

# EPIC FAIL

The Journal of a Homeless Gamer

Book 3  
oh noes

by rabb1t  
aka  
Eric Stryker



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### *Week 109*

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- Day 784 – 8/24 – Around 100

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- Day 786 – 8/26 – Another day, somewhat relaxed
- Day 787 – 8/27 – Yet another day with nothing new
- Day 788 – 8/28 – Windy day on campus
- Day 789 – 8/29 – Bleh day
- Day 790 – 8/30 – Minus one study
- Day 791 – 8/31 – Fast day

### *Week 114*

- Day 792 – 9/1 – Farewell to not friends
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- Day 794 – 9/3 – Wiggly tooth is wiiiglly
- Day 795 – 9/4 – No convention for me
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### *Picture series 17*

### *Week 115*

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### *Week 117*

- Day 813 – 9/22 – Brief blurb before class

Day 814 – 9/23 – Not a research assistant  
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Day 817 – 9/26 – More flakiness  
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#### *Week 118*

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Day 821 – 9/30 – New work shift Thursday  
Day 822 – 10/1 – Being alone is sad  
Day 823 – 10/2 – Relieving the pressure  
Day 824 – 10/3 – Just a day  
Day 825 – 10/4 – Alone with my thoughts  
Day 826 – 10/5 – Another possible car

#### *Week 119*

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Day 831 – 10/10 – Still fail at the mall  
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#### *Week 121*

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#### *Week 122*

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Day 850 – 10/29 – Pre-pre-Halloween  
Day 851 – 10/30 – Pre-Halloween  
Day 852 – 10/31 – Halloween  
Day 853 – 11/1 – Always on my mind  
Day 854 – 11/2 – Getting ready to meet

#### *Picture series 18*

#### *Week 123*

Day 855 – 11/3 – Hello to me  
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Day 857 – 11/5 – X-mas lights? Seriously?

Day 858 – 11/6 – So awesome a movie  
Day 859 – 11/7 – A sad rainy Sunday  
Day 860 – 11/8 – Sad but hopeful Monday  
Day 861 – 11/9 – Gamers everywhere

*Week 124*

Day 862 – 11/10 – Up and up  
Day 863 – 11/11 – Gamer day  
Day 864-865 – 11/12-11/13 – Appreciation day, best day ever  
Day 866 – 11/14 – Calming down  
Day 867 – 11/16 – Back to normal  
Day 868 – 11/17 – With a heavy heart

*Week 125*

Day 869 – 11/17 – Sad day is sssaaaddd  
Day 870 – 11/18 – Not quite as sad  
Day 871 – 11/19 – Some sad, some happy  
Day 872 – 11/20 – Sad video is sad  
Day 873 – 11/21 – Double sweats  
Day 874 – 11/22 – Ug headache  
Day 875 – 11/23 – Leaving early

*Week 126*

Day 876 – 11/24 – So cold today  
Day 877 – 11/25 – Cold snap turkey  
Day 878 – 11/26 – Sad Black Friday, no sales  
Day 879 – 11/27 – Day of nothing and sadness  
Day 880 – 11/28 – Frostbite?  
Day 881 – 11/29 – Listening, and hearing my past  
Day 882 – 11/30 – Made me laugh

*Week 127*

Day 883 – 12/1 – Nearly blank  
Day 884 – 12/2 – The forgotten day  
Day 885 – 12/3 – Nothing new but my dreams  
Day 886 – 12/4 – Last Saturday class  
Day 887 – 12/5 – Heartache  
Day 888 – 12/6 – Blurred  
Day 889 – 12/7 – Good day overall

*Week 128*

Day 890 – 12/8 – So very homesick  
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*Picture series 19*

*Week 129*

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*Week 130*

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Day 905 – 12/23 – As good as it gets

Day 906 – 12/24 – Faux Xmas

Day 907 – 12/25 – Xmas hiding

Day 908 – 12/26 – So sleepy

Day 909 – 12/27 – Has gone offline

Day 910 – 12/28 – Message into space

*Week 131*

Day 911 – 12/29 – Thoughtful day

Day 912 – 12/30 – New Year's eve's eve

Day 913 – 12/31 – Smelling fires

Day 914 – 1/1/11 – A new day

Day 915 – 1/2 – “Back to where you was before”

Day 916 – 1/3 – Altered routine

Day 917 – 1/4 – The unexpected haunting

*Week 132*

Day 918 – 1/5 – Routines

Day 919 – 1/6 – Nothing special but feeling a bit special

Day 920 – 1/7 – Waning focus

Day 921 – 1/8 – The stupid bank

Day 922 – 1/9 – Life without choices

Day 923 – 1/10 – Netbook could be dying

Day 924 – 1/11 – Preparing to prepare

*Week 133*

Day 925 – 1/12 – Disappointment

Day 926 – 1/13 – Chubby again

Day 927 – 1/14 – Podcast approved

Day 928 – 1/15 – The greeeen hornet

Day 929 – 1/16 – Podcast day

Day 930 – 1/17 – Slowwwwwww day

Day 931 – 1/18 – A hopeful fail week ending

*Week 134*

Day 932 – 1/19 – Migraine

Day 933 – 1/20 – Feeling like it's time to buy pants

Day 934 – 1/21 – Not invited in

Day 935 – 1/22 – Another Saturday

Day 936 – 1/23 – Podcast 3

Day 937 – 1/24 – Podcastery

Day 938 – 1/25 – Friend, or Friend?

*Week 135*

Day 939 – 1/26 – Dunking

Day 940 – 1/27 – Soloing

Day 941 – 1/28 – Doin' the cast

Day 942 – 1/29 – Podcast 4

Day 943 – 1/30 – Could be enough

Day 944 – 1/31 – Too sleepy

Day 945 – 2/1 – The board's ass

*Week 136*

Day 946 – 2/2 – No sleep

Day 947 – 2/3 – With me in mind  
Day 948 – 2/4 – Adjustment Friday  
Day 949 – 2/5 – A podcast of evil  
Day 950 – 2/6 – Sooooo sick  
Day 951 – 2/7 – Still pretty sick  
Day 952 – 2/8 – Ginormous donation is win

#### *Week 137*

Day 953 – 2/9 – A day paused  
Day 954 – 2/10 – Ordered  
Day 955 – 2/11 – Adjustment needed  
Day 956 – 2/12 – Return to gaming  
Day 957 – 2/13 – Cried just a little  
Day 958 – 2/14 – V-day  
Day 959 – 2/15 – Ok day, adjusting

#### *Week 138*

Day 960 – 2/16 – Feeling very broken hearted  
Day 961 – 2/17 – That old self so far away  
Day 962 – 2/18 – A night of lag  
Day 963 – 2/19 – So cold, so rainy  
Day 964 – 2/20 – Another long day passed  
Day 965 – 2/21 – End of the long weekend  
Day 966 – 2/22 – Fragments of me

#### *Picture series 20*

#### *Week 139*

Day 967 – 2/23 – Good day, bad health  
Day 968 – 2/24 – Not what was planned  
Day 969 – 2/25 – Inspired by  
Day 970 – 2/26 – Tanking  
Day 971 – 2/27 – Warm; windows open  
Day 972 – 2/28 – Makes me upset  
Day 973 – 3/1 – Big pants are big

#### *Week 140*

Day 974 – 3/2 – Bad start, good day  
Day 975 – 3/3 – Crafting before bed  
Day 976 – 3/4 – Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness  
Day 977 – 3/5 – Do not want  
Day 978 – 3/6 – Ears ringing  
Day 979 – 3/7 – A pretty good day  
Day 980 – 3/8 – Should have slept in

#### *Week 141*

Day 981 – 3/9 – A dragon's age  
Day 982 – 3/10 – Dazed days  
Day 983 – 3/11 – Not accomplishments  
Day 984 – 3/12 – My role  
Day 985 – 3/13 – Don't know anymore  
Day 986 – 3/14 – Another sad day  
Day 987 – 3/15 – Getting things done

#### *Week 142*

Day 988 – 3/16 – No friend work  
Day 989 – 3/17 – Irish day  
Day 990 – 3/18 – Dying mouse

Day 991 – 3/19 – Dead mouse, pouring rain, falling pants

Day 992 – 3/20 – Raining and not raining

Day 993 – 3/21 – Nine

Day 994 – 3/22 – Textbook buyback

*Week 143*

Day 995 – 3/23 – Over 200

Day 996 – 3/24 – Temporary break from stress

Day 997 – 3/25 – Back pains

Day 998 – 3/26 – Ringing ears

Day 999 – 3/27 – Max level

Day 1000 – 3/28 – 1k?

Day 1001 – 3/29 – Best friends

*Week 144*

Day 1002 – 3/30 – Far off appointment

Day 1003 – 3/31 – Suffer well

Day 1004 – 4/1 – Leading them to their deaths

Day 1005 – 4/2 – Sharing a movie

Day 1006 – 4/3 – Unexpected wave of sadness

Day 1007 – 4/4 – Light campus

Day 1008 – 4/5 – Sad thoughts

*Week 145*

Day 1009 – 4/6 – Do not want classes

Day 1010 – 4/7 – Scared of results

Day 1011 – 4/8 – Bad second half

Day 1012 – 4/9 – Ok I guess

Day 1013 – 4/10 – Care package

Day 1014 – 4/11 – Could not rescue the princess

Day 1015 – 4/12 – Fail appointment is faaaail

*Week 146*

Day 1016 – 4/13 – The boring lecture and the cute girls

Day 1017 – 4/14 – Next appointment

Day 1018 – 4/15 – Basic day is basic

Day 1019 – 4/16 – Going to waste a day

Day 1020 – 4/17 – By voice is better

Day 1021 – 4/18 – The doctor is out; pressure building

Day 1022 – 4/19 – Headaches, ears ringing

*Week 147*

Day 1023 – 4/20 – Still no doctor

Day 1024 – 4/21 – Message from the ghost

Day 1025 – 4/22 – Pretty good day

Day 1026 – 4/23 – Pre-Easter

Day 1027 – 4/24 – Bunnah day

Day 1028 – 4/25 – Still no visit

Day 1029 – 4/26 – Impending poking

*Picture series 21*

*Week 148*

Day 1030 – 4/27 – The poking and the chicken nuggets

Day 1031 – 4/28 – A bad night

Day 1032 – 4/29 – Suddenly feel sick

Day 1033 – 4/30 – Entering the portal once more

Day 1034 – 5/1 – Long day is looonnnng

Day 1035 – 5/2 – Stickers or no stickers

Day 1036 – 5/3 – Today is a rest day

*Week 149*

Day 1037 – 5/4 – First hotness of 2011

Day 1038 – 5/5 – Cracked

Day 1039 – 5/6 – Not schoolwork day

Day 1040 – 5/7 – Not online

Day 1041 – 5/8 – Momz day

Day 1042 – 5/9 – Too lagged

Day 1043 – 5/10 – Sad thoughts

*Week 150*

Day 1044 – 5/11 – The party not mine

Day 1045 – 5/12 – Not total coverage

Day 1046 – 5/13 – Threw up a little

Day 1047 – 5/14 – Not much

Day 1048 – 5/15 – Too hungry, too full

Day 1049 – 5/16 – Stupid studying

Day 1050 – 5/17 – Another week's end

*Week 151*

Day 1051 – 5/18 – Another sad day

Day 1052 – 5/19 – Bad night, bad teacher

Day 1053 – 5/20 – Smells like stinky feet

Day 1054 – 5/21 – Just for four hours

Day 1055 – 5/22 – Dreading the return

Day 1056 – 5/23 – A surprising number

Day 1057 – 5/24 – Indeed too late

*Week 152*

Day 1058 – 5/25 – Meh day

Day 1059 – 5/26 – Displaced

Day 1060 – 5/27 – Feeling sad, but grateful

Day 1061 – 5/28 – Tiny bird rescue

Day 1062 – 5/29 – The story

Day 1063 – 5/30 – Being human

Day 1064 – 5/31 – Getting it done

*Week 153*

Day 1065 – 6/1 – The horrible nightmares return

Day 1066 – 6/2 – Preparing to prepare for battle

Day 1067 – 6/3 – Lost hours

Day 1068 – 6/4 – So fast

Day 1069 – 6/5 – Group means group

Day 1070 – 6/6 – Need a rest

Day 1071 – 6/7 – Done sooner than I expected

*Week 154*

Day 1072 – 6/8 – Non-functional brain

Day 1073 – 6/9 – Not my graduation

Day 1074 – 6/10 – Feel ok about the day

Day 1075 – 6/11 – Bustin' out the podcast

Day 1076 – 6/12 – A day of change

Day 1077 – 6/13 – Bubble

Day 1078 – 6/14 – Returning summer staff

*Week 155*

Day 1079 – 6/15 – Chlorine in the nose  
Day 1080 – 6/16 – Fading in and out  
Day 1081 – 6/17 – A party  
Day 1082 – 6/18 – A lantern of green  
Day 1083 – 6/19 – Steak dinner  
Day 1084 – 6/20 – Found me  
Day 1085 – 6/21 – Another poking

*Week 156*

Day 1086 – 6/22 – Sensitive heart  
Day 1087 – 6/23 – Final final  
Day 1088 – 6/24 – Strange dreams  
Day 1089 – 6/25 – Another fancier dinner  
Day 1090 – 6/26 – Sad tournament losses  
Day 1091 – 6/27 – Shifting shifts  
Day 1092 – 6/28 – Moar hours

*Picture series 22*

*Week 157*

Day 1093 – 6/29 – One day left  
Day 1094 – 6/30 – End of year three days

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*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.

**Rift: Planes of Telara** - A fantasy MMOG offering new kinds of dynamic content and class creation by Trion Worlds, Inc. . [Official site](#)

**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

[No Ordinary Family](#) on ABC

[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](#)

[Critical Hit: A Dungeons and Dragons Campaign](#)

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

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

[FilePlanet](#)

[Girl Genius](#)

[NewEgg](#)

[The Order of the Stick](#)

[Penny Arcade](#)

[Psycho Donuts](#)

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

[the Rift Podcast](#)

[Steampunk Convention](#)

[X-Pearl](#)

## Week 105

### Day 730 - 7/1/2010 Begin again

This book/year is off to a hopeful start. Last night at 12:15 I put in the order for my netbook. I had to get it to go overnight, but with my special membership thing it only cost \$8 for shipping. 😊 The paycheck was what I predicted though, so the netbook and ram was all that was safe to get for the moment. After I sell my current netbook I should be able to get a new game. 😊 I don't expect that to happen for about a week though, as I do want a little overlap of having both, and what with most going out for the holiday I expect noone will check auction boards until about Wednesday.

I need to pay C&H back for the car sometime today too, so I'll also be starting the Fail year by paying off debt, so that's positive too.

Not much to say so far. It's my morning 8:30-10:30 shift, so not much has happened today. This is my only work shift for today, so the rest of the day will be me going to the ex-house storage to set up the disks I need to move to the new netbook tomorrow and the rest of the day will be spent at the not-sis' place (save for getting C&H's money to them.)

I hope everyone is enjoying their 4th holiday time and are safe and happy. 😊  
Though my life is typically sad I still remain hopeful that I can someday return to a "normal" life and live with happiness, friends, and love once more.

### Day 731 - 7/2 Installing

I got my netbook. 😍 I loves me my new netbook. So far I've only watched a movie. Reinstalling all my games will take quite a while, possibly more time than I have

here during my shift tonight since I've only 2 hours left and barely begun installation. I was right about the bigger size and resolution with my initial feelings way back in the day. The 12" screen seems plenty big enough for mobile gaming. Though I did run into a bit of trouble trying to install the 2 gig ram stick I got. After removing the back panel I found there was only one slot, and it was being used by the current 2 gig stick. It looks like I either have to open up the back completely or it may only have a single ram slot. Since people bought these two items together it seems likely that the site wouldn't recommend it if people had to return the extra ram. Well, the good news is that when I do find the second slot I'll have 4 gig, which is really what I recommend as a minimum these days. 😊

That's really all for my day, save for sharing some lols at work, seeing the cutest lifeguard, and being visited by C&H so they could get their monies. Adult people were so sad when their little one said to me, "See you tonight when you get home." 😞 He's only like 7 so he's too young to grasp what's going on with me and why I was there in the spare room for months and now I can't be. 😞

I'll probably be super happy the next few days but not have much to say as I'll be reinstalling stuff and moving my life to the new netbook.

Work seems to need me for more gym coverage, so that's good. I'd guess my hours will go up to 25-30 per week, possibly more. This week I'm at around 35. Of course that's only for the summer, so once we get to late August / early September things will drop back down again.

Oh, I'm almost certain I'll upgrade my phone to the Droid X soonish. What with the extra hours I'll have plenty to do that and still have \$500 or more. The upgrade will only be about \$100 after I sell my camera, and the monthly bill increase is only \$7, so it's very worth it for what I get. This is not counting the fact that it would give me unlimited time as far as I can tell, compared my current plan having 60 minutes and charging me like \$0.50 per minute beyond that if I go over.

Well, guess that's it. Installing is going much faster with this system (as expected), but it will still be a while. Night peeps. 😊

## Day 732 - 7/3

### Second impressions

I've been installing stuff on the new netbook for several hours now. I'm almost done though. 😊 I had a chance to do some light testing though, and on second impression it does seem really great for non-gaming, but still gimped for gaming. I found Mass Effect 2 to be just about unplayable during the tutorial fights. I may try a lower resolution than native, but it is already at the lowest settings for effects. A quick peek at Dragon Age seemed fine, so I'll likely do that one for my off-line play. Though I have a feeling the more intense battles will be quite a struggle. WoW is still patching, but it should be fine. I also found out that my model doesn't have the normal two slots for memory, so unless I want to pay \$150 for a single 4 gig stick I can't upgrade my memory. That's just too much. That kind of money would be better spent selling the netbook back and just getting a better system overall. The good news is that now I'll eventually get back the \$45 for the extra 2 gig stick that I ordered and don't need. I haven't got my email set up right either. It's detecting something differently, so I'll have to research that.

This phase is done, time for more testing and setting up. Bye for now. 😊

## Day 733 - 7/4

### Pew pew day

Pretty good day so far. It's early evening and I'm alone in the hottish not-sis' house. The not-sis left with her kids and her new boyfriend. I'll be cooking dinner soon and watching shows and movies for the rest of the night.

I got my email working, so I should be all transferred over. I still haven't gotten too many chances to test the full gaming capabilities yet, but it seems some games will do ok and some will choke pretty badly. It's more than I had before, far more, and I didn't have more to spend on a full gaming system. I mean sure, if I had waited until later in the summer I would have the money. But I really don't have the spare to have dropped \$500+

more on a real gaming system. That money is better left as spare or money for an HDTV or desktop upgrade once I'm re-established in a home.

I guess that's really all for today. Happy pew pew day everyone! 😊

## Day 734 - 7/5

### Relaxed day

Today was good I suppose, but odd. It was a relaxing day of no work – the third in a row for me. I haven't had that many days off with no school or work in I don't know how long, probably since winter some six months ago. I just relaxed and messed around on my netbook cruising sights, watched a show, and played some games.

My brain still seems sleepy, confused, and somewhat off all the time. Last night I thought that it seems like I'm running on automatic, in an almost purely reactive mode. I suppose it's just survival mode due to being homeless. It's probably too that since I'm not in a home I can't stop worrying or being stressed over things. I can't just relax and stop in the sense that while not in a home there are so many things I worry about that everyone in a home takes for granted.

That's all I can really think of. Tomorrow is sort of a bit back onto a regular schedule. I've got just two hours of work then I'll be doing some strange stuff - putting away netbook bits. I have to remember to get the ram to return.

My hours will be going up a touch in the future I think. I may be closer to 30 regular hours during the summer. Last week I did 35 and this will be 30. Next paycheck will likely be closer to triple than not. I may have enough even to get my phone upgrade and put a little bit into savings.

C&H sent good news. They are going on vacation for about a week and a half starting on the 19<sup>th</sup>. 😊 So, a few days after the not-sis leaves and I no longer have shelter here I'll be able to stay at C&H's for a bit. That will help quite a bit. 😊 I can have a normal life again for a little while. With the early morning times at work the morning

commute may be difficult, but with sleeping in a bed I should be able to make the sleep up quickly.

That's all I can think of for now. I still feel more odd than sad lately about my homelessness, but that's likely just due to the excitement of my upgrades. I have a very strange feeling that once we hit the end of July when I'm back on the street that the overwhelming sadness will return. Even now there are times I feel like crying even though I know, at least for now, I have shelter.

## Day 735 - 7/6

### Oops day

It's just past midnight; time to try and sleep. I guess there was a bit of an oops today in that I was apparently supposed to be at work. The thing is, in my over two years working there, in the over 1.25 years my direct boss has been my boss, she's never scheduled me on a day without letting me know. With all the 4<sup>th</sup> of July changes and what with my moving everything to my new netbook I didn't bother to check the schedule until I noticed a call from the super boss that he was wondering where I was. I guess with all the excitement from the children and the not-sis' boyfriend about it being his birthday I somehow completely missed three phone calls. Well, both my direct boss and super boss will likely understand. I have never missed other shifts, or canceled, or even asked for one off after I'd been scheduled. I'll have to double check my schedule very carefully in the future and take even more meticulous notes. Once I upgrade to my Droid X I'm sure I'll have a calendar feature that will make tracking this a whole lot easier than my little note paper system I currently use, both to record information as well as to look it up.

Other than that it was a fairly regular day. That and a special fancy dinner for the not-sis' boyfriend was it. No jobs were available to search, as there really were no posts for the holidays. And, as I only (thought I) had the short 2 hour shift in the morning there really wasn't anything at work to speak of that happened.

Well, time to try and sleep. Night peeps. 😊

## Week 106

### Day 736 - 7/7 Third impressions

I'm still loving my new netbook. I love its size, its color, its weight, even its mostly quiet operation. However, I can't help but feel some applications, notably those in 2D, such as web browsing and web video streaming, are heavily CPU restricted, and I wonder if games in the future will be unplayable due to increases in the requirements (since they are already seemingly a 50/50 prospect now.) I am very tempted to return it (and only get 85% back) within my 30-day window and switch to an Alienware M11x. It would be a vastly more powerful system overall. (It gets solid gaming benchmarks, getting around a 6,000 value compared to my new netbook's sub-2,000.) The drawback is that it's over \$1,000, more than double the cost of my new netbook. It would take me until early August at the soonest to get that much money. I've thought and thought and thought about this for the past couple of days now and I think that I've settled on some facts and a conclusion. Fact: I would be far better served by that \$500+ difference in cash, either to help get me re-established in a home or as a life upgrade by using it for an HDTV or desktop upgrade. Fact: I can play some of my games just fine. I don't *really* need flawless play of all games (since I'll be able to game on my desktop at least once a week while it's at C&H's.) While WoW is still a struggle for the new system even at lower settings (I now get 20-30 FPS compared to before at 4-15 FPS) I do ok for now. Fact: The system will hold its value well enough that I can get 85% of new value for probably a year by selling it on my own, so the 30-day return window is a moot point. Conclusion: I think I'm ok with a 'wait and see' approach. I can wait and see if in, say, six months when we near X-mas if the games I want to play are unplayable on my netbook or if I'm still ok and happy with what I can play. I can wait and see if my life is, or is not, progressing towards home life. If so, saving the money is better. If not, maybe the M11x will be even more powerful for the money. At the end of summer (by roughly mid-September) I should be able to have saved about \$1250-1500, so dropping over \$1,000 to upgrade then later recovering \$400 or so by selling my current system won't be as tough of a prospect as it would be to



return it now and save up the money to buy the M11x one month from now. I think I'm ok with that even though some of the heavy struggling I wanted to remove still persists.

I suppose that is one positive thing all this suffering has helped me with – waiting and having more options is better. I have always had a lot of patients when forced to, but these trials have helped me a bit more with that.

## **Day 737 - 7/8**

### **These aren't the droids I'm looking for**

Doing a mini work shift. It's unexpected, as this was a shift someone was supposed to get back, but it looks like I may be keeping it a while. More monies for me.



I went looking for Droid info today and was pretty much blown off by the sales guy. I was worried because I'd seen conflicting price info last night. It looked like about \$70 a month as minimum for unlimited stuff with around \$45 a month minimum with limited use. I told him I heard it was around \$30, a figure I saw in a preview, but he said that was wrong and I should add \$30 to any plan I was looking at. The basic voice plan at \$40 plus the \$30 would be vastly higher than my current \$23 a month plan. He basically said 'k thx bye'. He didn't even try to convince me why it was worth it to take a pre-order. (The phone doesn't come out until the 15th.) I just boggled in amazement at his lack of a sales pitch and walked out. It's like if he isn't willing to discuss lower priced plans then forget him. Even in the booklet with prices it looked as if I could do a limited plan at \$45 a month, which while expensive might be worth considering. I'll be going to a different store or going online to order I think. He did not make me feel welcome or treated well as a potential customer. If, however, changing my phone/plan would be much more than \$50 a month I think that would just be too much. Some people here at mini work were saying they had unlimited plans that were \$125+ a month. Good god that seems crazy. 🙄 If that's the case I may look at older model phones that do what I want that could be run on my current \$23 a month plan, or something that isn't too much more expensive at least. Really all I want to do is have a calendar, a clock with a real alarm feature, and a GPS (though I'd only maybe use it 1-2 hours every few months, and I don't *need* it really.) I

don't think I'd really use the texting or Internets. At least not until I have a sweetie who wants to message me 😊 or if I could use the phone as a wireless connection for my netbook.

That's really it today. Just work and a little bit of a pause at the not-sis' between shifts. Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

Well, it seems the sales guy was right (in pricing). I called the 800 number to the carrier and they confirmed that the unlimited data plan is required for any of the new fancy phones because they are constantly attached to the Internets. After adding on the lowest value voice and texting plans the total was \$80 a month. That is just too much of an increase over my current \$23 a month. Sooooo sad. Such a sexy device. 😞

## Day 738 - 7/9

### Strange thoughts

I had some strange thoughts yesterday while getting a chance to play the StarCraft 2 beta on the new netbook. Even ignoring the fact that I had to put the game on its lowest settings causing it to look like poo, even though the system still struggled to run the game, I think I would have little to no desire to play it on a screen this small. While the screen is perfect for portable movie and show watching, while I'm fine with shooter games, as a top-down view game the elements just get too small. It's like watching an ant farm.

It seems that is yet another unplayable game. In total now that's Mass Effect 2 and Dragon age, the two games I want to play most that I own, and now StarCraft 2, which are all effectively so crippled on the netbook that they are unplayable. Yes, there are times here and there that they do ok, but for the most part the frame rate is just too low to play. While WoW is much more playable at 20-30 FPS at 1366x768 resolution compared to the previous netbook at 4-15 FPS at 1024x600 res, it is still borderline frustrating during the slow times. While Portal, Evil Genius, and Thief 3 may run fine I am seriously doubting the netbook can really game. I had my doubts, but more hopes, but after doing my own testing it seems underpowered. Also, as a mobile device it sacrifices battery life because it

can't switch off the graphics card. So I've gone from potentially 5 hours of use down to about 3. Quite a reduction for non-gaming use. I am still wondering if I should switch back to my old netbook and hold out for the Alienware M11x. I'd have no problem gaming with the M11x, and with a switchable graphics chip it would increase to a reported 6+ hours of non-gaming use, double that of my current netbook and possibly even more than my old netbook. It seems in some ways the new netbook is no better than my last one. In others it just can't do what it tries to do. But in a few ways I totally love it. I'm going to leave it up to Fate I think. I'll see how one final game test goes, see if my old netbook sells before I get paid next Wednesday at midnight, see how my money builds during the next few months, and decide what to do in time. I'm not sure if I'll revert to my old system for a month and return this system, or if I'll hold onto it and see if the M11x gets a better screen and/or better graphics chip over the next few months and upgrade closer to Xmas. Or, who knows, I could be re-established in a home in a few months and be able to use the money for an HDTV or desktop upgrade.

Too much of my life is still in the air to decide anything really. Heck, much of the time lately I can barely think straight from being so tired and my day being so busy (yet not really having time to focus and do things like job searches.) At least I have tomorrow off and can sleep in and rest. Sunday I'll be up early, but then I can sleep at C&H's in a bed, play on my desktop, and sleep in Monday and play until about 2. During the day at work when I'm about with my Internet connection available things seem ok. But when I'm still at night and my mind is not distracted I find myself being sad and dreading the cold lonely nights in my car.

## **Day 739 - 7/10**

### **Hope and disappointment**

My old netbook isn't selling. I guess sometimes I live with a bit too much hope. I try to live life with no expectations. I find if you let life surprise you that life is more enjoyable than requiring certain conditions be met. However, sometimes things don't surprise you. Sometimes all the hope and wishful thinking in the world doesn't work. In doing research on my new system – research I probably should have done before my

purchase - I'm finding evidence that it does indeed heavily struggle in games. Prior to my purchase I trusted reviews which showed acceptable frame rates. Due to my old netbook not yet selling, I think I'll go ahead and return the new one when I start staying at C&H's. Since I'll have access to my desktop (for gaming and Internet show watching) for a week and a half that's the perfect time to switch back to my old netbook and move forward to an M11x. From the research I did today, I'm seeing additional proof/evidence (beyond reviews) that the M11x can handle everything I want with flying colors. And more importantly, it should be able to hold solid for new games for several years to come if need be. Plus, since its graphics are switchable, I'll be back to having a max of 6+ hours of battery life when non-gaming.

It's sad that I'll have to spend closer to \$1,000 to get a gaming capable laptop instead of playing ok on the new netbook I got. The simple truth is that as much as I love some aspects the core reasons and desires behind my upgrade can't be met by it. It simply is still underpowered for my gaming and heavier web needs.

Now, there will still be about five weeks between now and when I could order the M11x, so there is still a window to change my mind. I will be open-minded, but it seems clear with today's game testing and research that it really isn't an improvement in terms of performance. I expect to make the transition, but I will be mindful to keep all options open during my transition window until the order goes in during mid-August.

I hope my life does not prove to be on a similar path. I do hope I'm not overestimating my abilities and that I *am* capable of getting back into a home. I did give the netbook a fair chance, and I haven't been given one by jobs, so I suppose in that regard we are different. But I wonder; am I not being realistic about my skills? Am I not being realistic in being able to perform in ways desirable to employers? Are there enough others that I simply won't be thought of as a good fit for the tasks at hand?

I still wonder if I will ever find my fit at a job, with a sweetie, and with friends. Those who have should consider themselves blessed, for all I can see before me right now is a long road of lonely struggle.

## Day 740 - 7/11

### My pen

It's pretty late at C&H's. I'm getting ready to sleep in a bed. 😊 Unfortunately they are watching their TV and doing stuff so it may be tough to sleep. 😞 But, I have a bed for the night, and no work until 3:45 tomorrow, so I can sleep in for quite a while. I had access to my desktop, though I didn't play much.

C&H are going out a touch earlier than expected, so I can come over on the 18<sup>th</sup>. I don't think I have work, so I'll have all of that Sunday to play and do whatever. Since I'll probably be on the street I may come here then wind up going back to sleep for a while.

I may have a deal for a new phone. Someone at work said he'd give me his old one if I wanted. I didn't look into it too much for fear of what the plan would cost. This morning I called and asked just for the heck of it, and my current carrier said I would only need to do a \$15 data add as an increase. At only a \$15 increase to my bill (for under \$40 total) that is definitely worth looking at. If I can't get the phone for free from the work peep the customer service guy said I may be able to get one free from them depending on which model I was looking at getting. So, good news there but I won't look at any changes until late Wednesday night / Thursday when I get paid.

My pen is still here – the one I used to write Epic Fail with when I was here. It was here on what I used as a nightstand. How odd to have forgotten I left one here. How much odder to think I have a place for my stuff, a place things belong, a place where I keep them. Such a simple thing in a home, yet it seems so foreign to me now.

## Day 741 - 7/12

### Getting through today

All I can think about lately is 'how can I get through today?' My mind wanders to homeless days to come, but I still have a lot of struggles now. 'What are my physical needs? What are my emotional needs? Can I improve my life in some way?' Days are

filled with thoughts about where I need to go for my work shift. Working at three different locations with shifts averaging closer to 2-3 hours than not can be confusing. My days are also filled with thoughts of changing my system and possibly a phone upgrade - things that help me feel "normal", things that help me appear normal.

I know in only a few weeks the fear will return. What can be visible in the car, what can't be, will I be seen at the old spot, can I still be invisible, can I hide at school and try and sleep in during the mornings; all these questions and old fears return.

I don't know how I'll do it again. These past six and a half months or so I've had shelter at the not-sis and C&H's. Now that I've lost C&H's shelter save for roughly once a week, now that the not-sis is moving at the end of the week, where will I go? Life was so horrible and difficult without these shelters. I don't know how I'll be able to return to that knowing they are no longer an option.

I suppose I did make it those first 1.5 years with no help, so I should be able to again. But this time the car is different, I am different. In some ways I feel more fearful that I can't do it, that I feel less safe, less healthy, less secure about my possessions. I should feel the reverse of those, but I don't.

Maybe hope is fading. Maybe the belief that I *am* failing and will never get out is beginning to sink in.

## **Day 742 - 7/13**

### **Reverted**

It's a quiet moment here at the not-sis' place. Everyone is gone away to do a family movie night, so I'm here alone with the dog, cat, and lizards.

I decided since I had most of the day free today that I'd revert back to the old netbook and send the new one away to get my refund faster. There really wasn't much point in keeping it an extra day or two longer.

I guess I feel ok about life at the moment, but I know that is just for today. While my mind is quickly occupied by thoughts and dreams of my impending gaming laptop upgrade, and often distracted with thoughts of a possible phone upgrade, so many times it

falls to thoughts of sadness; of long days with little to do, of evenings of killing time when most places are closed, of nights and mornings hiding from police and prying eyes. Where will I eat? Where will I stay during the day? Where will I sleep? What will become of my work hours when summer is over - will it be just the 8 hours a week again?

Thoughts of sadness fill my mind, but a few shining hopeful and happy thoughts keep me distracted... for now.

## Week 107

### Day 743 - 7/14 Massive migraine

I have the worst migraine ever today. 😞 It's one of those times where it feels like my brain is trying to push my eyeballs out of my skull. 😞 I feel pretty sick with the headache, neck ache, a few other general muscle aches, and my bladder is not happy. It kind of feels like I got punched in the gut a little too.

Other than that I've had an ok day. I shared some lols with people at work and got decent sleep. Though I'm very sleepy and if I'm sleep deprived that may explain a possible reason for the migraine. I haven't been able to eat well lately either. Because I overextended myself on the netbook I've had no money for food these past four days or so. I've had hot dogs for my meals almost every meal. Thankfully I get paid tonight, so from then on I'll be ok. While my savings will be drained when I get my laptop I should be able to build quite a buffer until then. Speaking of which, I sent off the one I recently got to be returned today, so that's cycling now. Though I don't expect to get the money back for between 1.5-2 weeks due to shipping and inspection time. I can't believe the place I dropped the ram off kept the box for two days. I'm going to complain about that to the better business bureau. It isn't the first time that's happened there, and that's not ok if your store is claiming to be an official drop off point.

I guess that's it for today so far. It's later in the day but I don't expect anything interesting to happen.

### Day 744 - 7/15 Phone on hold

It's pretty late, but also probably the hottest day/night so far, so I'm unlikely to sleep anytime soon. It's a shame too because I've got to get up ridiculously early for a work training thing.



I made the call today to get my new fancy phone, but it was far out of the price range I could afford right now. It seems I have to put the phone plans on hold until after I get my laptop. It seems I misunderstood the statement of 'because your plan is so old the phone is \$200 and you receive a heavy discount'. I took that to mean it was \$200 and I'd get a discount beyond that. Apparently \$200 is the maximum discount and \$600 is the base price with no discount. 🙄 While \$200 isn't totally out of reach it is certainly out of my reach right now. It will be at least another two weeks when I get paid again before I'd be able to buy it. The laptop will have to come first. While I *do* really want the shiny new features, and it would replace my current camera, I'm questioning if I'd really need it. While I'd use the calendar and alarm a lot now due to increased work hours, they become a fairly moot point once my hours drop back down in winter. While the effective upgrade cost is only really about \$125 post camera sale, that "small" \$15 minimum monthly plan upgrade does add up to \$180 a year. That is most of a mainstream graphics card *every* year. Is what I need it for that important right now? I have no doubt that price will drop as wireless connectivity increases around the country. Would I really use it though? It would be fun. It would be new. I wouldn't be 6+ years behind on phone tech anymore. That \$200 internet would hold pretty solid for several years, so it may be worth it. I'll have to do more soul searching over the next few weeks and see. On the one hand 'it is only money'. The fun and functionality will be of value. On the other hand, I can do a calendar on my netbook. My current phone alarm has worked well enough, and I don't need mobile (phone/device) gaming. Above all else, during not summer things have been quite a struggle, and I'll feel really stupid if I had a fancy phone but was starving from hunger because I had to spend \$15 more a month on the phone bill.

Well, despite my hopes, dreams, and desires lately for portable gaming and updating my phone, it seems, as always, Fate is playing its hand. Thus I will wait and see as my timetable ticks down. Maybe there is a different path for me and that is why Fate has delayed me.

**Day 745 - 7/16**  
**Car stops dead, and stays dead**

This morning has rapidly turned bad, but I have high hopes it will turn out ok. On the way to a training thing this morning I heard an odd noise from the car, a sort of yeee-yeee-yeee-waaa like a fan was getting stuck. It seemed to let up/stop when I put the clutch in, so I figured it was clutch related. Since the noise stopped as mysteriously as it started I had no choice but to not worry about it and hope everything was ok. After the training I was on my way to the store to buy food. While sitting in a turn lane it suddenly stopped dead. It refused to try and start at all. I put on my hazard lights so people knew to go ahead. You'd be surprised how many seemed to not notice at all. Someone even sat behind me and beeped. It's like, seriously? I waited a few minutes then checked things out. It looked like it was completely out of oil and very low on radiator fluid. Thankfully while I was on the phone to the tow place a guy volunteered to help by pushing it across the corner to the store parking lot. As we were driving two others helped. Yeeaaaa for help. 😊 I went to the food store and paid way too much for oil and radiator fluid. I just put it in before writing this, so I'm going to wait about an hour for it to cool. I'll grab some kind of lunch and see if it starts up. Hopefully it will. I have more work in only about 4.5 hours from now (~3.5 from then), so if it does seem to start with little trouble I'll let it run idle and rev it a few times to cycle fluids. After, I'll stop it again, and again let it sit for like an hour to totally cool off. Around that time, about 1 hour before my next shift I'll see if it can get to that work. It's only about a five minute drive, so if it can it should be fine. That's a 1.5 hour shift, then I basically come back to where I'm at now to go to my regular 5 hour Friday night shift.

Hopefully everything will be fine. I just spent \$25 on oil and other stuff. I'm getting really tired and disappointed with having cars that break and take hundreds to fix. And, if it is broken this would be the worst thing ever what with my having 1.5 at C&H's coming up. While they aren't super far, they are about 10-15 miles of freeway driving each way. I guess I could spend the like \$50 on an oil change if all seems well. With the oil getting drained so fast since I last filled it, it seems like there may be a leak or something, which the shop may find.

Anyways, a very bad day that may turn out to be far far worse and ruin plans for everyone. 😞 I don't understand why these bad things keep happening to me. 😞 I guess

if it starts ok I just have to keep a closer eye on the levels. But if not, I don't know what I'll do. I just got this car a few months ago and only have a small bit in savings. 😞

Time passes

The day I've dreaded has come, and at the worst possible time. The car was towed to Fortes Brothers in Mountain View not too far from one of my work locations. They examined and poked at it for over two hours and have since basically pronounced it dead. One thing for sure it needs is a new alternator (which didn't go bad instantly, as it's completely coated in rust), which just for the part is \$310, not counting over \$100 for labor. On top of that the car is spewing fuel where it shouldn't for no known reason. They have no idea what exactly is causing it, so that would probably be another issue needing fixing. On top of all that the timing belt has no mark, so they have no way to truly calibrate the engine.

The day of my fully being homeless is here. I'm now on foot until I get a new car. And it's come at a time where I can get no help. The one friends that would help me are about to go out of town - a time that would have otherwise been cause for celebration for me. I'd have watched their place and been able to live like a normal person. Now, now unless someone somebody knows has an "extra car" they want to loan me, or someone can drive me back and forth to work every day, there is no way I could do it.

I feel like I'm going to break down into uncontrollable crying any minute now. Why are none of my people I knew back in the day that I've recently reconnected with helping? Why is noone understanding or helpful when I tell them my problems?

I sent word to C&H that I have no car and can't watch their place and I got a very cold sounding text to not worry about it. 😞 Now it seems even C&H may not be interested in helping. It's likely that they are just too busy getting ready to go, but it seemed cold, as if they were abandoning me and no longer want me around.

It seems more and more abandon me over time and more and more I'm left on my own to suffer.

I called the not-sis to tell her the bad news, that I won't be there tonight or tomorrow and can't help her move. I also asked if she would ask my ex-roomie if I could borrow a car for the next few weeks. She and her boyfriend that hates me have three fully functioning cars *and* four motorcycles. I doubt she will though. I hope and think she still

cares for and worries about me, but the car I would be borrowing is her boyfriend who like hates me's car, and I doubt he'd be willing to help.

I don't know what to do. I have a few hundred in my account, but nowhere near enough for a car. For the moment I'm truly on the street and I feel truly alone, abandoned, and unloved.

Time passes

Official word is in on borrowing the car from the ex-roomie. Apparently, since she lost her job, the boyfriend who like hates me has been selling off his extra cars, and that's his main car now. (Though the last time I was in the ex-garage the other day I saw at least three bikes in there.) I also called a car rental company, just to see how much it would cost. Though I knew renting a car would be expensive, I had no idea the prices spiked during the summer and it would be over \$200 per week. So that plan is out of the question as well.

It seems my car fate is in the hands of the gods, as it always seems to be. I'll post the car on a local board tomorrow with a very low price, probably something like \$300. With needing to drop upwards to \$600 or more in repairs into a car who's retail value is closer to \$1000 if in working condition, I may have a very difficult time trying to sell the car quickly as-is. I'll certainly be looking into that "lemon law" and seeing if I have any options or recourse to get any of the lost money back from the so-called dealer I bought it from. I won't have enough cash on-hand to buy a new car even if I got that \$300 before my time (at the repair shop) runs out on Tuesday. If I put all of my money in one place, I'd have maybe \$700. Two weeks from now I'd probably have closer to \$1,000, maybe even \$1,400 if I have my netbook return money back by then. But how will I get around until then? Will I just be spending my days at the food store close to this work and hiding my stuff here in a storage area inside? Where will I sleep?

There's also the other problem that I'll probably have to take a taxi to get the stuff in the trunk back to my ex-house to put it into storage. What I have with me is already far too much to carry around on a regular basis. I've got an overly full gym bag, my thin blankets, two bags of groceries, and one bag of shower stuff.

I should be able to hide the stuff here and be ok; using this work location as a sort of home-base for now. I can switch cloths every few days and get food I don't want to carry. (You'd be surprised how quickly soup and drinking liquids add up in weight.) With

my being here Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays I'm covered for showers. I could even shower at the other location on Sunday or Monday when I'm there. My main problem in getting around though will be that I can't change locations quickly. Sure, if I have time between shifts I could take a bus, but I can't do anything that is within normal driving time because I'm currently out of a car. I think the greatest stumbling block at the moment will be that I have no way to get to a place to look at a car. Even if one is within my price range I have no one that can help by taking me over. I suppose I could try and ask the ex-roomie who is fairly close, and who by being currently out of work probably is free much of the time, but she rarely talks to me, and mostly seems to be in a position of being told not to help by her boyfriend who like hates me.

The day I've dreaded is here. I'm now truly homeless, and I have far too much stuff to be ready for it. If I knew this day was coming I possibly could have prepared. I could have cut down the amount of clothing I'm carrying, maybe gotten it down to one blanket folded inside the bag with the cloths, not had extra food... there are lots of things I could have done to prepare. But suddenly losing my car, suddenly being in a position of needing to remove the items from the car and having no way to get them to storage... this is chaos.

\*cry, tear\*

I don't know what to do. All I can think to do is use this work as a temporary base to store a few items and taxi or walk between my work locations. Sleep will be difficult if not impossible during the cold nights, and during the warm days I can't think of more than a few places I could go to try and connect to the Internet. I have no idea how I'll sell my car, even less so how I'll get around to get a new one. Not counting the fact that, at the soonest, I won't have the money for at least two more weeks.

\*cry, tear\*

I was so happy last night and this morning. I had plans to live a normal life for a week and a half. I had plans/hopes of upgrading to a gaming netbook soon. I had hopes/wishes that I'd have enough extra to upgrade my 6 year old phone so I could be one of the cool kids I see around me all the time. I had plans to help the not-sis move tomorrow, and say a proper goodbye until I see them again when I come visit. But now... now I feel like I'm going to throw up, like I'm going to start seriously crying at any time, and that if I did I wouldn't stop. All I keep wishing for is for some close friends to come

surprise me at work, come in to the office, tell me they love me and that things will work out ok, and that one of them has a car for me to borrow until these times are past. But I apparently have no such friends (or at least no such friends who can right now). And with C&H's seemingly cold response to my news, with the not-sis leaving to move to her new place tomorrow, I feel sick, abandoned, and alone. I feel like noone out there cares and that in the coming weeks I will fade out of existence, alone and forgotten.

## Day 746 - 7/17

### So much crying

I cried a lot last night. 😞 I don't know what to say that I haven't said before. I really don't understand why this is happening to me. I'm a likeable and friendly guy. I'm smart. I give out helpful advice on many things. Yet, I have no friends really. The only real friends I have are C&H and the not-sis and they can't help me right now.

It's a quiet moment in the ex-garage. I realized early this morning that I'd have to come down here to get the pink slip for the car. I called a taxi and got taken from the gym location to the car, then to here. I had to empty out what was still in the trunk and put it into storage. That trip came to nearly \$40. 😞 Thankfully, outside of all the phone calls and the \$25 on various liquids, that's the only real cost so far. The repair shop voided all fees to help me out.

If today had gone as planned I'd be getting up now, and getting ready for the not-sis' move. After, I'd have their whole house to myself most of the day. I'd play my games on my PS3 and possibly be on the Internet. After sleeping as much as I could, I'd be heading to C&H's for a week and a half of fun and shelter, kicked off with Fallout 3, which I got specifically to play during their/my vacation. But today did not go as planned due to the disaster of yesterday. I barely ate anything at night because I wasn't hungry. I managed to not fully cry while people were there, but after they'd left I cried for probably about a solid half-hour. 😞 I feel as if no matter what I try and do to improve my life, no matter how ok things seem to be going, I keep getting knocked down harder and harder each time. Two cars dying mysterious deaths that boggle the minds of

mechanics within the last four months? Who has that kind of terrible luck besides me? Instead of being in my car last night and spending our time on the last night of the not-sis' being here with her family, I spent it crying at work after people had left, and hiding in bushes on the school property, unable to rest due to fear and worry. If I'm lucky I may have gotten three hours of sleep. And I feel this is likely to continue for quite a while.

When I'm done writing and having a truly quiet and nearly entirely safe moment I'll head over to the local shopping area - about a 10 minute walk from here. I'll be leaving most of my stuff here, so I'll have to come back very soon, probably tonight. I've reduced my bag to one work shirt, one pair of shorts, three pairs of socks, three pairs of underwear, one pair of sweat pants, and a single small towel. I'm wearing jeans, socks, underwear, a regular shirt, and my hoodie. About 1/3 of the bag is empty so I can carry some food with me. For now though I'll just keep my backpack with me. I have to go to investigate if a local store has a bike helmet and bike locks. Hopefully that will be less than \$50 total. There is still a bike at work - left there over probably two years now. The tires are super deflated now, but I can fix that, and it should allow me acceptable travel between the three work sites. I'll be going online at the shopping center too and posting the ad to sell the car, as well as researching the "lemon law" we have in our state. Maybe that will help me to recover some of my money. Even if I manage to get the full \$350 I'm asking I'll still be taking about a \$600 loss. I suppose the one positive thing is that I will no longer have a car that has so many undesirable qualities.

But I still don't understand. We are people, and many of us are kind, gentle, fun, and deserving of love and support. I don't know what it is about me or my life that requires I have so much suffering and I'm so alone. But take that time to appreciate those around you in your life you care about. Make sure they know you really care about them and value having them in your life. If they have troubles, try and help them if they will accept it. Not everyone can get out of trouble on their own, and sometimes it isn't their fault at all. Sometimes they just aren't good at a certain thing, and that's just part of what makes them who they are.

Don't let my sad story become yours or someone you know. Although I still have hope that I can make it out, in recent times I've really begun to wonder if Fate will ever allow me to be truly happy and supporting myself again. It seems like every time I try to make progress towards some aspect of normal life, be it my normal or mainstream

normal, it seems I get knocked down harder and harder. Don't let this be you. Stand strong. Hold your ground. Save and be ready for trouble. But most of all, live with love, and offer care and support to others whenever you can. Take care of you as best as you can, but remember we all want someone else to care about us. We *all* want people around us that help when we are down.

Time passes

\*more crying\* When I arrived at the not-sis' place I was not greeted by a dog at the gate. I was not greeted by children saying hello and telling me their newest thing. I was not greeted by the not-sis with a hello and funny or crazy story. The house is empty, save for a few items and a small amount of random items which could easily be dismissed as nothings, but are, each and every one, very important items to the children. As much as I miss being with C&H and their little one, this is different. I started crying before I'd even finished opening the gate. Now it feels like another huge section of me has been ripped from me. I feel sick. I feel sad. I feel like I will never see them again. It wasn't so much about not getting to help them move, it was far more. This was a family. Basically my family that I'd never had or known until now. Right now I feel like this is another piece of me that has faded and will never return. No more will I hear the stories when I come by. No more will I know what these items mean - a pink camouflage bandana, trading cards, external speakers for using with laptops, half of a dozen cupcakes left of a dozen; all seemingly very commonplace in a home, but each has a very important and special story with these who were my first real family.

I know I will see them again in time. With a car the hour or so trip isn't that big of a deal and I could probably visit once every few weeks or a month. But now, now I know what it truly was that I was missing. For a while I had it, but now they are gone. My first real family and I had no idea how very important every little thing had become.

My stuff is all still here, even their speakers are here. The Internet looks like it's still on. I'll take a shower in a minute. I'll wash cloths after. Later I'll make dinner. I may actually be hungry and eat something.

I don't know how I'll go on. So many big pieces of me are being ripped away. Right now I feel like I'm dying, but I can still see the world continuing on without me. I feel the pain of what I could have but no longer have it. I'm beginning to wonder if I will ever have it.



Time passes

It's pretty late for home life at just after 11. My calves are killing me. I had to walk about an hour with my backpack and gym bag to get to the bus to get here, but it was very worth it. In fact, even though I'd only get about 5-6 hours of sleep it is very tempting to come back Monday night. Due to it being later though, and Tuesday morning being so early, both trips are more than double the normal amount in cost. I'll still have tonight, Sunday night, and Tuesday night here. It's not much, but there is a couch to sleep on, a chair, a bathroom and kitchen, and for the moment Internet. It's not a quiet place though, but I suppose quiet enough. They live on a super busy street with a bus stop about 20 feet from the door. Most of all though there are the happy memories; phantoms in my mind. I keep seeing the children and expect them and the not-sis to come in at any second. My mind keeps thinking I hear the dog whining at the door, or his nails clicking on the ground. I feel as if they passed on, like I won't ever see them again. But I know that's not true. As soon as I get a car again I'll be able to see them.

Apparently C&H had to cancel half of their trip because I guess I was the only person who could adequately watch their critters. I feel terrible. Not only has this misfortune hurt me, but it's hurt them too.

C and others say 'take care of yourself.' I guess I find it very hard to do that. Yes, I'm fairly hedonistic what with various pleasures ruling my life, but in all honesty I only become so happy with things like, well like this moment now. Here I am in a place that's effectively what I'd do with my own place, yet I'd love nothing more than the not-sis and her kids to still be here. I really don't know if I can just worry about myself. I'm a very giving person, and I have to have interaction with others.

In fact, this has made me consider again re-directing my life since my current direction seems to be not of any help. Since I haven't seemed to be able to get into teaching, maybe I should look into physical therapy. That's part psychology and part helping people I think. Though I've no clue how much medical knowledge I'd have to have. I'm terrible with memorization of details like that. But it's something to research tomorrow along with the other things I will research.

I actually ate all of my dinner, which surprised me. With all of my crying and feeling sick lately I thought I'd only have a little. I didn't really have lunch. I ate maybe half of normal. But I guess I'm feeling at least a little bit better.

I want so very much to be back in a home, but I want to have people I care about around me. I don't know if I could live with strangers even if I had the money to rent a room. It's maybe not just about getting into a place anymore, but about getting back into a home. And friends or family who care about me is part of that. And that, that can't be gotten with money alone.

I'm exhausted. I should try and sleep. Hopefully I can. Hopefully I can feel safe and secure enough to settle in. At least I don't have to get up early tomorrow. With the entire day off I'm left on my own to sleep all I can. I'm so very happy I'm not on the floor as I expected that I would be. Let's just hope the short couch turns out to be ok. 😊

## **Day 747 - 7/18**

### **Lost a home and a family**

It's late morning, nearly noon. I slept about 12 hours. 😊 I'm going to need it though, as there are going to be many nights in the coming weeks where I'll be lucky to get even 4 hours of sleep.

Today I woke up and I feel like with this recent change I've lost my home and my family. This is a far greater loss than I felt two years ago when I lost my room. With a room it's just a room, even though my roomie was a friend. There are more rooms and they are what you make of them. With a family I was intertwined into other people's lives and they mine. I knew where they were going in life, what they were accomplishing, what they hoped and dreamed. We laughed and shared all the time. I have no idea how I will get along without them. It's going to take quite a while to rebalance to single homeless life. It will be much easier when summer is over and I'm back in school. But for now, particularly right now while I have no car, it seems impossibly difficult.

Today I'll probably do a lot of house packing and straightening up. There is still a lot left here undone and I think the not-sis has no help with finishing besides me. She will be back on Monday and Wednesday, but I think she will be alone. I can help Monday, but Wednesday I can't, as I have a couple of work shifts splitting up my day.

I'll still do car research too. C said I should take the car somewhere else and get a second opinion. She thinks it wouldn't be as much to fix as the place estimated and they estimated high to get my money. She did tell me to check parts prices at one site and one part was \$180, and goes on sale for less. The \$350 full retail price is what I was told at the repair shop. But still, it's not like I have somewhere to park the car to do a \$200 repair myself over time. Nor do I have the mechanical knowledge to diagnose and resolve other issues. I'll run some research and see, but it sounds like maybe I should just post the car at a higher value (with 'or best offer') and see what I get. I'll run a check on what cars are out there in the \$1500 range and see. There were several like my old one in that range when I last had to look for a car. If I'd have had that much last time I'd have gotten a car I was very happy with.

I'm rapidly getting hungry, which is a good sign. Though I know in the coming days of homelessness that are now upon me since I've lost that 1.5 week buffer at C&H's, now I fear the days of no sleep and barely eating due to sadness and a whacked out system will rapidly come.

Time passes

I'm feeling a bit better now. 😊 I had a lunch, even a snack of grapes, and a generous portion sized dinner. More than likely I'll have cupcakes later. I'm watching TV shows now through the Internet.

I am pretty proud of what I did today. I spent probably 5, maybe 6 hours, straightening up and packing. The children's room is done. The family room was almost done and I finished it. I think I'll see if I can do something about the kitchen in a bit. Their pantry is still full and needs to be packed.

Money is just money. (Even though I'm having an impossibly difficult time getting/keeping it these days.) I don't think everyone realizes that. They turn it into some kind of powerful thing that's a symbol; a tool of power or prestige. But it's not. It's what you do with the money. What value the thing has that you used the money on is what matters. Is it of value to *you*? Some things can't even be bought with money, and those are probably the most important of all.

## Day 748 - 7/19

### Good day, sad day

It's nearing 2:30 and I'm at a work site over an hour early just waiting for the shift to start. I could have walked over to a place to use the Internet and come back, but I got to use it this morning at the not-sis, so I'm ok with not using it now. Unfortunately there have been no calls about the car yet. Due to time constraints I may be forced to sell it to a junk yard for very little money. 😞 I'd hate to have to take that kind of loss. 😞

I slept ok last night, but not great. I couldn't fall asleep until around 2. I slept until about 10:30. The not-sis family were supposed to be there to do more packing and such at 11, so I got up and got ready for that. They didn't show up until about 11:30, but then I was like 'Yea!' 😊 We did some talking and some packing until about 1:30, then the not-sis brought me over to work early.

