what I'll do if she can't give me a short-term loan to cover me until I get my refund. 😞

I guess it's nothing new. My life is backwards life right now and I have no control over anything.

Time passes

It's late, after 11:15 at night. I'm in the sleeping spot hiding, having a tasty dessert snack to cheer myself up a bit. It rained in the evening, only for a few hours but when I

got to my car after mini work there was about a 1" deep puddle. If that is how much leaked in after only a few hours it doesn't surprise me that things got so bad.

Off in the distance I can hear a party. Once upon a time I'd have covered my ears and pulled the covers extra high over my head wishing they would shoosh so I could sleep. Now I worry if it means there will be heightened activity in the area and that someone will catch me in my car.

I find myself wishing for a good friend tonight; the kind who says, "Come stay with me until you are better. Not just over your cold, but better overall, for you are my friend. I care about you deeply, but most of all my life would be less without you in it." Maybe those are words only a lover or parent would say, or a very best friend, but tonight I find myself wondering if anyone has ever said that to me. Obviously they haven't said it in those words, only a very few are in touch with their feelings and honest enough to say it like that. But I can't think of a time anyone has ever said that. I don't know how many have had someone say it to them, but I'd bet we all have people in our life like that, ones we don't realize we will miss until it's too late, until they are gone.

Don't let that happen. Realize and be honest with yourself about who you miss because they make you happy, think, feel, or care. Let them know they are important and most of all help them when they are down. Work past the trivial everyday things to what is deeper. Look to their soul and that which is eternal, those things they always do that make them who they are. Those are the things you can never get back once they are lost forever.

Day 578 - 1/30

Still sleeping late

It's after 5 and I'm about to head off to the not-sis' for the night. Not much new today. I played WoW for a bit and that's really it so far. I slept until almost noon, so most of the day so far was spent sleeping. I'm still sleepy. My eyes are still plugged and ringing, but they seem slightly less plugged, so maybe they are getting better. The passenger seat side gets way too wet when it leaks to use the trick I previously did. I guess the carpet/mat was soaking up about 4x as much water as I saw, so I can't use the

trick as any leak causes that area to be flooded with water now (since there is no longer anything to soak it up.) Thankfully it's only rained once since I did, but I slept on the driver's side to be safe. I may do that more until I get them to reseal the window. The not-sis couldn't help with monies, so I had to put out a general call for help. I have my doubts anyone will help though, which is not good as I have more things I need to pay for by Friday than I have money. (And I have no clue what to do if my car doesn't pass smog for some reason.)

Guess that's it so far. As usual my life is a waiting game that's out of my control.



Day 579 - 1/31

A day at the not-sis'

It's late. I'm about to leave the not-sis' place. Since the mall closes early on Sunday I've stayed all day at the not-sis'. I started the morning getting rid of most of what was left of the car liner. The only bit left should be in a zero risk area. I'll get that later. Basically the day was spent with me playing a bit in the morning while they all went out shopping, the kids did a chore or two, then we watched some shows online. The not-sis is getting the kids to check out old-school shows. They are currently hooked on A-Team and Macgyver. I've discovered that my allergies are almost completely the cause of one specific kitty. If that kitty isn't around, which most of the time he's outside, then I'm not so bad and can stay pretty long. Of course I've also been sick for a while now and I may simply be unable to notice my allergic reactions.

Guess that's all. Not much happened to talk about. These visits do remind me that I miss having friends to see and do stuff with. 😞 I can hang out with C&H too, but at \$7 a visit they aren't in my price range to regularly hang out with while I'm only working roughly 8 hours a week.

That's it for now. K thx bye. 😊

Day 580 - 2/1

What's with the mold?

At mini work now. I was starving this morning so I'm eating early. It's good to see my appetite returning. However, I've eaten about 85-90% of my lunch and I'm full. So while my urge to eat is returning how much I do actually eat still seems reduced. My liquid intake is still about 20% higher than normal, so I guess my body is still mostly getting what it needs. It would be nice to weigh myself and see if I've lost weight, as I'm pretty sure I have, but the scale at school is broken.

Something is up with my car; could still be something going on with mold. When I get in there and try and sleep I start to cough and my throat feels scratchy pretty quickly. It still smells a bit funky too. I don't understand what could be the issue though as nearly everything that seemed bad is gone. I'd hate to think it were something in the seats, as those can only be fixed by heat burning out whatever moldy stuff may be in there. There just isn't the weather these days for that to happen. After work I'll spend a few dollars to use the vacuum stall and vacuum it out. Maybe it's just the high amount of dirt and stuff left over that was under the carpets. I hadn't planned on doing a wash this week due to lack of money, but I'm actually going to do the reverse and very thoroughly wash and dry everything to be sure if any mold is in my cloths and such it's burnt out there as best as possible.

I don't know what will happen today, but I expect it will be a regular day of laundry and going to the mall. I'll check for jobs and play, then go to school to shower before they close. The other day I put out a panicked call for help due to all the car costs leaving me nothing for food/gas/anything else and so far only C&H said they should be able to help. They are checking into it. It boggles my mind that others didn't even offer lower amounts of help, but I guess I have to just assume it's because they can't actually afford to help and not because they don't want to help poor homeless sad me. 😞

Guess that's all for now. K thx bye. 😊

Day 581 - 2/2

Oops, nothing will be left

It's around 12:30 and I'm nomming cheap lunch at the mall. It's one of those times I didn't feel like I belonged on campus. I did shower there and saw several beautiful girls.

😞 Which today, as it sometimes does, made me sad; sad that I'm single, sad that I have no money, sad I have no home, but most of all sad that I don't have those freedoms to look and dress the way I want. It wouldn't take much to get my dress style (and teeth) to a level I'd be happy with, but it would take far more than I currently have.

I won't have hardly anything left of my return for a system upgrade. When I was driving around the other day with blurry vision I remembered that it's time for my yearly eye exam. That's something like \$200, leaving me with an estimated \$200 to save up for upgrades *if* I'm lucky.

I'm so tired of being in this position of being homeless. I don't understand why it's happening to me for so long. I understand how, but not why. People I know and see around me are all getting new jobs, new friends, upgrading stuff in their lives; yet I can find no jobs, no friends, and most weeks I'm lucky to afford something not soup twice a week and upgrades only come once in a rare while via gift money. Again it seems like I'm the sin eater - the only one suffering.

Time passes

It's just after 5:15 and I'm nomming dinner before class. I'm still pretty sad today. I don't know if it's general sadness about my life or still being sick. It's likely a bit of both. It may be too that tonight is yet another end of a fail week and nothing has changed. I'm still sad. I'm still sick. Things are still falling apart. Despite putting out a few resumes lately I've gotten zero interviews. Nights, for the most part, are still spent alone, in fear, in the cold.

On my way from the mall I was followed by a sheriff for about a half mile. My registration does run out this month, so I wonder if he was trying to catch me being bad to check it. As far as I know you can't be pulled over for it unless it's past its month. It isn't due until the 8th, but unless C&H can help I won't be able to pay for it by then. (Unless my tax refund comes by then, which is unlikely.)

I've decided to take my PS3 to the not-sis'. That will get us access to all my Blu-ray movies. 😊 It will also get me access to my few games I have on there, so that could be fun. (I have two downloaded games I play.) I don't know yet if it would be via old-

school connections to her old-school TV, completely gimping its uberness, or if we'll go through my monitor that I hooked up for them a few weeks ago, my receiver, and my 5.1 speaker set. I sent her a message asking which she wanted to do, but there's no reply yet.

I guess this week again ends on a low note. I'm still a bit sick. I'm still unable to pay everything I need to that's about to go critical and get me in a lot of trouble. I'm still sad and lonely most of the time. I'm still an invisible face in the crowd, even among those who once knew me it seem. I'm still sleeping in the cold in fear. And there is no progress on jobs.

Don't know what to say but I'm sad and wonder if I will ever get my life back. 🙄

Day 582 - 2/3
Tech addict

It's just past 12:45 and I'm nomming lunch. It took 15 fricken minutes to micro my food. 🤤

Last night was a bit odd. I didn't know if the sleeping spot was safe or not. It's like 'are there people here at the church, are there not, I don't know. They almost always have a meeting the first Wednesday of the month, so I usually have to go in late as it is, but last night I wasn't sure if it was safe or not. Since I was coughing I didn't want to sit around in the cold and wait to find out. I decided to grab my PS3 and take it over to the not-sis' place. They had a bunch of baby chicks they are going to raise so I checked them out.

They are so cute. 😊 They will eat the eggs and eventually nom the chickens, so that's a bit sad. While I am a meat eater I would have a hard time loving a critter that I would be killing and nomming later.

I woke up a bit earlier than I needed to leave, so I had some breakfast, updated my site (I couldn't last night), and hooked up the PS3 to my monitor and tested it out by playing a quick game of Blast Factor and watching a few trailers I have on the hard drive.

Seems to be working just fine. 😊 I'll likely be hooking up the receiver and 5.1 sound, as that is really the best option. I think the not-sis' boy is as much of a tech addict as me because he wanted to play the game and was very anxious to see Speed Racer and Kung Fu Panda. Neither of us have seen Speed Racer recently and we both want to see it again. Once I'm set up there I can watch a few of my movies every few weeks, so that will be awesome. 😎 Also, when/if they go to church Sunday mornings I can play games like Savage Moon, or maybe someday God of War III. 😊 I can finally have a small fragment of my soul back.

I have about ½ hour until my checkup. I'm not really better. It seems like I'm maybe getting 1-3% better per day, but I still have sore ears, sounds are still distorted, I still am having trouble hearing, and I still have coughing fits. The fits seem to be related to the cold and stress/strain, like last night when leaving class I had a coughing fit. I had

to completely stop walking and take deep breaths to calm myself down. Later, in the chick room at the not-sis', which is 100F in the hottest spot, I actually started to feel very clear and my throat seemed to clear up and be less scratchy. I have a feeling the doc will likely recommend I go to the other hospital that can see me for teh free and get me a stronger prescription. I'll mention the mold theory, and the seeming connection to temperature/strain. Maybe she will have other thoughts on what it could be. A steroid or antibiotic inhaler for the coughing fits would not surprise me.

Still no word from anyone on help. I need at least \$100 by the weekend to cover the DMV registration and a minimal amount of food until I get paid. Phone and car insurance would go unpaid, but only phone is past due so far, so those may be ok to slide until a week from now.

I guess that's it so far. Maybe more news later. Bye for now. 🤔

Time passes

Om nom nom, teh dinner before class time. This may be one of the last meals I have depending on how much smog costs. I still haven't gotten any money help from anyone and I'm down to my last few dollars while keeping \$70 in reserve for smog. I'll have nothing left but the gas in my car and one soup after this. I'll have to ask if C&H can help with at least \$100 so I can do my registration before the weekend is up and have at least \$3-4 per day for food. I'd have to ignore several late items but that would let me squeak by until Thursday when I get paid.

I saw the doc and she agreed my mold theory would only affect my lungs/throat/nose, so I was right that a mold theory likely isn't the cause. It may not be helping if it's indeed in the car, but it isn't the cause of my illness. The cause still remains somewhat a mystery. We have another appointment set for next week and she gave me an inhaler. We didn't discuss that before, as I forgot about my asthma. I only *need* an inhaler once a year or less, so times like now when they would help prevent my cough fits I tend to forget that I don't have one. So, now I do and I'll do its dosage today and see if that helps. I'll keep it to use as needed in the future when I get an attack.

That's really all that's new. I've been trying to relax today and forget the nearly \$200 in stuff that is going critical as I have no way to pay more than a very small part before I'm paid Thursday. Tomorrow things will get back into motion and I'll see about the smog test.

Well... hopefully tonight will go smoother with the inhaler should I need it and I'll start to get better quicker.

Guess that's it for today. 😊

Day 583 - 2/4

Decision to eat the fines

It's late, around 9. My night's plans have changed. I was originally going to leave the mall and come to school and set up in the cafeteria for a bit, but it is now pouring rain. I'll just sit in the car in the shelter of the covered lot until I "go to bed". I'll write a bit, be sad for a bit, and just wait.

I almost got the smog check today. Fate played a hand and it was an hour wait before it could have been done. I decided to pass and do it later. Upon looking at my DMV registration I noticed being late, while bad, doesn't appear to be insanely super horrible. There is an additional \$20, so it goes from \$72 to \$92, but that isn't so bad for what would effectively be a 10-day extension. By doing that I can keep the \$75 currently in my wallet for food, school, etc., and spend the \$70+92 on car stuff in about a week when my paycheck comes, or wait until my \$600+ tax return comes. Since there is no alteration of the smog price based on time it would be best to simply wait.

C&H wanted to help, but their money hasn't come yet. The not-sis would have helped, but she didn't have enough spare. It still boggles my mind that noone else offered even just a little bit of help. Heck, here I am homeless, not even making \$100 a week sometimes, and I'm still helping out people outside of stores asking for donations now and then with at least a little bit of change.

The inhaler seems to have completely stopped the cough. I did it again today too and I think I've only coughed half a dozen times all day total. My appetite, while still reduced overall, is returning. I ate dinner in an almost normal amount of time. Smell of mold or whatever in the car is fading and has a greatly reduced effect on me.

I've had a lot of trouble sleeping lately. I think it started almost a week ago. I can't usually fall asleep until after 1. I don't know if it's because I don't feel safe, if it's due to my illness, worries about money, cold, worry about the rain, worry about being caught, or

what. The past few nights I've gotten cramps too. First it was the left side of my neck, and last night it got me in the middle of my spine and lower ribs, as if I were crushed by a giant.

I've been very sad about my life. I'm putting out 2-6 resumes a week, so that is improving, but the lack of replies may be increasing my depression. Of course the cold weather really doesn't help, as it's yet another thing holding me back.

With my PS3 now set up I can at least get a small fragment of my life back. I can get Final Fantasy Xiii and God of War III next month with some of the tax return money. I'll likely get a movie or two, but after that I have no idea how much more I can recover. While it gets me potential access once a week to things I have it is still only once a week. I think it could take forever to finish my games only being able to play 3 hours a week or less. Heck, if the not-sis plays FFXiii I fully expect her to finish long before I do since she can play at any time.

I don't know what to make of my life lately. I know people care and worry about me, but only a few seem willing to help, yet are really kind of unable to, and the rest seem uninterested in helping at all for whatever reason. I'm putting out applications, yet I'm getting no replies. I'm advancing my college classes and credentials, yet it doesn't seem to matter.

Last night as I was parking in the sleeping spot I saw a stray kitty. I petted 'em for a bit and they were a sweetie. 😊 I'd seen that kitty before, maybe a month ago, and I thought about the kitty's life. While it's possible they are loved and kept by someone they lacked a collar, so I'm guessing they are a "stray". Yet they were healthy, friendly, looked clean, and while the kitty didn't seem to have anywhere to be their movements seemed to indicate they had places they could go. I told kitty to run along and find nice people to love 'em as I petted 'em. I thought of my life, as a human stray, put out and abandoned by my people. I would find things much more difficult. I wander, yet noone offers to feed, care for, or love me. Strangers ignore me, assuming I'm not a stray. Those who find out may wish me well, but they don't offer help. Stray kitties and doggies will easily find help, being seen as incapable of helping themselves at that moment. Yet me, who is in the same position, will be ignored or shunned as people secretly think something must be wrong with me to be in such a helpless position. The compassion given to the stray animals is not shown to the stray person. As always it seems very sad

and very tragic to think this is how the world is. This is how at least my world is. And there seems to be no way to change it.

Day 584 - 2/5

Slight relapse

It's 5:30 at mini work. Nothing really to say today save for I had a slight relapse of my cold last night. At around 5 AM I started coughing and felt a bit of the fever and ear pressure come back. I seem okish again now, though my ears are still funny and my throat still seems horrible.

The not-sis is going with the not 5.1 settings option, so that's sad, as I'll be limited to 2.1. I guess it's certainly more than nothing, as I'm currently unable to watch Blu-ray or play my PS3 at all, and if I could I'd be limited to my headphones. I *am* totally looking forward to watching movies in my collection I've been wanting to watch though.

I picked up some gift certificates the super boss left for me, so that will help a little with food. (I'd asked if payroll could advance me some money or speed up my deposit and this was all he could offer for help.) I picked up a book for one class to do an assignment. One of the jobs I applied to was canceled (the *only* reply from a job application I've gotten in months.) And that's really it for my day.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 585 - 2/6

Waking up with wet blankets

It's nearing 9:30 AM at the not-sis' place. I came over last night after work as there was a something going on where I normally sleep. I got here around midnight and the place was super dark with the outside light on, which seemed very unusual. It's the same now, which is also unusual as the dog didn't come out all night. I expect he's probably in the peep room with the family. They have locked the back door though, which is highly

unusual. I'd wonder if they went somewhere, only a truck they borrow on Thursdays is still here, so they must be here. I expect they will wake up soon enough.

I woke up in a puddle at around 5 AM with a corner of my blankets so wet that I had to squeeze it out. The surprising thing is that I was on the driver's side. It seems both sides leak. The driver's side just leaks one drop for each bucket that the passenger's side does. It seems only the back seat is the only truly 'safe' spot in my car. I may have to consider sleeping back there.

Today will likely be hanging with the kids and watching movies and such, nothing special. But then with my sad life lately not having any of that it is very special indeed.



Day 586 - 2/7

Little is big

Not much important in news. I spent the day at the not-sis' with her and her kids. I got them the Little Big Planet demo and their brains were exploding from fun. It's totally cute and fun to play. I'll have to get it when I get my tax refund money. I'll go ahead and trade FFXiii's spot, since that will likely take forever to finish since I only get a few hours a week to play. A few hours is plenty for Little Big Planet levels though. 😊

It is totally sunny and warm. The night sky was sooooo clear and the sky was full of stars. Maybe the rain is finally clearing. 😊

Day 587 - 2/8

Thwump-a-thump; seriously?

I was startled awake at the school spot by a thwump-a-thump sound and my car shaking. Seriously? I'm parked and someone hits me? Apparently this dummy decided to try and turn about 130 degrees to get into a spot and scraped her bumper across my car. As I'm putting in my contacts to get ready to go out and say wtf she just gets out of her car and walks away. I left a wtf note with my email, but I doubt there is anything real I

can do as I'm only covered for damage that I do to others, not what is done to me. I did take about a dozen pictures though showing the scrape, so if I wanted to be super mean I'm sure the pictures and my 'I was in the car at the time testimony' would be irrefutable. It is just a scrape though, as bad as it is, so I may just get some paint and cover it over. What gets me is she walked away like nothing happened; no sorry, no note preparation with contact info, nothing. I think she even came back with a friend an hour later and I think I heard her say something like, 'that's the car I hit', thinking I wouldn't be able to hear as they walked past my car glancing my way. I just don't get how someone can be mean like that. That isn't something that will get better. It's damage that stays until it's fixed.

Probably nothing else of interest will happen today. It's gray overhead and I've got laundry to do after work, but that's really it for my day unless my tax return has shown up. If it did that would be awesome as I could hurry and try and do stuff to avoid the +\$20 increase, but it is more likely to show up Wednesday or later.

Bye for now I guess. 😊

Time passes

It's late, after 9:30 at night. I just had a nice alone time shower and now I'm killing time before going to the sleeping spot. I don't want to go though, for I am sad and it is not a home and it reminds me of how I am failing and alone in life. *sigh* I'm so dreadfully exhausted and tired today. I'm so deeply sad. More than anything I want to go home; to go somewhere I'm welcome, warm and loved; where a sweetie or friends, movies, shows, my games, and warm meals await me. Although I sort of have that a few days a week, I don't really have it. What I have is borrowed, altered, a shell of a life.

My first domain name was (and still is) everbecoming, chosen for the psychological and metaphysical concept that we are (for)ever becoming something new, something different than we were, changing and being changed by our environment and the people around us. But I don't feel that way now. Now I am forced to adapt. I would say I certainly don't feel like I'm changing, as changing is positive, while my adapting to what has become of me is sheer survival. A glimmer of me remains in how I spend my gift money. A glimmer survives in what I can share with others. But I still wonder when I return... if I return... how much of *me* will truly remain? Will I survive or will so much be

forced to adapt that I'll forever be broken and shattered, little more than a ghost of my former self.

Day 588 - 2/9

Fail at lunch

I has a fail at lunch. 😞 I forgot my thing to microwave soup in so I had to find something on campus to use. All of the trashes had been cleaned, so all there was was a light plastic container. I decided to risk it. I fail. It melted and the soup spilled pretty badly. I figured since it likely had melted plastic mixed in that it would be safest to toss it. I now have no chance to spend the 10-15 minutes walking back to the car for more food and my container.

The girl who scraped my car emailed me and said she was sorry. 😊 She'll talk to her dad about it. I doubt anything will result save for maybe a small bit of money offered for paint, but we'll see. It's likely that a professional door repaint will be hundreds and considering the condition of the car that's just not worth the cost. I have to investigate how deep the scratches go, which I can't really spend the time doing until the rain stops.

The boy of the not-sis has an appointment tomorrow morning that I'm taking them to, so I may wind up going down there after class tonight.

So far no tax refund money. It would be nice to get it tomorrow as that might allow me to order stuff from Amazon online before the weekend. If not I'd have to pay a higher price for the stuff that I want for this weekend in addition to tax. My friend/ex-roomie has me on a deal where shipping is free, so things are a fair bit cheaper at Amazon.

It seems my weekend schedule will go unexpectedly too. School is closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. I'd thought it was just closed on Monday. It seems I work Monday too, which is odd since it is a government facility and it's a national holiday. The current plan is to go to the not-sis' Friday after work, be there Friday night, all Saturday, Saturday night, all Sunday, stay Sunday night and leave Monday before work. It will be hell on my allergies but I've been ok with full days. I was there all Sat/Sun last weekend

and I didn't get too bad with allergies. Their orange kitty that I'm super allergic to was outside the whole time so that helped a bit.

My contacts are blurry almost all of the time now. These are a brand new pair too. I think my prescription has dropped another 0.25. That or I'm developing old eyes and need a second prescription for using the computer. 😞

I was really hoping to get my monies by today. I'm down to \$3 in my account and \$4 of gift certificates plus an unknown gift card amount (and the gas in my car.) My car is nearly out of gas, but I've \$1.85 in cash in my wallet that I can use for more gas. I suppose I should be able to squeak by until I get paid on Thursday if it comes down to it, but it's going to be close.

Guess that's all for now.

Week 85

Day 589 - 2/10 No valentines

It's just past 5:15 and I'm nomming dinner before class. I got a slice of pizza with the gift card from the super boss. Without it I'd have had no dinner. 😞 I haven't had much else to eat today, just about a handful of food. The odd thing is that I haven't really been hungry. I don't know if it's just an odd sort of thing or a product of my having no food and no money to buy food until tomorrow.

I spent the day with the not-sis and her family. I woke up at around 9 feeling pretty well rested but very chilly. They got up shortly after me and we went to an appointment they had at 10. That kept people busy for a bit and I didn't get them back to their home until about 1. Mostly I just surfed news and game sites the rest of the day as they were in and out doing stuff. The older child was getting into Buck Rogers when I left, so I watched a few episodes of that with them.

That was really my day. No tax refund money yet. I get paid tomorrow, so I can buy stuff and be ok again then. I'll keep DMV stuff on hold for the tax money though. No job news or anything of that nature. I'll be leaving the cafeteria within the next 1/2 hour or so to go to class but that's really the only other thing happening tonight.

It seems odd there are no Valentine's Day things going on here at campus this year; odder still that after 10 years of giving out valentines to girls at school that there isn't anyone I feel I need to do that for this year. Even if I did want to though I have had no money to do it with. I certainly haven't given up on love or the hope of finding a sweetie but it does seem rarer and rarer that an attractive girl is near me to approach in any way.

Well, I'll have money again soon so I'm sure the following days will be at least slightly more interesting to read about.

Day 590 - 2/11

Still no return

It's about 2:45, time to nom lunch; so hungry a me. 😊 I didn't get my tax return money yet but I did get my paycheck money. I have enough that I paid off my overdue and current phone bill, will go pick up Little Big Planet for this weekend in a bit, get Wipeout HD this weekend, and have enough for a bit of food and gas. I won't have enough to pay any of the DMV related fees though. Those will have to wait until I get my tax return money. The estimate was for Friday, so hopefully I'll get it tomorrow.

I didn't get up until 11, so I haven't done much besides watch a few shows so far. My eyes can't see for poop past 3' now. They most certainly changed prescriptions lately. Thankfully once my tax return money comes I can set up my yearly checkup and check that and get new contacts.

Tomorrow (morning) will be rough with school closed. I should be ok if I can sleep in a bit at the sleeping spot, as I can just go to a store I'm going to shop at after and be waiting for ½ hour or so before it opens. While odd it wouldn't be super suspicious. After that I'll get my smog done if I have my money and spend the rest of my day at the mall until 4 when I need to do getting ready for work stuff.

I guess that's it for today so far. It hasn't rained today – it's actually pretty sunny – nor did it rain yesterday. Things may finally be moving towards warm times again.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

It's 9:45 at night and I feel pretty good, but sad. I did look for jobs but didn't do any school work, which I really kind of need to. Because I can't afford more than the one assignment book I got so far I really am unable to do any studying unless the professors added books to the library since my last check.

I guess I'm mostly sad about not having money yet – leaving my life out of control. Though, even if I did, with \$200 for my eye exam and \$150 for the DMV stuff the money will rapidly disappear. After a few nice fun items it's almost completely gone again and my life will once more be out of my control.

I was kind of surprised tonight. Because I wanted to get the game for the kids as soon as I could I went to the local game store. I think it's been maybe a year since I've

been there (though I may have gotten a time card about 6 months ago.) I saw the shop keep that I usually see there and the manager. I didn't really feel it when I was there, but as I was leaving I felt happy for them. Happy that they still have their jobs and that they seem relatively happy and well. So many people are having a tough time lately that it was good to see shop keeps I know being seemingly ok. Maybe I'm overly sensitive, probably not many know their shop keeps at their local stores, but I have always cared about the ones I see regularly (who seem nice.) To me they are more than just an inventory screen with a face. Even when I was young I did. I still remember the names of the video game store clerks when I was 12. Maybe it's because I've always been curious about others and wondered how they are doing. Maybe that's part of why people don't seem interested in being my friend – I'm *too* friendly to start off and I scare them. What a strange thought if that were true.

Well, that's all for tonight most likely, almost time to "go to bed".

Day 591 - 2/12

No charge cable?