Now that I'm alone again I feel sad and a bit sick. I haven't eaten lunch – didn't have one with me to eat – but now I don't know if I'm still hungry. What was hunger while I was with the not-family has again turned to a sad sick feeling. 😞

Of course a lot of that could have to do with the car issue. My posting has dropped to \$340 after getting no calls yesterday compared to the previous \$480 price. There are a ridiculous number of cars being sold right now, so it may be much more difficult to sell than I'd hoped. What with the soft cap of Tuesday I may have a hard time selling it. If I still have no calls by the end of my Tuesday shift I'll have no choice but to tow it to one of my work sites and prey it's not flagged for removal for a few days. In theory I could research junk yard places Tuesday, Wednesday at the latest, possibly even tonight after work, and have it towed there.

I still don't understand why I'm getting such a bad deal with life lately. There are small things that are positive, like I found a bike helmet (with no bike) in the ex-garage that fits me perfectly that I'll be borrowing, I did sell my last broken car for \$600, just today I got two thank you / hellos from people on a gaming board for helping/talking and doing my site. But then there is so much sadness in my life. Now I've learnt what it's like to be like a dad. I no longer have thoughts of what it could be like, but I instead know what it *is* like. I now feel the pain of having that taken away and have no idea when I'll

have my own family. I can't find a job with steady hours, so I still have no truly stable income after over 2.5 years of looking, nearly all of my older friends basically ignore my cries of pain or requests for help, be they subtle or obvious.

Though, I am still very thankful for the little things I can have. But it confounds me as to why it seems every last thing in my life must always be broken or hindered in some way. Is it some kind of cosmic karma and I'm the sin eater that gets to take all the bad so others may have a happy and trouble free life? I just don't get it. 😞

Time passes

It's late, just after midnight. I'm hiding near one of my works in the bushes. The repair shop guy said I should try starting the car. I did, but it didn't start. It did the same thing as before. I requested he please please try checking the fuses, as that's where it sounded like the buzzing was coming from. (Something I'd have discerned Friday if I had a home to park the car at to get a moment to diagnose it.) I'd be surprised if his mechanics didn't check that though.

I wish I could have gone back to the not-sis' place tonight. Well, the ex-place. There was no way to though. The busses don't run this late. And even if I could have they don't run early enough to get me back for my morning shift. I'm on my own with the cold outside; as I may be for quite some time.

Hopefully tomorrow I can get the bike set up. We couldn't get it earlier because there was no room in the car. At least that will get me some mobility to check some hiding spots I once knew.

I think the light I'm using will shut off soon. Maybe I can feel a bit safer and get some rest soon too. 😞

## Day 749 - 7/20

### Sneaking and running

It's nearing 8:30 in the morning. I would be lucky if I got three solid hours of sleep last night if the times I slept were all added together. I feel sick from lack of sleep. Thank the gods I can sleep at the not-sis' ex-house tonight.

Last night, not too long after I wrote, I noticed some police cars pass by on the street. Mind you I was in a darkened spot unlikely to be seen from 15 feet away let alone the roughly two baseball fields away the street was. But still, the first didn't seem unusual. It was the second pass, then a third by a different car when I started to worry. That one pulled into the lot. I ran as fast as my little legs would carry me through the maze that is the school buildings to try and get distance before he was close enough to see me. 😞 They must have been looking for someone near the street out there because I didn't see them again for the rest of the night. But good god did they scare me. 😞 I'm so very worried being out here exposed on foot. In the future I'll have a bike to get around. There may be other, less suspicious park locations that I know of. Here is the issue though; I can have a higher risk location with the option to de-alarm a work location and put away my bike and large bag, making me far less suspicious looking (then turn the alarm back on (which in itself increases risk if the on/off log is examined even though everyone uses the same alarm code)), or I can be somewhere else, but at a higher risk of overall suspicion due to all the bags I'm carrying and inability to hide them or the bike.

I really don't know how I'll make it with no car. Like if we just look at Wednesday and Thursday; Wednesday I'm done for the day at 5:15, and Thursday at 3:45. What am I supposed to do for the remainder of the evenings and afternoon until my shift on the following morning?

In a room/home this would be easy. Plenty to occupy my time with, even if it's just relaxing somewhere safe and private. And with a car, foood, easy stuff. Hop in and get there right before my shift, doesn't matter what time it is. Even without having a place to stay during the night at least with a car I could easily get to busy spots without raising suspicion.

Well, let us pray for the car situation to be resolved quickly – either by the mechanics testing my fuse theory and getting back my car, or let us hope that I have enough money two Thursdays from now to find something I'm comfortable buying.

Bye for now. 😊 Let's hope today turns out to at least be more productive in the afternoon and restful in the evening than it does not. I've got some very hard times on the street ahead of me in the coming days.

Time passes

I'm finally at the not-sis' ex-home. (Closer to 2 hours of bus rides than not.) I cried a little when I got here. I miss them so much. And I will miss me so much. A great part of *me* was here too. This was the first home I'd truly had in over two years. The first true family I've ever had. While C&H's place came very close, I don't know that I ever felt as at-home as I have here with the not-sis. I'm not sure why. Maybe it was because I'm more in control of things here.

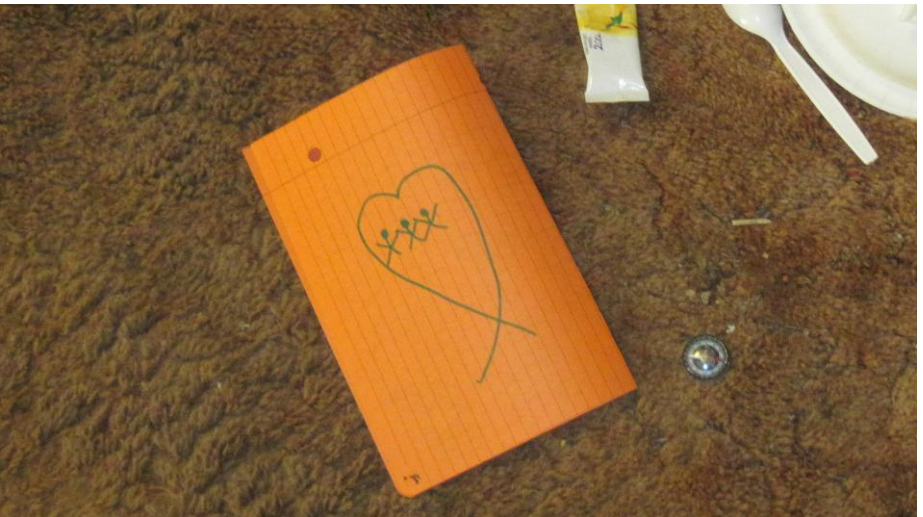
But I'm here for the last night and the last day. Once I leave tomorrow morning I can never return. A big part of me will be lost forever.

Tonight will be the last night on a sort of bed here. Tomorrow will be my last morning here ever. And when I've left, I don't know how long it will be before I return to a bed, a home, and a family like this.

## Picture series 16



Children's personality

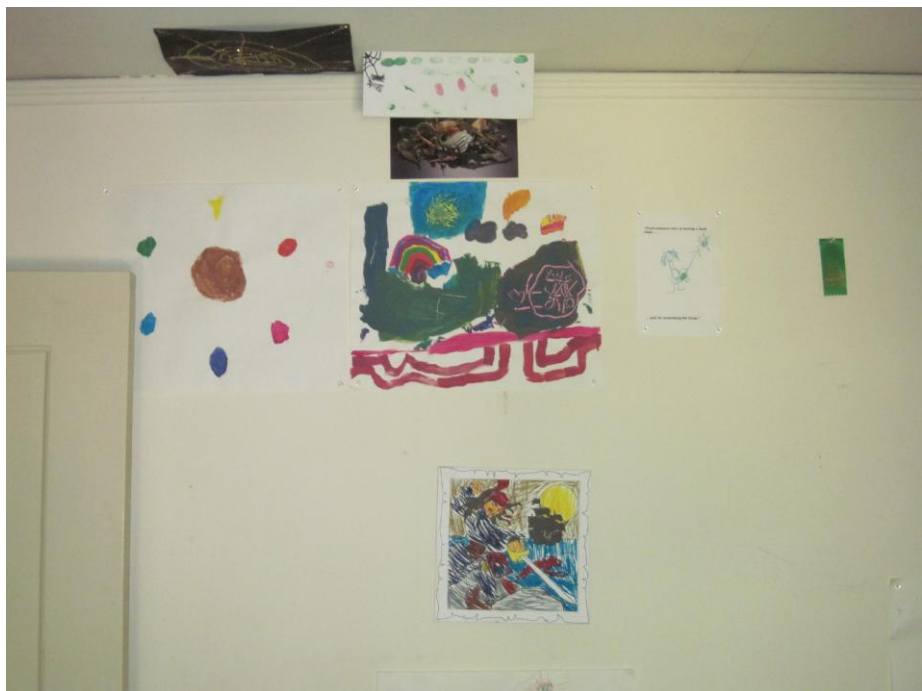


A loving family





Cookie?



Girl's room pic 1



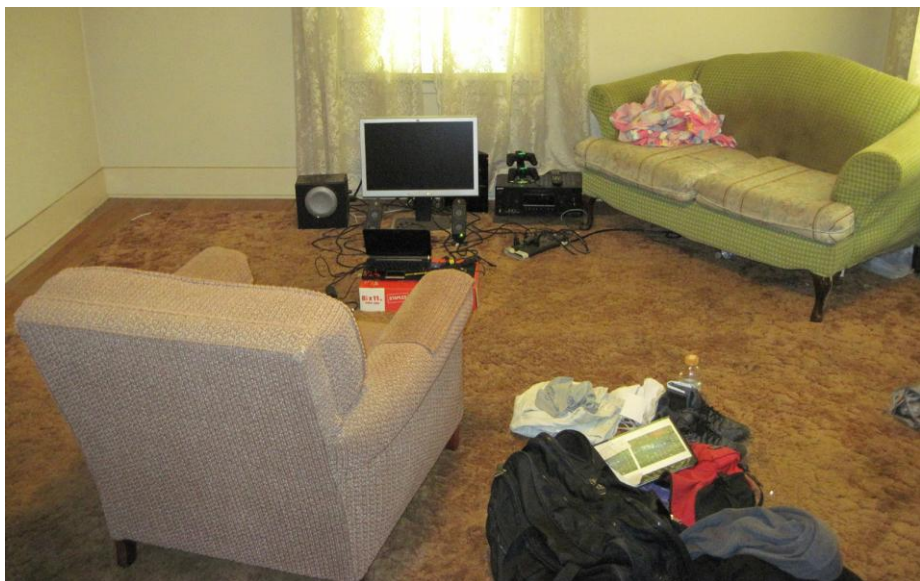
Girl's room pic 2



BBQ



The not-sis' house



A not-home of my making

## Week 108

### Day 750 - 7/21 More than one last night

It's just before my first work shift today. I'm so very sad. 😞 Tonight hopefully I can get one last night in what will be an empty house. I don't know where I'll go after that. And trips will be so expensive. I'm spending double what I would on gas on these short trips that should be 20-30 minutes but which are taking me 1-1.5 hours, not counting the 5-45 minutes of additional walking. The cost hit will really hurt my speediness into getting a new car. I've already lost \$16-20 when the costs would have been zero because I already had nearly a full tank of gas. I don't think I will be able to get any of that \$900 back either. I'll see what legal recourse I have, I already sent an email, but there is likely nothing I can do.

I don't understand why noone is helping. I put out an official cry for help on Facebook, and as of this morning there were no positive replies at all. If I knew someone in trouble and had anything at all I could offer to help I would, even if it meant a cash loan to help them get back into a car sooner.

I don't know what to do. This has gone on for so long. I don't know what else I can do. I can't get into a shelter because I'm not on drugs, alcohol, or with other medical issues. I can't find more work despite my attempts. I can't seem to find anyone willing to give me garage space or a couch. And now I've lost my car. I don't know what will become of me anymore. My heart is now empty and all that is left is pain and sadness. I try to cling to hope, but it seems like a dim light fading in the night.

Time passes

There has been a bit of good news for the day at least. My stuff that was at the not-sis has made it back to my ex-garage storage safely. More importantly I can stay one final night in the not-home. 😍 There may not be power, there may not be Internet, but I can stay. 😍

I think part of why I have been so sad about it was that it really was the closest to a home that I've possibly ever come. I could bring stuff there. I could put my stuff in



places of my choosing, and although I slept outside in my car I was free to come and go as much as I needed or wanted. At C&H things are different. Even when we had plans to put me in the garage there were always limits. I couldn't watch my shows when I chose. (They never even really asked if I wanted to.) I could only put my stuff in designated areas. I never controlled or influenced the environment in ways I chose. But most of all I was only there on a temporary basis - just until I got my own place. With the not-sis' place I could stay as long as they were there. (Which, sadly, has turned out to be much shorter than originally planned. Though they are not leaving the country. They are instead around an hour's drive away.)

Since I got the news about one last night in what was basically my last home, my mood has lifted. I feel as if maybe things can improve and get better. Nearly every aspect of today in an attempt to recover has met with some fail. There are still no offers of help from my online plea. There is no reply from the people about moving the lemon law forward. I'd hoped to get a pro-rated monthly bus pass for the remainder of the month, but for some crazy reason they don't do that, which means the cost in time for this month's bus rides will total around \$65, nearly the full \$70 a pass would have cost compared to what would have been about \$55 had I been going back and forth to C&H's every day, or \$30-40 to the not-sis' place. If I don't get my returned notebook money in the early half of next week it might be best for me to assume that I need a bus pass for next month. With my trips adding up to roughly \$70 in two weeks I would save money if I needed to stay on busses longer than those first few weeks in August. (Which means I'm likely facing yet another tragically sad birthday.) I could potentially save something like \$400 more to put towards a car if I do have to wait until two paychecks from now. Hopefully the base \$1,100 I should have would be enough. There were several cars I liked in the \$1,000 range last time. The problem was I didn't have that much. With \$1,500 I could even look at the cute cars I like but with hard tops instead of soft.

I guess I'm a little rambling lately, but with all of these hour+ long bus rides I've had a lot of time to think about stuff.

But if I could, I'd much rather have little to do save for listening to the children play, or even argue. I miss having peeps I love around me who care for me too.

I hope and pray for better days - not just for myself, but for everyone out there struggling. But I'm afraid that in my case, without being given opportunities to succeed everything remains out of my control.

Time passes

Oh happy day. 🤔 The not-sis said it was ok for me to stay here through the weekend at least until she comes by Monday morning. I may even see her, as I don't have to leave until around 2. 😊 Also, for the moment there is still power and Internet. 🤔 She said the landlord peep is even considering letting me stay longer until the new tenants come so that there is someone watching the house at night to prevent vandalism. (Though it isn't likely that would happen.)

With my being able to stay here over the weekend things are looking up quite a bit. Even if power and Internet were lost I could still enjoy my time just having private / safe / quiet time.

I won't be able to get back Friday night though due to how late my shift ends, but there is, I suppose, a slim chance a gym person could give me a lift. If not it isn't too bad. I can get back around 10 on Saturday morning, so I'd just have to survive through Friday night.

Things are looking up a slight bit. Hope fills my heart once more. 🤔

## **Day 751 - 7/22**

### **Bike was fail**

I'm at an early shift waiting for the peeps to arrive. I got some decent sleep, but didn't fall asleep until some time after 12:30. I was hoping to be asleep around 10:30, but I knew that wasn't likely to happen. Still, even falling asleep later than I'd hoped, I got almost 6 hours of good sleep. The bus dropped me off so early here that I got to zonk out for another ½ hour. I was so gone that when my phone alarm went off I jumped up from being startled.

I forgot to mention the bike was fail. It was a bit too short and when filling up one of the tires (on that first day I had it) one of them exploded. I guess it's ok. Although some of my walking trips are longer they aren't bad. Now that I'm getting used to tweaking the bus trip planning website I can usually find a route where I only have to walk about one or two blocks. 😊 In the future though, once I've completely lost the not-home, these distances will increase and I'll see if I can find a bike then. A quick glance showed it would cost about \$150 on a bid site that I know of, so I'd have to look on a free board because that's way too much. Since I don't need one right now I'm not really worried about it. It's still possible I could be in a car again not this coming weekend but the one after. I may actually be able to stay at the not-home during that time. We'll see.

That's it for my day so far. After this shift I've got about a 2 hour window where I'll grab some food to stock myself up for the weekend, then I've got a short shift, then it's back to the not-home by 5 where I can hopefully use teh Internets and watch my shows for a relaxing evening. 😎

## **Day 752 - 7/23**

### **Commuting day**

It's late afternoon during what could be called a 15 minute layover between busses. Today is commuting day. By the time I get to my second work location I will have spent over 4.25 hours on busses and about an hour walking. If I can't find a gym peep to give me a ride back tonight I can add about another hour walking and 1.5 hours on two trains. Though about 2 hours of those rides were not really necessary. I could have avoided it. The reason is that this morning I had what would have been a 2.5 hour training which turned out to only be half an hour, leaving a potential 8.75 hour window to do nothing. I decided to spend an hour getting back to the not-home and 1.5 hours coming back to the next work location, leaving me with about 5 hours at the not-home. I'm very glad I did. 😊 I went back to sleep and got 2.5 more hours of sleep, as well as getting something I needed to mail into the mail, and had a little bit of time to surf news and

gaming boards. I didn't check for jobs or glance at cars. I can do that tomorrow after sleeping in.

Despite the horrendous amount of time wasted in travel, and all the plans I had wished for my life during these days being destroyed, I feel surprisingly at peace today. My suffering will lesson and heal given enough time after getting re-established, and while I am truly poor, money is only money. Provided that I do eventually get back into a home, my days of not gaming and losing money on all this car poop will eventually come to an end.

I'm still not sure what to do with my life though – exactly how to recover. I guess my Masters level teachers were right in that I don't really shine at that A+ level in anything. I'm pretty much a B level guy. But, I maintain that level over multiple subjects and fields. But with it being so late in life for learning, and with such limited resources, is there a way I could apply myself and get into a new field? The ones I'd hoped and wished for myself certainly don't seem to be working out – but is there still time to start something else that I may be good at? With the level of schooling required and time to build a history in the field, I just don't know.

## **Day 753 - 7/24**

### **Relaxing day, but sad too**

It's early evening/night. Pretty soon it will be time to eat dinner and watch my one show that I have online.

Today was pretty good. I got to sleep in. I almost got up at 9:30, but after a while I finally settled back to sleep until 12:30. I got up, started laundry, did a few hours of cleaning/straightening, then distracted myself for a few hours playing a free game. If I can get high enough level I'm entered to win an M11x, so that would be very helpful.

It was a good day in the not-home. A relaxing day. But it was sad too. I miss my not-family. I miss having friends around me. As I'm here more and more I find my mind longing for and remembering times when I could watch my movies and play my games. My days here are few, and with no word yet from the not-sis those days may end Monday morning.



I will manage. I will continue on somehow. I must. I have no choice it seems. And still I wonder; why me? Why am I the one to not have enough income? To not find a decent career? To have not one, but two cars mysteriously die in the space of the last three months? To not have friends that can help me? To not have a sweetie that can help? It seems like an awful lot of suffering and sadness for one person to bear. 😞

## Day 754 - 7/25

### The last night

I'm still pretty sad about not knowing if I can stay. Even if I could though my time in the not-home will run out soon.

I'm getting worried about my ankle. With all of this walking it's feeling sore and more swollen again. I'm afraid I won't get a real chance to check it out until I get a car again. Maybe if I'm allowed to stay here I can look into where exactly the hospital is in relation to the busses.

I have a show to watch with dinner, so that's happy. And I get to sleep in. 😊 I don't have to leave for work until 2:15, and I'll probably get to see the not-sis before that. 😊 Hopefully she will have good news for me, but she said to expect to not be able to stay. Seeing as I've heard nothing yet that likely means I can't stay. I guess we'll see.

Not much else going on. I had a work shift this morning and my life is basically on hold due to all of my various uncontrollable sad things.

It's quiet and calm here. This may be one of the last private quiet and calm moments I have for a long time. I have no idea when I'll really get back into a car, and even when I do I've nowhere to go after here. I guess, as always, my life is in Fate's hands.

Time passes

Well, I just got official word that tonight is indeed the last night in the not-home.

😞 I don't know how much sleep I'll be able to get with that news, despite being exhaustedly tired and it's only just now 10. I'll try and sleep, but I have a feeling I may not get much sleep at all. Maybe my plea on Facebook will turn something up, but with the

not replies I got last time it's very unlikely that I'll get any offers of help. Basically none of the people I knew in the area are still around. They have all moved on. Noone is close. And with no car, getting around may be difficult. I got very lucky here at the not-house in that the bus stop is across the street and connects right up to busses that go to my work locations.

Well, I knew the days of me being on the street would come again. Being without a car though things will be extremely rough. And after somewhere around 7 months of being able to be on the not-sis' lot or at C&H's it may be extra tough getting used to being in my car and on the street again.

I can only hope that Fate has a plan for me, and that the plan turns happy again very soon.

## **Day 755 - 7/26**

### **Not the plan**

Today hasn't gone as planned. It hasn't gone badly per-say, save for the regular sad homeless things.

It started around 9:30 when I got up for the last time at the not-home. I took a shower and by about 10:15 the not-sis and family was there. They packed up a few last things, and while we were doing that the owner and one of the new tenants showed up. I had to leave when the not-sis left shortly after 11:30. That was much earlier than I was expecting. I guess it worked out ok, as I got dropped off at the ex-house. I got to put my stuff away proper in the ex-garage. 😎 I grabbed some food and movies for tonight, and now I'm here for work half an hour early.

I miss my games. 😞 I miss my movies. 😞 I miss the few toys I have. 😞 I don't know what to do to recover other than to keep looking for more/different work. I still need to continue with school too, or I owe an additional ~\$800 per month in loan repayments as I've used up all of my deferment time.

I suppose though life isn't as terrible as it could be, even with my being on the street. I do have work, quite a bit of hours at the moment since it's summer. I do have

access to showers at work and other places. I do have a system now, all-be-it a fairly low powered netbook that can't really game.

I don't know... I suppose I'll manage though somehow, but it seems so often that I'm living my life differently than everyone else – that noone else is suffering and struggling so much to get back what so many take for granted on a daily basis.

Time passes

Strange thoughts and feelings just now. I got my gray tank top earlier from the ex-garage, I'd had only my blue one since I lost the car because my gray one was with my dirty cloths which I dropped off. For some reason when I put it on again just now (to wear under my shirt because I'm getting chilly), for some reason it smelt and felt like home. Like after work I'll be going back to a room that's mine. Or like tomorrow when I check messages there will be a something and my journey will be over. It's probably nothing. Probably just a smell from when I was back in the ex-house and being in the ex-garage triggered things. I did sneak in to the ex-house when everyone was out back because I needed to run in to poop. (The nearest bathroom is not at all close on foot.) Maybe thoughts came back to me then and only just now hit me. But now I feel like I'm going to cry. I'm *not* going home tonight. I'm out on the street. I don't even have a car to stay in. And since it's been two years already... I have no idea when I'll be back in a place again, or if I'll ever truly feel like I have a safe and permanent home ever again.

## **Day 756 - 7/27**

### **Admit one, not**

There were some nice seeming girls on the bus riding over. They were talking about ComicCon last weekend, and being super excited about Tron Legacy, and Big Bang Theory, and all sorts of the shows and movies that I love. I thought about saying something because they are exactly the kind of peeps I'd love to be friends with. But I didn't because it made me sad. While their excitement level is a touch more rare, people who like these things are everywhere. Why would they want to include me in their friend circle if I don't otherwise know them? I'd love to have friends that share my interests, who knows I may even find a sweetie in such a circle. But how do you get into a circle? You

can't just be like, 'Will you be my friend?' That may work when you are young, but when you are in your teen years and later that really doesn't work.

There is a ticket on the desk here, "Admit one." Life is, in some ways, like a carnival ride. You get on, have fun, and find some people to share your experience with. But if you are working at the carnival, if you have no ticket, then what? You see people come and go, yet you can never share their joy, never have the same experience as them.

I'd love to go to ComicCon, BlizzCon, PAX (West); no doubt I'd find peeps at each one who share my excitement and enthusiasm. Will I ever be admitted to any of their circles? Since I'm not already holding a ticket can I ever get back into a circle? Will I ever be able to afford any one of the conventions, let alone all three every year?

I certainly hope so, but I haven't been to a convention in about 13 years, and I haven't made new friends in longer than that. As time goes on, more and more from those times seemingly fade further and further from my grasp.

Time passes

Well, I had this great idea to come to the mall after my work shift since today I only work 2 hours in the morning. However, the mall is full of fail. I can't connect to any sites at speeds fast enough to actually do anything. It looks like the school's library is open from the morning until early evening, so I'll probably go there for a bit. I wouldn't want to check jobs or for a car from there, as that's something I want to do on my system so links are tracked, but I should be able to surf boards and watch shows... unless they are locking me out for not currently being a student. Well, either way, I've got about 9 hours before I could consider settling in to sleep somewhere, so there is no real rush to go anywhere. Besides, I have to get to school anyways to transfer busses, so it's already on the way.

Time passes

It's about 4:45 at school. I was surprised by the number of people on campus today. It looks like the cafeteria is open from like 7 AM until 2 PM Monday through Thursday, and the area it's in is still open now. So I've access to decent nom and decent Internets (though all games are blocked). Once I get a car again I may spend more time here than at the mall. It's a bit better atmosphere, I don't worry about strangers really, there is a bit healthier nom, among other things. They do block gaming, but all I have access to is WoW, and my account is currently expired. I'm not sure how much I'd want

to actually play though. The 4-15 FPS average is really crazy since I got used to my desktop again.

I complained to the better business bureau about the lemon car as a pre-step to further pursuing lemon legality since I'd hit some walls finding help with that. Apparently the guy has 30 days to respond and I'm guessing he will wait as long as he can, or flat deny my claim. Hopefully he will accept my demand for 85% of my purchase price, \$765, and I can just move on. While not all of my money, particularly adding bus and taxi fees on top of what I paid, that \$765 should allow my life plan to get back on track with what I hoped to do with my savings this summer. I wouldn't have the \$500-750 when all is said and done that I originally estimated, it would be closer to \$250-500, but it would be some cushion, and I would have access to all my games, so my life would be as happy as it can in things I have some control over.

Well, I'm off to find the bus stop back. I have to get back to the other hub early to return the movies I got for Monday. Bye for now. 😊

## **Week 109**

### **Day 757 - 7/28**

#### **No money, plenty of sad**

Nothing new today to report really. I've got no money really. I'm down about \$50 on my estimate to buy a car, which means I've really only got about \$900 to spend since I need a bit for registration and such. That's putting things a bit tight. Hopefully I can find something. Nothing decent has been up in my range during my checks, but I remain hopeful for finding something tomorrow, Friday, or Saturday.

I gave a work peep some system recommendations today and decided to try for credit to get my M11x. As expected it was denied. I have a number to call and see if they would do it if I offered a big down payment and higher monthly payment (set to pay it off in 2 years instead of 3), but I won't hold my breath for their changing their minds. I probably will be stuck with no gaming laptop for the foreseeable future.

I still don't know what to do about school and a future career. I'd love to be a counselor, but I highly doubt I'll be let in to a masters (which is required). I might not mind doing network administering, but there isn't enough info to know what classes to sign up for and what would be required.

It's been super cold today; dark and cloudy, like a storm is coming. I've lost enough sleep lately that I'm jumping at noises.

I'll be spending a few hours on campus after the work shift that's about to start - I've got little else to do. I'm so hungry though.

My day so far seems like it's full of nothing but sad for me with no indication that will change anytime soon.

### **Day 758 - 7/29**

#### **Four queens**

It seems like a pretty sad day for me today. I've felt sad all day save for a few moments of happiness.

I had an ok time at work I guess, though the work friend who said he might be able to get me an iPhone said he gave it to his dad. So, if I do want to do a phone upgrade I'll have to get the new iPhone 4 myself. No point getting an older one as the savings isn't worth it. At least if I get the newest one it can replace my camera, so that recovers almost half the cost. The other peep who was looking for help at work said he'll likely get the M11x I recommended. Looking at my bills *my* getting an M11x is going to be very difficult even if I did get the \$765+ from the lemon guy.

No luck on cars yet either. Everything is pretty much out of my price range. Even with an extra few hundred in a few weeks it may be difficult to find something. I guess the good news is that the money isn't going anywhere, save for all of my travels costing double or more, so there is a small drain as time goes on. If I get a bus pass for August my cost will be reduced, possibly to the cost of what driving would be, but that puts a huge dent in my car securing money as the cost is all up-front right now. Not to mention the restrictions in travel and cost in time. It wouldn't be until next paycheck in two weeks that cost would be balanced out. It takes my entire gas budget for the month to get the bus pass. It may be safe to get though. I'll decide tomorrow depending on the looks of my car choices.

I watched Psych and had a lot of lols here on campus. But it was sad because I couldn't laugh as much or as freely as I wanted or I'd have looked like a crazy person. I really miss being able to watch my shows and movies like I want. 😞

I suppose the only positive thing today, besides a few people talking with me in a way I know that they really care about and are interested in *me* is that I found what may be some foreign monies, British pounds I think. I found fragments, as if someone tore a small stack in half and tossed it to the wind. It looks like about four repairable bills. If I'm not mistaken that could be about \$8 if my bank will accept / convert the money for me. If I remember I'll do that tomorrow.

I'm so sad I'm hardly eating. I'm more going through the motions of eating because I know that I need to or I'll get too hungry to sleep later, though I'm getting so little sleep that any time I stop 'going' I start to fade off.

I guess that's all for now. 😞 Tomorrow will likely be a super sad day unless I find a cheap car. Noone has said they will cover a gym shift that I need covered, meaning I'll have to take a taxi from one location to the other. Due to how small the shift

is I may actually lose money for that first shift. This doesn't count the fact that if I do the taxi money is lost now and eats into my car money, putting it even further out of my grasp.

## Day 759 - 7/30

### Return of the gray ghost

It's a bit after noon. It's been a very unusual Friday so far. I had to get up super early to catch the bus to a work meeting this morning. Again it went short for my group of people, so I was done before 9. I decided to take a shower there instead of the gym. Foooo

I feel so much better now shaved and showered. 😊 You really don't know how big of a deal it is until you can't get to shower for a few days and have to walk around everywhere.

😊 Since the meeting was done so early I went to a nearby store to use the Internets for a bit. No news on getting a car. I think being limited to bus travel is going to hurt me a fair bit.

I'm supposed to work from 3:45-5:15 but I can't find anyone to cover for me. Since my other location shift starts at 5:15 that puts me in a bind. I had a thought that a guy I've covered for on Sundays might be able to drive me. He's got a group he runs right there and I believe that ends right when I'd need a ride. No word from him on that though, despite leaving a message at 9. Either he didn't understand my question, or he doesn't have the camp thing today and won't be there. (Though it's odd he hasn't called to say that yet.)

It seems like forever since I've had a car. I can barely remember it and it was only a few weeks ago. These homeless days on the bus have been an emotional drain and so exhausting that each day has seemed like an eternity.

Doubly so since I can't game. Half a dozen people have asked if I'm playing StarCraft 2 yet. It launched Tuesday. They are always so surprised to hear that I can't. I haven't really explained why to any of them, just referenced that I need to keep everything for buying the car right now. It seems too sad to say, "I can't game because I'm homeless and my netbook can't run games." It's been the reality of my life for over two years now and it still boggles my mind. It's the one thing I can't change (unless I go to an



Internet gaming center like Euphnet) – I'm a heavy gamer who can't game. I suppose if I could have any one wish right now that was not getting into a home, or being able to wish myself a sweetie and be in love, that it would be to be able to have an M11x. It seems so impossible a goal now what with the car junk draining everything I have. I still hope for that sponsor / generous donor to pop out and say "surprise!" at any moment, but since it's probably been over a year now since I've gotten any donations it seems unlikely.

More and more I feel alone in my troubles and struggle. I see people in worse positions than me asking for help and everyone ignores them. So many ignore those in need or in pain. And the sad part is that they really could help. Just a few dollars and a show of genuine concern would do so much to help a person in need. Even a seemingly silly need like mine of wanting to get a gaming laptop to bring a small bit of cheer into my life wouldn't take much in donations. If 100 people donated \$10 each I'd quickly have the money. Heck, if half that many donated I could make up the difference. That's less than one person's movie ticket. Yet noone has offered. I can't remember when the last donation was. Even when I say things like my car is broken noone of my friends offered anything. You'd think they could offer some help in looking at cars, money to help, or a loan to get me back into a car ASAP and then pay them back in a month. I just don't get it. Maybe it's just everyone around here is too selfish, too stingy with money even if it's only a few dollars. Maybe they are worried that helping will somehow connect them to the problem and they will be dragged down into it.

Well, guess that's all for now. Gonna make a call to the coworker and check car ads and if I need to spend too much money on a bus pass. I'll probably check the Internet more too on my fun stuff.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

I got a surprise email from the gray ghost. He said he wants to help. 😊 That could be some monies for getting a new car. Still no luck yet finding one in my price range though. With my limited range only a few appear every few hours. If the ghost does help with car monies that would help to expand my search range. It's a shame I don't have closer to the \$2,000-2,500 range. I could find some cars that I like in that range.

The work peep can drive me from my work spot to the next, so that's an extra mini shift I get to keep that I thought I'd lose. It's only like \$17 after taxes, but still, that's more towards car money or recovering spent car money.

That's all the news for now.

## Day 760 - 7/31

### "Gotta potty!"

It's just about noon. I'm in a theater waiting for Despicable Me. 😊 I've been so sad the past few days I figured I really needed something happy. I got news/confirmation this morning that my computer and bunnies at C&H's have been packed up and sent to the garage. 😞 So, no more games for me until I either go to somewhere like Euphnet, upgrade to a real laptop like the M11x, or upgrade to an iPhone (which would only be like half a dozen casual games if I got everything I've found so far.) It seems my life (as it currently is) will go back to not gaming unless I upgrade or reactivate my WoW account. Again, I don't know how happy I'd be with 5-15 FPS average with highs of 20. It seems I may not have much choice. Gamer bunny with no games is a saaaadd bunny. 😞

I got news from the gray ghost that he'll see about help with monies when he gets his next paycheck, which likely means two weeks from now. I guess that would be something if I don't find a car by then – which seems the most likely scenario since there are so few posts in the range I can afford. There was nothing this morning (since I last checked Friday afternoon). He did kind of gripe that I should not talk about my upgrade hopes and focus on getting back into a home first. Well, I already worry about getting into a home all the time. It weighs on my mind and soul in a way you just can't understand until you've really been homeless with no help. All I can do is look for work and apply. Until that happens the \$600-800, or even a very cheap \$400-500 a month rent is an impossibility. Yes, I admit it seems silly to think and talk more about something like an M11x or phone more, but those are within my grasp right now; money permitting. A home, well, if say I didn't spend the ~\$1,000 on an M11x (which I don't even have money for anymore since the car broke), even if I didn't, that would be one, maybe two months

of rent at best. Without the additional income to support that constant drain I'd be back on the street in no time.

The reality is that after 2 years and a month now I'm beginning to seriously wonder if I'll ever get back into a home again without help. I *can* upgrade my laptop and game for years to come. I *can* upgrade my phone and get current on features. Both help me "appear" and "feel" normal. But without a new opportunity, without a way to get that new job and higher income, my home status, or more accurately lack of home, won't and can't change. I can't just have a job at the snap of my fingers. If I could I'd have done so years ago.

The truth is, people like me, those homeless who aren't disabled in some way, we know what we need to get back into a home. We know what goals we need to reach. But without that outside help, without that opportunity being given to us, we *can't* move forward. The things I talk about may seem like stupid or silly choices, but they are the few things I *can* control.

Don't tell someone who needs help what to do or what they need; give them a hug, offer your compassion, tell them you believe in them and that things will get better. If they really don't know what to do, don't know where to go for resources, they will ask for help or express the need for it. If not, it just hurts their feelings to tell them things they already know. 😞

Time passes

It's about 3:30. I'm still at the mall for the moment, but I don't know how long I'll stay. Its Internet is still completely unreliable.

When I was in the bathroom at a coffee shop this morning I heard someone try to open the door. Upon failing due to it being locked I heard a little girl's voice cry out, "gotta potty!" She sounded so sad and helpless, just like how I feel inside all the time lately. We all want our basic needs taken care of – to have a room for shelter, warmth, a bathroom, an area to cook, and a bit of privacy for our hobbies. Not having that, not being able to control your environment... try as I might to describe it I really don't think any can ever truly understand it without experiencing it. It boggles the mind that so many think people don't or wouldn't want these.

I have the Sunday morning shift at work again through much of August; the 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and the 15<sup>th</sup>. That will help keep income boosted. Dinners have been pretty expensive

so far with no car. Now that I know that the school cafeteria area is open so late I will likely try and get more soups to micro there on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays. Combined with work on Monday and Friday I should be able to keep fairly healthy dinners.

I'm so exhaustedly tired. I'd like nothing more than to have some private quiet space now. I've still probably got 5 hours before the world really starts to quiet down.

I guess that's all for now. With my bus limitations I have no options to really go anywhere. With no ability to game there wouldn't be much point in going anywhere private anyways. If I had a car I could at least have some private / quiet time and wouldn't have to worry so much about appearing busy the rest of the night. I got a chance to check just now before the Internet dropped me and there were no new car posts. I guess it wouldn't matter much if there were though what with the bank closing soon.

Well... I can do nothing now but hope change comes soon and I can once again find peace and balance in my life.

*The day not lived*

*I eat alone*

*hardly touching my food from depression.*

*The sky is blue and black*

*It's turning to night, stars are coming out.*

*Woke up with the dawn*

*Now still awake at dusk*

*I had the day off with endless possibilities*

*Homeless, with no car, no possibilities can be realized*

*Now a day passed, a day I was alive*

*My soul and heart empty, it was a day left unlived.*

## **Day 761 - 8/1**

### **Want to hide under the covers**

Today has been one of those days I wanted to hide under my bed covers and feel sad until someone who loved me very much came to care for me and cheer me up a bit. I don't know if I've ever had anyone do that for me. I have for others. I am like the king of comforting and doing little things to cheer someone up.

My day already started super sad what with not having a car, being homeless, and now we are officially in August, meaning my birthday is only weeks away. But after work there were no jobs to apply to, no cars to call about, and poopiness towards me on the boards.

I can't even begin to think what my past days would have been like had I been in a home. It's easy to think 'if I had a car, if I had a home, I would have raced back to play StarCraft 2 and WoW today, watched shows and cooked dinner in the evening.' But thinking about actually being able to do it... it seems so alien to me now. It's been so long since I've had a room or home of my own with unrestricted access to my stuff.

Today is yet another day I'm tragically depressed, and I find myself again wondering if my future will ever get back on track, or if I am eternally doomed to jobs that aren't careers, to being homeless, to being without friends who stand by and comfort me in good times *and* bad, and if I will ever find a sweetie and have little ones of my own.

## **Day 762 - 8/2**

### **No hop left for the bunny**

Today is another sad day in a long line of sad days. There is no hop left in this bunny. There was no good news to be found on boards or email today. Morning work was good and I expect evening work to be fine. I brought my laundry to do because it was overdue. The extra weight has been crushing my feet and ankles all day as I carry the pack.

It feels less and less likely to be gaming any time soon (not counting casual gaming.) The mall connection that I used to use was dead or too crippled to use the times I've visited recently. I don't know if that is permanent or not, but at least with that WoW on my netbook would be an option. Without, and without an upgrade to a real gaming laptop like the M11x, casual games I download or new ones I get when/if I get an iPhone seem to be the only gaming I'll be able to do in the foreseeable future. While I *could* go back to gaming at an Internet cafe, it doesn't seem very feasible as a long-term solution. If I recall that's about \$2 an hour during cheap times, roughly \$5 per visit for only a few hours of gaming. That's too expensive to do more than every now and then, far too expensive overall to continue on a regular basis. Even at only 10 hours a week, that's almost 50% of the M11x cost in a year. It just wouldn't make sense (particularly compared to the fact that the M11x could theoretically last 3 or more years as a viable gaming system.)

A beautiful girl (with dreads) asked me for monies today so she could buy some foods. I probably shouldn't have given it to her, but I gave her \$1. That's just how I roll I guess. I don't want to see people suffer if I can help at all. After telling her I was homeless and knew how tough it was, she wished me good luck "always", which I suppose is something. Even though I believe in Fate, which would imply that luck does not exist, I do very much believe in it. Though I'd say luck just controls the when of our overall destiny, but wouldn't really change our overall destined path.

Nothing really new today, just the same sad as always lately. 😞

## **Day 763 - 8/3**

### **On campus almost all day**

Today is the first day of being back on campus about all day. I may not get to do this much though because it looks like the quarter is ending. It could be this week is it and then they are shut down. Hum, looking at the calendar it's possible they will be open next week too. I recall them only being closed for two weeks. There are a ton of people here, far more than I recall last summer, but then I could be remembering wrong.

It's 3:30, about 5 hours left here, though I may leave a touch early to have Panda. I've actually been extremely hungry today – a good sign what with my massive depression and not wanting to eat lately. I'm exhausted though. My eyes haven't been much more than half open all day. Tomorrow I'll likely come here right after getting up to move and then go right back to sleep somewhere in the library. I don't have to be at work until 3:45.

Not sure what to say; no job postings, no car postings, nothing new for news. I did hear back on the depression study. I have a phone interview to do, but if I'm selected I'd be on an eight week drug trial (one that's approved already) and get \$175 at the end of it. Not sure how to feel about the drugs. While I agree mood can certainly alter how people perceive you, without the opportunity to interact your mood doesn't matter. Say like for jobs, feeling less depressed won't really help me now. The job postings are the job postings regardless of how I feel.

Yes... too sleepy. Taking contacts out for a bit and resting... 😊

Time passes

Well, a 45 minute nap helped a bit I guess. I think my arms going numb woke me up more than anything.

I hope I get a car soon for cheap so I can move on. I'm tired of the stress and sadness, not to mention losing a place to sleep safely when on campus. Though there are few days I could sleep in at the moment what with my work schedule still being in summer mode.

My mind keeps thinking of the casual games I'll get to play if I get the iPhone 4. I only have two for my netbook, and I'm seriously burnt out on them both, particularly since I've lately been unable to do anything else during my work shifts since I can't stop by to grab any movies I may have not yet seen. With the phone I'll get Angry Birds, Tron, Oregon Trail, and an arcade version of Ataxx, which was one of my favorite arcade games that I haven't played in years, and a few others that I don't remember the names of. These games are super cheap too; some are free, but most are \$1 or \$2. I think this will be a device more than a phone for me. I expect I'll play games, use the alarm and calendar, and Facebook far more than I'll use it for an actual phone. It reminds me of the pads they carried around in Star Trek the Next Generation. In fact, they even have some LCARS

modifications you can do – though the full one requires that you set up your iPhone in a very specific way, so I'll probably just get the silly app that does a Tricorder thing, hehe.

More poopieness from H. I sent a message that C&H shouldn't wait on watching True Blood with me, as I didn't know when I'd get back over again since I'm having trouble getting a car, and instead of saying they were waiting, or they were hoping to see it with me, I got a cold reply of that 'they didn't wait' and that 'if I'm having a hard time getting money for a car I should sell my stuff in storage'. I'm thinking more and more C&H don't want to be my friend anymore. 😞 Instead of support, care, and help they once showed me, they seem to just now be cold and distant. I don't get why people say that I should just sell off my stuff. For one thing it's all older stuff that is hardly worth anything. But more importantly it's my life. It's all that's left of me. I only have a handful of items that, when I do get re-established, would allow me to instantly have *some* kind of life again, all-be-it behind the times. If I sold those few items, I'd have a few dollars in my pocket and my life would quickly dissolve before me. I don't think people realize just how important it is to have that life waiting for me to get a place to restart. Without... without it's like I have no life, like there is no point in trying to restart anymore, like there is nothing left of me to rebuild from or to.

I guess that's it for this week. I should probably wrap it up for posting. I guess this week was really more of the same; still no job change, still no car change, still no life upgrades due to the car choking out all my money, still no life changes in terms of friends or a sweetie. I guess the only real difference is that now I've fallen back down. What were all my hopes and dreams at the start of the fail year, what was possible garage life that was later reduced to visiting non-family life, has now all reverted to what it was last year. I've lost the shelters I had, I've lost (some of) the upgrades I was planning. What started as a fail year that looked very hopeful has crumbled to the dust that it's always been. Here I thought this would be the year of change right from the start. While I suppose it may still be the year of change, right now I feel the lowest I think I've ever been during these times, save for maybe the days I didn't have money for food or gas.



**Day 764 - 8/4**  
**A tale of a kitty**

Once upon a time, it must have been about three to four years ago now, at the ex-house we had a stray cat visiting us. She was mostly white in color with blue eyes, frail, and scared. She always hid under this one bush. After seeing her a few times she let me get close enough to properly say hello. I noticed she had sad goop filled eyes and was even more frail than I thought. I took out some food and water for her to eat. I couldn't pet her those first few days, she still didn't know if she could trust me or the others at the ex-house. Over times that I sat and talked to her she grew to trust me and let me pet her. She was hardly eating anything, and when I did see her try she had great difficulty. She even let me clean out her eyes now and then. I couldn't feel much of her though, she was so terribly thin. My ex-roomie and I talked about her and how worried we were about her. She had no collar and our bush seemed the only place she trusted. We couldn't bring her inside the house due to other cats being there, but we watched and cared for her as best we could. A few times every day I would go out and sit with her for as long as an hour. After I think it was about a week total since she'd been there and was hardly eating my ex-roomie finally took her to the animal doctor. I had a class or work so I couldn't go along. Apparently the poor kitty had been in the final stages of kitty AIDS and several of her systems had been failing. The doctor said she must have been in a great deal of pain much of the time. All they could do for her was to put her to sleep. It was far too late. 😞 I've cried for her now and then, but I'll never forget her soft tentative purr when I pet her and comforted her those last days. I've always been glad she had people who cared for and loved her in those final days. I don't think I'll ever forget her.

I guess, even though I've been feeling less sad lately, I've been feeling a lot like her these days. I'm hiding in bushes not knowing who to trust or where to go, just looking for a safe haven from the cold and the rain. (Though it's not raining now it was when the kitty was there.) I have no one who loves me and no home of my own. I don't know how long it will be before I do.

It may seem silly to be spending so much time researching iPhone games, games in general, wishing I could play StarCraft 2 and other new games, plus my old ones, looking at 3D home entertainment tech; and people may give me crap about it, but these things are *me*. When someone says, 'Oh, rabb1t is a gamer, he likes girls, he likes to help, he's generous and compassionate, he's good at x,' these are things that make me who I am. Much like I can say the kitty was gentle, kind, loving, trusting, and friendly, I hope when I too am gone people can say things about me, and remember me fondly in a way that permanently touched their lives.

Although I hope I have my remaining estimated nearly 50 years left, I often feel like the kitty. I feel alone, scared, without shelter, don't know who to really trust, and wonder if I will ever find a place I belong again, or if I will simply be alone in pain until I fade away from something I can't understand.

## **Day 765 - 8/5**

### **Possibly studying depression**

It's around 5:30. I guess today was ok, but I still feel super down about my sad life. It really doesn't occur to people how often they talk about home and where they live until they can't say they live anywhere. Being homeless isn't a fact you want to reveal; that core thing you lack that everyone else just about in the world has. The one thing everyone else assumes you have – a home. A place of your own. A place where you have your stuff and are free to express what makes you you.

I'm so very tired today. I only got about 6 or 7 hours of sleep. I probably should have taken a nap in the library like I did yesterday or Tuesday, whenever it was. I'm so tired I can't even remember. I wasn't really tired after my mini work shift this morning though. I didn't really get hit with it until after I'd eaten, around 2 I guess.

I found three cars in my lower range to write to today. No reply from any yet. I didn't really expect a reply though since I'm not saying I will shower money down upon them no questions asked and magically appear at their door anytime they wish. But then, while I do really need a car, none of the three made my heart sing. I'd really need closer to 2k for that, so it's going to be tough to find one that does. But, you never know. With the

ghost's money I'd have closer to \$1,200, and next week I get paid and would have around \$1,400, so my range will keep slowly adding up.

I have to spend like 4 hours doing pre-screening stuff tomorrow. I won't get paid for any of it. 😞 Though I do possibly qualify for a second study that would pay me \$350, so that would be something.

That's really it. Yet another day of unsuccessfully moving my life forward. 😞

## Day 766 - 8/6 Testing

It's work time now, nearing 4:30. Ever since this morning I've been going. I hopped on a bus around 7:30, got to Stanford around 8:45, answered screening questions and stuff until about 2:30, and got to my first work location a touch ahead of my shift at just past 3:30. I only had a few brief minutes to check the Internets and check email. I guess it looks like I could possibly qualify for two studies over the next three months, the first of which being in a month. That would total around \$500 if I passed through all the phases. I r teh guiney pig! 🐷

The gray ghost may not make it tonight, I'm not really sure. If not we will try and hook up this weekend. Nothing going on with car replies, so I guess it's ok that it's not tonight. Well, one did reply, but they are going to be doing an online auction for the car, which just seems too weird for me.

And that's really it. The rest of night will be at work. I've got a couple of movies, so that's happy. 😊 But since I couldn't really get online, and won't be able to until the morning, my life is on hold.

Oh, I did get a chance to check my weight and I am probably about 12 lbs. heavier being in the low 190s. And apparently my blood pressure is quite a bit up. I'm hoping that's just from stress of walking, terrible eating, no car, and my recent super depression making me feel not at all hungry lately. My arms have been feeling like they fall asleep easily lately, and I do seem to fatigue much quicker, so it likely is just a symptom of everything terrible in the past few weeks. Once I go back for the studies (should I go

back) they will be monitoring it to see if I should get blood pressure meds. Oh, and two doctorate level peeps did agree that my getting booted out of a masters with a 2.9875 GPA is just insane, so that made me feel good.

Guess that's all for now. 😊

## **Day 767 - 8/7**

### **Questing with the gray ghost**

I almost got a car today. The opportunity was there. The cash was in hand. But I'm getting a bit ahead of myself. The day started like any other; no replies for cars, but before long I'd put out emails on three different ads. Surprisingly one called back and said the car was still for sale. And this wasn't just any car. It was a cute little tracker, with a hardtop no less. The price seemed cheap at \$1,000 and the pictures looked good. The car was a salvaged title, but only because it had been hit by someone and had body damage. The gray ghost got a hold of me at just past noon. He said he could indeed drive me up to check it out. He got to the area around 2:30 and we spent the next 45 minutes to an hour driving up to the city (San Francisco) to check it out. Driving the car was fine. There was no engine damage and it was one of the straightest driving cars I've ever driven. However, its body damage was fairly extensive in terms of what it would take to repair. While it would have served the way it was the doors were jarred from the crash. They didn't seal with the roof. You couldn't hear anything but wind past about 40 MPH. The back bumper was smashed to a bad angle, and the rear door was smashed to the point that it could not open. My heart sank thinking of the damage. I didn't realize there was no picture of the back door area until after we'd started our way up. While I'd have loved to buy the car I couldn't help but think and remember the sad times with my previous geo trackers. One good rain and its interior would be destroyed, just like my last. Driving at night, or sitting parked during the cold night, even though it's a hardtop would have been freezing due to the misaligned doors. And what if, Gods forbid, the welding holding the door had broken and the door fell off? I'd have no way to repair it. While the owner said he'd keep it and

I could call him at a later point I just can't take it. I have no way to fix the damage, and I'm afraid from too many bad memories of similar damage to want to risk buying it.

While it turns out the gray ghost and I simply completed a quest step together, not an entire quest chain, it was still good to be with him again. It's been forever since we actually did something together. He was glad to help and we both still have hopes that my extended search range will find something soon. By Thursday my range will reach as high as \$1,500, so that will help with my searches for sure. It will just remain in Fate's hands as to when I find a car in my range.

## **Day 768 - 8/8**

### **Slow day of walking and bussing**

Not sure what to say today. I'm super sleepy and today has mostly been walking, bussing, and working. I did spend almost two hours on the Internet, but that's all so far. It's still earlyish at around 4:30. There was a car add I sent an email to. It's a super happy car for me, but it would completely tap me out and then some. Since I'd have to wait until Thursday to have as much as the guy wants I doubt I'll hear back from him.

Guess that's all for now.

## **Day 769 - 8/9**

### **Sleepy nap time**

Nothing spectacular today. Though I will have worked about 8 hours total I had plenty of opportunities to check for cars today. As usual, nothing really in my price range.

I was so sleepy today I decided to come to my evening work a bit early. I got almost an hour nap. 😊 I feel a bit better, but I'm still so very sleepy. I'll jump in the shower in a bit. Maybe that will wake me up a little. I'm going to be super bored during my evening shift though. With no car it's difficult to grab movies to watch before hand; both in that it's a pain to get them and drop them off, and that if I wait until it's more

convenient I have to keep them an extra charge cycle or two. It's not terrible at \$1.10 each per day, but still.

Well, I keep holding on to hope that I'll find a car I like that's pretty cheap soon and I can be back on the road as usual. At least going back to my previous homeless routine would be something. And, once I get the car taken care of I can move forward with the iPhone upgrade and have several casual games to play for teh cheap. 😊 With all the study money I could get I'd be right on the edge of a gaming laptop, but I probably couldn't safely afford it. I really want to get a minimum of about \$500 into savings, which I'd have done if things went according to plan. But now, even with all \$500+ from the studies I'd have to drain to zero to get the laptop (provided the car is \$1200 or less.) I guess we'll see. Maybe a lower cost car, gift money from my birthday and Xmas will boost me enough to feel safer about an upgrade. My life is still very much one day and one issue at a time right now. I can't really make solid plans for anything with all the chaotic poop that keeps throwing me off.

## **Day 770 - 8/10**

### **Oh noes blackout**

I got a very sad surprise at school today. It seems that, as of last week, we are in blackout. 😞 So I have no idea when you guys will get to get an update. 😞 (Edit: It seems that I can update from pizza nom! 🍕) It's somewhat confusing though as the smaller side room next to the main cafeteria area is still open. Also, there appeared to still be classes going, at least swimming, so I'm not sure what's up. There was a sign on the library doors that said it's now closed until September 20th. The area around the library and cafeteria still have wireless access, so I still have access to teh Internets (which block uploads and gaming - I can only sneak updates to my site via landline at school.) And, it looks like I still have access to an eating area with a micro, as well as showers. I guess I may still go there on some days, as it would give me lots of privacy since noone is hardly there.

I have a lead on a car for teh cheap that I may look at tomorrow. It looks ok I guess - not my favorite style. The guy says it's ok mechanically and the body looks ok in the pictures. Maybe. We'll see. He has to get back to me with an address.

I decided since I didn't want to spend all day on campus after work (since it was closed) that I'd come back to my main hub area and have all I can nom pizza. 🍕 My tummy has been very upset and unstable the past week or two, but last night it was fine. Hopefully it will be ok today. It's been fine so far. I figure I can have lots of salad and that will help. It's been forever since I had fresh veggies what with being dropped back on the street with no car.

I've been feeling super lonely lately. 😞 I suppose I'm "talking" the same as any other days. I say that in quotes as it's not really talking or contact with live people. I talk through boards and such. But I don't know. Lately I've felt extra lonely and disconnected from society and everyone. I guess it's just a combination of losing my connection to the not-family, C&H, and not being able to see my game peeps. I'm still reconsidering reactivating my WoW account even though I'd be suffering at 4-15 FPS. I'm still on the fence about it since it's such a limited gaming experience as well as not seeing a strong connection at the mall where I used to play.

Guess that's all for today. One reply on a car, I think that was the only car I asked about, and I put out one resume.

I'm cold in here. You'd think it would be warmer in a restaurant. I've been so very cold lately, seemingly all the time wherever I go. 😞

## **Week 111**

### **Day 771 - 8/11** **No-frills day**

It's just about 3 and I've got a little time before starting my work mini sift. It's been a pretty no-frills day for me. I went to school campus early this morning, as I didn't need to be at work until the afternoon. Surprisingly I wasn't tired enough to feel like I needed to go back to sleep. I didn't try though. When I got there I checked for cars. No news and no new ads to reply to. It's sad, but again, I'd rather take a month to find a car (under the same conditions I am now) and get one that I'd be comfortable with than to get one I don't like and regret it for possibly years to come. While I am losing sleep, in that I can't get as much, and I am losing time, in that I lose a minimum of 2 hours on days I don't work, more like 3 or more when I do, it's not like I have anywhere to really rush off to. Work will wind back down starting next week, and with school not starting for more than a month I've got all the time in the world to get places. I haven't heard back from the mall either, so I'm going to assume that means that their connection is unpredictable. Without that connection point I don't know if I will reactivate my account. It was the one place I reliably gamed from before I had the temporary shelters.