It's evening at mini work. I finally got my tax refund monies. 🤔 I spent quite a bit of it today, but I decided to keep DMV stuff on hold until Monday. It would have been out of my way to go, so I figured I'd just wait since it is only a few blocks from work. Hopefully there won't be too many doing it with it being a Holliday on Monday.

I got a dual shock controller (my first for the PS3 as I only had one of the old-school types since I got my system at launch before the dual shock existed for PS3.) I'm shocked that there wasn't a cable in there to charge the controller with. Seriously?! \$45 for the controller and I don't get a cable that would cost them \$1-3 so that I could charge it? That's as lame as paying \$300 for the system and not including an HDMI cable (which most are \$6-12 retail, so it can't be that much for a large company to buy in bulk.) I'll get some downloaded stuff probably tomorrow for more fun.

Most of the money, over 2/3 of it, is being spent on bill stuff. Sad, but I guess it's good I could do that as I otherwise wouldn't have had the money.

Ah well. As always my life goes on, almost completely out of my control due to lack of money.

Day 592 - 2/13

Mat underneath

Not much exciting today. I was at the not-sis' place all day hanging out with her and her kids. A couple of them were sick, so they went to bed early and I got to play Little Big Planet and Wipeout HD (without interruptions). 😊

I had an idea to put one of the plastic mats under me, as in directly under me. It did keep me warmer, so that's a small improvement. I was hoping to find more at work to make a special one for that which was bigger than the ones I have, but there was none at work I could use.

Pretty good day. That's all. 😊

Day 593 - 2/14

Game ban for kids

Not much goin' on today. The kids are watching Kung Fu Panda and watched Speed Racer earlier. There is a current ban on games because they were doing too much fighting.

It's around 3 and I'm just hanging out. I'll probably play WoW and we'll probably watch more shows and stuff.

Allergies continue to lessen. I vacuumed the room I spend time in and that helped quite a bit (the mom really never cleans in terms of vacuuming/dusting/etc. all that often.)

Can't think of much else to say. Guess that's it for now. 😊

Day 594 - 2/15

Passed smog

It's just past 5:15 and I'm nomming an early dinner. For some reason I'm soooooo hungry. 😊 I got some cheaper fast food "to go" but I'm just having private time in my car. Really I'm just avoiding traffic as it will be super slow going towards the mall.

My car passed smog with flying colors, yeeaaaa. 😊 There was no wait. I drove right in. I had a feeling today would be slow what with the holiday.

I had a couple of items arrive for me today from my tax return fun; the PS3 controller charger and Death Race. I expect Who Wants To Be A Superhero will arrive tomorrow.

I got a collections letter too. It's like 'sorry, I don't have the thousands of dollars you want me to pay you.' Hum, this one isn't a big one, approximately \$1500 owed and they are offering to settle for \$900. A good deal, but I just don't have the spare \$300 a month to meet their requirement. They get to receive a 'sorry, I'm working 8.25 hours a week and can't pay anyone anything' letter.

It's odd that the sun is going down and I haven't been online today yet. I started my day getting up at the not-sis' house just before leaving for work, went to work, did laundry, got the smog done, and now we are here. I expect nothing interesting will be found online though. I expect no job replies and I expect no job postings (due to the holiday).

I feel pretty good today, kind of like celebrating despite my rapidly disappearing bank account. (I'll have only about \$100 of the \$200 needed to do my eye exam after everything else has been paid. It seems nothing will be left to go to savings after all.) Maybe it's because the weekend and today were somewhat warm. I've actually got shorts on now – laundry day, heh – and I don't feel the need to put pants on or my hoodie quite yet.

I don't know why I feel like celebrating other than the warm weather. (I felt like this even before the test.) If I were getting more hours that would be something, or an interview, or a second job, or a better job, or won some money, anything. I guess it's just a good mood, which seems a rare thing for me these days. Even if I decided to I really have no celebrating money. I spent my 'spare' when I got my tax return. Even a small

celebration, such as renting a movie, or a movie in a theater, or cupcakes, or dinner in a restaurant, would be more than I should spend. Well... hopefully soon I will be making more money and have cause and ability to celebrate. Until then I plod along, day by day, one day at a time.

Day 595 - 2/16

Caught something

It's nearing 4:30 and I've been in the library working on the next batch of system recommendations. Not much interesting has really happened today. I slept in at the school sleeping spot until about 11, watched a few shows, paid my DMV registration, paid my car insurance, checked for jobs, and that's really it. Everything is finally paid and current, save for setting up my eye exam which I won't have money for until my next pay check, if not a bit later than that. (And the oil change I should have done a few hundred miles ago also still needs to be postponed. I still don't have money for that.)

I think I may have caught the not-sis' and her kid's cold. I've been coughing since last night, though mostly there is congestion in my lungs, throat, and nose. I don't feel too bad though. They had that plus fever, fatigue, and overall pains. As I've mentioned before I tend to not catch colds as bad as others, but they last a lot longer. I fully expect to have the cough and congestion throughout the week, particularly since I've already been having a hard time completely getting rid of my last cold.

Can't think of anything else to say really. I still feel pretty good overall, likely due to the weather becoming more spring-like lately. I did do a minor celebration last night and got myself a single serving apple fruit pie. That was pretty yummy. 😊 That's likely it for this week, as I have class in a few hours and nothing else of interest is likely to happen before then. Bye for this week.

Week 86

Day 596 - 2/17

Fatigued

I'm so very tired; not for sleepiness really, but from fatigue. This cold just wears me down. I'm mostly just stuffy and fatigued now. I should be better soon. I'm pretty sad today too, but again I think that is due to the cold and not totally a mood depression.

It's early before class, just about 5:30 now. Not much happened today. I watched some shows, checked email, checked job/fun sites, ordered a book I need for class, made a Facebook page for rabb1t.com, and that's it really. Though with how few visits the blog page gets (and fewer still reading Epic Fail, heh) I don't know how active the Facebook page will be. I guess peeps can be fans if they want and chit chat (though they always could before via email.) It does provide a board-like forum without my needing to create / moderate my own. With needing to find full time work I just don't think I'd have the time to commit to moderating forums.

I'm set to go visit C&H next Monday so that should be fun. They are gonna feed me dinner and I'll addict them to True Blood.

I can't believe we are starting another week of fail and I'm still no closer to recovery than I was on day one. Feh. 🙄

Day 597 - 2/18

My cough drops are not cough drops

It's just after 1:15, lunch time. My eyes are blurry for the moment, but I think I've narrowed it down to being caused by sitting at the school Macs for more than an hour. My only possible guess is the larger screen size + meh resolution + lower resolution videos is causing my eyes to blur in an attempt to compensate for the screen blurriness. Maybe I'll try pushing the screen back and leaving things at default resolution in the future or something. I don't have that problem with my other screens.

I discovered last night that my cough drops were not actual cough drops; they are 'supplemental drops'. I guess they are meant to be used along with actual cough drops which likely explains why sometimes they don't seem to work very well. I got some actual cough drops, but the flavor choice was bleh. I'm taking one with a supplemental one to make the flavor tolerable.

I'm pretty sad today. While it's likely that my cold is dragging me down quite a bit it is more likely that I'm just feeling like my life is stuck in its hell and nothing is changing. I check Facebook every day now to see what peeps are up to and many times they are posting things about how their life is moving forward, something silly, or talking about their families. Looking through friends of friends, and friends of friends of friends, as well as here on campus, I find really attractive and beautiful girls (who basically in every case would be inappropriate to approach.) It seems like my life in comparison is standing still, stagnant, and for the most part sad and alone. I suppose it's "fair". I grew up. I had my chances and opportunities in life. I had paths before me and I chose what I chose. Maybe I did make the wrong choices. Maybe it is too late and there is no recovery. Maybe I'm continuing to make the wrong choices or looking in the wrong places. All I know for sure today is that I'm not where I want to be in my career, I'm not where I want to be in a relationship as I've been single forever, and with only really three adult friends, and two children friends, who I see on any kind of regular basis I'm certainly not surrounded by love of friends and fun activities that I desire. Today I feel alone. I feel sad. And I feel like I may never recover, physically or emotionally. 😞

Day 598 - 2/19

No transitions or traditions

There are no transitions for me anymore. Sure, there are the seasons, and I am somewhat aware of their passing, but for a good 10 or more years now there has been nothing to mark these transitions. Gone are the holidays that are celebrated in fancy style. The only ones that remain are ones like Easter or Halloween. Yes, other times like birthdays or Xmas presents are exchanged, but gone is the tradition of making a big deal about it. There is no party. There is no placing of the presents somewhere to be seen

weeks in advance. Gone are the play times, parties, and BBQs of summer. Gone are the chilly times of going out to movies in the fall. Gone are the movie nights of spring with hanging out with friends when it's warmer.

I have lost my traditions and transitions long ago and all that is left is a constant sense of being lost trying to find my way back to a life that allows me to stop; to stop looking for a job I'm happy enough with and that pays enough that I'm ok, to stop going to school in order to get that job, to stop doing all my chores for everything myself, to stop worrying about missing something fun and new, to stop worrying when I can do something fun and new that I will have people to share it with.

Long ago I lost the colors in my life and all I am left with is the gray of every color smashed together.

Day 599 - 2/20

Superheros

It's 2:45 in the morning. I had a fun day today at the not-sis'. I got to play my console games for a bit in the morning, the kids played a bit in the afternoon, and during the evening we marathoned the first season of Who Wants To Be A Superhero, which as I expected they totally loved. 😊 After, the not-sis and I stayed up way too late watching Forgetting Sarah Marshal.

It rained a bit today. Hopefully it won't rain tonight, but I will probably have to sleep bent in half just in case.

That's all for today. 😊

Day 600 - 2/21

More superheros

It's too early in the morning at just past 9. Someone had an emergency so I'm covering for them at mini work. I suppose it's ok as I need more monies, but sad as this time is normally spent with the not-sis and her kids. I suppose it's ok, as one of the little

ones is still pretty sick and the other is busy until 1, so I'm not going to miss too much time with them (or my console games) so to speak. I expect we'll marathon season two of Who Wants To Be a Superhero in the evening, but I've no idea what else we may do or watch (particularly since it's raining at the moment.) If there is time the little ones will likely want to play Little Big Planet, as they are very addicted to it. (Mostly they spend time messing around with making a level, so I don't usually have much spoiled in terms of seeing levels before I play them.

It's going to be a pretty boring shift. I didn't have time to stop to get a movie, but I suppose it doesn't matter as there were none to get that I haven't seen. And I haven't been able to afford school books this semester (save for mandatory form/syllabus types), so I can't do school stuff. I suppose I can work more on the first/final edit pass on Epic Fail book one. It *is* very slow going reading word for word and checking for grammar, but I'm working through it. Book two should be fine as-is and just need page setting, so when I get to that it should be a lot quicker.

I guess I'll go hop in the shower for a bit since it's slow at the moment. Bye for now. 😊

Day 601 - 2/22

C&H visit

It's laundry time at about 2:45. I'm not sure how interesting today's bla bla will be. I had mini work, now doin' laundry, then I'll have a bit over 1 hour until I go visit C&H. We'll probably have tons of lolz, but I likely won't be able to really write until tomorrow.

That's it for now. 😊 I'm so sleepy for some reason, could still be my cold. I'm still coughing a bit and too congested. I think I'll get a nose spray if I don't forget.

Day 602 - 2/23

The dumb bookstore

It's just after 12:30 and I'm nomming lunch. It's totally packed in the cafeteria today as it's been pouring rain since about 10. Though parts of me are wet I've seen several beautiful girls today already 😊, so that cheers me up. 😊

I had a great time with C&H last night. 😊 We had a lot of lolz and I addicted them to True Blood. I slept over even though I'm allergic to their place. It's actually kind of silly that all the animals loved me. The second I walked in and sat down one doggy put their head in my lap for petting and the other offered me a toy. After a short while one of the kitties had come out and promptly sat on my lap for most of the night. The room I slept in has hardwood floors (their whole place does) and it is relatively furry animal free, so I wasn't so allergic that I couldn't sleep over. (Though my blankets do have a bit of fur on them now which may prove to be problematic.) I will probably see if we want to do a regular hangout / sleep over even though they are kind of expensive for me to visit (something like \$7 in gas per trip.) I got to sleep inside on a bed-like thing in a private guest room, so that's huge for me these days. Plus, they have a full kitchen, so I could cook whatever I wanted for dinner (though they sort of celebrated and ordered Chinese food for dinner.)

Today I had an appointment to start work on a big school project. I had a really hard time doing it though because I really need a book that I ordered nearly a week ago. Apparently it still hasn't come in. I get the feeling from their questions that the book store may have held the order a few days, delaying the order. I muddled my way through today, but if it doesn't come later today or tomorrow morning it will be very difficult to work on the project. The assignment isn't due until next Wednesday night, so I do have a little leeway. (I could even work on it during my Friday night mink work shift if need be.)

That's it for my day so far. I haven't been online yet, so I'm off to do that now. Bye, maybe more later. 😊

Day 603 - 2/24
-2 Homeless

It's just after 3. I'm soooooo tired and hungry. I'm hungry enough I could eat dinner now. I can't though because it's too early. I'm having a snack now.

I lost another 15% or so of one tooth last night. 😞 That's about the third major chunk lost on a tooth since my homelessness started. I'll try to cut down on soda and increase tooth brushing, but it is more than likely too little too late. Hopefully I won't lose too much more before I have the income/coverage to cover it.

Some dummy bumped me this morning; shocked me awake. It was on my tire, no harm done, but now I've only gotten about 6-7 hours of sleep because I was all scared awake and mad (since this is the second time in such short a while.)

I can has regular sleepover at C&H's. 😊 I can do laundry there for teh free on Monday, which means that just about negates the gas cost to get there (but not the repairs for wear and tear.) I'll go over Thursdays too, so that's minus two nights of homelessness. Now I'm spending fewer nights displaced than in a place, as this make it now five of seven days I'm staying in a protected area. Only the time at C&H's is in a warm place that I can sleep inside, but at least it's a start. As long as my car doesn't asplode from extra driving I'm good to go.

My stupid book hasn't come for my assignment yet either, so that is on hold now. I've got a test coming up that I should be studying for, but I'm soooooo tired today my brain can't think at all.

I guess that's it for now. I should probably go and try and study.

Day 604 - 2/25

Tooooo late

It's way too late in the nighttime, like after 2:30 AM. I had a good time with C&H.

😊 The day overall went very quick. I slept until 12:30, likely due to my still having sniffles and coughing, then did a quick shopping trip, picked up a movie at the ex-house, gamed for an hour, then drove over to C&H's place.

I didn't really have time to do school stuff or job stuff. I can maybe do that tomorrow. I'll be staying here for a bit in the morning, so we'll see how tomorrow goes. In here in the spare mostly fur-free room my allergies are minimal, but everywhere else they get me after a while. I may have a tough time lasting more than 6 hours without an inhaler. I've had to use my one I have each time I've been there.

One school project is just about ready to be finished. I need to pick up something for it, which I may or may not have time to do tomorrow. Another I may be screwed on due to waiting too long (not my fault really, as I had to wait for others.) Hopefully I'll be able to do ok on that one or get an extension.

'Night peeps. 😊

Day 605 - 2/26

I can has

It's nearing 5:45 at mini work. I spent the day with H. Last night we all watched a movie together, then C had to do some homework. She has to work during the day so H and I mostly messed around with something, then I took him to trade out a rented movie for a game he wanted to get.

I was/am pretty allergic to their place. I drank about eight sodas in my time there, which is beyond double my normal amount. In the future I'll have to see if there is another way to combat my allergies, like decongestants or antihistamines. I couldn't sleep until

about 4 AM, so the higher than usual caffeine level may have had something to do with that.

They said I can stay Monday and Thursday nights and do laundry and stuff as needed, so I can have sort of a normal life some days. 😊

The book to do one school assignment came in, but school is kind of out of the way from C&H's so I didn't go pick it up. I should be fine though. I need to study for a test on Tuesday is the big thing that I may forget.

That's all for now really. No job or other fun stuff to report that's new. Bye for now. 😊

Day 606 - 2/27

Late night Saturday

Not much interesting or new today to read about. I spent the day with the not-sis and her kids. I was supposed to take them places but they wound up not doing that. Late in the evening the not-sis and I stayed up watching True Blood. That's really it. 😊

Day 607 - 2/28

Late night Sunday

Another day with the not-sis and her kids. They did stuff in the morning, so I got to spend several hours alone with my PS3. 😊 The not-sis hasn't been sleeping at night, so today she has spent half the day sleeping (as she did yesterday too.) It's nearing 6:30 and she's been asleep since about 2. Hopefully she will get up soon to cook the dinner they planned 'cause I'm getting hungry.

Some downloadable content I bought isn't working. I have a feeling the boy did something he wasn't supposed to, but it's possible it is related to my hard drive being full. It's been giving me space warnings, so I need to upgrade it. The PS3 can do that, and I've

already got a hard drive picked out, but it will cost \$50 so that is extremely low priority right now. I suppose it's possible the PS3 network is down. I couldn't connect to the main page through my PC either. (Edit: On 3/1 it was reported that there was a bug with the older PS3 that caused network and downloaded content failures. This was apparently fixed.)

I don't know how the rest of the evening will go, but hopefully it won't be boring. The kids have been playing on my system for about 4 hours straight and with the not-sis asleep I'm effectively a passive babysitter with little to do once I've done my online stuff. Since they don't play games like older kids they tend to drive me a bit insane if I watch them. (They repeatedly do things they don't need to do, don't find alternate ways around levels, rarely attempt different levels or ways of doing things, etc.)

Time passes

C&H have said I could maybe stay at their place if I didn't mind sharing the room. I will probably talk to them about changing my stay to Monday, leaving Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday night (arriving after class), Thursday day and evening, and leaving Friday afternoon. More stays would eat up too much gas I think as I have mini work Monday morning and Friday night, and class on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

That's all I can think of for now. K thx bye. 😊

Day 608 - 3/1

Goin' to C&H's

I'm at mini work and today will go a bit differently than it has. After work I have to scoot off to school to get some books I need to work on a couple of projects. I won't do laundry until I get to C&H's place. I have to stop at the store to get food. I'm cooking dinner tonight 😊; partly because I have guilt about them spending like \$60 for Chinese food last week. (They really can't afford to spend that much on dinners.)

I'll only have a small window to do other things like email and board checking before I get to C&H's, so that may need to wait until later tonight.

I guess that's it for now. I'm a bit sleepy. What was a warm morning has turned chilly and gray. It isn't raining, but it did last weekend and it's looking like it will again.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 609 - 3/2

People love me

I got lots of surprises at C&H's last night. 😊 When I got there H showed me how they'd cleared/set up their guest/computer room for me. 😊 It is now super allergy free, and there is a futon couch in there that folds out into a bed. (It had previously been in the garage.) After dinner they took me out shopping with them and bought me a little bit of foods and some shorts (which hopefully it will be warm enough to start using soon.) They also got special non-animal fur sheets for the guest bed. They insisted on getting two tiny bunnies for me too, hehe. 😊 They said I could basically stay there anytime I needed, but with my schedule the way it is now gas cost would kill me going back and forth all the time. (It's \$6-7 a trip there and back.) The current schedule is for me to stay Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights. They love me and want to take care of me until I'm better again. 😊

It was so strange laying flat and sleeping on a bed, doubly so since I could lay on my front. I haven't been in a real bed for over a year and a half. It took a while to get settled to sleep as my back was actually hurting a bit from being able to rest flat properly. I've been scrunched up for so long that I've gotten used to being in cramped up sitting positions.

I was supposed to study for tonight's test and work on a project for tomorrows class but I've been so exhausted I can barely think straight. I don't know if that is from being unable to sleep right away last night or from having my first real rest in over a year and a half.

Well, I should at least try and study a bit. I've got less than 2 hours before my test. At least a few peeps love me for sure and want to try and help me recover. I may finally have a real start at recovery.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

I spoke with the professor who I owe a big project to. She said it's ok for me to turn it in whenever I get a chance to since I'm in my terrible situation. I mentioned that I was talking about it on my site and published it in an online form and she seemed genuinely interested in checking it out. 😊 She seemed genuinely concerned that I was ok in terms of food and shelter and all, so that's good to hear too. I know pretty much all of my professors do, but that they are also restricted in what they can offer without things being 'weird' in terms of looking like favoritism of some sort. She seemed genuinely concerned though, both for me as a person and for me as me. That's always good to hear. She's pretty cute and attractive too, hehe, but married, heh. Still, it's always good to hear from more (people) than just those who have known me for a while are worried about my recovery.

Day 610 - 3/3

Moving the movies

It's just past 4:15; so hungry a me. 😊 I'm nomming dinner early. I will be nibbling at it over the next 1.5 hours instead of nomming it straight.

I have to work on this big project for class. I've been working on it for the past two hours and it will probably take ½ hour more. Hopefully I'll do ok on it since I got the book too late to do it as completely as I was supposed to.

On my way to C&H's I'm going to take a detour to the ex-house. I've decided to just take my two tubs over that have my movies and leave them there. I'd either be watching movies there or at the not-sis' place, and since the child at C&H's is mostly not there when I am I figure there will be more adult movie watching there. At the not-sis' the children have to be outside or asleep to watch non-children appropriate stuff, which is only a very small portion of my visit time usually. Hopefully too I can do a magic trick for C&H. After messing around and running some research I've discovered the current way they have their stuff set up forces 2.1 sound instead of the full 5.1 they should be getting. I think I've come up with a workaround so that at least the PS3 will be outputting actual 5.1 Dolby sound since that's what we'd be watching movies with that should help delay the need to upgrade their receiver (which they could do for about \$300 but they don't really have the money for that at the moment.)

Nothing interesting in online news or boards. No jobs to apply to, I even checked job listings near C&H.

It's been pouring rain. I guess that started around 2 AM. When I checked in the morning not only had my car pool gotten full, but there was about ½" of rain pooled on that side. I would have taken a picture but I just wanted to hurry and move to the shelter of school and get it cleared out and back to sleep. I didn't want to be in the rain any longer than necessary.

I suppose I'm ok emotionally, exhausted physically, but I'm still very sad about my life. I'm still barely eeking by on minimum income with no real flexibility to speak of. Any flexibility tends to come at gift times or by people donating (which I haven't gotten

in probably 8 or more months. The most recent donation was during Xmas, but that was a gift and shouldn't be counted as a normal donation.)

Guess that's all for now. K thx bye. 😊

Day 611 - 3/4

Up too late again

Again it's much too late in the morning time, at about 1:45 AM. C&H had some shopping to do, so that kind of delayed the whole evening.

I've had bumps and itchiness pretty much everywhere for about a month now. I think I finally figured out that it's a higher level reaction to all of the animals I'm around lately. I suppose though if that is the reason that it's a decent trade for what was reduced breathing and sneezing. C&H are also de-allergifying their house as much as they can, so that helps too.

Yesterday when I arrived I discovered that my shower bin had filled with water. I guess some rain had leaked in there probably Tuesday night. I knew the rains flooded the front area but I didn't notice the back. I was going to take a shower Wednesday when I arrived at C&H's and when I went to pick up the plastic shower bin I heard a 'sploosh' as the water spilled out. Since it was dark it wasn't until I shined the flashlight in back there that I discovered that the bin was full of water. Today I looked around and dried things out as best as I could. The bin was dried last night, and with the warm (dry) weather today it should be fine now. I also got some duct tape they had at the house and patched up some tears (on the back plastic cover) and extended the corners, so hopefully there won't be any rear leaks in the future. I don't know when I'll get a break in the rain long enough to see about getting the front window re-seated though.

No job, school, or fun news of interest to report, so I'll be heading off to bed. It is still so strange to be in a real bed after so long of not. Last night I again had trouble sleeping due to pain in my back and other parts being able to stretch out and relax properly. It's kind of like when you have sat in a chair too long, get up, and things hurt when you go back to normal. I suppose part of it is getting old and I should stretch in

general *sigh*. 😞 I've noticed when I get up from C&H's couch my back doesn't do well, but then it has no lower back support and I need that or my back does poorly.

Anyways, off to bed for me, a real bed. 😊

Day 612 - 3/5

The key

It's just after 4:45, nearly mini work time. I can't go in early (as I have lately) because there are middle schoolers in there.

I had a good day today; not a good for homeless day, an actual good day. 😊 Due to getting into bed kinda late last night I slept pretty late; all the way until my alarm went off at just after 11. We had to get ready to take H to his son's school as he does an art thing with the class on Fridays. (He only has his son some of the time as he had him with an ex.) Before leaving he gave me a key to their place. 😊 I can has key and hang out alone in the not home (not counting the two doggies and two kitties and other animals that are there.) After dropping him off I went back and had lunch while watching a silly fluff show. I ran some research for them on what receivers to upgrade to. Their current one has no HDMI inputs and the HDTV they are running them to only outputs sound in 2.1. I think I mentioned that and that I did a workaround for the PS3 sound. They were like 'ooooh! 🙌' when they heard how much more uber the real surround sound was on their system (as opposed to the receiver faking the 2.1 info into 5.1.) So now H is kind of pressing to get a new receiver so their Xbox 360 and digital cable can also have the good sound. After my research I played my game for a bit and just watched some TV.

I'm still super groggy though. I don't know if it's from staying up too late or from my body finally really catching up on rest now that I have a bed and a room a few nights a week. My brain is running on almost total automatic. I'm having just about zero logical or creative thoughts today (that aren't paths I normally think along.)

I got an email from a rabbit peep saying she was happy for my start of my recovery and looking forward to my next (happy) update posting. 😊 Also, during my

game I pointed someone to my site for a chart and they were like, 'are you *that* rabbit?'

and I was all, 'yup 😊'. They said they loved my site. 😊 I was like yeeaaaa.

So, pretty good day so far; got to sleep in a bed, got to play my game somewhere that I had a strong connection with no lag locks, got to be in a house alone like a real person with a real life, and found some peeps that appreciated what I do. Being here at mini work isn't too bad either. As I've mentioned before, for somewhere that is a not-career job it's pretty ok.

I'll be going to the not-sis' tonight for the weekend, so that should be good too. I don't have a bed there, but they are good peeps, and if it doesn't rain I'm usually warm and comfortable enough.

That's all for now. Out of chat time and my brain isn't really working. Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

It's so strange having two not homes I spend time at. On any other night with a normal life I'd be looking forward to going home to my bed after my shift with my stuff in my room, but now... now my life is fractured. Part of me is here, part of me is there, and part of me over there. I'm transitioning away from what and where I was to something new. It's strange, different, and unfamiliar. I'm glad for the change and that maybe recovery is finally beginning, but I can't help but feel sad that what will be me in the end will not be who I was when I began.