Nothing really different for today. I stayed at school and watched shows, surfed teh Internets, and checked for jobs for basically 5 hours today. I hope it stays open, but I fully expect if I were to check next week that it would be closed. If it's like last year the pool area will be open, leaving me shower and sleeping in access. I could always use the Internet outside of the library, but with likely no plugs and no close bathrooms the thought of doing that is less than ideal. But, if the mall remains down it may be one of my better connection points.

I think I've decided, if I don't before hand, that I'll order my iPhone on my Birthday. With estimates between one and three weeks to get it the money may not be immediately drained, leaving a good amount to be used for a car. I don't know; I've still got nearly one and a half weeks to decide on that. For now I'll just hold the money and wait. It would make for a happy birthday and allow me to move forward with at least one happy change in my life.



I'm still sad about school. While it seems that I haven't missed anything, as tomorrow is really the first day I can sign up for classes, it seems that I only have two classes to choose from. I'm forced to take a Wednesday night and Saturday morning class. I'm going to hate the Saturday morning class, but being homeless I guess I'd possibly be up early then anyways. Still, the fact that the degree doesn't seem to be helping, and that I'm now forced to take certain classes because I've taken most of them, does worry me. I fear the same may happen at the end of the year next quarter too.

I'm still very sad today, but still balancing back towards my old homeless self. An improvement in terms of emotional balance, but a state still far below the normal levels of happy and neutral to be sure. 😞

## **Day 772 - 8/12**

### **Alone on campus**

It's 8:30 at night, waiting for the last bus away from school to get to the ex-house hub. Today was a day of good and bad I suppose. I got to spend about 2 hours on campus in the side cafeteria room basically alone. I had dinner and enjoyed some alone time while watching Psych without headphones. I still don't know if that area of campus will be open next week. I guess I'll find out Monday morning. I checked for cars several times today; nothing even with my newly expanded range from the gray ghost's money and this periods paycheck. I kept hoping for better luck, but it seems as it is the way with all boards; I don't expect to have more than a few posts over the weekend. In also bad news it seems work is cutting back on hours at the pool. There will be no pool helpers outside of summer, so that's 3.5 hours a week I'll be down. However, with the addition of Mondays at the gym, even with that reduction I'll have a minimum of 10 hours a week vs. my previous 8.5. So I'll actually be making a touch more this year. I'll have to be careful though. If one of those days is lost I'll be making hardly anything. That would drop me to roughly \$50 a week, which doesn't even cover gas and food, let alone anything else. The good news on that though is with no possible pool hours I have nothing blocking a regular day hour job, so I don't have to worry about conflicts there. With as tight as everything may get though I fear my phone upgrade will be the only gaming I can afford for the

foreseeable future. There is no way I could save up enough for a laptop or support a regular game buying habit.

Well, as it seems is the case for me recently and these past few years, I am having to live my life one day at a time. That's all I can do.

## **Day 773 - 8/13**

### **Smells like poo**

Not much to say today. I had an early morning training. I guess the last one. After, I decided to check out a different mall since it's not too far from the other. This one is thriving and super busy all the time. I didn't have much time to scout there, but it seemed like it too had a wireless that my weak netbook couldn't connect to. I may try and further check around tomorrow since I've got all day to do nothing (besides check for cars.)

One car lead, which I think I mentioned before. I've contacted this guy like three times now saying that I need his address to research if taking a bus there is even possible before committing to a time. He has yet to get it. I'm beginning to question his intelligence, which makes me question if I should buy a car from him. If I can't trust his intelligence I can't trust his judgment, ya know? We'll see if he can actually figure it out and get me an address by the morning or not.

That's really it for my day. I'm here starting my evening shift now, so there won't be any other news, as I have no access to the world. I may work on some more site changes I'm considering, but that would be the extent of my excitement for the evening.

Bye for now.

PS – Lots of things smelled like poo today. There was this goo yuck on one bus that smelled terrible, one passenger on another bus smelled like poo, and when I passed some buildings on one of my walks it smelt like poo. I don't get why things smell bad today. Yuck!

Time passes

I got a call from my boss. They want me to also work Tuesday nights. Woot! So that's Monday, Tuesday, and Friday now. 😊 Not the most amazing schedule, but that puts me up at 15 hours a week, which is pretty awesome for this job since if one were to

even out the maximum number of hours I could work in a year it would be 18 a week. This also isn't counting various special coverages, like I'm doing a few Sundays now too. So that will help me save up a bit until those hours slow down. And if they don't slow down, well, that's more to work on finding a car with and more to put away for moving in to a somewhere. (I still really want at least \$500 savings before upgrading to a real gaming laptop, which would be beyond the scope of this calendar year.)

Night peeps. 😊

## **Day 774 - 8/14**

### **Disappointment day**

Nothing really of consequence today. Nothing but disappointment. I called on about three different cars. Every time something was broken or not right that was not mentioned in the ad. It's so lame.

Mister didn't give me his address like three times finally gave me his address. As I feared, it's about 1.5 hours by bus away. I will likely go look at the car if we have a mutual time, but after about a week of being on the market I really wonder why it hasn't sold before now. I'm wary to commit to seeing it.

That's really it besides watching a few shows on teh Internets. 😊

## **Day 775 - 8/15**

### **Same disappointments**

Nothing really to talk about today. It was yet another day of disappointments. Still no real new car ads, still the same run-around about unreported things in ads that I do reply to. And, it seems nearly every one I've been getting in contact with people are far away (more than 1 hour by bus). Well, tomorrow is Monday so there may be a batch of new ones. Hopefully some local ones will crop up that I can drop by and check out. What

with now having mornings free that gives me much of the day to look. (Which admittedly would work against me in the case of people with "9 to 5" jobs.)

Worked this morning/early afternoon. Took a shower at work. And that was really it for my non-car searching activities. The rest of my day was spent in travel and car searching online.

It sprinkled on me yesterday morning. Looked pretty gray again this morning. It seems the weather is matching my mood.

Well, hopefully school will be open tomorrow and I'll have some quiet private time most of the day for being on the Internet. Maybe I'll even take a nap in the morning. It's tough though what with needing to get up and walk a fair distance to take the busses. Kind of revs me up past sleeping mode, ya know? 😞

Guess that's all for today.

## Day 776 - 8/16

### Just a mouse

I'm having a pretty good day I suppose. I came to campus pretty early, so I was basically alone until about 11. It's just past 12:30 and some people have been chatting and now eating since 11. I guess this side room will be open until Thursday, so I've most of the rest of the week to come here and use the Internet and micro in relative privacy. No nap today yet, but I've got nearly 3 hours left to be here before I need to go. So, maybe once the chatters leave I can nap.

I looked for cars, no luck. I messed around looking at some game stuff online. I'll probably check for cars and jobs after my bla bla. Later it's off to get a micro dinner to have during work. I grabbed movies for tonight, so that's covered. 😊

Bye for now.

Time passes

It's about 8 at work. I saw a mouse in the office. He was so tiny and cute. 😊 I turned to put my headphones down and go say hi, but when I turned back he was gone. No sign of him or any mousey tunnel paths. I was disappointed. I wanted to get a picture

or video for you to see. He's gone. No sign of him. Just a mouse. Much like me he has to disappear when seen. But all he wants is to live, to eat, and to have a happy and safe home. Something all of us want. I wish him well and a happy life. I wonder where he went. 😊

## **Day 777 - 8/17**

### **Yet again**

Nothing really interesting today. I did put out a few resumes lately, so that's good I suppose. I put out emails on about three cars today, no replies yet. No shows to watch online. I was going to try and nap, but there was too much noise. Maybe tomorrow.

That's it for today, save for trying to eat a micro dinner with no fork or spoon. Not sure how I'll manage that.

Guess that's all for now. I'm at a new Tuesday work shift, so it's unlikely anything interesting will happen. Bye for now. 😊

## Week 112

### Day 778 - 8/18 Inactive sim

Woot, I got my iPhone. Happy early birthday me. 🥳 It seems heavier in my hand than I expected. And, being a 'slab' instead of a standard 'handset' it seems very different from what I'm used to for a phone. I see why people hold this type of phone flat in their palm. Its design makes you feel like you want to keep it flat all the time. The peeps at the store let me hang out and load it up with my games before leaving. I chose not to get all of the games I planned, but I got most. As I was using it I felt more confused than anticipated, so I decided to ease into getting used to it in general and in games before going too crazy. I did notice my left thumb is much faster to tap and more accurate than my right. It took a little while of pondering to figure out that is likely due to years of occasional console gaming, as the left thumb is the one that controls the analog stick. 😊 More on it later as I get more experience I'm sure.

The rest of my day was fairly plain. I started the day with putting out half a dozen replies on cars. I decided to go ahead and try for the iPhone for an early present to myself. I get paid again in a week, and what with the cars being priced as they are I do have some flexibility. Keeping the money for the car wouldn't help my search since both the gray ghost's money and my last paycheck combined have significantly increased where it was before. The next range hurdle will be the above 2k mark, which I can't come close to until next paycheck, more likely the one after that (or at least after my survey money.)

So, my day was basically check for cars, be sad about how lame that is, surprise iPhone (with the shortages everywhere I was surprised to actually find one in the store), get back to campus in time for a shower and lunch, then spend the rest of the day doing repeated car checks with occasional gaming. Hopefully one of these dummies will get their heads out of their butts and show me their car. I'm closing the evening now with about three, possibly four, people who were supposed to get back to me with a time and address to meet. Well, at least I've got all day tomorrow and part of the evening. Maybe I'll find something.

PS – Today was called inactive sim because that's what my old phone now shows. I was surprised how quickly things changed over automatically once I did the purchase.

## **Day 779 - 8/19**

### **Feels like a day wasted**

I loves my iPhone. 🥰 I was worried about how it looked like everyone else's, but as I move things around, even more so now that I changed my wallpaper to ones I downloaded (just regular pictures, not specific game ones, but they are basically unique) it feels more and more personalized. I'll definitely love to get some kind of protector for the back though. I haven't decided if I just want a sticker or some kind of cover. Gaming seems to drain the battery pretty quick. I'd guess it's got about 4 to 5 hours before you'd have no battery. But, that's a ton of gaming for a device you'd only use when moving around in your daily life. I overheard someone say at a coffee shop they drain to nothing after a couple of hours of streaming video, which makes sense as that would be even more of a power drain than gaming. I'm getting pretty used to it and happier with the purchase all the time. 🥰 It was more than I should have spent because I got the total coverage for two year dealie, but with that no matter what happens to it I'm covered and get a replacement. I've only tried a few of the games I got so far, but yea for gaming again. 🥰

Besides my new fun it feels like today was a day wasted. I got here on campus around 8:45 in the morning with hopes of checking out and possibly buying one of the many cars I've replied to lately. But everything fell through. Probably eight or more ads and all but one have fallen through to failure.

I spent today on the web surfing gaming boards, watching a few shows, looking at cars, looking at jobs, and playing games. It feels like most of my day was not spent doing things I'd have done otherwise – I just did them due to limited options or because I had to. Had I my choice I'd have slept in, taken a nice shower, cooked actual meals, played many of the games I played today, sure, but different ones as well.

I don't understand why but it feels like everything I am doing is the most painful and troubled way possible. I don't understand why I'm having so much trouble finding a car, and still don't understand why I'm having so much difficulty getting into a solid place in life and getting re-established so that I can truly *live* my life once more to the fullest that I can in my modest way.

## **Day 780 - 8/20**

### **No car birthday**

Getting used to the iPhone. The weight seems more natural now. I'm still going easy on games, being more cautious and getting trial versions first. Since they typically are not made by big developers they can really be hit and miss even if they look good in a review. It's the little things really. Things like only having one song and it repeats over and over and over, or like not having separate volume control for sound and music. I'm still loving it. I'm still trying to find ways to personalize it; cases, stickers, etc. I think I found a case. I'll see since it's more protection than the free bumper. I'll probably wait to buy it though. Even though it's \$20 I'd like to recover a bit more from all the recent spending. With just a short wait until next paycheck it shouldn't be too difficult to play it extra safe until then and just keep the factory plastic on the back that it came with. Besides, it's not like I'll be careless and drop it just because it's got better armor on. I'm getting better with both thumbs, so that's good too. 😊

It's about 11 now. I've finished my morning check on everything and moved over to the college for some quiet time at lunch, though it seems it won't be as quiet as I'd hoped. I'm in the locker area where I figured I could lie down and nap on some padded benches, but right on the other side of the wall they are doing construction. While I could take off some cloths layers and my shoes, it's far too noisy to get much rest. I think I'll just wait a few minutes then head over to the outside of the side room to eat and *again* check for cars. (Outside I can still get the wireless and there are plugs along the side of the building should I need them.)



I was really hoping to have a car by tonight. I was considering doing a movie tomorrow (which I could still do, I'd just have all my stuff with me), but it would have been nice to have the option to do it tonight after or before work as well as going over to the gaming center to play. Without the car I didn't even think of it. I'd forgotten until just now. It's not super out of the way from the bus paths, but I'd only have an hour or two of an all day free pass, so it's just not at all worth it.

Things are, I suppose, looking up though. My ex-roomie/friend happened by the coffee shop while I was going there, so we chatted for a bit and she bought me a hot chocolate. 😊 I has my iPhone games, and due to my extra work hours I calculated that I *could* buy the M11x (or other gaming laptop that's cheap) around early November and still have just about \$500 banked in savings by the end of the year - the minimum I'd like to have at any given time. Though, that is still about three months away, and dependant on getting a car totaling at \$1400 or less (what I'm currently estimating on my bills).

My life may yet be starting to slowly be getting back on track. The most immediate step is still the car. Hopefully I can look at one later or at least get a time set up in the morning.

Time passes

Most of today I've been forgetting it was my birthday. With my life how it is, outside of Facebook messages I have little to remind me there is a me-ness to celebrate. I got a single serving cake though and rented Kick-Ass again. I'd forgotten Big Daddy talks like Adam West. Always makes me laugh. 😊 I wonder if they did that on purpose or if they did it as a joke and decided to keep it in. I may have to buy it, but some parts *are* a bit overly disturbing for a superhero movie. A bit super dark.

Guess that's all for now. 😊 Happy lonely and sad birthday to me. 😞

## Day 781 - 8/21

### More car dummies

I am once again a gamer. I'm more used to the iPhone than not now. I have a Warehouse 13 Farnsworth ringtone now, and I can play games basically whenever I wish. An odd thought for me these days. Though since most are touch based doing it while moving, like walking, on a bus, train, possibly even a plane or car, is difficult in that a miss-touch can screw up your game. I'm free to do my required tasks, but also free to stop and play a game now and then. At long last, after over two years of being homeless I finally, truly, have unrestricted gaming in one form. I have half a dozen or more games I like, and for now at least it is enough. Though I still long to play my desktop and console games, I am finally a true gamer once more.

Today is a whole new batch of car dummies. The most recent is people complaining at me for asking simple questions like; why are they selling the car, why is it not registered, has it been in a crash. It's like I've caught them in their deception (whatever that may be) and they are mad about it. Seriously? Selling an unregistered or unsmogged car and you expect people to just happily accept that there may be overdue registration fees or repair fees to get it to pass smog? I think not. Well, if they are being purposely deceitful they will get what they deserve. Someday someone will get mad and take it out on them and cause far more damage than their honesty would have cost them.

So, yeah, it's now 11 in the morning and I'm no longer hopeful about finding a car this weekend. At this point I'm rapidly running short on time to get somewhere to look at a car tonight. Yet another half dozen possibles between yesterday and today that failed to pan out. I suppose I can be thankful that things seem to be working out ok with bussing so far. It's 1-1.5 hours per direction to get anywhere, but my life is what it is. I'd rather have that than a car that I don't trust again.

Maybe my day will turn out better later. I still remain hopeful, but so far it looks like the best I could hope for would be a mid-day movie before running short on bus routes. I'm not sure how interested I'd be in seeing a movie mid-day. It just seems... wrong. 😞

Time passes

This was not the weekend I had planned or hoped for. Not counting the fact I wish was no longer homeless, even my homeless hopes become failures. What I had hoped for this weekend was to be one of mini-celebration; a movie, laundry, a meal at the time of my choosing, possibly finding a place to do netbook gaming again, sleeping in. But instead it has mostly been the same lame one as all my other weekends lately. All I could do Friday – my real birthday – was look for cars and work in the evening. Instead of possibly doing a movie Friday or Saturday night my only option was Saturday or Sunday mid-day. The option to take a shower and do laundry Saturday wasn't really an option – not unless I wanted to lug my overly large bag everywhere. And what should have been both Saturday and Sunday sleeping in while in a car somewhere in the morning was not possible. At best I could nap in the school locker-room tomorrow. Now, still without a car, the best I can hope for is a private shower and decent nap on campus.

I suppose all-in-all it's not the worst of homeless birthdays. But in all my days, and all my fantasies, it is a very far cry from what I'd call a truly happy birthday. People wishing me happy birthday seem to have extra meaning this time, as it isn't very likely to happen. For another day I have *existed*, an invisible member of a society full of people able to *live* their lives.

## **Day 782 - 8/22**

### **A return to the cold showers**

It's an early lunch time around 11:30. I just had a colder side of a luke-warm shower. I'd forgotten the showers were cold on weekends on campus if no teams were here. I tried to nap for a bit but couldn't despite being so tired.

Despite starting my morning by spending 2 hours in a noisy coffee shop I feel lonely. I suppose that's why people do church or sports. It gives them a sense of connectivity to others (which transcends the normal work week). We gamers don't really have that. Yes, when online we are with others, we see our friends lists and know others are there, but there is no physical connection. Our connections are fragmented and random. We see bits and pieces of each other only in passing.

I don't know what I'll do today. I'd rather not travel much what with still being on foot and no current car prospects. I'll likely just stay in various places here on campus until later tonight when I go eat. It's not the best day, but I can do stuff online (non-gaming), and I have my iPhone games. Small freedoms to be sure, but more than I've had in recent times.

## **Day 783 - 8/23**

### **A bad start**

Today I've had a bad start. The very start of it was actually ok. Last night I had to not eat or drink past 9 and that wasn't as difficult as I thought it would be. I headed out to the bus stop early. Sadly I missed an early bus by mere seconds. It was ok, it was an early one. I sat down, put on my headphones, and played a game. Roughly half an hour later the bus flies past me. No slowing down, no beep to get my attention, nothing. I call to complain. Apparently it is the bus policy that if you aren't paying attention they ignore you. Wtf. I'm like 1.5 feet from the sign and the road for about half a mile each direction is visible. How is it possible the driver didn't see me? Why do they think it's ok to not get my attention and check if I want to hop on? There could be any one of a dozen reasons why I was sitting and not paying attention. I could have been gaming or playing music, I could have fallen asleep, I could be disabled or handicapped and that's my normal mode; it's seriously not ok to have a policy that ignores people just because they are sitting, particularly since many stops have benches.

So, I get to the place I'm supposed to be at to have my blood drawn as part of this overnight study nearly 20 minutes after I thought the place would open, a full hour later than I expected to get there. (They actually opened at 7:30, not 9 like I'd been told.) I discover that they have no idea who I am or why I'm there. There is no record of my needing a test. So now here I am, waiting for the doctor to call them back. It's now 13 hours of not eating or drinking, and I've gone ½ hour in a direction I would not have otherwise gone. Who knows how long it will be before she calls today; *if* she calls today.

I figure I can last maybe until 2 or 3 before I get too hungry not to eat. I won't have much time to do anything unless I get out of here soon.

I almost forgot I have work tonight. Hopefully I won't wait around here so long I forget to leave to get to work.

Time passes

Ouchie! I got poked and blood was drawn. Do not want! 😞

I had to call the doctor person myself before she got things straightened out at around 10:30. I was done around 11:15 and decided to go ahead and go to campus, maybe nap and have lunch, then be online for a few hours before going who knows where. To my surprise and shock there were a ton of cars in the lot. Even more surprising was that students were walking around like classes were still going, and things were open. I got to be in my little side room and use the Internet. 😊 I hope it's open the rest of the week. That would be an awesome surprise.

Still no luck with cars. I'm actually down to zero prospects again.

In an odd bit of news, songs from Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog have been floating in and out of my head since about 2. I suppose that's a good sign for someone who leads an otherwise devoid of music life. I went to buy a digital copy for \$5 so I could watch it on my iPhone, but I did it too late. The download wasn't done before I had to leave campus. I'll have to finish tomorrow. (I guess I could also watch it on my netbook since they are synced.)

I guess that's it. Bit of good news that campus seems like it will be open. Having access to a nice place to set my stuff and access to a micro makes eating a lot easier. I do need to get a few more soups though. I think I only have one. I'm almost out of drinks too. They are so heavy on foot when I have to stock a full day's drinks and lug them around everywhere. 😞

Guess that's it for now. 😊

**Day 784 - 8/24**  
**Around 100**

Fooooo. It's a hot summer day like it's supposed to be finally. It's reported to be around 100F out there now. I guess it will cool off and we'll be back to our unusually cold summer by the weekend though. Tomorrow I'll definitely wear shorts. It's supposed to still be in the low 90s.

In good news I talked to the people at the health center and they said they don't close during the summer. In order to get to them you have to go inside of the cafeteria / side room building, implying I should always have access to an area with power and the Internets between Monday and Friday. 😊 That would be super great news. I'm not sure how much micro access I'll have and if I can get into the side room, but at least that's something. I couldn't go in the side room today because they were cleaning it. It's super sad because I was so ready for a nap by 10. I've been having a hard time staying awake ever since about 3. 😞

I'm at work early tonight. No car prospects for today. There was one kind of good looking one, but the guy is being dumb (as usual). He said it's not registered and it's a salvaged title. I asked him if he knew why it was salvaged and for its license/vin number to look up what the registration fees would be and he refused. Hum. Requires cash, registration isn't done, salvage title, parked in the middle of downtown S.F., the guy refuses to give me the info so I can look into what registration would be, and he refuses to say why he's selling it; that all adds up to something seriously wrong being hidden if you ask me.

That's really all for this week. Seems like hardly any progress forward this week, but I guess there does seem to be a little what with my phone upgrade and the possibility of a laptop in a few months. I guess that's something new and promising.

## Week 113

### Day 785 - 8/25

#### A day

Today was a fair day though it still doesn't even really feel much past noon.

I remember the sun coming up and now it's beginning to go down at 7 in the evening. I didn't really accomplish anything today. Well, I certainly don't feel like it. I got up, went to campus, took a shower, couldn't sleep due to construction noise so I didn't try for long, went to the lower stair area because again the side room was being cleaned, and that was really my day. I made several passes on car ads, checked job postings, and that was really it besides chatting on game boards.

I've been thinking about stuff talked about and said at my survey pre-interview. I have been sighing a lot lately. I didn't before the pre-interview, but now I am noticing that I am afterwards. I checked my blood pressure with a machine and it said that I was "low to moderate" risk. I certainly don't have the below average (in a good way) rating that I used to have only about four years ago. All this stress, poor sleep, depression, and poor eating is really taking a physical toll. I have no idea how long that will take to get better, if it isn't like my teeth in that it is something lost forever along this terrible journey.

Still, even with all my depression and all the things I so terribly miss from my former life, I do still have and appreciate the little things. Busses carry me here and there safely. It's warmed up at last, so I've rarely been cold these past few days. I've got my phone and a handful of games. My stuff is held safely in storage awaiting my return to a life. And I do have a way to get online and continue to try and get my life truly back on track. But will it ever? Will it ever be what it was? Will it ever be something different than the constant suffering and depression that I have now? I don't know. I'm beginning to fear these small pleasures may be all I will ever have again. I feel like my house and everything in it burnt down. I can find things from my old life now and then in the rubble, but if I try to touch and hold it it crumbles to dust and blows away in the wind. 😞

## **Day 786 - 8/26**

### **Another day, somewhat relaxed**

Today has been a somewhat relaxed day. My paycheck was higher than my budget estimate, so that was a nice surprise. I've posted some wallpapers for the droid for some droid users of a game I'm following (did some for the iPhone already), checked car boards, checked fun boards, and watched some shows. While a nice relaxed day so far (still not back in the side room) I'd have preferred to hustle off campus to look at a car or maybe two. Now nearing 4:30 the odds of finding something for the weekend are rapidly diminishing. There is still tomorrow though, and posts do seem to ramp up starting around now until late afternoon tomorrow before dropping off for the weekend, so I'm still hopeful.

That's really all so far. Nothing super exciting yet.

## **Day 787 - 8/27**

### **Yet another day with nothing new**

I guess it's been a pretty relaxed day so far. I sold my camera early this morning, so that paid for part of the phone upgrade and went into my car cash envelope. Though I don't know if it's really worth carrying around. I've had it for what seems like over a week now. I worry. It's a lot to just be carrying around. But, I keep hoping I'll find something to look at and be ready to buy at a moment's notice. No prospects carried over from yesterday. I put out three messages this morning but no replies yet. It likely will be yet another no car weekend.

I've got about 2.5 hours left until I need to leave for work, a little less if I want to grab dinner. I decided to go ahead and get a whole pre-cooked chicken now, but I always forget that for whatever reason the ones here are always super greasy and upset my tummy if I have more than just a small amount.

The teens were all over here at the start of lunch time. I'd forgotten that they do that. Lately my brain has been in a weird place. I don't seem to be remembering my old routines anymore. Things commonplace, like the teens getting lunch, seem long forgotten.



I watched some of Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along blog when surfing boards earlier. Like the teens, I'd forgotten that I used to watch shows all the time when surfing boards with a little picture-in-picture on my monitor. It too seemed strange and foreign, not like part of a life I once lived, but more like a piece of a long forgotten show that I'd only seen once long ago.

Times like now my life seems like a strange movie or show. I sit here alone looking out at all the people busy with their lives, yet only teeny fragments we have in common touch me. This bench where I sit, the ash tray and garbage next to me used by so many, seen so many times in passing, were only ever background items in my life. Now I feel like a part of that background. I feel like I've become one of those soulless background people noone ever talks to or interacts with. And when the scene is over things will move on, and I will never be seen again.

## **Day 788 - 8/28**

### **Windy day on campus**

It's just about 1:45. I've been on campus a lot longer than I thought I'd be. My day started at the coffee shop checking for cars hoping to find something. By 10 I'd found nothing solid and came to campus to take my shower. Sadly, even though there were teams here the showers were cold. 😞 I got to where I am now by 11. I'm outside of the small side room sitting at an outside bench. I've stayed long because I haven't seen any patrols. Usually I see an electracop or black and white roam through the area once every half hour to an hour, but I haven't seen a single one in roughly 3 hours. I may go back to the shower area at around 2 to be warm inside and charge my netbook for a bit.

So far today I've spent about 4 hours looking at cars. There are a few ads of cars I'd love, but I gave them 'low ball' figures. One is on the other side of the bay and I can't get to it (it would take around 3 hours by bus/train) and the other is at a dealer, which I'm still hesitant to trust after my last experience. These were the first to appear in my searches within the 'what if' range of having vs. not having my iPhone. So, now you nay-sayers can poo poo me. 😞 (Though one I can't get due to distance even with the money, and the other I don't know if I'd trust.) I don't regret it though. There are features it has

that I've used that I wouldn't have had without. Like a few days ago I brought up the g.p.s. map and helped someone clarify directions that they'd been given. They were lost without that. And yesterday H sent some pictures of a possible car to look at. A few times too I've checked bus routes. So there are some very cool non-gaming features that have been great to have.

It's super windy and cold today. I'd say it's in the low 70s, which is super strange after it's been over 100F just a few days ago. I guess it's supposed to warm back up towards the 80s soon, so that should be good.

I was really hoping to find a car by the weekend. I know I say that every week, but lately it's been more sad than usual. There are still unfulfilled birthday desires – another movie, maybe a special dinner that isn't rushed, or a special food that I'd carry with me and nibble on over time – simple desires, but still. But it again seems like it will be another weekend without. 😞

## Day 789 - 8/29

### Bleh day

Today has been pretty bleh. I had work this morning, which is good, but with still no car that meant a 30-40 minute walk first thing in the morning. I got to work nearly an hour early though, so I set myself up on a few chairs and thankfully zonked back out for a bit. I played my mobile games basically the full nearly 6 hours during my shift, so that was fun. 😊 Since then though my day has been bleh. I did laundry, which was greatly overdue. I took a bus back to the ex-home area so I could drop off my laundry back into the ex-garage in storage. I checked for cars, but as I expected there were none. I'm having an early dinner, so I've still a few hours of Internet left. I'll probably watch some shows when I'm done eating.

School should be open in the morning. I saw a sign in the locker-room that read 'closed for Labor day Friday to Monday'. If they were going to be closed other times, why only mention those days? It seems to support the theory that school will probably always have the locker-room, shower, and side room open. 😊 If I had a car I may try going

elsewhere to connect, but so far it's one of the few places I can. My netbook's wireless is the weakest on the planet. Even my phone, which is infinitely smaller, has fewer issues with WiFi. I don't know if the mall issues are all my system or the mall. It could be my system has just become too sensitive to see it. It seems that way at school sometimes (others are online fine while I struggle with constant drops or not seeing the signal.)

I probably just feel blah because everyone's life is moving forward but mine. Friends are getting new jobs, moving different places, moving forward with their life's plans, yet mine remains the same. I try and hold onto the little things that I can, but it seems overall that my life continues to slowly crumble around me.

## **Day 790 - 8/30**

### **Minus one study**

It's dinner time at a work shift, but my brain keeps thinking it's lunch time. Maybe it's because I'm having soup, maybe it's because of all of my lack of sleep lately has just created a really whacked out sense of time.

Didn't do much today. I got to school and got to use teh Internets, but the little side room was *still* closed. If it hadn't have been I likely could have taken a nap in there. There were zero cars to reply to, but lots posted. There seem to be a growing number in places too far to be feasible to reach.

I expressed concern over the terrible blood drawing experience to the survey person. She agreed that I shouldn't do that study, as there isn't anything they could do about the pain. And apparently blood could be drawn as often as once an hour with repeated re-stabbings into me with the needle if it came loose. So since the one draw of having a needle in me for 10-15 minutes was nearly unbearable pain, she disqualified me for that study. It's sad because that was the higher paying, sleepover, no drug study, but the pain would have been too much. Mind you when I say this I don't have a low pain tolerance. It's incredibly high. (Obviously it has to be to endure this long being homeless.) When I was in my mid-teens I actually broke my arm and noone knew I had because I was able to mentally block out enough pain to function normally and seek help. It must

have been hours before I was taken to the hospital and given drugs. Well, the surveys are what they are. I get in to the ones I get into.

I spent the \$70 for the bus pass for September. Hopefully I won't regret that. Since there were no replies this morning from anyone I figure it's likely this will be yet another week without. While I remain hopeful, with Monday gone that realistically means it's unlikely I'll look at a car before Wednesday at the soonest.

Last night when trying to sleep my nighttime activities came to mind. How strange it felt and seemed to remember that back in the day at that time I'd have finished dinner, finished watching shows, then be starting up my computer for a bit of time before bed cruising boards. Once upon a time my life was about choice. Now it seems my life is all about can'ts. I can't sleep in. I can't wake up, roll out of bed, and go take a shower. I can't choose what to have for lunch. I can't choose what to cook for dinner. I can't choose what game(s) to play. I can't choose if I want dessert. I can't choose to watch a show or movie during dinner. Once upon a time my life was filled with choice. Simple choice to be sure, but choices none the less. Now... now those memories are beginning to fade and they are becoming forgotten and lost.

## **Day 791 - 8/31**

### **Fast day**

Today went super fast. It's work time now. I got to campus by 9; again the side room was closed and locked. I spent all day until I needed to leave there online. Mostly I just looked for cars, but I did check jobs too, checked fun boards, and watched a few shows.

There is some weirdness with the second study. I guess there is a bunch of interview stuff they need to do. I can't make either of the two times offered this week really, so I don't know what will happen there. It will have to wait or I won't be able to do that one either. 🙄

I got a single serving dessert apple pie. I don't think I've gotten one in longer than the like six weeks the car has been dead. Seems like just another thing that I used to do (semi) regularly that I haven't been able to do in quite a while.

Guess that's it for this week and tonight. 😊 I've got a bad movie to watch then a few hours of whatever time. I probably should make a cover for book 3, but I'm having a sort of tough time figuring out exactly what I want to do for it.

## **Week 114**

### **Day 792 - 9/1** **Farewell to not friends**

It's earlyish morning, around 10:15. I'm getting very frustrated with my netbook. I don't know if it's getting worn out or what, but I've now been disconnected from the school network no less than six times so far today. I signed in with my phone right when I got here and it's been dropped zero times, including walking all the way down the hall to the bathroom where I get no phone call signal. Granted, it's designed for wireless connectivity, but still, it's getting frustrating seeing others around me not have any issues. I looked at a few gaming systems online just now, and if I accept a heavier, less portable, standard battery life system I could get a very solid system for cheaper than the M11x (since it's no longer on summer sale). While I don't have the money now it is an alternative down the line to consider.

It seems there was some drama last night on Facebook. C&H posted a rather mean posting. Not a private message, but an open post all people can read. I can delete it, but I'll leave it up until I can get my stuff from them. At that point I'll delete it and remove them as friends. If I have to I'll schedule a car rental for a day next week. I'm trying to see if I can get one for today, but they are all booked. I'll have to call later to see if one got canceled. I won't go into huge detail about the drama, but I guess I made a few comments on friends pages I'd met at their events and parties a few times that C&H didn't like. I was just being my usual regular sometimes silly self making comments that I thought were funny or lighten the mood. Being of darker humor I guess they weren't found to be funny (which is odd with that crowd, as they are darker than me.) So C&H told me I should remove those people as friends. Well, fine, whatever. We never chatted directly anyways outside of those parties/events. They were never more than friends of friends. I'm sorry and sad to think I may have hurt them, but that happens with new people who don't really know you. The thing is I don't know that C&H care to know me either anymore. Since the failed vacation event I notice they seemed to be withdrawing more and more. But looking back over the entire past eight or so months since I first hung out with them it's actually been declining the entire time. They seemed very caring and concerned about me at first,

but over time, even in the early days, they seemed to question my motives and actions and accuse or attack rather than understand. When I can, this is why I'll unfriend them. I don't need people questioning, accusing, and attacking me in my life, particularly right now. I want to surround myself with people who are curious, seek understanding, and who react with concern, care, even love, at the very least react with respect for the other person being who they are even if they disagree or don't understand why that person is making that choice. They should understand and accept that's how that person is.

So yeah, lots of drama today. Whee. 😞 I guess this is what you get when you have friends, but if this is what it is, I'd rather just see them on very rare occasion or not at all. I don't need someone challenging, insulting, or attacking my decisions. Sure, not understanding me is the logical and rational mode most people are aligned to. My choices often times on the surface don't make sense. But, if you look deeper, those choices often do. If you understand me, they always make sense for me. If you care to ask why (while reserving judgment) I'll be happy to explain it. You are free to agree or disagree. But don't judge without understanding, don't attack. That's not a very happy way to live your life.

Time passes

I got the rental car, ran over to C&H's, got my stuff, put what I could back into their boxes in the ex-garage in storage (some items will take a bit of shifting to get back into their boxes), and now I'm back on campus trying to use the Internet. It's failing miserably, disconnecting me literally every other second. This morning it was about 10-12 disconnects compared to zero on my phone. I'm seriously considering seeing if there were a way to replace the netbooks WiFi for cheap and if it's possible to do so.

C&H seemed ... unusually normal. They weren't cold or distant or judgmental like they seemed in recent messages or posts. Just a friendly front while I was there? I don't know. I guess we'll see in the coming days what happens on Facebook. Maybe they will unfriend themselves, maybe there will be more drama later, maybe neither, but I also never get to come visit again. Things seem weird; even more so when I visited because they seemed normal. I can say there were no questions about my health, safety, mental well being, or concern about my situation, or being sorry that I felt I had to rent a car to come get my stuff. I suppose it's a positive thing there were no judgments or attacks about that, but it's also inconsistent with recent actions that there weren't. I guess I'll leave them friended for now and see what happens over time.

It's nearing 8 and everything is becoming a ghost town here on campus. I'm not sure how much longer they are open but I may leave soon to seek other shelter.

It seemed so odd to be driving again. The freedom was liberating, as if I'd been rooted forever and it finally wore off and I could move freely again. But with it returns the fears. Am I being watched? Is that officer coming after me for some reason? Will I be noticed in this bright red car as not moving from the parking spot in forever? Will I be noticed when I try and sleep?

I suppose all will turn out to be my normal troubled homeless life tonight and tomorrow before I return the car.

A friend had a baby today. I hope their life goes better than mine. With about 50+ messages of congratulations on their page already (it's only been a few hours) I'm sure they will do just fine. I'm beginning to think there is far more success among those with inherited strong social networks, while those like me who have none are doomed to never gain our own. 😞

## **Day 793 - 9/2**

### **Feeling less sad**

I feel a little less sad today. I got to stay in the rental car last night. It was scary because my head and shoulders were totally visible, but my spot hid me well enough. Early morning I moved to school and it was fine. I got pretty upset when I returned the car though, as I wasn't expecting the full day charge when I'd only used it for less than 20 hours. That's \$10 I should have gotten back.

I wound up taking a drive last night. I didn't plan it or anything, just wound up on the road for a while. I thought for quite a bit about why I feel good driving at night. It's because I think back to happier times. Times when I was a teen and in my early 20s when the gray ghost and I would go driving, or times when I was in my late teens and driving to or from a girlfriends home who was a few hours drive from mine. I'm not here, not now, not in my sad life, not even in my sad life escaping into the night. I'm then. I'm transported to who I was. I'm not me now escaping or remembering them, I *am* me then.



I feel a bit better though I know nothing has really changed. I still have zero car prospects. I haven't had a job prospect in what seems forever. I suppose though there was some change today. My stuff formerly at C&H's is now back in ex-garage storage. It's close, and I can go visit it at any time. I suppose too finding the cheaper laptops have lifted my spirits a bit too. Though with a realistic figure for what the car will cost I'm still looking at early November at the soonest to move to a real gaming laptop.

Though my life remains sad with no true prospects of change, I remain hopeful that it is all for some greater forward step, some greater reason that may forever elude me. I trust in Fate and the gods that guide my path and hope they bring me home soon.

## **Day 794 - 9/3**

### **Wiggly tooth is wiigilly**

It's about 11:15. I'm early for all I can nom pizza. I'm considering reactivating my WoW account and playing a bit. Here at the pizza place is one of the most stable connections in the wild. I'm still hesitant though. At 5-15 FPS and about 15-20% increased delay on all my abilities, my enjoyment is really limited. Even with a cheaper car I'd still be looking at ... oh I guess not all that long, about 2-2.5 months. My current plan/budget though with a more expensive car puts a laptop closer to mid-December, which seems a very long way away, but I guess that's only three months. With a car there are a few decent play locations; Without, play connectivity is unreliable. At this point I'll see how I feel and think about it more. While my urge to play is returning, it is very upsetting to have limited content access because raids drop me to 7 or lower FPS. They just aren't playable at all. Since it's the only thing really left for me to do, there isn't much more waiting for me save for repetitive grinding. There are some upcoming betas that I'm looking forward to, notably Rift: Planes of Telara, but I think I still have a few months to worry about it. Who knows, in a few months time I could be happily in love, making new friends, and have a place to play with my desktop system and money to upgrade it to current hardware (or just build a new system). I always remain hopeful.

I am a bit more sad than not today. While I remain hopeful about everything there is decreased activity everywhere what with the holiday. There were zero car ads to reply

to in the past few days, so I'm realistically out until at least Tuesday. Nights are still cold, and full of fear and worry, but I don't want to think or talk about it. It just makes me more sad. Better to focus on happier awake time things when I can seem and feel more normal.

My wiggly tooth is super wiggly lately. I think nothing remains of it save for its top and the inside facing. I think its middle and root bits are all deteriorated away. Something still holds it mostly in place though. I yank to pop it out and end it and there is a tuggish pain. I think the gummy root at its center is still holding it in. It's just lost its foundation to hold it still. It's only a matter of time though, and I expect it will be gone in a matter of weeks at this point. 😞

I guess that's all for today. I got two movies from a new Blockbuster Express kiosk. It's a good thing I didn't have any movies out with the old kiosk. This one replaced it overnight. It was like \*poof\* instant change. It's good because I got two older ones I haven't seen yet (that the other one didn't have), but the new stuff I really want to see seems absent still. Well, I guess they will come soon enough.

I guess that's all the rambling for now. Nothing seems changed in my online life, and that's where most change would begin these days. It seems I'm looking at a long weekend with little to do. I am thankful I can at least have my netbook for board surfing, and now my iPhone for mobile gaming. I'm glad of that. But even with those I'm looking at about 18 hour days. Even with my little pleasures there is much I miss that I would otherwise be doing, and with what I miss many things that I cannot do because I don't have those things anymore. 😞

## **Day 795 - 9/4**

### **No convention for me**

It's a sadder feeling day. It's just past 12:30 and I don't know what I'll do. I just had lunch to the fabulous view of a parking lot and mobile recycling center. Before that I spent about 3 hours surfing the web checking for cars, jobs, and fun boards. I haven't reactivated my account yet. I'm still considering it though.

I'm considering going to the library to have a bit more private space, but if I do that I don't have an Internet connection. (Not one that isn't timed anyways.) Plus, it's

about 1/2 hour or more by bus each way, plus 5-10 minutes of walking each way, so that adds a lot of lost time to my day. Just because I have the time to waste doesn't mean I'd want to waste it.

Maybe I'm sad because this weekend is yet another fun convention / LAN party I've been wanting to go do over the years. I thought about seeing if I could get to it since I've no work to interfere and entry tickets were only something like \$50, but they were sold out a few weeks ago. Even if the bus ride wouldn't have been that expensive entry wouldn't have been possible. Plus, hotels averaged \$200 a night. That I most certainly couldn't have afforded, though I suppose it may have been possible to just stay up all night since there is a 24/7 LAN party section (to my knowledge.)

I guess I'll just go back to the coffee shop and do whatever. It seems that some people have an average stay of 3-5 hours now that the Internet is free, and the workers don't seem to mind people staying long like they did a year ago.

I'm so exhaustedly tired. I'm tempted to lie down on the hill and nap. It just wouldn't feel right though. Maybe tomorrow and Monday I'll go to the library early in the day and nap. I don't like it though because I lose my Internet connection, leaving me little to do.

I think about everyone having a good time at PAX. I think about those who can't go who are at home gaming, or having a nice BBQ this weekend. And I hope none of them are as troubled as me. I hope of all my fellow gamer peeps, and pretty much everyone, are not sitting in a parking lot like me, missing out and wishing for so many things that would otherwise be our lives. I suppose the reality is though that I'm not. And for myself and all of them I am sad. 😞

## Day 796 - 9/5

### Drive by LARPing

I have a cold again. 😞 I'm sniffing, sneezing, and have a messed up throat. I've had headaches too lately. It's around noon and I've basically done all my daily activities. I checked for cars, jobs, fun boards, even helped someone with a system build and worked on new builds for my site. I have no idea what I'll do during the rest of my day. I may

play on my mobile; I may reactivate my WoW account. I don't know. Reactivating the account is like going to Disneyland and being restricted to only two rides, both of which have lines that are hours long, so I don't know how anxious I am without a real gaming laptop and having my restrictions removed.

I decided to go ahead and get Big Bang Theory (both season 1 and 2) for a late birthday present. I know, I already overspent on my phone. But it's an actual device that does useful things; it's not like the silly lolz that is Big Bang Theory. It's like being with friends who make me laugh. Not having friends of my own that I see on an even semi-regular basis anymore I don't have anyone in my life that makes me laugh. Right now it's like if I can't laugh, if I can't progress in life, at least if I have my with my comedy shows they can make me laugh, and with games I can have virtual gain. I think that's part of why gaming is so important to me. At least there I succeed. I often excel at what I'm doing and there is measureable gain.

I guess that's all for now. Even with 9 or so hours left before I go and hide for the night I doubt anything new will come up to write about.

Time passes

I'm so very sick. My eyes and head hurt so bad. I don't know if I feel more like I'm going to cry from the pain or throw up. I wonder if some lunch meat I ate yesterday was bad. I'd been eating it for a few days, so that that may be when I caught this cold. I prey I can last long enough to find a place to rest. I keep fading out to sleep. I don't know if that's from a mix of the pain and lack of sleep or just lack of sleep. The lack of sleep could be causing the illness too.

I saw the craziest thing a while ago. It looked like a drive by LARPing. These guys drove by in a car. Two of them shouted, "lightning bolt!", while one shouted, "blinding light!" It was the weirdest thing ever. I'd think it was my sick mind hallucinating, but I'd just sat down at the time, so it is highly unlikely to have been a hallucination.

Ooooooh my poor head, eyes, neck, and tummy. 😞 I so very much need a safe and quiet place to lay down and rest. 😞

## Day 797 - 9/6

### Fate's bread crumbs

I'm feeling a bit better today. Yesterday I felt so bad I had crackers and a handful of grapes for dinner and that was it. I got some medicine too, so I've been taking that. I'm still very sniffly and sneezing, but the massive headaches are gone. In a few days I should be back to my not-normal normal health.

I saw my friend/ex-roomie this morning. She didn't talk to me because she was with her boyfriend who hates me or whatever. It's always funny to see what's happened to him. In the like 2 years since they (when I say they I really just mean he) made me move out he's gone from 15-20% gray hair to about 90%. And he has long hair down past his shoulders. And he's about 10 years younger than me and I have less gray than he had when he kicked me out. Ha! He has more old look than me! It's like he got cursed with old look for kicking me out to the street.

It was odd to think about them though. Why were they out? (They are the type to never leave the house.) Were they going food shopping? Shopping somewhere else? To see friends? Will they go back home and spend their day there or will they do something fun like so many others are today? Once upon a time I'd known the answers to these questions. It doesn't matter I suppose since I'm not a part of their lives anymore. But it reminded me of my own day. A day when I would basically be staying in the coffee shop all day, perpetually cycling the boards if I wanted to or not because that's really all I had available to do besides playing mobile games or maybe renting a movie. Not much to say about my day save for that it would not be what my day would have been in a home. While it won't be without joy, it will be greatly diminished in all senses.

I found a dollar on the ground yesterday, and I recently won \$2 in the lottery. I guess it's yet another sign from Fate to not give up, that life can still surprise me.

Not much else today to talk about. It's around 5. I'm having an early dinner, as I often do these days. (Safer that way in case I have to go to the bathroom since none are close by most nights when I'm hiding at night.) I put out two car replies, one somewhat close, and one so far it would take 1.5-2 hours by speedy car, so that is very unlikely to pan out but it's exactly the kind I'm looking for.

What a shame my life potential is mostly wasted. I can still do some things, like help people with computer stuff on boards, but others, like sharing lols with friends, cooking them dinner, showing them a movie, sharing my love with a sweetie... all unrealized potential wasting away. Hopefully you out there reading are able to share yourselves and your lives with others. Be thankful to your peeps for sharing their lives with you. 😊

## Day 798 - 9/7 Over 500

Today has gone pretty quick. I got to be at school, yea. 😊 I probably should have taken a nap. Zomg I'm so tired. I was fading in and out earlier. Maybe I will nap Thursday. 😊

Still no luck with cars. Things are still slow from the holiday. I did send out an app for a part time job. A guy actually called me back to ask questions and stuff. 😊 I won't hold my breath though. It wouldn't be a career and there were apparently over 500 apps in the just 6 hours that his ad had been up. 🤖 How crazy is that? That's about one application every 0.75 seconds!

I'm at my mini work with no movie. 😞 There was nothing to rent at the kiosk. I've seen it all. I don't expect anything surprising to happen during the rest of my evening. I suppose though the good news is that nothing (new) bad happened. I guess this is bye to another week. 😊

## Picture series 17



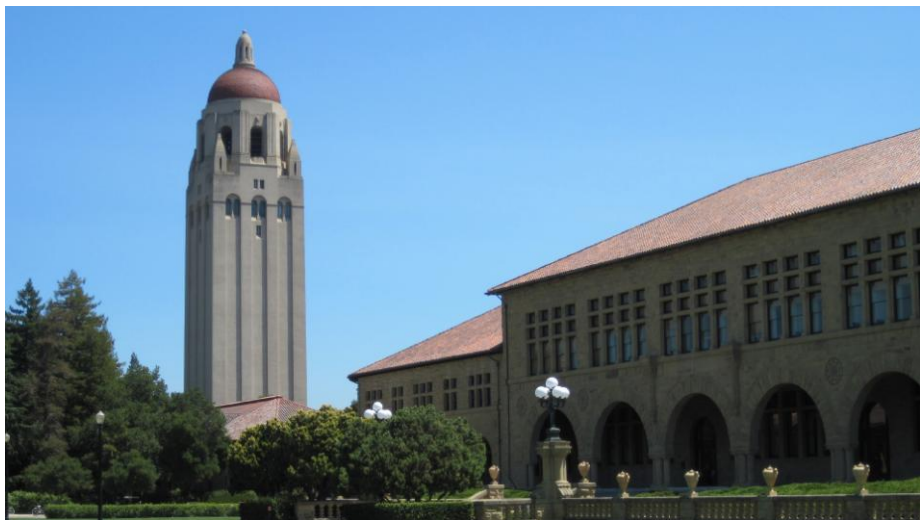
Four queens



Stanford's Memorial Court (center of main oval)

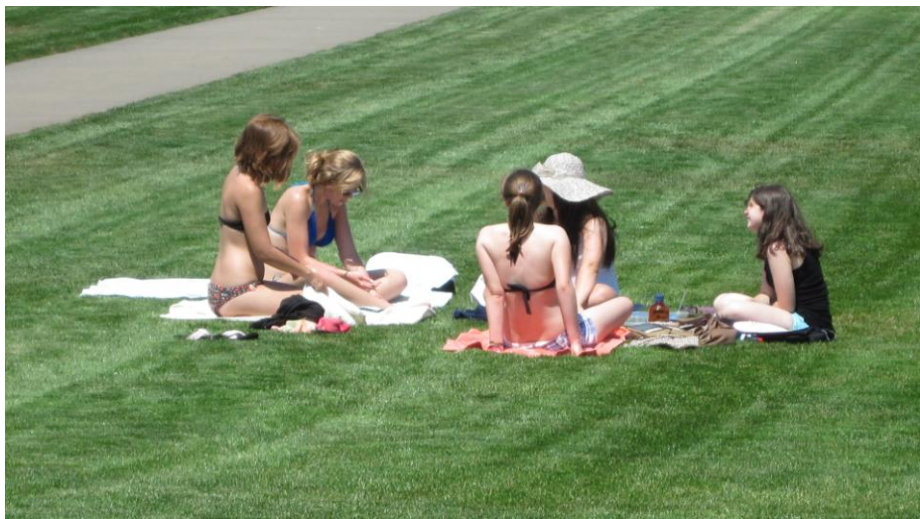


Stanford's Jordan Hall (right of main oval)



Stanford's Hoover Tower (left of main oval)

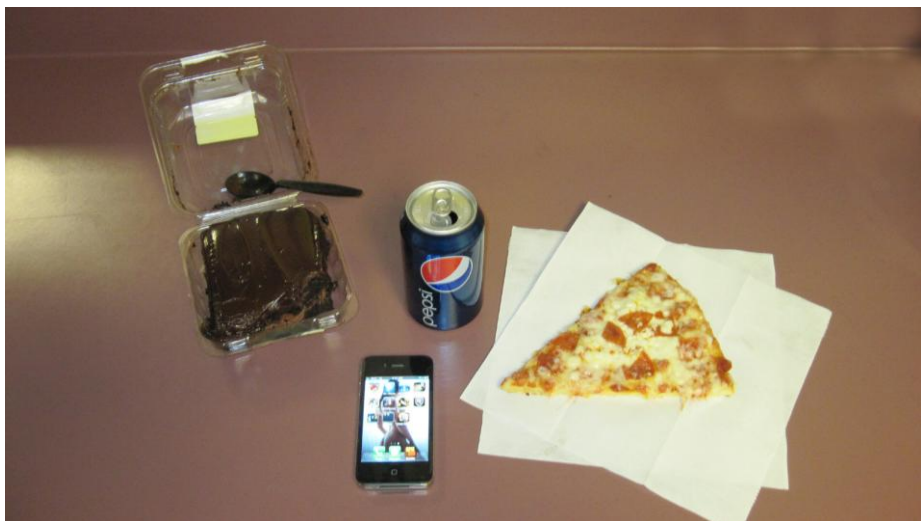




One nice benefit to going to college – cute co-eds!



Moar photo of cute co-eds!



Sad and lonely 2010 birthday, with a small happy



For teh cheap, to be played on a vacation that was not to be

## Week 115

### Day 799 - 9/8

#### Two beautiful research assistants

Today was a busy day. I got up, had a bit of time to look for cars, then I was off to my appointment for one of my studies. I was met by an attractive and beeeautiful research assistant. 😎 We went over the testing questions and she talked about the MRI. I asked some flirty questions, found out she was single, so after some more flirty questions gave her my card. I did say though that I'd bet she had at least a dozen peeps interested in her. She blushed and said that she didn't say she didn't, hehe. 😊 She did say she wanted to focus on school right now though. I do hope she doesn't ignore love. It would be so sad if everyone moved on and she had to start over later. I'm sure she'll be fine though. She's young and beautiful and seems like she'll have a challenging but rewarding career. 😊 I don't think she'll ever have my troubles, and I'm glad of it. I didn't get to say bye to her though. She was scanning someone else when I left. I may have to take her a rose next time I go back. 😊 There was much giggling and smiling on both our parts. She's a lot younger than me though, so I don't expect anything to come of it.

The MRI machine surprised me. It has a sort of heartbeat to it. It has this 'wumm wumm wumm' to it while ready. In a strange sort of way it makes music when running. It's got a 'klanka, klanka, klanka, whurrrr, klanka, whurrrr, chicka, chicka' rhythm to it. When I spaced out my mind matrixed symbols, drums, and other musical instruments.

After, I went to a different building to answer a bunch of questions and do some memory challenge stuff. Some things were game like, so I pwned those pretty good.

These were administered by a second beautiful and attractive research assistant. 😎 I tried to flirt with her too, but she seemed much less receptive to my flirting. Not put off or avoidant, just that she didn't get that I was flirting or that she has someone and wouldn't be interested.

After that it was pretty much it for my day. By the time I got back to my area it was already 5:30. I had a few hours on campus then that was it. Now I'm hiding

somewhere that's safe enough to do this writing, though I'll need to be pretty quick to go into full stealth mode.

My life is still sad. A bit more hopeful at seeing not just one, but two beautiful attractive girls that made my heart leap and joyful. Feeling that chemistry is rare, and after so many years being single it's good to know I can still feel... excitement, joy, that nervous happiness of 'is she going to get near enough to touch me on accident? what if she touches me on purpose?' All those feelings that say this would be a good person for me to date.

But, my life is a sad life, and I am older. It is very doubtful either will be interested and all that remains is my sad life around me. I am always hopeful it will change, anything can happen, and it seems Fate has brought me very strong reminders that I can still feel. But, will my dream of being a counselor at a school ever come true? Of being a teacher? Or will I be one among many who never get to do what they wanted or hoped in life? I certainly don't lead a charmed life, as I'm sure those research assistants will, but am I doomed forever? My romantic side is as hopeful as ever, but my logical side can't help but continue to think maybe this sad life is all I will ever have.

## **Day 800 - 9/9**

### **On the drugs**

My time at school for today is nearly up. It's 6 and I only have a few more hours I could be here. I am starving, so I'll likely leave in a little bit, earlier than my maximum time I could stay. No new car or job news to report.