Time will tell if the new me can truly be happy and will find a home that is my own, in a place that I belong, not just a temporary place lent to me. But for now I feel fractured and scattered in different directions not knowing if I will ever be whole again.

Day 613 - 3/6

Getting ready to play

Not much special or new today. I got a few hours to play my games today at the not-sis' place while the kids were out doing a skating thing. I got an invite to the StarCraft 2 beta, woot! 😊 I'm seeing if I can set up my desktop at C&H's to play games there.

Um... that's all. 😊

Day 614 - 3/7

Looking for a monitor

I tried installing the StarCraft 2 beta on my netbook to see if it exploded and it kind of did. It runs (surprisingly) at the very lowest resolution settings at a very slow 1 FPS or less. I'll have to play from my desktop. It seems my friend/ex-roomie thinks they got rid of my old semi-broken CRT, and the not-sis' family has my monitor, so I'll have to find an alternate monitor before I can play at C&H's. Saaaddd me. 😞 If/when I can get my desktop set up though I'll be able to do any gaming I want again (limited by times that I can get to my system.) 😊

That's all the real news for today. It's a pretty quiet day at the not-sis'. The children are being told to clean, so I've been pretty free to do whatever. I tried one game of the StarCraft 2 beta but it runs too slow to really play. I'll likely just continue searching for a cheap monitor and maybe watch some shows online.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 615 - 3/8

Time to play

It's nearly noon at mini work. Today is the craziest weather ever. It's pouring rain one minute then not and windy the next. We aren't used to getting this kind of weather on this coast. It's sad because it was pretty warmish and sunny on the weekend.

Today should be a good day. 😊 After work I'll go pick up foods for cooking tonight at C&H's and then I'll pick up my desktop. It will be really strange to be on my desktop again. I expect it will take a while to get used to the keyboard and higher resolution again. Of course the first thing I'll do is install StarCraft 2. Later I'll update

World of Warcraft, and tonight before bed I'll probably install Mass Effect which I got almost a year ago and haven't been able to play yet.

I'm very tempted to pick up Dragon Age and Mass Effect 2 but I still need to get to the point where I have money for my eye exam. I think what I have saved may have been drained at this point due to getting too low of paychecks lately. I'll know more once I get my next paycheck and look over things on Thursday. It will be a bit more than usual due to an unexpected shift, but I think I'll only have about half or less of what I need for my eye exam. I'm running out of time for that as I'm on my last contacts now. My eye doc will bill me and I can pay up to a month or more after I do it if I need to, but I hate to do that.

That's it so far. Should be the start of a good week what with sleeping in a bed at C&H's. 😎

Day 616 - 3/9 Adjustments

I'm so tired. It's nearing 5:30; one hour until class. I thought about not coming. It's a decent drive from C&H's and I've got a headache. We are watching some kind of video and have to talk about group projects, so I thought I should really be here.

I slept pretty good at C&H's last night in the bed. 😊 It did still take about 1.5 hours before I could settle down enough to sleep, so that was sad, but I slept in until about 11 so it was ok. 😊

The adjustments to semi-life are strange. I forgot a piece of last night's dinner. I forgot to bring in my contact case from the car last night, so I had to go out to get it. I forgot I wanted to bring my shower stuff in from the car. I forgot the pie sometimes spills over when it's cooking. My desktop system is getting a place in C&H's so that's happy.

😊 It is going much slower than I expected though as they are using me as a test piece for that area. They'd been considering setting up some space there for desktop gaming or guest console play so I'm sort of in limbo while they decide what kind of monitor to set up and set up the desk they want in that area. It's ok though as it allows me to ease in to

the idea that I can go back to playing my PC or console games that I want to play – it's only a matter of if I can afford to get them. Such thoughts seem as foreign as sleeping in a bed to me now. Plus I'm a guest peep, so while I have spaces being created and set aside for me I have to wait until those form in the way the peeps who live there want and in their control to be non-disruptive to them. Within a week or so I should be settled in, but as per everything else in my life I will still be enjoying past elements of my life differently.

Things certainly aren't bad now. I have friends to hang out with. I have movies again. I will soon have unrestricted access to my games yet it won't be on my monitor or with my sound setup as I'm used to.

H had I guess a minor seizure today. He has, I think, epilepsy. I knew he could have them and heard about them but hadn't yet seen it happen when I've been over before. He was handing me something then kind of slumped partly onto the couch and had a few twitchy parts. I moved him fully onto the couch so his parts could relax, but I was like, 'eek, what do I do? How do I help?' That would be so sad and strange. I have no control over my life but he sometimes has no control over his body. I can't imagine what that would be like but I would assume it would be pretty scary until you've gotten used to it. Hopefully I helped him in a good way by moving him to the couch and giving him some comfort knowing that I was there. I like to help. 😊

On my way over to school I grabbed a few bits of my PC speaker system and stopped at a PC parts store to get a longer network cable. Tomorrow the video cable should arrive at C&H's and, in theory, we could temporarily hook the system up to their big HDTV. I wouldn't get much chance to play as it would take over their screen but it will work for the time being until they decide what to do with a screen for the desktop area.

I checked job boards and skimmed a few fun boards earlier, but there was nothing to write home about.

Well, I'm likely so tired this is just rambling at this point, so I'll go. That's probably it for this week. Sort of baby steps towards recovery. Maybe the sub-title of "rise of teh bunnah" will indeed be an ok title for book two. Though sadly I doubt I'll be recovered enough to close the story by the end of the second year. 😞 Bye for now. 😊

Day 617 - 3/10
Fold it away

I've got a while before class. I purposely get here early to avoid most of the rush hour traffic but that leaves me almost 2 hours of dead time. Today I got here a bit later than usual and I stopped by the store so I've only about ½ hour left now. Normally I'd study or do a project that I need to do but today I'm just soooooo tired I can barely stay awake. I think my body is still playing catch-up on all the rest over the past 1.5 years that I couldn't get.

H and I set up the desk and put my system into the media area of the house. It's theoretically all ready to go save for missing a monitor. I say theoretically as it has been over a year since I've turned the system on. While highly unlikely it is always possible something went bad in that time or got jostled in a bad way in transit. I'm sure all is fine and it will work ok once the monitor is hooked up tomorrow. H and I will have to make quite the trip to get it (about a ½ hour drive each way) but C&H are getting it free so I suppose it's fine. I may have to tolerate 1280x1024 gaming for a while though. I suppose it will be ok as I've gotten used to 1024x600, but I am really hoping to be on a current resolution setting with 16:9. I'm actually very tempted to gimp myself down to 1280x768 for 16:10 aspect, as some games will give you a wider camera angle because of the wide screen setting.

C told me something very sad last night, and I'm still sad about it now. She said she wanted me to put the bed away when I'm not sleeping. It's not the physical putting away that's sad, it's just a few minutes here and there; it's the fact that doing so reminds me that I'm nothing more than a temporary guest. While that is what I am I previously felt like I had a sort of home five nights a week. Now... now I feel like I just have a place to put my stuff and sleep at night. Like at the not-sis' place I've got my monitor and PS3. I've got stuff there, but because I have no bed, no place to sleep, I don't live there. It is not my home. While C&H's is also not my home by needing to put the bed up every day it feels like I'm less welcome.

I don't know, it's weird. As I believe I said in book 1, C stayed at my place for several months back in the day. It was effectively the same thing as I'm doing now (only her place is bigger and they can give me more space than I could give her back then.) I don't know how long this will go on though, and without the space I've nowhere to go save for the not-sis' place. Back in the day C still had a place either way; she wasn't really homeless, just in a bad place if she went home.

There is nothing really wrong with what they are asking in terms of restrictions for me, but I want so very much to be home, to have a place to put my stuff that I belong and am loved. But most of all I want somewhere I have a bed, that I feel safe, and can rest and play without worry, fear, or restrictions.

I can have baby steps towards having a life again, but how long will it be until the real thing?

Day 618 - 3/11

Playing on my desktop

(Written Friday)

Sooooo busy today. First I woke up and H and I ran some errands while waiting for someone with a free monitor to call us back. He finally called and we spent the next 1.5 hours driving over, grabbing fast food nom, then driving back. I got to hook up a monitor to my system and get it all caught up. 🥳 At long last, after more than 1.5 years I got to play on my desktop again. 😊 I had so much to catch it up on and we had so many things to do that I didn't actually play long before we headed off to pick up H's son to spend time with him. After that he had to be dropped off at his mom's and we adult peeps went off to a movie and more chores. After the movie I did get to spend a bit more time with Mass Effect.

Sooooo busy a day, but I finally can play on my desktop again. 🥳 The monitor is lower resolution at 1280x1024, but it's more tolerable than I expected. All the games I've played have had maxed settings, so though they may be lower resolution they look decent. It's been about five years since I've gamed in something that wasn't wide screen

format so that is really strange. I thought of putting some games in a 16:10 setting at 1280x768, but the monitor isn't capable of doing that.

The laundry machine broke Wednesday night but today I discovered it isn't actually broken. The switch that tells it that the lid is closed popped off its housing, so it doesn't know that it's closed which prevents the machine from progressing to certain cycles. If you hold the switch down it runs just fine. Yeeaaa me. 😊

That's it for today. 😊

Day 619 - 3/12

Playing for real

Today I got to spend several hours playing my games on my desktop, yeeaaaa!

😎 I actually stayed up too late last night playing too; 'till about 3 AM (though I only got about five total play hours actually.)

Driving right to class (or here for mini work) then back is so strange. It's what is supposed to happen, but after over 1.5 years of not doing it it seems strange. I'm getting really crazy good gas mileage driving it, like +30% more miles to the gallon. It seems like too much of an increase, like something isn't adding up correctly, but I guess it's right. That is a nice surprise that offsets some of the driving costs. Next school period I should be doing a Monday and Wednesday class, so I'm only really making one extra trip because I work on Mondays anyways.

The weather is super crazy lately. The past few days it was warm; warm enough to wear my shorts for a bit. Today it's cold, cloudy, and pouring rain so much there were rivers running down my back window as I was driving. It seems to have cleared now, which is good as I'll be in my car tonight. The not-sis' mom is visiting so I won't be spending as much time over there this weekend. Saturday night I'll go back to C&H's.

That's all I can think of. I don't have movies to watch this week so it will be a slow shift at mini work.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 620 - 3/13

Busy Saturday

(Written Sunday)

Such a busy day. It started at the not-sis' house. I got up early enough, I think around 10, but we were doing birthday things for one of the little ones most of the day. We had to go get the cake, then the not-sis realized she forgot some stuff for the party, so we had to go out again to do that. We went to a group party then went to a different party. Since the not-sis' mom was visiting for like a week I figured grandma would be monopolizing their time as much as she could, so I decided not to be there Sunday. From the party I went to C&H's. When I got to C&H's I went crazy playing my games alone as C&H were out late doing stuff.

I had a lot of fun 😊 and stayed up way too late until about 1:45 in the morning.

👹 There was a message on their home machine that made a horrid beeping in the room that I stay in that blocked me from sleeping. I had to wait until 3:45 new time before they got home and turned it off. 😞 (The time shifted +1 hour at 2 AM, so I lost an hour.)

I was supposed to do school stuff, but I was too (emotionally) drained from the party running around to really do anything else.

Day 621 - 3/14

Busy Sunday

C&H and I got up much earlier than we all expected. We were all up by 11 new time (I was up at 10) – quite surprising what with not sleeping until about 4 AM.

We left to go to Santa Cruz around noon. We stopped for breakfast/lunch, they did some shopping around, we peeped the Mystery Spot – they've never been – but we didn't actually go in, and then we drove back. It's a pretty long drive from their place so we didn't get back until around 4.

I was really exhausted. I figured I'd play for a bit then do school stuff. Unfortunately that didn't work out so well. My brain was burnt and not at all focused. I'll

have to do two or possibly more projects tomorrow. The school session has seemingly come and gone so fast. It's so much of a mental struggle to focus when I have no books (not even loaner ones at the library) and little private space. With C&H giving me a space I'm starting to settle into feeling like I *do* have some private space. I certainly have a reasonably private gaming and watching Internet show space.

It's again too late, after 1 now. Hopefully soon I'll start settling down and getting into bed before 1 (my normal sleepy time.) I'll have to get up pretty early since it's a much further drive to work from here than from the not-sis' place. I expect a lot more traffic slowing me down.

Well, tomorrow is what it is. I guess I have put myself into the bad school project position, but so much of my life is still so chaotic with so little private time that it's difficult to focus and be productive like I used to.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 622 - 3/15

Last minute projects

It's super late, like 2 AM. I couldn't focus after mini work. I was too tired. I played my games for a bit, then watched some shows with C&H, then forced myself to do the projects I needed to do. It was about 4 hours of straight writing and ended at about 16 pages. Well, that's all done now. Basically that was the last of my work for the semester save for a bit of research and studying for a test. I've been trying to sign up for classes for a week and the system hasn't let me – no clue why. I'll try and do so in person tomorrow.

Well, that's it for tonight. I'm exhausted. Hopefully I can sleep in tomorrow and get nice and rested and have some fun before going to class. 'Night peeps. 😊

Day 623 - 3/16

Gods and dragons

It's 5:30; one hour until class, half an hour before I go over to type in some Epic Fail. I'm soooooo sleepy, but today has been a good day so far. I got to sleep late last night due to needing to do homework stuff but I slept in until about 12:30. I got somewhere around 10 hours of sleep, so my system is either still catching up or fighting a cold. I've been sneezing quite a bit lately.

Amazon sent me a 'we wub joo' gift certificate for \$10 off any game (only good for a short time) so I went ahead and picked up Dragon Age for teh cheap. 😊 On my way to class I got to pick up God of War 3 (it was delivered to the ex-house), so now I've got several games I can play. 😊

I was so tired that I forgot to check for jobs and I didn't look at fun boards. What with turning in the big project tonight (effectively finishing that one class) I can hopefully relax and start to feel more rested. I think I get a week or so off between semesters, so hopefully that will help too.

My life does seem to be turning around at least a little bit. C&H wub me and want me safe and I sometimes make them tasty nom for dinner. The not-sis and her kids wub me too. I get to play my games and stuff a few hours every day now basically, so I'm finally re-balancing in terms of gaming. (It seems so odd now that I can consider PC desktop upgrades and a portable upgrade is no longer necessary or required.) Lowered food cost and increased gas efficiency seems to be helping with the increased travel costs.

My life is changing yet still in fragments; there is my school life fragment trying to get a better job, my job life fragment trying to struggle along on only getting ~8 hours of work a week, there is my game fragment which can play basically anything I can afford yet at a lower resolution and sound than I'm used to, and I've a place I can stay with a bed and a place I stay with no bed. I'm constantly around people no matter where I go. But, things are looking up. I'm starting to re-balance physically, starting to have a chance at re-balancing emotionally, and my allergies in both locations are greatly lessening. Of course the only true way to recover will be financially due to the fact that my life will continually be in flux until that changes. Hopefully that can change soon too.

I guess that's it for this week of fail. It seems we end on a positive note for a change 😊, despite the fact that after paying for next sessions parking and classes I'll likely have nothing at all left of the \$200 I need to get my eye exam and contacts that need to be done very soon.

Bye for this week peeps. 😊

Day 624 - 3/17
Stranded

It's about 5:30 and I'm stranded. 😞 I was driving on the freeway and noticed a radiator fluid smell. I glanced down at my instruments and noticed it was at full hot. I pulled over to let it cool and take a peek inside and saw radiator fluid in several places. It seemed to be running ok before I stopped, and the radiator fluid and oil showed full, so I waited a bit and tried to start up again. Again it got hot and I stopped. I asked if my car insurance people could have a tow driver look at it and they said they couldn't without scheduling a tow. I didn't think I needed a tow so I tried to drive it again but it didn't last more than 5 minutes before it overheated again. When it did overheat it started doing a bit of smoke so I quickly pulled off the road and it shut down from the heat. 😞 I had to call to get it towed.

Time passes

I had it towed to a fix it shop. It's just after 6:15 now. It's going to be \$50 for them to confirm the issue is what they were guessing, and if it is it will be a couple hundred to fix it. I don't know how I'll pay but I suppose it wouldn't be too bad opposed to like \$500+ of a cracked radiator. I don't know where I'll get the couple hundred to fix it though. 😞 Hopefully C&H can help because they are really the only ones who might have money to fix it.

Again it seems I'm reminded that when things start to seem like they are going ok they turn to poo. I suppose I should be thankful that it always seems to be the car and not something like a broken bone or cancer. A car can always be fixed or replaced where a biological problem would be much worse.

Well, off I go. 😞

Day 625 - 3/18

Dead car

It's sort of late, a bit past midnight. The car is likely dead. 😞 I called the repair place to see if they confirmed the issue and they said they couldn't start the car and wanted \$200 more just to *continue looking*. I said I didn't have that kind of money. Who knows how much more it would be past that to fix it. C&H will take me at way too early in the morning to the work area and I'll effectively just kill 8 hours until work. I'll have to see what kind of offer the car place makes to buy my car or if we want to try and sell it ourselves, but C&H agreed that spending that money just didn't seem like a good deal at all.

I suppose it's good news that next week is finals. I don't have to worry about too much class time. It's even possible I could skip the class and stay here at C&H's. Though one of the professors is saying she thinks it's unlikely I would be able to pass and that I may have to take an incomplete. She doesn't have all of my assignments, so she is missing points for some reason, so we'll see. I know I did those assignments but I can't prove it until I get to the car. I will see if I can get that tomorrow night or maybe during the day. I wouldn't be able to carry the junk that is in there during the day though.

In good news C&H are apparently considering giving me a persistent place here in the home. 😊 My allergies to the doggies and kitties is much better than before. It would be even less if I had a room to stay in. There are things to move and change before that could really happen though – to be more than a folded couch bed and a few items of my stuff – so my journey continues for now.

More on my most recent horrible events tomorrow I'm sure. 😞

Day 626 - 3/19

Has no car

It's just after noon and I've been stranded near work since 8:45 AM. Dropping me here early was the only really viable option.

Selling the car is the only option. The shop it's at said they wouldn't be interested in buying it to sell it as they've already got a few. We have a way to get it back to C&H's so at least that won't cost more, but effectively I paid \$50 for nothing so far. C implied I'll be on my own with no money help, so I have no idea how long it will be before I can replace it. It could be quite a while. I may have to do something like sell my netbook to have enough. 😞 I'd hate to have to do that as I've found it to be super useful beyond its (limited) gaming potential.

The store near work that I buy my food at has free wireless, but of course it's now broken and not working. Worked fine from 9 until 12:30, but now it isn't connecting right. I got a TV series to watch from C&H to kill time with today so I can do that, but I kind of was hoping to stay connected to try and sort car stuff online. Ah well, my sad life is what it is and I'm yet again reminded I don't have control.

Day 627 - 3/20

Plans to pick it up

It's late, about 1:30 AM. I had fun playing my games pretty much all day. 😍 We have made plans to go pick up the car in the morning and have it towed here. Since I have to get the registration at the ex-house I've decided to get my clothing drawers. Since C&H basically said I can live here I see no reason not to get the drawers since I'm already leaving my clothing bag here all the time. It will be nice to begin steps to living somewhere again, but I'm saddened that I won't be able to pay rent to them and that I'm taking space in a home of a married couple who have a son with them sometimes. I would have preferred my moving to be somewhere I could afford on my own, but that doesn't seem to be my path. At least since I'm going to be sharing a place it's with friendly peeps and not strangers. At least I have that. 😊

My life is still in shambles. As if my lack of money and job prospects weren't enough it seems I still get to experience random disasters like my car dying. Well, I

suppose I knew that would come someday as it was a super old car and I never intended to keep it this long.

My concern though is; will my life continue to improve having made these first small steps, or will it be like my job achievements and really take me no closer to a true life back under my own control with my desires fulfilled in the ways that bring joy to my life with few or no restrictions. Only time will tell. For now my terrible journey continues, slightly less terrible in recent times.

Day 628 - 3/21

Missing, seriously?

Today was very sad get my car back day. It was sooooo sad. 😞 I wub my cute little car. I hope I don't get stuck with an ugly one. I discovered though when I was cleaning it up to sell it that it was left partly taken apart. Seriously? The air filter housing was off and loose, the radiator cap and fuse cap are now missing and who knows where, and there were black finger smudges (the car is white) that were in several spots. Going to have to call and complain about that tomorrow. It's like the person didn't care or respect my car at all.

I got to play my games most of the day though. 😊 And their little one here is pretty cute. He loves to spend time with me and grab my arm to snuggle. 😊

Guess that's all today.

Day 629 - 3/22

Car is sold

Just got up. I'm pretty sleepy. No mini work today as it would have been too difficult to get me there. I suppose though that C is right in that it's good that the car broke now instead of before when I had nowhere to stay. Now at least I still have an inside place to sleep, play, and look for work. Back say before mid December if this had happened I'd likely have had to spend nearly all of my time on the street.

I called the dummyheads and I think the person who answered was the mechanic who left the car taken apart. His reply was 'well, you told us to stop work, right?' I said, 'I told you I wasn't going to spend \$200 more for you to continue and that I was going to take the car back. I don't think anyone on the planet would expect to get a car back in pieces.' So we'll see more about that when word gets to the owner/his dad.

It should be an ok day otherwise. I've got a very interested party coming to look at the car (in theory) and I can be warm and play my games after doing a job search.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

Pretty good day today I suppose; good things bad things. I have \$800, but my car I loved so much is sold. I should be ok and all and may find a something soon but I'm sad. Sad I lost my car I loved, sad I have nearly no work, sad I have to be around people all the time no matter where I am, sad I have no private space for me, sad I still don't truly feel welcome, wanted, and in control anywhere in my life.

That's it for tonight.

Day 630 - 3/23

I feel strange

It's way too late at night at just past 2 AM. I got a chance to play privately from about midnight on so I guess I've gone a bit late. (H normally stays up until 2 or 3

watching TV or playing games which keeps me up at night. I normally try to be asleep by 1.)

I started the day looking for jobs and looking for cars; no luck with either. I did the dishes, trash, and my laundry.

I had a lot of fun playing my games after. I just finished Mass Effect. I've been playing a lot of Dragon Age lately. I would have finished Mass Effect quite a while ago if I hadn't been.

Despite my slow return to a normal life I feel strange. I'm getting good sleep now and finally losing the persistent groggy haze that I've had for so very long. I feel strange though. I have a few friends, shelter, regular cooked food. Yet I lack private space, I lack a good job, I lack a sweetie. While food, shelter, and at least reasonably safe feeling is all one really needs I don't know that I feel "at home". I still have no control over my environment. There still is no real negotiation of rabbit space. I have a space within their space. I do not control temperature. I do not control activities. I do not control volume or activity level.

I grew up alone, so I've always had private space. I think now about families who share space. They do feel at home. They call it home. But I think even they have private space. Though a room may be shared they are likely allowed to choose what to put where. Here I have space but no choice or freedom to decide 'I want x at y'. I'm limited in both space and category of item. While I feel welcomed and cared for, even loved, I don't know if I feel in my heart that I'm home. At my ex-house I had a room to myself. I was free to change my stuff however I felt or wanted. Within reason I could watch or do whatever I wanted. Set up my PC how I want, my home entertainment how I want, play games or watch shows how I want... here those are luxuries. Here I feel like a well loved visitor. I feel temporary.

I do not yet have a home and I still wonder how long it will be before my journey is over.

Week 91

Day 631 - 3/24 Need to complain

I'm so tired, though it's only slightly later than my normal bed time. I didn't accomplish much today but I did a lot. I went over to drop C off at work, took H to a hobby shop to get stuff so he could finish a car for his son for his boy scout pinewood derby thing, dropped him off for that, did some food shopping, picked up C, then drove back to the derby. Phew, so much back and forth today.

I did get an ok amount of time for me to relax and play a bit. C also found a good lead on a cute car, so I'll have to look into that. I also got a bunch of extra mini shifts on Sundays during April, so that will help regain some money from all this car poop.

Oh, that reminds me that I have to complain about that place since the owner never called back to see about fixing all the not work they did in leaving my car in disarray. Had he called and said sorry and he'd be mad at the mechanic it wouldn't be as big of a deal, I'd have maybe accepted \$15 returned to me. Now... now he ignored me or the mechanic didn't pass on the message. Either way a letter is about to go to the better business bureau now requesting 50% of my \$49 fee back.

I suppose it's an ok day all things considered. 😊

Day 632 - 3/25 So much driving

It's so very late at night, like 3 AM. 🕒 I had to do so much driving around today, about 6+ hours of these little trips everywhere H needed to go. I didn't have time to do anything really, which is likely why I stayed up past my normal bed time to play. As it is I got maybe 3 or so total hours of play.

Things are ok all things considered. I need to complain about the car thing still, noone replied to my reply to their car ads, which is sad, and I didn't do job searches.

Things are a bit different tomorrow so I won't be at work too early like last week. I may go like 1 hour early so the peeps aren't driving back across the bay in rush hour though. I'll see how tomorrow unfolds as it unfolds.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 633 - 3/26

More driving

It was another day of a fair bit of driving. The day started around 9:30 when we took C over for work. H had to be dropped off at his son's school because he volunteers there on Friday. I got about 1.5 hours to myself at the home, then I had to go pick him up again. I got about 3 hours after we got back to play and have fun, then I had to scoot off to work. I stopped at the ex-house on the way because I needed to pick up something to give to the guy who bought my car.

No replies on car ads yet. I'm hoping one I emailed today will reply. It's a cute little car that's a bit more car-like than my previous one. (The previous one I had was more Jeep-like. I'd love an actual Jeep, but they all run in the \$3k+ range for one in even terrible condition, closer to \$5k if I want one that isn't busted up.) This one has a soft top, but it's only in the back part, so the front part is very unlikely to leak. They want \$900 for it though and I'm currently down to about \$760 reserved for the car stuff. After checking my bills I really have zero of my paycheck left that I could put towards the car. (I had to renew a membership for my car insurance and make a payment to the car insurance. Those quickly drained a lot out of my paycheck.) I should get at least a little something for bunnah weekend next weekend, so that should get me up closer to the \$850 range. Anyways... I don't know if the guy will respond since I didn't call him going, 'me me me gimme gimme'. It seems only those willing to pay the asking price who do that will get the cars, and with my limited funds I can't do that. 😞

I got to borrow the car for tonight, so I drove myself over to mini work and get to drive back right after. No waiting or worrying about C&H being put out to come get me.

😊 Hopefully I can sleep in for a bit tomorrow and there won't be any earlyish moving

around. H has a project he wants to do which will likely take several hours, so hopefully I can play at least some of the day. That'd make me sad if I couldn't. I haven't had very much relaxing/play time the past few days. 😞 All this driving around everywhere is making me a very sleepy bunnah.