Today is the first day of my drugs for the study. I'm super burpy. 🤢 Thankfully that seems to be the only side effect so far. I'm reasonably sleepy too, but I think that's general life. I do feel a bit more my old homeless self than super maximum depressed homeless self, but I'm fairly certain that has to do with the fact that I was social yesterday what with meeting the new people and seeing not one but two beautiful research assistants. (Though upon reflection they could get in big trouble if they started dating me and whatnot. Not only because I'm in the study, but because it's a study about depression and dating is a happy thing. 😍)

Not sure what to really say for today. Nothing new has really happened. I did think a bit about what the researcher assistant I gave my card to said about love. She said it was 'within the self'. It struck me as odd coming from someone in Psychiatry, but then I don't know if that was her field, nor if it was her one and only view on things. Some would say love is nothing more than a chemical reaction that influences action or reaction. If that is true I would agree it is in the self, but I'd also say that change is caused by external stimuli, either directly or indirectly, so 'love' is really an exchange of stimulus and response. I suppose that part of how I've managed to be single for so long and not go crazy. I know what makes me feel loved, and what I'm looking for, and so I can wait. But, I can also feel loved through memory or fantasy. (Though fantasy of any kind is rare for me these days as I'm often very limited in my ability to act to fulfill them, making me feel like having fantasy is fairly pointless.) Anyways... just some rambling thoughts on love and why I may have survived without for so long. I would agree with her that I don't need others to feel love, but it certainly would be nice to have. 🧐

## **Day 801 - 9/10**

### **On the drugs, day 2**

It's lunch time. I decided to do all I can nom pizza. It's pretty expensive, but I figure I get salad and pizza. I've been super hungry lately. I don't know if it's the drug they have me on for the study or if it's my cold. I do seem to be feeling more of everything; more hungry, more tired, more happy sure, but also more easily frustrated, more sad. It seems the main way the drug works is by amplifying everything. But I don't know if a victory by keeping me distracted / unable to focus on sad things helps. I mean, sure, it's what I'm trying to accomplish with my gaming in some ways, but there is some kind of permanent experience gain emotionally and a social connection if I'm online. With the drugs just amplifying everything I don't know if that helps. And too, it could be a placebo and nothing has changed but me, or it may not be reacting as it should yet. I don't know for sure. The only thing to be said with certainty is my tummy is grumpy and burping a lot, almost all the time, food or no.

No change in jobs or cars, not a huge surprise.

I still have about 4 hours of my day left before work, so there is still time for change or something interesting, though I doubt anything will.

## **Day 802 - 9/11**

### **Returning sadness**

It's about lunch time. I'm feeling mostly normal today, but with a returning sadness. The drugs seem to be affecting me less, which is good because the effects so far were pretty high level.

I'm sitting in a parking lot at the ex-house hub wondering what to do next. Should I eat here? Should I go to the food store and sit at a table in the corner and watch Big Bang Theory? Should I reactivate my WoW account after lunch and play? While I do have some options due to not being so close to the line on money things seem extra sad with no car. While I likely would be pondering the same questions with a car, being here on the ground, stuff on hand, it seems much more sad than if I had a car and I didn't have to carry this stuff with me.

The drugs so far seem to have created a sort of brain reset back to the early days of my homelessness. I seem to be thinking clearer, faster, and have an overall higher sense that things will be ok. While hope seems bolstered I can't help but think that nothing has changed externally. My situation is still what it was. Nothing is different save for my perception. I'm still trying in the same ways to recover, and recovery attempts are still met with the same challenges.

I'm so tired. If I had a car I could nap. I'm tempted to go to the closed college campus and go to the locker rooms to see if it's quiet enough to nap. I suppose though it doesn't much matter. I'll get up, have lunch, move around, and likely feel ok again without a nap.

Like a lack of sleep, there are so many things I crave and need that I just can't have these days and I'll just have to be without. 😞

## Day 803 - 9/12

### Eternity of helplessness

It's just past 11. I'm at a bus stop waiting to go to campus. I'm going to see if I can maybe nap and then have lunch. I'm having a weird day though, could be the drugs. I don't feel like being, going, or eating, anything I normally do. I have some grapes and crackers that I'll kind of force myself to eat, but no micro or fast food sounds good. I have a migraine headache. Even with a car I don't think I'd want to go to the library or mall. I wouldn't mind a movie though, and I may wind up doing that even though I have a couple of larger bags with me.

I don't know. It seems a very sad day today. I guess it's just that lately what with the seeming brain reset I've thought more and more about those people I know, and even strangers, and their lives; what they are doing once they leave my area, their home life, their hobbies, sometimes even their troubles. I guess it's just made me miss having a regular life more. As always though there isn't anything I can do to get it back. I'm already trying. It's out of my control. I do have my fragments of my life, and that helps. It is enough. But on days like this when I feel like an observed intruder and outsider wherever I go, this kind of day is extra tough.

Time passes

It's around 2. Campus is sort of open. It's in an odd state. The locker rooms were closed, but soccer peeps were out on the field. There were both church groups and I can hear people (repeatedly) clapping across the way in the historic building. The downstairs area and the cafeteria side room are open. I ran down to find the bathroom open as well. It's not supposed to be though, so if I do stay I'll just be outside. I've been here about 1.5 hours and seen only one maintenance person, no other official campus people. It's probably fine to stay until dinner time, but I've nothing really to do. I have my games, but I think because of a massive headache I think I don't feel like playing on a small screen. Since it's Sunday all of the boards are dead; fun, car, job, or otherwise.

My days and nights with no car (when I'm not working) continue to feel like eternities of helplessness.



## Day 804 - 9/13

### Sadness returns

Not much to say today. It's later evening. My work shift is almost over. The study drugs weren't too bad today. No migraine level headache like the past few days. I still have an easily increased heart rate, all emotions and feelings both good and bad seem intensified. The sadness is returning though. While there are many many thoughts brought forward I don't normally think, there is still my constant background sadness being brought forward as well.

It was a pretty regular day on campus. I surfed online. I checked for cars, checked for jobs, checked fun boards. Nothing seems to have changed today though. My life still seems stuck and sad. All I can do is keep trying and hope tomorrow is a better day.

## Day 805 - 9/14

### Goodbye wiggly tooth

It's around 2:45, nearing time to catch a bus to work. Nothing different in the online world today. Still no cars close enough to look at. Still no jobs to apply to. Still no random messages from new potential friends or sweeties. The only thing of significance today is that I lost my wiggly tooth. 😬 I went to eat a sandwich and with the first bite it just popped right out. I suppose it's a good thing in that it was far too corrupt to save; better to have it gone. What surprised me is that the surrounding teeth and gum seem fine. I guess the corruption didn't spread, and it covered the gum long enough for the lost roots to already be covered and healed over. Unless it didn't have roots. If I remember correctly the dentists were always amazed I'd kept a baby tooth, which don't have roots I don't think. It's possible that was the one I lost. It was fairly big though, about the size of the tip of my pinky turned sideways. It is on the side of my mouth though, so it's not like I've got a big hole when I'm talking to people. I do still have super scary teeth though from the other damage that's happened. 😬

That's probably all for today. I'm still hoping for a car soon, but it seems less and less likely this week. Next week school starts, and it would be nice to have a car for that



too. Not that it makes a big difference for school. It's just I move around more when there are students here, so carrying extra stuff is more of a pain. Of course it would be nice to have overall to carry stuff, take me places, sleep in; it is getting colder and winter-like already. Of course too being able to do laundry easily again would be very nice, not to mention easy access to shower stuff.

Anyways, just rambling I guess. Well, I suppose for the first loss that really matters during this terrible adventure it could have been much worse. Cars and stuff can always be replaced, even teeth to some degree. I suppose I am still thankful for all the things I do have and that do remain in my life.

## **Week 116**

### **Day 806 - 9/15**

#### **Impulsive day**

It's dinner time. My day is basically over. I didn't really do anything of true interest today. I checked for jobs, cars, and cycled through my fun boards. I did reply to one car ad, but that was it. I suppose I did help a few people with PC stuff, but it wasn't anything major.

Impulse control has been poor lately. What with the drugs my mind is no longer a series of controllable rivers I can damn up and alter the flow of at will. It's more like a single great flood. Passing thoughts that wouldn't make it to the surface of my mind all come forward – from positive thoughts, to semi-obsessive thoughts, to mean/insulting thoughts, to sad thoughts. Mostly I can hold them back and not act on them, but some repeat or fixate until I do something with them. Today that meant a lot of little searches online for nothing of value. I suppose no harm done, but it's very distracting.

Just a normal day other than that. Maybe tomorrow will be better.

### **Day 807 - 9/16**

#### **Date for a car**

It's nearing 3; haven't done much today but go around and around on my boards. I did watch a few shows though, so that was fun. I've got this nervous energy that just isn't going away though. It's likely a side effect of the study drugs. It makes me fixate on things. I can't relax easily or move on from things to other things.

It's looking like no car for this weekend either, possibly not anytime soon. I'm getting reports that people are getting dozens and dozens, sometimes over a hundred replies/calls in less than a day. I don't know if I can compete with that what with my limited travel. At least more nights than not I can sneak in to sanctuary and hide in safety. But the longer I do that the greater my chance of discovery. With no car though there is only so much time I can be out in the cold exposed to the elements. At some point it

becomes too much of a health risk, as if my health isn't bad enough from staying in my car. Well, the buses are... adequate, even though I'm prevented from going certain places or doing certain things like sleeping in on campus or going to the movies or dinner with no bags and stuff.

Still... I must continue on with my restricted life and try and stay as happy and mentally stable as I can with what I do have. As tough as it can be at times all I can do is try and move forward with hope in my heart that things really will get better some day.

Time passes

Woot! I has a date to get a car. I'm meeting someone Saturday and expect things to be fine. He sent lots of pictures and says it's fine mechanically, so I see no reason not to get it. 😊 So, if all goes according to plan, I'll meet him around 10, grab my stuff from the ex-garage, then *finally* do muchly overdue laundry and be able to store more than one day's food again.

It will be so good to be mobile again. I hate hiding in places that are risky. Just now there was a close call so I had to sneak away to a local park. Hopefully all is fine and there won't be any heightened security checks, but still I worry. I worry in a car too, but at least with a car I've got access to several hiding places. Not just for me but for me and my car, so it is much easier to be out, both at times I can blend in with crowds and times noone else is around.

Hopefully things will go ok with the car. I'm also spending more than I'd really hoped to. But on the good side it's a kind I always wanted and it does have a hard top. A removable one that can even be set in a sun roof kind of way even.

Well, not much else to say. Maybe at least this part of my life will go back to being at least close to normal, if not genuinely normal. There is still much left for recovery, but being mobile again will be a good first step. 😊

## Day 808 - 9/17

### Last day on foot

Not sure what to say for today. Today was theoretically my last day on foot. 😊 It seems so strange thinking of all the normal things I can and need to do once I'm back in a car. I need to wash cloths. I need to buy food. I need to buy a new pair of pants. I need to get a parking sticker. I could go to a movie or dinner if I wanted without taking my bags in. It seems so exciting to be mobile and, in a way, free again.

Yet still, I feel so far from a normal life, so far from getting truly re-established. While a big step forward in my sad life this is really a step back to where I was before. A step that should have never been necessary. A step that is taking a significant chunk of cash that will only get me a small bit closer to a normal life.

I know being mobile again is indirect power and control. I'll gain back several hours a day I was losing to the bus, not to mention lost time having to repeatedly go to the store to buy one day's food at a time. But I can't help but still feel helpless and out of control. While I didn't have to look for cars today I couldn't play so many games I'd have liked to play. I couldn't get Big Bang Theory season 3 or Iron Man 2 and watch them because both are things I'll collect on Blu-ray, which I don't currently have access too. While I will make a big step towards recovery tomorrow I still feel trapped. I still feel as if I may never make recovery steps fast enough to truly recover due to being on my own and not having the opportunities I need to fully recover.

## Day 809 - 9/18

### Car theory disproven

As I sort of expected, getting the car today didn't happen. Apparently this guy didn't think to check that he actually had the pink slip to sell the car ahead of time. I don't understand how you can post a car for sale, agree to sell it to someone, set a date to meet two days later, and not verify that you have the required paperwork ahead of time. So now my plans for today, and well everything forward, is shot. Now I have to meet him Thursday so we can go to the DMV to do the paperwork there. I can't do it sooner because

I don't have the money to transfer the title over, which would be immediately due when we do the paperwork at the office.

Looking over my budget I got extra sad. Because this is so much more expensive than I was hoping to spend, a gaming laptop is an impossibility until early next year at the soonest. Well, if the car is in perfect condition and is as good a shape as the pictures show it would be worth it long-term. Not being able to really game and watch all my shows is really getting to me though. I do have my mobile gaming, so that is something, but I still miss PC and console gaming. While I could go to the game center that's a very expensive proposition at \$2-3.5 an hour. Even at 10 hours a week in the space of about 4 months I would have paid for a console or nearly a third of a full desktop or laptop, over the space of a year it would be nearly the cost of one of the gaming laptops I've been looking at for a fraction of the played time I could play with a laptop.

I'm not sure what to do with my day now, let alone my weekend. It's not even noon yet and campus looks like it's got a special event in the area I hang out in, so I don't want to wait around much longer. Also, it's a bright gray out today, blocking my ability to even see my netbook even if I wanted to stay. I guess in a bit I can maybe go get some new pants. Tomorrow I will have no choice but to do laundry on foot. And I don't know what I'll do with my coming days. What was a great many options of places to go and doing a few things I needed or wanted to do is again limited, or forced to be on hold.

I guess things will work out. I guess things aren't all bad. But why does it seem everything I do has to have these lame complications? I don't expect life for me to be easy, it never has been before, but I at least hope and wish it could be normal.

## **Day 810 - 9/19**

### **Sad day of laundry**

Today is a sad day. Laundry was very overdue so I'm doing that now. Hopefully I'll be less stinky now. 🙄

With no car my life seems much more sad than it otherwise would have been. I suppose what I could have done is really unchanged by having a car or not, but needing

to walk everywhere, needing to carry everything with me, it's making things extra tough. It's much easier to feel not homeless when I can at least keep things in the car.

Maybe too I'm still sad about missing gaming and everything a regular life with a sweetie and friends has to offer. Without being able to game I can't see my online friends or make new ones. Without a place to stay dating a sweetie or making new RL friends seems much more difficult.

I guess nothing is really different with or without a car, but it seems so very much worse. Obviously things are, what with having no shelter unless I sneak in somewhere, and I've nowhere to put the stuff I carry every day, so things are much worse with no car. But in terms of a life, in terms of life re-establishment, I feel so much sadder, yet things don't seem all that different in what I can or can't do.

Time passes

My poor feet hurt so much today. 😞 Each step hurts. I've walked only a little more than normal so I'm not sure why they are hurting today. It's probably just the repeated walking all the time.

I'm so very sad about the car. I don't know if we will be able to straighten this out. Apparently it's going to take an extra fee and extra paperwork with the DMV, which I'm going to refuse to pay for. On top of that the document has to be signed by us both and notarized, again more costs, and I think that has to be before the transfer. Unless this guy says he will take a few hours off to do this I don't see how it can be done in one day. And there is no way I'm paying for a car before I drive it around for a test drive.

I don't understand why my life has to be a complicated mess. Why couldn't this have gone quickly and smoothly? Why are there no other good cars that people have replied to me after sending out probably several dozens of replies in the past few months?

I can feel my lower and mid back clenching up from the stress. 😞 It would have been so much better had he mentioned this ahead of time.

As always all I can do is wait and hope everything works out ok in the end. 😞

## Day 811 - 9/20

### A new session

School is back on. It's early morning and I has a juice. 😊 Some students look new, many are chatting in groups like it's just another day in a series of days that have already been in session. Me, I feel as if I've been here forever now. It still doesn't seem like it's been more than 6 months, let alone a year, even moreso the nearly 2.25 years it has been. Of course I want my life to move on and change, but I can't imagine not being around college peeps. I've been in classes now for more than 10 years. I don't know what I'll do if I can't work on a campus of some kind. Of course I'd be forced to move on, as I likely will be, and so far these past few years seem to have gotten me no closer to my goal of teaching or counseling.

I don't know what to do with my day or my life anymore. I don't have class until Wednesday. I don't have to leave for work until 4, roughly 7 hours from now. I can look for jobs. I can check for cars in case this guy completely falls through. But outside of passing the CBEST I have no idea how to get closer to my goal. Now that I've done that I seem as stuck as ever. Even with a degree most jobs I've seen posted want years of experience, which I don't have.

Although things are beginning again for some I still feel stuck, lost, and wonder if things will ever really change. 😞

Time passes

Lunch time; though I'm sort of forcing myself to eat. I'm not really hungry. I'm more sad and sleepy than anything else. I suppose it's because basically everything in my life is sad for me right now. While most people have one or two sad things in their life it seems everything in mine is sad. My life is not at all what it once was. I suppose I am still far from having the worst life. Due to what I do have, due to where I live, there are still many things I have that others don't. On days like today I look around and everyone around me is young, full of excitement and hope, many surrounded by friends, their whole lives ahead of them. Once upon a time I had friends around me, a sweetie, hope about my future. How did I fall so far behind? Why can't I recover despite my efforts? Did I ever have that life? Will I ever again? Am I somehow so fundamentally different at my core that I can never have a normal life ever again?

## Day 812 - 9/21

### Sads bother me less / Complete car fail

It's lunch time and I'm actually hungry. My sads seem to be bothering me less today. Don't get me wrong, things remain unchanged. I guess I'm just more accepting that I can't change things today. It seems almost a daily basis now that I'm reading about new games, new movies or shows releasing that I could collect, and new hardware coming out that I'm missing out on. In some cases they are the second game or season in a series that I'll be missing out on, and I'm nearing a third full hardware generation that I'm behind on.

No jobs to apply for lately. And things seem to be slowing down a bit again. I also haven't heard from the car guy yet if he is moving forward or not on things he should have done before trying to sell his car. I seriously can't believe it wasn't ready to sell. Did he expect people to just hand him money without the proper and legal paperwork done?

It seems just another day today and although my life seems to have little more than tragedy I suppose there is just as much potential for a happy turnaround at any moment.

Time passes

Odd twists and turns from fate since lunch.

While waiting for the bus to take me towards work a guy asked me about my shirt. He was half smiling and seemed to recognize it. It was my Death Knight shirt and he nodded and we talked gaming stuff for a few minutes. 😊 It seems he too is in a bad spot right now and has his gaming on hold (and obviously was also out a car). It seemed odd to get a nod from Fate that maybe I can find people who are friendly towards me in passing. Who knows, if I see him again in the future maybe we will chat more and who knows what could develop.

For the reverse, it seems my poor car luck is continuing. After now nearly the sixth day after first contact the car guy is saying he won't have time to do the smog until Thursday. He tempted me by lowering the price a few hundred, but as much as I'd love the car I told him I just can't risk it not passing and being stuck with a car that needs repairs unless he were willing to sign some kind of contract that guaranteed my money back if it didn't pass. I highly doubt he'd go for it, and it really wouldn't hold up in court unless it were at the very least notarized. I guess tomorrow I'll have to go back to my full



searching. I had a feeling this may fall through and have been half-heartedly searching, really just skimming to see if anything else I may love came up, but nothing has. Tomorrow I guess I'll have to go back to replying to ads that would be cars that would be... acceptable. It's sad because this is one of the exact kinds of cars that I would have loved, and even more so it was one of the few which has a solid hard-top, more rare than not with the kinds of cars I like.

Well, as always my life remains what it is. And that life seems to remain basically out of my control or ability to change. 😞

## Week 117

### Day 813 - 9/22

#### Brief blurb before class

It's early dinner time just before 5. I'm so hungry. That's probably a good sign as my depression has left me not interested in eating lately. I splurged a bit and got a hamburger meal here at school. A bit pricy, but you get about what would cost 25% more at a restaurant, so it's a good deal for the price.

I'm feeling a bit less sad, probably because I'm not stressing out over the car, but I've been sort of scared lately. The 'there's a monster in the closet, what's that noise?' kind of scared. Not at the level you get when you are a kid, but it seems odd to be startled and fearful of shadows or sounds.

Not much else to say. It looks like I can still use the side room to access my site, so that's good. I could also just pop out a landline, but this is easier. I looked through car postings; only one to reply to. One of my classes is tonight. Hopefully that won't have a bunch of dumb assignments like the last.

Guess that's it for now.

### Day 814 - 9/23

#### Not a research assistant

It's almost 5. I'm totally hungry and going to have nom early again tonight. I guess I'm feeling ok, despite feeling a bit achy and queasy from only getting 5 hours of sleep.

I had another MRI scan this morning and to my surprise I saw the beeeeeautiful researcher again. She's not a "research assistant" though. She seemed kinda bugged when I called her that. I am sad if I hurt her feelings. 😞 Everyone else calls her that, but I guess she's got a full degree (not sure what level) and she's a full time paid employee who's basically done with school. She seemed kinda aloof (?) this time, not really seeming interested in my advances. We talked together for a bit, as she escorted me out then had to take some data the same way I was going. I was a shy bunnah and didn't really

know what to say. 😞 If it was a date I would have failed. There was the awkward silence much of the time. I didn't expect her to jump into my arms when she saw me and say, 'oh mr. rabbit, I looked at your site and you are so romantic and so sad, I'd be happy to date you!', but it's still sad to feel a chemistry towards someone and it seems they don't share that. Still, nice to know that I can still feel it, but sad to be reminded I haven't found someone who feels the same.

Nothing on jobs or cars today. It looks like it will be yet another weekend for me without a car. I'm trying to stay positive about it and think that this is Fate's way of saying to me to be open to things and that my hopes for a laptop before the end of the year may still work out. I try to stay hopeful about, well everything, yet I just feel so out of control of my life. 😞

## **Day 815 - 9/24**

### **Reduced side-effects**

Lunch time. I feel ok, less side-effecty today. Emotions are balancing out a bit, though still oddly higher than usual. The doc mentioned I should even back out after about three weeks, which I think is about mid next week, so they should hopefully fade completely away soon.

Not much out there for cars today but that was expected. I have one to possibly look at tomorrow if it's still for sale then. It's super cheap so it will probably sell fast. I guess we'll see after class (or they may email me before then if the car does sell.)

That's really all today so far since it's only lunch time. I did some happy messing around on game boards and watched some shows and checked for cars, and that's really it so far.

Maybe more bla bla later. 😊

Time passes

Well, the possible car didn't pan out. I was told I could come look at it after 5, but having work tonight I couldn't make that time. Oddly though, around an hour after I got that email I was told it was sold, which probably was around 2. So, not only did it sell

within hours of my sending an email, a person convinced them to sell it before they had even told me it would be available to go see.

Well, I still remain hopeful that everything will work out, but it certainly looks like this is going to be yet another weekend that drags on and on with few to no options on what I can do. I have class for half of Saturday, so I guess that helps to kill some time, but still. At least I can rest assured that I'm not missing any postings. I haven't checked yet, but I can use my phone to go online and check that I don't miss any ads between when I last checked and the morning. I suppose that's something.

## **Day 816 - 9/25**

### **Yet another weird car person**

It's 4. I'm waiting on looking at buying a car, but again this guy is being weird. Last night we set up a possible meet time for 3. At 12:45 this morning after my class I called to confirm the time and he said he'd call back at 2 and it looked like we'd instead need to meet up at 4. It's now 4 and I haven't heard back from him at all. I'm not anywhere really out of my way. I'm near by the college at a coffee shop, but still it's frustrating to now be waiting over 2 hours to verify if I'm meeting this guy or not, not to mention I now have \$1500 in cash in my pocket. It's like seriously? You just leave a guy hanging like that when you know he's on foot and carrying cash? Again with weird car sellers?

I suppose class seemed ok, but again it seems there will be lots of dumb projects I have to do. I seriously don't understand why *every* child development class has to have community service or observation hours. It's like seriously, I've taken about a dozen classes and just about every one has them. You don't need to make people do that stuff over and over in every class. I'm probably not going to enjoy either class, but unless I win some lottery money or find a happy high paying job I've no choice but to take them.

\*sigh\* Again I don't understand why it seems everything in my life has to be tedious, boring, repetitive, or troubled. Why can't my activities be fun and relatively smooth going? I just don't get it.

Time passes

I seem to have been stuck with another flakey person. At this point it's 6:15, more than 4 hours after this guy was supposed to call me back and he still hasn't. I've left two messages and at this point I'm giving up on him. If he's interested in selling he can call me. Very shortly any plans for this weekend I wanted to make will be shot. Soon I'll be on the bus needing to head in the opposite direction of movies because they stop running soon. Instead of getting up and moving after being in a car in the morning I'll have to get up ridiculously early and take the bus to cover for a Sunday work shift. Unless I wanted to lug a big bag around there is no way I can shop or do laundry tomorrow. Another weekend lost.

I suppose there is good news in that while I was waiting for this flake I arranged a possible meeting for Monday. It's a super cute happy car like the two I lost. Sadly though, also like them it's a soft top. I'd again be at risk of super cold temperatures during winter and the possibility of eventual leaks ruining the inside. We'll see. If it's as good as it looks it should be ok out in the open. My first one was fine and its top had been with me for over 5 years. Sadly though I'd worry about my stuff in the car all the time. It's fine in this area really, nothing ever happened in years past, but still I'd worry.

Well, again things seem to remain out of my control and I'll just have to continue to do things one very tiny step at a time.

## **Day 817 - 9/26**

### **More flakeiness**

It's fairly early at the Sunday shift coverage at nearly 10. I never did hear back from that guy I was supposed to look at the car for. He just completely flaked out. I don't know what's up with that. I'm not going to bother calling him. It was cute enough looking, but a touch higher than I'd have liked to pay. I don't know if the Monday guy is flaking or not either. He was at a party when I messaged him yesterday. He said he'd email me when he got back last night or this morning. I have yet to hear from him. It is still early for most, so I won't really worry about it until after my shift. If I haven't heard from him by then though he's probably flaking. I guess if he does it would be ok. I really shouldn't get a soft top car while homeless, particularly if I'd wind up paying what would probably be

\$1800 for it. It would be a super happy car long-term, but short-term the soft top would be a touch stressful and worrisome, not to mention paying that much pretty much would totally cripple my ability to get a laptop any sooner than about mid next year, which is much later than I'd like. If I could keep closer to the \$1200 range I would probably be able to get a laptop by the end of the year or early next year. My life would be, theoretically, a lot happier with both a car and a gaming capable laptop. It certainly wouldn't be as happy as in a home on a desktop, but at least then I could freely game and be free from the slow struggles my netbook has on even the most simple of tasks.

I don't know what the day will bring. With no car I really have no plans at all. I have an idea of what I want for dinner, but that's it really. I could have done laundry, but I didn't want to lug my big bag around with me everywhere. Not with all the extra walking I had to do to get to work anyways. Besides, if things work out with the Monday guy I'd happily pay the monies and have a super happy car again. It's the exact kind I'm looking for, and I didn't notice it was a 1999 model, not a 1992 model like most of them are. It has an even nicer look, and there is a chance the walls are better lined for sound and temperature control. Anyways, I guess my day winds up how it winds up. I really have no control over anything. I still can't game outside of my games on my phone. I can surf my boards if I really wanted, which I probably will do. My phone can access the network even though my netbook can't. But besides surfing my boards today I have no clue what the day will bring. I ever try and remain hopeful, but it still seems a very sad life indeed. There are so many little things you take for granted with a regular life that you can't do while homeless. And those things seem like great and wonderful pleasures right now.

Time passes

It's earlyish evening at around 5:30. Still no word from the car guy I was supposed to meet yesterday, nor anything from the guy I'm supposed to meet tomorrow. I sent a message about an hour ago to remind him, but no response yet. If I don't hear back by 9 or so it probably won't happen and I'll try not to worry about it. All this car stuff is causing a pretty tremendous amount of stress in my lower and mid back. 😞

I find myself wondering what would my life be like had I not gotten the car from that dealer? Would I have found one that made me happy? Would I have found one equally cheap but that also didn't make me happy? Would I have been able to get my

gaming laptop roughly a month ago like I planned? Would things really be different or would I be just as sad but with a car and better laptop? I suppose I'll never know. Any number of things may have gone better, or even worse. All I can say is that I hope this path Fate has me on will put me where I need to be some day, be that for my benefit or for someone else.

## **Day 818 - 9/27**

### **Dumb flakes, starting over**

It's early in the day but I don't know what I'll do with my day. I say that because it's 10:30, all my car prospects have fallen through, I've checked all my fun boards, I've checked job boards, and I just had an early lunch. The day has barely just started and it's going to be hours before things refresh. I might do a minor update to my site, I might take a nap (if I can), I haven't decided.

There is good news though. In my hardware checks this morning I saw a system mentioned for \$800 that has a bigger screen and built in DVD compared to the M11x. So it's a touch better, though less "portable", and about 20% cheaper. Unless the M11x gets an update by the time I'm looking at buying I'll go with the cheaper one. 😊 If I can manage to keep my car costs under \$1500 I'd be back on (altered) track for a gaming system at the end of the year. I'm back to the drawing board with cars since everyone has fallen through at this point, so it's entirely possible.

Guess that's all for now. 😊

## **Day 819 - 9/28**

### **Contrasts**

The contrasts of my life seem really extreme lately. Last night when wandering around after midnight noone was around. I was the only soul out and about save for a car

now and then. While not unusual for that time, it seemed like only I and the stars were out. The world was quiet, shadowed, and empty. Only the sound of crickets filled the air. This morning while waiting for the bus things seemed surreal. Places I was just 5 hours earlier were completely transformed. No longer what they were, the sun was out, shadows were almost completely gone, there were joggers and dog walkers everywhere you looked, cars zipped here and there carrying people to work and school.

I guess that's why I try not to think about my homeless self. Things are so different it's almost as if I am two separate selves. The one who has a mostly normal life, seemingly no different than anyone else in appearance, and the me that is alone, unwelcome, and invisible among the shadows, seemingly fading further and further from the other self day by day.

My day hasn't yet started since I just got to campus and it's barely 9. With no car prospects at all I expect of the day is hopefully a nap and Iron Man 2 while I work tonight. I never saw it in theaters. It's one of those things I wanted to share with others, but never had others to share it with at the time.

I guess that's all for now. Maybe there will be a happy surprise later in the day.

Time passes

The study doctors are worried about me. 😊 Not just feeling sad and worried about my homeless life, but my blood pressure is pretty bad, so they are worried about my overall health. They are going to hook me up with a prescription medication that should help lower it as well as trying to find me a long-term doctor to track it and be sure I get back down to where I should be. 😊 Even though I know they would care about everyone it still seems nice that peeps are worried about me. It's been a while since anyone has responded to Epic Fail, but I know all you readers care too. 😊

No cars to apply to yet. Maybe there will be later. I can check through my fancy phone. 😊 I'm still hopeful for this week. Wednesday is a half-day for class, and Thursday I am trading shifts with Fridays, so that's a half-day too, but Friday would be a full day I could look at / check out cars. I guess we'll see.

It's super hot now. It's been record lows lately but the past few days it's spiked up in heat. Last I looked it was over 90 today! 🥵 The past few days were in the mid 80s. Finally some real summer time, but fooooo it's hot.



Guess that's it for now, possibly the week. Take care peeps. 😊

## **Week 118**

### **Day 820 - 9/29** **The forgotten day**

I actually forgot to make an entry for this day. Nothing eventful happened, which in a way is a good thing. I planned to take a nap but never got around to it. I did take a shower though. 😊 Class was ok I suppose. I replied to one car ad late in the night, but I doubt he will reply. Not only is it at my upper limit of what I want to spend, but he's about 30-45 minutes away by car through mountains along the coast, a route I'd have to take a special chartered bus to get through. That was really it for the day.

### **Day 821 - 9/30** **New work shift Thursday**

It's early morning around 9. Nothing going on today, but I'll be somewhat busy. I've got to go to the center of the city to buy a bus pass... unless they happen to sell them here at school, which I guess there is a fair chance of and I hadn't thought of that before. Later I've got my new work shift tonight, traded from Friday. I haven't worked Thursdays in a while and it will be completely strange to have my Friday nights back. It's been about 2.5 years since I've had them off regularly. But then, without access to the shows and my desktop gaming I wouldn't be able to do my previous TV/gaming weekend start celebration anyways.

I guess that's all for now. I continue to hope for change but it seems unlikely to occur this week at this point.

## **Day 822 - 10/1**

### **Being alone is sad**

It's early evening. I'm waiting for the bus to come to take me to a sanctuary. I guess today was ok, but it seemed very sad and disappointing. There were no cars or jobs to reply to, and due to it being Friday all the boards were quiet. I am thankful for my phone though, as it allows me to continue searching for cars at night regardless of where I am. (Basically I only get a signal my netbook can see at school or the coffee shops. I use my phone everywhere else.)

My day seemed extra lonely and sad. It may be because the weekend is starting for everyone but me, but it may also be because of last night. Last night past about 10:30 I was waiting for the bus and there was this beautiful youngish girl there. I felt sad for her. Here she was, maybe 23 at the oldest, and I couldn't help but wonder why she is alone. She had no sweetie, friends, or roommates to drive her where she needed to go and help her out? It seemed very sad. I know why my life is sad, but I couldn't understand how hers got that way. 😞

Well, there are still a handful of hours to check for cars through my phone, and there are a few hours after class tomorrow until the weekend is again basically completely shot, so I remain hopeful.

## **Day 823 - 10/2**

### **Relieving the pressure**

It's an early dinner time at just past 6:30, though I suppose I eat before 7 more often than not these days.

I picked up my new blood pressure meds last night but I haven't been feeling too good. I feel dizzy, headachy, and kinda sick. I think I'll reduce my dose for the first week to ease into it. It's a very long term thing so a week likely won't impact my recovery. It may be years until I recover, particularly since my homelessness is likely the greatest contributing factor (bad food, bad sleep, not sleeping and resting in a bed, always exposed to the elements and over stimulation of my senses, etc. etc.)

I guess class went ok. I contributed a few things that seemed important so I at least feel helpful. Car searching went, well, I guess as good as could have been expected for a Saturday. I put out some replies, but so far nothing. Well, I guess that's not entirely true. One car was priced at \$1800 and I sent a reply and one of my questions was 'Do you know the exceptional bluebook rating for that car is \$800? Why have you priced it so high?' and they ignored that question when replying to me. Obviously I'm not going to press forward with a car priced at over 2x its value.

That's really all to write about today. So far it's been a sad day. 😞

## **Day 824 - 10/3**

### **Just a day**

Today was just a regular Sunday... homeless and without a car that is. Nothing special happened. I took the bus to up near my works to do laundry. I came back down to school to spend a few hours on the Internet. (A few others were there too, which is unusual since it's closed.) I spent some time here and there in coffee shops killing the rest of my day. That was it besides a few people being dumb about cars. It's late now, just past 9. I'm having a snack then I'm off to hide for the night. Hopefully tomorrow will be better. I suppose the day could have been worse though. It was just a day.

## **Day 825 - 10/4**

### **Alone with my thoughts**

I guess today was ok accept for the usual fail. I mostly spaced out and just stayed in one place all day. Nothing for cars yet, nothing for jobs, even the fun boards were dead. I have stuff due for class I should have done, but I just couldn't motivate. I seem almost normal in terms of side-effect level, but all of the failures in my life are getting to me lately making motivation for stuff like school difficult.

Nothing new, so that's it for now.

## Day 825 - 10/4

### Alone with my thoughts

An ok day. Nothing changed yet, but I've got a potential car lined up for tomorrow. We have to straighten out smog first but then it will be good to go.

My hours got cut again. 😞 I'll be back down to two days a week and special coverage in about a week. 😞 Unless I get a super cheap car a laptop is going to be an impossibility, even with finding a new one that's only \$800. What I have after getting the car will be about all I have. It seems unlikely I will be able to get a laptop without something changing. 😞

## Week 119

### Day 827 - 10/6

#### Have a car; have fewer friends

Just a quick note, as it's late and campus is closed and I'm outside. I got a car today. 😊 It was a bit more towards pricy than not, but it's one I'll love. 😍 Sadly it's a soft top, which will have me worried for a few reasons, but now and long-term I'll be super happy because it's a tracker.

I dropped C&H off my Facebook friends list today. A post by H was the last straw as it were. I posted in the morning that Cataclysm had an official launch date. I know like half a dozen of my friends play and thought they might not know about it. After getting the car I was happy, excited, had a half dozen things on my mind that were positive things I should do. When I settled in and checked online my happiness was crushed. H, who does *not* play WoW, had posted I should focus on getting a car. Not a happy post for me or my friends, not that he knew I was looking forward to that, not hopes that I'd be able to play when it does launch in *two months*, but poop about what he thinks I should do with my life. While it's true I just got the car and didn't share that information, how did he know I still didn't have one? And with a single sentence my mood was shot. The happy things I planned were mostly forgotten. One I did, one I remembered and made a note about, but the others were forgotten. So I wiped that message clean and deleted them from my friends list. If they are never going to say anything positive to me, since they continue to show no interest in inviting me back over or meeting to hang out, forget them. I don't need friends that don't make me feel welcome, happy, and cared for. They likely do have my best interests in mind, but they've made no attempt to understand my motivation and needs.

Well, tomorrow will be the first time I can sleep in in about 2.5 months. Sadly I have an appointment, but with not needing to get up until about 10:30 that should give me about 3 extra hours I wouldn't normally have, should I be able to get back to sleep over on campus. After being in sanctuary for so long being back in my car nights and mornings will be quite an adjustment all over again.

## Day 828 - 10/7

### Beep beep

I'm feeling pretty good today. 😊 I'd forgotten how cold the nights can get, but my old spot seemed safe enough to stealth into without issue. I think though I'll spend more nights than not in sanctuary. I just don't know how truly safe I feel out in the world. Yeah, I did go nearly two years without more than indirect contact with trouble, but still.

I had a fast food lunch just now and now I'm killing a bit more time while the oil change is done. Hopefully all the fluids and stuff are fine. The breaks did squeak a touch when I stopped and the shocks seem a bit soft. Either may need to be done soon. There is a rattle at times, but hopefully it's a nothing part that the seller guy mentioned. I'd be devastated if the engine were bad in some way. Since it's a rattle though, not really related to engine speed, it seems more like something that's loose that needs to be tightened down.

Well, back to a semi-normal life for me today. 😊 I couldn't nap this morning; I needed to poop too much, heh. 😬 After the oil change I'll go buy some grocery things I need and grab a box of stuff that belongs in the car that's in the ex-storage. After that I may have an hour or two before I need to head off to a work shift. If so I'll go back to being on campus and do stuff online. If it's less I may just meander and see if there is other food shopping I need to do or whatnot.

Bye for now. 😊

Time passes

Just a quick update for the curious. There are indeed things that the car needs. 😞 The most expensive is the tune-up, which is \$210. There are about three other fluidy things all ranging between \$70-90. Thankfully I asked the guy how critical these were and he said I could let them go for a while and not really worry about it since I told him I'm only working two days a week. If he thinks it should be fine then I should probably be totally fine, as I only drive about 5,000 miles a year. That's far less than the average person. Checking my budget I'll have maybe \$250 saved up by the end of the year, so there's no way I could get a gaming laptop or even have a lot reserved for emergencies.

😞 It seems if I'm going to game I'll have no choice but to either rent time at the game

center or be happy with just my phone games. Even though I've found a new \$800 gaming laptop that would do just fine, it seems I can't afford even that low of a price. 😞 It seems all life plans, hopes, and wishes will again be completely on hold.

## **Day 829 - 10/8**

### **A day without time**

Today was a pretty good, if lonely, day. This morning I slept in at school for at least 3 hours. 😊 I had decent dreams, but can't remember what they were at this point. The rest of the day I basically relaxed. I do have an assignment due tomorrow, so I tried to do my best to get that done. After, I just checked links at my site then watched a few shows. I'm nomming Panda now. So tasty. 😋 It's probably the only food I have these days besides cafeteria food that isn't bad for my system. And with as fragile as my system is even this healthier food is... risky.

It's been very different for me today since I don't have to constantly worry about the time and bus schedule. I could go pretty much wherever and do whatever. I suppose though that my being alone and homeless greatly hinders my enjoyment of that freedom. While I could go to a movie, or art gallery, or look at fountains in a park, these are all things I feel I should share. Now I'm forced to live my life alone and so the things I want to do are quickly reduced.

I am feeling pretty good about myself though. In my purge of stuff from the old car to my new one I've reduced what I carry. Once I can cover the back section it will now only appear I have a backpack, gym bag, and pair of boots. Gone will be my blankets for as long as I don't need to carry them with me (I can drop them off and pick them up), gone is the bag of extra food I used to keep (reduced to a few items in the trunk area), and gone are the large towels and sweat cloths (left with the blankets). There are now only small windows where I appear homeless by looking in my car.

I suppose sadness will return quickly enough. It's only probably around 9 and I have an hour or two before I can hide in sanctuary. Until then I'll have to sit in a parking lot.



The docs asked me yesterday if I felt things would work out. I think about times like now, sitting out alone, at night, when I should be at home eating a meal I cooked, watching a movie, or playing a game, and as always I really do not know anymore. Once upon a time I knew it would, but these days... these days I really wonder if I will make it back without some kind of serious help. All the help so far seems brief, temporary, a small act for the moment. Will I make it alone without bigger, more permanent help?

I hope so, but I really don't know. 😞

## **Day 830 - 10/9**

### **Not my festival**

It's nearly 5. I guess I've had an ok day, though I don't know what to do tonight besides go do laundry. Class was ok, but it seemed like we lost a lot of time to nothing. I've been hanging out here on campus since then. I watched a few videos and cruised some boards.

There is a festival here; lots of music, dancing, and vendors. It seems like it's pretty fun for the peeps involved. 😊 That and overhearing shoppers the other day made me think of my own holidays – how different they are now that I'm on my own, even more so since I'm homeless. I don't know that I'd want to be thrown into someone else's celebrations and traditions without knowing what I was getting into, but having some traditions again would be nice. I miss my holidays, even more so the ones spent with my friends.

Well... my life is tolerable and for that I am thankful, as sad as it may be.

## **Day 831 - 10/10**

### **Still fail at the mall**

My connection still appears to be failing at the mall. Hum, my phone also appears to be getting an error, so it isn't just my low powered netbook I guess. I guess I should try and contact someone, but the issue has been happening for months. It seems today will

not be my day to reactivate my WoW account. I actually still haven't really decided if I want to. While I do very much miss my friends I'm severely limited in what I can do as max level with my characters. With even just the \$800 gaming laptop (with a more powerful option at \$1000) I would be able to enjoy everything the game has to offer, as well as any other games I wanted to play.

It's nearing 2 and today seems a decent (homeless) casual day. I'm not sure what I'll do. I may go to the library since the mall connection fails. I've got a new phone game to play, so I'll likely spend time doing that. It was originally a strategy board game, and apparently it's pretty complex, so that should be fun.

Guess that's it for now. As always, it's slow since it's Sunday. I'm feeling a bit better though in mood and motivation. Tomorrow I may be able to get some stuff done; not so much a motivation issue as a time one. I should stop by the DMV and have a work shift in the evening, so after sleeping in I'll likely have about 5 hours on campus. With needing to do reading I may or may not get caught up.

Oh, PS. I may have discovered what's rattling with the car. There is this corner spot on the bumper that seems loose. It looks like a screw isn't tightened down right. Unfortunately it also looks like I can't get to it, as it's in a corner that seems blocked off. I'll have to investigate more and see.

## **Day 832 - 10/11**

### **Fees and beta**

Ups and downs today. It's about an hour before work and I'm waiting to go in (school peeps are still there.) Most of the day was pretty regular. I did most of one assignment today and I'll finish tomorrow. The afternoon things became ups and downs.

I got an email around 2:45 saying I'd gotten in to a beta. 🥳 It's one for a game I'm super excited about, and since beta just started it's a super prestigious award. However, as you all know, I still don't have a gaming laptop. So while it may be possible to find a few play locations if I'm super secret about it I lack the system to play on. 😞 The bigger let down was the trip to the DMV. The fees for doing the car transfer were double what I hoped,

being 150% of what I budgeted. 😞 That's nearly \$60 that I don't know where it will come from. The only thing I can think of is to just about entirely drain what I have in savings to cover it. 😞

Other than that my day seems to be improving in that the drug side effects are wearing off and I'm becoming more focused on school again. I suppose those are good things, but without being able to game (in multiple ways), without being in a home (to sleep, cook, shower, and watch my shows and movies), without friends I interact with, and without a sweetie, my life still seems very sad and empty. 😞

## Day 833 - 10/12

### Out of order

I've seen a lot of "out of order" signs around lately. I guess that really sums up how I feel about my life right now. I did college out of order. I'm not finding good jobs (thus not in an upward order). I can't seem to find friends or a sweetie. And now since I've been homeless I'm getting more alpha/beta invites than ever.

My day has really been out of order as well. It's nearing 1 and I have yet to connect with my netbook anywhere. It's really frustrating being unable to game, but even more so when I walk around the library and cafeteria side room and see 99% of everyone else connected and running just fine. I can't even do an assignment I started yesterday because it looks like the book in the library doesn't have the required information I need.

I have work tonight. I'll leave in about 3 hours. I guess I'll just try and do another assignment or just wait and see if I can get online in a bit before moving on. After trying five different times/places to connect so far I'm very tired of moving around.

## Week 120

### Day 834 - 10/13

#### My nice eye doc

So I saw my nice eye doc today. He was super nice about my eye exam fees and charged about half what he should have. 😊 It was about \$150 after adding in a box of contacts, which makes up for the extra \$60 the car cost me as I had more than that budgeted. It's still crazy to think I've been visiting him for over 20 years now. He also gave me sample stuff he has of eye solution, some vitamins, and other stuff. It was kinda funny; it was like the zombie apocalypse had come and he was just shoveling stuff off his shelf to give to me. 😊

I guess class went ok too. None of it really sank in at all. I couldn't think. It just seemed like 2.5 hours of jumbled rambling. Hopefully I'll do ok on the test next week.

That's really it for today. Bit of good news, but no real change for growth forward.

### Day 835 - 10/14

#### A day off

It's been an ok day I suppose, at least as ok as my days get. I slept in at school until about 10. 😊, had a breakfast, then spent the day messing around on boards and watching a few shows. It's time for a work shift and there was a movie I haven't seen. That's it though. Nothing really special to report.

## **Day 836 - 10/15**

### **A day of sadness**

Today seems sad. It's not any worse than any other Friday for me. In fact, I slept until 10 and had some fun on boards for the last few hours. I guess I just feel sad because I can't join the peeps in the alpha/beta I have access too, nor can I study in the quiet private of my own room for tests I have coming up. Unless people magically show up out of teh Internets to give me enough to get my \$800 laptop I see no way to be gaming anytime soon, let alone join the test people in the next few months. And as for studying, well, the library is really my only choice.

While people recognize me and say hi and stuff here and there I once again feel isolated, alone, and unable to move forward to do the very simple things everyone else seems able to do that would make my life truly happy again.

## **Day 837 - 10/16**

### **The elusive final piece**

It's nearing 4 and I'm sitting in my car after a hot shower. Class was good. I had fun. I still feel a bit lost, as I do with all things in my life, but hopefully things will settle and calm down.

I don't know what I'll do with my day. The alpha/beta finally finished downloading to the netbook yesterday and I tested if the game would run. As expected it failed to do the 3D rendering. During a normal life I'd have been playing for a week now. Without that, without other games save for phone games, I don't know what I'll do today. Highest urge on the list right now is a nap. It's pretty quiet here but active enough I wouldn't be bugged. There is a small chance I'll do laundry, and a fair chance I'll go to a movie in the evening.

No matter what I consider doing things seem so sad. A gaming laptop is the last piece of homeless life towards my being as normal as I can. Without, I constantly worry about when I'll be able to game again, when I can see my online in-game friends again,

when I can reconnect to my online society. That I think is the biggest cause of my stress and blood pressure. While I managed for a long time without, a while renting, and a while playing on my netbook, the sadness about it has become too great and it's taking its toll. This is why I've tried to do as much calming entertainment purchases I can. I knew the emotional toll would eventually start to physically tax me. And while I was on the verge of removing my final obstacle months ago, I'm now in no position at all to consider it until things change dramatically (or someone donates one by checking my wish list.)

I feel so sad, helpless, isolated, and alone today.

## **Day 838 - 10/17**

### **Here comes the rain again**

There is a pretty serious sprinkle outside. It sprinkled the other night too. We are at the start of the rainy season again.

It's 1 at work. I'm covering for a few hours, not a whole shift even. It's a quiet break, noone is here.

It's another sad day for me. At any time in a home today would have been spent playing my new test game broken up with pauses for study for my two tests coming up. Now... now I can't play, and my ability to study will be unfocused and inefficient. I will try and do as good as I can, but with no big fun to balance it with my brain will have a hard time focusing and staying interested. I've been kept up nights by the sadness about not being able to game. After so long of no gaming, and only recently having some limited gaming, to have my hopes of getting a system crushed like they were... it's disappointing. It still feels like there is someone watching over me who is purposely trying to make me suffer and break down what makes me me.

Still, I suppose it could be worse. With my phone and netbook I can do some gaming and have access to the Internet anytime and basically anywhere. In the past few days two people have come up to me and begged me for money (ones who were pretty normal looking). So I suppose, as always, I am thankful for that, and long-term I'll be very happy I got a car that I love instead of just getting poo that was cheap.

## Day 839 - 10/18

**"... high risk of heart attack, stroke, or death."**

The docs words keep echoing in my head. I know this terrible journey was taking a high emotional toll and a physical one was only a matter of time, but death like this? I always thought death, if it were to come, would be from lack of food, catching a cold from the elements that progressed to where I couldn't heal, possibly slipping away in my sleep due to the cold of a winter night, or from an angry person discovering me and beating me up and murdering me. But by my body dying from what is effectively a broken heart? It makes me feel like crying, and I did for a few minutes. I love me. I don't want me to be permanently hurt and have a shortened lifespan because of this terrible journey in any way, let alone death. 😞

Unfortunately this continues to worry me, as I only see three ways of reducing my stress to return to normal. The first and "easiest" way would be getting my gaming laptop. A return to gaming would make me much happier, much less stressed, and allow me to see my in-game friends and socialize once more. Second would be for someone to come forward and offer me some kind of permanent shelter until I could move on - be that a space in a garage that I can only access 12 hours during the night, a couch, or an actual room. Third, to find a happy job in a career. Not just more hours somewhere, but a job in a career field I like that I can move forward in and am at least somewhat happy in. Unfortunately all three have eluded me for years. I've been close to the first a few times, but lately... lately I wonder if I will achieve any of those, and if the terrible journey really will be the cause of my end. 😞

## Day 840 - 10/19

### Wake up, it's lunch time

I just got up and it's lunch time. 😊 I slept in until 11:30, how crazy is that? I'm so hungry. Parked next to me when I got up was a super attractive auburn redhead; hair down to her shoulder blades, fairly tall, reasonably thin though not model thin. She left while I was getting ready to get dressed. After, I left my car and spied on hers to see if I could get any clues about her to see if I should leave a flirty note. She had an '06 graduation thing, putting her around 22, a stuffed car, a button that read "bad girl", and a surfing sticker. It made me happy to see Fate sending me a sign to not give up on love, but this girl was obviously not for me. I wondered though as I walked over to get nom if I should even try for such a girl - what with my failing in life does she not deserve "better"; young mister handsome, good income potential, who isn't homeless. In the cafeteria I also saw a very beautiful blond, snow bunny type, tall, fluffy boots, tight blue jeans. And a shorter dark haired cutie, interesting fish net type stockings and cute boots and a little bit short skirt. There were a few others here and there as I walked about too. I had a dream about being with a sweetie too, played by Christine, who very sadly I haven't seen at all in probably over a year. Monday morning there were lots of cuties in my dreams too.

Are my eyes noticing cuties more, or is Fate indeed leading me to cross paths with more? Until something happens because of it I may never know. For the moment I am hopeful something *can* happen and would accept that Fate sent me to her for her as much as me. Until then... I am still sad, lonely, and with noone talking to and interacting with me in a truly friendly way outside of our times passing one another I feel more alone and isolated than ever.

Time passes

Several more cuties spotted while walking to the library from lunch. Good news too, well sort of. While many games are blocked, including WoW and Steam, someone is playing StarCraft 2, which requires an Internet connection. So, not all games are blocked which is good news. Good to know that when/if I were to get my gaming laptop I'll be able to at least do some gaming on campus. (Including it seems the alpha/beta test.)



Guess I'll try and study now while I still has a happi from seeing cute girls and have hopes of someday playing stuff from school.

## Week 121

### Day 841 - 10/20 A squirrel, a friend, a me

Today was ... better, but still tragically sad about not being able to game. I'm hiding for the night now, so this will just be a quick note. I started the day inputting all of Epic Fail last week. Normally I enter it in pieces while at work, but between last Wednesday and this Wednesday I only worked Thursday and half of a Sunday shift, so I didn't have time or enough to input to do it. After that I moved to the library. On the way across the courtyard I saw a poor dead squirrel. 😞 Someone had lovingly placed him/her in a box and surrounded them with flowers. It made me tear a bit to think I may have seen this squirrel frolicking in days past, and that her in the middle of campus they should all be safe. At least they were placed lovingly near a tree and not just tossed into the trash.

I got a happy thing on Facebook from a friend when I logged in. She added to my friends yesterday, and she is one of the friendly WoW peeps I miss by not playing. It's crazy to think how long I've been out now. What's it been... hum I guess only about 4 months, but it feels so much longer. It's good to be +1 friend. I wonder if her guy will add as well. I don't know his RL name, so I can't add him. (Later I found they'd broken up, so it's unlikely he'll add since I met him later.)

Around 3 while I was studying I got a call from the study doc to check up on things. He said my blood pressure I reported them on Tuesday (163/99 at 75 beats per minute) was much lower on the second number. So much so that he's not super worried about me anymore and that it does seem I'm getting better. I guess it was up in the hundred-teens before. I figure every 3 days or so at school I'll use the machine and check myself and track it.

I think I did ok on the test. It seemed easy, but then sometimes when things seem easy it's because your brain is answering wrong. I guess I should know next week. I did get 100% on the assignment I did though, which kind of surprises me due to it not being late and not exactly standard format. I guess lots of people got 25%/re-do so again it surprised me. I told her in the paper a bit about my sad life and she wants to meet with me about it. 😞 I'm sure it's not anything bad, probably just going to offer me support, maybe

loan me a book and stuff, but still, I worry when peeps say they want to talk about it – mostly because they say things I'm already doing and it just brings up painful or sad thoughts. I'd much rather just think like I have a very weird schedule, but otherwise I have a normal life. Between when I wake up and about 7 at night or so it's easy to feel normal, yet out of place, as I'm not in a home, but I feel fairly normal. With a gaming system I'd feel even more my normal self. I could fade into my game and tone the world out and blur the line between 'homeless at school' and 'I'm not in this world, but instead in my gaming world, and that has not changed from when I was living a happy life.' It's strange to think that there are some virtual game places that have more significance to me than real ones. Like there is this underground train from one major city to the other in WoW. Back when I was getting my Bachelors I'd often take the tram and jump off half way. There is this small stretch that's under water, so it's like there are all these different fish and sharks swimming around with cool underwater sounds. I'd often sit there for hours being in the game, yet studying. I was ready to play with friends at a moment's notice, yet I could also be studying. The same was true for Everquest back when I was at the start of my Associates. I'd often spend weekends studying and healing/buffing at this dock in a desert called Ro.

I guess today overall was ok. There is still so much I miss in life, so much I've been missing that I fear I may never have. But even with all things lost, all things unattained, today I feel somewhat more hopeful than not.

## **Day 842 - 10/21**

### **Another big sleep**

Today was another big sleep day. I set my alarm though because I had stuff to do, but I nearly slept all the way until it started going off at 11. I'll probably not set an alarm tomorrow, as I have nothing important to do (that's time bound) and nowhere I need to be. I just have to periodically study for a test.

I wonder if my late sleeping is due to my sadness and stress or due to having the start of a cold. I *have* been congested a bit lately, so it could be a very light cold is getting to me.

Nothing new for today really. No jobs to apply to and no advances on anything. I did notice there seems to be an inching forward in my budget all the way until its end in December. I didn't get the chance today but tomorrow I may project it for another year. It's possible the \$800 for a gaming laptop will appear after 8 months or so. Not the best of news, as that is a horrendously long time in gaming and hardware, but my life is what it is without change. This may be what my life is for... well, as long as it lasts. Continuing as is I certainly won't get all remaining roughly 47 more years that my grandfathers lived, but maybe I need to start thinking and planning that this could be as good as it gets. 😞 I certainly hope not. I certainly hope I can have at least my modest dreams of a normal life again, but so far it seems proven that I am either unable to help myself, or the circumstances and situation of my area right now prevent me from having the opportunity to help myself. 😞

## Day 843 - 10/22

### Headphone day

Today was ok I suppose, but it seemed sad. I spent the day watching the BlizzCon footage online. I don't know if seeing something I'm missing made me sad or if I am indeed fighting off a cold that is depressing my system overall. I did sleep until nearly 12:30.

I totally forgot to do an assignment I owed. Well, someone never got back to me about doing her part, so I forgot, and now it's too late to do it. Maybe that's part of why I'm sad, though I didn't remember that (consciously) until after 7. It's nearly 9 now.

I think mostly I'm just sad about everything I'm missing out on, as usual. I try to stay positive and hopeful, but some days seem much tougher than others. 😞

## Day 844 - 10/23

### Unexpected ghost

Not much to say today really. It's just now 5. I don't remember much of my morning, though I think I did ok on the test. After, I pretty much just listened to the BlizzCon broadcast while surfing around on boards. I'm not sure what I'll do now. I've got a few hours before I go try and hide in sanctuary. It's a cold and rainy day, so it should be extra easy to go unnoticed.

I expanded my budget out to 8 months from now. By the end of that, if no other costs come in, which they will, and nothing goes wrong, which I hope they won't, I'll only have been able to save up about \$300 for a laptop. It is indeed an impossibility on my own before my hours bulk up again next summer unless something changes. Not being able to game at reasonable speeds and see new and old friends is killing me. I'd go back to WoW on the netbook, and I certainly will have to soon if I want to be there for Cataclysm launch, but I remember how isolating it felt since I was so limited in what I could do - I just don't want to feel that way again.

Someone messaged me on Facebook the other night. This was an unexpected ghost. I dated this girl like twice waaayyy back in the day. 😊 It was a nice surprise and interesting that she brought back some memories I'd forgotten. Nothing new will happen there in terms of a relationship. She (still) lives like 5 hours drive away and is married now. It was odd to see her pop up.

That's really it for my day. I've got a handful of hours left until hiding. I'll eat dinner, probably watch a show or two online, but that's all that the rest of the day will offer me. I can't do real gaming, I have no movies to see (never saw one last week), and I can't do a couple of assignments I need to do until I can get to the books on Monday.

Bye for now I guess.

## Day 845 - 10/24

### Rain and sadness

It's been raining all day. It was a fairly sad day too. The rain was beautiful to watch, but I'm still sad about not being able to game and see my friends online. I did laundry then I spent the morning and afternoon hanging out on an empty school campus. I watched the last of the BlizzCon footage I hadn't seen, then just messed around online. That was really my day.

Last night I posted a request for help (of sorts) on Facebook hoping that people I know would lend me the \$700 I still need to get my gaming laptop. I figured those on my list of friends wouldn't be rude about it. Sadly, as expected, noone has come forward and offered help. The ones who I thought may have posted today, so they've likely seen it. It seems I still have little hope of getting a gaming laptop soon, let alone soon enough to play in the alpha before it becomes beta and later launches. Without help my soonest upgrade window remains next summer, some eightish months from now.

As always I remain hopeful about... well, everything, but the reality of my life continues to make me very sad. 😞

## Day 846 - 10/25

### It made me laugh

It's still early in the day. I still have yet to do my assignments. I was in the middle of having fun to get ready to do them and my netbook hit critical power and shut off. What the poop? It's plugged in! I guess this plug isn't putting out enough power to correctly charge, or other systems near me are draining it to the point that it's too low to run the netbook and charge it. I'm leaving it shut off for a bit and seeing if it gets better. If not I'll change locations and have to come back to do assignments later.

Today something made me laugh and happy. 😊 I was doing some lunch stuff when I passed by some people. When I was a fair bit past them I heard one saying (in a joking tone), "Death Knight? Seriously?" (I was wearing my shirt.) He said it a few times

(until I noticed) and I turned to see who it was and we smiled and laughed. 😊 (For those who don't play WoW, Death Knight gets a lot of poop for being a mix of a heavy tanking class and a DPS class. You have to balance them very carefully to do either/both well. They are not a noob friendly class, so there is a lot of dislike for them since they kind of attract noobs due to their inherent coolness.) I know there are tons here on campus who play, but it's always good to see peeps who do, even if it's just seen in passing as I'm busy. Still, it made me sad because I can't currently really play. Yeah, I'll likely go back to playing on my netbook in a limited form, but I'm greatly restricted in what I can do. It seems I have no choice, and all other games will have to remain on hold, as there have been no replies to people lending me the money to get my gaming laptop. I'm still holding on to hope, but it still seems extremely unlikely.

I adjusted my budget plan a bit. I know it would be off before. I'd forgotten my blood pressure medication costs. While small, that and a few other things drained my laptop budget a bit and it's now down to only being able to save about \$200 between now and 8 months if nothing changes. Life isn't all bad though, and I do have a lower cost game budgeted every other month if I can get the gaming laptop, and a new Blu-ray about every other month as well. The thing is, even if I drained both of those into the laptop budget it would only increase it about \$200. I'd still be nowhere near affording it without outside help.

So, so far that encounter made me both happy and sad. It got a genuine smile and laugh from me, but really just reminds me how much I miss my game and my friends. Returning on the netbook would be ok, but it too would bring more sadness than not at all the things I couldn't join my friends in doing due to it being unplayable in most areas, not to mention all the games I couldn't play at all as it's not a gaming system.

## Day 847 - 10/26

**"You make people happy by doing what you love."**

It's late, nearly the end of my work shift. I only have a few minutes to write, but I don't really have anything to say. Today has been just another day, and as just another day it was full of sadness. I checked for jobs, checked my fun boards, did one of my homework assignments, but mostly I was sad that I couldn't play my game and can't join my friends online. I think with this week's posting I'll again ask the community for help. During a movie I was watching tonight one character said to the other that he made people happy by doing what he loved. I guess that's kind of how I feel. I love recommending gaming hardware and talking about games, and I really do it because I love it. I don't do it for money. It's been over a year since I've gotten any donations, but I don't know. If I've made people happy with my help, not just helped them, but helped to bring joy into their lives, maybe they want to return the favor in my time of need. I know I've asked before during my writing, but I will ask again because I'm truly sad. If I've brought you readers any joy with my hardware suggestions, any happiness from the upgrades you did, or created any positive change in your life with your writing, if you'd consider returning the favor I could really use the pick-up right now. An email to say thanks and how I helped would be great, but of course any donations, however small, could be added to my laptop fund and maybe I could rejoin the gaming world I love so much that much sooner.

I guess that's it for this week. A few changes, a few ups and downs, as usual, but it seems mostly this week there is just the lingering sadness that I can't game. And for me it's more than just playing a game, it's about my friends, my worlds, and about not being able to be where I can truly feel free and be happy.



## Week 122

### Day 848 - 10/27

#### Om nom nomm teh candies

Just a quick note before my meeting before class. Nothing changed today so far. No messages from friends about loaning me the money to get a laptop. I posted a call for help on the site, but those likely to see it and help likely already have or can't help. Sadly I think I'll be on my own, as always lately. 😞

Today is the first day of candies. 😊 I'm sure everyone will nom them and be happy. It was a bit expensive. I stayed pretty conservative and got enough for about 1.5 each and it was a bit over \$20 for both classes. A lot for me these days, but it's how I roll.

I saw about a half dozen beautiful attractive girls today, so that's something at least. 😊 And I did an assignment too. Who knows, maybe there will be something truly happy to write about later.

### Day 849 - 10/28

#### No pumpkin

I guess today was ok. I think I definitely have a cold. I've got a pretty bad headache now and every time I've slept in this week I've slept until between 10:30 and noon.

One good thing is that I found another possible laptop for \$800. My one I was looking at is down to \$770. I'm sure there may even be a few other choices if I really looked around. So far though I've gotten no help and I'm still on my own, so no purchase is an option, be that the low cost one at \$770 or the better choice one at \$950. 😞

My teacher meeting went ok. She gave me a few options for places to look for jobs, but she thinks I will really need a teaching credential before I can get where I want to be. That's about a two year degree at a full college, which I couldn't transfer back to

until next school year starts in September. I'd need to apply soonish, early next year, but no change would happen until much later in the year.

It's odd to see people buying pumpkins. I don't need one. I have no house to decorate. It's been so long since I've had a proper Halloween or a proper holiday of any kind really. Normal life seems such a foreign concept I rarely even think what it was like back when I had a home. I think... differently, as if I were living in a different country among people with different celebrations.

Well, with at least one school book I may stabilize a bit more in studying. The final piece of my life of PC gaming is still out of my grasp though, yet with pricing and system power what it is it's closer than ever been. 😞

## **Day 850 - 10/29**

### **Pre-pre-Halloween**

It's night time. I'm hiding in a sanctuary. It's raining pretty bad. My car will be fine, or it should be. There have been no signs of leaks so far in previous medium rains.

Today was a more sad day. Although I very much enjoyed a new show I picked up – No Ordinary Family – all of the festivities people were talking about made me sad and lonely. I heard people talking about kid's functions at the store, and people talking about parties wherever I went. I have none. Nor do I have my own private space with trick-or-treaters to entertain. My life seems such an empty shell of what it was. Yes, these are seemingly somewhat trivial things, but it's the overall picture that makes me sad. I'm sad for not being a part of a child's holiday experience. I'm sad about not having friends to socialize with and enrich each other's lives. I'm sad I can't game and socialize in-game with online friends.

As I've discovered along my terrible journey, it's our day-to-day things, as well as the traditions we celebrate, that make us who we are. We may think they are trivial and we can pass or skip them, but they really are ever so important.

For those who had parties tonight, friends to share your lives with both on or off-line, I hope you had a good time. 😊

## Day 851 - 10/30

### Pre-Halloween

I suppose today has been decent so far. I had fun in class and everyone was happy to nom candy. No changes in my life though. I've still gotten no donations, even though I didn't expect any. It does kind of surprise me two sort of guildies sort of promised they'd help a bit and they haven't yet. Maybe they are busy or forgot.

I got a few leads on jobs from classmates. I'll look into those later.

I don't know what I'll do the rest of the night. Being a big party night I expect I'll be lonely and sad regardless of what I do.

I hope everyone that had a party today and tonight had a good time. 🥰

## Day 852 - 10/31

### Halloween

Today was a better day I think. It's not that I don't feel sad, I certainly do, but I had a good time today. I had a short work shift, shorter than my normal short shifts. I cleaned out a ton of pictures on my phone (now back down to about 250) and did laundry after work. Then I went to see Saw 3D. 🥰

I'm hiding for the night now and in the distance I can hear a few trick-or-treaters. I'm sad I couldn't do that. Not trick-or-treat, that would be silly, but you know, be in a house and hand out candies to the little ones. Hopefully some day soon I can do that again. I suppose it's always been one of the more important traditions for me. I'm not exactly sure why, maybe because you get to pretend and imagine and share that with others.

I'm still very sad about not being able to join my friends in-game. I found a touch more money moving a few things around, but I'm still around \$550-600 short. There still have been no donations or offers to get me one or loan me the money. Much like everything in my life it's a big thing I'm sad about that I have no idea how to find without getting a new job or someone offering me a home. As usual, noone seems interested in

helping me solve the problem. 😞 I don't understand. While I certainly wouldn't help everyone if the situation were reversed, I'd happily help some. In fact, just yesterday someone on the street asked for help and I gave them half of my bread and a drink because they obviously needed it more than me. Sure, it seems silly for me to be asking others to help get me a gaming laptop but it's the last thing that, if attained, would almost guarantee my mood would be greatly lifted immediately and balanced to the point of getting better grades and being better able to focus on moving my life forward. Well, no sense rambling. People want to help other people or not. I guess the people I'm currently surrounded by either can't or don't choose to help, and that makes me sad. But, I have to accept it and move on. My life, in that regard, must remain scarred and unfulfilled. There is nothing I can do to fix it that I'm not already trying.

Well, enough of 'poor me'. I had a good time today despite my perpetually sad things. I hope everyone out there had a good Halloween time. 😊

## **Day 853 - 11/1**

### **Always on my mind**

I guess I had an ok day. Mostly I was too busy to do much. I had that community service for a class in the morning and another tomorrow. Then I went looking for hat supplies. I'm doing an RL gamers meet on the 11<sup>th</sup>, so I wanted a hat that says 'rabbIt' so peeps can know who I am. It should be pretty fun, we'll see I guess.

I was sad much of the evening though. Not being able to join new and old friends in the alpha I have access too is really hurting me, not just figuratively. It's stressing me out that I'm missing a good socializing opportunity and I've been losing sleep trying to think up ways to get the remaining money I need for a gaming laptop. Unfortunately I can't do it on my own without more work hours, which really won't happen at my current job. So unless I suddenly get a much better one or someone comes forward to loan me the money I won't be getting it anytime soon.

I've been playing my phone games a lot, so that helps. And some Facebook chatting does help me feel not quite so isolated. Though when people don't talk I feel more isolated in some ways. These things certainly help, but without PC and console

games things are extremely tough. I play console games rarely, so while sad I can deal with that loss, but no PC games and not seeing online friends... that hurts. It makes me a sad bunny inside. 😞

## **Day 854 - 11/2**

### **Getting ready to meet**

I guess today was decent enough. There was still my perpetual sadness about my situation, particularly not being able to game and see new and old friends in-game, but I was basically happy. I spent most of the morning doing that community service thing for my class. Then I visited my friend/ex-roomie to iron on the letters to the hat. I had a pretty nice visit with her. The kitties remembered me even though it's been like a year since I've seen them. 😊 We hung out and chatted for a bit while I did my hat. I went to vote after, then I came to work. Unfortunately the ironing didn't hold as well as I kind of expected, so I had to get some thread on the way to work to sew the letters on. It turned out pretty good. You can has picture.

That was really it for my day. I didn't get a whole lot of chances to do much, so I didn't do a whole lot. I did get a quick job search in before work, and as I said my hat is ready to go for the RL meeting with the forum peeps in a week and a few days. But my stress overall remains really the same. I guess it's slightly less today, but I can still feel the tenseness in my back and neck from being sad and stressed out over things. 😞 Maybe next fail week things will change and I'll get some help putting my life back together. A dozen people sending the same amount as a new video game costs (\$50) would be enough to get me what I need for my laptop, changing my life for the better. Noone seems able to help yet though, but, as in all aspects of my life, I keep hoping and I keep waiting for change.

## Picture series 18



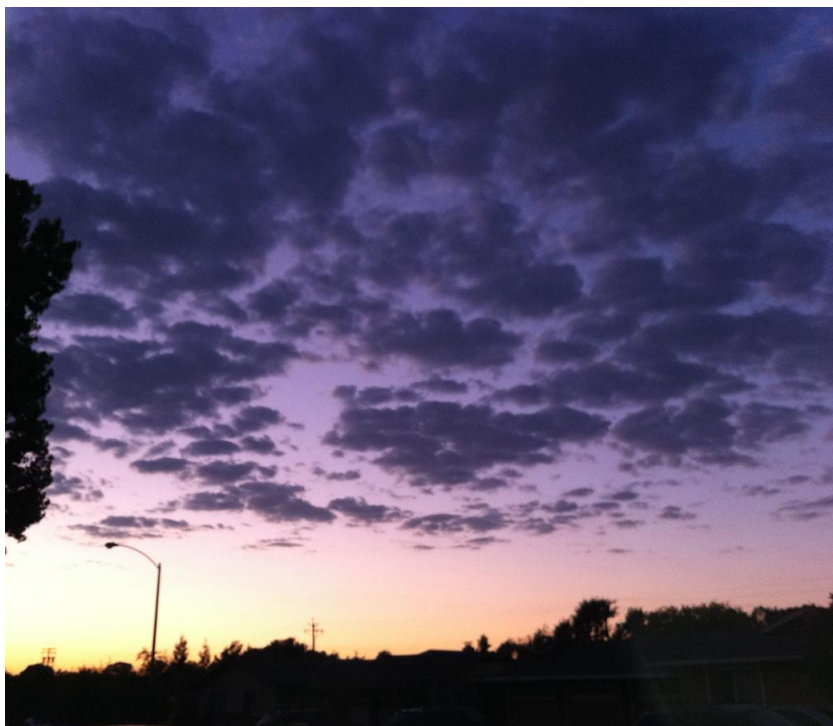
2010 Birthday lolz



Poor word choice



The Lucas Imaging Center at Stanford



Sunrise 10/14/10





Woah, what crazy balance



A different angle





Free t-shirt at Saw 3D



teh rabb1t hat

## **Week 123**

### **Day 855 - 11/3**

#### **Hello to me**

I'm doing ok today I guess. I've gotten some hellos lately which make me feel better. Someone at the food store said hi and that he hadn't seen me in a while (I've mostly gone back to shopping before work instead of after.) One of the moderators on a board said hi to me and was glad to see I got into the super secret alpha and said to say hi if I saw him in game. (He didn't know I can't play right now, which made me sad about that.) And someone sent me an email to cheer me up, saying my site had helped him with several builds for him and 11 of his friends/family. 🙏 So, a few hellos to make me feel a bit better lately.

Still no help in getting a system lately. I was very bad and actually applied for credit with my bank. Even just a starter card could allow me to get the system. I doubt I'll pass the credit check with owing so much and being so far behind, but I suppose the worst they would say is no and ding my already terrible credit rating.

That's it so far today. It's just past 4 and I have class in a few hours. Seems that today will be yet another fair but sad feeling day. Hellos have boosted my spirit, so that makes me feel at least a bit better. 😊

### **Day 856 - 11/4**

#### **Call to arms**

Today was an ok day. It seemed to pass pretty quickly. I'm at work now, about half-way through my shift.

There is a call to arms for help for me on the way. One of the leaders of a multi-game guild, one I mentioned before that was looking at helping, sent me a preview of a post he's going to put on the site. It's a very heartfelt message that mentions my sad story and that gaming, for him, has been an escape from sadness, and a way to feel connected and hopeful. It's something I've mentioned myself several times in my own writing, so

hopefully others will understand and send help. He seemed genuinely surprised at my replies about a laptop. He never knew the refurbished ones were awesome deals for the money and you can get a really solid gaming laptop these days for around \$800. 😊

That's all for now. Being night time on the west coast I doubt there will be immediate momentum on help, and it may be several days before anyone helps at all. But the fact that he's doing something to try and motivate the community we are both in, well, that alone lifts my spirit and is something noteworthy. 😊

## Day 857 - 11/5

### X-mas lights? Seriously?

Today was good. 😊 The peep who wanted to help me posted the post and sent me a donation. 😊 I also got one from someone (not from that guild) who I'd helped before. Those, plus what I have on my own, puts me at about 40% of my way. I remain hopeful, but that other 60% is still quite a way to go. With it being the weekend though I won't get discouraged by no donations as boards really empty out on weekends.

In my driving at night I saw at least eight houses with X-mas lights up. Seriously? It's like two months to go still. That's crazy. I do miss the excitement of X-mas though. But, as I've said before, it's really been far longer than I've been homeless since I truly had people to do a celebration with.

Today was also my last appointment for the study. We said our goodbyes and the last of my monies will be on the way soon. I'm going to half doses of the anti-depressant for a week, then I'm off again. They offered to let me keep a prescription for it, but I still think the constantly higher heart-rate and instantly awake feeling are due to the drugs. I'd rather not have that since the source of my depression really must be fixed externally. I could remain on drugs forever but until I reconnect to my online gaming community, until I'm settled into a home, there is no way the majority of my depression will leave. Sure that leaves job and family/friends, but those are longer to achieve things I think.

That's it for now. I have renewed hope that I may return to the gaming world soon. Only time will tell. 😊

## Day 858 - 11/6

### So awesome a movie

So awesome a movie; Megamind. 😎 I had fun watching a movie tonight even though I was alone. It was basically a perfect superhero movie with perfect casting. If I had the money I'd see it a few more times before it left theaters. 😊

Outside of that it was a pretty basic day; decent time at school, messed around after. I got another donation. That kind of surprised me, both to get it and that it's on the weekend. I'm maybe 41-42% of the way to a laptop now. 😊 Still nowhere near enough, but it's a solid start.

Nothing planned for tomorrow. I'll probably do some studying. I may wind up restarting my WoW account. I need to do that soon to get ready for Cataclysm. I may just hold off and see if more donations come over the next week. I have to find a playable connection and check a patch. It may be several hours to set up if I still need to get it with as slow as the netbook is. Well, tomorrow is tomorrow. 'Night for now. 😊

## Day 859 - 11/7

### A sad rainy Sunday

It seems like a sad rainy Sunday so far today. I couldn't sleep in this morning, noone was at school and the pool area was closed, so I didn't feel safe. I was stressed out last night so I couldn't sleep until 1 AM old-clock time. And with the rain everyone is staying in their homes. I feel sad. I'm at school now, now the pool area is open. I'm going to have lunch and study a bit in the side locker-room after my freezing cold shower.

I feel sad (for me) thinking of all the warm homes people are in; having fun on their weekend day, staying warm by a fire, watching shows or playing games. As always these days I have none of that. Some would envy me for my quiet time, for being able to be alone, for having this free time from requests of families or friends, but it is too much. It is a constant. Instead of a pause from the rain and near stormy winds outside, my

solitude is an island where no other person or animal lives. It is too much alone... too much nothing... 😞

## **Day 860 - 11/8**

### **Sad but hopeful Monday**

Today I was sad, but I'm still hopeful. I got another donation towards my laptop. Though it was a smaller one every bit helps and I'm very thankful for it. 😊 I'm still only at about 42% of the way, but who knows, maybe I'll get most of the way there and I can catch a Black Friday sale in a couple of weeks.

I don't really remember what I did today. Besides the donation nothing of consequence really stood out. I checked jobs, checked boards, but mostly I was sad and pondered what kind of character I could do if I could have played the alpha with new and old friends.

There are some school things I should do, but I'll do them later in the week when school is closed and I have nothing else to do all day.

That's all for now. I hope everyone is having a much better life than me. It's not terrible anymore I suppose, but it seems everything is not how it should be. 😞

## **Day 861 - 11/9**

### **Gamers everywhere**

Today I saw so many gamers. On my way on to campus I saw people outside playing an arcade game on a laptop, inside people playing a single player game, and others playing handheld games. On any given day you can see dozens playing casual web games and collectable card games are everywhere. It's still so strange to see. I grew up with the gaming industry. There was really nothing until I was about 5 save for classic games like chess, checkers, etc. I still remember times before when I would spend my time making a spaceship from a large box so I could sit in it and imagine going places. In

my youth and teens playing games was very rare, and someone calling you a gamer was considered an insult, calling you out as an outsider. Now it's everywhere. Almost everyone knows what it is, and at some level almost everyone does gaming in some way. Different times and a different world from when I was very young. But, I'm still pretty young, and I like this world of today. 😊

I got a super helpful donation. I'm about 50% of the way now. 😊👓 It's so exciting.

😊 The peep posted to the site about how she too drifted from RL friends and that for her the online friends and community *are* her friends, and in a way her family. It seems I am not alone in this new world of gamers. For many of us it does seem online friends and the online socializing are normal.

Tonight I feel good. I feel welcome and wanted with my friends. And most of all, although I am alone in body, I feel less alone in spirit.

## Week 124

### Day 862 - 11/10

#### Up and up

Today I'm feeling pretty good, though all the not sleeping at night is catching up a bit. My brain is completely non-functional today. I did manage to do half of an assignment, which is quite a feat for such a day. Class was canceled for tonight, so I've got a night off. Yeeaaaa.

Donations for a laptop seem to keep coming. 😊 Another for today, which puts me at about 50-55% of the way there. 😊

I got a surprise call from the gray ghost last night after I did my writing. He just called to see if I was free to do dinner and check up if I was still doing ok. I was already at my work shift, so we couldn't meet, but we chatted on the phone for a few.

The RL gaming meet should be fun tomorrow. It will be interesting to see what comes of it. I expect it will be just a few dozen of us laughing and playing pool or whatever, but you never know. I may find a friend or two or even meet someone who becomes a sweetie. 😍 Unlike when I was young, girls actually game now and are just as openly passionate about games as guys. 😊

Not sure what else to say. I'm pretty surprised the community is helping me. After all of my experience with people not helping I expected much less, and much slower response. Things are looking and slowly feeling better day by day.

### Day 863 - 11/11

#### Gamer day

Woooo, so much fun an event. I got there early at around 6:15 (it didn't start until 7) and during the event I posted as much info as I could. I got the wireless code for the place the event was at and I tried to keep people up to date with videos. I posted a few but it was too slow to really do posting.

I met a lot of forum peeps, but I met even more people from the team working on the game. And what is cooler is that they approached me. 😊 Some came to say hi because they recognized me and had planned to say hi, and others because I wasn't mingling. I was the guy busily running from taking video on one side of the room, back to the other to post on the forums or send a video.

I had a great time meeting everyone. I was super smiley happy guy the whole time. 😊 Though I have a new respect for those who do trade shows / live events like this and official (gaming) news reporters. It was super tiring doing all that, and the 4 hours I was there went by in the blink of an eye. After the event started I felt pretty frantic until it was about 10:30. And I've still so much footage to go through (about 2 gig! 📺) I have to label it, see what is covered inside, decide if I really want to post it, put it in order if it's part of a sequence, upload it, foووو so much busy work. I can see why what I'm doing is normally done by two, three, or even more people. I'll be able to do it all fairly quickly, but wow it's a lot of stuff to do.

Well, as hyped up as I am I am in a sanctuary hiding, so I should try and get some sleep before getting up at 7. I told everyone that I'd try and start to put up footage at around 7:30, so I'll be getting up early for that. Well, not getting up, always have to get up then. 😊 But staying up instead of going back to sleep at school.

I also got a very special surprise, but I don't know if I can talk about that. 😊  
'Night peeps.

## **Day 864-865 - 11/12-11/13**

### **Appriciation day, best day ever**

I can tell you about the surprise! Though I'm doing so a bit late. It's now Saturday night and only in these past few hours have things really settled down.

My media coverage of the event was a ginormous success, so much so that the community manager invited me to go on a tour Friday and play the game with other another special five people they had invited to stay for a few days. I was only added on at the last day, but it was a huge honor. 😊



Not only was it a huge honor and humbling to have several devs come up to me Thursday and say 'I knoooooww youuuuuu 😊', but on my tour on Friday of their headquarters there were again a few I hadn't met Thursday night that perked up their ears when they heard the community manager say 'this is rabb1t.' At one point someone even came bounding up to me all smiley and did a fist bump. 😊 He offered me the tiniest Princess Leia figure 'to protect me during my travels.' 😊 I'll have to find some kind of tiny case to put her in so she won't get lost in my car. (I just remembered there is a plastics place near my work. I can do that Tuesday.)

I can't even express how cool it was that this dev team on a game appreciated what I did so much that I got a personal tour and play time (other community peeps had already taken a tour, they got there a few days ago.)

So, I was playing the game with the forum peeps that were invited and a dev or two, and at one point the community manager says, 'do you guys want to do the podcast with me? Arithion would love to meet you.' I was like 'eep! woah!' Arithion and Dessicus are community peeps who have started a super popular podcast for the game. It's like a nerdy game talk show, but with hawt sounding female hosts, hehe. I didn't talk too much, I is a shy bunnah, but I did do some silly voices that made people laugh. In fact, at one point everyone was laughing so much they had to pause the recording. 😊 At the end Arithion said she might have to invite me back in the future just for teh lolz. 😊

It was so great being a whole me again. I got to play a fun game. I got to be with fun people. Oh, and I even had a not-date. The last two people were getting ready to go at around 6 and I'm like, 'where do you need to go?' and they both needed to go to the airport. I was like, 'psh, that's like 1/2 hour to 45 minutes from here. I'll take you if it gets you more time.' So I did, and they got almost an extra hour of play time at the HQ. I dropped off the first peep at the airport, then drove around to the next stop and was about to drop off one of the most attractive girls I've ever met, and she mentioned it was still 4 hours until her flight. I was like that's not ok, and asked if she wanted to get something to eat and go online or something. She did, so we drove back down to my main hub. We got food, hung out for a super short while, then drove back up. All the while we were chatty. I think she had a fun. 😊 She didn't really flirt back at my flirts, but then she didn't push

me away either. I don't expect anything to happen, but still. 😊 Teh rabbIt wound up with spending a bit of time with teh hawtest grrrl at the live event! Woot!

So, basically from Thursday early evening until even now I've been grinning ear to ear. For a brief time I was a whole me again, and for one of only a few times ever I could tell that people genuinely appreciated what I did, not just in response to my appreciating what they did by reposting what I saw to others, but what I had done in general even before that. I mean, I know people do appreciate what I do, but I got to see them light up when meeting me. I saw them excited when I was around. I saw and heard them when they said they were glad I got the chance to come by the office.

These past few days may have been the best days of my life so far. More importantly though it proves that what I do is real, valuable, and people appreciate it. Indeed if teh rabbIt had money to go to more conventions and do more of this work it would make me happy, but more importantly it would be useful to others and make them happy.

Tomorrow I have a few hours of work and that's really it. Since I finished posting my footage earlier today things have settled down. I will probably type in the fail week, maybe try and get some homework done, but then I suppose my life will return to what it was; forever changed as some things that were questionable in my life have been proven worthwhile and valuable, so I will be what I was, and more. 😊

## **Day 866 - 11/14**

### **Calming down**

I'm calming down from my excitement. I have the worst headache today. I think it's due to lack of sleep. I woke up at my usual sevenish but there was noone on campus, possibly due to the holiday. I didn't feel safe hiding alone, though I'm sure I would have been. I just hung out for a few hours online, then went to work. I inputted Epic Fail, then checked through more event videos. I found another to post, so that was good. That was really it. I just went back to school after work and messed around. I have to do some school stuff tomorrow or Tuesday, but due to my headache I just couldn't do any today.

That was all for today; a pretty quiet day all in all. I suppose a calm before the story changes tomorrow after the podcast goes up, hehe.

No donations today, so I'm no closer to a system. No job replies, but that's not unusual for a Sunday. Hopefully tomorrow morning at school I can catch up on some of the sleep I've been missing.

That's all for now. Bye peeps. 😊

## **Day 867 - 11/15**

### **Back to normal**

Things are pretty much "back to normal" today. I slept in for a bit and after surfed the web and watched shows. I was pretty burnt out still from the weekend. It's... hard for me to unwind with my limitations. I think though my brain is settled enough that I can maybe do some school stuff after dinner.

The podcast didn't get too much of my silly antics. I guess most was during non-recording time, so I sounded pretty normal/regular on the show.

Not sure what to say. No special emails and no donations. It seems my donations have trailed off. I haven't gotten any since Thursday. While I'm a lot closer than before, with \$300 still to go I'm afraid it will still take months to build the rest on my own. 😞

So... guess that's it for now. 😊

## **Day 868 - 11/16**

### **With a heavy heart**

Today I am sad. I suppose it's mostly because the excitement has settled. The short time with those who would be friends, the memories of them and my play time is fading. Now I seem to be back to my regular sad routine, with hopes of a gaming laptop seemingly back to impossibility anytime soon.

I still have hope to someday have friends again, to be able to game again, but today I have a heavy heart and I am sad. Today I again feel on my own and lost and alone on a strange island that noone knows exists.

## Week 125

### Day 869 - 11/17 Sad day is sssaaadd

Today I'm extra sad. I got to campus around 7:15, but I couldn't fall back to sleep. I went on campus, posted Epic Fail, posted a suggestion to the alpha board for the game I can't play, updated my system builds, and made a lot of general bla bla on boards. There were no donations today, no jobs, no movement of my life in terms of recovering or enjoyment level.

I have a headache and I feel super sad. I think my body, mind, and soul are just extra weighed down by having a normal life for a few days and now they are gone again. Now, as I eat dinner before class I want so much to cover my ears, put a blanket over me and cry. I'm tired of the constant noise and crowd around me everywhere I go. Tired of not being able to study or do homework due to not being in a good place physically or mentally. Tired of needing to go to school because I don't have a good enough job to just pay off my loans.

Tired... so very tired and sad. 😞

### Day 870 - 11/18 Not quite as sad

I'm not quite as sad today, though only one donation came in. It's more than nothing, but I still won't be able to get a system soon unless a miracle occurs.

Really the only thing of interest today was that there are some very cool looking Tron Legacy products coming in to add to my hardware page; keyboard, mouse, mouse pad, maybe a headphone set. 😊

I guess that's all for today. I have a sad and try as I might I can't shake it. 😞

## Day 871 - 11/19

### Some sad, some happy

Today has been a mix of happy events and sad events. This morning I happened by the ex-garage and saw the nice kitty. I stopped to say hi and pet him for a few minutes. He purred happily. 😊

I got back to sleep on campus fairly quickly and slept until 10:30. I had strange and lost feeling dreams, common since the RL event. When I got on campus there was a donation waiting for me in my email. 😊

I watched a few shows and did a homework. In the evening it started to rain. Most of the day I was pretty sad. The boards are already starting to empty out for the weekend. I got a call from a work person who wanted me to cover for them for a few hours tomorrow, so that will also be a touch more I can put towards a laptop.

But now, hiding in sanctuary from the rain, I am sad. A few minutes ago I almost cried. Nights like tonight are so very hard for me. People are in their homes safe from the rain, but not me. I have to steal my shelter like a mouse. People are watching TV and cooking their dinners, but not me. People are having fun with games or friends and starting to celebrate the weekend, but not me. I have none of those things.

Unlike so many, while my skills and talents are specialized and appreciated, I can not find a job that pays me for what I'm good at or enjoy. I can apparently not even find work I'm not proven to be good at.

The excitement from the RL event has faded. Those who came forward to call me friend, to compliment me on work that I did, or for doing things that make me me and as such valuable to others... they are fading to the background and I am alone again. While others celebrate their lives and the lives of others and plan for their future I can only pretend to. I must find what most consider every day trivialities. Things people don't ever give a second thought to - coming home to warmth, a bed, a shower, gaming, TV, cooking, going to the bathroom, a sweetie or friends who love you - all these things I do not have. And although I am not, I feel as if I am the only one in my life; lost, and left wondering if I will see tomorrow, let alone if there will be a future waiting for me if I do.

## Day 872 - 11/20

### Sad video is sad

No real change today. I was super sleepy during morning class. I couldn't sleep in this morning for some reason. It was a nice rainy day, but with what my life is it was very sad and lonely. I made a very short sad video of the rain representing how I feel these days hoping maybe it would drum up some donations and interest, but so far nothing has changed. I wrote to the gray ghost to say hi and check in. I'm sure if he could help he would have already.

Today was another sad day with no change. 😞

## Day 873 - 11/21

### Double sweats

It's early morning some time around 8:30. I'm charging my stuff in the locker room at school. I didn't want to sleep outside because there are no cars here. I'm sure it would be fine, but I felt uncomfortable. I came in to see if the smaller locker room was open. If so I could have studied on a soft bench (in private) and had power. Unfortunately it's locked, so I only have access to the main one. (They have benches and power, just not near to one another for sitting upright with back support.) I'm still charging, but I got about ½ hour more sleep before a coach came in to their private office and woke me up. I was snoring pretty loud, something I only do when laying flat on my back, something I haven't been able to do for months. It seems so foreign to my back now. All crinkled and bent it has trouble laying flat. At first it's painful. Even after a bit it is difficult to be truly flat. I may have to go back to trying to stretch at work. I used to do that a few times a week before bed. I'd lay as flat as I could, trying to focus on relaxing my neck, shoulders, the curve of my spine, try to stretch my calf muscles; it helped. But now, what with no private space and quiet times thing like that haven't been done in years.

I'll probably go do stuff online once my system and phone are both charged, then try and do homework. I would try just staying here on campus for that, being a Sunday it's basically very private – only 'church goers' are here a few hours in the early afternoon – but with it being so cold I don't know how long I can stay since I have to be outside. My feet were sort of numb this morning, and about 2/3 of the way through last night I had to put on a second layer of sweats to keep myself warm. It seems we are fully in the colder winter now, as I'm now up to three top layers plus one or two coat layers, and now I'm needing to consider dual pants layers.

Although there were no donations or well-wishing this morning I am hopeful the day will be ok. That's all for now. The day has just begun.



## Day 874 - 11/22

### Ug headache

Today has been an ok day so far I suppose. It's nearing dinner time and nothing terribly bad has happened. I have a really terrible headache for some reason, so focusing on schoolwork has been impossible so far. I'll go get some pain meds and have a good dinner and see if that helps.

I got some appreciation for my videos last night, so that was nice. Sadly there still haven't been any more donations, so I'm still stopped dead at 65-68% of the way there. A few are starting Black Friday early, but no luck with anything yet. My only real hope seems to be if dad sends an unusually high amount for Turkey day. I'm expecting \$50, if I get anything. Back in the day he used to send more but it's been getting smaller each year.

I try to hold on to hope for a gaming laptop, a job, a sweetie and friends, but with no positive responses in any of those areas it's tough. 🙄

## Day 875 - 11/23

### Leaving early

It's night at work. Noone is here. It seems the final group, or either of the two groups before, aren't showing up tonight. Makes sense what with it being Turkey weekend.

I couldn't study at all today either. My ability to focus this quarter has been complete poop. I have a test tomorrow with an assignment due as well, so I'll have to get up early (not sleep in as long as I can) and bust my butt studying and getting the assignment ready. I've had nearly a week to do both, but with no private personal area to study in getting into a studying mood has been next to impossible.

I think it's because I'm extra sad about my life. I'm not really anywhere I want to be and gods know I'm nowhere close to where I expected to be by this age.

I suppose though even with impending doom of consequences I'm still somewhat happy. I can still find tiny morsels of happiness. I still have my few boards to chat on, and today I found lots of Steampunk shots to use on my phone. On top of that I found some pictures of repainted Nerf guns that made them perfect for a Steampunk costume. So when I get time, space, and money to start putting together a costume I can look forward to that. 😊

But, as to the rest of my life, well I can't do what everyone else is doing. I have no Turkey day weekend plans because I can't make any, nor do I have anyone to make them with. I'm considering a movie, but that's it. I have not enough money to shop for a laptop, and no friends, family, or sweetie that I'll be doing activities with.

As always, I slip into the shadows for the night, and I have no home and no bed to return to. 😞

## Week 126

### Day 876 - 11/24

#### So cold today

It's evening at school just before class. I've been so cold today. Several times today my fingers and feet have been chilly. This morning my fingers were partly numb when I got to campus. 😞

Mostly today was a regular day. It started a touch different what with doing Epic Fail and finally spending the four hours to get caught up on assignments for one class. (Still have one or two due for the Saturday class.)

Someone I have been chatting with discovered my homelessness. He offered to help with shelter but he's in a different state. Something to consider if I uproot myself though.

Hopefully my test tonight will go ok. Due to my sads I haven't looked at the study guide at all. I got a like B-/C+ last time so hopefully it will be fine even if I do 'badly'.

My mind has been very preoccupied with nothings lately. I suppose it's because if my mind doesn't attempt anything serious I can't fail the attempt. Motivation is still getting better slowly. Next quarter I should be ok, but I still wonder if there is a point anymore. Yes, I'm still trying to improve my knowledge. Yes, I'm still trying to apply for jobs. Yes, I'm still very friendly and looking for friends and a sweetie. (The person this morning actually mentioned that I always seem friendly and eager to help online.) But there has been no real change in years despite my various attempts. And as always these days I wonder if there ever will be.

### Day 877 - 11/25

#### Cold snap turkey

Today was a good day. 😊 Last night a friendly student peep asked me what I was doing for turkey day. Obviously I was doing nothing. She said to come over for nom and they would be doing it all day starting at noon. Last night was pretty cold so I was kept up

a bit. I changed sanctuaries later to one I knew I could continue to sleep in at around 8 and to my surprise I didn't wake up again until almost 1:30. 😊 I showered then went over to the peeps house after a brief stop at the store to check things online. I had a good time. As expected it was pretty much all just her family and they sat around and watched football. I'm not into sports so I didn't say much through the day. The people were nice enough so it was good. I nommed turkey and some pumpkin pie. 😊

I took back the monitor to C&H's. I just dropped it off outside their garage and left. When I arrived back at my ex-home hub area I deleted their contacts from my phone, the final step in purging them from my life. It was sad to do. They were pretty good friends, but thinking back they aren't really the kinds of friends I really look for. I look for people who are caring and kind and act with kindness, compassion, and understanding first. C&H, upon reflection, always attacked, defending themselves first, and never really questioned the situation. Having them in those final days always telling me my priorities were off and I needed to straighten up when they themselves were off, well that just really got to me. H does have pretty bad seizures at times, but most of the time I knew him he had no problems at all playing single player games and watching movies. He could have easily have had some kind of home work (though granted that is extremely difficult to find.) C, while pregnant now, has in the past and even this year, only worked at a regular job about four months out of the year, purposely choosing to only work seasonally when she could instead be making probably 80k a year. So, people who seem unmotivated to take care of money needs themselves who have to borrow money and sell stuff to protect themselves from becoming homeless less than five months after voluntarily leaving a job... that doesn't settle well with me when they are poo pooing everything I'm having bad luck in achieving. You don't be cold and unsympathetic to someone about a situation they can't control while purposely putting yourself into a situation that isn't secure when you could remain in a secure one.

Anyways... that drama is over and done with. A chapter in my life that could have otherwise been a happy restart turned sour and dissolved to nothing. It's probably for the best. If the loving, caring, sympathetic couple who I first had take me in, give me shelter, and buy me some food and cloths were not the real them, and instead the real them were who they were at the end... I don't need those kinds of people in my life.

I discovered why it's so cold lately. The news broadcast at the person's house was saying we are getting a "cold snap" brought in by a storm coming from the ocean. I guess we are seeing record colds and the next few days to a week will hit sub-freezing; a rarity in this area. The local areas are calling it a state of emergency and are opening shelters early, opening new shelters, and not turning anyone away. I guess something like 90 homeless were lost this past year already. Since I have sanctuaries I can call on, as risky as they may be at times, I'll be ok. I shouldn't be discovered, especially with the added cover of extreme cold. Plus, the peep I visited today (and her mom) were very concerned about me and said I could stay on their couch through the winter if need be. It's tempting, and I'll consider it, but there are children in their small home. They have a very sweet kitty though, and after only 6 hours I was a bit wheezy. After picking him up for just a few minutes my eyes were getting itchy, so it's a less than ideal place for me. It could be a new friend though, but I don't know how much we have in common as she's not really a gamer and she's into sports and I'm not.

That's all for today really. A lot to say I guess but not much happened. I don't know how the rest of the weekend will go what with school closed. With all the extra shopping (generating activity) I'm sure I'll be fine.

## **Day 878 - 11/26**

### **Sad Black Friday, no sales**

It's a sad Black Friday for me, but then I've been so far out of society and friends for so long I can't even remember the last time I bought stuff for people on Black Friday.

I haven't done anything today. I spent like 3 hours updating my laptop for Cataclysm and it's still not even done yet. On a regular system by landline that probably wouldn't have been more than 15 minutes. Of course I didn't play other games today, as I can't unless they are phone games.

I looked around at sales and laptops and nothing is in the range of what I have that is a gaming system. There are a few more in the \$800-1,000 range, but without the money it doesn't matter if there are two good ones or 20; not affordable is not affordable. 😞

I decided to see Tangled. It looks fun. 😊 I'm sure it would be much better with a sweetie, but... 😞 While at the mall I decided to check out this fancy weapons and armor shop to see what kind of steampunk stuff they may have. They got purged out on cloths, so nothing much to see, but the shopkeep recognized me. I've only been in there once or twice before (over the span of about a year) so that surprised me. It was nice to see a smiling face who was welcoming and seemed to recognize me. He seemed like a nice guy. 😊

Well, I've got a little over two hours until the movie. I guess I'll go eat and mess around online a bit.

I guess that's all for now. I hope everyone's holiday is filled with friends, food, laughter and love. 😊 Don't let my sad story become yours. 😞 May good people and good times be around you, always.

## **Day 879 - 11/27**

### **Day of nothing and sadness**

It's just afternoon. I've been staring at the rain for probably the last 20 minutes wondering what to do today. I'm currently at school in a covered lot. I'd prefer to keep my car covered because it is absolutely pouring. Unfortunately there are only two places I can be under cover; school or the mall. I could stay here and have Internet if I didn't mind being out in the freezing rain with moderate wind. I could go to the mall, but as I discovered last night its wireless is still completely not reachable with my netbook. The only other options for what to do for access would mean my car is uncovered. I suppose it will be ok. The previous owner said it never leaked and I haven't seen any so far, but it makes me sad to leave him out in the cold pouring rain. 😞

If I had a gaming system I could probably just stay here or go to the mall. I could play single player games and then we both could be happy. Or, maybe my system's wireless could see the mall's (though I've not seen anyone there and connected since it started flaking a year ago, even though I've only been there a few times since.) Or, I could go some places even though the car would get wet. The only thing I can do for gaming

without is to try and game on the netbook. WoW runs at 7-15 FPS in the areas I'm in, but that is more than nothing I suppose. With not having enough for a gaming system I've no choice, and there is a certainty it won't be happening anytime soon on my own. The guild help was awesome, and even with donations pouring in at one, sometimes two a day, it didn't gather enough. I've got only \$500 of the \$800 needed, and the rest... well, the rest I don't earn. It won't be until my hours go up or get gift money during Xmas time that I will get more to put towards savings. 😞

I'm afraid today will be little more than a cold, rainy, and sad day for both me and my car. 😞

Time passes

Day has turned to night and I am sad. My life seems extra sad during the holidays, as they are the longest days of non-social non-traditional activities. I've wanted nothing more from life this weekend than to have a place that I have some private space to watch the Twilight Zone marathon (if it's on), other movies and shows, and to play my games. Simple dreams, but ones I can't have.

I'm nomming at Panda. The last time I was here, in this very spot, I was with company. Not just friendly company but a super cute, fun, attractive gamer girl. 😍 Now... now it seems so much lonelier, so much more sad to be here alone. There is noone to talk to, noone to laugh with, (although I didn't with the cute girl) noone to share my food with.

The gaming day seems a distant fading memory now. I still have flashes, pieces of memory; when I first saw the cutie at the event (before the day I spent time with peeps), a few memories of filming the event, a few of the devs being happy they could meet me, a few poster/forum people happy to meet me, the podcast, and a few devs super excited to meet me in the office who couldn't see me the night before.

But now... now I am alone again. It's about 6 I guess, but when I finish dinner I've no home to return to. It could be 7, 8, or even 9, and it wouldn't matter. When I leave I've no home to return to, no bed, no computer desk. All these things wait in storage. And me... I suppose I too in a way wait in storage for someone who loves me to return and reclaim me and place me in a forced spot in their life.

## Day 880 - 11/28

### Frostbite?

It's very early afternoon. I just got up after a nap at one of the sanctuaries, so my day has just started. I've slept a lot lately. It's probably because I haven't gotten to sleep until late and being too cold at school to sleep well.

I think I may have gotten some frostbite damage on my foot. 😬 I don't think I've ever gotten it before, so I'm not sure. The bottom back of my right ball of my heel I guess it has a cut. But I don't ever remember feeling it happen, and it was first hurting one morning. I think what happened is that my foot must have gotten too cold and split, either when I stepped down on it or when walking on it. It's cut like but it looks very clean. It aches a bit but mostly it just hurts when there is pressure on it or touched. Hopefully it will heal ok. It's in what I think a lower circulation area. Boo boos on my feet always take forever to heal. 😞

Well, time to nom lunch and start my day. Maybe something good will happen later. The only thing to do is go to a stupid meeting with friendly students because I have a stupid group project. Bye for now. 😊

## Day 881 - 11/29

### Listening, and hearing my past

Nothing really special happened today that was new. No jobs to apply for as things are too slow from the holiday. No donations, still none since what is it now, nearly two weeks ago? 😬 I did do an overdue assignment, so that's good.

I did have a good time today. I played WoW a bit. I started that back up yesterday with 7 free days. Though I probably won't stay reactivated for more than a month or two. As expected the areas I'm in are running at 7-15 FPS during the best of times. Also, the people I used to play with have stopped playing or left the guild I'm in, or both, so even if I could play unhindered I don't know how enjoyable it would be to play alone. With an actual gaming system and not running slow, who knows; maybe I'd enjoy it a lot more,



maybe find a new guild. With the limitations of the netbook I get just about as much sadness as I do enjoyment when playing. It's just too slow and struggles too much. I do want to see the new content though. I wasn't expecting nearly all of my friends to have moved on though.

I'm also having a good time listening to podcasts of the Penny Arcade people playing D&D. A lot of what they are doing is exactly what I used to do with my friends back in the day. We would have a gaming weekend every other month or so. We'd meet at one person's house, hang out, and game. I'd cook people lunch or we'd do sandwiches, we'd play all day, I'd cook dinner or we'd get pizza, and we'd play all night until around midnight. We'd sleep, then when everyone was sufficiently awake we'd start up again. Hearing the podcast makes me miss the old pen and paper days. But to have that kind of fun you need the right kind of group, the right kinds of friends. Things have to be just so. But when it works it's great. It's not like video gaming. There is a completely different pacing. Things are much slower. You learn about the characters and each other. Maybe some day someone will make a deep enough online experience that players will want to play like that again.

As always with my life I end my day feeling sad, alone, and longing for and remembering happier times, wondering if I will ever have them again.

## **Day 882 - 11/30**

### **Made me laugh**

Today I checked my mail. There was a letter from the city saying I should send a donation to help homeless people. I was like, um I am homeless. It made me laugh.

I got my Black Friday movies; Crank 2, Kick-Ass, and Watchmen. Two were \$10, one was \$8. Woot for cheap movie sale on Black Friday. 😊

I had to rearrange stuff here at work. I really don't get it. Why do I have to come here every week and rearrange the stuff stuck on the window so it *doesn't* block your view? Is everyone else dumb? Do they not look out of the office like they are supposed to? Why must I also move the stapler and tape from the other window that you need to open to talk to people? I don't get it. Are these people that dumb?

Well, nothing new today save for my movies really. I suppose that's about as good as my life gets these days. 😞

Hope everyone's life is going ok in these starting holiday times. 😊 Mine... welll... I try to keep my hopes up and remind myself that it only takes one to change, and that one can happen at any time.

## **Week 127**

### **Day 883 - 12/1**

#### **Nearly blank**

I should be studying for a test today, but I have a massive headache and I'm tired. Nothing new today really, though at not even 3 yet the day is still young. Maybe something interesting will happen later.

### **Day 884 - 12/2**

#### **The forgotten day**

I seem to have forgotten to write anything today. Nothing interesting or exciting happened. I did get a donation though. 😊

### **Day 885 - 12/3**

#### **Nothing new but my dreams**

Nothing is new today save for some strange dreams. The only one I remember is that I was part of a team who had discovered an 800 year old frozen ship and we were slowly defrosting / reviving the inhabitants one at a time. I remember being overjoyed when I'd revived someone about eight years old and they'd been reunited with their mom. The people of the ship had been establishing a colony since they were all out of time (and we were somewhere isolated.) The bulk of the dream revolved around this trial, led by a tribunal. Apparently there were three factions and a person's who's remains we'd found had brought up a huge controversy. Her dress had a pin indicating she had favor from all three factions and they were arguing over whose space she'd be buried in. I woke up before the trial had been resolved just after I pointed out to the court that she had been buried with everyone (together as a single group) for the last 800 years so why should that change.

I guess overall today has been a good day. I'm nomming dinner and it's about 6. I got up late, watched some shows, did a little tiny bit of studying, and checked for jobs. Verifying my pay was sad. While it was higher than I'd estimated the money for Cataclysm greatly reduced it. I guess I'd set that aside at one point but it became unaccounted for and secretly returned to my funds. That means a huge chunk of savings for my laptop didn't really exist, putting me further from getting a system. While not out of the realm of eventual possibility, as was the case when I lost my car, it is still impossible without increased hours, and that won't happen until June or I find additional work. So, now I'm a sad bunny, but I guess that's nothing new. 😞

## **Day 886 - 12/4**

### **Last Saturday class**

Today was my last Saturday class. I guess overall today was ok for what my life is. Nothing special or truly unusual that was noteworthy.

I find myself thinking my normal life things lately, things that I used to do all the time; plan dinner, cook, what shows I wanted to watch, my routine of getting up and showering - all things I can't do. I guess it could be because of all of the increased chatter around me due to the holidays. It seems odd I'm now in my third homeless winter. I guess though it's not entirely surprising as my life seems unchanging. 😞

## **Day 887 - 12/5**

### **Heartache**

I guess today was ok in that I got decent sleep and I got to watch some shows. But all day, and for several days now, I've had a terrible headache. Maybe it's because the rain and wind has returned, bringing with it the cold that had only just gone two days ago. But no, I think it's just the increasing sadness of my life, how more and more people are decorating, more are out and talking about exciting things, and all I have are distant memories of what Xmas past was. I have nothing to decorate. I have no friends to invite

over. I have no warm home to return out of the rain from. I have no fireplace to make a fire. I have no bed to lie in all snuggled and warm. I have no area to set up my computer to do homework, fun work, or play games. I have no kitchen to cook a good dinner, let alone holiday desserts like pie or gingerbread people.

While I occasionally am reminded that people do care and that I am helpful online, I remain without shelter, without a home, without friends I can laugh with and love, and in a time when everyone spreads hope and cheer I often wonder how much longer I will keep mine. Like a candle in the night the wick grows small, the fire dims, and it begins to wane and flicker.

## **Day 888 - 12/6**

### **Blurred**

Nothing super special today. I talked on boards, helped out some peeps, worked on a present for the not-sis' family, put in a resume for a research assistant, and that was it.

My life is so odd. One assignment I did I thought was just meh apparently the teacher thought was the best ever and she asked for an electronic copy to use as an example in the future. Life is like that sometimes I guess, at least for me. Things I don't expect sometimes happen, while other things that I hope for don't happen at all.

I suppose the day was ok. I was super sad, super tired, but I guess I was moderately ok. There is a super attractive redhead sitting one table over from me in the cafeteria now, so I suppose it's not all bad. 😊

I guess that's it for today.

## **Day 889 - 12/7**

### **Good day overall**

Today was a pretty good day. I didn't feel too sad in the morning. I watched some shows and helped some people on the boards. I think I made a big difference for a couple

of people, so I feel pretty good about that. The evening at work was ok too. I had a couple of good movies to watch and that too lifted my spirits a bit. 😊

Oh, I picked up Cataclysm at the ex-house and spent a few minutes chatting with the friend/ex-roomie. I'm so allergic to her kitties now. hehe In only 10 minutes I could feel their hairs irritating my throat.

It's late now after work, nearly 11:30. The sanctuary I was going to stay at is compromised, so I'm waiting for the heat to cool down. If it doesn't cool off soon I may have to go to a different sanctuary. I hate being like this. Times like this the fear and sadness come flooding back. I worry about what if I get caught. I worry about if all my timetables at that sanctuary will need to change and if I'll lose it. While I shouldn't be there at all – both in the sense that I'm not allowed and in the sense that I shouldn't be homeless – by being there and having *some* safety it is enough to be at peace. Enough to be at peace. Enough to feel at least somewhat safe. Enough to feel somewhat normal in that I have a routine, however sad it may be.

A happy day most of today, but now I'm off balance, worried, and scared. 😞

## Week 128

### Day 890 - 12/8 So very homesick

I'm so very homesick. 😞 I feel tired. I ache in many places. I can't think straight. I feel like crying. And the worst part is that this is not just a greater homesick than when I was young. I can't call my parents to come get me. I'm not just sleeping over somewhere that's unfamiliar. I'm stuck in a situation that I can't change. My home no longer exists. I've been trying so long but no change has come. Even now while I reach out (to others) far more than I have in the past, my attempts and cries are often ignored, or if met with well-wishing apparently people are unable to help.

I hope I do win my millions some day. Not for my sake, though I certainly would set myself up to never be cold or miss my fun again, but for the sake of everyone I meet. With enough money I could ensure that others around me never have to suffer in this way that I have. With my experience and notes over the years we can forge the tools to help others who are about to be in trouble avoid that trouble. With my money I can help them to avoid it.

That may never come to be. Though people win money all the time, it is equally as likely, if not more so, that I will simply continue to fail the rest of my life and that some day I will be no more. And those who have read my words, those who called me friend, will slowly forget who I was.

### Day 891 - 12/9 Less tragically sad

I'm less tragically sad today, but still very sad indeed. I helped some people on the boards, so that was good. It's also a relief to not need to worry about classes anymore. It was so very strange to be hearing the professor say goodbye last night. It feels like the quarter has just begun.

It's sometimes sad to be helping others with their system builds while I can't do any of the changes for myself. I do love to help and see people happy though. 😊 There is still hope for me too. The \$800 system that is awesome still comes and goes (in and out of stock) and I found a decent alternative at \$700 if it does disappear completely before I can afford it. (The alternate even has higher resolution which would be good for non-gaming. I'm not sure it would be able to handle gaming at that resolution, but I could always try.)

I got Infinity Blade for my phone, which is awesomely fun. At least I have that unhindered. As I feared, Cataclysm is running at about 5-15 FPS in just the quest areas. I fear what a dungeon would do to the system. And raids, forget it. I couldn't raid in the last expansion; there's no way I can in this one until I upgrade.

As always I wish to be somewhere I can have my desktop system set up, upgrade it to three screens, set up my movies and console systems, cook... but honestly just a small bed somewhere quiet, private, where I'm welcome and not allergic to the home, pets, or people... that would be enough.

## **Day 892 - 12/10**

### **Bewildered and confused**

Today I've felt confused. Things were ok I suppose. I chatted on boards, watched shows, and even played my game for a few hours. But I feel confused. I feel lost. I feel as if I'm doing things but no longer understand why.

I'm doing my everyday homeless life activities, yet they don't feel like they are mine. I don't feel like me. I feel like someone, maybe a child, who isn't in control and I'm just watching what is going on around me wondering why things aren't better, why they aren't what everyone else is doing. My routines feel off.