Mini work is over in a short while and I don't know what else to say, so bye for now. 😊

Day 634 - 3/27

Blurry eye

I've been in a haze all day. Not one like before, a different kind. I was aware of time passing today, but I couldn't really focus. Maybe it was because I literally couldn't focus. My left eye was out of focus most of the day, so my vision was blurry and I was in a confused haze because of it. I think some animal allergies got to me.

No car replies today. The cute one is sold. I still suspect that unless you call immediately and offer everything they want you won't get it. Unfortunately I don't have the money to do that nor will I for several weeks. (Even then it's questionable how much more I'll have above what I have already, doubly so since I really need to get my eyes checked and order contacts.

Life was ok to me today I suppose though. I slept ok, slept in a bit, played Dragon Age most of the day, checked boards, washed cloths, and even looked for cars a bit.

Things still seem so odd what with my not having a room of my own. Only on rare occasion do I feel 'in my own private space', which is sad but so very much of an improvement over before.

I have no clue what tomorrow will bring. Hopefully something good, but more likely it will simply be another tiny step forward in the plodding along that is my life.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 635 - 3/28

Playing

Not much to say today. I got to play my games all day; quite a bit in private even.

😊 The day actually started with sleeping in then I did a trash load, recycle load, vacuumed, cleaned animal hairs, watched a show, and took a shower. Oh, at some point in there I looked for cars.

I had to get someone to cover my mini shift tomorrow. I'm still without a car, so it's still really impossible to get to work Monday without totally putting C out.

H wants to try and do a storage shed project tomorrow, so that will be a lot of sad physical labor. Well, maybe it will be a step towards my getting more space in the room. Not that I don't want to help, it's just a big project involving physical labor that I don't think he has the right tools for, so I expect it will be a big pain in the butt. Ah well, I guess it is what it is.

Maybe tomorrow I'll have better news. I still feel trapped through what with no jobs to apply to and no car prospects.

Day 636 - 3/29

When I'm sleeping sometimes I'm home

I stayed up late playing games again. 😊 It's later than I'd like to be going to bed, possibly why I still feel so sleepy despite sleeping in, but if C&H both go to bed it's really the only time I have alone. C typically goes to bed around midnight, which is when I'd normally get to bed, but H often stays up until 2 or even 3 in the morning, making my ability to sleep difficult and time alone without at least one of them around zero.

Sometimes when I've been sleeping lately I've felt like I've been back at my old home. I suppose that's due to the room and bed being similar (in terms of it being a foam bed with the window and door in the same spot in relation to the direction of the bed.) Several nights now I've felt like I could peek over the side and see my clock, or reach over and get a drink (I keep the drink on the opposite side here), or get up and turn and my feet will flop over the side like they used to. I'm not uncomfortable here, the peeps are


nice and friendly, the animals love me, it's not really cold at all or smells bad (well, sometimes the animals smell a bit bad, heh.) I am sheltered, warm, fairly comfortable, cared for, and I know I'd be free to come and go if I had a car. But I don't think I could call it a home, call my journey done, until I have my own space, my own stuff in my space, and out of my ex-roomies garage. Until then I think there are too many undone things emotionally.


It's raining outside now. It's been fairly warm the past week or two, but now the days have been gray. It would be so different in my car still. Those times seem so long ago, yet they are still so fresh in my memory; the scars still so rough on my soul.

Day 637 - 3/30

Early snack, late snack

Today was a pretty good day I suppose, mostly because nothing bad happened.

 No replies to cars, no replies to for job interviews, though I put out emails on both recently.

I'm having a late snack before bed. I've been so hungry lately. I've often been having lunch, a snack, dinner, dessert, and another snack. I don't know why I'm so hungry lately other than the possibility that this is only the second or so week of real food I've gotten in over a year and a half. Tonight we went shopping for food and it was the first time since I've been homeless that I did not buy homeless food. I bought all 'real' to be cooked food.  I guess that's a step forward, though my sadness at only having a partial home lingers. There were more changes in C&H's home lately, more reminders that my life is not my own, just a temporary space within their lives. I never knew until now how very important it is to have space all your own, a private place to put not only yourself but your stuff too. Just putting yourself somewhere is shelter, and just putting your stuff somewhere is storage; it is only when you have both in the same place that it will begin to feel like home.

Week 92

Day 638 - 3/31 Sad and still homeless

It's a sad day today. 😞 C got all like mad and stuff at my needing to get to mini work on Sunday thinking that I'm not looking for cars. What she doesn't know is that I *have* been looking, but because I don't have what they are asking I can't go all crazy saying I want it. There is no way I'll convince someone to give me a \$900-1,000 car when I can only offer \$800. She did say she could help with \$100, and I may have some waiting for me at the ex-house, so maybe I can have enough soon. I am looking though, and it makes me sad she thinks I'm not or that I don't care about getting a new one.

She also said she and H were trying to have a baby and that my room space is temporary. So I've got anywhere from 6 months to maybe a year or so realistically before my time here expires, and I'll likely never be given more room to set up stuff here. Even if I could I now question if I'd want to since I'll be uprooted again so quickly.

She also has been saying that I should say I live here for jobs and school. While that previously made sense it doesn't seem logical anymore since I'm on such a short timer.

I *am* looking for replacement cars. I *am* looking for work. But I can only try. Everything is still out of my hands and out of my control.

Day 639 - 4/1 Car search

Nothing special today, but nothing bad either I suppose. C&H found out today that I really have been looking for cars. They were the ones to put out replies (H knows cars anyways, I don't) and they saw just how many don't reply. The surprising thing is that H left messages on the phone for several saying that he was very interested, yet got only a few replies. So it seems that even when waving the money at them they still almost never reply. Some we've called and gotten a warning that the person's mail box was full. I

suppose then that I have to believe this is an act of the gods and Fate, and not that it's my continuous bad luck. There have been almost half a dozen that looked ok, and C said they could help me out by a few hundred if need be, so with a cap closer to \$1k I should hopefully be able to find something tomorrow. If not Sunday and Monday will be a total nightmare in terms of car driving and getting around because there won't be pick-ups/drop-offs for me really.

I remain in the hands of the gods. As per my job searching, the car searching is more waiting for replies to my replies than anything else.

Day 640 - 4/2

Odd letter and card

It's about 5:45 at mini work. Noone is here but me. Normally it would be busy with people, but this is the start of a new renting period. Sometimes people miss their first few days.

I spent most of the day chilling with H. We made several car calls but mostly played Dragon Age. He plays on his PS3 and I'm on my PC next to it. (C made me set up my system in the living room. 😞) We are all 'ooh, look at this' to each other, hehe. 😊

I got an odd letter and card from my dad. Not odd in that it wasn't expected, well it mostly wasn't. It's a Saint Patrick's day card that I got late because he addressed it wrong. It's odd in that he didn't harp at me about my life, he didn't say bla bla get a government job, he didn't scold or talk down to me at all. He just talked about being retired and rambled a bit about how his six-year-old computer is dying. I may send him some suggestions on builds. He doesn't know about my site. He's super old and it would be way too much info. He may be better off with a pre-built one though. For non-gaming systems they are often as cheap pre-built as it is to build it yourself. I may also tell him to check NewEgg. There are ones there for pretty cheap if you don't need serious gaming power.

It's nice to be here at mini work in the quiet. So much of my life has so much business and chaos - a constant blur and ramble of doing. It's so very nice to be at peace and not have to worry about this or that or have people scurrying or chatting around me.

Guess that's it for today. 😊

Day 641 - 4/3

Just one Easter candy

It's nearing midnight. I'm so very sad. I still have no car so we almost put me out for the night so that I could be at/near work tomorrow because C&H have family things to do and couldn't drive me when I'm supposed to be at work. As the night went on me and C got more and more sad about me being put out for the night. She approached me right before we were to go and asked if I'd rather just go super early at like 5 AM. Neither of us wanted me to be put out for the night, so that's what we'll do.

While I was extremely sad about being homeless with nowhere to go, I'm finding I'm more sad about missing bunny day. It's my most favorite holiday, but it's been so long since I really got to celebrate it that I'd forgotten how important it was. I thought I would just be ok working it and missing time with C&H's little one and the not-sis' little ones. (Though since I still have no car I can't see her little ones.) As the night went on and C&H and their little one decorated eggs and C&H set up his basket after the little one went to bed I got more and more sad as I was reminded of happier times in my youth and of recent times when I did have someones to celebrate with.

I have just one Easter candy with me and I'll miss all the morning fun. While I really do need the money, no amount of money is worth losing such an important day celebrating with little ones. Day by day I regret more and more that I don't have a sweetie or little ones of my own. I suppose there is always the possibility, but with every day that passes I fear there is more and more I will never truly have.

Day 642 - 4/4

Bunnah day

It's just after 11 at mini work. I got here around 5:30. It took a bit but I fell back asleep in the office. It's kind of annoying though; I'm supposed to start the shift at 8:45, but noone shows up until 10:30. It would make so much more sense to cut the shift down to have people show up at 10:15. Of course with no car the shorter shift would do me no good.

There was the cutest most attractive blond girl just here. Apparently a place she normally does her choreography teaching is closing early today and she needed a place to do it for about an hour. I'm technically not supposed to let her be here without renting the space, but she made me all 😊, and it is special just for bunny day, so I said ok. She was super happy and bouncy when thanking me, which made me all 😊. It's rare for a girl to make me feel something, and hopefully someday I can find a sweetie that does so again. I suppose there is a one in elebentybillion chance a girl such as this who is so much younger than me could be interested and I could have my happily ever after, and every day and year that passes there are more girls coming along, so I suppose you never know and I may find someone after all.

I'll be done with mini work in just over 3 hours and hopefully C&H can come get me soon after. They are doing a morning then then eating with someone around 1. They should be done around 2, so adding driving time after that it shouldn't be too long after I'm off that they could be here. They have a friendly peep coming over to visit around 3, so things should work out ok and I shouldn't have to wait too long after work is over. Peeps are coming over for an evening bunnah day party at around 6, so there may be fun to be had tonight. Only a few have said they will show up, so I guess we'll see what happens when it happens.

Since Nvidia has officially announced their series 4 cards I think I may do a new set of system recommendations. I may wind up only adding on a rank 5 system, as their cards can't do triple monitor on a single card, putting them very behind ATi in anything but the higher-end system builds. It could be quite a while before they catch up.

Happy Easter bunnah day everybody! 😊

Day 643 - 4/5

Meh car

It's super late, so I'll be brief. I borrowed C&H's car to go to work this morning. There still hasn't been much luck for cars so we had to drive super far to the one we knew was available. About 45 minutes each way and \$900 later I had my replacement car. I felt

sick and sad. It wasn't under the circumstances I wanted to get it under. It wasn't really at all what I like in terms of looks. It smells funky. I practically fall down when getting in it's so low. One mirror is busted off and needs to be replaced. The paint is all faded. I didn't want to put C&H out of their car any longer though. That's sad and not ok.

Much like everything else in my life the car was done in a way I didn't want, and isn't what I'd have chosen on my own. It's serviceable, but that's about it. I had little to no choice in taking it. It had to be done, and it was the only one I could afford in money or time.

Sad day is sad. 😞 I feel I may never get a car I love again. My life seems to keep getting progressively worse and becoming more and more compromises to what needs to be done instead of being something I enjoy or want to do.

Day 644 - 4/6

Longing for quiet

I'm so super tired, despite sleeping in today for the first time in a while. All day I've just wanted it to be quiet. The phone went off twice in the room I'm sleeping in this morning. Then the little one was up making noise. Then H was up making noise. Of course he was playing his game, so there was noise going on all day next to me. It's not a bad life really I suppose, particularly compared to before, but I long for peace and quiet. I want to have my own room with my own stuff set up how I want with things quiet and calm. I don't know how long it will be before that can happen.

I have another class tomorrow. During the one last night I realized how very completely tired I am of going to classes.

I want so very much to have my own place with my own life, free from need to do all these things I don't want to do, free from worry, free to do things how and when I do want to do them.

Picture series 14



Oops, hope I didn't need that



Tax refund 2010, part 1



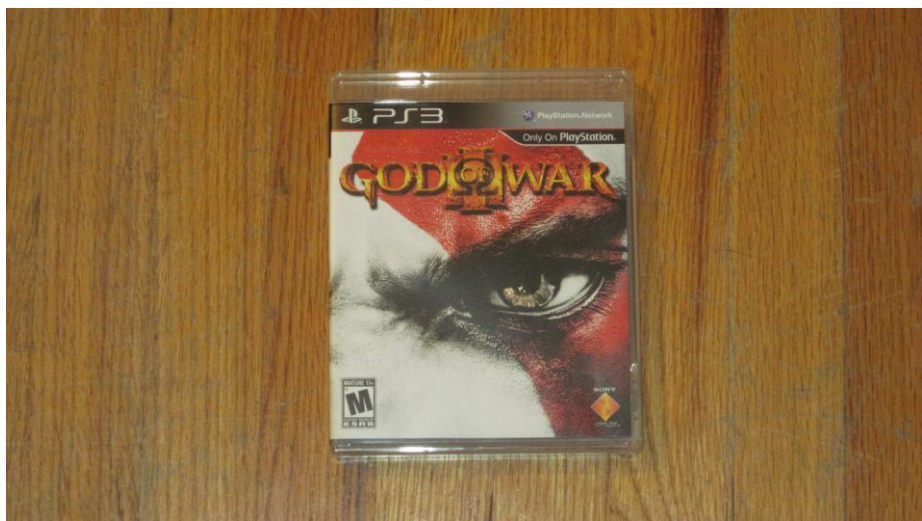
Tax refund 2010, part 2



A real bed for teh bunnah



So cute, tiny bunnies!



More tax refund fun



Bed upgrade, a real pillow

Week 93

Day 645 - 4/7 Sooooo tired; just visiting

It's just after 6, waiting for class. Today has been a tired day. I got to sleep pretty late, until about 11:30, but the stupid people that are calling C&H called and woke me up twice. I'm so very tired. I must still be catching up from my lack of sleep from when I was homeless. I possibly slept about 10 hours last night not counting the times I was woken up.

Not much new today. I woke up, took a shower, then had to drive H and the little one back and forth to an appointment. After that I had to come here to school. I had to get them to add a class because the online adding failed (for several days now). I also had to go to the library and find a book for my Monday class. It's so lame that we have assignments due every week. 😞

That's it so far today. There have been several cuties on campus 😊, but as usual none gave me more than a passing glance. Although I'm now mostly just visiting campus, coming and going for only two classes and that's really it, I still don't feel like I belong in school anymore. I'm so much older than the average students. 😞 (Though I'm not usually among the oldest.) Although I'd never say in the past that I really felt like I truly belonged at any particular school at any particular time I now feel more lost than ever. I'm seeing lots of people in class each school period yet I'm finding no new friends, no sweetie, and the classes I'm taking seem to be bringing me no closer to any real goal of finding a job that I'll be happy with.

Day 646 - 4/8 A day off

It's late, almost past my normal bed time. I decided to take a day off what with the sad from school and still feeling chaotic from looking for a car. I may make Thursdays a

regular day off though. I'll likely make Monday during my between time, Friday during mini work, and Sundays at mini work while I have them my time for homework. I'll have to read at school as books are like \$80 each so I can't afford them. In fact, since this week's paycheck was the one from the time I had to miss a few shifts I'm lucky if I have \$8 to spare, let alone a bigger amount. I can cover food and gas but I've got very little beyond that. In two weeks I'll get a bigger check, but right now that seems a very long way off.

I feel ok I guess, but mostly sad about the same old things; tired of needing to go to school, tired of not having a job I'm happy with, tired of worrying about paying for life, tired of not really having a life since I can't afford it, sad about not having a sweetie to share my hopes, dreams, and happy things.

Ah well. Life moves on I guess. I keep putting out resumes (though still only a few a week), I keep seeing new people, and I keep hoping. Tomorrow is another day.

Day 647 - 4/9

Plodding along

It's nearing 5:45 at mini work. I guess I had a pretty good day so far. 😊 I'm still so sleepy and out of it. I think because I'm not sleeping really well. I got in bed a bit earlier than I have at around 12:30, but I probably didn't fall asleep until close to 2 or after. I got some movies to watch and homework to do while here, so I can be efficient with my time. No new news on jobs or anything fun.

Bye for now. 😊

Day 648 - 4/10

Back at the not-sis'

I spent a bit of time with the not-sis and her kids today. It was good to see them again. I'd forgotten what a total disaster their place is. I don't understand how they can be ok with their place always being a mess and dirty. There was a post-apocalyptic amount

of dust on my PS3, receiver, and monitor. Maybe it wasn't just the two weeks I've been gone worth of dust, but more and I just hadn't used my system in so long that I didn't realize it had gotten that bad. I'm tempted to take it back, to either take care of and use or put in storage where it won't get covered in dust and dirt, but I guess it's ok. I certainly could use my monitor. The low resolution and old-school aspect ratio of the one C&H got me drives me pretty nuts at times. (I'll probably try and look for one for teh cheap to take to the not-sis' place later. I would like to let them borrow the PS3 still, so it would have to have extra inputs, and those are rare.)

That's really it for today. 😊

Day 649 - 4/11

Nap at work

It's nearing 10:30 at mini work. I was right; there is no reason at all for the shift to start at 8:15. I opened everything up, turned on most of the lights, then took a nap. It took a bit to get to sleep, but I got over an hour of solid sleep once I did. My alarm shocked me awake at 10:15, a good 10 minutes still before the first group showed up.

I hope I see the beautiful young blond girl again. 😍 Unfortunately though I doubt I'll ever see her again. 😞 She said she only stopped in here because the building she normally used was closing early for Easter. Being not-Easter I expect she'll be back to her normal routine. Finding someone who makes you feel something is very rare. I can't remember the last time I met such a girl. My ex made me feel that way, and it's been 10 years now. Ten years of sad alone time 😞, only a few hugs from girls in all those years. I suppose a great portion of being single is not being places that there are single girls, but I suppose another part is that I really want and need that mysterious feeling; to feel nervous, happy, excited, content, worried about her all at once, even when she isn't there. Some call it chemistry, some call it love at first sight, some call it passion; whatever you call it I want to share that with a girl again – those shy happy glances when you see each other, always being close enough to touch when you are together. Seeing the cute blond

reminds me that I *can* still find girls who make me feel that way. The question still remains though; can I find one who feels the same about me?

Day 650 - 4/12

Worn out

I need everything to stop, to take a very long vacation from, well, everything that has become my life. My constant need to go to school, to go to work, worrying about my debts, worrying about what to cook, laundry, everything... it is all wearing me out. I can't focus clearly on anything anymore. The constant drains have dropped my ability to focus to zero. I fear, however, that I may never get the break I need. I can focus clearly enough on some things, but on others, try as I might, I can't focus at all.

I'm worried about my ankle. More and more lately I'm noticing when I stand that I'm standing in positions that take the pressure off of it. When I sit I notice it feels swollen if I move it so that it's resting against things. It likely is a bit more swollen lately. I've been carrying closer to 200 lbs on it more often than not. I still haven't gotten back down to the 185 from when I last weighed myself before these recent times of near 200. I noticed not too long ago that the bone above my ankle is more curved than the other. I don't know if that is due to the injury or not. I'd think that is likely just an oddity in my genetics as I was growing. It could be the issues aren't related to my accident from 10 years ago but instead something that has to do with the ankle variance. Well, someday soon I'll have to see if I can get a free appointment and get some x-rays or an ankle specialist's opinion on the matter. I very much doubt anything terrible is going on, but if the growth rate continues as it has over the last 10 years it may not be much more than another 10 before it does become very bad. 😞 Hopefully the size difference is something fixable or at least something that can be slowed.

So much in my life, so much of me, seems to be falling apart due to lack of money or resources to get proper care. I'm beginning to wonder if that will ever change.

Day 651 - 4/13

More sore

It's late, about bed time. I had a good day today. 😊 I got to sleep in, take a shower, looked for jobs and actually put out a resume, played lots of games, and relaxed. Tomorrow is another day of school, which I'm no longer looking forward to like I once did. I actually will be going early tomorrow and next Monday to work on a project I need to make up for last semester.

I'm pretty ok today, but some things are getting worse. A few teeth are getting sensitive to salt and sugars. Not a big pain, not even a moderate one, but one bad enough that a few times lately I've gone to rinse out with warm water so the feelings went away. Also my ankle feels bad, as if I'd been walking all day or twisted it recently. Hopefully it's just my imagination and I'm being overly sensitive to it, but I really should set up a time to have it looked at at the free clinic now that I know of one that should be willing to see me.

Well, guess that's it for the week. Nothing new or exciting to report, but I guess with my life that's a good thing. 😊

Day 652 - 4/14
Bad night

It's way too late past my bedtime. I stayed up late because I had a bad night. School let out super late, then someone almost hit me because they weren't looking where they were going, then I took the wrong exit on the freeway which caused me to be delayed more. When I finally got back to the house I cooked, showered, ate, and tried to relax for a bit.

The day actually started with good news. I called for my eye stuff and was told I didn't need an eye exam until June, so I've got 1.5-2 months before I need to spend that \$200. Instead I spent \$25 ordering contacts. In a few days I'll have nice new contacts instead of having to wear these that are like two or more months old.

I'm so tired of school though. I did part of a project today, learned I didn't do one assignment that was due tonight, and learned I have to spend extra time next Monday doing another project. I'm so tired of extra driving to and from school and all this time spent on projects. I'm feeling like I'm running in circles never getting anywhere. I send resumes out, I go to classes, yet after two and a quarter years I've had no improvement on my career, and after roughly 10 years of school I've had no change in career paths. Many readers probably think I'm a dummy, that after far less things should have changed. I don't know. I would certainly agree something doesn't seem to be right. Everyone around me is moving on and changing. But I don't know. I'm putting out resumes people say look fine. I am getting degrees and certificates thought valuable to employees. But nothing is changing.

Maybe I'm just the most unlucky rabbit in the world. 🐇

Day 653 - 4/15

Another day off; not in private

It's pretty late, though not really past my normal bedtime yet. I had a lot of fun playing games today. 😊 Though I've backed off a lot in WoW lately. I have little desire to play. I think that's really just due to the fact that I really don't feel balanced enough to have a regular schedule and as such really have no regular community to associate with. I have my guild, yes, but often when I go on only one or two others are on, and it isn't always the friendly peeps I talked about before. If I had a balanced life and regular relaxing times I'd likely be a lot more into it. But without balance it seems so much more appealing to play Dragon Age, a single player game I can play at my own pace and not worry about who I will or will not interact with.

Maybe too it's part of me missing private time. Gods know I'm always around others, even if it's just C&H. There is still that constant buzz around/near me from one or both of them. I rarely have my private space to be me. It seems odd that people in relationships or who are frustrated with ones they live with to go to movies or other public places to have their private time, yet for me those seem just as crowded. Since I'm not really a part of the home circle here I wouldn't really be going anywhere private by going away from the house. In fact, I only feel like I have private time on Friday or Sunday in the brief times before I open mini work.

It seems so odd to think something like my own space in my own room would be such a big deal, but it is. To have quiet time in a room, to have space balanced how I like, to have the things I hold special and dear around me, this would be private space, a safe haven to balance mentally, emotionally, and physically. Perhaps it's the missing element that is the cause of my body aches and extra weight, my difficulty sleeping, and my inability to focus. As with all things in my life it could be quite some time before I find out if that is the answer.

Day 654 - 4/16

Refusals

It's just after 8 at mini work. Today was sort of ok, sort of not. I got to sleep in without C&H making noise. They had to go to an appointment so I had the place to myself most of the day. I woke up kinda late at 11, so I only had a few hours of time before needing to go to work.

I noticed a hissing today from my car. It only happens when I do very sharp left turns. Upon further examination I noticed the wheel on the front left tire is kinda bent in one spot, as is the rear left tire. That plus the broken driver's mirror and dented area under the driver's side bumper leads me to believe the car was in an accident, maybe drove up onto a center divide or something. This wasn't mentioned to me when I bought the car. It could be fine, but if I have to replace wheels and tires that's probably \$150-200 for *each* one. I called the dealer and he denied any knowledge of the car being in a crash, and he flat refused to provide proof there was a safety inspection that shows the car was checked. Since the tires were almost completely flat and there was almost no oil in the car I'm inclined to believe they didn't do an inspection, which the dealer told me was required by law. A dealer wouldn't seem all that untrustworthy, but this "dealership" was just a guy in a regular office type building with half a dozen cars parked in the back. It didn't seem all that fishy at the time, but the more things I notice the more it seems questionable. If I had any kind of return guarantee I'd take the car back without hesitation. With his refusal though this may turn into a fight. It doesn't seem unsafe, but there is a noise when the car first starts for a bit, it seems too low to the ground, the mirror on the driver's side is broken off (though they gave it to me), there are dents in three places, I was not offered a receipt for the cash payment (had I not been in a rush at the time I likely would have remembered to ask for one), there was no oil in the car, and the tires were all almost completely flat. It seems more and more suspicious as time goes on. I may go visit the "dealer" on Monday, but I may not have enough time. I think he will deny things and try and blame me for the damage and continue to claim that the car is/was safe.

I don't know... a sad day for me. It would be nice if I could trust people, if I could count on them. But for cars at least it seems this may be the third time in a row things have gone questionably / bad. 😞

Day 655 - 4/17

Not not-sis

Today was a pretty good day. 😊 I slept in, had a light lunch, then drove over to see the not-sis and her kids. It turns out they were going to be super busy, so I only stayed a few hours. When I got back to C&H's place they were still out at a Boy Scout thing, so I got a few hours to myself (not counting the animals). The rest of the day I played and had fun. 😊

Tomorrow is get up early day. At this point I'll be lucky to get 7 hours of sleep before I leave for mini work. I couldn't go to bed earlier, as I just wouldn't fall asleep. Hopefully I can get another hour of rest when I get there, maybe actual sleep. I really need to do school stuff while there. 😫 I've a homework that's due and I need to see if I can do any of the old assignments I owe. More than anything now I wish I had a good enough job that I could just blow off school. I'm so tired of classes and assignments and projects. Sure, they take less time than a job, but it's burning my time for something that I don't know will produce a gain. With work at least I'd be getting paid for the time I'm spending. School lately... not so much it seems. Well, tomorrow is what it is. I suppose I should keep doing until at least a few things are done, at work or not.

Hopefully I can get some decent sleep tonight. Last night worry about the car kept me up. I looked stuff up today. A balancing is going to be \$80, and if I need to replace that one wheel that's \$50-75, not counting if I also need a tire, which is another \$60-70. The balance causes a wobbliness at faster speeds, around 50 MPH+, so it's bad but I don't think life threatening (short-term). But I can't help but wonder – is that all that's wrong? Was the car in a crash and the dealer knew it and is hiding that fact? Why did he flat refuse to produce proof or a list of things that the mechanic inspected? When looking up a safety inspection I saw oil and other levels were supposed to be checked. If they did check the car, why was the oil well below "low" and nearly completely empty? What else did they not do or do incorrectly? It seems fishy and I can't help but worry and think that I'm going to be the one that will wind up needing to pay for all this.

It's early at mini work. I had to get up too early to get here, but I got about a solid hour more sleep once here. Someone came in about 15 minutes before my alarm went off, so I didn't quite get as much additional rest as I thought I would. Had I not been sleeping in my car for nearly the past two years it would be a lot more difficult, if not impossible, to get comfortable enough to sleep sitting up on a chair. It seems so foreign now to think thoughts that I used to even just a few months ago - things like looking up at a light fixture and noticing a plug and thinking that could be used to charge my shaver or phone if need be.

I'm thinking of taking back my monitor from the not-sis. They really only use it for Internet show watching, which they could do with any of the monitors I'm finding searching online. It would be of far greater use attached to my (gaming) system. Instead of finding one that can substitute it at their place it may be a far better idea to spend less than \$30 getting them one that's lower resolution (than mine) that's only slightly smaller, and then take my monitor back and forth only on weekends they may play on the PS3 or we may watch Blu-ray movies. It only takes about two minutes to take it with me or set it up again.

My wheel/tire seems predictably broken. It only does the pssst pssst lose air thing on very rare occasion when backing up or on super tight left turns. Of an entire tank of gas it seems it will lose about five pounds of pressure, which is bad but very manageable. I'm still very worried that added to the shaking, plus the other clues, means that the car *was* in an accident and I wasn't informed of that fact and that it wasn't inspected prior to sale. I'll see what the guy says tomorrow if I have time to go (though I doubt I will.) If he offers half of the cost and a proof / (official) list of what the mechanics did and everything looks ok I'll feel settled again. Until then I'll worry. If he continues to not produce such an official item... well, there will be trouble as that seems extremely suspicious.

It would be nice if the beautiful blond visited. 🥰 I highly doubt I'll ever see her again though.

Guess that's all for now. I should try and wake up my brain a bit and work on school stuff. 🤔

Day 657 - 4/19

Getting my monitor

I'm pretty sleepy. I couldn't get to sleep until after 2:30 for some reason even though I went to bed around 12:30. It's probably worry about everything, maybe a bit of it was being sad/upset at myself for not doing school stuff that I needed to. I just couldn't focus at all. It took about 4 hours to do 1 hour of project because I kept having fun and milling around with other things.

After work I'll pop by and get my monitor from the not-sis. She said she was actually going to suggest that since they will be out doing stuff more often and don't use it all that often.

I'm not really looking forward to class tonight. I'm so tired of class and working and looking for jobs and trying to balance life on no budget. I just gotta keep doing it until I'm out of this bad place though. There is nothing else I can do.

I won't get a chance to see the car dealer until Wednesday. I've only got a bit over a one hour window after work before I have to be at school, so I'll barely have any time to do anything. I actually don't really know what I'll do for dinner. There won't be any time to do something before school.

Guess that's it for today; sleepy and kinda sad, but happy that I'll be getting my monitor back. 😊

Day 658 - 4/20

Mixed day

Today was a mixed day. I was happy that I got to play my games some of the day - I got to set up my Wii and play for the first time in two years - but I'm still sad about many things. I started the day by looking for jobs but couldn't find any. Those that I was almost qualified for I lacked experience (mostly one year or more of a specific type of experience.) I'm so behind on so many school projects I had to force myself to try and do some. It took quite a long time to find the motivation and focus, but I managed to get through the two that I needed to do for tomorrow. I'll have to try and get caught up on the

like four or so that I still owe for last semester's class on Friday and Sunday at work. Those will be the easiest times to motivate, as that is not time I could spend doing other things. I also got a shift for Saturday, so I can do some then too.

I think though that most of my lack of motivation comes from the fact that I'm just not having fun anymore in classes. (And I never see the point in having a class if the students don't find learning the material fun.) Back in the day there was very little busy work outside of class, and it was about learning and exploring new things. Projects were fun, light, and interesting. This semester, and really for the past several, it's like the classes are boring, the busy work is boring, tedious, and difficult for me to do (in terms of access, schedule, or resources), but most of all this time around I have something due every week in both classes. That means I'm spending between three and six hours per class doing something every week that I don't find interesting or within my normal routine. I know it sounds like I'm just complaining, but if I'm not enjoying it, if it doesn't seem to be gaining me anything, if it isn't interesting, and if it is causing me stress and worry... well, that's not something you normally want to continue if you have any kind of choice. If I saw any way into a career path that I'd enjoy by taking other classes or again redirecting myself I would, but at this point I just don't know what to do anymore. Days like today I look at jobs and either find nothing at all or ones that require experience that I just don't have and can't get until someone lets me into the field.

Each day I'm settling back a bit more into my regular life; I can play my games again, I can eat normally again, I'm starting to remember things I *can* eat and what to buy next time I go to the store; getting more regular in terms of sleeping times, showering times, and play times. Yet there is still so much I'm blocked or prevented from doing, so many things I feel forced to do because there is a tiny chance it may allow me to move forward, but can't help and think that the steps so far have done nothing to help me.

I continue to be hopeful about the future, yet find myself at the end of yet another week wondering if the chaos will ever settle.

Week 95

Day 659 - 4/21 Half a wheel

It's a little before class. I went to complain about the wheel and, not surprisingly, the dealer claimed he, and the person who bought the car and brought it to them to sell, did not notice any of the damage I pointed out and claim that it's my fault. They agreed to pay half of the wheel replacement cost (\$35), but it will still cost me nearly \$75 to replace it, *if* that's all that is wrong. Hopefully the wobbliness will stop once I fix that, as it seems almost completely gone when the tire is full of air.

I couldn't do a project I need to for class. We have to find child books and there simply aren't any here. That means that every week on Monday I'll have to burn the time I would be reading doing that, or I'll have to spend time going to one. I really don't think it's fair to require reading *and* a weekly project that takes several hours to do for an Associate's level class. That's just too much work at that level. Back when I did my first Associates there wasn't nearly that much work required.

Bleh, sad day today.

It's raining again too. It goes between pouring rain and being kind of clear. I like the rain but today it just seems to make everything more blah.

Day 660 - 4/22 Music

It's sort of late, but early for going to sleep for me these days. It's about when I'd normally try and sleep if I had a choice. C&H are going on vacation so they are in bed super early and everything is quiet. I'll have quiet for five more nights too. Though, I won't get to sleep in a whole lot unfortunately. Saturday, Sunday, and Monday I have to get up and go to work, so half of the days I could sleep in without them I have to get up early. 😞

Tonight I found out my favorite band never really stopped making music. I haven't looked for music in a lifetime, I just don't listen to it so it was cool to see they are still doing it and it still sounds cool. 😊

Tomorrow will be a busy day. I have to do some food shopping and have to leave early to do that wheel thing. I got paid today but – not counting gifts for C&H – the money is already gone. I got World of Goo and Iron Man for me, but not counting my self gifts the rest of the money has to go to bill things and the car fix. Hopefully that will fix the problems, or at least remove the air leak so I don't have to worry about that. I spent today trying to relax, particularly since I always have worries like the car, or school, or looking for a job. I have to try and do all the overdue school projects Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. I'm trying to do them at work but my focus may be limited. It will be roughly 10 hours I should have for doing said projects so hopefully it will be enough. I'd hate to have to use some of my time I'd have alone in the house to do school stuff. Granted I will be able to focus a lot better with just animals here, but I'd rather have that alone time to try and relax and be alone and balance out some physically and emotionally.

Well, I should try and sleep. Night peeps. 😊

Day 661 - 4/23

Dumb wheel

At the tire place now waiting for them to do the wheel. I suppose the good news is that these guys completely agreed that it is a wheel issue and that the tire should be fine. They have a test they can do for teh free, so they will do that to be sure. The bad news is that's about \$75 which I really wasn't planning to spend. I wasn't planning to spend anything on the car for quite a while to be honest.

I guess I feel ok and somewhat happy other than that. I got up around my (old) regular time of 10:30. The doggies woke me up twice though to go out. 😊 I guess it's good they did instead of pooping inside or whatever. I played World of Goo for about an hour, went shopping for fud, got the lizard some worms to nom, played God of War 3 for about ½ hour and now I'm here.

I got a movie for tonight but I really need to try and do school projects, so I'll watch just that one during my shift and then try and do school projects the rest of the time. I'm super tired so hopefully I'll at least do one or two assignments.

I have a funny feeling along the back of my throat, like I've got a coughing throat cold or something. I think I have been sneezing lately, so it is possible. That might be why I seem extra tired too.

Well, my day is my day. I suppose all I can do is try to make the best of it. 😊

Day 662 - 4/24

An (old-school) normal Saturday night

It's way too early at mini work. I'm so sleepy. I probably only got about 5 hours of sleep. I had a hard time getting to sleep for some reason, then at like 3:30 the dogs woke me up and I couldn't get back to sleep for like an hour. I had to get up before 7:45 to come here, so I didn't sleep for much longer when I did fall asleep. At least next weekend I'm back to regular hours and can sleep in on weekends again. 😊

I got about half way through the biggest overdue project yesterday, so hopefully I can at least finish that during my shift. I'll have one more big one then about three little ones to get caught up on all the overdue stuff.

Tonight I'll be able to have my first (old-school) normal Saturday night in nearly two years. I don't know if there is anything new to get to watch but I've got over half a dozen movies I've gotten while homeless that I could check. It will be so nice to play my games and watch movies at times and volumes I like without distractions. 😊

I may have to take a nap when I get back. Soooooo tired. I don't normally nap though. It tends to just mess me up when trying to sleep, plus for some reason it is actually very difficult to get my body to nap.

I guess I'll start my day. I hope everyone is having a trouble free life filled with laughter and love. 😊

Day 663 - 4/25

No more towels as blankets

It's mini work time. I was actually zonked out for nearly an hour and a half because noone was scheduled to be here. I still don't understand why the building is open and all if noone is scheduled... anyways.

It would be nice to see the beautiful blond. She makes me feel happy inside. 🥰 But I doubt I'll ever see her again unless I track down where she normally is at this time to say hi. If I were younger I probably would, but if my guess is right there is too big of an age difference. 😊 I keep hoping my sweetie is out there somewhere and I just have to find her. 😊

Last night I took the towels off the bed. I'd been using them as blankets, but I have plenty of blankets. It's odd to think that I'd just kept using them out of habit from when I was sleeping in my car. You'd normally never think to use towels as blankets. It still feels like I may be putting them back in the car to sleep on any given day. What with putting the bed away each day and putting all my blankets away I still feel like I'm hiding, like instead of hiding that I'm sleeping in my car I'm hiding that I'm sleeping at C&H's. I know I'm indeed not living there, but still. It would be nice to feel like I belonged somewhere. While I do have a place to sleep for now my journey's end seems to still be nowhere in sight.

Day 664 - 4/26

Too much driving day

Today will be too much driving day. Instead of going straight to school after mini work I'll be going back to C&H's to check on the animals. That will double the number of miles for today. I suppose it will be ok, but still, yikes.

I got all my overdue school stuff done yesterday. It took until 7 at night though. I did have some time for fun after, so that was good.

Guess that's all for today. Bye peeps. 😊

Day 665 - 4/27

Vacation almost over

Today has been a pretty good day so far. It's late afternoon, not quite evening. I played some games, did some laundry, did some floor cleaning, did job searching, and did some homework. There are a few assignments I still need to do but I'll have to go to the library tomorrow to do them.

I still have more time in the day for show watching and more play, so yeeaaaa. 😊

C&H's vacation is almost over. They come back tomorrow night, so my quite private time is almost over. It was nice to have a normal life again. 😊 Maybe from now forward I can be a bit more balanced, despite still being displaced.

Day 666 - 4/28
Transitions of old

It's sleepy time, but I haven't written for today yet. I had a pretty good day. 😊
I've been feeling kinda bleh lately so I decided to pass on driving to school and doing school projects. I just rested. I don't really feel sick, but I've got a tiredness, ringing ears, and icky digestive system, so I just didn't feel like driving and doing school today. I'll do school projects tomorrow or Friday.

I checked jobs, checked boards, and since C&H were still out on vacation most of the day I also got to play some console gaming. 😊 They noticed the gifts a bit after they got here and were like 'whuuutt?' 😊 I was like, 'that's how I roll. 😊' They brought a cute bunny with them back from Vegas. He's tiny and cute. 😊 He's one of the littler types, so he won't get much bigger.

Today I also transitioned my site back to my desktop, well most of it. I'd not moved it back because I was just thinking of using my desktop for gaming, but I was getting tired of it taking so much longer on my netbook. I still have Epic Fail on the netbook though, so some files will go back and forth. But updates are so much easier and faster on the desktop. 😊

I played the beta of StarCraft 2 a lot today. I really doubt I'll play online come release though. I lost all but one game. It's not that I don't get the strats, I do, but for whatever reason people always build faster / better and I get beaten. I've no doubt I'd win like 85% of the time if structures were even and there was no resource gathering. I'm just no good at these kinds of competitive games. I'd actually forgotten that. I'm much better, and much prefer, cooperative games like WoW. I think I'll be looking forward to Diablo 3 way more than StarCraft 2. In fact, if StarCraft 2 is going to launch soon, like within about three months, I may just wait and buy it later. Since I have little to no interest in being continually beaten I may just put it on lower priority since there are other more important single player games I'm interested in.

My ankle seems to be getting worse. My poor ankle feels... bad(?) much of the time now. I had a thought though - it may not be caused by the accident at all. It could indeed be genetics. But not genetics in the sense of 'it has been slowly getting more and more off throughout my life', but that it is a ganglion. I had one in my wrist when I was like 10, and my mom had them often. I'd completely forgotten about that. I suppose since it is happening in a squishy cartilage part of my ankle – which is very similar to my wrist part where it happened before – that could be the case. That would potentially be very good news, as the 'cure' for early ganglions (at least back in the day) was to whang it with a book to break up the bits. Now don't worry, I won't go whanging on my ankle because of this theory, but it may give me the courage to call and find help. I'd previously been procrastinating a lot because I fear them telling me it's inoperable and will only get worse and worse in time.

Well, I guess that's it for today. I feel pretty good despite being almost completely out of money and my life being the disaster that it is. 🙄

Day 667 - 4/29

Altered plans

It's just past 5:30 at mini work. Someone needed me to cover for them and since I need the money I said I would. Although I had planned to relax and do nothing specific today, those plans got changed.

I'm so tired. Not a sleepy tired, but an emotional and physical tired. Maybe I do have a cold that I'm fighting off. I slept about 10 hours, but I still feel pretty exhausted and have had a headache most of the day.

I decided to do my library stuff tomorrow before it gets too late in the afternoon. Had I known I was coming here sooner I'd have done it today. I can still do most of one project, so that's ok. I'm sure the shift will pass quickly enough.

I guess that's really it for today. The day just seems like a big blur. I did board stuff, played a game or two, watched a show, and that was really it. I only had a few hours at the house before I had to come here.

It was strange; now that C&H are back I am automatically wearing headphones. They'd gone out to the store and it was a good 10 minutes before I thought to take my headphones off and use my regular speakers. How quickly I forget the things I can do when left alone in the house.

Day 668 - 4/30

Dumb school projects

Nothing special today I suppose. I slept quite a bit, likely due to the cold I'm fighting. I had to go to the library to get books for some dumb school projects that I need to do. It took up most of the time I had before mini work. Now I'm here and I didn't get to do much besides that. I suppose though I'll have plenty of time for playing and stuff this weekend though since I've got no work and did my dumb school projects now. 😊 I don't know if I'll see the not-sis tomorrow or not though due to feeling kinda icky. I guess we'll see.

Guess that's it for tonight. 😊

Day 669 - 5/1

Another fun Saturday

It's 'early' sleeping time for me. It's earlier than normal because C&H and their little one are out camping so I have had their place to myself for half the day and will likely have it until early evening tomorrow.

I did spend about ½ hour on school stuff, but the rest of the day I had fun playing games. I'd have liked to have played WoW, but my subscription ran out a few days ago. I don't have the spare money for it so that will have to wait until Thursday when I get paid again. Instead I spent a lot of time playing StarCraft 2, which again I mostly lost. I also started doing Wii Fit while C&H were out, so I did some of that again today. I will

probably do it again tomorrow when I get up. I'm not sure if I'll get to do the three or so times per week that I'd like. I don't want to do it with them around because I feel silly. 🤪

I guess things are finally starting to balance a bit. I'm getting into the habit of doing school stuff at certain times and I'm finally starting to get time to play my games regularly again and not feel rushed or hurried at times. Now I just have to get balanced with a job or more hours so that I can actually afford to get games regularly again, upgrade my system after years of being overdue, move to somewhere permanently, etc., etc.

Guess that's it for tonight. Night peeps. 😊

Day 670 - 5/2

Floating in my own space

It's bed time, not super late, not super early. C&H and the little one got home very early from their thing. They got back at about 10:30. The dogs had just woken me up moments before with some crashing and banging, so it seems I was to be up early regardless.

I had fun today. It wasn't what I planned what with everyone coming home early, but still fun. After everyone had gone to bed I had the lights off and no headphones on, so it was just me gaming at my computer in the dark. I was floating in my own space, a space of the me that was long ago. It was nice, and strange, to feel like I did now, nearly two years back at the ex-house. I'd love nothing more than the ability to truly move forward; to have my own place to stay permanent (or as long as I like), to be able to have the money to upgrade my system, to be able to play console games or watch TV whenever I want, but most of all to have a decent paying job that I at least somewhat enjoy so I don't have to worry about bills, new or old.

Tomorrow will be the first day I'm not so busy. I'll have about a 4 hour window between mini work and class during which I'll return books, check on maybe doing a project better, then getting caught up on class reading or shows. It seems so lame that I should have had that window every week this semester, but for the past four weeks I've had stuff to do. I've even had stuff on Wednesdays, when there should be no stuff.

Well, things at least seem to be continuing to settle into a routine, and because of recent extra shifts I'm able to have a little bit of fun money and save up for things like my eye exam.

I couldn't sleep last night. One of the cats was mewling for like an hour because her peeps were gone, then I just couldn't settle. It felt like, and still kind of does, that I'm gasping for air, as if I'm in an oxygen deprived area. I don't know if it's allergies or this cold. I've been sleeping quite a bit today. Well, hopefully I can sleep tonight. Night peeps.



Day 671 - 5/3

Nothing of interest

Nothing of interest to report today really. I spent 1.5 hours on stupid school project stuff again. At least that's ready for Friday and I don't really have to worry about it for the rest of the week.

I kind of flirted with a girl in class. 😊 She's way too young for her to be interested, but a silly opportunity came up to flirt and I can't pass that up. 😊

I didn't have any time at all to play today, which is super sad, so I'll play tomorrow and the rest of the week as much as I can. I should look for job stuff though and try to call to set up something for my ankle. Checking my bills I may not have much 'extra'. It looks like I can get a collected TV series, Dragon Age's expansion, and a charger for my Wii and that's it, nothing extra to put towards my eye exam, which will be super sad. Well, at least I can get those fun things and have a bit of fun for a change.

I didn't expect anything interesting to happen, but at least I'll get to sleep in. I've been doing super strong sneezing and sniffing all day; definitely have a cold.

Guess that's it for today. 😊

Day 672 - 5/4

Could be depression

I've been pretty good today, though there is a lingering sadness I can't place, and my sneezing cold continues. I think I may be depressed about, well everything. I looked for jobs and found nothing. In doing bills lately I won't have enough to do things I need, some will have to wait. My life still doesn't progress forward, the games I can play are still a very small number of the total I'd like to play, and my number and interaction with friends is still almost totally nonexistent.

I feel ok and all, save for my cold. But the things I can't seem to affect or change continue to make me sad all the time. I suppose that's nothing new, but again I wonder if it will ever change. I have hope, people believe in me, I believe in myself, but I wonder if I still believe in the world. When we are young the sky is the limit. We can do or be anyone. The world is open and welcoming. But as we grow up the world closes in on us. Our choices become more and more restricted, things become more and more unkind and unwelcoming. Perhaps this is what it is to grow up. And if it is, I still don't want to ever grow up.

Week 97

Day 673 - 5/5 More than expected

Nothing super interesting happened today. I played for a bit and tried to relax. I guess I had an assignment due, so that's late now. I was so focused on the one class's assignments that I missed the other.

Oh, Sony put out a Facebook game for the Agency. It's pretty fun and makes me anxious for the game. I've not heard any news on it in possibly years. There is so little information about it.

I did get a touch more from my paycheck than I originally estimated, so that's awesome. I may be able to hold on to some and have about 30% of the money for my eye exam and be able to celebrate and get some games. It's been about two months since I got Dragon Age, which was the last big game I got. World of Goo is awesome but I will probably finish it in less than 15 hours total and it has very little replayability. I can also get True Blood season 2 which is like yea. 😊

I guess that's all for tonight; no job news, missed a school assignment so that's late now, more pay than expected so that's a nice surprise, but that's it.

Night peeps. 😊

Day 674 - 5/6 On hold for nothing

Today was ok. I spent most of my paycheck already. 😞 I paid some overdue bills and got to spend some getting caught up on games. I do regret one purchase though. I got a Wii downloaded game for \$8 and I finished in about an hour. And the graphics were pretty bad, even for the Wii. I could have spent that \$8 on other casual games or a movie. Well, it was only \$8, which is two or three fast food meals of days past, so it's not a huge loss. But it's still disappointing that money could have been saved for things I knew I

probably would have liked more. I guess I just wanted to have a little casual fun and have it work out ok. It's so rare that I'm disappointed by something these days since I have to be so careful with my money. Hopefully the Conduit will not disappoint me. It's also a Wii game that I got for teh cheap at \$16. I also have Dragon Age's expansion and Mass Effect 2 on the way.

I was hoping to get back into WoW today, but it seems the fates don't want me there. I tried to log in to the account website to buy time and it told me my password was wrong. I tried again. And again. And after that it said that it locked my authenticator, which would prevent me from playing *any* Blizzard game if more were actually out. The crazy thing is that my password and authenticator are not wrong. I can still get in to the StarCraft 2 beta, which uses the same account and password, so I don't understand why the billing site says it's wrong. I apparently have to contact billing to get them to fix it. I called four different times trying to get through over the course of 5 hours. Only on the last try did I get through. I then spent the next hour and a half on hold waiting to talk to billing only to be told they were closed for the day. I have no idea how long this will take to get cleared, but it's frustrating as I've been looking forward to playing for a week and a half.

I still feel a bit sick. I'm still very tired a lot of the time, my tummy is icky, and I'm sleeping a lot. I'm going to try and get to sleep early and get extra rest and hope that helps.

I won't get to see the not-sis and her kids on weekends for a while. They are super busy I guess, so I'll only be able to stop by for a few hours during the week during the Monday window I should be doing school stuff.

Well, off I go to try and sleep. My tummy is all gurgly-blub, so hopefully it will be ok. 🙄

Day 675 - 5/7

Another day feeling icky and sad

Today was ok I guess. I didn't really do much. I was still feeling pretty sad and icky. My tummy has... not been happy with food. I'm not... digesting well. I'm still very

sleepy, despite sleeping about 10 hours a night. Yesterday and today I've had pretty bad headaches. And I'm still occasionally sneezing.

I guess I'm just depressed a lot lately. So much of my life still is out of my control and out of my ability to change or move forward. A professor put on a paper that I did that I seemed dedicated to school, but it's not so much that. It's that I'm dedicated to moving forward and getting my life back on track and school just seems the way to do that. But I still question if that's really helping. School is becoming boring and tiresome and I really hate doing these dumb projects. I no longer have fun in class. I no longer look forward to seeing people in class. I just want it over. I want to be in a happy, or at least somewhat happy job. But these steps seem meaningless. I've completed classes, I've passed tests, I've gotten certificates, yet they don't seem to help my ability to get a job. Worse still, there aren't any jobs to apply to, so no one even sees what I've accomplished. The number of postings is still appallingly low, and if I can find a few places to put out resumes to in a week that's a big deal now.

I still have hope. I still think long-term. But for now, particularly right now, things don't seem to be getting any better. Things are still sad. My life is still very limited. And while I can occasionally get a game or movie and get caught up on things in an effort to try and keep sane, overall I still feel that I'm still slipping further and further behind on life, barely able to afford the most critical of items.

Day 676 - 5/8

Sad for me

Today I was sad. It's good news for C&H, as C may be pregnant, but sad news for me as that means my 6-9 month timer may already be ticking away. She doesn't trust the home pregnancy test, so nothing is positive yet. I can hope that they wub me enough to not put me out if they are. After all, there is room in their garage for me to go out to sleep at night. There would be space for my computer in the living room still if they don't move the one in the office out, and with H having seizures I am a pretty good helper to have around for free. I don't do much, but with even things like taking out the trash being a potential time H could fall down, having another person around during a pregnancy and

shortly after could be more helpful than not. Just the other day H went in to put away a glass in the kitchen. When he came back he paused at the corner of the couch. Then I looked away and heard a fwump as he just fell over. No reason, just paused then fwump.



I was like 'uuhhh... whut?' and went outside to tell C that H fell down.

I guess a lot can change in 6 months, and I always remain hopeful, but so far my life has been very pooppy lately. No shining diamonds have yet been found in the rough, save for bits of wisdom found in these ramblings; and who knows how many will find those useful. I seem a misfit with a very rare and unsought skill set. While it is always possible someone will find me and I may yet shine and do ok, more and more I wonder if I am doomed to continue my cursed life forever.

I now feel sad I spent the \$100 on games instead of keeping it for savings. I had tons of fun with the Dragon Age expansion and Mass Effect 2 today, and expect to get a chance to play the Conduit soon. Of course I wonder if it really matters that I'm sad I spent it. It likely is better that I did. It gives me a little glimmer of fun and hope in an otherwise extremely dark time in my life. I'd still need over \$2,000 to move in somewhere with a minimal monthly income of \$1200 a month after taxes. Having zero saved and roughly \$400 a month income after taxes I'm nowhere even remotely close to being able to recover - with or without that \$100.

Well, I continue along Fate's path. I still have no idea if I'm going the right way, how long this journey will last, or if I'm simply doomed. I feel so much sadness in my life now, see so much around me, and fear that I see much more in store for me in the coming days.