I guess maybe it's that I feel safe *enough*, that my 'routine', while completely different than life in a home, while not in a way I want to do my life, my life is as much as it can be for me. I can really do no better. And, in understanding that I guess I just yet again feel bewildered and confused that 'this is as good as it gets' for me.



## Day 893 - 12/11

### Pretty good day

It's been a pretty good day today I guess. I got to sleep on campus, though I couldn't fall asleep until around 3 last night. 😞

I spent the day watching shows and played my game for a bit. As I feared, low 5-10 FPS continued and it was closer to five than not during a dungeon. I would have to get an upgrade to really be able to do the content. Still, that's something that without change can't happen until around June. By then I'm sure the ones I've got my eye on will have changed.

Who knows what my life will be like then. I suppose it will still be the same. While once upon a time I thought my life may be changed and better in six months time, now I expect it won't be. 😞

Nothing different, some helping on boards, playing what I can, and watching shows. I expect jobs will become even more scarce to apply to over the next month or two due to the holidays.

## Day 894 - 12/12

### From heartache to heartbroken

I think I'm heartbroken. All the time just around my heart feels bad and aches. I'm sad nearly all the time and constantly have to try to distract myself or cheer myself up. More than anything I want to be like everyone else. I want to have a place to rest, to play my games, to watch my shows, to study, to try and find a better job, to find peace and quiet, to feel safe and secure.

All the time I'm out in the world. I see people talking on boards, or in my game, and I know somewhere in the world that person is probably in their home. Me, I'm out somewhere in public, with noise, motion, and movement always around me. I can't stop it and I can't just leave and go home.

When you feel sick, when you feel sad, when you feel excited, when you feel lonely, when you feel uncomfortable, when you feel tired, you want to go home. I am all

of these all the time and I want nothing more than to go home... but I can't. I have no home to go to.

## Day 895 - 12/13

### Making Xmas; the role of the dice

I had a pretty good day today. There were lots of happy things to life my spirit. It started too early this morning, as it always does for homeless people. I got lucky and found that school was indeed not as closed as I expected. The administration and pool areas at least were open. I napped near administration, and decided to check showers after. They were still hot. 😊 After, I went to the ex-home to the garage to get my printer set up to make Xmas for the not-sis and friend/ex-roomie. The covers for the out of production DVD series printed beautifully. 😊 I decided to look around for my dice again as well. Looking where I expected I found no dice, but I did find several toys/special objects I'd completely forgotten about; things that I'd see very day if I weren't homeless. Seeing them lifted my spirit a bit. I was about to give up looking when I decided to check one last box as I had no idea what was in it. Lo, there were my dice! 😊 So now, while not with me, they are in a very easy to get to spot that I could easily get at any time. I'm not quite D&D ready though. While I do have many die types there are primarily D10s and D6s, as that was what the systems I played used back in the day. I found some dice the other day online to add to my wish list, so I'd have them all if I were to play again, so that's cool. If I were to game again I'd want to add new dice anyways. It's kind of a generational thing with gamers I think. While we may not remember exactly when we got which dice I think many buy at least a few new ones to add to the collection when starting with a new game group. Also added to my wish list are new school type counters for keeping track of life points. After I was done in the ex-garage I went online and discovered someone left a message they bought me an Xmas something off my wish list. 😊 I wonder what it is. 😊 It is so exciting to have an actual Xmas again. I've no idea how many years it's been since I got a present where I didn't at least know the category it came from.

I did some more choosing of laptops too. My list now has, I believe, four models. However, I'm still hundreds away. With still no income to put towards savings I'm still stuck until that changes. By the time we get to June and my hours have increased I expect to have an entirely different generation of laptops on there. I suppose it's ok though. By taking longer I think I wouldn't want to exceed 15" if it's possible, something I didn't consider at all before. The next step up at 17" is 50% heavier and several inches larger. My life is all about portability right now, so smaller is better if they have comparable power.

I think finding my dice again, making me feel like a whole gamer again, making presents people won't expect (in terms of what it is), and getting notice that I've got one coming for me, has made me feel... well... Xmas; something I haven't really felt in I don't know how many years. Though it goes beyond a tree, and hanging decorations and lights. (Which I can't do.) I feel... better. I know the feelings are just on the surface, as I can participate and celebrate so little, and that likely soon I'll be back to an extreme battle with depression, but for now... at least for right now, today, I feel happy, and that is something.

## **Day 896 - 12/14**

### **No work today**

I was informed 10 minutes before my shift started (by phone message) that I have no work shift tonight. Well great. Now not only am I losing 50% of my income for the month due to the closing time to do work on the facilities, but I'm losing 12.5% more for some special event. Several stupid little things like that is rapidly eating away what monies I had saved for my laptop, and threatening to start eating away what the guild built up for me in savings. I suppose I should be thankful that I have it to be eaten. Without I'd be in very bad trouble again, but it's terribly disheartening to be beaten down yet again. Yet again I get my hopes up in improving my life, make progress towards it, then have something beat it back down.

I wish I could have ended this week on a better note. Things seemed to be improving lately, but with this loss, with having to knock down my laptop savings several

times over the past week in the budget and move money to my regular account to cover costs that should already be covered... it's hard to focus on the positive in anything other than a wishful thought kind of way.

**Picture series 19**



To protect me in my travels



Black Friday 2010, so cheap a movies



World of Warcraft Cataclysm CE





Dice

## Week 129

### Day 897 - 12/15 Dwindling monies

I'm pretty sad today. It's chilly and the rain clouds are still here. I got to sleep in this morning on campus, so that's good. Part was open so I went in for a few hours.

I got the present a peep sent. 😊 Is a happy thing. I don't know what it is. It could be a game or movie, but it seems a touch too small for that. If it were I couldn't use it until my life gets upgraded. I got a donation from a cutie to put towards my laptop savings, so that was good too.

Checking my money today there seems to be some weirdness. It seems some money is missing and unaccounted for. I'm hoping it's just some money in limbo that isn't showing up and it will reappear, but my laptop savings is currently at half what it was at its high point. Things seem to keep nibbling away at it and I'm now \$400-550 from getting a system... if it survives reductions that are happening at work.

There are positive happy things in my life, and I'm trying hard to focus on them, but so many things keep happening that knock me back down. I just don't get why it seems I get knocked back down *every* time I progress towards something positive. 😞

### Day 898 - 12/16 Legacy

I guess I'm ok. I'm still very sad about my life, but there are happy things. So I'm happy, hopeful, but sad because things are what they are.

After work I'm off to see Tron Legacy at midnight, woot! I've waited forever for this sequel and it's gonna pwn. 😊

I guess tomorrow will be what it is. Happy or sad I have to survive my days one at a time.

Time passes



So awesome a movie. 😎 It was new school, and old school, and yet retained the same timeless quality the original had. I was sad when it was over and I heard people complaining that it didn't do this or that like the original. They don't get it. Legacy is about life, love, and realizing the miracle that is both in front of you and hidden just beyond your understanding.

I was sad to be alone. Everyone else had a sweetie and/or friends. Not having someone to share it with – particularly considering what the movie is about – well, that just made my solitude seem even sader. I suppose though it's better to have been alone than with someone who wouldn't have gotten it or appreciated it.

Like Kevin Flynn, I'm trapped in my life as it is. I'll have to use what power I have to shape the world as best as I can. Maybe someday, like Sam, my Quorra will come along to rescue me. 😎

## **Day 899 - 12/17**

### **Almost forgot**

Don't know what to write. I almost forgot. Nothing new today really. I spent much of the day watching shows. Six appeared in my queue this morning and I watched four. That was about it. I helped on boards and did a job search, but nothing else new or different happened.

I did not play my game. I wasn't in the mood to face 5-15 FPS. Though seeing friends is great, the slow struggling speeds kills me. And it seems most people aren't around anymore. I see maybe one or two I know when I play. There would be more new friends in the alpha/beta I can't play. But... my life *is* what it is. I can continue to try to change it, but it is not up to me to be changed.

## **Day 900 - 12/18**

### **Feeling alone**

I suppose today was good and bad. I felt alone and isolated most of the day, and as always, sad about my life. I did help out several people on the boards, some of which in closed test areas, so it's good I'm there. I don't mean to sound egotistical or anything, it's just there are so few that have my level of knowledge and are as careful in replies. It's possible that those I helped would have been "fine" had I not answered their question and it remained unanswered, or possibly someone else may have eventually answered, but I am glad to be able to help people. I'm glad to have the freedom and a calm enough mental state and to be able to help. As I've always said, if I had enough money to not worry about working I think I could be even more helpful. I could amass even more knowledge through conventions and more games. I could have test systems of different power levels to verify what I think and walk that line of ultimate value recommendations even more. I could be warm and happy all the time, both physically and emotionally, being in even a better mood to help sooner and more often.

But... that is all wishing and hoping. Whatever it is the gods have planned for me I'm doing the best that I can to stay positive, stable, and healthy. Being able to help... it is enough, but I do hope I can have more than this. I do hope one day to have a home, a sweetie, friends, and a regular life again.

## **Day 901 - 12/19**

### **To be by the fire**

I'm not sure what to say today. I guess things weren't all bad. I played my game and had as much fun as I could after working for a bit. Before work I slept in at school. There were a good number of people so I felt safe. While not a whole work shift I got 2.5 hours covering for someone, so that's a little something that helps make up for the hours that have disappeared lately.

I want to be by the fire though; to have slept in a bed, to be drinking hot chocolate, to be watching shows lounging on the couch, to be playing games I only play on rare

occasion, to have friends visit briefly to say hi and exchange gifts. But I can't. That isn't my life. As much as I've wished it to be it never has been. My life has always been... different. My path has always been the rare one; the one noone has lived, but that they heard about (in a bad way). The life people should avoid, yet I can't seem to get out of.

There are good things. There have been good times. My experience and knowledge do bring answers and peace to others. But peace for myself, that seems to have eluded me most of my life. I've always seemingly had worry and stress in some form. Now it is at an all time high, constantly pressing against and breaking my heart. My heart now is always sad and heavy.

I think back to sunny warm days, days of laughter with friends when I was not so troubled. When I could play games, old, new, and just discovered. When the future seemed distant, but unattained and full of wonder.

I wonder if this is the beginning of the end. My paths seem closed in life. My struggle, while not getting truly worse, constantly slowly decays around me. I wonder if the ache in my chest really is a broken heart, not just emotionally and spiritually but physically. I wonder if some day soon my broken heart will end me, and if anyone beyond my circle who follow my site and words will even notice that I'm gone.

## **Day 902 - 12/20**

### **Brrrrrrrrrr**

I suppose today has been a "good" day so far. It's early evening, not quite time for an early dinner. I was pleasantly surprised by school still being openish. I got to sleep in and spent several hours doing stuff and being online. It wasn't raining today, but it was super chilly and windy.

I think I like to do my hobby stuff because it's like I can virtually live through others as they craft their systems. Even when I had some money I could only rarely afford a new part every other year. I suppose though with plenty of money I'd have several builds and be upgrading all the time and still be helping, likely even more so because with higher flexibility I could have greater hands-on experience and create even more

examples (such as doing build guide videos). I would probably even have give aways now and then of the "old" stuff.

That's really it for my day. I've got some Order of the Stick sigs that I'm working on for people on the boards, and a few shows to watch, but that's really it for the night.

I wish I could do more with my life. I wish I could give more. Unfortunately my limitations prevent me from doing so many things I'd like - not just things for me, but things for others too.

As always, all I can do is keep waiting and keep hoping my life gets better.

## **Day 903 - 12/21**

### **Recognized and welcome**

I'm pretty sad today, as usual these days. I slept in at school pretty late. It was a cloudy day but it didn't start raining until just recently now at all I can nom pizza night. When I got to campus one of the janitors made a joke about the spot I stay at being 'my office', heh. When it got pretty late in the evening, just before 5, someone had started vacuuming and I started to pack up and she said I didn't have to leave yet. It was ok because I was going to pizza anyways. Normally I have class or work and can't come. I can't remember the last time I could. On the way I stopped at the pool side of campus. There was a swim meet or something, so the showers were hot. When I got here for nom a few people recognized me and said hey. I'm surprised the staff changes so little here. I guess it's due to so few jobs everywhere. I was expecting to watch more shows or play my game, but there appears to be no wireless signal. Their router must be off or no longer allowing wireless. Also, for some reason my phone can't see any signal either. I'll probably nom a bit more then leave. I've already nommed quite a bit, so more may be risky.

Nothing new or different today; just my increasing sadness as the world's happiness increases as we approach Xmas. With no friends, family, or even a home by myself, the holidays are a very different time for me than it is for everyone.

### Day 904 - 12/22

#### The ghost of Xmas past

I saw the ghost today. I don't recall exactly how long it's been, but it was right around my birthday I think. So, a bit over four months? Nothing has really changed in either of our lives, save for his graphics card probably dying. We just had dinner. We didn't hang out too long or anything. He wished he could help more with things, and he gave me \$50. 😊 I put it into my laptop savings and I'm hoping it can stay there, though things are looking grim. Over the next month I stand to lose everything I have saved, which is all the guild donations. 😞 Those unexpectedly lost days at work are really going to kill my budget unless I get extra shifts to cover it or get more gift money to shield it from being lost.

I don't understand why my life is so sad. Yes, I understand it's because I'm not earning enough, obviously, but why not? Others have no problem finding new jobs, certainly not as much trouble as I do. Others have friends willing to put them up in a safe place until they are back on their feet. Others have savings or retirement money they can fall back on. But I have none of that. Sure I'm not the height of charisma, it comes as part of the gamer package, but I'm attractive enough. People say they'd never guess I was homeless too. So why so much trouble finding interviews? Why do I never get replies to my resumes? Where is my "break" – not to be a millionaire, though that'd be nice – but just to be back to "normal".

While everyone excitedly counts down to Xmas I find it will be just another day – not counting the extra hiding that I'll need to do. And not just a day alone in my home, as it otherwise would be if I had one, but another day exiled from society unable to even try to be part of an online society through gaming, as I still haven't gotten a gaming system.

😞 (Since my netbook can't see any wireless connection points unless I'm basically sitting right under them there's nowhere I could hide that I could get a signal to play.) My day will be completely alone, hiding in the dark empty places.

## Day 905 - 12/23

### As good as it gets

I suppose today is about as good as it gets for me. I got a bit of extra sleep outside of a store this morning. I went and did laundry. I stopped by at work to take a shower. I went to a store and played my game and checked boards. I went to get dinner, then played a bit more. The low specs didn't bother me too much, though I can't help but wonder how beautiful the areas I'm in would be with three monitors at higher or maxed settings. With the flat lowest settings at 1024x600 resolution at 10 FPS more often than not... well, as you can imagine it's pretty terrible.

I did see some people in game who I normally don't, so that was good. And I got word that my not-sis and friend/ex-roomie have small somethings for me for Xmas. And, dad sent some monies. I'm hoping to save them for the laptop but I doubt I can. I just got the schedule for January and yet again a shift is missing. I guess there is a holiday that happens to fall on one of my two days a week that I work during the week. \*sigh\*

Well, that's all I can really think of. Oh, and it was pretty warm during the day. It was kind of like spring, so that may have had an impact on my mood too. It was really cold last night though, possibly the coldest yet, and now at 10 it's feeling really cold again, so the warmth was likely just a fluke.

Happy Xmas to everyone. I guess that's it for today.

## Day 906 - 12/24

### Faux Xmas

It's evening, but not so late. I'm hiding for the night. It was an ok day, but still pretty sad all things considered. All day people were meeting and "being merry" and a few gifts were even exchanged. I sat, all day, outcast to the places people weren't going save in passing.

I got my presents from the not-sis and friend/ex-roomie. I got monies at Amazon, which I immediately changed to Big Bang Theory season 3, which sadly I can't watch until I have access to a Blu-ray player again. I also got some monies for a car place that

should pay for half of an oil change. As always my friend/ex-roomie baked stuff, so I got a chocolate chip bread and fudge to nom. The rabbit friend/fan gave me Scott Pilgrim vs. The World, which is very lol. It has a Blu-ray and a regular DVD, so I can watch / carry the regular version to watch when I want.

It seems sort of Xmas-like. There were nice presents and I feel "the spirit of Xmas" even though I'm not with the peeps who gave them to me. I suppose that is something pretty special. 😊

## **Day 907 - 12/25**

### **Xmas hiding**

I'm hiding. It's been a sad day so far, as expected. It is very different to have the lights off and to be somewhere quiet. It is close to my natural environment. My days are always filled with overly bright lights, noise, and motion. It is nice to have peace and quiet for a change.

It's just about 3:30. It's pouring rain and it's pretty cold. The sun hasn't really been out today and it's so gray and dark it looks like it's about 6 or 7 at night.

I suppose I'm thankful to be somewhere warmish, dry, and to have power so I can kill time by watching a few movies. But my life seems so sad and empty knowing all over the globe people are celebrating the holidays with both new and old friends and family, some maybe with ancient relatives, others with brand new babies. Yet here I am, alone, not even able to get online and say hi to people in a game, isolated from the world. I'm used to it though. It doesn't really seem unusually sad, it is just my life.

## **Day 908 - 12/26**

### **So sleepy**

I'm so sleepy today. I think it's because I didn't nap this morning. I suppose though all in all it's been a good day so far. It's about 2 and it's bright, sunny, and warm. Just yesterday and last night it was pouring rain.

I played my game for a couple of hours, but I'm not sure that I want to play more. I mean if I were in a home, sure. But due to the lower frame rate and lag, I kind of feel like passing on doing more. I actually feel more like going and cleaning out all the WoW page on my site, moving the screen shots to the screenshot page, then getting rid of the page and all the button links. Noone ever goes to the page, and with my waning interest due to not being entirely happy with the spec changes, I think I'll just drop the page since the discussion I posted is becoming less and less useful as time goes on. I'm feeling more and more inclined to make a page for my iPhone backgrounds that I've done, though I don't think I'll make a button for it outside of maybe putting one in the info bar (which does not require a code change on every single page, but that's not viewable to iPhone users, so hum.)

I feel sad still being left out of Xmas and holiday time fun, but that's my life right now, and it has been for quite some time. I suppose in a way it always has been since my mom died when I was 13. Ever since then when dad stopped taking us to her family's house "family" hasn't really existed for me. It's just been this ideal that is there. I know what it's supposed to be, but I don't experience it. I suppose I'm used to being alone now, and I'm mostly ok with it, but it would also be nice for that to change and to have a normal life.

## **Day 909 - 12/27**

### **Has gone offline**

It's a pretty sad day today. I'm extra sad because looking at my budget in about two months time my money will be roughly negative \$250, which means I'll have to eat about half of the guild laptop money and all of the money I put in. And, I'm right back to just about zero and having no chance at getting a laptop until around July after I've been getting a few checks with more hours.

I just got kicked offline while playing because I ran out of power. I suppose it's my fault, but after spending two hours somewhere that had power I thought I should move. So, roughly 2.5-3.5 hours later \*poof\* no power mid-dungeon. Even when I'm having fun and want to play I'm still heavily limited by the suck that is my life. 😞



I don't know what to do now. It's just past 3 and it will take about four hours to recharge my system, longer if I'm gaming. I'm tempted to drive up near work, shower, and go to a spot that I can be online and have power, but again if I game it will have a harder time recharging. I could go to the library and recharge, but that seems even more sad.

I'm so tired of my sad life. 😞 I'm so tired of looking at my budget and seeing my barely \$200 paycheck breaking even with food, gas, and phone costs and basically nothing else. I'm so tired of watching any savings I *can* manage to get leaving my savings to spare me from going negative. But I don't know what else to do. I'm looking at jobs and noone is responding to me. I'm being friendly to people, but noone wants to be friendly or date me.

Today I feel so sad I just want to go to the ex-garage, be with my stuff, and cover myself with my blankets and cry until people genuinely want me in their lives and to help me get better and they come get me; even though I know that means I'll be alone in the ex-garage forever. 😞

## Day 910 - 12/28

### Message into space

Today I sent a tiny donation to Wil Wheaton. I thanked him for what he did with the Penny Arcade guys on the D&D podcast. I've listened to it like three times now. It's helped me through my long, cold, and lonely nights and reminded me of better times. It's tough for entertainers to know if you were entertained or not if you are an invisible audience. Live they can hear you laugh and clap, but when the audience is unknown, you only know you are appreciated when people tell you. Even when you have as many fans as he does, I bet it's still important for him to hear that he's appreciated. He mentions that in his other podcast; that he's nervous and self-critical, and it's important to know that he feels that way. Even when you have, I guess I could call it 'proven fame', you still worry about people enjoying what you do.

It's pretty early in the afternoon, only about 3. Nothing new has happened yet.

Same old sad life for me. 😞

## Week 131

### Day 911 - 12/29

#### Thoughtful day

Today has been a thoughtful and reflective day. It started last night with listening to one of Wil Wheaton's podcasts. In it he's saying goodbye to what was a big part of his life. I never knew this, but apparently he *chose* to leave his role in Star Trek. In his podcast he's reading from a book he wrote he says goodbye to that part of his life as he's selling a collectable figure of himself. He's finally (after something like 15 years) dealing with the emotions that he's been struggling with if he made the right choice or not. As he says goodbye his words and feelings somewhat mimic my own feelings saying goodbye to parts of my own life. A loss of self is really not something you can describe in words. It's the worst loss of all I think - except maybe compared to losing someone to cancer. You are losing a part of who you once were against your choice in pretty much every case. Until you are really ready and really able to move forward you can't ever let go of the pain that loss causes.

In hopes of my own moving forward I applied to a new job today – a job not in my state. On the last day of Saturday's class the teacher said maybe I need a leap of faith. So, that's what I took. Will it make a difference? I don't know. The job is in donations, specifically Child's Play. For those of you not familiar with it it's an organization that gets much needed toys and games to children who are sick in the hospital. I love kids, and I love gaming, so maybe this is the job Fate has planned for me. I guess we'll see. Where I am now I'm not happy – much more so emotionally than physically. But physically, there really isn't any reason for me to stay. The things I do and enjoy are all online really, or available anywhere, like movies and fast food places. So moving... I don't think that would be a big deal at all (emotionally). In fact, I think (barring things like weather I can't avoid or dangerous or scary neighborhoods) I think I'd welcome the change.

## Day 912 - 12/30

### New Year's eve's eve

I don't really feel too sad today. It's odd considering how bad things are going compared to just 6 months ago at the end of book 2. Back then everything seemed positive. I was working a decent number of hours. I was getting out applications here and there. I was feeling positive about my classes. I was only weeks away from getting a gaming laptop. Now, at the end of the year, it's the opposite. I had to replace a dead car. While I got out an application yesterday it's been weeks since there have been any to apply to. School feels like it's just wasting my time. And now what little I've saved for the laptop that remains is going to need to be used to cover negative threats by the end of February, leaving me with only half of what the guild gave me.

I don't even know if the system I have is 100% stable anymore. While it seems so during non-gaming, when I'm playing my game it seems to always crash now. The last four times that I've played it's crashed *every* time. The most recent time, this morning, was within about 10 seconds of my logging in. I suppose there is a chance it's heat related, so I'll try to play while the system is cool to test that. But the more likely explanation is that the game's new expansion uses code that the netbook can't handle. Either way, it would be unsafe to continue after my month's time that I bought expires. I guess I've got about a week, maybe two, of time left. It just isn't safe to risk all my data to play when I only get about 10 FPS. So, what used to be the one game that I could actually play in order to be social also seems now impossibility. 😞

I'm warm for the moment, but only because the car is in the sun. Outside the car it's a chilly 50F here. While that may be a lot warmer than some of you readers are experiencing in your areas, here in the Bay Area that is an extremely cold afternoon. We Bay Area natives have no protection from this weather. We are dumb and don't have winter clothing for truly cold weather.

As always, I try to keep hope alive in my heart and mind, but the struggles and troubles of my life make it difficult.

## Day 914 - 1/1/11

### A new day

It's super late, like 1:45 in the morning. I spent much of the day at a person's house who I haven't seen in like 10 years. I had a pretty good time, but most of the people here were not ones I'd have normally hung out with. Much of the night there were little ones, so there was a lot of loud noise and running around. It was extremely distracting to me being among the adult people trying to play games.

None of them knew I was homeless save for the person who is my friend (who has invited me to stay, so I'm still at her place.) One was briefly talking about his divorce and how he's got three of the top mediators, one is supposedly top in the world, and how there are three different divorce settlements signed and that the reason it isn't finalized yet is that there is over a million dollar discrepancy between them. I can't imagine a world where the difference means you have multiple millions in assets total. That's such a completely different world from mine. Here I am at someone's friendly gathering. Me, the penniless sitar player, and two seats over someone with multiple millions in assets. It boggles my mind how just a tiny fraction of that would completely change my life.

I made an icon for my podcasts, should I wind up doing them. I still don't know everything that would be involved, but if people would be interested in hearing my ramblings and it would be entertaining, then why not. I expect though that things won't come together until after school starts, when I have the time to research it more.

I had more to talk about but the people are still up at now past 2, so my brain isn't working so good anymore, so I'll just say night for now. 😊

## Day 915 – 1/2

### "Back to where you was before"

It's pretty late in the evening. It's cold and raining off and on. I'm still living a life unchanged. While I did sleep in until about 10:30 and visit with my friend (until about

noon) nothing else has changed. With a husband and a two-year-old she can't offer me shelter, though she seemed fairly disappointed at that realization as she sighed and her tone changed as I left.

Tomorrow things will be back to where I was before the holidays. I'm very much looking forward to sleeping in (on campus). The first time I'll have been able to sleep in for weeks (not counting last night, which we didn't sleep until nearly 3 AM and there were several distracting noises all night). I'm even looking forward to my regular work routine.

Last night was odd and difficult to explain in words. When we were talking about my sleeping there she thought it odd as I told her I was fine with the couch as a couch and to not worry about putting it like a bed because it was too much hassle. While the folding couch bed things are always a hassle it was more the fact that I knew it would be too unfamiliar to sleep on easily. As it was the unfamiliar comfort of cushions and flat surface took getting used to before falling asleep. In fact, when I first laid down it was a bit painful. My back creaked and groaned as years of being put into wrong positions slowly released enough tension to relax a little and straighten out a bit. Though I did start to return to normal sleep at C&H's, that was some 6 months ago. And, the stress of our falling out, well, that rapidly returned more stress and back pain than the stay cured.

It seems so strange that so many basic things seem so foreign to me. And in a way they are even scary because I've not had them for so long. Like just today I was driving around, peeking into homes as I often do these days. I passed a two story house. On the upper level a window had its drapes drawn open. I saw posters, nick-knacks, and part of a book shelf or bed. It seems so strange to me now to think about having a room, or a home, to put my stuff wherever I wanted, to decorate as I saw fit and desired. Such a commonplace thing. Such a simple idea. Yet it's one of those things people take for granted and have no idea how important it is to have your own space until those things are lost.

## Day 916 - 1/3

### Altered routine

It was very nice to sleep in today. 😊 I slept and slept until about 11:30 when I was woken up by someone's thumpy stereo which was so loud it was echoing its vibrations through all three levels of the garage. Seriously? Are you that deaf that you have to have the music vibrating your and everyone else's car in what is likely a several hundred feet diameter in order to "hear" the music?

Since I'd slept so late I didn't do much. It was only a few hours until I left for work early because I was going to stop and do laundry on the way. Working on Monday is strange, but not completely unfamiliar. I think it was only about 6 months ago I had a Monday shift. Ah, those days of working three times a week, how very much my wallet misses you. Speaking of money I may be getting a bit extra a week to do some work for someone. I don't know if I'll wind up doing it though. I may not have the right skills. We'll see tomorrow. It's not much, about \$30 more a week, but it would help me balance. And after balancing I could put the rest towards laptop savings.

In other altered routines I'm getting signs of odd patrol times at the current sanctuary. I may have to enter later than I have been by a few hours. What was starting to feel like a routine and was early enough that I could have at least a few hours of private time to play on my phone or listen to podcasts may now be lost, returning me to the overly bright lights and noise of public space. Of course, we can always hope things change for me soon and I get a home, and all my hiding, sneaking, and homelessness is gone. Wouldn't that be a nice New Years gift, eh?

As always I try and stay hopeful, but it becomes harder and harder with each passing day where nothing changes.

## Day 917 - 1/4

### The unexpected haunting

I encountered another ghost today. One I think I talked about way back in the early days of year 1. There I was, sitting in the room at school that I spend most of my time at when an unusual person caught my eye. He was bald but fairly pale, what little of his shaved hairs you could see were gray and white. His charcoal gray and black handlebar mustache completed the look of an 1800s carnival showman. His vest, while newish, was the stuff not commonly worn for a good 20 years. After looking him over two or three more times as I ate my dinner I thought to myself that he looked like someone I once knew and haven't seen in 10 years. A someone who had turned old, tired, and about 75 pounds heavier. But I'd heard rumors since the last time I saw this person, rumors which would match this description.

I didn't approach him, nor did he approach me. Though I was wearing my rabbit hat and could have easily been identified, I look very similar to the last time we saw each other some 10 years ago, something a person would easily dismiss as not the person they know because that's not normally possible. I very much doubt he noticed me.

I decided to not watch the remaining 50 minutes of my show that I'd started. I shut it down and quickly finished dinner and headed to the library. I don't think he noticed me as I left. He certainly didn't call out a hello.

We didn't part on bad terms or anything. It's not that I would have disliked chatting, but I found I had mixed feelings about an encounter. While there are many fond memories from our late childhood and early adulthood, some as clear as if they were yesterday, when last we were talking... well, I was doing all of the talking. We'd been growing apart for a number of years. He had been frequenting coffee shops and pubs more and more, neither of which I was interested in. Things I invited him to he stopped attending. Our mutual interests had dwindled to our shared memories and miniature games, which I didn't play because I could never afford them.

So, as I rushed to finish. I decided to leave the past in the past. It's been over 10 years and he's had lots of opportunity to find and talk to me. When we last spoke some five years ago I sent an email about 2-3 email pages long (probably 1.5 printed pages). He never replied, to any of it. It was then that I decided I was done trying. If the haunting



continues it will be what it is but I will not seek him out. I will not look for him on these Monday evenings. I will not approach him. I will continue to look for something new. And even though many of the things that I desire I once had with him, I think he closed his heart and mind to those days long ago.

Maybe I haven't grown up. Maybe I'm stuck in my mid to late 20s because that was the last time I even remotely remember being happy with my life. I may never find new friends to do what I miss in my life, but I think some graves are better left undisturbed.

## Week 132

### Day 918 - 1/5 Routines

I had a dream, two mornings ago I think. (I more often dream in the mornings once I'm at school then when hiding at night.) In the dream I was dating a beautiful younger girl. I think in the dream she was in her mid 20s. I was quite a bit younger than I am now in my later 20s (as I often am in my dreams.) We were dating and doing ok, but then I forget what happened, there was an event or a party, something where I revealed more of me and my history. After, we were more physically affectionate and I knew we were happily in love and she was ok with my being older and my experiences and what came with it (in terms of world timeline associations).

I've been thinking a lot about that, and about matches in general, and how I've longed for friends but more so a sweetie with similar habits to mine. I want to both be sleepy and wake up around the same time, be hungry around the same time, enjoy similar foods, enjoy similar shows and show watching habits, and to enjoy similar hobbies. I don't know if it's that I want these things so we have things in common to share or because I have my routine and I like it.

Most of all I miss my routine. I miss going to bed at a certain time. Waking up at a certain time. Showering shortly after. Watching my dinner time shows after I've made dinner. Having all the lights basically off when watching shows or movies. Watching my rented or newly bought movies on Saturday night... all of these and more.

I wonder if I will ever have friends or a sweetie in my life again. I know I would like to. Last night there was an extremely attractive girl in class. And while my mind more often wandered to how nice and small/fit she was, and how nice she would be to caress and snuggle, what seemed more important was how she wasn't a match as we discussed things more. She spent too much time doing this, she wasn't interested in that. The fact that she mentioned a boyfriend made all my thoughts moot. But I wonder... are these routines really important? I know lots of couples are just fine with different routines and different interests. But with me, with my ex-wife, these were what broke us up.

Being single and alone, I wonder how it is for others.

## **Day 919 - 1/6**

### **Nothing special but feeling a bit special**

I guess today was ok. I have love and fame on one board I'm on, so that makes me feel like my help is appreciated. Class tonight went ok. First week, so it's all new. The day passed pretty quickly though. I didn't really do much of what I set out to do. I did a little bit of work for my friend. I can do it whenever, so that's good. I got kind of stuck and had to pause for clarification. It seems easy enough, so I should be fine to do it and get the \$30 a week. That's something at least. It will buffer what would have been the devastation of the guild savings. That, plus a low estimate for my tax return should give me about \$500 by February when I get the return. I estimated half what I got last year to be conservative. If I get what I got last year I'd be just about within reach of a laptop. We'll know more in a few weeks when I get the bits of info to do that.

That's all for now. Nothing really special today.

## **Day 920 - 1/7**

### **Waning focus**

Didn't do much today. I got up pretty late, so I only had a few hours before I needed to go to work. I did some of the online work for my friend and that's about it. I guess it's good to have a busy day but it would be so nice if I could truly stop. If I could watch the movies I get on a regular screen without headphones. If I could eat a dinner that wasn't microwaved or already ready to eat. If I could shower in a private shower. So many basic everyday desires, yet seemingly so impossible for me to get.

## **Day 921 - 1/8**

### **The stupid bank**

It's Saturday, which means there was no chance for real change or moving forward. In fact, just the opposite seems to have happened. Apparently my bank has a

"federally mandated" policy of only allowing four withdrawals/transfers out of savings per month. They failed to inform me of this directly. As those of you know who have pretty much kept up to 'real time' know, I've needed to move savings money into checking to cover lost hours over the holiday. Silly me for doing so in the smallest amounts possible. Also, they seem to have a policy of only charging for overages once per quarter. So, apparently when I exceeded that number in *November*, which closed out some six weeks ago, they quietly snickered to themselves knowing they would charge me \$12 at some point in the future. That date happened to fall within two days of when they closed out December, during which I also unknowingly exceeded my unstated number. So, in the past few days I've lost \$24 in fees that I didn't know I could incur. Not a good day today as I argued with the bank manager about the stupidity of not alerting clients to this. Seriously, how hard would it be to send an alert email? 'You've used one of four possible withdrawals from savings this month.' Then, 'You've used two...' I have an 800 number to complain to, but supposedly being federal policy I likely will never see that money again.

Nothing much else to say really. The cute redhead is at the coffee shop near school again. She wasn't there for a while, but then neither was I. She seems sad all the time now though. I'd ask her what's up, but I'm not her friend. In fact, I myself had forgotten I flirted with her and gave her Easter candies way back in the day until I'd seen her a few times. I guess that must have been just a few months short of two years ago now? I don't think it was last Easter. But then time is passing so oddly for me lately it could have been a month ago.

I am still constantly so very sad. I know enough money would fix almost all of my problems. I could get a place to stay, a new desktop, update my movie collection, and eat and sleep right again. But it's the things "money can't buy" that I wonder about. Will I ever be at a job I'm happy at (that pays me enough)? Will it just be a place I'm working and earning money, or will it be more emotionally? Will I ever find love again? Will I ever have friends whose company I truly enjoy that I can play games and share my life with? Or will my life continue as it has, lonely, sad, and feeling that I'm only barely enjoying my hobbies because everything else about my life is unfulfilled.

I know I have the potential to be happy, truly completely happy and to share that with loved ones in my life... but I am beginning to wonder if I will ever be given that chance.

## Day 922 - 1/9

### Life without choices

Today I feel like I'm living a life without choices. I went to buy chips to have with a sandwich and I asked myself what I wanted. I wanted Bugles *and* Sun Chips. Once upon a time I could have had them both. In fact, in a home it isn't uncommon for me to have two or even three snack food items at a time. I can choose according to my mood at the time. But no, due to space, due to not wanting to seem obviously homeless, due to not having good containers to store things in, I could only get one. The rest of my day seems similar. I don't have a choice in where to go. If I want to be warm I can go here or here, both are in public areas. If I want quiet I can go here or here, but then I don't have Internet. It's not like in a home. I can't have quiet and warmth and Internet and gaming or movies like I did once upon a time.

I don't know what else to say for today. Though I did likely help a not small number of people today updating my site with the new Intel stuff. But outside of that I feel like everyone else is better than me. I feel like I'm the only one failing and that it's so unusual noone wants to be around me, noone wants to truly help to work towards a true and long-lasting solution. And my heart and chest ache. I feel as if someone smashed through my breastbone and tore out my heart. 😞 There is a great emptiness where I used to have love, laughter, and hope. Now I don't feel that anymore. I only feel the ache of what should be, sadness about what is, and frustration about what is not. 😞

## Day 923 - 1/10

### Netbook could be dying

I'm noticing a growing trend with my netbook that could be an indication that it's dying. Back about a week ago it was blue-screening when I'd try to play my game. In the past few days at school it's had more and more trouble connecting online, even when I've been only about 5' from the router. And when it does finally get connected, or just in general, it can take *forever* to open a program, open a website, or change windows. I think it is, at least in part, dying. I guess I'm not surprised. I did really push it there for six or

eight months with gaming. And too, it isn't really designed to be running as much as I do. There are probably some days where it's been up and running as long as 14 hours. Being a netbook it's really only designed for a handful of hours here and there. Thankfully it still seems ok for offline things, so I don't think the most critical parts will die yet. At least I hope not. I don't know what I'd do if I lost it completely. Sure, things are backed up often enough so I wouldn't really lose too much, but going back to having to borrow public systems all the time whenever I wanted to do anything (not counting very minor things I could do on my phone, like light board surfing or news reading)... I can't even imagine. I still remember how sad things were, how time consuming, how much of a pain it was to try and keep my site updated. Hopefully it won't fully die and I can keep using it until it's replaced with a real laptop.

Things moved a tiny bit forward in terms of my doing a podcast. I got some free software that got some decent reviews. It's not like the free Garageband software that you get with Apples, this free PC stuff seems woefully inadequate in comparison, but it will have to do for now. All the other software seems to be not free, and I'd really rather not pay for stuff just to get a few other features. Nothing seems to really be equivalent on the PC side. If I were rich I'd just get a small Apple laptop and set up a whole area for doing podcasts. You know, design a space physically and mentally. It's the kind of thing that needs it. It's in part why I've had so much trouble with my hobbies lately. Most hobbies require a physical, and more so, mental space to be in in order to be creative (or enjoy them). I just don't really have that while homeless. Times are few and far between when I feel truly comfortable, relaxed, and at ease to be in a creative mood. Still, I have to do what I can. I have no choice.

## **Day 924 - 1/11**

### **Preparing to prepare**

Today didn't go as planned. Not really in a bad way, just in an 'I didn't do what I was expecting to do in the order I was expecting to' kind of way. I was expecting to get up, have lunch, relax a bit, find a place to use to do some podcasting stuff, and take a look at the software to get that all done. I didn't really do half of that. After I got up and had

lunch I wasn't quite in a podcasting frame of mind, so I went to watch a show. But I got distracted and did board helping for over an hour first. By the time I finished that and got through my show it was pretty late, early evening even. I looked around the library and all the group rooms that I planned on potentially doing my podcast in were locked or busy. I was going to ask one of the friendly librarians I know to sneak me in, but the super cute one was the only one on duty I knew, and she was swamped with people every time I checked. I decided to look for a half dozen sound bites I want to use, but I spent over an hour trying to find one. So tonight was really just preparing to prepare.

After class I may still get a chance to try and start the podcast, but I expect I won't have enough time to do really much of anything. I'll probably only have about half an hour. If it were warmer I'd just do it in my car. That'd be a private, probably quiet, place to do it. I may try tonight, but I think there will be too much setting up and learning of the software to do it. It's been cold and raining today, so I expect it will be too cold to want to sit in the car.

I guess that's it for today, as well as this fail week. At least this week didn't really end any more sad than usual. I suppose that's something.

### Day 925 - 1/12 Dissapointment

(These are actually thoughts from yesterday, but I already posted so they will be at the start of this day.)

I was very disappointed about my life and what I accomplished today. I know earlier I said I was just the regular sad, but as the evening class went on and the night progressed I felt more and more disappointed in life situations and about my limitations. Disappointed in how little I accomplished because I feel I need to let myself sleep if I can (since there are times that I can't.) Disappointed in how restricted my options were in doing my podcast research and not beginning it. Disappointed that I didn't get to set up a shell for the podcast page like I wanted. Disappointed in my job prospects. Disappointed in my ability to do, well, anything due to the lack of privacy. But also disappointed in things outside of my direct scope. Like there are no girls that seem remotely interested in me, and haven't been for years. Is my love life really to be that doomed? Am I really that alone that I'm one of the few who don't have anyone to talk about or text to? I saw 'the ghost who said boo, damn it' as I'll call him. I just peeked in to the room around the time I expected him there. And I became disappointed in my past friends when I was reminded I have no long time friends anymore, nor any new ones. Where are *my* friends? Why don't I have anyone to hang out with? Play games with? Go to the movies with? Why are all my relationships now distant or non-existent?

As the night grew long and the cold closed in, all of the sad things in my life, indeed my life itself, seemed like just one big disappointment. 😞

Time passes

I got a proper start on my podcast today. 😊 There were some unforeseen issues though, which I guess are common with recording. I didn't make a script, so there were at least a dozen or so restarts. When I was doing good I'd go for about 5 minutes then pause so that segment was on its own. The biggest early hurdles were the hardware and location. The mic has a touch of hiss, and I have to keep the volume of my voice fairly constant or it spikes and crackles. The room in the library I used was pretty tiny, about 6' square, and



not soundproof. So, it could echo easily and I could hear noise from the outside easily. A huge hurdle which will likely be ongoing for the near future is the software. Its layering seems basic, so doing anything besides record, stop, record to continue, repeat, seems... at the very least difficult. Adding in a sound didn't seem to work. It played at the wrong speed. I have no idea why, but I couldn't figure out how to do it correctly. So, inserting sounds is what I'm going to research after dinner.

I feel pretty good about it so far. I'd guess it's maybe 10 minutes added all up. It's really just a bio - a history of who rabblt is and how he got here. As I was going along it became more and more difficult to think of what to say so I'll have to start keeping notes for topic ideas, maybe even make at least an outline. Without a script or direction I found myself stumbling into a lot of 'ums' which led to stopping and deleting. I'm sad the software isn't better. There were some good bloopers in there, like "blue blox D&D." It's surprising how hard it is to say "blue box" out loud without stumbling. 😊

I don't know that I'll get another chance to record until Friday when I'm at work unless I do it in my car, which I'll likely pass on while the weather is cold. I'll probably just regularly do some Monday and Friday and eventually get enough for what I'm hoping is a bi-weekly release. If I don't have enough it may have to be every three or four weeks. We'll see.

Bye for now. 😊

## Day 926 - 1/13

### Chubby again

Well, I confirmed things on the school scales that I'm a fair bit chubby again. 😞 I figured I was, as walking around and bending over to tie my shoes tires me out. I'm back up at 210-ish again. 😞 While not huge, that's pretty far from the 185 I'd been averaging lately. I have started doing a mini-workout during work again, and I think a lot of that weight came about from having to eat fast food all the time during winter break, not to mention the added stress of lost sleep. So hopefully that extra weight will be gone fairly quickly. I didn't progress with my podcasting much today, though I'm feeling pretty

happy about how it turned out and I'm feeling positive about the future. I found a way to get rid of the horrid static hiss, but it's been replaced with a slightly robotic echo. I'll verify how much better or worse it is in a bit. I found some of the transitions I wanted originally, so that's awesome. I couldn't research if they could be added after the fact though. With this free software I have I may have to resort to planning my segments and transitions in advance and adding them as I go. In other good podcast news it seems there were several references that you want a USB microphone for clean sound. There is apparently a very good one at \$70. While that's a ton of money for me these days I think I'll probably use the guild's money to get it. Hopefully they'd understand. A bit of money was already lost to cover lost work hours and that \$70 would be almost all that's left. But, with this it would be something I could enjoy right away. It would improve how much I enjoy doing the podcast, which means it would improve the podcast for everyone. As I can't use it for a laptop without the additional \$700 required, it really does no good sitting in savings. Better to improve the podcasts I think. Plus, with better sounding podcasts, a happier bunnah making them, I think that would improve my chances for increasing my audience, increasing awareness about my homelessness, and increasing chances for donations.

Outside of that, that's all for today. I was prevented from being in a sanctuary until about 3 AM last night, so with all the running and hiding keeping me up until 4 most of my sleep had to be done when I got on campus a few hours later. I slept until about 12:30, leaving me very little time until class at 6:30. I had to do some homework, do a few things for the podcast, eat, twice, and that was all my time. I didn't get a chance to look up how to do RSS feeds to get my podcast out to everyone. That will have to wait until tomorrow. 😞

Guess that's all for today. Bye for now. 😊

## Day 927 - 1/14

### Podcast approved

I'm feeling pretty good today. 😊 I got hardly any sleep though. Even though I was safe to sleep by midnight I couldn't until almost 4. I think I was, and am, super excited about having fun making the podcasts. Podcast 1 is submitted now (approved at around 6:30 PM), so the first will appear at any time. I'm tempted to do more tonight, but I'm going to hold out until I've got my good microphone. (Ordered late last night, and it should be here Tuesday.) I did figure out how to put in transitions and stuff, so podcast 1 was a lot closer to what I'd hoped for.

It's later afternoon, doing laundry. Nothing else really to say that's interesting. Bye for now. 😊

## Day 928 - 1/15

### The greeeeen hornet

I guess today has been pretty good so far. Seeing my podcast on iTunes is so exciting and yet so odd. I feel like a genuine famous person. 😊 I'm anxious to start work on the next, but I fear I may run out of things to discuss pretty quickly.

I flirted with the beautiful librarian the other day. I needed a book for homework and she said they had an older version I could check out for like six months. Even though the current version is only able to be kept for two hours I declined. I did it in part because it's the old version but more so since "that way I get to see you more." She smiled and blushed. 😊 She is the primary rose this year. Unlike last year, there are about four I'm considering giving candies to. I doubt any are single, or would be interested, but teh bunnah tries. 😊

It's about 6:15 now. I'm nomming dinner before going to the Green Hornet in IMAX 3D. It should pwn. I used to watch the Green Hornet when I was young, as well as listening to the radio show. He's not a super well known hero. In fact, I'd bet most of those in their 20s will have no clue who he is.

That's about all I can think of at the moment. Bye for now. 😊

## Day 929 - 1/16

### Podcast day

Today I did most of podcast 2. The new microphone sounds *way* better. There is no static white noise at all. There is, unfortunately, a pah pah popping on occasion as I speak, so I have to be careful of that. There is also a sort of static popping. I'm not sure if they are related. They are infrequent enough though I don't think it will bother listeners. Unfortunately I don't know what to do for the third segment. I am doing pretty good on time though. It's at 18 minutes in for the first two segments.

I don't know what I'll do tomorrow. School will be closed, otherwise I'd just hang out on campus all day. The library too will be closed, as will all government buildings. I should be able to go to coffee shops, which means it will be a very long day at about 15 hours of just doing that.

I guess that's it really. I'm glad I decided to take up the podcasting. I've not gotten any feedback or ratings yet. It could be a while before I do what with only 7 people signed up on my Facebook. (Meaning they are the only ones who can post.) I have no clue what to do for the next, but I'm very proud of how they've turned out. I've gotten used to using the software now. While still not the greatest, and still confusing me at times, it works well enough.

Guess that's all for tonight, bye for now. 😊

## Day 930 - 1/18

### Slowwwwww day

It's about noon, lunch time. Today has been so slow. With nowhere to sleep in and nowhere to go to do school stuff I've nothing to do but messing around on boards and on the web. I've already done more than I normally do in a day and it's not even half over. Once you take care of basic food and warmth the most difficult thing about being homeless is keeping busy and keeping your spirits up. While I do have all of the Internet at my disposal, and I could watch movies, without being able to game the day will pass very slowly. I'll likely try and do some homework that's due tomorrow later in the day, but without the book I don't know if it's possible.

So far it's been the foggiest day ever. It still is even now at mid-day. I may be able to catch a nap somewhere, but with the fog population will be down everywhere, reducing my chance of blending in.

Well, sad homeless life is what it is. Bye for now. 😞

## Day 931 - 1/19

### A hopeful fail week ending

Although it's only about 5 I think I'll close this fail week out so I can post it. I will be getting the last bit of podcast 2 done later, so I want this week's Epic Fail out of the way so I can focus on getting that done and ready for the morning. I'm feeling very positive and good about how it's turned out, and even how the first one turned out once I'd figured out a few things about the software. I'm glad I decided to try it out. For once in a very long time, certainly as long as I can remember short-term, and rivaled only by one or two other days during the entire time I've been homeless, for once I feel like the fail week is ending on a positive note. The podcasts so far have gone as well as I expected, better in fact. And even though I don't really have a solid topic to finish out the 2nd, and even though I've no clue what I'll do for the 3rd tentatively set to be ready a few weeks from

now, even with that I feel pretty good and hopeful that things will improve, that new and good things *can* happen to me, and that things may turn out ok. My life is taking different twists and turns than I expected, but some of them seem to be turning out ok, and maybe that's the way out of the sad times for me.

## Week 134

### Day 932 - 1/19 Migraine

I think I have a migraine. 😞 I've got a terrible headache, my eyes hurt, my ears hurt, and I feel sick in my tummy. 😞

I'm mad at iTunes too. For some reason my podcast picture isn't being bound to podcast 2. It worked fine for 1, but it isn't for 2 for some reason.

I guess that's really all for today. Nothing good, bad, or exciting has really happened. With my headache being what it is I've had zero motivation and have been in a haze all day. 😞

### Day 933 - 1/20 Feeling like it's time to buy pants

Today from about noon until the evening I've felt like I was going to buy pants. This probably sounds strange to most, so I'll explain. It even took me a while to figure out why I felt this way. Back in the day, back when I had friends, back when I had a sweetie, spring meant being outside and playing Nerf Wars. So, traditionally in early spring I'd go buy a couple of new pairs of pants, as most holes in pants are dangerous to run around in. It's been a touch warmer these past few days during mid-day and I think that triggered a sense memory of that meaning that it's spring is on the way – time to buy some new pants.

I can't figure out why I still feel that way though. I haven't done that in more than 10 years, probably closer to 15 than not. But yes, once upon a time spring meant every other weekend was a Nerf Warm, or playing games, followed by a BBQ and movies in the evening. Sometimes well into the night to midnight and beyond. But it's been years since I've had friends off-line. Even if I weren't homeless now spring and the warm weather would be effectively meaningless outside of the fact that I'm no longer cold all the time.

Today I saw 'the alpha', the leader of the group who no longer meets in the cafeteria. He was walking through the cafeteria texting and looking for a place to stop and eat. I saw him alone, no longer surrounded by the dozen or so peers he'd eaten, played, and laughed with on so many days past. I felt sad for him. I hoped he was still in contact with them and he'd not lost his friends. A few minutes passed and I noticed him talking with a very attractive redhead. She was sitting at a table where it appeared two groups of three were together at two joined tables. They hugged and I saw her gesturing what seemed to be an introduction to the two near her. They did a 'bro shake', you know, the palm grasp fist bump head nod 'sup' that all the cool kids do these days. Then he sat down and joined them. I felt glad. He may not have his own social group anymore, but it seems he got invited to that one. After a while the three from that end and he all left together.

As always I thought back to my own lack of social circles in real life. It made me recall days of my youth where I was always the one picked last, always the one eating alone. It again made me wonder what aura I may have that puts people off from me. Why have I seemingly always been the one alone.

I have no answers. I may never get any. All I know is my social circle doesn't exist. And I don't need new pants.

## **Day 934 - 1/21**

### **Not invited in**

Today was overall a sad day. I got up a bit early because I had a lot to do, though it was tough as I couldn't fall asleep until 3 in the morning last night. I was sad most of the day. Oh, but good news. I did my taxes and it seems I'll be getting a pretty substantial return. Combined with what is left from the guild I should be just about at the lowest price range for laptops. I *may* be able to squeeze enough from my budget (or if I get some donations) that I could get one as early as March. Though it's very tempting to hold out for a bit longer and get one with a more powerful graphics chip or Blu-ray so I can watch my movies and shows. But, the new batch of laptops aren't quite out yet, so I may wind up waiting a bit for them. They would be the better choice.



But besides that I was pretty sad today. It felt like early spring again, but I also felt very lonely. I went by the ex-garage to print some new rabbit site cards and when I left I quickly checked for mail. As I was almost completely down the path back away from the house I heard the front door open and close. My friend/ex-roomie was home. This isn't surprising as she's been out of work for over a year now. Hearing the door almost made me cry. I wonder still if she doesn't want to be friends and is just nice due to our history and that I have nowhere else to put my stuff, or if it hurts her just as much to see me and she's sad too that I can't come over. Way back a few months after I'd been kicked out she mentioned we should plan weekly hang outs and I could shower and do laundry. That's never happened. I never got that invite. Only one night ever did she invite me over to stay, do laundry, and we watched a movie. I suppose it's for the best. Being back in the house where I lived fairly happily for so many years, now exiled from... it hurts.

I think I did some good work on podcast 3 though tonight. It's about 2/3 done. I think using that location to do them from will work out quite well. Now I just need more topics to discuss.

## **Day 935 - 1/22**

### **Another Saturday**

Today is ok I suppose, but I've been sad all day. It's another Saturday spent doing effectively nothing. I watched some shows and helped online, but that's it. It would have been a good day to hang out with friends and watched movies in the evening.

I got called to cover for a few hours tomorrow, so that's good. That's a touch more I can put towards a laptop. I'll be most of the way there after the tax return. That's pretty exciting.

It's early evening. The sun has set and it's getting cold. I don't expect anything interesting to happen tonight. I try to stay hopeful, but my life is what it is.

## Day 936 - 1/23

### Podcast 3

I guess today was good, though it was more productive than good. I finished podcast 3 early, so I'm celebrating with a fancier nom. It's early at around 6, but I don't expect anything of interest to happen later. Guess that's it for today. 😊

## Day 937 - 1/24

### Podcastery

So I got my bag for my microphone. Now I can carry it without worrying so much. It's in a small padded camera bag. The stand is 2/3 the way in a side pocket, but that's ok. Mostly I've been worried about the case it came in. It's cardboard and plastic, so it offered little to no protection from the cold nights and mornings. While not a lot more protection in the bag, I won't worry about condensation on the plastic causing damage to the mic. I don't think I ever saw any, but I'm sure being carried around in the cold and in a car at near freezing temperatures at night were what the engineers designed it for.

I'd have liked to get a real start on podcast 4 tonight, but I have no real topics to speak of in mind to talk about yet. I have a sort of topic, but it would only be about 2 minutes, very short of the 8-10 target figure.

I got a donation, woot! 😊 It will be the first I get to talk about on the podcast. I've made up a 'pirates treasure' sound wav for it which I think is fun. I don't know when podcast 4 will be done though. With nothing but about 3 minutes so far I expect it will be closer to the two weeks I estimated I'd release them than not.

That's really all for today. I think I have a cold. I slept about 10 hours and woke up past noon, so I only had a few hours before work to do anything.

Bye for now. 😊

## Day 938 - 1/25

### Friend, or Friend?

I guess I should clear something up that may seem confusing. Here in Epic Fail, and more recently in my podcasts, I've said that I have no friends, yet at times I say things like 'my friend/ex-roomie' or 'online work for my friend' or 'online friends'. When I say I have no friends, what I mean are the people you talk to at least once a week, who you see at least once a month, who you hang out with, play games with, watch movies with, laugh and talk with. While I had those things once upon a time with my friend/ex-roomie, and while I have seen her twice in the past week or so, I think it's probably more on the average of seeing her once every 4 months now, and it's been years since she invited me in to hang out for more than 10 minutes or so. And with my friend I'm doing the online work for, though I went to a New Year's day gaming party thing she had, and saw her briefly once after that, we don't really talk, and it's probably been 15 or more years since I saw her before the party. My online or board friends, well, they are online. There's that 'distance' between us as with all online friends where you only know a small part of them, not their whole person. So, don't get me wrong, I'm not completely without friends. Yet, I have no one in my life I'd call a "friend". I guess I don't know the right word for it. It's certainly not "best friend", as I don't know that I've ever had a best friend in the way people mean. Maybe I mean close friend, I don't know. I have people in my life, but we don't really interact all that often, and when we do it's more through what we have shared in common in the past, or in the case of online friends, through a game (I can't currently play) or a board we talk on. So there are people, they are friendly, but I don't know that I'd call them "friend" in the sense that everyone understands the word to be, and thus why I say I have no friends.

I'm finishing the week a bit early to get it up before class tonight. I won't have time to get it online after, and I don't want everyone waiting around until like noon Wednesday to get it. (Though you may be used to checking for it then anyways, heh.) It's only 3, but I don't expect anything of real interest to happen. So little seems to change in my life, and none of it seems to happen quickly anymore.