Day 677 - 5/9

The rain returns

It's nearing 10:30 at mini work. I didn't get much sleep last night or this morning. I got maybe 5 or so hours last night. While I had just over one hour I could have napped here I was interrupted by someone coming in ½ hour early. I said they were super early and she said 'they usually come in and watch the older kids'. I was all 'um... noone comes in for another half an hour.' I have no idea what she was thinking or remembering. While

I've only been coming here a few months recently, noone has ever been here and playing before 10:30. Last year the guy did do a trial period for a few weeks with a morning group of older kids, but he quickly dropped it because noone ever showed up.

I'm super tired. I don't expect anything interesting to happen today. I'll likely just continue to be sad about my life, do a few school things while here, and try and have fun and forget my worries by playing games later.

It was raining again this morning. It poured for a bit but now it's cleared up again. I think it's supposed to keep storming for a bit. Normally that's a pretty happy change, but with my depression lately that just seems sad. I guess at least I'm not still in a leaky car with my stuff and me getting soaked. Yet still, I'm not in a permanent home and always worried that my life seems to not be getting any better.

When I was curled up for a nap I thought of times I had to seek sanctuary at my other work site. All the homeless feelings came back and it felt like I was back to being in my car and I was just hiding at work. I wonder how long it will be before I truly stop feeling homeless and displaced. I wonder if it will take years. I wonder if I can ever truly feel at home somewhere again.

Day 678 - 5/10

Tick tock

Today was sad, but I suppose happy too. C&H confirmed that C is pregnant. So it's like yea for baby. 😊 But at the same time, it's like what will happen to me? 😞 I've got 6 months at most before they would need the area I'm staying in. I suppose they may still offer me garage space to sleep and some inside space during the day, but I don't know.

I certainly don't want to hinder anyone's progress. People are moving forward with their lives, with family, with jobs, finding love, yet my life stands still.

I don't really know what to say for today. With the looming threat of being totally homeless and in my car again nothing else I did today seems important or worthy of talking about. My feelings of being scared for my future are again starting to return. Nearly two years now and I'm still in no better a position to be re-established. I'm still

earning only enough to barely squeak by. I still have found no new people to help me. And nothing I do seems to be genuinely improving my chances.

I suppose tomorrow is yet another new day, another new chance for everything to change. But will it? I still wonder if it ever will. I hope Fate shows me the way. But now, for now all I can do is try and sleep.

Day 679 - 5/11

Living for them

It's very late, past my bedtime. H went to bed very early for him at just past midnight. I would have gone to try and sleep then too, but after C&H go to bed is really the only time I have to be alone and have something resembling my own life. It's the only time I can have the lights off around me and just be me and my game. I can float in a space that is neither here, there, now, or before. It's the only time I can really feel like who I really am, at least the private time me.

I live my life for them. With my gaming and hardware stuff I live for you guys. My life is about doing research on what's good and trying to make good recommendations so you guys have a better time gaming. Yeah, there are some benefits to me in that I know what's the best hardware for me too, but mostly I live for others. It's the same in my jobs too. I've always been looking for jobs where I could help others; either sparing them some kind of pain, or just helping them along a bit. Maybe if I would have known about that much earlier in my life I could have done something about it. I tried to fit where I thought I had strong skills, but now after years of trying to find a job I really wonder if that mattered most. It seems when you are starting a career, starting a life in the job market, that what matters most is that you find a good fit for what you enjoy. Had I found that then I think the experience would have followed easily. I would have built up a resume and progressed along a path I was happy with. Money may not have been amazing, but it certainly would have flowed easier than it has. Now... now I wonder if I'm held back too much by my lack of a strong history. My past looks like a sampling of a half-dozen teenagers after a few years of being in a job. I have no real solid gains in any one field.

The fields I'm trying to get into won't take me because I'm obviously older, certainly not the recent college graduate they would otherwise normally consider.

I don't regret living my life for others. It helps me to feel helpful and like I'm contributing when I help, even if it's only a little. But I wonder, now that I've fallen so far and noone seems to really be helping me to get back up will I ever recover, will I ever be able to help myself, or is the old proverb of you live for others or you live for yourself true. Must I crush people along my path in order to help me? That's not the kind of guy I am, yet it seems there is no middle ground.

I guess I've always lived my life for others. I want to help people. I like helping people. I love working on my site and helping people better enjoy their lives. But looking at my life, seeing how much my site helps everyone but me these days, I wonder if I will ever be able to help myself. So far it doesn't look like I can.

Day 680 - 5/12
An odd night's not sleep

Last night and this morning was odd. I wasn't really tired so I didn't fall asleep until after 4 AM. For some reason I woke up at just past 10, so I got just over 6 hours of sleep. It seems very odd since lately I've been getting 9-10 hours.

My stupid Monday professor returned basically all the assignments I've done so far; nearly 20 pages of writing and I have to redo most of it. Seriously? It's just now half way through the semester and she's making me redo what is effectively *double* the amount of writing that I should do in the entire semester? I'm glad this is her last semester because she needs her head examined. She's got us doing way too much work and her standards are so high that most students are needing to redo work. I'm all for making students work to get a concept down, but that's not what she's doing. She's basically making people nitpick on unimportant details to fluff up the papers. She says stuff like 'I want more than a few sentences describing x.' Seriously? If a few sentences describe x concisely why should I and others make it say $x + y$ when x alone will suffice? I don't know, it's lame. I expect it will take all of my Friday and Sunday shifts to do that junk. I'm so tired of it.

Tomorrow should be fun though. I can sleep in if I'm not disturbed by sounds. I can play my games. I can look for jobs. I won't worry about school junk; I'm already overly stressed about that all the time from being overworked with projects in that one class.

I've got an odd life lately. I don't really have a place here at C&H's, yet it's the only place I can be. I have my games, yet I'm playing ones everyone else has already played because I'm so far behind. I can watch my shows, yet I'm still gimped by needing to watch them on a smaller screen with headphones. My poor ears are so tired of needing to wear headphones all the time.

I don't know. I feel happier than I have in recent days because I have more to be happy about, yet more depressed than I've ever been. I've been seen the bad times of my being homeless and now while I'm on the folding bed and still displaced I see those days

looming over me, threatening to return. It seems more and more control over my life is slipping through my fingers and there is nothing I can do about it.

Day 681 - 5/13

People wub me

It's late, much later than I originally thought. It seems the kitchen clock I've been using to gauge the time by was off by about 30-45 minutes. So when I checked at just before 1 and said, 'well, I'll just play a bit longer,' I should have actually gone to bed. It's now nearly 2:30 because the clock showed the wrong time.

I had a good enough day I suppose, though I think I've been sick. All day I was sneezing and eating almost non-stop. I probably ate 3-4 times as much as normal (though I drank only 10-20% more). I got up, took a shower, did 15 minutes of Wii Fit, checked boards, put out one job application, checked fun boards, and played my games.

A few people online asked if I was ok and all. 😊 I do still have a place to sleep, a place to cook and shower, so that's good. Though I'm still dreadfully short on money to do things I need to do and am nowhere close to moving anywhere permanent.

C&H cooked me a dinner too. 😊 For once in what seems like forever I didn't have to worry about cooking a real meal. (Other nights they do pizza, which I also don't have to worry about cooking, but that's different.)

I suppose not a terribly eventful day, and while incredibly fun it wasn't how I'd have spent it if I were alone. Nothing to really complain about I suppose. I'm happy talking on boards and playing my games. But still, I long for the days when I can also watch TV, or have quiet space to do school stuff, or to commit to longer online game activities and play without headphones, to have a sweetie and spend time with her, to have a child to spend time with... I love gaming. It's a big part of who I am. Same with reading about or talking on boards about (PC) hardware. But life has so much more waiting for me. It would be nice if I were in a position to sample more of what there is.

Day 682 - 5/14

Possible return to the street

My netbook power cable is on the fritz. A few times now it's caused the system to short and shut down. It's only charging when the cable is placed in one exact alignment, even a few degrees off and I get no charge or it surges. My system is now completely out of power. I'll probably have to order a new one. I guess all this time in my pack has caused the cable to crimp in a few places and that's likely what did it. If I order a new one I'll only use it at the house. I found the angle to charge, though it took several tries over the past hour and a half, so I'll let it charge for about half an hour then turn it back on and try and do a take home test. Either way, I backed up my critical stuff on a flash drive, so I can do school stuff on my desktop if the netbook can't get enough charge again. (It takes about 3+ hours while off to get fully charged.)

Nothing of interest happened today. I played my games and that was about it. Oh, there was this huge bee's nest on one of the doors at work. How they got there is beyond me because you'd think someone would notice before it got to the several feet around that it did. Someone came and killed them. I was sad for the bees. 😞 I found one inside later struggling to move around and I put him somewhere safe outside. He probably didn't live much longer though. 😞

Guess that's all for today. I put out some resumes this week, so that was good, but looking for jobs is still incredibly slow/barren and I still wonder if all this class stuff is helping at all.

Time passes

I got word from C that they want to change the room I'm in much much sooner than I'd anticipated. I'm not really sure why, but then I don't have kids. She says she wants to start converting it in about a month and a half. When I got the news I felt like crying and running away. 😞 She says they don't want to put me out, but since they will be making this a baby room that the most they could offer for sleeping is the couch, if others aren't staying over. She did not mention putting me in the garage to sleep, likely because it isn't something that occurs to regular people. She also didn't mention my computer stuff. She did mention my cloths could go to the garage, but said nothing about the

computer. It would make me super dreadfully sad if I lost my games again and had to go back to my netbook as my main system. It would be logical for her to keep her system in the room it's in, even with the nursery stuff, as she's running a business from home. (Well, hopes to.) There would be plenty of space in the room for her computer desk, another desk she uses, and a crib, changing table, dresser, and even a play pen in the middle of the room. I don't know though. She may see my computer here as just playing and a luxury since it doesn't take long to look for jobs and playing is mostly what I use my system for.

I feel like I'm losing me again. I knew it was temporary here but the thought of going back to just my netbook, having to put my computer back in storage, not really feeling welcome around the house because they are moving on with a family... it makes me so sad. 😞 Playing my games, watching my movies and shows, cooking foods, working on my site; these are the things that are most important to me, the things that let me express me. While it's true most would describe me as kind, emotional, compassionate, caring, generous when possible, and these traits will still define me, it is my stuff and being able to play with / use that makes me feel like me. My traits and qualities will always persist, they are expressed all the time, but when I'm alone in the night, when I'm trying to rest and find peace, it is my things around me being accessible that makes me feel like me. It's like a loving embrace that says, "Look around. You are here, and you have a place you belong." Being told I'll soon need to put my things away again... it feels like I'm losing myself all over again. And, like every other time over the past two years, I wonder if I will ever truly find a home and place to truly be me ever again. 😞

Day 683 - 5/15

A possible garage life

It's late, time for bed, but it's actually earlier than normal because I have to get up way too early to work in the morning. I basically finished my take home final, so all that's left are polishing touches, which should easily be done in the time I'll have at work. I also got the plug set up to get the netbook to full charge, so I won't have to worry about it running out while I do important stuff.

C replied and, as I thought, putting me in the garage is possible. She said they would even try and make an official space for me so I could set up my computer in there if I wanted. She said she felt it would be too cold as is and they want to line it with insulator, but I don't know how feasible that is. It certainly could be done, but when talking about a whole garage that sounds like something that would be prohibitively expensive. I guess we'll see soon enough. Changes will start happening in about a month and a half, and I can stay on the couch if I lose the office sleeping space in the meantime. I struggle these days with allergies. My body is sneezing a lot and constantly congested and holding extra weight from stress, so I'm not sure how well sleeping out on the couch will go. We'll see what happens as time progresses. With the changes though I may finally have a real chances at some kind of recovery. It certainly won't be great. It certainly won't be a lot of space. But space enough to sleep and have my system set up, in a place free from animals and where I have privacy... maybe that will finally allow myself to consider my homeless times as over. It would not be an ideal and true home in the traditional sense, but my fears and wandering could be at an end. Then the only question that will remain is, how long will it be before I can have true recovery and be back in a real home.

Day 684 - 5/16

Early workin'

It's super late to be going to bed, but I wanted to stay up for a bit to play my game. I didn't necessarily have a bad day. I did have to get up way too early to do a work shift and I couldn't sleep there due to interruptions. I probably only got about 5 hours of sleep and will get about 6.5 tonight if I'm lucky. After work I grabbed food I needed at the store then basically spent the rest of the day playing various games. I don't know why but I just felt like playing until late. I think it was because I have to stay up later than C&H to get quiet alone time. If they are up the TV or games are going and bla bla is happening in the background. Although I can put on headphones and sort of be in my own space, it isn't until they go to bed that I can be in a quiet / private space.

C said they were cleaning out the garage a bit today. I'd guess to make room for baby stuff and me. It will likely be a very long project.

I wish I didn't have to put them out like this. I wish I had a happy job with enough hours and enough pay. I wish I could be in my own place with my own choices and limitations. Though not a terrible life, what happens around me, what I can choose to be a part of, what I'm allowed to be a part of, is still very much not under my control.

Day 685 - 5/17

Gotta pee

I felt pretty good today, happyish even. It was a very long day though. I got up at about 9:40 to go to work, then had a few hours of show watching, then class. I only got to play for about ½ hour. Still, I feel happier and maybe more content(?) then I have in quite a while. I did fall asleep for just a few minutes at work and during a video in class.

I think I'm fighting off a cold though. I've been sneezing and a touch dizzy. Most oddly though I've felt like I need to pee, but don't actually need to. Also, I've felt pretty hungry and eaten more than usual. Half or more of the time I try and pee and didn't. It's like my body is giving me mixed signals. Another odd thing is that a few times when trying to sleep lately I've noticed myself gasping, as if I still have that extreme difficulty breathing at times. That may be extreme congestion or just odd resting habits. I'm not exactly sure yet. I'm hoping it's all just a cold, current stresses, and/or lack of sleep. I hope it isn't a deeper issue. It reminds me that I still haven't set up an appointment to check my ankle.

Well, not much new to say as nothing has really changed today. Really this body oddness is the only thing new. Maybe something interesting will come up tomorrow before the close of the fail week. Hope everyone out there is doing ok and are happy. 😊
Bye for now.

Day 686 - 5/18

Feeling sick

It's late. I kind of wanted to try and get to sleep early but I'm sick. I'm still struggling for breath / wheezing and I've been drinking a ton of liquids. My throat and lungs feel like they were burnt by a hot sandstorm then covered over by a thin layer of mud to cool it. I don't know if I can make it to class tomorrow. With raspy breath and constantly drinking and peeing that's not a good state for a student to be in. I had some pretty crazy dreams this morning, possibly fever dreams. Those are often an early sign of my being super sick. Hopefully I'll get over it quickly. Aside from my lungs and throat being torn up, a touch of dizziness, ears ringing a bit, not being able to smell or taste, I feel just about normal.

Nothing new to speak of other than that. I'll hop in bed and hope to get good sleep.

Night peeps. 😊

Day 687 - 5/19
It's all a blur

Today was a blur. I'm pretty sick so I don't really remember much of today in clear detail. I got up a bit late due to not sleeping well last night and being sick. I did some stuff with Epic Fail, a school assignment, checked for jobs, played games, and even got to catch Wheel of Fortune when cooking/eating because C&H were out. It was actually a fairly productive day, but a day that is little more than a blur now.

Nothing really changed today. I'm still sick, put out a couple of resumes, and stayed home from school, but that was it. I have another dumb assignment that I need to spend several hours doing tomorrow, a day I'd otherwise have off to myself to play.

Well, guess I'll try and sleep and continue to hope things get better and that soon I can do the things I truly enjoy in all aspects of my life. 😊

Day 688 - 5/20
Still sick

It's sleepy time. 😊 I was still sick today. I had a pretty hard time getting to sleep last night. I was having bad dreams and panic breathing when trying to get to sleep. Through probably $\frac{3}{4}$ of the night the bad dreams continued. I have icky eyes today so I wonder if I was crying or near crying in my sleep because of them. By the time I got up it was early afternoon and I only had a few hours before I had to go spend a few hours working on a class assignment. By the time I got back it was early evening. I played for a bit and now it's time for bed.

Hopefully I can sleep tonight. I've had a lot of difficulty lately due to sadness, worry, and now my cold. Night peeps. 😊

Day 689 - 5/21

Eyes and throat

The cold is in my eyes and throat now. My eyes are sore from being goopy and running and my throat is sore and my voice hoarse. I'm not sure why. I really haven't been talking lately.

I wanted something different for dinner tonight but couldn't decide what. I didn't have a lot of time to decide, nor a fridge to put extra food in.

I had to visit someone's place for the school assignment I did the other day. It was a super nice one bedroom apartment, very similar to what I'd want both in terms of the building/apartment design, and the furniture they had set up inside. I'm always aware of my being displaced, not in control of my life or my environment, not able to stand on my own and have such a place to stay it makes me sad. I still have no idea if, when, or how I will recover. Jobs are either part-time that aren't much of a step forward, or ones I'm not qualified for that are "entry level" but require 2, 3, 5 years of experience, or things like "masters preferred". Everyone around me seems to be young and "on track" towards an ok life. Almost daily I'm starting to feel more and more lost and more and more behind.

Day 690 - 5/22

Cold in my poor ears

Time to try and sleep. 😊 I had a pretty good day I suppose. Being Saturday I just tried to get some sleep to fight the cold and had fun with my games. C&H did a bit of work to get the garage space ready for me. I guess they are getting a lot of materials to insulate it free because someone they know recently did a similar project and have a bunch left over.

The cold is in my ears now. My poor ears have been plugged for days and now they are ringing and hurting badly. 😞 I hope I'm better and back to normal soon. This moving cold is icky. I still don't *feel* particularly horrible, but I'm exhausted all the time, my ears are ringing now, and my throat and lungs are still icky. I'm still coughing and my voice sounds terrible. Hopefully I can get good sleep and feel a bit better tomorrow. Last night and this morning I had pretty bad dreams, not nightmares but ones I was fighting to change as I was having them. Some parts were ok though. I could sort of fly and people thought I was cool, but in other parts they didn't like me and were ignoring me and treating me bad.

My netbook plug still isn't giving the netbook any power. I still haven't found the right angle to get it to work. I already ordered a new plug, but it won't get here until Tuesday. At least it only cost \$9. I guess that's something good.

Guess that's all for today. I wish a lot of aspects of today could have gone differently, but I did have my games, had some fun with C&H, and all things considered I guess things are pretty good for what my life is these days. Night peeps. 😊

Day 691 - 5/23

Pondering shifts

It's past when I should be trying to sleep. I'm still sick, so lots of coughing and sniffing today. My poor ears are still ringing, but nowhere near as bad as they have been. I'm getting some of my smell back, which is both good and bad. I'm smelling dog, cat, bird, dog food, kitty litter, and that's about it. They are overwhelming all other smells. I've been wheezing and having a hard time breathing too. I don't know if that's general allergies or because I can smell the animals more. Seems silly to think that since smell couldn't be related to allergy; I'm breathing the same amount either way.

I got an extra gym shift on Thursday, which is very worth it. I'm questioning if the pool shifts will be worth it during the summer though. The morning one is changing to a time so I'd have to leave more than two hours sooner than I currently do, putting my

travel right smack into the thick of "rush hour." The other option is a shift that ends before class, where again I'd be right smack in the thick of commute hour at night, meaning I would not only fight traffic on the road but have to fight it in the parking lot at school. On nights I don't have school the commute to C&H's would be about 4-5 times as long as they otherwise would.

Well, bed for now. More pondering as the time goes on. Who knows, maybe I'll get a reply to one of the resumes I've sent recently or win lottery money and all this worrying will become a moot point. 😊

Day 692 - 5/24

Not shift

It's about my average sleeping time. I'd hoped to get to bed early, but my body started waking up and feeling a touch better so I stayed up. I only got about 4 hours of sleep due to getting up for work and being unable to sleep until about 5 this morning. I was feeling bad at work still so I decided to pass on going to class tonight. I just dropped off the due papers and came back to C&H's. It also seems the project I thought I missed last Wednesday was postponed, so I didn't actually miss it. I am, however, going to have to really cram stuff to get the other assignments done.

It seems all my thoughts and stress over the pool hours were for nothing. The changed hours on Monday are just for Monday. Once the summer schedule actually starts – not until late June – it will basically only be about ½ hour off of normal with the possibility of working another shift until 4 PM. The boss' email implied that the crazy Monday time was the new schedule, when it was, in fact, just a special thing for the Holiday. And, I didn't have to do the Wednesday training, so that's good. Also, I took on extra gym shifts on Thursday nights for June, so that will help generate money for things like my contact exam that I still need to do.

Well, time to take my sick self to bed. Tomorrow I've got job checking to do, a bit of dumb school stuff to do, and lots of resting and playing in order to try and get better and be happy. Night peeps. 😊

Day 693 - 5/25

Done waiting for some fun

It's later in the evening, but not super late. I wanted to post this, so I'm getting it ready for posting and such before it's too late in my evening. Nothing really new today. I'm still sick, but feeling mostly better. I still had bad dreams and gasping when sleeping last night. Today I'm still congested, icky throat, icky lungs, and my ears are popping and ringing a lot. I worked for a bit on a dumb school project I needed to do, so that's good. I played my games for a bit and had some fun. Today my netbook plug came, so I can recharge my netbook without issues again. I also got Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog and True Blood season 2. Woot. I have to be careful what I catch up on these days. My wish list is pretty long, but I can only afford to get caught up on my fun every now and then. It's something to make me smile, little reminders of who I am and what I enjoy, and validation that things I enjoy are enjoyable by others.

Not much in my life is moving forward these days, but I suppose nothing is really falling further behind. Things that deteriorate are, my teeth, my cloths, my computer is getting further and further behind all the time, so there are things which are in greater and greater need as time goes on, but hopefully they are things that will remain ok until I have enough income to be back on track again. I'm not great, but I suppose I'm ok for yet another week.

Week 100

Day 694 - 5/25

Pretty ok

It's late but not too bad for me. I'm not sure what to say for today really. I went to bed super late last night, so that and the cold had me sleeping until about 1:30 today. 🥱 I only had a few hours until I had to hurry off to school. I did find out that one assignment I thought I needed to do I didn't actually have to do. I already did it because it's on the class green sheet twice for some reason, appearing like two different projects. I also found out that I got a like 91% on my mid-term so that was woot.

I did get notice that the gym work will be closed for a week in like three weeks, so I basically get a week off for that. So instead of like eight shifts there in June I'll only get six, only like +2 to my normal schedule, cutting the extra I thought I'd be getting by half. Still, more is more.

I guess I'm feeling pretty ok today. I'm still pretty behind on school projects, still not seeing many jobs to apply for, still struggling for physical and emotional balance in my life, still fighting a cold; but I feel reasonably ok.

Day 695 - 5/26

Boreor

It's during mini work. Today wasn't too bad. I slept a lot again because I'm still sick. I got to bed earlier than I have been, but again I couldn't fall asleep until after about 4. I got up at just after 12:30. I wound up just spending my time (before work) playing. I'll have to look for jobs tomorrow in the morning.

I got one of the most boring movies ever. I didn't know it would be so boring. It was supposed to be horror, but $\frac{3}{4}$ of it was just three college kids talking about plans to kill someone. The whole movie was bla bla bla, like a low-budget independent movie kind of slow. It almost killed *me* from boredom. I think it must be part of that new sub-genre of horror called boreor.

Guess that's it for today. Doubt anything interesting will happen tomorrow, but one can always hope. 😊

Day 696 - 5/28

No surprises

Not sure what to say today. Nothing really special again. Looked for jobs, didn't find any. Played for a bit. Now I'm at mini work. I did think last night that I shouldn't actually have to worry about rush hour traffic on Monday because it's one of those holidays that everyone has off. There likely won't be anyone on the road.

Having a party for the little one at C&H's tomorrow. That should be fun. 😊 Hopefully it will be warm enough. Lately it's been pretty cold even though it's supposed to be spring.

Not sure what to say today. Thoughts have been running through my head, but they are ones I've said before. I'm so sleepy too. Hopefully I can start sleeping regular again soon. It's probably a combination of my cold and stress that's keeping me up and preventing me from sleeping regularly. I guess all in all it's been an ok day today. 😊

Day 697 - 5/29

Sooooo burnt

I'm so burnt. 😊 It was the little one's birthday here at C&H's, so I spent about 6 hours out in the sun, much of that in direct sunlight. I haven't done that in I don't know how long, so the sun did horrible things to me. My tummy system was completely messed up. My skin is super burnt. I expect I will be peeling soon. Thank the gods I'm not blistered. We got up around 9:30 and were setting up until about noon. C&H were very grumpy about people coming into their park space, but they did spend like \$300 to rent it, so I guess that makes sense. Still, I think they could have easily ignored the transgressions since it was a public park until they were at least done setting up, if not until guests were

there. Anyways... People showed up a few hours later. They were mostly family, but the regular party peeps that come by pretty much came by. After the party one was going to be dropped at the bus place to spend 2+ hours to go back home. I'm like, 'pfff, forget that. You live by where I work. I can just drive you there in like 20-30 minutes.' I couldn't let him suffer through a second 2+ hour set of bus rides when I could just spend less than 1 hour of my time cutting his trip to about 20% of what it would have been. That's just how I roll. If I can be generous and prevent suffering I do.

I was completely exhausted from the day when I got back to C&H's. I played my games to relax, ate dinner, and watched a show online. Now I'm totally ready for sleep, though it's over an hour later than I would have liked because I had wet laundry to wait for.

I'm looking forward to resting tomorrow - if I can. I'm not looking forward to dumb school stuff. I'll likely have to spend several hours doing school projects that have been pushed to now because of so many that I had to do in the stupid Monday class. Hopefully I'll be ok and able to progress and move forward. I'm so very tired of not moving forward or being impeded by various things. Well, off to try and sleep. 😊

Day 698 - 5/30

Second degree

So, I'm much more burnt on my forehead and top of my head than I originally thought. Last night and all day today it has been oozing ick. 😞 It's all sick from being burnt too much; second degree burns I think. 😞

It's an hour later than I was starting to go to bed, and about two hours later than I was hoping to get into bed. At first I was just playing my game, then just as I was going to leave for bed I got word that the Nvidia GTX 465 is out, so I spent the next 45 minutes checking that out and updating my site. Well, all my work, speculation and predictions are still just for the benefit of others. I'm still nowhere near being able to upgrade my system or build a new one (which is what I really need to do). 😞

Well, off to bed for me. 😊 Night peeps.