It's warm for the moment. Not quite warm enough for my tastes, but warm enough I sort of wish I had shorts with me. Though I know that in a few hours when it starts to

get dark this warmth will rapidly be gone and it will be cold again. Even though it feels as if spring is in the air and it feels like we are heading towards warmer, freer, and happier days, that this change is coming very very slowly, and once night falls we will rapidly be back to winter again.

I'm so very sleepy. My eyes have only been half open all day. I couldn't sleep until after 2 AM last night. I don't know if that's because I still have a bit of a cold or if it's simply my sad terrible life causing me to not feel safe, and being in uncomfortable positions. The days of sleeping in a bed and being in a room that is mine are becoming further and further distant memories. It's becoming harder and harder to remember what it felt like, both physically and emotionally, to be able to sleep in a bed in a place that's safe, warm, and quiet. While I remember being able to get up, shower, and play or do whatever I wanted, they are as distant memories in my mind as anything else at this point. Remembering those days just over 2.5 years ago is the same in my memory as those days more than 20 years ago. I try to stay positive, seeing all the people being friendly towards one another around me on campus, seeing all the cuties and wondering if maybe there is one for me out there somewhere, but as the days continue to pass and I continue to be alone in everything I do... I am still sad save for a few bright happy things in my life which I still enjoy doing, but wonder if they truly help enhance and bring joy to others lives any more than anyone else could.

## **Week 135**

### **Day 939 - 1/26** **Dunking**

I'm sad, but things seem not quite so sad. It was a bit warmer today, though it's cooling quickly. There was even a mini fair on campus. I had stuff to do, so I didn't check it out, but they even had one of those dunking booths, hehe.

It's past 4:30. I'm waiting to see if a place I want to eat is going to open or not. I think it will.

I got called for a few extra hours Saturday night. That will help get a bit more to put towards a gaming laptop. Some of the new ones are starting to show up. They are a touch high in the \$900-1,150 range with higher end CPUs and only mainstream graphics. They'd work, but I'd prefer a touch less powerful CPU and a touch more powerful GPU, or a Blu-ray. With only about four on the market I'm sure more will follow. With more donations or more increased hours it's possible I could get one as soon as March. It will really depend. I think I'll only have about \$700-800, so I'll be a bit short. I may just hold out until I get a bit more in the summer and get both higher resolution and Blu-ray. With my bulk in hours during the summer that's another like \$1,500 I'd get total. I could easily spend a few hundred on a laptop early on and still have lots to put into savings after.

That's all today so far. I feel a bit better if still sick, not sleeping at nights, and still sad overall.

### **Day 940 - 1/27** **Soloing**

It seems like an extra sad day today. I was still in a haze all day. Normally I can take a shower if that happens, eat some foods, and sort of rev myself up. But I can't do that while homeless. Well, I suppose I could try, but with all the walking that would require I'd rapidly tire myself out again. I don't know if I'm extra sad today because of not

being happy about school, because there still remain no jobs prospects, because I'm sick, or if it's because there are so many happy things I would like to do, but can't.

Checking the numbers, without more donations it looks like closer to April for getting a laptop than not. Soon enough I suppose, but Rift launches in early March, as does Dragon Age 2. While Dragon Age 2 is 'just yet another single player game I'll have missed launch for', Rift is a whole other story. I'll have missed out on nearly 5 months of early access testing time. It's not so important that I missed a chance to preview the game, which *is* kind of important, but I'll have missed all that interaction in-game with other testers, all those bonds lost that I could have formed, all the ideas I could have added to the testers voices for the devs. It's as if each test that passes that I get into and I can't test become a hole in my heart that does not heal quickly.

I was wondering about my roses today. I saw the beautiful librarian again. She said hi to me the other day, and does most times I see her. But tonight I saw her with the two guys she eats with. The one who has a ring on his wedding ring finger had her leg on his, and he was touching her inner thigh. It's not really something casual friends do. While I never expected her to show an interest in me it seemed to serve as a reminder that girls don't seem to be. It seemed to be a reminder that it's been years since I've had chemistry with a girl and maybe I should ignore passing out candies this Valentine's Day as well. I don't know though. That seems like giving up on love. I will ponder it more over the next few weeks, but it just made me think. I seem to be soloing through life, much like in-game I seem forced to solo far more than I'd like. It's lonely and sad and I don't know what to do about it. But then, I suppose I'd rather be alone than surrounded by people who I don't get along with, or who hurt me.

## **Day 941 - 1/28**

### **Doin' the cast**

I've been pretty sad today, though I suppose it was an ok day. I got up early because I needed to do some extra stuff today. By early I mean at 10:30. I still haven't been able to sleep much before about 3 or 4 AM, so most of my sleeping has been when I get to campus in the morning after I move my car from where I hid during the night.

I'm having a good time doing my podcasting and did about 1/3 of podcast 4 so far. I'll do a little more in a bit. I've had a tough time coming up with topics this time, so hopefully it will be enjoyable to a non-zero number of people. I still don't know how many are actually listening and having a good time with it. I've gotten zero comments from people about it being good or bad. I can only assume that means people feel neutral about it, as feeling overly one way or the other would probably get a reaction.

I expanded out my bills the other day to go all the way out until my hours go up for the spring. It's going to take almost that long before I will really have enough for a laptop without donation help. Probably sometime around April or May would be when I could do it on my own. Hopefully people will enjoy the podcast and maybe send some donations. Even just a few more like the last one could greatly move up the timetable. I'd be able to game again, and have lots more going on that would come to mind that I could talk about. I could even just ramble about whatever it is I was playing at the time.

I've been feeling more and more out of touch lately. I guess maybe it's just the weather getting cold again, but more and more my mind wanders to how I'm forgetting what it's like to sleep in a bed, forgetting how it feels to be warm in a home and not have cold bones all the time, forgetting what it's like to shower every day and relax and get into a happyish mood to do whatever it is I want to do at that moment, forgetting what it's like to be able to game when I want in the way I want, forgetting... everything.

I guess that's it for today. I'm glad I decided to take the rabbit friend/fan people's advice and do the podcasting. (I forget now which two suggested it, or when.) It seems to have brought back a bit of focus and hope into my life.

## **Day 942 - 1/29**

### **Podcast 4**

Podcast 4 is basically done already. I can't believe we are already on 4. It seems like just a few days ago that I started. I suppose in a way it was. I've rambled for just about two total hours now. Hopefully at least a few people have enjoyed it, or their spirits were lifted. It's odd I didn't take it up much sooner in life. When I was a child, I think

around 8, I made tapes of myself being silly for my cousin. It was kind of similar. I'd record some radio, do a funny bit, make something up, etc.

It's pouring rain now. The warm spring weather has left and we are back to winter. Again I felt like it would have been a nice day to watch the rain and have a fire, but I can't do either.

I don't know what else to say really. I guess I just feel out of place, melancholy, longing for what I don't have. But, I feel glad of the things that I do. Hopefully I'm entertaining some with the podcasts, as well as helping people with my posts on the forums. Today has been another day where my life is what it is. In some odd way I feel like I'm in the future, somewhere warm, happy, and I have friends that I game with, and a sweetie; but at the moment I'm somewhere alone, perhaps where I do my podcasts, and I'm thinking back to sad times. Maybe a happy end to this chapter is indeed close, and I feel its nearness and my mind confuses the present, future, and past. At least for today, for the moment, I feel hope.

## **Day 943 - 1/30**

### **Could be enough**

Not much goin' on today. It's rained on and off. Mostly it's been super cold; the kind of cold that penetrates straight to your bones. I have no homes to visit, so that cold has lingered. Normally you can go to someone's home that's super warm and warm up. But not me, and not now.

Good news this morning. Someone at work dropped about 9 hours on me, so that can be put towards a gaming laptop. I may be close enough to get one very soon. We'll have to see. A few solid donations would do it, but I'm very close. I've got one that I'm looking at with a new generation high-end CPU, 1920x1080 screen, and solid mainstream new generation graphics. The only thing it's "missing" is Blu-ray, which I can add on later. (Already got the drive on my wish list as well, heh. 😊) So, hopefully if I'm very careful and save my butt off, I may be able to get one by the end of February. 😎



That's really it for today, save for putting the finishing touches on podcast 4 so that's ready to go in the morning. I'm having a lot of fun with those. I still don't know if anyone is listening and enjoying them or not. 😞

## **Day 944 - 1/31**

### **Too sleepy**

I'm too sleepy today. I have been in a haze all day. I slept maybe 6 hours total, broken in two parts. I couldn't sleep until 3 AM last night, then got up and moved near dawn, but stayed up to upload the podcast as soon as the school library opened at 8. After, I took a nap for a few hours. I was supposed to do homework that's due tomorrow, but I was way too mentally and physically exhausted to think even remotely straight today.

Hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 945 - 2/1**

### **The board's ass**

Not much new today. I've been far too sleepy to do anything much that's, well, required thought. I still haven't been sleeping well. Today I let myself sleep in, so I did get about 8 or so total hours, but again I couldn't get to sleep until about 3 AM.

The one new thing is this ass on the Rift forums. This has been building ever since he showed up a few weeks ago. He seems like a reasonably knowledgeable guy. He'd disagree with me when he first showed up, and in some instances I agreed with his disagreement, so I'd post that. But over time he's more and more just flat out disagreed with me, and in recent times attacked me. Today he's gone so far as to call me "idiot" and that I should "stop recommending anything" and that I "don't know what I'm talking about" in multiple threads. I really don't get what his deal is. I welcome disagreements and challenge, as long as there is proof or logic behind it. His arguments haven't been backed up by fact. Like, for example, one of our early disagreements was that I said laptops can't be upgraded (in terms of the GPU.) He said that this one company could, and

provided links. Ok, that's fine. For that one single company out of the who knows how many that makes laptops you can upgrade the GPU, sort of. The cost was enormous, roughly 50-75% of the cost of a brand new laptop, required a high degree of skill, as you have to break the laptop down to the motherboard level, and the upgrades would barely get you about a 20% gain. Why would anyone in their right mind spend that much effort for such small a gain when they can pay just a little bit more and get a 100% GPU gain, plus all the other gains (CPU speed, Ram speed, HD tech, etc. etc.) So, sure, maybe my blanket statement of 'laptops aren't upgradable (in graphics)' may be not entirely accurate, but I'd bet that 99 people out of 100 would have no desire to put that much effort into it, and 999 out of 1000 would likely not put that much money into such a small gain. I can see that he likely has a desire to be a welcomed and respected member of the forums in regards to tech, but simply attacking the person who's effectively the senior member, with nearly 2k posts, and recognized by the majority of the boards that he's "wrong" and "an idiot" without backing up your claims with any links or references... sorry but that's not the way to establish yourself in a community. Sure, once upon a time on all boards I was a noob, even now with the Firefall boards I'm a tech noob, but you establish yourself slowly over time by posting insightful and helpful comments, and backing them up with external links and references. Attacking isn't the way to do it. It's more like he's looking for some forum PvP or something.

Anyways... I guess we are at the end of another week of Fail. I'm hopeful about getting my laptop soon, though a bug came up that may delay the new tech. Hopefully it won't affect my hopes for the end of the month, but I still don't know if I'll be all the way there in terms of money. So there's still that unknown. And I'm feeling pretty good about my podcasts. There are still no posts or comments or emails about if people like them or not, but I'm having a good time with them so far. I've actually got 1/3 of podcast 5 done already, and may finish it on Sunday if I can come up with a bit more to talk about (making it yet again done in a week as opposed to my two week estimate.)

Um... I guess that's really it for this week though. 🤔

## Week 136

### Day 946 - 2/2 No sleep

I'm running on almost no sleep today. I couldn't sleep at all last night. 😞 It wasn't until I got to campus and took a shower that I settled in to sleep. I couldn't let myself sleep as much as I wanted or this cycle will never end, so I got up at 11 after only 3 hours of sleep. The odd thing is that I'm not that bad off. My haze of late seems no better or worse. In fact, I'd say I seem more able to focus than less.

I looked at new laptops today. All the ones I'd been watching were pulled from the market due to a bug in the core chipset. It will be fixed soon, but they may be delayed by several months. I still may not have enough money super soon anyways, we'll see.

Nothing terribly new or different lately. It's dinner time though, so there is still some time left in the evening for change, so we never know. I remain hopeful, but sad.

### Day 947 - 2/3 With me in mind

Sleepy day, been pretty sick lately. My throat feels scratched up today, though I sound ok. If I had a home I'd probably not go to class tonight. I don't feel super terrible, but I don't feel all that good either. The best I can do is try and get as much sleep as I can. Had a bit of trouble getting to sleep last night, but I slept until after noon on campus. I probably got about 8 hours total.

I got a note of encouragement from a friend (who now lives across the country from me) saying not to worry about the rude guy from the forum and that he (my friend) is still wishing me well and hoping for the best for me. Later in the afternoon I got a message from someone in my guild with an odd picture that made me laugh. It's a bunny holding an umbrella, presumably floating down, with a potted cactus under him. No doubt the bunny's butt is about to be poked. 🐰 He said when he saw that he thought

of me. 😊 So, even though I know it's true all the time, it seems that there are people out there watching my site and wishing well for me.

It's early dinner before class. Nothing really happened today save for rushing to do my homework that's due and sleeping in.

I tried to flirt at the beautiful/attractive librarian. She was seemingly happy to see me, but of course didn't flirt back. Likely part of that is I was extremely subtly flirting.

I doubt anything will come of our meeting, but she's super pretty. 😊 I always wonder what happened to Christine. I think it's been nearly two years since I saw her last. Hopefully she graduated and her life is going ok and all.

I feel super chubby and of bad health lately. I *am* still a fair bit over my normal weight at 200 pounds (+15 over my normal 185 these days). But that is down a bit from where I was when I checked a week or two ago. I've gone back to trying to drink lightly flavored water instead of soda. I'm also trying to do a light workout of reaching/stretching, and when I'm at work pushups and sit-ups. It's not much but if I could at least get down to 185 I'd be a lot happier. I wonder if my bad blood pressure is a cause or symptom of the extra weight. I keep thinking to make an appointment somewhere but I keep forgetting.

I am still stopped at 1/3 of the way done with podcast 5. I have lots of chances to do recording for it, so I could easily finish by Sunday later afternoon in order to have it ready to drop on Monday, *if* I can come up with the last bits. I'm trying my best to keep to a single unifying topic now even if I do a reading for one bit. I may try and go through some of my old Everquest writing and see if there is a related topic.

I think I had a dream about having a gaming laptop. I have this vague memory about it. With being, at most, barring any disasters, only a few months away from having one I'm thinking about it more and more. It's so strange to think I'll be able to reasonably keep up with games once again very soon. So many things seem so strange to me now, things I'd forgotten: Gaming without lag, gaming in any game I have, sleeping in a bed, cooking dinner, watching shows or movies. I *remember* all of these things. Sometimes it feels like I can get up and go back to my room and be back in my old life. But knowing I can't, knowing my life is, in so many ways *not* my life, with so many everyday things a distant memory, my life seems so strange. I'll have to re-adjust to everything. I'll have to

relearn basic things like cooking food, shopping at the store for food that isn't ready to eat, setting my cloths into their proper places in the drawers, and so many other things.

My life seems so strange now. It's good to know though that people have me in mind, including myself. Maybe someday I can truly be me again.

Time passes

In an odd coincidence I got an uplifting email. It was a person who told me he saw my site on the forums, and that he'd found his way to my podcasts. He said he is enjoying them, which is great to hear. 😊 But probably more importantly my words about my being homeless has made him extra aware of his own life, and those around him. That is great to hear because, as was always the case with my Epic Fail writing, I always worry my sad aspects will overshadow the reason why I'm writing, and now it's the hope for the podcasts as well. It's not just about telling a story, or entertaining, it's my hopes that in both cases I can help people enrich their own lives. Be it just by entertaining them for a bit, or something deeper and longer lasting, like because of my words they are reminded of how fragile and precious life really can be.

So that was a nice uplifting surprise. I always know it's true, but it's always good to be reminded and hear how I've touched a person's life and how they feel that they are better for it. 😊

## **Day 948 - 2/4**

### **Adjustment Friday**

Today was really just a regular Friday. The only thing special that's happened so far was that I spent about an hour or so tweaking my site to adjust for the changes to the system builds due to temporarily recalled parts. Nothing really spectacular happened while I was at school, though even after waking up early I didn't have more than a few hours there. I feel ok in terms of sadness, as my podcast helps to keep me positive. But my throat is still scratchy, and I'm sneezing on occasion. Now one ear is half plugged and won't unplug. I'm definitely sick with a minor cold. One of those times I wish I could just sleep in, take some meds, and have soup and take it easy all day; quiet TV, quiet games,

lots of rest. I can't though. I have to plod along with my daily life, being in public places where things are too bright, too loud, and have too many smells.

I may actually finish podcast 5 tonight and be able to start on podcast 6 during the rest of the weekend, we'll see. I have a sort of idea as to what to do for the next. Maybe I should hold it from you guys to give me more lead time to start the next and get ahead a bit in ideas at least, if not in doing recording for them. I don't know though. I keep hoping I have enough content to do one every other week, or sooner, but I still fear that without being able to actually game that I'll rapidly run out of topics that I can think of. I've got now a possible two topics, so that puts me upwards to two ahead, so I think I'm doing ok. I'm still loving it, and I know at least a few enjoy it, so those two combined makes it worth doing for me. Will I keep doing it in the future? How many will I do? I don't know. Maybe I'll never stop, but just slow down. Hopefully someday I'll be gaming again and able to afford what I want, possibly even back in a home with not only PC gaming but also console gaming, able to discuss gaming on different platforms as well as the ideas of being a gamer in general.

Well, I still remain hopeful about my future, recently bolstered by a few kind words from people, as well as a boost in self-confidence that I'm not the only one enjoying the podcasts. I guess that's all for tonight. Maybe life will yet surprise me.

## **Day 949 - 2/5**

### **A podcast of evil**

I feel pretty good today emotionally, but pretty sick physically. I think I'm running a temperature and I've been sneezing, coughing, and my throat is getting pretty bad.

I got my taxes and planned out my laptop. It's looking like June/July for a high-end one, but those are likely to have everything. One I'm looking at would be a touch longer, but it would have no sacrifices and even has a bit extra. The next down isn't really worth the cost by comparison, as it sacrifices about 30% of the graphical power while only saving about 20% of the cost. I am considering doing it though, as it would be enough to game, and it would still have high-res for non-gaming. But it would likely drive me nuts after a short while. I'm hoping one of the new ones comes back that I was looking

at. It was also about 30% less expensive, but the only thing it was missing was Blu-ray. I'd be ok without Blu-ray a while longer, as I can add it in later, and I don't *need it* like I need higher resolution for non-gaming or graphical power for gaming. Of the three features it's the one most easily sacrificed, particularly since I could add it in later. Anyways... I'm still a bit short on laptop money, so I'll be waiting a bit regardless.

The sad thing is I may have had enough to give an entry level one serious consideration if a few donations hadn't fallen through. In the past few weeks I've had two say they would donate but then that didn't happen. That happens sometimes.

Podcast 6, a podcast of evil, is well on its way. I did 2/3 of it tonight and I will probably finish it tomorrow. Podcast 5 is set for Monday, so I'll hold 6 until Friday even if it's ready before hand. That way I get a bit of lead time for 7 but don't feel too much like I'm being mean and holding it back.

I guess that's it for today. Hoping for my laptop and doing my podcasts are really the only interesting thing going on in my life right now. Hopefully some of you out there are enjoying them. If so let me know. 😊 I think 6 may be the most 'fun' of all that I've done.

## Day 950 - 2/6

### Sooooo sick

Today I'm sooooo sick. 😞 My tummy is full of yuck. My lungs are congested. I have a pretty bad headache. I'm coughing. I probably have a fever. And I feel yucky overall. 😞

In good news I got all those extra hours at work this morning. 😊 That will help with the laptop.

I finished podcast 6 as well, so I'm nearly a week ahead, giving me nearly three weeks until I feel late on the next. I only have part of an idea for the next, so I may need that lead time.

Not much to say today what with feeling bad and it being Sunday. Hopefully I can get some sleep during the night and get good sleep once at school and fight off this cold.

Sick bunnah is a saaaaad bunnah. 😞

## Day 951 - 2/7

### Still pretty sick

I'm still pretty sick. 😞 Last night and this morning until early afternoon was the worst. I think I'm starting to get a bit better. I'm no longer coughing and feeling like I'm going to throw up. Now I'm just feeling like I'm a bit warm, exhausted, sleepy, and my lungs are feeling like they are coated in dry mud.

I got some monies from the friend I'm doing work for, so that was helpful. 😊 Still a few months away from a 'better' laptop, but it is what it is. Change seems to be coming very slowly in my life.

I still feel oddly alone. Though I know I'm helping a lot on the boards and I do occasionally get thanks, and although I'm very much enjoying the podcasts, I feel like I'm talking to myself most of the time. So little of my work seems to be getting genuine replies. If I'm to understand my site stats correctly I'm down a bit from before. It says it's showing ~3,500 pages a month, which if that is the same as the unique visitor stat I had before that's only about 42k visitors per year, down from 55k. (Though it's showing like 125k requests for last month, which confuses me.) I suppose an exact count matters very little. I still only get an email, posting, or PM thanking me every once in a while, I'd say every few weeks at most. And donations, well I think so far for this year, these past 1.5 months just about, I've gotten like three donations. Which is kind of a lot historically speaking. I suppose that too is fairly irrelevant a statistic, as I enjoy doing it and I'm doing it to help, not for being paid. I'd have starved to death long long ago if I was trying to live off the donations at my site, heh. It would be nice to someday be able to do that, but I don't know if that would ever happen before I had enough money to not need it.

Well, enough rambling for today I think. Bye for now. 😊



## Day 952 - 2/8

### Ginormous donation is win

I'm feeling a bit better today. There is only a bit of the sneezing and fever feelings left. My throat and lungs aren't too bad either, though my voice is still fairly well destroyed.

I decided to do the Valentine's Day candies this year after all. There were no chocolate roses to get, so technically the girls aren't "roses" I guess, heh. I saw the beautiful librarian cutie this morning. 🥰 I was all "bam!" after sneaking up on her station. She was like, "Whuuutttt? These are *all* for me? 😊" and I was all, "Yes. 😊" as I walked away. I'm still not sure if she has a guy or not, and doubt she'd be interested in me, but as the 'card' says, it's about appreciation and reminding the girls they are special. It's not about 'getting them' as it were.

The huge news for today is that there was a super ginormous donation. 🤖 (I'm still somewhat in shock as to the figure.) Not only does it get me enough to get a gaming laptop, but I'm \$175 short of a very high-end one that would leave me wanting for nothing. 😊 If I pinch pennies and I'm very careful until I get paid on the 24th I would be able to purge my account and have just enough. 😊 It's fine being tight for a few weeks, as my hours bulk up around June, so I'd be able to build a bit of savings back up after. That, plus all the other guild money (he was a guildie as well) will mean they will have donated roughly 50% of the high-end system. 😊 So helpful a guild! It seems so strange a thought of being able to play any game (I can afford to buy) is so close to a reality. I've been an on-hold gamer for so long it seems such a foreign thought to have that gaming freedom so close to a reality. It will be such an odd life being a mobile gamer. I only briefly tried that once before about 12 years ago for a period of maybe a year. But it seems at least that sad part of my life is nearly over. Very soon I'll be able to play my games and once again able to watch my Blu-ray movies. 🥰

That's it for this week of fail. I don't think I've ended on this positive of a note since August when I was also just a few weeks from a gaming laptop purchase. Gods willing *this time* there will be no disaster between now and then.

## Week 137

### Day 953 - 2/9

#### A day paused

Today has been pretty restful. I forced myself to sleep longer than I wanted this morning, both because I'm still pretty sick and also because I couldn't sleep until after 4 AM. Something was really bugging me and I don't know what it was. 😞

Nothing new today. It seems like my life has been paused. The boards are pretty quiet. I'm taking a break from school stuff. I watched some shows. And nothing new has happened.

I shuffled a few items in my budget around and it's possible I could order the laptop in as little as a couple of days. It will depend just how close it is. We'll see as the last bits of money get to my account. It's super exciting to think that I'll be able to game again. Even more so now that I can afford a system where I won't have anything to worry about for, well, a couple of years at least. It is not, of course, ideal, but it will be a shiny bright spot of happiness in an otherwise sad and limited life lately.

Can't think of much else to say. I feel like I'm between an odd space of here and there. I think more so because of my cold than anything else, but the change to being able to game again is also a big part of it. So many limitations and frustrations will disappear.

At this time next week my life may seem a lot less sad and free of a lot of frustrations. 😊

### Day 954 - 2/10

#### Ordered

I found a few items to shuffle in my budget and was able to order the laptop this morning. 🎉 And, I got it overnight shipped for only \$4. 😊 So, as of about 9:30 tomorrow morning I'll be camping the laptop spawn from the ex-house garage. It's not that I'm so anxious I want it immediately as it is that it's a signature required shipment. So if I miss its arrival, if the friend/ex-roomie doesn't sign for it, it could mean I'd have to

wait until Monday. Hopefully it will come early, or I can call and get them to give me a time window. I'd hate to have to camp there all day long. Not only would it be boring, but I couldn't eat or drink much for fear of needing to leave to go to the bathroom.

I feel ok I guess emotionally. I'm still a bit sick, so that's depressing my system. Even though the money has come and gone through my account the reality of being a gamer once again in less than 24 hours seems odd. Though still not ideal compared to my being at a desktop at home, I've been living such a limited and sacrificed life for so long that the thought of being able to sort of keep up with gaming again still seems so foreign.

Tonight's class has most of the roses, so there is that in less than an hour. I expect nothing will come of it, but you never know. 😊

## **Day 955 - 2/11**

### **Adjustment needed**

Today has been a whirlwind of emotion. I couldn't sleep last night, so that didn't help. But this morning I waited a few hours, then my laptop arrived. It seems lighter than I thought. The weight isn't that bad, certainly not as bad as I expected. But the system seems enormous. Of course I've not spent a lot of time in front of a big screen that was mine in years. But the system is likely twice as long, and twice as wide, as my netbook. I'm going to have to carry it until I find an appropriate bag for it. But I felt ecstatic at seeing it, and yet at the same time sick and a fair bit sad. Doing some research it's not that much bigger than the 15" screen size average, being only 1-2" bigger. I think it's the move from a 10" screen that's really surprising me. Others in the library and at work didn't give it a second glance, so it likely isn't that big.

But I feel very odd now having it. I feel free, like I should shout for joy, yet at the same time as I write this I'm on the verge of tears. I think that the only reason for this is because I feel like a very dear lifelong friend has left the country and I know I will never see or hear from them again. I think, in a big way, that finally having a gaming system again, finally having it be a reality and not fall through for some reason (at least not so far), that I've finally had to truly say goodbye to the me that was, the me that could live in a home as I was, and now have been forced to truly accept that this is it. This is me. That

if I want to game I have to accept that this life alone, this life of failing health, this life hiding and shivering in the dark of the night, this life with no real life friends, that *this* is it for me. That this is now as good as it gets. While I may no longer feel like I will miss out on all the games, while I can now enjoy my movies and shows that I collect at least visually (since sound is still limited), I can't help but feel that getting the laptop has both freed me and become a death sentence. I feel as if I will either lose it (and it becomes a non-reality again) or I lose myself, and I will not last as long as the system, that someone will find it hidden among my homeless bags as the investigators go through my possessions.

Like a friend who is leaving the country never to be seen or heard from again, I can only hope and wish for the best for myself. Yet at the same time all I can think of is that this is not who I am, not who I was, and I wonder what will become of me.

I've never enjoyed big changes. I always forget that. And I enjoy them even less when it seems I'm forced to do them against my will, or that if I don't my pain will continue forever.

It saddens me to think that while this frees me, while I am elated at the thought of being able to change, that as long as I love this laptop, as long as change follows that I'm forced into, the pain of these times may never heal.

## **Day 956 - 2/12**

### **Return to gaming**

Today was my second day of gaming on my new system. I still feel so strange and sometimes sick about it. I think I'd like a system 2/3 as big, which really only exists in netbooks. No gaming laptop exists that small. Part of it is the portability, but too think a part of it is that it allows me to 'live small' as if my enjoyment would be fitting to how limited and restricted my life is. I do love the power and freedom of my system, and I'm very slowly getting used to it. But I'm still so sad. Sad that I don't have a home. Sad that it seems there is no place for me (physically). Nightly I pass by and see empty apartments, new homes for sale, places I could be living, yet I can't. After 3+ years of searching the

job market I've found nothing new. Seemingly there is no place for me there either save for what I have already.

I fear I may be headed to a slow and eventual fail that I can't get out of, possibly even death. There was a homeless guy on campus today. This guy is like me though, but maybe 15 years older. He carries a big bag, a laptop, sometimes a few bags of food to microwave stuff, and I've seen his truck. Its back compartment is completely filled with sleeping stuff and stuff stored in boxes, and some electrician stuff.

I worry that this may be it. While I played some online from work and it felt like I was in a home again, after only an hour I had to leave. It was not my home. It was work. I had no reason to be there still. While others in the guild logged off to go to bed, I have none. I have the shadows and the uncertainty of when I'll play again, or where. It has been such a long and sad journey so far, and while gaming has certainly made it better, and I can truly enjoy my shows and movies again, I fear this road may have no end, and my only company will continue to be those I only see online; distant disembodied voices of ghosts and spirits I will likely never meet in person.

## **Day 957 - 2/13**

### **Cried just a little**

Today was a pretty good day. I'm still sick, so that's sad. I was supposed to work on some school projects that are due Thursday but I couldn't. I was too sad about things. There are a few minor issues with the laptop. Nothing bad, but the two hard disks are divided into five parts for some reason, completely messing up where things normally go. Someone pointed me to a software to fix it, but it would be \$25. (Edit: I was later pointed to a free one that worked, yea!) I don't understand why they aren't two standard full sized disks. It makes no sense. Also, the theme seems to be getting reset *every* time I restart the system. Lastly, two of the rubber foot pads have already come off and gone missing. The battery life is truly terrible compared to my netbook. The netbook could easily go the 3 hours of an evening class and still have 60% left. I was watching Big Bang Theory during dinner just a bit ago and it went through 2.5 20 minute episodes before it was drained from 98% to 8%. Seriously? Not even like barely an hour before the battery drained?

I guess that's about the same for other laptops, but still. I love the laptop, don't get me wrong. I played an online game for about 4 hours today in 1920x1080 at maxed settings with solid framerate. But I really wish there were a netbook sized option. Though it would be more sad in the 'wow factor' I really think that a 13" 1920x1080 or 1600x900 screen with 4+ hours of battery on about a 12" footprint would be ideal for me. Unfortunately right now everything sub 15" isn't really close to gaming grade. There is like one 14" that's got a mid-range graphics chip, but that's it, and it's not at all cheap.

Just a few minutes ago I was thinking about my day. How I wished so much for peace, quiet, and privacy to do the school stuff I need to do, how I loved the game I was playing, but was forced to play certain times and in certain places. As I feared, having the freedom of the power of the laptop to game or watch my shows and movies anywhere has made me miss a home more. A few tears were shed and even now I feel like a few more may come. I'm happy to finally be with my online friends, but in many ways my sadness about being homeless has been increased that much more.

I know love is hard and rare to find, even good friends to laugh with and share good times are rare, but I don't understand how I have none of either in my life. Noone will take me in. Noone to laugh with. Noone to help me find a good job. I am so terribly alone, and I don't understand what I did to deserve it. 😞

## Day 958 - 2/14

### V-day

I guess today is V-day. There were a few things going on at campus. I did get a nice surprise from a Facebook friend saying happy Valentine's Day. 😊 I hadn't heard from her in a while, so I was getting kinda worried about her. Also, back on Thursday I got a surprise after break. One of the roses left a few candies at my desk, so that was a nice surprise thank you for the candies I gave her. 😊

I am a touch happier now that I started podcast 7. I am having a very big struggle with doing a project and studying for a test though. Things have been a bit crazy emotionally since getting my laptop. I'm getting used to it, emotions are settling, but I'm

still a bit sad. So while I'm more happy, I'm also a bit more sad. I suppose that's a good change I can adjust to as time goes on. Hopefully my increased freedom will help me reduce my stress and sadness overall.

That's really it for today. Bye for now. Hope everyone had a good Valentine's Day.



## **Day 959 - 2/15**

### **Ok day, adjusting**

Today was an ok day I suppose. I'm still adjusting to my system. I fixed some of the dumb things (the hard drives are no longer separate), but I may have done something bad. There were new drivers released for the graphics card, and even though didn't need them I got them. Well, now a game I was playing is crashing. It crashed twice in both attempts to play in under 10 seconds each time. I haven't had a chance to see if other games were affected. I think just that one was.

So busy with projects today, probably will be tomorrow too. But Friday I should finally have a chance to check multiple games and have a final verdict on if the laptop seems ok and all. 😊

That's it for this week. A crazy whirlwind of emotion. Hopefully things will settle down as time goes on.

**Day 960 - 2/16**  
**Feeling very broken hearted**

I'm feeling very heart broken lately. I feel as if someone has stopped my heart, split it in two, and taken what little happiness and love was in there out and left it broken and empty in my chest. No one can tell I feel like this. I seem my normal silly, fairly friendly, and outgoing self on the outside. But I feel very sad on the inside. I don't know if it's my bad blood pressure, my cold causing congestion around my heart, my homesickness, or my loneliness that's causing me to feel this way. All I know is it's not getting better.

My life is fairly happy though. I fixed all the issues with the laptop and it's working as it should now. I snuck in an episode of Big Bang Theory during dinner and a few hours of play. I say snuck in because I've got a big project due tomorrow as well as a test and I couldn't focus on either. I'll have to get up early and get them done. I've no choice anymore.

I guess I'm feeling very sad about my life and about my health. It's very hard to recover from colds while homeless, and getting better in terms of eating habits and blood pressure is effectively impossible without a large spike in income.

Daily I see people with friends having fun, laughing, sharing bonding moments, reminiscing, moving on to their homes. Yet I can't. I have no friends to hang out with. I have no home. While I occasionally get notes of encouragement from online friends it's hard to stay up and happy (emotionally).

It's been pouring rain the past few days. Maybe it will stop soon and the sun will come out and it will start to be spring. If that happened, if I could at least be warm some of the time, at least that would be something.



## **Day 961 - 2/17**

### **That old self so far away**

Today I did something I haven't done in a very long time. I studied and played a game at the same time. IT was almost like the old me. It made me remember the days when I was in my room and had the freedom to do that, as well as study and watch other shows, or work on projects late at night.

I miss me. I miss being in a room with my bed set up, comfy soft with soft warm blankets on top. The room warm, or if the house is cold, warmed by candles. I miss my shows on when they are aired on TV. The excitement of waiting for them all day and preparing dinner so that it's ready when a show starts. I miss weekend movies where I'd take a break from studying and gaming and enjoy watching a movie I'd collected or rented. I miss sleeping in, then sleepily checking hardware news and updating my site with something exciting or important. I miss looking outside the window at the rain or the night sky from the inside of the warm and quiet room.

This new me... does what he must. Tonight for me the rain was not outside, but falling on my head. And the night... the night I can't look at because I must wrap myself in it. I must hide in the shadow and become a part of it. And I... I am the one looking into homes wondering what happened.

## **Day 962 - 2/18**

### **A night of lag**

Today was ok I guess. School was closed so I had to be out and about all day. I couldn't sleep in at all. Normally I could have at least tried, or napped later in the day. But lately we've had a bi rain storm, so it's pouring rain and pretty cold. Neither works for car sleeping during the day. Hopefully it will let up soon or I'm going to be running on no sleep before school is back on again starting Tuesday.

I tried to play my game from work, but it was horrendously laggy. I could barely play at all. I did play quite a bit in the morning, so that was good.

I finished podcast 7, but I may not get a chance to post it until Tuesday. School is the only spot I can upload files these days and with the holiday and the rain I doubt I'll get a chance to get to school undetected. I feel ok about this one. The subject matter was kind of meh, so it's not my favorite one I've done.

That's really it. While a friend in another state did message me for advice, which made me feel valuable 😊, and another person asked more questions in a line of questions, which also made me feel helpful 😊, today I really was just tired and sad. Most of all I missed having a home; a place to be warm and play my game via a land line so I'm not lagged and limited. That's all I want. But for whatever reason, the gods seem to want me on the street. 😞

## **Day 963 - 2/19**

### **So cold, so rainy**

Today was an almost non-stop downpour. It's been cold for several days. It's a shame too as it was previously reaching spring temperatures about a week or two ago. I don't think it's been much above 45F all day. Although the phone temperature says it's 43F I think it's colder where I am. I can see my breath half the time if I breathe deeply.

Today was an odd day. I played several times, and at each play session it felt like a whole day had passed. I've been out of gaming for so long that 1-2 hours of play seemed like 4 or more. I suppose that's a god thing, but it seems so strange. And too my life seems happier and yet still sadder at the same time for being more like my old life than not. I still have so many sad limitations to overcome and I still have no idea if, or when, I will truly be able to overcome them.

## **Day 964 - 2/20**

### **Another long day passed**

Today is finally over and I'm in hiding for hopefully the night. It was cold, but not quite as cold as it's been the past few days since it wasn't raining today. I decided to check school campus even though it's "closed for the holiday". There were indeed people, so I slept in a bit, and after snuck in to the building while the church people were there. I ate lunch and posted podcast 7. Basically the rest of the day I played a beta, save for a brief few hours where I took a break by doing a teeny bit of homework that I could do, and watched three episodes of Big Bang Theory.

Hopefully today and tonight at least a few people will be listening to my podcast snuggled warm in their homes. Me, I'll listen to it in a cold dark hiding place. (I always check them on my phone even though I check it several times on PC while doing it.) The long day is over for me, and so begins another cold long night hiding in shadows, wishing for a basic simple life it seems everyone else has. 😞

## **Day 965 - 2/21**

### **End of the long weekend**

The long weekend is over. Thank the gods. I am s looking forward to sleeping in tomorrow. Nothing special today. Pretty much a repeat of yesterday.

I miss being in a home. Being with online friends, playing my game, hearing people I sort of know talking about regular life things; it all makes me miss being in a home and having a regular life. Unfortunately I don't seem to be in control of my life right now. What I can do to try and fix it I'm doing, and have been for, well, as long as I remember. 😞 I guess I'm just not very good at it. 😞

## Day 966 - 2/22

### Fragments of me

Today I feel fragmented, as if there are three different mes. While we always have different sides of ourselves, different aspects or facets, and only show some to people at different times, I feel as if the three mes are completely separate people from one another. There is the old me, which only really exists in ghost form. I can see through the old mes eyes when I've got my headphones on and drown out the world while playing a game or watching shows. There is the day walker me, which is out walking around interacting with people during the day. It's similar to the old daytime out and about me, but beneath the surface layers are layers of sadness and this me is only out and about because he's got nowhere to go. He travels in places I would normally not. And there is the shadow me – the one which must hide and blend in to things unseen at night. This is the most sad me, the me who is the outsider. The me who is the thing outside your window that you wonder who that is when you catch a glimpse of something out of the corner of your eye. Once upon a time this me was another part of the regular me, yet it was not so much a place of sadness, but one of contemplation, wonder, imagination, and exploration of shadows; the one to find the things people want unseen.

I wonder if these three will ever come together again. I wonder, now that my soul has been shattered in such a way, if coming together again will ever be possible.

Another end of another week of fail. And I know it will not be the last. 😞

## Picture series 19



Woot a present from a rabbit friend/fan



From the not-sis and friend/ex-roomie, what is they?



Woot, I can has movie, Amazon monies, backed noms, and a card for car stuffs



I turned the Amazon monies into Big Bang Theory season 3 (on Blu-ray)

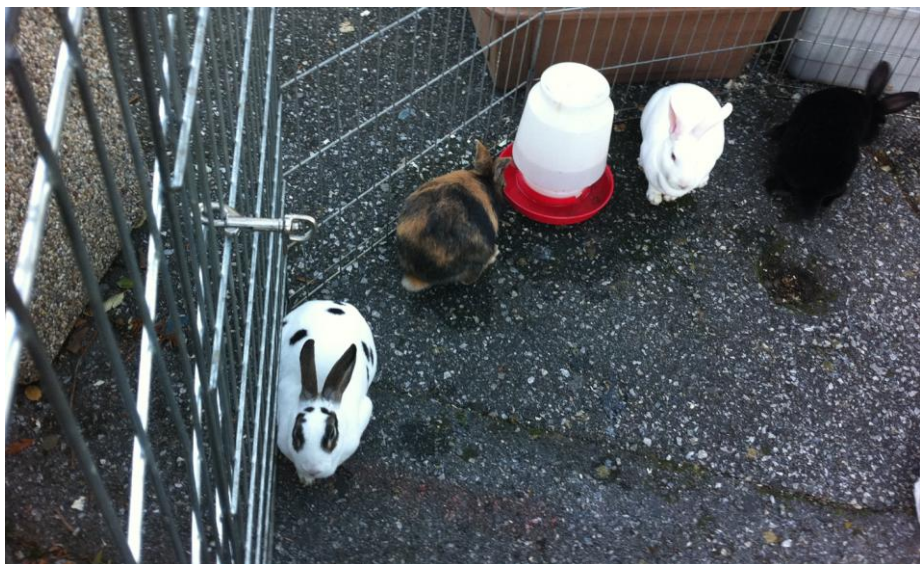




Burrr! Frozen window is frozen.



Bunnies!



Moar bunnies!



Goat?





It's ginormous. It takes up most of the school desk area!



So much bigger than the netbook!

**Day 966 - 2/22**  
**Good day, bad health**

I guess it was a good day. I did a decent amount of homework stuff in preparation for tomorrow. If all goes as planned I'll be pre-ordering a game after midnight when my pay flips, and in the morning a pre-order code should be waiting for me that will allow me to get early entry into the game I've been testing. It seems so strange after so many years of not only being unable to game, but not being able to do pre-release gaming. And, the guild is waiting for me – a guild of people who have seen me in the tech section of their site for, fofoof, I guess upwards of about 5 years now. It seems so strange to say I've been doing that so long.

My health seems... bad. 😞 I don't know how people of high blood pressure manage. Every time now when I walk my heart pounds and it feels... bad, and I get out of breath. My parts fall asleep easily too. Like now there is just the slightest pressure on my left arm as I hold the flashlight to write this and it's a bit tingly. I'm absolutely going to try and call for an appointment soon. I've been meaning to for, well, I guess it's been a few months now. 😞

I'm so tired of school. I so wish I had enough money to stop and do my site and help people full time. I'm good enough I think. I deserve to be able to do that. With enough money to do it "full time", as well as money to attend conventions and set up a few test systems I've no doubt I could be even more helpful. Sure, it's helping people to have fun and enjoy life, it's not going to make them rich or healthy, but you never know. By saving people money, by helping them maximize their entertainment dollars, I *may* just make people happier, thus indirectly extending their life just a little longer. Wouldn't that be something? 😊

## **Day 967 - 2/23**

### **Not what was planned**

Today was not what I planed. The morning and afternoon were pretty horrid. I was supposed to be playing in Rift's head start, something the guild helped me get to with the laptop and donations. But that was not to be. After 2.5 hours of download it told me I had to get another 45 minute download. After that it gave me an error and downloaded the file again. This repeated for the next 5 hours. I missed the entire day of head start. I did finally figure out a way to fix it though, but by then the queue to get on the server was over 3 hours long.

Class was ok. I was happily surprised by the teacher being concerned about my sad life. She knows about it and asked what I do in the bad weather. We are supposed to be getting an epic storm, one so bad and so cold that it may snow. Now, here that's a very big deal. So big, in fact, it's only snowed here in my entire life twice ever before, and only for a few minutes. So that was nice to see someone worried about me. I mean, I know people do, but still.

Nothing else really new. No changes in my life to speak of. Certainly nothing good, other than not missing this game launch, a first in a long time, as I had to rent a system to not miss Lich King's launch. I suppose I didn't miss Cataclysm launch either, though the netbook was barely playable and I think it was done playing before the first month post launch had ended.

Anyways... as the rain gently begins and the night hides me, another sad homeless day comes to a close.

## **Day 969 - 2/25**

### **Inspired by**

Today I got to play my new game all day. 😊 I spent a lot of time with guildies too, or at least watching chat. At one point someone said it was very difficult for musicians to make money during a bad economy. I think I came in at the end of a conversation, but we chatted for a bit about how entertainers have a hard time in general,

but I also reminded them that jazz was inspired by and created during one of the worst times in our history (economically). So, terrible things can inspire something good - just like my terrible journey has inspired me to create Epic Fail, and how someone thought I'd make good podcasts. Through my terrible times I was inspired to do something different, and in many ways (I hope) unique.

I'd never wish terrible times on anyone, but I do hope we can find inspiration in a great many things, if not to create something for all, but at least for ourselves.

## Day 970 - 2/26

### Tanking

Today I had fun (most of the time). I was working all day, even longer than a normal shift, as I worked 8 hours covering for someone (remember my shifts are normally only 5 hours long) and then 3 hours covering for someone else. But they were both at the same location (I work at two), so I effectively got to play my game all day over the free WiFi. 😊

I tanked in a dungeon for my guild. I felt pretty ok about it. We were a bit below level, so we wiped about four times (but we also didn't know the dungeon at all). I felt like it was my bad for being on wireless and all, but we were pretty short on heals and DPS, so we did the best we could. It was good to group with them and even better to be on a system fast enough that I *could* tank.

During the evening shift me and another person on shift were pretty bored. There were only about 6 people there, and it's not like we interact with them really. I put on this week's Big Bang Theory and we watched together. It was nice to share it even though he didn't watch it regularly. It was nice to have someone to share an experience with (in both times during my day) if even briefly.

That's really it for my day. I should have done school projects, but some of the game is brand new and it's been so long since I could game I was having a lot of fun while I could. 😊 Tomorrow I'll be out in the world, so play will be less desirable in the wild and all. It's a better day to pause gaming and do homework. Whatever happens, it is what it is.

## Day 971 - 2/27

### Warm; windows open

Today for a bit it was genuinely warm. So warm, in fact, I was in my car for a bit with the window down. And, when I went in to the library I'd taken my sweater off. Both were a first since probably October last year.

I felt kind of sick today with a migraine headache. I don't know why, but it started around 11 and still hasn't fully gone away even now, some 10+ hours later. I think it was because I was playing my game and stressing out. I was stressed because while I *can* play online games again, it's still so sad that I can't enjoy it in the same way I could with a desktop. I can't take a break and study in peace and quiet. I can't just walk away for a few minutes to take a shower. I can't open the window and smell the fresh air coming into my room. I think the headache and feeling sick was part of being homesick. I can't think of what else it could be.

It's cold again now, and rapidly moving towards super cold. It was supposed to be pouring rain today, but it was the exact opposite. What will it be tomorrow? What will I be tomorrow? Who can say.

## Day 972 - 2/28

### Makes me upset

Today I was disconnecting from my game a lot. Several times in the morning I was disconnected and got an error that blocked me from returning for 30-45 minutes each time. In the evening I was getting disconnected every 10 minutes. A frustrating day in all.

I couldn't sleep this morning. I wasn't sleepy. I was pretty tired, but yesterday and this morning I just wasn't sleepy. I'm so very tired. I think I must not be sleepy because I'm sad and upset about my life. Retuning to online gaming has just reminded me how frustrating and limited my life is when trying to do stuff online. I guess I can try and look for other online job sites in the morning, but I really don't know what to do. There just don't seem to be any jobs out there for me that I can find. I've never been very good at this. It makes me feel extra sad and alone in the world to not have help. 🙄

## Day 973 - 2/29

### Big pants are big

Today has been pretty good. 😊 This morning I had to leave campus to do some printing and pick up the physical copy of the game I've been playing pre-release in. That took a bunch of time even though it was local. It was nice to visit my printer though. I really like it. I got it way back in the day and it can print photo quality stuff. It's hardly been used at all because I only had it a short while before I had to put it into storage (maybe 6-8 months.)

I got these new pants on Sunday because my old pants were a bit tight. These new ones, though only being 2" bigger, the next size up, are actually too loose. So I can either pick up my pants every now and then or I can wear my old ones that pinch my tummy. I guess I'm between sizes. I tried to call to make an appointment for my blood pressure check but they were closed. I left a message, but they didn't call me back yet. That may help me get back down in size. The gray ghost said that when he was put on blood pressure meds they cleared him right up and he lost a lot of weight. That'd be good to see if a lot of this weight is due to that. I'd guess it's possible that it is. I've been getting a touch dizzy in hot showers for about 3-4 years now, so it's possible that in these recent years it's snuck up on me and I just didn't know. Likely the two are related.

I guess that's it for this week. I'm having fun being able to play my games, but it's been sad too because it's a fresh reminder of what I'm missing in my life.

## **Week 140**

### **Day 974 - 3/2** **Bad start, good day**

Today was a day that had a terrible start, but ended pretty ok. I'd planned to take the day off as it were and just have fun and play my online game. Well, the school connection disagreed with that and it was constantly dropping me offline and giving me an error that prevents me from coming back in. I don't get it since a week ago that same connection was perfectly fine. I gave up and just continued with my mid-day activities of doing the work for my friend and homework for tomorrow. So, tomorrow is all clear if I want to try and play again. I may be stuck with only single player games at school, which wouldn't be completely intolerable. I did want to play my online game, so I decided to leave campus and go to the coffee shop to play. I was there about 4 hours and grouped with the guild in the dungeons. One we pretty much dominated, as we were higher level. The other kind of kicked our butt. The first boss we were fine on, but the second had a boss that would AE us down to dead in 3 seconds. So that was no good, but the day ended ok because I had fun.

Nothing changed today really. I tweaked a job site search but that was about it. I'm so frustrated and tired of being homeless. I wish there were something I could really do about it. It's really messing me up physically in terms of health as well as emotionally destabilizing me. 😞

### **Day 975 - 3/3** **Crafting before bed**

Today turned out ok. I didn't have homework to do, so I just relaxed, played my game a bit, and watched a few shows. I didn't do the crafting I wanted to during the day because I got into a group, but I was able to after class. Crafting was a nice calm activity "before bed". Back in the day I'd do that or a bit of calmer gaming every night. My typical

routine is a session during the later or mid day, then another shorter one before bed, often after my evening shows.

My previous "routine" still seems so disrupted. I still wonder if I will ever get back to a normal life. But then, living the rabbit life that I do I think my life will always be a bit different, for better or worse, and maybe that's a good thing. 🐇

## **Day 976 – 3/4**

### **Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness**

Today I felt very alone and sad. It was a really good day for connecting at school. Hardly anyone was in the library, as is common for Friday, and I had no problems staying connected to my game or shows.

I felt very alone though. There wasn't really anyone in guild online, and because it's not a role-playing server pretty much noone talks to anyone, or if they do it's to complain and argue. So I spent all of my morning and afternoon basically alone. It wasn't until about 7 at night that I grouped and there were people online to talk with.

But I also felt alone because of my job situation, again I tried looking for work, and again I was met with no jobs to apply to. The constitution says we are all guaranteed life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Well, that's all well and good and I love those freedoms. But without opportunity, without support, all of my potential is for nothing. My untapped potential lies still, unrealized. I am a moon in orbit, steady, unchanging, visible to only those who know to look.

It's awesome to be able to game again. And interestingly enough some at school and even the gym have chatted with me about what am I playing and all, so it has allowed me to be a touch more social. Yet I'm still alone, still isolated, still without those strong bonds between close friends. Some of the social circles around me at school may know me as 'that gamer guy', but that's nothing really remarkable now. On any given day there are 1 in 10 playing on a system of some kind. And in the room I hang out in often, if we include phone games and card games, the ratio is likely closer to 2 out of 3 are playing something.



In my loneliness at night I've repeatedly turned to podcasts. I've been trying to find a new one. Voices in the dark help me to feel not so lonely. But like everything else in life it has to be a good fit.

Today was so sad. And above all else I was very homesick and felt very isolated and alone.

## Day 977 - 3/5

### Do not want

I do not want this life. I don't want to be without a home anymore. 😞 I don't want to sleep in a car anymore. I don't want to game not on a desktop in a nice place anymore. I don't want to watch movies in a way that I can't invite friends over.

While gaming and my shows/movies are fun, the only truly joyful things I have in my life at the moment are my podcast and my website. I hope somewhere in the world there are at least a few people who feel a little less sad, a little less alone, and a little less out of place when they listen to my podcast. And I always hope there are people who look at my site and find new options or new facts they didn't consider that lead them to better enjoyment of their lives.

My life has *enough* food, enough rest, and enough joy. But I'm tired of getting just enough. It is so very tiring, so very exhausting, and so very sad to be getting just barely enough in its most basic and minimal state. I know still there are those with less, and I am thankful for what I have, but I'm so very tired and so very sad. 😞

## Day 978 - 3/6

### Ears ringing

It's night and now I'm hiding. My ears are ringing so bad. 😞 I've been in constant noise for the last 13+ hours in public areas; constant music, people and noise. 😞 My

poor ears. I've always been one to get overwhelmed even after just a few hours and now... now it's constant. I rarely get a break from all my senses getting bombarded.

I guess today was pretty good though. I played games all day, just like I have been wishing for for so many years now. I'm slowly getting used to being able to game again.

A few even asked what game I was playing and said it looked like a nice system. 😊

Above all though, more than anything, I wish for a home that's peaceful and quiet, and a job that's moderately happy (or, of course, more) that pays me enough. 😞 I hope one day I can return to a truly normal life.

## **Day 979 - 3/7**

### **A pretty good day**

Today was a pretty good day. I slept in quite a bit. I think I've got a bit of a cold. I've been hitting 9-10 hours of sleep when I sleep in (though it's still disturbed homeless in-car sleep, so there's that.) I tried to play my game from school but I still get disconnected and get the error. It seems that Monday through Thursday there is too much traffic at school to stay stable. (Which I still don't get as it did just fine for over a week until the 28th.) I went to work, took a shower before my shift, and had a pretty solid play time during my shift. After, I finished podcast 8 so I could get that out to people so they don't have to wait too long. I'd really like to not exceed every two weeks, whenever that comes around.

I had a pretty good time playing with my guild people tonight. It wasn't too cold. It didn't do more than a brief sprinkle. And I feel pretty good emotionally / physically all things considered.

## **Day 980 - 3/8**

### **Should have slept in**

I'm so super tired lately. I should have just slept in. I decided not to. There was something I wanted to do in-game, and I wanted to see if I could get in and be stable if

I got in early. Since I had no problem at all last Friday I figured it may be population related. I couldn't get past the stupid 'your IP address changed' error. It seems to only affect me at school, but it's becoming more frequent. I guess until that's fixed I'll probably not be able to play from school, which is annoying since I played without trouble at all for a week solid prior to the 28th.

First thing I did though on getting in to the campus library was to drop my podcast on teh Internets. Hopefully people are enjoying it. I've still only the one comment really.

I spent the rest of the day messing around, and I did most of this week's work for my friend, so that's mostly done for tomorrow. I'll probably leave campus in the early evening to play if I can't get to the game through school tomorrow.

Tonight I have class with a project due. Neither I nor my partner person know if we are doing it right. We were only given a weeks notice, meaning we really only had less than 6 days to organize it. Group projects so often seem to result in disaster than not.

That's all I can think of for today and this week. Despite the little changes in my life I feel like my life is unchanging and still as stuck as it's ever been. 😞

## **Week 141**

### **Day 981 - 3/9** **A dragon's age**

Today was supposed to be a partial day of playing Dragon's Age 2, but for some reason the shipment didn't come until much later than expected. I spent the evening playing Rift and tanking for the guild.

I've been playing phone tag with the blood pressure place. I think I've called on three different days now to try and get an appointment. I'll probably have to start calling several times a day or something, which will be annoying.

Nothing else new today. Dragon Age 2 and BioShock 2 were the big news, neither of which can complete installation, as I need an active Internet connection, which I don't currently have.

My teacher was super nice to me last night. We talked for a bit about my sad life and she said she's both amazed at my strength to survive it, but also very sad that I'm going through it. We talked about my writing Epic Fail and she's glad that I've helped some people with my sad story.

That's really all for today. As always, I hope tomorrow will be a better day for everyone who is having troubling times.

### **Day 982 - 3/10** **Dazed days**

Today I was kind of in a daze again. I slept really deep the past couple of times I've slept in on campus. This morning when I woke up I'd been so deeply asleep that my muscles had a hard time moving me because my head seemed so heavy. I also got about 10 hours of sleep the past few days. Again, it's distressed car sleep, so it's likely worth less than 6 hours of bed sleep. But still, that typically means that I have a cold. I have been sneezing lately, so there is that too.