Day 699 - 5/31

So exhausted

I'm so exhaustedly tired. My body is tired from fighting the cold and sunburn. My mind is tired from having to constantly look for and worry about new jobs and school junk. And my spirit is tired of not having a life free to live as I'd like.

I'm sort of looking forward to my time in the garage. I'll very much enjoy the privacy - something I've not truly had for nearly two years now - yet I'll miss having C&H around me all the time. I'll miss always being able to interact with the people or animals. Oh sure, they will only be like 20 feet away and I'll likely still go in the house 3-5 times a day, but it won't be the same thing.

The not-sis is also moving to somewhere about two hours drive away. I'll have to collect my things from her when I can. I haven't seen her in a while. It's good timing since I wanted to move my stuff into the garage life with me.

I got to put out two resumes today, so that's something at least. I am very grateful that I can sleep in most of the week. I really don't know how well I'd handle a job that I have to get up early for on a regular basis. I don't think I've had a get up early all the time job in like 15 years. I've never really been the kind of guy to fit right in at such a place. I really wish I could just work on my site. If I had enough money to never need to worry about money I really do think I'd just stop working (and going to school) and put all of my time and effort into testing out, discussing, and reviewing gaming hardware.

Probably really nothing much interesting to say today. I should just try and sleep before I get all ramblly about nothing. Night peeps. 😊

Day 700 - 6/1

A calm moment

It's a calm moment in the later afternoon. I'm alone in C&H's place, as they went out to an appointment. The day is warm, but a bit breezy now. All is quiet around me; even the animals are mostly being quiet and calm. There is still nothing really new in my life, and lately that's a good thing. My sunburn on my arms is fading pretty rapidly. My

forehead stopped doing the icky oozing and is now just super dry, tight, and flaking. My body bits should be over the sunburn within a few more days, maybe a week I think.

The end of another week of Fail and my life still remains in limbo. I can continue to enjoy my games and movies for the moment, still have access to cooking and eating like a normal person, but my job searching is still finding almost no results at all, and school work is being overly difficult, time consuming, and frustrating.

Lately I've wondered if my life has really ever progressed. I still think and feel the same as I remember when I was 5. Oh sure, the thoughts are more complex, activities more refined, but even as young as 5 I remember being caring towards others, playing video games, and there is even a note in a baby book from my mom as young as 3 that I was watching science fiction shows. Nothing has really changed. I still like the same kinds of girls, still play video games, still have the same core personality type and interests. Am I really progressing? Am I really changing? Have I ever? Or is my life just a cycle of minor improvements and responses and reaction to what's going on in the environment around me?

Lately I think about my lack of progress and "moving forward" as so many say. I get reinforcement from teachers and others who say they have redirected their lives several times before and they have confidence that I'll be ok too. But I wonder. If I've never really advanced, never really moved forward, if I have just been doing my same actions and reactions my entire life, what then? How then do I spin myself back into a good position if forward may not be forward?

Time passes

I'm so sad now. It's early evening and there was some terrible news. C&H went to give the landlord person his check today and apparently he's found out that I've been here a while and he was grumpy about it. I guess their lease officially says they are only supposed to have two adults, and "guests" can only stay for a maximum of two weeks during the year. It sounds like a really dumb rule, but I guess it's what it is. They said I shouldn't worry about it for a few weeks, and a few weeks is a few weeks, but still. The thought of packing up what little I have here, putting my computer back in storage, putting my movies back in storage, being on the streets again... is terribly depressing. I suppose it would be ok to stay at the not-sis' most nights and be in my car, but the thought of going back to sleeping in my car and only having a few bags of stuff with me again... it

makes me feel like crying. Not just because my life is so sad, but because it seems so few want to help or are willing to. If I had the income I could consider staying here, it would just be an increase in rent, or I could look into an old friend's place who recently said he needed a new roomie. But since I don't have the income, since I am barely working at all... it looks like I may be back on the street again very soon. 😞

Week 101

Day 701 - 6/2 **Slipping**

My life feels like it's slipping away. Although I've only been on C&H's couch two or three months now, my life was starting to feel somewhat normal, somewhat hopeful. I had a bed to stay in. I had access to my movies and could buy new ones. I had access to my system and could play games again; got caught up on a few. I could cook or shower whenever I wanted. Today it feels like it's slipping away. I'm overwhelmed by sadness at the thought of living in my car again. I picked up a storage tub from my ex-garage to put my movies away. Next week I'll put my computer and cloths bins away. Very soon I'll be back to living out of my car. Very soon I'll be overwhelmed by sadness, sleeping in my car, and facing countless hours of boredom and waiting.

The worst part of it all is this isn't a kind of sadness or depression I can stop. It's out of my control. I can shoo it away to the back of my mind with access to my games, movies, and life, but without... without I'll go back to being sad and depressed all the time with no end in sight.

A few days ago I had hope. I had a feeling of a (somewhat) normal life. Now I wonder if it will ever end. Now I am sad thinking back and remembering the sad times – times that seem to be returning, times I have no control over.

Time passes

It's late, a bit past my later bed time. I wanted to stay up to play. I don't know when I'll get another chance to play again once I'm back to car life.

On campus I felt homeless again, like I was there to kill time, like I had nowhere else to be. I rapidly became lonely and sad. I was almost crying a bit after class as I went to a couple of stores that I used to go to when I was near that hub. I felt like, 'Well, it's only 9. I've got 2-3 hours to kill, then 5-6 hours of hiding from police.' I don't want to go back to that life. It's too sad, too lonely, noone deserves that. But it seems I may have no choice. I asked C&H about staying another month if I could get the money and it seems that's not an option. Even if we did give the money to the landlord he would want to totally redo their lease, do a credit check on me, etc., so it would be this whole

permanentish thing. That wouldn't work. I don't know if I'll have an additional \$100 after this month each month, let alone another \$400. I have extra and could do it this month, but beyond is doubtful without something changing.

It seems my life is still in Fate's hands and I have little control over anything. All I can do is let the tide take me where it will and hope for the best. 😞

Day 702 - 6/3

So hot

It's so hot today. I was even hot in bed before I got up. I was roasting in my car. That thing is an oven.

I've been so very sad lately putting away my stuff and getting ready to be homeless again. C&H made a post about it trying to find me a place, but since even \$100-200 a month is difficult for me to afford right now I've no idea how likely it is they can help me find shelter. Still, the one thing my sad times has taught me is there is far more to having, and feeling, at home than just having a roof over your head. It's entirely possible they may find someone willing to help me who will be a new friend 😊, or possibly even a sweetie 🥰, but there is a far greater chance there will be no help, or if there is, it will be a couch with an uncomfortableableness between me and the people due to not knowing each other.

Still, I go where Fate takes me these days. I have little control or say in what happens to me. I know what I want. I know what and who I like. But will I ever have these things freely again? I hope so, but it has been an enormously long time so far and my journey seems far from over.

Day 703 - 6/4

Peeling

My left arm is peeling. Not scaly, bad, or super damaged like my forehead, but a soft gentle, very subtle peeling. Just the finest layer of dry skin is coming off. The new skin under is so very soft. Of course, I'm pretty soft all over, I'm like that. 😊 We are all so soft and fragile though after we've been hurt. We need time to heal, and when we do we must be extra careful. We are no different inside than out.

Day 704 - 6/5

Trying not to be sad

I tried to have fun and not be sad today. It's very difficult because no matter what I do thoughts of my homeless days have been flooding my mind. While it seems like ages since I was truly homeless I think it has really only been a few months that I've been at C&H's. That's a good sign, as what of my life could return came back pretty quickly. I don't feel so homeless as I once did. But, at the same time, I still feel as homeless and sad as ever. In the space of a heartbeat I can feel like I'm on the street again. Things seem mostly locally triggered, so here at C&H's the memories and feelings are rare, but they are still there. And there are still times I am overwhelmed by sadness at the homeless days yet to come.

I've had a lot of trouble sleeping lately. It seems no matter what I try I can't fall asleep until 5 AM or later. I've purposely stayed up late. I think it's between 1:30 and 2 now. I hope I'll sleep soon, but I guess I have little control over that.

I suppose the good news is that I'll be doing a few days of training at mini work, as well as getting some extra Sunday shifts, and possibly some extra hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays during the summer months. It's possible that by the end of August I could have several hundred in savings. I was very tempted to see about the \$450 a month room for rent that the friend of C&H has, but the extra hours (at work) will only last through the summer. While two months of being in a place would be awesome, with no guarantee of having the income to stay after that time is up I think it could do more

damage than good to take it. I would very much like to take the room, but the risk of cutting my money too close, the fact that I could then empty and thereby lose my storage space at the ex-house, these are some very large negatives which likely outweigh the positives.

Well, I am still putting out a few resumes here and there so you never know. I still have a week here as far as I know, possibly a day or two more. I just have to keep hanging on and see what develops. I am still hopeful and positive about things, but it is impossibly challenging at times against the overwhelming sadness.

Day 705 - 6/6

Trying not to think about it

It's a later sleeping time for me, but somewhat early for here at C&H's. I figured I'd stay up for a bit for several reasons.

I'd guess it was a pretty good day today. I got to sleep until nearly noon, but still didn't fall asleep until around 3. I went and saw a movie with C&H and the little one. After I got back I decided to pass on doing a school project - it's not due for about 2.5 weeks - and just had fun for the rest of the night.

I did do some research on laptops and notebooks too. It looks like there is a new version of my netbook that can play games a lot better. Its rating for games is 10x more powerful than mine. Now, it should still be noted that even at that rating it's still only about 50% of the minimum you want in a mobile system for gaming, but it's a possible upgrade option in the future. It's around \$500, and I can probably sell my current one for about \$250, so that would cut the cost in half. A full desktop rebuild would be about \$900, which is a far better investment, so I don't know. I may just hold on and continue to suffer to save the money for the desktop upgrade. I guess I'll see what happens and what opportunities make the most sense as they happen. I won't have the money to consider anything until closer to the end of summer, and who knows what will happen to me between now and then.

I'm still trying not to think about being homeless and in my car again, but my mind can't help but wander to there. I think about parking timetables, where items will go

in the car, what has to go back to storage, etc. I can't stop worrying. I guess, as before, I will get through as best as I can. Not because I want or choose to, but because I have to. I have no other choice.

Day 706 - 6/7

No house cloths

It struck me as odd today that when I do finally get back into a new house none of my old house cloths will have really survived. My main sweats are torn up now at the bottoms, the two remaining shirts have massive holes in several places. While holy cloths may be fine for inside, outside they would be a dead giveaway in my car. Noone wears ripped up and holy house cloths around here outside of their home. It will be odd to be moving in somewhere with so much in my life being different and changed. I guess that most of my cloths being different isn't really that big of a physical change, but tonight it struck me that way.

I had a pretty ok time at the pool mini work. I saw and chatted with some people I haven't seen since last summer.

My Monday class is still nuts. A huge section of papers I turned in came back *again*. This will be the third or fourth re-write for some. I was thinking about it earlier and this *associates* level class has made me do *more* writing work than basically any of my *master* level classes. It has seriously been like 30+ pages of writing, not counting re-writes, for something like 24 assignments (and like four more major projects like take home tests) for this 12 week associates class. This is just an insane amount of work. That is like being in a MMOG and telling a brand new level 1 player that they are expected to do a 4 hour high geared raid as part of getting to level 2. It just doesn't make sense. Well, I have a couple of weeks to finish still, but good god this has been an insane amount of work for this class. It's ridiculous.

I have tomorrow off, which I'll spend trying to relax and look for new/additional jobs. I'm still overwhelmingly sad about the forced move and pending homelessness, but there really isn't anything I can do about it. 😞 I just have to keep trying what I've been trying and hope something changes for the better.

Night peeps. 😊

Day 707 - 6/8

"Today is a gift, that's why it's called the present"

I'm having an ok day today, if we just look at today. I got to sleep somewhat earlier than normal, probably somewhere around 2:30 or 3, and I slept super late until about 1:30. I guess my body is finally getting caught up on some of the sleep it's been missing. It's earlier evening now, so not too much time has passed since I got up. I checked boards, and put out two resumes for part-time things. They wouldn't be steps into a career, but they would be more hours, which might be enough to secure me a place like the low-rent room that the friend of C&H has. I'm still very worried about the coming days, but I'm trying to just focus on today, while I still have a place to stay. I guess the near future won't be quite as bad as predicted, as the not-sis isn't leaving her current place until mid July. That means once I have to leave C&H's I would at least have a safe haven to park and sleep in my car without worry about police or neighbors. It won't be comfortable, my life will still be squozen into a few bags in my car, I won't have access to any games that can't be played on my netbook, but it won't be a full step to homeless car life. I'll at least have a protected place to sleep and be able to be inside a house when I'm not at work or school. I don't know if I'll be able to secure additional income to get into a real place before that time is up, but at least I can stop worrying about being completely on the street.

Not much else to say for today really. I'm still worried about my future all the time and still have no control over anything. More than anything my life is still about trying what I can try and waiting for change to happen.

Week 102

Day 708 - 6/9 Visitation with my PC

It's pretty late and I'm super tired. I knew I wouldn't have slept earlier so I stayed up to play. In a bit of good news today C&H said I could visit weekly after I've gone - staying over to sleep was not stated but implied. At least that means I could also do free laundry (which was like \$5-6) and have a super nice shower. Also, C said they decided to keep her office desk in the office, and I could set up my computer to share the monitor.

😁 So, while not a lot of time, I'd have access to my desktop maybe 4-6 hours a week. I could still get some real desktop gameplay time now and then, and that reduces my need/desire to upgrade my netbook, meaning upgrade money could instead go to desktop upgrades. Granted, with my situation putting it into savings will get priority what with only having access a few hours a week and still being ok in most games with my current hardware. Had I not gotten such a ridiculously overpowered graphics card it would be far too weak now to play newer games, but it's actually doing ok. I'm noticing far greater slowness from CPU intense things, like level loading.

Anyways... rambling... but it seems I'll have an actual bed once a week, at least a good couch, access to my desktop for 4-6 hours, free laundry, and on all other nights a safe haven to park until mid July at least. Plus, while at the not-sis' parking space I also will be able to hang with her and her little ones while I'm there. Though next week I'll be super busy with the dumb work training. At least by my estimate I should get more than triple my normal paycheck in about three weeks due to the training and other extra hours. Only \$100-200 will likely survive past my eye exam and paying C&H back the rest that I owe them for the car, but at least I'll finally have a real start at some kind of savings.

Oh, and I again put out a couple of part-time resumes today, so you never know. I may yet secure those permanent 10+ extra hours a week to rent that room soon enough. It seems I've had a bit of good luck on resumes lately, though I've gotten no interviews yet.

Sleepy time for me. 😊

Day 709 - 6/10

Moving

It's super late, around 3. I stayed up late because I went with C&H to see the midnight showing of A-Team. 😊 It's one of those shows that basically helped form my personality while growing up. 😊

Today I moved my system into C&H's office. It's at a desk and the speakers are all set up proper. Being in a back room I shouldn't have to worry about wearing headphones (unless I play while others are sleeping) 😊.

It's odd having tonight off, more so tomorrow. I checked for jobs earlier but found nothing. I feel pretty good though, as if a positive change is coming soon. I don't know if it really is or if that is just relief at my classes nearly being over. I've had this feeling before in recent times and nothing has changed.

Well, only time will tell. Off to sleep for me. Night peeps. 😊

Day 710 - 6/11

Musical shifts

It's later than I should be going to bed, but I had a pretty good day I guess. I slept in until kinda late, went to get some food, took a shower, played some games, watched a show or two with C&H, checked boards and I think even checked for jobs.

My boss seems to be playing musical shifts with me. She's now asking if I can do a 2 hour shift Tuesday and Thursday during the summer. I guess extra is extra, though it's kind of a pain in the butt being only 2 hours. Still, it's just for a few months, so that will help to build up money during the summer. Still no word on the 3-6 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday thing she asked about, which seems odd. With my going back to being in my car from mid July on I figure more shifts is probably better. Sleeping at school is ok and all, never been an issue so far, but with my new car being more exposed, and with school shutting down in mid August for a few weeks, a reduced presence there is likely better;

particularly if I get paid for my time. I can sleep at the not-sis' for a bit, maybe half the summer, so I won't be all that exposed/vulnerable at night, but still.

I guess that's it for today. I should really try and do some school stuff tomorrow. I do still have about two weeks to finish things up, but still.

Nothing really different today. Sad about getting ready to go back to car/street life, still ignoring school stuff because it's so frustrating, still no job news, still trying to find a job. Odd being off today since it's a Friday. I think it's been since New Years that I had a Friday off.

Well, can't think of anything else to say, particularly anything important. Night peeps. 😊

Day 711 - 6/12

Getting to bed late

It's much later than I should be getting to sleep. I couldn't sleep until 5 last night. It was super hot today, so I haven't been super tired despite needing to be at work early tomorrow. Plus too I think my body didn't want to sleep because there are only two nights left here. After that six out of seven nights I'll be in my car. Granted I'll have the safety of the not-sis' property to sleep on for about a month, but still a car is a far cry from a couch or fold-out bed to stay on. Though unrestricted access to a nice bathroom, place to cook, place indoors to store food and a few items seem like things you can manage without, "camping" very rapidly hurts your soul once you are no longer really camping. Camping itself implies you have a place to stay which is not the campground. Being homeless may seem similar at first, but it really isn't. Even though camping may have a lot of the same limitations, there isn't the fear and worry in the night. There may be some fear of the animals, but it isn't the same.

Anyways... rambling because there really isn't much to say. I tried to do schoolwork but the sadness of moving back to the street is really preventing all normal function of my brain. The tired and confused haze is returning and more than anything my body is reacting, doing little more than going through a list of chores one item and one day at a time.

Day 712 - 6/13

A sad morning

Today is a sad morning for several reasons. I again couldn't sleep until after 5 this morning. By the time I fell asleep the birds outside had woken up and were making noise. I got about 2.5 hours of sleep before needing to come to mini work. Now it seems I can't take my usual nap, as the morning slot which has always been empty is now taken. Most of all I'm sad because today is the last night I can sleep at C&H's regularly. After tonight I'll only be able to be there maybe once a week and on special occasions to watch their place when they are out. It's far more than I had last year or even just about three months ago, but still. Moving back to being in my car again is terribly sad. While it is finally getting warm enough to have no real concerns about the weather, in the very near future I'll be looking at nights filled with fear, days of boredom and constant chatter and busyness around me, and evenings wondering how to get a decent meal that will at least somewhat agree with me without paying more than \$5. I suppose once school closes down I could use the micro at one of my work locations. Though odd I suppose that could be a resource I never really considered using before.

Being 9 in the morning there isn't anything else to say yet. I've got about 5.5 hours left here to fight with my Monday class rewrites and such, so I suppose that's a good thing that I do have that time. Still... I'm so sick of these pain the butt assignments and so little change in my life. My life would be so much nicer if the beautiful blond came by to say hi and flirt 😍, and tomorrow I got an interview for something between 25-35 hours a week at decent pay. I will always hope such nice things will happen to me 😊, but the reality is that I'm in this sad position in life because I'm not the kind of guy those things happen to. 😞

Time passes

It's later than I'd have liked to have gone to bed, but still very early yet. I think it's only about 12:30. Everyone is sad and worried about me, though there has been no talking about it or formal chatting. In a way I'll be glad to be moving on, as I'll know I'm no longer disrupting C&H's lives. But I know too that they wub me, want me safe, and like having me here.

It was very warm today. It kept feeling like it was early or mid week already. I was going to look for jobs and had a desire to watch game shows during dinner, but both can only be done on weekdays. Well, I *could* have looked for jobs; it just wouldn't have been worth my time since there would be no posts since I last checked.

My life basically got transferred back over to the netbook. I copied some stuff to the desktop then ran a backup onto CD. I'm actually almost at the point where I need a DVD to backup all of my info. All of these pictures for Epic Fail are taking up a great deal of space.

I'm still very confused about where Fate wants me. I no longer feel right on campus and taking classes (at least not these classes), yet it's where I have to be. While I don't feel really wrong at work, it isn't anywhere near enough regular hours, and with no benefits it is certainly not something to consider as a long-term position. My achievements seem to not be progressing me forward. My gains with shelter from the not-sis and C&H have been great and helped me to feel normalish again, but they seem to also be leading me no closer towards a goal, as I thought they might have.

My mind keeps wandering; no longer forward but backwards. Back to homeless times at school. Back to homeless summer nights. Back to early evenings when school was closed and I had nowhere to go. I have no choice. I must go where Fate wills me. I am not entirely alone, and I can visit C&H from time to time, and the not-sis and her kids short-term. But it seems I'm to fade back to the shadows, back to my homeless life that was. Time and lives of others marching on, going right on past me – a lone nomad in a void, left behind while seemingly everyone else floats along without trouble.

Day 713 - 6/14

Back to car life

It's around what would be a normal in-home sleeping time for me at just before 1. I'm in my new car this time. Hopefully things will work out ok and I can be back in a room or on a couch before the not-sis leaves the area. I can't yet tell the comfort of the car, but unless I want to try the back seat I am very visible in the front seat. I'd say anyone

standing up could see me from about 20 feet away, whereas with my old car they would have to be about 6' or less. In a car they could probably see me within about 15 feet, whereas in my old car there was really little to no chance at all to be seen by someone in their car if I was as flat as I could be. I'm very tempted to see if I can do an upgrade to a car like the one I used to have (with my summer money and selling my current car) – not just for homeless vulnerability, but also to get rid of all the other things I don't like about this car.

I had a good time with the not-sis and her little ones. 😊 It's been like months since I've seen them. They were super excited I was here again. 😊

I'm not sure what else to say. I wish I was still with C&H. 😞 I miss the partial room. 😞 I miss my friends. I miss my (mostly) normal life. 😞 I can't help but think I'm still not moving forward. Things have changed a bit, but really *I* haven't changed. The world has changed around me and I don't know what I'm doing wrong. I don't know why I can't seem to find a break at a normal job and normal life again. I know I'm smart(ish), funny, helpful, generous, and a good person in general, but I can't help but wonder if something is cosmically wrong with me, something so wrong with my soul that reality bends around me to avoid me. I can't help but feel like I'm being punished and not told why or being given a way back out.

Day 714 - 6/15

Smooshed toe?

It's early morning just after 8:30. I'm here for my extra morning summer shift and there isn't a single soul here. It seems whatever this is would be something with adults, or unsupervised older kids. I don't know if the activity isn't scheduled to start yet or if noone is here. If this continues I may just nap in the coming weeks.

Last night was super challenging. Despite being ready to sleep by about 1, I didn't fall asleep until about 5. It was dark enough, though I'm basically surrounded by a bubble of windows, and it was so quiet there wasn't a peep from anyone or anything. I guess it was just my sadness and inability to get comfortable. I could stretch out my legs as far as

I wanted, but I couldn't really sleep on either side due to the curve of the chair and stuff blocking my legs when I do turn.

I don't know why or how, but it feels like I jammed my right pinky toe. I must have smooshed it against something while I was sleeping. It's a touch swollen, shoes hurt, and it's like the area around the nail is super sensitive. There is, I guess it's called, a "dull" pain around there, to a lesser degree along the outside of my foot, and very slightly up my tendon along my calf, and along the outer side of my tendon behind my knee.

I actually finally got the check from the car people yesterday. I guess they did eventually mail it. Part of me is sad because the case is closed so I can't update their status. But another part of me is still satisfied, as that puts a black mark on their record and they will have to work hard and be careful with customers to clear it, which is what I really wanted.

Some people are showing up now, jazzercise people. No nap for me, though it seems I don't need to be ready for about 15 minutes after I'm scheduled to start.

I saw the craziest crash yesterday. On my way driving up to school I saw a small truck, and it had crashed and driven up the middle divider on the freeway. I have no idea how it got up that high. I guess being a little truck it isn't that heavy compared to a full truck, but still, to get on top of a like three foot high cement thing? Crazy. You can has picture.

Being early morning that's all so far. Terribly rough night last night and I'm sure it's not the last. 😞

Week 103

Day 715 - 6/16 **One down**

It's late for car sleeping, even for regular sleeping. It's a hair past 2. I watched a movie with the not-sis and one of her little ones, then we watched a show, so the evening has gone on pretty quickly since I also had school and work today.

I finished what I needed to do for one class barely in time today. The good news is that even though there is one more Wednesday to go, the class is basically over. I don't have to worry about it anymore. At this point what I get is what I get. I have a final to work on for my Monday class, but it's a take-home one, so that will be done Thursday, Friday, and Sunday at work.

Speaking of, I got possibly another 1.5 hour shift through the summer. I guess it's what could turn into the Monday, Wednesday, Friday extra, so for now it looks like just an extra one shift per week. It will be a bit lame with it being Tuesday or Thursday 8:30-10:30 then going back again at 3:45, but it is what it is I guess. I've nowhere else to be really while I'm homeless. The car is colder than I expected, and hotter too. During the day under the sun it's elebentybillion degrees. I can't touch the steering wheel hardly at all, and the windows are like a great big magnifying glass due to the way they are shaped. At night it seems to be colder than my old car. I don't know if that's because it's larger with just as poor construction/lining or if it actually is genuinely colder at night lately. Two nights ago I couldn't sleep, but last night I slept ok. I fell asleep almost instantly at about 1:30. There was a lot of discomfort, pain, frustration, and sadness when I woke during the night. Hopefully I will get used to it, but I have a feeling I won't.

Day 716 - 6/17 **Frustrating**

I'm getting frustrated with my netbook lately. After being on the desktop with a landline again I find myself rapidly frustrated by the low resolution and jerkiness in most

of even the lowest resolution videos when watching things online; plus the fact that it's crippled for gaming. Even the web game I do with Facebook often causes the system to sometimes come to such a slow point that I just give up. If I'm still homeless in the coming months I think I would really like to upgrade to a newer model. I guess that will depend most on if I can get the money or not more than anything else. If I can get \$300-400 saved up I can sell my current system and have enough. That may be a challenge though as it looks like I may only be getting a hundred or so a month that I can save. Even though I'll be getting triple my normal pay in two weeks not much will survive that due to bills that I have to pay.

It's still early, but I'm so very tired. Hopefully I can sleep ok and get caught up a bit on Saturday. It's my only day to sleep in until at least Wednesday. 😞 Sunday night though I'll have a bit of a normal life after my morning shift though, so that will be good.

😊 I miss C&H and my (semi) normal life. 😞 Sad life is saaadd.

After the morning shift is up I've got another morning shift, then a short break, then a bit of training, then another shift here at the gym. I'll be busy with work, but thankfully they will be pretty relaxed shifts. And, they finally eased off the pool clothing requirements. I can wear regular pants. I no longer have to feel like a bum in sweats all the time.

I guess that's all for now, probably it for the day. Bye for now peeps. 😊

Day 717 - 6/18

Shwooofooosh

I'm so very exhausted. I've almost fallen asleep here at the gym work a few times. I've no doubt that if I put my head down I would zonk out and be asleep in two minutes or less. Thankfully I get to sleep in tomorrow. It will be the only time since I think five days ago that I will have slept in. This getting up early thing is so not for me. It could be tolerable with a bed to sleep in, but without, yikes.

Work shifts were scheduled badly again. I need two removed because they were done in a way that conflicts with shifts I already have. This time it's not the scheduler's

fault. My boss didn't do it, so the person that did didn't know about my new gym shifts since they only started this week. With the extra gym shifts I may actually not have any time left for pool shifts. I'll effectively only have a small window between 11 and 3 and that's it. Maybe it would be better that way though. (Particularly since I'm losing them due to getting other shifts at the gym.) We were forced to do pool stuff today and I'm completely out of shape. I thought, 'I'll jump in and swim around a bit over there.' I dove in and as soon as I heard the fwoosh of the water and felt the weightlessness my body started to panic. I made it to the surface ok, but I had a terribly hard time controlling myself. I had to remind myself not to panic and flip over and float. I think I had maybe 30 seconds of thrashing to get to the edge of the pool before I was almost completely exhausted. As I said last year, I'd love nothing more than to get into good shape again, but at my age I really think it would be impossible without also having the ability to sleep well (in a bed) and have nutritional (recovery) support at the same time. I thought that maybe they would be better off without me; just have the kids that are all in shape. (Save for one or two who actually are in worse shape than me.) But then too I did get a few signs that people *do* care about me. I made a funny ha-ha comment to one lifeguard in a way that acknowledged him as an individual / his personality and he said, "Damn I'm glad you are here again this year" with a laugh and smile. 😊 And I also talked to someone else about a few games and gaming tech, and a third asked what I was playing and if I was still into PC hardware. So, little reminders from Fate I guess that despite my feeling like a failure I am still recognized as me, and special, and that people do enjoy having me around.

I haven't had time to do anything but work today yet. I started the day at 7:15 AM, and at nearly 8 PM now I've only had about ½ hour to get dinner and check online stuff. I won't really get the chance to check online life until I get to the not-sis' place at nearly 11, and by then I'll be so completely exhausted I probably won't stay up long.

Guess that's it for today. I likely will be too tired to do much online after work and I will almost certainly be too tired to write. Bye for now. 😊

Day 718 - 6/19

A fair day

It was an ok day I guess. It's somewhat late at 1, certainly later than I should be getting to sleep since I've now 7 hours left before a work shift. I spent the day messing around on boards and trying to play a few games. As I mentioned, my Facebook game chokes pretty bad in some spots, and I got access to the LEGO Universe beta, which is completely unplayable on my netbook. I also watched a show or two. It seems that I'm 14 behind now. Hopefully I can manage to get money to upgrade soon. The lack of power to game and run video at reasonable resolution is really getting to me now.

I'm very much looking forward to seeing C&H tomorrow. It will be a nice time with nice peeps. 😊 And I get to play on my system a bit and sleep in a bed. 😊 I've actually got a later than usual Monday shift, so I don't even have to get up until about noon, provided I can get to sleep and manage to sleep in.

Nothing changed on the job side of things today. No job postings to apply to. I also have basically finished my test, so I'm effectively done with class stuff save for doing the last few classes.

Guess that's all for now. I need to try and sleep. Night peeps. 😊

Day 719 - 6/20

Time is precious

Today I get to visit C&H's. I'll get to play on my system for a bit, hopefully try out LEGO Universe for a bit. I get to cook a real dinner, and we'll no doubt watch some shows at night.

I feel pretty good today despite being sleep in a car and shower at/after work guy. I'm more quickly adjusting to being homeless again than I thought I would. But then too part of that may have to do with the fact that I've been super busy at work and at the not-sis' place. In about a month when she's gone I'll have to sleep some at school, be moving at first light, and have to connect from the mall, so life will go back to being a lot more terrible then. I think I will try to get my system upgrade as soon as I can. Not being able

to game or watch videos online without jerkiness is really killing me now. It should be achievable. It should only cost about \$200-300 after I sell my current netbook. We'll have to see what I get when. I doubt I could really do it in two weeks when I'm paid again. I'll have the money in hand but I don't think my contacts will last that long. Maybe I could call and see. Either way though I need about \$200 for my eye exam, so I should really spend that first. Counting everything I'd have left after that, subtracting the monies I owe C&H for the car, I'd only have around \$400, which is about \$150 short for a safe purchase point. (I want to have enough to get the new netbook without selling my current one first, just in case something goes wrong with the changeover.) But hopefully I can do it two weeks after around the 15th.

It's odd now how precious my time seems. When I was limited to the library before I had my own system I didn't much care as I only had an hour or two of access. The rest of the day I had nothing to do, so I was never in a hurry to go anywhere. But now, time I can get at C&H's, time at the not-sis' place, I want to spend every minute that I can having a normal life, every minute I can accessing the Internet doing stuff to try and better my life or rebalance my stress. Seeing how you can shave 5, 10, 15 minutes off of driving in order to have more time at your destination isn't something people normally think about. Usually amounts of time that small are brushed off as leeway for traffic, or the route time is assumed to be what it is and unalterable. But now it all seems so precious. Time with friends, time with family, time by myself in a home-like environment, it all seems so much more important than it once did to not let any of my time be wasted.

Day 720 - 6/21

Altered

It's sleepy time at the not-sis' place. It was a super hot day so it's actually warmish in the car. The day started great at C&H's. I got up a bit early at 10:30, my normal wake up time when I'm balanced in a home. I had terrible dreams last night though 😞 - gasping for breath, nightmares about being trapped, bad stuff in general. I actually felt pretty good though after I woke up. I was pretty good on energy up until I drove to work.

For some reason my brain just seemed to go completely numb after that. I suppose all in all it was an ok but very sad day. Everyone was sad about me leaving C&H's again. 😞

I checked with my eye doc. Today was the last day of my prescription, so I could indeed buy a box of contacts and could put off my exam another 6-10 weeks. I won't though. I'd just like a few weeks leeway. This way I can order my new netbook in about one and a half weeks when I get paid and then do my eye exam two weeks after that instead of the other way around. At least I'm about 85% sure I'll upgrade. I'm so very tired of watching my online videos at the lowest settings and still having them sometimes be jerky – not to mention the total inability to play games. This will fix that, as well as giving me better resolution, greater overall processing power, etc. It will cost about \$200-300 to upgrade, but that should greatly help to keep me from going crazy. It will be odd though. My netbook will have newer technology than my desktop.

No news on jobs. I need to try to remember to keep looking. I've been so busy with work I haven't had time. I got about 35+ hours last week and will again this week. After that though things will likely cool back down. I'd guess that my summer hours will be closer to 17 on the average than not (with it going back down to 8.25 the rest of the year.)

Well. Night for now peeps. 😊

Day 721 - 6/22

Dazed

It's early afternoon. I'm at mini work for the second time today. I had a 2 hour shift earlier and about a 2.5 hour shift now. I'm in a bit of a daze today what with my going here and going there. It's super warm again. I'm so sleepy.

I got a super nice surprise today. 😍 The new netbook I'm looking at getting has a new version out. It's only a hair more powerful than the original upgrade I was going to get, but this is an update that wasn't originally coming until around September. So, woot for even more powerful upgrade. 😊 I did a bill plan over the next few paychecks and I'm fine to get it in one and a half weeks. It will hopefully come before the 4th of July

weekend. 😊 It's kind of crazy to think that I've had my current netbook for about 1.25 years.

While I still have several hours in my evening left at the not-sis' after this mini work shift I doubt anything important will happen. At least my sad life will get a little bit happier again soon. 😊

Week 104

Day 722 - 6/23 Oddity of upgrading

It's just after six, just before the last Wednesday class. I'm having a pretty good day so far, lots of lols with the peeps at mini work, then watched some shows at school. I zonked out pretty quickly last night for once, but my neck and stuff is sore from the car sleep.

It's pretty exciting thinking about my netbook upgrade. I'll finally be able to stay current with my games (if I have the money to get them) and I'll be able to watch my shows anywhere without laggyess. It seems so odd to be doing an upgrade. I've not been able to do my regular upgrades in forever. I used to upgrade a major part every 1.5-2 years, but it's been about five since I did my last upgrade, not counting my netbook purchase. Now here we are nearly 1.25 years later upgrading. It *has* been such a long time, yet it's passed in what seems like a blink of the eye. I clearly remember all the sad slow days, some of the happy days, most of the miserable days, but it doesn't seem like it's been that long. Yet, I've very aware of each passing homeless day as I write about my terrible journey. It still seems like the world is changing all around me yet I am standing still. While I've gotten a few new movies and games in the past few years, this coming change feels like the only upgrade - the only positive step forward. My classes haven't helped. My car has been changed to one which is functionally better, but I really dislike it aesthetically. My clothes are wearing out. My teeth are falling apart. Nothing in my life seems to be getting better, as it did once upon a time when I had a normal life. When I had a normal life things in my life changed. And while some things weren't better in terms of improvements the changes were always happy and good. It seems so much of that is lost to me now. So few items are with me on my terrible journey. So many can't be upgraded and are instead in constant decline. 😞

Day 723 - 6/24

Wondering

Not a bad day today I suppose, but I can't help but wonder as I look around; why don't I have a fancy car? Why don't I have a good job? Is it because I didn't follow a "career" like everyone else in the traditional sense? Why don't I seem to make new friends that stick around or why can't I find a sweetie?

Not new questions I know, but as I linger in what seems a perpetual limbo I can't help but wonder why; even when I know most of the reasons.

Day 724 - 6/25

Overslept

I'm not sure what to say for today. Nothing really interesting happened. I overslept my alarm this morning for the first time ever (though I wasn't late). It's as if it didn't even go off. I had to do a morning mini work meeting/workout training, then a work shift. I only had a few hours break and now I'm doing a gym shift. Busy day with a decent amount of paid time.

I guess trained jobs aren't hiring much either. I had a friend say today on his blog that he's considering taking up to a year off because he's having so much trouble (and stress) job hunting. It's awesome he can do that (though I wonder how since he is also staying on couches after leaving his home and taking a trip to Germany.) But it worries me because he has a lot of training and experience in his field. If he's having trouble, how much trouble does that leave me in with no true career to speak of?

It looks like I was right that I'll probably be regularly getting around 20 hours a week during summer, so this gives me quite a bit more during not summer. But still, it isn't a permanent way back into a home for me. I may be able to save a few hundred by the end of summer (provided these car emergencies ever stop) but that will be all. There is no steady or persistent change. I guess I'm again thankful that I have the hours that I do have and the boss people seem to like me. The job doesn't appear to be going anywhere, and unless I screw up they won't be inclined to let me go.

But still... I worry for my future. It seems bleak and my trials seem unending. 😞

Day 725 - 6/26

Ok but sad

I guess I had an ok day today, but I'm very sad. The not-sis' new boyfriend came over today. We had a good time doing BBQ and watching a show. On what would have been an otherwise good day I find myself being sad about the coming days. And yet I'd want to be somewhere on my own already. Of course on my own in my own private controlled space, somewhere I could have slept in (the car was too hot by 10), somewhere I can cook what regular foods I want for all meals, where I could control my shows.

A sad day. Nothing good that's new to report. 😞

Day 726 - 6/27

Driving, driving, driving

It seems like I'm always driving somewhere these days. I guess I am, as I have two and sometimes three mini shifts a day. Next week things should settle down a bit. My coverage for Thursday nights and Sunday mornings will be over. I'll have Monday, Saturday, and Sundays totally off; at least for the moment. I may still get that Monday / Wednesday / Friday afternoon thing. It won't start until the 7th, so we'll see.

It's odd that I've nothing to do this shift. School is out, so I've no homework. Movies are all watched, so even if I had gone to the \$1 kiosk before work there is nothing I haven't seen that's out that I really want to see. And, I've played all of the casual games on my system save for Escape Rosecliff Island which is only a demo. I may get the full game, but being a casual game I'll more likely save the money for a full game that I'm behind on. Next weekend I should have my new netbook, so I'll have lot's more options for games. I can even go back to old standby games like Evil Genius and Thief 3 if I wanted. Though I'm hoping to have enough to get Fallout 3 since that and Bioshock 2 are the only remaining big games I've yet to catch up on. With an estimated \$500+ that I could save up during the summer I'm even considering getting an external Blu-ray player

to watch my movies (I think it's down to \$85 now), as well as restarting my NetFlix account for a month to get caught up on all the series I've missed that I can't otherwise see. We'll see about those in time. The first step is the system itself and selling my old netbook to recover costs. (I should get about \$250+, so over half of the new system cost should be covered.) I may have to wait two weeks until my following paycheck for the next purchase step.

Despite my happy excitement about the netbook upgrade, being off for a few months from school, having about 2.5x my normal weekly hours during the summer, I'm still overwhelmed by feelings of sadness at the coming days. I'm sleeping ok now, but I know once I lose the safety of the not-sis' place sleep will become difficult. And with school campus being less active it will at times become risky when it otherwise would be safe. Heck, with all the budget cuts going on I don't know if the library will be open at all until September.

I'm trying to live my life one day at a time though. Today I have the safety of C&H's at night. Today there will be no job postings, but tomorrow there may be. Today I have a mini work shift, so that's a bit more money. Today I am healthy, as much as my health continues to waver in the low-end of healthiness. Today I have access to my online life, and access to some of my offline life. Today I am sad, but somewhat stable for the moment.

Day 727 - 6/28

Strange thoughts

It's just past 9 at the not-sis. She went out, leaving me with the kids (though they are old enough I didn't have to stay, even though I'd disagree with that assessment in some ways.)

Today has been a strange day. I slept at C&H's last night in the bed and started my day there as well. Most of yesterday and half of today I had a normal life. At 4 I had to move here and ever since I've been getting more and more sad. I've only three more weeks of shelter here. After that I'm back to being homeless outside of my time at C&H's. I may, at times, be able to go to the mall or to the library, but much of my nights and

weekdays I'll be back on the streets. I'll be watching golfers or shoppers because I'll have few other places I can be. The warm nights mean I'll be less out of place than I otherwise would, but also that I may be more visible when trying to sleep due to late night wanderers. What little bit of a life I've had will be reduced to limited access points, extremely limited food choice, and worst of all the fears of being homeless will return. While I am more aware of the resources and ways around troubles than I was at the start, all of the sadness and restrictions will return.

I don't know what to do. I've been looking for jobs. I've been trying to get what hours I can. Though a few new people are around me, it seems noone is willing or able to help with my homeless troubles.

My life in some ways is, and will not be, terrible. My job is ok. I actually like it well enough, though it isn't fulfilling in the sense that it doesn't challenge or use my skills. People at work like me well enough and I am humbled when they think I'm not over 30 yet. I will soon have my system upgrade and be able to play my games without limitation. Though it seems the external Blu-ray player got an upgraded model which is \$150, so that is extremely unlikely to be affordable. While it would retain its high value, that value is too high, as you can get stand-alone players for that much, meaning the secondary market will be non-existent. But I don't have a home. I have very little control of what I can cook to eat. I can't fully control what I watch nor how I watch it. I have no desk to put my computer on. I have no access to my consoles to play on them. (Though I have temporary access to one.) I have no bed to sleep on. I have no doors to lock or open when I want fresh air. I have no shower or bathroom to clean myself and scatter my shower items about. I can't invite friends or a potential sweetie over to share my life. These are things noone can understand until they are lost. These are things taken for granted. When you are tired from your day, tired from a journey, or just want some time in a place that's yours, you want to go home. More than anything I want to go home.

Day 728 - 6/29

Barely any left

There is barely anything left for food and gas. I basically have two soups and a few frozen chicken pieces for food and a quarter of a tank of gas. I've got \$2 in my wallet that I can put towards gas, but only \$2 beyond that in my bank account. I'll make it until I get paid Wednesday at midnight, but just barely. I've got barely anything left. After that it shouldn't be a concern anymore. I should have a touch extra even after my netbook upgrade and paying back C&H. During the rest of the summer I'll be building up extra each paycheck, so I should be able to finally build up a safety cushion. If I can make it for a while with no car emergencies I should not have to worry about riding the edge on food and gas. (It still boggles my mind that within the last 1.5 years I've spent/lost \$1000 in car stuff, not counting the \$800 for the car sale/purchase when my previous car died, or the \$1200 for the damage to the car in the parking lot that they repaired.)

I don't expect anything much interesting will happen today. I've got two mini work shifts and the rest of the time I'll be at the not-sis. There have been no jobs to apply to lately, so I expect nothing to come up there. Today will very likely be the same tragically sad yet eternally hopeful end that nearly every other week has been.

Week 105

Day 729 - 6/30 Final day of year 2

I've been trying to think of a good way to end the year and I can't. Most everything I could say I've said before. I suppose the only way to end this year/book is in the same manner it has gone so far - by simply recording what I think and feel about my terrible journey today.

Despite the impending doom of my homeless days to come I feel strangely at peace and happy today. Maybe it's because of the warmer weather. Maybe I got more sleep than usual last night. Maybe it's that I shared lols with some coworkers and friends. Maybe it's because a very cute girl at work stood *very* close to me a few times today. Maybe it's because I should be able to order my netbook upgrade tonight and I finally shouldn't have to worry all the time about being short on money. I think though it is just me being at peace with accepting what I can't control and living for today. Not that my life is "out of control". It certainly is much more in control than when my terrible journey started. It still isn't "in" control though. I'm sending out applications when I can, but they are few and far between. School doesn't seem to be helping, as I'm finding other obstacles in my way towards a new career. I may have to search in new directions once we get further into summer and schools are looking to hire for the school session once again. I am being surrounded by an occasional new person, but true new friends seem like they will be very rare.

In more current/short-term thoughts; I am getting more hours at work, so I may be closer to 25+ hours per week during the summer. Today I will have worked about 9.25. My netbook upgrade should be ordered soon, probably tonight at just past midnight, and it should be here in a few days, though I'm very tempted to see what overnight shipping would cost to avoid the possibility of my free two day shipping getting delayed until an arrival mid next week due to the holiday. I'll very seriously be looking at upgrading my phone (probably) to the Droid X sometime between late July and mid August. Though expensive it will replace my aging phone, and from everything I've seen it will be \$30 a month for the plan (compared to my current one at \$23 for just 60 monthly minutes and

nothing else.) It would get me unlimited phone time, unlimited Internet time, and unlimited texting. Also it will upgrade my camera for both still shots and movies, which would allow me to sell my current one. Plus, it has a g.p.s. which will be nice to have, a real alarm clock instead of a single ring timer that my current phone has, and lots of other cool things. Along with my netbook that will be my first life upgrade in five years or so. I think my phone is closer to six or more years old at this point, so in terms of features and plan it's quite a bit behind.

Other than that I can't really think of how to close the year. I am still amazed it has gone on more than a year, and it boggles my mind we are now ending the second year. I am still hopeful about my future, yet my recovery is really still out of my hands. I persist and try and manage as best as I can because it's all that I can do.

As always I hope everyone out there reading is safe, sheltered, warm, happy, can enjoy life, and is at peace with those around you. And I hope that you never take things for granted, for it is the seemingly smallest things that don't seem to matter which are, in fact, the most important things that you should never forget.

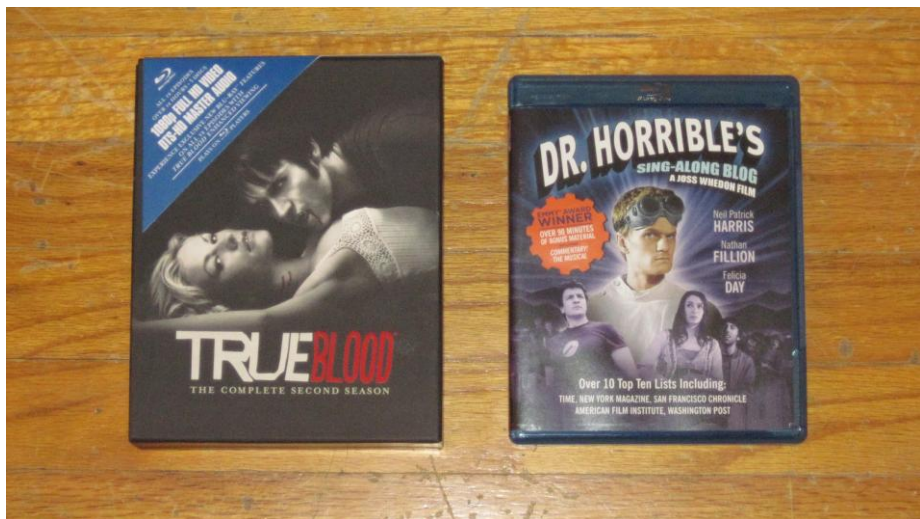
Picture series 15



Catching up on life



More catching up on life



Catching up on movies



Party burn, an arm and a leg for contrast



Truck crash, how'd he get up there?



Best gorram show in the 'verse

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.

A-Team, the	579, 709
Agency, the	673
Amazon (dot com)	367, 431, 538, 623
AMD	431
Asus	425
ATi	557, 642
Avatar	526, 535
Bioshock 2	726
Blast Factor	582
Blizzard	428, 674
BlizzCon	387, 393, 408, 412, 416, 417, 418
Blockbuster	368
Blu-ray	376, 408, 415, 425, 430, 431, 439, 457, 483, 493, 511, 534, 538, 542, 546, 549, 553, 555, 576, 577, 581, 584, 656, 726, 727
Bones	447
Buck Rogers	589
Burn Notice	393, 399, 427, 577
By Order of the Black Rose	516
Castle	489
Cataclysm	417
CBEST	380, 385, 397, 398, 399, 402, 406, 417, 432, 434, 454, 490, 553
CES or Consumer Electronics Show	550
Clone Wars	462
Conduit, the	674, 676
Cookies 'n Cream (ice cream)	407
Death Knight	367, 372, 377, 458, 459, 504
Death Race	594
Diablo 3	417, 666
District 9	412
Dollhouse	455, 533
Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog	560, 693
Dragon Age	541, 615, 623, 630, 640, 653, 671, 673, 674, 676
Droid X	729
Escape Rosecliff Island	726
Eureka	431, 450
EQ or EverQuest	435
Evga	479, 697
Eyefinity (or ATi's Eyefinity)	557, 571
Facebook	380, 397, 399, 405, 406, 526, 596, 597, 673, 716, 718
Fallout 3	726

Final Fantasy Xiii	583, 586
Firefly	534
(Adobe) Flash	498
Friday The 13 th The Series	431
Fringe	447
Forgetting Sarah Marshal	600
Game center or euphNET	368, 369, 384, 391, 401, 405, 415, 422, 423, 427, 428, 429, 435, 440, 444, 513
Gatoraid	385, 386
G.I. Joe	407, 408
God of War III	582, 583, 623, 661
Halo 3	467
He's Just <i>Not</i> That Into You	377
Heroes	448, 455, 462
Hulu (dot com)	479
IMAX	526
Intel	388, 431, 432, 433, 434
Iron Man	660
iPhone	425
iPod	506, 513
Jedi	471
Jeep	633
Jerry Springer show, the	475
Karaoke	381
Kung Fu Panda	582, 593
LEGO Universe	718, 719
Lightsaber	471, 472
Little Big Planet	586, 590, 592, 600
Mac	597
Macgyver	579
Marley & Me	371
Mass Effect	615, 618, 630
Mass Effect 2	615, 674, 676
(Microsoft) Word 2007	366
Microsoft Games	554
My Car is not a Home	424
Mystery Spot, the	621
Nerf	472
NetFlix	368, 493, 726
NewEgg (dot com)	434, 640
Nightmare on Elm Street	374
Nvidia	425, 479, 493, 498, 499, 642, 697
Nvidia 3D Vision	498, 513
Office, the	447
Paladin	372
Panda or Panda Express	368
Pepsi	385, 389, 397, 398, 403
Priest	414, 416, 459, 486, 520

PS3 or PlayStation 3	550, 581, 582, 583, 584, 591, 594, 607, 610, 612, 617, 640, 648, 656	
Psych	447, 462	
Psycho Donuts	508	
rabb1t's signature dishes	412	
Repo! The Genetic Opera	515, 522, 550, 560	
Round Table	431	
Safeway	385	
Santa Cruz	621	
Savage Moon	582	
SCA or Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.		397
SciFi channel	368	
Sherlock Holmes	542	
Smart (car)	442	
Sony	430, 493, 499	
Speed Racer	582, 593	
Star Trek	419, 522, 550	
Star Wars	461, 471, 472	
Star Wars The Old Republic	471	
Starbucks	384, 385, 395, 415, 418, 420, 422, 423, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 436, 524, 550, 555	
Stargate Universe	462, 489	
StarCraft 2	417, 613, 614, 615, 666, 669	
Steve Wilkos Show, the	475	
Supernatural	439, 457, 488	
Target	550	
the Guild	427	
The Secret World	441	
Tron Legacy	391	
True Blood	385, 386, 445, 596, 602, 606, 673, 693	
Twilight Zone	368, 548	
Vent or Ventrillo	417	
Warehouse 13	431	
Wheel of Fortune	687	
Who Wants To Be A Superhero	594, 599, 600	
WiFi	366, 370, 382, 388, 416, 427, 431, 451, 507	
Wii or Nintento Wii	550, 658, 674	
Wii Fit	669, 681	
Wing Stop	421, 438, 442	
Wipeout HD	590, 592	
Wolverene	442	
World of Goo	660, 661, 673	
WoW or World of Warcraft	373, 399, 407, 417, 421, 426, 428, 439, 445, 474, 490, 542, 550, 578, 593, 615, 653, 666, 669, 674	
Xbox 360 or 360	550, 554, 555, 612	
X-Pearl	373, 428	
Zack and Miri Make a Porno	550	
Zombieland	449	

Where did I see it?

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

Day 379 – Movie: In the Name of the King, line by Norick

Day 387 – TV: True Blood, Season 1, episode 9, “Plaisir d’amour”, line by Jason Stackhouse

Day 412 – TV: Hell’s Kitchen reference

Day 468 – TV: Deal or No Deal reference.

Day 472 – Movie: Star Wars: The Revenge of the Jedi, line by Darth Vader to Luke Skywalker.

Day 505 – Movie: Star Wars: The Empire Strikes back, line by Yoda to Obi-Wan Kenobi.

Day 538 – TV: Monk reference.

Day 707 – Movie: Kung Fu Panda, line by Master Oogway to Po.