Nothing really to talk about today. I slept pretty late, messed around a bit, did homework and other stuff for a bit, then had class. I did help someone a bit with a PC build, so that was new. And they seemed thankful, so that's always good in that it makes me feel helpful.

Guess that's it for today. 😊

## Day 983 - 3/11

### Not accomplishments

It felt like I didn't accomplish anything today. I didn't really do much though. Some daily routines was all really, sprinkled generously with playing my games.

I did discover something very depressing though. The BioWare downloadable content checker seems unable to pull the bandwidth necessary to check for any of my game, or is blocked by firewall, meaning no downloadable content I've already gotten, am entitled to, or could purchase in the future, will ever be playable. It just can't verify my account on the server. 😞 Another sad fact of homeless life and playing in the wild I guess. I suppose it's not an entire loss, but still. I have several items on downloadable content and not being able to use them makes me a sad bunny. 😞

I got compliments tanking for my guild again, which is good. 😊 Makes me happy that I at least have that. Though, due to lag drops the group did wipe twice. 😞 So that makes me feel terrible. But then, it's that or not play sometimes, which would be more sad.

I'm finally able to keep up with at least some current games, as well as play my old ones. At least that is something. 😊

## Day 984 - 3/12

### My role

Today was pretty good. 😊 Most of the day I played my game and tried not to worry about school things coming due that I would have difficulty doing on the weekend.

I was in my online game much of the day, but didn't do a whole lot with the guild. For some reason we didn't do much together. I think it was due to the level spacing.

I thought a lot about my role in the game today, as well as in Dragon Age 2. I'm very happy as a Paladin in my online game, but it's terribly slow to do quests in a tanking build. Though I don't really like any other. I've tried probably over a dozen other mixes and I don't like any nearly as much as I do full Paladin. The problem is that it has strengths and weaknesses, and much of its strengths don't get used outside of in a defensive manner. It made me think about my own life, how my strengths aren't used or recognized in the working world. Try as I might to change my classes in the game to suit my style, my style and what I enjoy are what they are. Nothing else fits. Much like seemingly my own life, what I like and what I'm good at are what they are, and nothing else seems to be a good fit. There certainly don't seem to be any jobs out there suited to my true strengths. At least none hiring someone like me (someone without professionally verifiable experience). Much like the game classes, I fear all I can do is keep waiting until a new opportunity comes along, new possibilities for a fit. And despite my sadness about... my way... it is what it is, and I should be happy that I know what it is that I'm good at; even if it seems the world, for the most part, doesn't value that.

## Day 985 - 3/13

### Don't know anymore

Today was sad. I played my game quite a bit, so that was good. I did a couple of runs as tank for the guild, so that was fun. But there were so many things I wanted to do that I couldn't. So many things talked about that are things I don't have. My life can't continue like this. It's too sad. But I'm doing everything *I* can to change it. I am really beginning to think it's out of *my* power to change, that change will only come with real

outside help. Sadly, noone seems willing or able to help me get back into a home and find a better job so that my life can be back on track. And I'm beginning to doubt that will ever change. 😞

## **Day 986 - 3/14**

### **Another sad day**

Another sad day with happyish overtones. Today started out with what was an attempt to get up early to do some things I needed to do. One important thing I couldn't do because I wasn't allowed to until a time that I wouldn't be able to. (Sign up for next quarter classes.) Another I did, which was good. But one school project I completely forgot about, which just puts me short on time for it. And another I have due tomorrow that I couldn't get in the mood to do. I couldn't focus mentally, and even physically. My contacts are so old now they are starting to have blurry days. I ordered new ones, so that should be fixed by the weekend. Work messed up my time card though and I'm short \$125+. I don't know how I'll manage without it. There really aren't bills I can postpone for another one and a half weeks, as I only have bills rarely.

I tried to play my game, but it still pretty much just fails every time from school. And work was too laggy to stay connected. One person was kind of joking about my lag. It isn't something that's an issue for normal people. He didn't know that I'm homeless and have to play from free connections. It's ok. I'm used to it - both people not knowing and not connecting when I want to. It is just another facet of my limited life. As sad as they are, they are, and I cannot change that.

## **Day 987 - 3/15**

### **Getting things done**

Today I did some stuff I needed to do. I got a paper done that's due tonight. I signed up for next quarter. I did some 3x5s for a test on Thursday. I updated my site a bit.

I tried to play for a little bit, but as always, I got that error that blocks me from playing nearly every time I try from school.

Today I feel very bleh. Work still hasn't gotten back to me on if they can get me the missing money, which I doubt they will. I don't see any new job prospects despite widening my search a bit. Nothing new has really come up that was unexpected. My health still seems bad. The sky is cloudy and gray and sprinkling off and on. And while I always hope things will turn out ok for me, I still feel very sad that things don't seem to be getting any better. 😞



## Week 142

### Day 988 - 3/16

#### No friend work

Today was the same as all the others. Of course it was more stressful due to work shorting me money. I tried to do the work for my friend that I do online, but it wasn't working. The site was giving me some weird error. So I just played my game for a bit. I did another extended job search. I did find one job to apply to, so I guess that's something in these terrible times.

Not much of a day, but I suppose things at least didn't get any worse for me. 😞

### Day 989 - 3/17

#### Irish day

Today was just another day. Well, I had a test, which I think went ok. Other than that it was a pretty regular day. There was the typical struggle with school to let me in to my online game. There was the typical sadness at seeing cuties and being single. There was the typical sadness at seeing people being friendly on campus and having no friends.

It's Saint Patrick's Day and people are out drinking. I don't drink, but I do have some Irish. I guess in terms of percent I may be 15-25%? I get half of my racial background from my mom, because she's full, but my dad has mixed European of Irish, German, and some others. I've never wanted to celebrate with drinking, but it would be nice to have friends to invite over for games and stuff.

I love redhead girlies. 😍 I've never had much luck finding one though. I think the first was in high school. I totally loved her, but she wasn't interested, so that probably just counts as a crush. Then in college there were a few others I had a crush on that never really paid attention to me. Fey redheads (that's what I call the type I like, who are thin, and often have blue or other light color eyes) are very rare. I think I've only met about five in my whole life.

Anyways... happy Saint Patrick's Day everybody. 🍀 I hope everyone had a fun and safe night.

## **Day 990 - 3/18**

### **Dying mouse**

I think it was yesterday my mouse started dying. It's gotten really bad. Today when I was playing my games, for probably the better part of an hour, almost every 5 minutes the mouse would disconnect then reconnect. Nothing seems to stop it. It seems completely random. I did plan to get a new one in a few months, as this one is about 6 years old and carrying it in my bag all the time has really taken a toll on it. But it's annoying that it's happened now. I've got maybe \$20 in my account and \$35 in savings, but all of it is spoken for by food and gas before I get paid again late next week.

I suppose the day could have been worse, but that, errors from my game log-in about my IP, a 50 meg patch that took 2.5 hours to download because I only had access to slow wireless speeds... it all seems like everything about today has just been a reminder of how sad and limited my homeless life is. 😞

## **Day 991 - 3/19**

### **Dead mouse, pouring rain, falling pants**

My mouse completely died today. It was connecting and disconnecting literally every 15 seconds. I couldn't stand it. I took out what I could from savings and it was just enough to get a new one. It's tiny and cute, and it is wireless with a transmitter/receiver that I just leave plugged in to the laptop. So I don't have to worry about wearing out the mouse port or any parts on my system.

It's pouring rain today. I was ok with it earlier when I was inside playing my games. But now, hiding at night, the rain pouring down, no heat, my hands and feet pretty

cold because there is no warmth of a home to surround me... now it's tough to fight off the sadness and depression.

My bigger pants that I got are now too big. I guess I've lost a bit of weight, which is great but now the new pants are continually falling down when I walk. Grrr. Well, maybe the old ones won't be quite as tight anymore.


I'm very super homesick lately, but I've no home, only the memory of what was.



## **Day 992 - 3/20**

### **Raining and not raining**

It's not raining now, but it's been pouring off and on all day. It's consistently been super cold though. Everywhere I travel has been cold as well. Nowhere public warms their place like private homes. Back in the day a coffee shop was warm and inviting. They were open until midnight or later. People came and went, people gathered, there were bands or poetry readings. Now it's all about cold display cases where the air blows out into the room.

I think that will always be the thing I miss most, and the thing I will likely never forget once I am in a home again. You simply can't imagine what it's like to be cold *all* the time (outside of a few weeks during the summer). Maybe someone who works in a restaurant who goes in and out of a fridge all day can, or those who live in places it snows who don't turn up the heat in their home. But if you haven't experienced it, let me tell you, never getting to "come in out of the cold" to truly warm up... it's terrible. 

## **Day 993 - 3/21**

### **Nine**

I finished podcast nine tonight. I'm happy it's ready to go out to the masses. Hopefully people enjoy it or it brightens otherwise dark times.

Nothing else really different for today. It was just another day I should have done homework, but was in too sad of a mood to do. 😞

## **Day 994 - 3/22**

### **Textbook buyback**

Once upon a time textbook buyback meant something; a step forward for change, a break on the way, a new beginning on the horizon. Now it means nothing to me. I have no books to sell back. I can't afford them. I have no added flexibility to my schedule. I have no change in my routine. My day is just a day, like any other.

## **Week 143**

### **Day 995 - 3/23** **Over 200**

I checked my weight earlier today and I'm probably over 205. (Had my clothes on, so it wasn't 100% dead on.) I'm almost the heaviest I've been. 😞 That explains why I've been feeling sluggish and tiring easily and my pants are pinching. I'm so very sad about my weight health, and lack of choice of good foods. I'm trying to eat healthier but I think my homelessness is catching up to my ability to stabilize my health. 😞

### **Day 996 - 3/24** **Temporary break from stress**

My second class is over. I get a small break from stress. My life is so completely stress filled though. Even though school stress is removed for a week I still have money/job stress in that I don't make enough (even during times lately where I picked up a few extra shifts). Gaming is a bit stressful, as I only have certain times to play and of those hours only sometimes have access to the Internet. And even then it's sometimes firewalled or lack bandwidth; health stress, weight stress, sleep stress, lack of friends and lack of love stress. My gods, it's like everything in my life right now is stressful. And I suppose if I were to take a real look at it, it would be true. 😞

## Day 997 - 3/25

### Back pains

I guess I had an ok day. It was potentially the last time I could sleep in at school for over a week. I guess we'll see as the weekend and next week unfold.

I've been having terrible back pain lately. I set myself a note in my phone to do a workout at work, but I keep forgetting or being lazy. It's nothing fancy. I just want to do some stretching and stuff. You know, one of those 5-10 minute things a few times a week. I don't have access to equipment (or proper rest or diet) to do the 20 minutes that doctors recommend. Maybe someday.

I suppose it was a decent day other than the constant back pain. I had an ok time watching a few shows on campus, then did laundry, had a work shift, started podcast 10, and that was it. A guildie said they've taken up the daunting task of reading Epic Fail. Foooo, that first book is so huge. They said they thought it interesting so far, so that's good. Hopefully they and others who read it find something in these ramblings that touches their lives and helps you/them to better enjoy things and live happier and fuller overall.

Guess that's it for now. Hopefully my back will uncramp soon. The pains can get pretty bad what with the car sleeping constantly cramping me. 😞

## Day 998 - 3/26

### Ringing ears

Today was pretty good I guess. I had with my game, took an 'extra' shower, and got some extra work hours. My ears were ringing horribly by the time the shift was over for some reason. In the quiet of the empty gym I heard them loudly ringing, as if I'd been to a super loud concert. 😞 Hopefully I'm not sick or anything. I don't know how long they will ring for. 😞

## Day 999 - 3/27

### Max level

I'm max level in my new game already. It's pretty crazy. Not even one month in and lots of people (even in my guild) are hitting max level. I really don't know what I'll do besides farm for crafting materials, finish achievements, and run the high-end dungeons. There really aren't raid areas yet, and there isn't very much content there in the game. Ah well, I had a good time with it so far. I knew it was short on content. They certainly aren't doing anything terribly new with design. It will likely be yet another I play for six months then move on. I guess we'll see. My guildies make it fun. If I were on a server alone I likely would have quit already (even though we aren't even out of the 30 free days.)

I suppose it will be tough to be into any online game though what with my homelessness. Even questing is impossible due to lag at times, and even under the best conditions the experience is pretty well diminished by being out in public and playing not on a desktop.

Oh well, my wish to finally be able to at least play without so many limitations is here. And that is wonderful, but it seems that is only part of the equation. Much like finding a good fit and a true home in the real world, it seems my search for a true home online also continues.

## Day 1000 - 3/28

### 1k?

It's day 1000 already? I forgot to keep track. I was going to maybe "celebrate" with something special but it seems the day has come and gone and I forgot I was close. I suppose that's appropriate. I just did what I do these days to keep myself fed and to keep from going crazy. I played my game most of the day, watched a show, worked a bit on podcast 10, looked for full time work or other part time, and had a work shift. Pretty regular stuff for an otherwise not regular life.

## Day 1001 - 3/29

### Best friends

As I put in my new Depeche Mode (Best of Volume 1) album I was instantly transported in time and space. The year is 1983, and I'm at camp somewhere with my dad, his new girlfriend, her daughter that's roughly my age, and my best friend at the time Curtis Foskey. There wasn't much to do for me and Curtis at this camp. We were geeks, nerds, what would eventually be referred to these days as gamers. We wore mostly black cloths and we didn't hang out outside for very long. It's what the emo kids did back in the day. This family camp had boating, ping pong, a small beach, and one arcade game. Curtis and I spent most of our time doing role playing games and tried our best to make due to pass the time.

Curtis was my second best friend (which was during the first few years of high school in San Mateo before he moved out of state). That was after Ashley Hanz, which was around 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade, and before the gray ghost, who was rally 8<sup>th</sup> grade to about my early 20s. He's always been more of an odd father/brother/son relationship as we sought companionship for missing family in each of our lives.

I haven't had a true best friend now in probably more than 20 years. This day is for you best friends. Maybe you have a song that you share, maybe a place or time; but to everyone who has had a best friend, or is lucky enough to have one now, be sure that they know. Celebrate each other while you can.

Ashley, Curtis, if either of you are out there I hope the years have been kind and times treat you well. I miss you guys and wish you all the best. 😊



## Week 144

### Day 1002 - 3/30 Far off appointment

I finally have an appointment for blood pressure to get hooked up with a "regular doctor" and a plan and all. The soonest was about two weeks from now, and that was at a place not so close. The closer locations told me it would be four weeks! 🙄

I guess I had an ok day. Most of the morning I was soloing in the game. I couldn't find a group at all. I did some of my online work for my friend, well, tried to. The server database that they were was broken and failed a bit, so I stopped. In the evening I got a group with half guildies, half not. That worked out ok.

Mostly today was good because it was finally warm. It's finally becoming spring / summer like it should be. I almost wanted to wear shorts all day. 😊

No jobs to apply to or other life changing events. So I guess that's both good and bad. Hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

### Day 1003 - 3/31 Suffer well

A song from my new old Depeche Mode album keeps echoing in my mind. It's not one I remember, certainly one I don't know the lyrics to. It's called "Suffer Well". It's a phrase I've heard before, and one that summarizes my life, particularly right now. We all have trials and sad things in our lives, and how we deal with that pain and sadness define us.

I was talking a bit to the guildies that's reading through Epic Fail and they said that they were surprised to see my strength and perseverance through all this. They are very much looking forward to book 2. It's actually kind of hard to remember back to year one. I do recall the sadness, and hours upon hours of nothing to do but watch others live their lives. Now that I can game again it's easy to lose myself in game things, or rabbit things, and occupy my time between job searches.

For the longest time my mind has stopped paying attention to the normal world, stopped thinking of myself as a part of it, and stopped thinking about the day when I may return to it. Now with things looking up a bit my mind can sometimes wonder 'what if' or 'when I can'.

Just maybe *I can* return to living a true full life again someday.

## **Day 1004 - 4/1**

### **Leading them to their deaths**

Today was pretty good I suppose. It was super super warm, hot even. I've been able to wear shorts the past few days and even a single top layer. 😊

I don't remember much of today. As with so many of my days it started out too early and I spent lots of the day doing stuff. Mostly I was gaming, which is still new and still so very nice to be able to do after so long a forced break. I did some Epic Fail input and worked a bit on the podcast as well. I was supposed to finish today, but the recordings kept coming out scratchy and bad. Hopefully the system was just a bit too warm and that's what affected it and it's not that the microphone is broken or anything. I guess I'll try to finish tomorrow or Sunday instead.

I did try to assemble a guild dungeon group. I say try because we had a terribly hard time in the dungeon. I'm not sure why, but we kept dying a lot. 😞 I guess we were in there 2-2.5 hours for something that should have only been 45 minutes or so. I guess some were just too low level or low geared. 😞 I don't know why, but I felt bad and like it was my fault. 😞 The people said they were ok with it and had fun, but still... 😞

That's all I can think of for now. I hope everyone's life out there is going ok, and, if not, that my ramblings make things a little brighter, if even for just a little while.

## Day 1005 - 4/2

### Sharing a movie

I suppose today was pretty good. There was the monthly flea market thing at school (even though they are closed for spring break). So I got to sleep in quite a bit. I played my game during the day, and just before my evening shift I finished podcast 10.



The evening shift started super slow, so I decided to watch the new Star Trek movie. The guy on shift with me hadn't seen it yet, so we watched it together. Sadly it got too loud in the gym to hear, so I gave him my headphones so he could hear. I think I'll grab a splitter for headphones in case that happens again. They are like \$5, so that's a decent investment (particularly if I am forced to remain on my laptop long-term, as that means I can share my stuff in the future with others.). I think I'll even get popcorn for next time I'm doing that shift. I used to do that back in the day for my regular Monday / Friday shift. I'd watch one or two movies each time and have popcorn. 🤔

That's really it. Nothing new or interesting really.

## Day 1006 - 4/3

### Unexpected wave of sadness

I'm pretty sad about my life now. The morning started out pretty decently. I got some time alone at work, took a shower, and played online for most of my shift. After, I stopped by school campus to upload some site updates and podcast 10. It was then that an unexpected wave of sadness started to hit me as I sat on the cold concrete outside of the closed building and tried to watch shows. All of the sad things in my life came crashing down on me (as all of those conditions are things forced upon me by being homeless). They aren't anything new. They are things I live with everyday, and have for nearly 3 years now. But for some reason from that point on I've felt extremely sad again about, well, everything. A couple of guildies chatted with me for a bit. But not knowing me enough to really notice they didn't chat too much. The minor chatting did cheer me up a bit though.

I'm still sad now hiding in the dark of the night. While I have the Critical Hit podcasts to keep me company and help me to not feel quite so alone, sad, and separate from society, I again wonder... will I ever be able to return to a normal life? 😞

## **Day 1007 - 4/4**

### **Light campus**

Today was the first day of spring quarter. There were a lot less people on campus than I expected. I wonder if it's just a lighter Monday population or if people are sticking to a Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday schedule.

Nothing really new today. I was still very sad about my life. I did play my game for about 4-5 hours, but there were no groups. It will be interesting to see if my grouping time picks up or if I'm left behind by the guild. Some are keeping fairly tight bonds with me, while it seems others just ignore what I say in chat, or group up without inviting me along. It's not a huge guild, but I'd say at non-peak times we have five or so on, and at peak times maybe 15-20? Plenty to at least be grouping for dailies if not dungeons.

I did apply to a job, so that's good, but overall jobs are still extremely scarce and tons of people apply. I feel more and more these days like this will never end for me. Lately I've been thinking a lot about what I used to cook, likely due to my worsening health. Cooking seems such a totally strange concept now. I barely remember the days in homes where I'd cook. Outside of a few brief months where I cooked a bit now and then, it's been nearly three years since I cooked regularly. I laid flat at work too – to do a small workout – and my heartbeat seemed to struggle. Laying down flat to sleep on a bed is such a strange thought now too; a distant memory.

All I can do is hope my body holds on long enough to suffer through until I can get back on my feet. 😞

## Day 1008 - 4/5

### Sad thoughts

Today has been filled with sad thoughts. I had a bit of a scare this morning in my hiding spot, implying that I may need to change my timing. And even though I got to sleep as long as I needed on campus after, it served as a reminder of how unstable my life still is. After waking up I came onto campus and tried to do my regular things. As always they were hindered by bandwidth issues, again problems that only exist because I'm not in a home. The weight of everything in my life being different and limited due to being homeless still seems extra heavy lately. I struggle through my days trying to distract myself with happy things, but since they are always restricted, reduced, or limited in some way, it's impossible to enjoy them as much as I could with the freedom of a home.

The population on campus still seems fairly light. I guess there just aren't as many coming to spring quarter. Population on any campus always dwindles after the first classes in September, but population seems to only be about half what it was only a few weeks ago.

Oddly, things feel like they are on the verge of a change. I don't know if that's Fate's way of telling me to hang in there, as I no longer know if these feelings of change are for me, for others, or just something I feel subconsciously because the weather is finally turning away from the cold rainy and cloudy days to warmer and brighter times. Job prospects certainly haven't changed. There are still very few postings to look through, and still far too many applying.

Maybe the change *is* within me. Maybe it's because I can be in game again and help people enjoy their time there. Maybe it's because I've gotten a few 'thank you' -ish comments for telling my sad story. Maybe it's because I'm feeling not so lonely and sad in my life through listening to podcasts of others, and maybe, just maybe, my own podcasts are helping others out there. I don't know. My health seems to be failing as the days go on, hopefully my appointment next week will generate hopeful news. And my situation seems unchanging and without hope. All I can do is hang on as best as I can and hope I make my way through these troubled times.

## Week 145

### Day 1009 - 4/6 Do not want classes

My class tonight was icky. It's with a nice enough professor, but she's extremely politically charged, so there is all of this political discussion. I suppose it is a class in a field affected by policy change, but I'd rather not have had it. I don't recall seeing her name as the teacher. Granted I really had no choice, as I took the two classes I hadn't taken yet. It was a forced choice.

My mouse battery gave me critical warning. It's like, what the poop?! Didn't I just get this mouse like a week and a half ago? There's no way I used up the 7,000 hours of normal use they claim in just 10 days or so. If that's the case I can't use it for gaming. That would be way too much battery cost. If I were using it just for travel on occasion, sure, but there is no way I should be spending what would be \$3 a month on batteries. If it runs out quick again I'll just go ahead and get the good gaming mouse I was planning on getting and hope pulling it in and out of the port doesn't beat things up too bad.

It also turns out last night was my first class. It seems my classes are Wednesday and Thursday, not Tuesday and Wednesday. I suppose it doesn't matter, but still, I'd have preferred Tuesday and Wednesday.

I'm so very tired of needing to do things that I don't want to do; getting up early to move sleeping locations instead of sleeping in a bed, taking classes that are uninteresting, taking classes at all, eating micro or fast food for every meal, watching shows small and interrupted by bandwidth issues. I had fun today looking over PC news, working on longer music tracks for my podcast, helped out with hardware on forums. I wish so much I was free to truly live my rabbit life. I like doing hardware stuff. I like talking about games. I like helping people to better understand hardware and enjoy their lives.

I wish so very much I was free to live my life... 😞

## Day 1010 - 4/7

### Scared of results

Today my Dragon Age 2 character got a sweetie. 🥰 It's good to know that even if I can't find one for myself my character can at least find love. 😊

I am getting very super concerned about my results of my blood pressure visit. The doctor will likely put me on meds and it will go back down and everything will be fine again. But due to my recent sadness about life thinking I could lose some, or all, of my life due to health reasons is truly terrifying and sad. 😞 If I live as long as both of my granddads I've still got a good 45-50 more years. That, in theory, should still be plenty to find love and maybe have kids, or at least help raise them. But if there were permanent damage, if it were cut in half, or by three quarters, there would not be much time left. 😞

I don't want to end like this. 😞 I can adjust to being alone in my life; I've basically been alone my whole life as it is. I've spent all but about 5-7 years alone and single. It's a sad thing indeed for someone who is commonly told he's creative, smart, funny, god at games 😊, and who is never thought of as unattractive or repulsive. Why am I still single? Other than not interacting in circles that have singles, I don't know. Alone or not I don't want this to be the end of me. Thinking of everyone I have known and do know, I don't think there is anyone I would completely turn away and not help to get back on their feet. There are several people I've known in my past I may not have gotten along with, or now purposely don't want to interact with, but if the situation were reversed I wouldn't completely turn them away to suffer in a homeless state that could wind up being their end. Maybe it's just everyone thinks so well of me they assume I'll persevere and find help. Let's hope that's true. But sadly so far it seems to be much less true than not. Cute adorable bunny me is still out in the cold, alone, and hurting. 😞

## Day 1011 - 4/8

### Bad second half

I had a bad second half of my day I guess you could say. The early portion at school was fine, but I went to get an oil change today and that's where it started to go bad. The guy basically politely insulted me for not knowing what work was done or needed by my car. Now, that would be a fair accusation I suppose, if it weren't for the fact that I've only had the car for about 3,000 miles and don't know anything about cars, thus don't know what work needs to be done that I'm not told about by people like him. (This was a different place than I normally go, and I won't go back. As the saying goes, 'I had a coupon' (gift card in this case)). The food store didn't have the dinner I wanted. Not a terrible thing, I know, but disappointing just the same. Nor did they have the juice I wanted. (It was on sale for \$1, so it was sold out.) Then during my work shift when I tried to play my game it was only stable for about 1/2 hour, after that it kept dropping me every 5 minutes. (Yes, I counted.)

I suppose things weren't all terrible. In the morning I'd gotten an email from a guildie checking in to see if I was ok and that she/her husband were worried about me. In the evening I also got a great start on podcast 11, so I feel good about that.

Things are still so sad though. So many of my problems and sadness tonight wouldn't have happened if I had more pay and lived in a home. It seems such a distant memory now, and in a way, as impossible to achieve as my becoming a doctor. It's hard to imagine someone being so isolated and so alone for so long, but being that person and living this sad story, all I can say is that I feel much like a ghost, an incorporeal thing which occasionally possesses a normal person that people talk to for answers at school in class, or on forums for hardware. I feel like little more than the voice on my podcast and the shadow of what I once was falling to ash to ink these pages.



## Day 1012 - 4/8

### Ok I guess

Today I was ok I guess. It certainly was better in that I could spend the day gaming, a luxury I didn't have even just 3 months ago. I got to sleep in too, so that was good.

But I still worry about my health. I'm still heavy. I still tire easily when I go places. I still feel effects of poor blood pressure. And above all there were still many things I'd have liked to do today that I just wasn't in the mood for (or in the case of school, don't have the books for.)

More than anything today I wished for friends that I could go to a movie with and after play games with. Not just any friends, I guess I'm picky like that, but ones I genuinely enjoy the company of and care about, and share many common interests with.

I had time with my guild friends, who I missed the past few days when I was on school campus all day. But it's not the same kind of friendships, not the same kinds of activities or games.

As always, I try my best to survive and live on so that one day I may return to a normal life. And I hope no one else has to suffer in sadness like me. 😞

## Day 1013 - 4/9

### Care package

I suppose I had a pretty good day. For some reason I slept a long time. I didn't get up until about 12:30. After, I had lunch at school. The wireless didn't connect for some reason, so I didn't stay long. I pretty much spent my day playing my online game and listening to a few Critical Hit podcasts.

Someone in the guild wants to send me a care package. 😊 I wonder what it is.

😊 Could be bunny day things. It's bunny day next weekend. I got an extra shift that day and the night before. I guess that's irrelevant in terms of celebrating since I've no one to celebrate with. The "extra" money will be helpful though. I can put it towards car things. I

guess I should get those done as quickly as I can now that I'm coming up on "bulk" summer money.

That's really it for my day. Basic homeless weekend day other than that really. 😞

## Day 1014 - 4/10

### Could not rescue the princess

There was a beeeauuutiful princess this morning that needed rescuing. 😍 When I got to campus early after moving from my night spot she was there on campus already in the spot next to the spot I park in. When I woke up at around 11 she was still there and asked if she could get a jump. Apparently her battery died because she was listening to music when she fell asleep. 😞 I told her I didn't know how and didn't have cables. 😞 She did though, so she went through her trunk to find them. She couldn't find them though.

I guess that's just another reminder from Fate to hang in there, that maybe there is a cutie out there for me to find, and that people do need my help. I know people use my site and that's helpful. I hope people find my ramblings in Epic Fail and my podcasts helpful and entertaining. But it's nice to actually hear that people need and want my help.



## Day 1015 - 4/12

### Fail appointment is faaail

Today was my doctor's appointment for getting all my blood pressure things taken care of. However, the appointment was a huge failure. After 2.5 or so weeks of waiting, I'm there, filling out the paperwork, and half way through I go, 'so, do you know how much this will be?' The person replied bla bla sliding scale several times, but they stated the range was \$48-120 *per visit* just for basic stuff. That wouldn't have included tests or special procedures at all. I'm like 'ummm... I was told this was "no to low cost", is that

what's defined as low cost these days?' Apparently it is. So I said thanks but no thanks and walked out. She did point me towards a free clinic. I was going to call to make an appointment when I got back to the car, but I was so jostled out of a normal frame of mind by the \$48 minimum that would have cost that I completely forgot. By the time I remembered the place was closed. I'll have to try again tomorrow.

The evening was somewhat fail as well. After my appointment I went to play my game for a bit. I got into a fail group that spend over 2 hours in one dungeon, pushing me well over an hour longer than the maximum time I was expecting to leave to get dinner and eat. And we didn't even finish.

I did get Easter stuff for my friend/ex-roomie though. So that's a happy thing for me to have later, as well as getting a few candies for myself to have. They have new peeps that have chocolate on them. They looked super tasty to nom so I got myself some.

That's it for this week. Without double checking, all I remember over the past week is sadness and disappointment. (Not counting the guildies who were nice and my care package that's on the way.) Maybe next week there will be some positive movement.

## Week 146

### Day 1016 - 4/13

#### The boring lecture and the cute girls

Today was fairly bleh. I'd even forgotten it was Wednesday until I checked my phone's 'to do' list. I thought it was Tuesday. My brain wrote it off completely due to the bad experience with the appointment I guess. I did wind up doing most of my regular Wednesday stuff before class. Tonight we had this dumb lecture in a different place. It was extremely long, and since it talked about stuff I'd heard before, it was extra boring.

The only positive for the night was the two cuties at my table. 🥰 One was unusually short, had raven black hair, and more of a hot looking type. The other was a redhead who had a girl next door cuteness. I'd seen her around before in the room next to the cafeteria. I've actually been avoiding that room this quarter so far because connectivity to the Internets is nonexistent in there.

That was really my day. Nothing truly special to speak of; checked for jobs, did my work online for my friend, and that's it really.

As always all I want is to be able to be in my bed and have a normal life again.



### Day 1017 - 4/14

#### Next appointment

I looked up a free clinic to get my blood pressure looked at and it is only open on Sundays, so the soonest they would be able to see me would have been two weeks. On a whim I decided to see if the school clinic could, and they can. 😊 Yea. So on Monday at too early o'clock I have an appointment. And, school often has meds of various kinds, so it's possible they could hook me up right then instead of needing to call to a pharmacy and all.

I discovered, well someone told me, that bunny day isn't this weekend, but *next* weekend. Well, that's fail either way. I guess if I did have anyone to celebrate with I theoretically would have it off.

That's it for today. I couldn't sleep-in this morning, my body wouldn't let me. I'm running at about 4 hours sleep. 🤪 Mostly today I just got caught up on shows. I watched about four and still have something like six to get caught up with. Maybe I'll do that a bit tomorrow and next week. For some reason neither of my classes meet next week, so I've got a week off already. 😊

## **Day 1018 - 4/15**

### **Basic day is basic**

Pretty basic day today. Nothing special. I tried to get caught up for a few shows. I helped out a girlie in a couple of dungeons in my game. I felt overly fat, heavy, and out breath often. And I finished podcast 11. I'm still having a good time with it, so that's good.



That's it for today really. Another unspecial day in a seemingly unspecial life. 😞

## **Day 1019 - 4/16**

### **Going to waste a day**

Nothing really new today except for some people being dumb about a group project. We don't have class next week, but these dummies are pushing to meet that night. Seriously? A project that isn't due for like six or more weeks and you want to meet on a night we otherwise would have completely off? What's wrong with these people? Normal people would be like 'let's meet ½ hour before class on nights we normally have class.'

\*sigh\*

That's really it. I finished and posted podcast 11 this morning, watched a show or two, played my game for a bit, then had a work shift.

Oh, there was a bit of sad drama in the game. There was some special event going on. I was hit with a 45 minute wait to get in, but when I got on I got no invites or instructions on how to get to the event. It made me feel sad, unwanted, and left out of the fun. Granted, they were pretty much ending it when I did finally get in, but still.

Work shift most of tomorrow, so that's good in that it's "extra". Nothing new other than that.

## **Day 1020 - 4/17**

### **By voice is better**

I think today must have been pretty good. I remember being happyish all day, so that's quite different than my usual persistent sad.

I got a bit of a quiet break for a few hours in the afternoon and for about an hour after that a bit later in the day. It's still so very different when I get a chance to be somewhere quiet and dark. Normally I'm constantly bombarded by light and sound. 😞

Someone in the guild said she very much likes my podcasts. 😊 She actually likes them better than the Epic Fail readings, which is good and bad. But that's fine, as they are different things with different stories. She said I sound good and she likes my voices, which is good because I always worry about how I sound.

Not much else today. I'm still very worried about my appointment tomorrow, but 'm also getting out of breath quicker and quicker, so I'm getting very worried about that.

😞 Hopefully tomorrow I'll have good news.

## **Day 1021 - 4/18**

### **The doctor is out; pressure building**

No appointment this morning. Apparently the doctor is out sick. The higher nurse told me to check back in on Wednesday. The doctor normally is only there once a week on Mondays, but apparently she may be stopping in for paperwork on Wednesday. My

blood pressure is getting super bad again. The first number is around 150, while the second number, the dangerous one, is nearing around 100 again on a regular basis. My weight is up to nearly 215, almost the heaviest I've ever been. 😞 My heart often races in a bad way these days and I tire easily, and my extremities lose circulation quickly.

I hate to post a bad day, but it's getting scary. 😞 I know people out there care about me and worry, so that rests in my heart, but I worry because it seems there is so little I can do to get better without being reestablished in a home. 😞

## **Day 1022 - 4/19**

### **Headaches, ears ringing**

My ears are ringing so loudly. I suppose even though I did sleep in until 11, after that for the past nearly 11 hours, I've had constant noise in my ears. First I was in the loud side room at school eating. Then I went to the library for a bit and probably listened to podcasts louder than I needed to, then around 4:30 I left school to go play, where I was bombarded with loud coffee shop sounds as well as my game sounds. I suppose I had a good time playing, but we spent the better part of nearly 4 hours in one dungeon, mostly spent at two bosses. I think we were really just under geared, but it wound up being a guild run, so we just kept trying different strategies.

I've had pretty bad headaches lately. I may have a cold, as headaches and ear ringing can be indications of that. Those are really my only symptoms save for a bit of congestion and raspy breathing.

Someone in the guild sent me a message saying they really want to help my sad life. I don't think enough support could be gotten though. They want to help with my bad teeth, but that's probably getting to be 25k at this point. They also thought of my car, but I think I've got that covered eventually. I just don't think either would be easy to rally for. As I think I mentioned, I think it's been probably over a year since I got donations if we don't count ones for the laptop and gift times. They are just really infrequent. I suggested maybe the best way would be to let everyone know about my podcast then having people donate if they like it. You know, as per any kind of entertainment, like movies or music.

Well, I guess that's all the rambling for this week. Hopefully soon I'll get my health taken care of. The bad blood pressure seems to be my critical issue these days, and it's not getting better on its own. 😞



## Picture series 21



Rift, Collector's edition



Dragon Age 2, BioShock 2; new and old



So cute a cordless mouse



Music for the me



Early Easter '11 movies for bunnah from bunnah



Care package for teh bunnah? What is it?





So nice a care package!



Bunnah day candies, to bunnah, from bunnah

## **Week 147**

### **Day 1023 - 4/20**

#### **Still no doctor**

Still no doctor this morning. My appointment for Monday morning will stand. Hopefully I'll be ok. My blood pressure was a touch better this morning, so hopefully I'll be fine for the next week.

The meeting with the school people was ok. I guess we were supposed to be meeting anyways and did not actually have the evening off. Hopefully the project will work out ok. I'm more of an organizer and these things always turn into micro managing small parts, which I'm not into.

The day was kinda bleh outside of that. I couldn't do anything I wanted at school because the connection speed was total poo. Oh, I did help people with computer stuff, so that was fun. 😊

I guess that's really it for today and the start of this fail week.

### **Day 1024 - 4/21**

#### **Message from the ghost**

I got a message from the gray ghost today. He mentioned his bad blood pressure and that he had a certain medicine that helps a lot. I'll mention it to the doctor when I see her Monday.

I had an ok day most of today. I did my online work for my friend and figured out an issue that was happening, so that was good. I didn't get to watch my shows though as that took most of my time on campus. The rest was taken up by absurdly slow speeds slowing everything down.

In the evening I played for a bit. I got to do a super fancy dungeon and we did awesome for having never done that one before. I feel pretty good about that though I still wonder how much the game will hold my long-term interest, as it only has about half a dozen dungeons. Plus, of my nearly 5 hours spent online, only 2 of that was with a group,

the rest I spent alone. I was literally about 15 minutes from leaving due to boredom when I got the group call.

No job potential for today, but people around me seemed smiley and friendly, so that's put me in a better mood. 😊

## Day 1025 - 4/22

### Pretty good day

Today turned out to be a pretty good day. I slept in at school. After I took the car to get the \$75 coolant flush. It seems to be running... smoother is probably the best way to describe it. Though 'as if it were previously congested with a cold and now isn't' sounds more accurate to how it feels. After that I played my game a fair bit and had a pretty good time. Work went smooth, as expected, and I got to play a fair bit from there. I started on podcast 12 and rambled for nearly 20 minutes for the first section. That's nearly as long as a whole podcast! 🙌

I feel pretty good about things. 😊 Though, I suppose outside of my work on another podcast nothing has really changed.

## Day 1026 - 4/23

### Pre-Easter

Nothing really special today. I had an ok time with my game and started to work on something for the guild. It's a flash animation of how to fight a dungeon boss. It's pretty fun. I has a flavor, so it's silly but serious. I haven't worked with flash in a while. I really need a new version. The one I have is like 10 years old, which just boggles my mind.

Getting excited for Easter tomorrow even though I just have a few candies that I got for myself. Hope everyone has/had a good Easter. 😊

## Day 1027 - 4/24

### Bunnah day

Today was pretty good I suppose. I didn't get to sleep in at school, so that was sad. People in guild were saying happy Easter, but only a few talked about what they were doing or did. It seemed unusually quiet in that regard.

I had an ok time at work for a few hours. Most of the place was empty so I just hopped into the shower, played my game, and ate the bunny day candies I set aside for myself.

Hope everyone had a good bunnah day. 😊

## Day 1028 - 4/25

### Still no visit

Again the doctor was out this morning, so again my appointment got postponed. We decided to stop waiting though and set an appointment with the higher nurse for tomorrow morning. She can prescribe meds too, so as long as I get something I think that will help. I'm holding at 150/100, so that's pretty bad compared to my like 135/85 that I got down to with the prescription meds.

That was really it for today. I watched a couple of shows to try and get caught up. I'm at like 18 to watch now, so I'm really behind. That week or so off really threw me off my regular schedule.

Speaking of which, I'll be working all day Sunday, like 11 hours. That will get me a sizeable amount of "extra" monies, but it will be weird working for that long. Still, I don't do much but sit and play my games, do homework, or watch movies, so it's not like actual work. It's still so weird to basically be paid to make sure noone messes up a building.

That's really it for today. I'm sad about Portal 2. It keeps crashing on the level I'm on and I don't know why, so I can't get any further in the game. It might be a driver issue, but being on a laptop I don't know if it's one I can update. 😞

Well, hopefully there will be good news tomorrow after my appointment.

## Day 1029 - 4/26

### Impending poking

My appointment with the higher nurse went ok I guess. She didn't seem to think my diet was too terrible all things considered, though she did give me poo poo face about not wanting to do walking for exercise. With my flat feet more than very short distances become painful, so no, I really don't want to take up walking around the gym when I'm at work for 10 minutes three times during the shift. I should be fine once I'm back on the meds I had. She did seem puzzled by the symptom I described, about how my heart gets oddly fluttery. She said that's not one of the symptoms that the meds should cause. She does want to do blood work, so there are impending pokings 😞 but she said that it should only be for a few seconds, so it shouldn't hurt too much. Last time they stuck me with one of those interchangeable needles and left it in there for like 5 minutes while they did 3-4 different samples. 😞

I posted podcast 12 and that's going a bit funny in iTunes. It seems fine through my site or by the rss feed, but iTunes is doing one of its crazy things. It took about 7 hours for it to even show up, as opposed to its normal instant appearance, not all of the data fields are showing up, and it seems to have forgotten about podcast 11. Knowing iTunes can be dumb I'll give it until the end of the week before I worry about it too much. I do still remember those early days where it was taking 48+ hours for data to show up correctly. People can get it, so it should be fully corrected soon.

I guess that's it for this week. Hopefully soon I can get my meds and get my blood pressure back on track and be feeling better.



### Day 1030 - 4/27

#### The poking and the chicken nuggets

Today I got poked in the morning. It went ok and didn't hurt. 😊 I guess the secret is to drink "a lot" of water to stay hydrated, which can foof up your veins. I drank maybe 10 oz right before the appointment. I don't know if that's "a lot", if the guy who poked me was better than the last guy, but it went fine.

During lunch I noticed someone left some chicken nuggets after they left at a table next to me. I'd already eaten, so I collected them for later. As Fate would have it I wound up giving them away to someone I'd seen in a midnight launch line a few years ago. I don't think she remembers me, heck it took a while for me to place where I knew her from. She's a regular in the side room next to the cafeteria. She was there telling her friends how she hadn't eaten since last night, had no money until the next day when she was paid, and was super hungry. I was appalled at noone offering to buy her lunch. By the time she'd told a third person I held the plate up to their group that had the chicken nuggets. Sadly one fell off as I moved it. 😞 But I was like, 'here, eat something.' 😊 She gave me a nice hug against me as I sat there. It was surprising. She's cute, but not really my type in personality. She's loud and constantly talking. It seemed so unfamiliar to be hugged, particularly since it seemed like a genuine thank you for caring. I don't know if her friends are normally that clueless or if she's just not used to being taken care of, but it was nice to get a sincere thank you. I mean I know the people I help with my site, and maybe now entertain with my podcasts, do appreciate what I do, but it is rare to be genuinely thanked, even more so for someone to interact with me outside of class.

I'll go get my meds in the afternoon tomorrow. The nurse wanted me to hold off until after the test just in case she saw results that may indicate a conflict with the drug. I'd taken it before so I don't see why it would be bad, but she said it was basically required as part of the prescription procedure. She did say that most people have to take it the rest of their life, so that made me sad. I don't know that it is entirely the fault of being homeless. Looking back there were maybe some early signs as far back as maybe a year or two before I was homeless, so it's probably a combination of age and homelessness. If

I weren't.. well, so much could be helped. I could rest better, eat better, be in a happy mood to at least do a little exercise, not to mention the other benefits of better mood like enjoying things more and laughing.

Anyways... as always, my life is what it is, and it seems it's changes are in Fate's hands.

## **Day 1031 - 4/28**

### **A bad night**

Tonight was a bad night. The day started out pretty good though. I slept in, yet woke up earlier than usual at 9:45. I went over to get my prescription filled and was back on campus by 10:30. I watched a few shows, I got an email from the guildie that's been reading Epic Fail and listening to the podcasts and she said she and her guy loved 11. But after that my day went to poop. I was going to do homework, but the book I need was *not* on reserve at the library like the professor said it would be. My podcast 11 still hasn't shown back up on iTunes. And in my evening class the professor basically put me down indirectly by saying 'this student' and singled me out for something she praised just one class before.

Tonight is one of those nights where I feel like I should just give up. I'm so tired of it all. I'm so tired of "needing" to do things I'm no longer interested in. I'm so tired of needing to be in classes. I'm so tired of not feeling like I'm happy with where my career is going (particularly since I have no real career.) The like 5 minutes I spent helping a guildie do a system build was the only satisfying part of my day where I really felt productive and helpful. (The other guildie saying they liked my podcast was good too, but that's something I do for a larger audience, and is different from individual / direct helping.) Tonight is one of those nights that I don't understand why I don't have a job that pays me enough that I don't have to take these classes and that I can enjoy my evening to myself, for games or shows, or with friends or a sweetie if I chose.

Tonight I feel as if I were the only one in the middle of a museum display of video and sound that never stop. I feel as if I am alone, isolated, and that the room is not, in fact, a museum exhibit, but a personal cell that I can't leave.

## Day 1032 - 4/29

### Suddenly feel sick

Today was pretty good. I slept in, yet got up earlier than normal. I played some games for a bit at school, then left campus to play my game for a bit before work. I had some good groups with some nice (non-guild) people for a change. 😊 And I had a good group with the guild too, so I felt like I contributed a bit today. I had a good work shift and got started on podcast 13.

Though now I'm suddenly starting to feel sick. I've had a pretty bad headache and sneezing, so maybe I actually am sick again. I did have tomato veggie soup for lunch, as well as something with tomato sauce for dinner, so that could be it too. I have this thing where if I have tomato sauce sometimes my gut hurts. I don't know how to describe it other than as if I "had cramps". It gets really extremely painful I've had lots of cold sauce, but if it gets hot / boiling then cools I'm ok.

Well, whatever it is, hopefully I'll feel fine again in the morning.

## Day 1033 - 4/30

### Entering the portal once more

Today was a pretty good day. I didn't sleep in, for some reason I wasn't tired enough, but I did rest in the car. At I think around 10 I went on campus and did a minor site update. I couldn't watch a show because the connection in the area I sit outside the building has been unstable for I can't remember how long. I was there nearly two hours, and of that time I had a connection for maybe 10 minutes. After, I played my game for a bit, then decided to try and do some Portal 2. It downloaded a small patch when it started u, and to my surprise it played without any crashes. I get to play Portal 2 again, yeeaaaa.

😊 In the evening I had a small work shift. And now we are here at the hiding time.

It was decidedly warm today. Looking at my temperature app thingy it shows that it should get up to almost 80F by the end of the week. 😊 My friend that I do online work

for sent me some monies, so I got new shorts with that since the ones I have don't fit anymore.

The drugs are ok, though I do feel a few side effects. I'm pretty hungry and the area around my heart feels... odd. I think I could have a cold, as I've been congested and sneezing a bit.

That's it for today. No job or life progress news as it were. 😞

## **Day 1034 - 5/1**

### **Long day is looonng**

Today was pretty good. I got to work super early around 8 and worked until about 7:30. I played a couple of different games and watched a movie. The shift was pretty casual. 😊 Well, dual shift I should say as it really was two shifts back-to-back.

But now that it's over, now that things are quieting down in my mind, now that I'm out in a warm, almost hot, evening... it seems very sad. While others are going to or coming from dinner, out and about for different reasons, getting ready to settle in for their evening... I am not. I have nothing to do for the close of the evening. I have no home to return to. I have nowhere to go to relax and make a healthy dinner before going to bed. Now with work over and the evening beginning I'm on the street, alone. 😞

## **Day 1035 - 5/2**

### **Stickers or no stickers**

I've been deciding if I should get stickers for my new laptop or not. With the netbook there was no hesitation, but with the laptop I wonder. Partly it's because it looks really nice, and I don't want to risk messing up its surface for when I resell it. However, part of my hesitation too is likely because putting stickers on it makes it mine for effectively its life in psychological sense, thus requiring that I accept that I will continue to be homeless for a long enough period that its value is greatly diminished. Thinking

about that, part of me wonders if that is not more of a reason to do it, as I *am* homeless, I *do* have to have a laptop if I want to game, and that seemingly isn't going to change anytime soon.

My shoulder is getting tweaked. The weight of the bag is doing something to it. I don't know if it is wiggling around and smoothing the surface or if there is a lack of moisture due to the shirt(s) being smashed into it, or a combination of both. The netbook bag was nothing compared to the laptop's weight and I never had this issue.

I helped the guildie who is doing a system build a bit more and I played games quite a bit. I got to sleep in too, and I got up at my earlier time of around 10. I don't know if the meds are helping me sleep, or if it's the warmer weather, but it's nice to be more rested for a change.

## **Day 1036 - 5/3**

### **Today is a rest day**

Today is a rest day. It's my only weekday that I don't have class or work. I try and relax and not worry about things. I slept in this morning though I couldn't get to sleep last night until pretty late around 2. I played one of my games for a bit on campus, watched a show, and helped the guildie with her system build. I helped someone else too with laptops.

Podcast 13 is about 2/3 done, and I think I'll likely finish on Friday. Those of you reading this real time should keep an eye out for it to show up Saturday by about noon PST. These last couple went pretty quickly at about 10 days each, so that's like a week and a half compared to my targeted two weeks. Hopefully I won't run out of things to say, as there still aren't any comments on them online or emails asking/discussing them. So, I suppose just like everything else in my life right now, I'm basically on my own for doing them.

If I were in a home I'd be in a studying mood now, even though it normally would be a rest day. Part of me thinks I should pass on gaming tonight and do homework stuff, but then I am fairly certain I still don't have the book I need for the one class, and the

other I don't think anything is due other than reading, which I can try and do tomorrow before class.

Though there are still several hours in my evening I think I'll close out the week now. I don't expect anything to happen of interest, and I already did the majority of things that would spark change. Looking for jobs still continues to be depressing and makes me feel like I made the wrong choices at the wrong time. The jobs, what few there were, either required degrees I don't have, experience I don't have, or were beyond my scope of knowledge / experience in a field / job I've done before. Even though my podcasts seem awesome (at least to me), I'm 'meeting' new people through the guild in my online game, and I have a system that can do everything I want / need, as the days go on I feel more and more like this is it. Like this is all that will ever be for me. Nothing seems to be moving forward at all. Things that have been seem to simply be recycling. And everyday things in a home life seem long distant memories now, as far off as those from my childhood. I'm beginning to forget what it's like being able to relax and not worry about safety, not worry about meals, not worry about my health, not worry about every single thing in my life which otherwise would require no worry or stress. Even though there are positive, and in some cases new things, in my life. I'm beginning again to feel like that isolated outsider who is not a part of life, but simply an observer looking in.

## Week 149

### Day 1037 - 5/4 First hotness of 2011

Today was the first day of hotness. My weather app thingy is showing a high of 85F. It's night time hiding time and it's showing that it's still 70F now. It feels much hotter though. I think I've gotten used to the cold since my early homeless days. Tomorrow I'm considering wearing a tank top and shorts, that's how hot it's predicting.

I suppose today went ok. I slept in. I did my online work for my friend. I watched a short show. I wanted to do one of the class readings, but it seems that class' book isn't in the library either. Both classes will be annoyingly hard if the books don't get put on hold.

Nothing changed today in terms of jobs or other life stuff. A few people were friendly towards me though, and although that really changes nothing long-term, short term it made me feel less invisible and at least a little bit acknowledged as an individual and possible special person.

### Day 1038 - 5/5 Cracked

Today was an extra sad day. I woke up in my car (at school) hot, which was good in that I was warm, but bad in that I was overly hot. I put on shorts and a t-shirt and started my day. I had lunch, then went straight to doing schoolwork. But, gee, shock and surprise the book *still* isn't there. After three weeks it's still not there after the professor basically insulted me on the first night saying it was, despite the fact that I looked twice and the librarian looked three different ways. That's now preventing me from doing my homework for several assignments. I wrote the professor saying I can't do her homework without the book, and buying one is a huge deal for me, let alone that her class has two books. That would be an entire week's pay for me, 50% of an entire paycheck. Yes, if I drain my savings and everything else I have I could get them, and I may need to do that, but it's kind of an unspoken rule that professors need to provide books on reserve in the

library for students like me. It's been impossible for me to get into a studious mood since I have no books this semester in the library to borrow.

But something worse happened. My phone slipped from my hand and hit the brick floor at exactly the angle that the current case is vulnerable. Now there is a hairline crack across the entire bottom. It's fully functional still, and now, hiding in the dark, if I look straight at the phone I can't really see it, but still. I did get the full replacement policy, so I'll likely go into my records and look into that. But it makes me very sad. I wouldn't need to be out so much if I weren't homeless. I wouldn't have been in that place at that time. If I had just a little more money I'd have gotten the other case I wanted, which would *not* have been vulnerable in that spot. Now my phone is cracked, flawed, broken, and unable to be perfect. Much like me and my life I too feel cracked, broken, and unable to be viewed as normal. It makes me sad it happened and has reminded me of how fragile and at-risk my life is. On any given day, at any given moment, it could happen again, or it could happen to my laptop, or it could happen to either in a way that breaks them completely... or it could happen to me... and I could be no more. 😞

## **Day 1039 - 5/6**

### **Not schoolwork day**

Today I felt like doing schoolwork. The library is empty and very calm and quiet on Fridays. It almost becomes a private space for me. It certainly feels very different than the normal hustle and bustle that's there. I couldn't though, as I have no books. I know it sounds like an excuse, but it is what it is. Even if I got As in the class instead of Bs that I've been averaging in recent times I doubt it would make a difference. I'm still being hindered by either no jobs to apply to at all or experience being required that I don't have. Being a male trying to get into a field with little ones I get lots of hesitation and resistance despite the fact that every class I go to is thrilled and excited that there's a male there.

I guess overall today was ok. There were no disasters, and I had a nice time with a few friendly guildies and finished podcast 13.



## Day 1040 - 5/7

### Not online

Today was ok. I spent most of it not online. I started at school while it was closed and posted podcast 13 and watching a few shows. My butt got pretty cold though. It wasn't as warm as it was supposed to be. On Wednesday it was like 80F, but I'd guess the day was mostly around 70F, so we've lost the warmth. It even sprinkled at night. I wasn't really in the mood for my online game. I didn't really group and was only there a few hours. Mostly I played single player games and stayed offline.

I think I wasn't into being online because it's the weekend again and I'm sad. Yet another week passed with no change. Although I feel very productive to my people - helping by my site, helping with direct advice, entertaining with my podcasts - I don't know if anyone else will consider me of value. And I wonder if my homelessness will ever end. 😞

## Day 1041 - 5/8

### Momz day

Nothing really special today in my life. I had a work shift this morning which was just about completely quiet because there were no morning groups. I tried to play online after, but everywhere was busy, so I went to play single player games in the library. I had a healthier dinner for fast food choices, then played online for a few hours.

Oh, I guess something sort of different happened. I had a decent idea for a sort of theme for podcast 14, and I put 25 minutes into it for just the first section, so 14 may turn out to be quite large whenever it is that I finish it. 😊

I got a donation recently, so that will help get armor for my phone. I still haven't looked up if/how to replace mine. I'm sort of getting used to the crack. It doesn't bother me as much, but it's still very sad.

Well, maybe tomorrow will be a better day. 😞😞

## **Day 1042 - 5/9**

### **Too lagged**

I guess today was ok. I slept a ton and didn't wake up until almost noon. I was likely catching up from only getting 5 hours Saturday night / Sunday morning. I don't know why I couldn't sleep before work Sunday. I had over an hour I could have napped at work before people came in, and as it turned out they canceled, so I could have had 4 hours.

On campus I did my regular job searching then messed around for just a very short while. With sleeping so late I had no time before laundry until I had to leave for work. Work went ok. I didn't do any podcasting after. I haven't thought of more to say yet. I've got an extra shift tomorrow in theory.

There wasn't a response from either professor about the books not being in the library. I guess tomorrow I may have to go buy at least one. I'm worried about one class because it seems I'll need to do a lot of up-close need permission type observations of kids, and I don't have access to any since the not-sis moved away. There's a center here at the school, but it's mostly far away don't get statistical data on the kids kind of observations. Well, it turns out how it turns out. As with everything else in my life Fate has brought me here, and all I can do is work with what I have; for better or worse.

## **Day 1043 - 5/10**

### **Sad thoughts**

I guess today I'll be closing the fail week out a bit early. I have a work shift tonight, so I can't wait too much later in the day to finish and post it. I could wait until tomorrow, but I don't think much will change for the rest of the day as I've already done a job search and will be leaving for work in about 1.5 hours.

I've been having a lot of sad / depressed thoughts lately. It's nothing terrible, new, or anything to worry about, just sad. More and more I wonder if anything will ever change for me. Classes and advancement, what little there's been, hasn't changed anything. Passing the CBEST hasn't changed anything. More units in child development haven't

helped me in applications. Jobs to apply for as a whole are becoming fewer and fewer with greater and greater competition. And typically everyone around me when I'm at school are about half my age. Even in the evening classes where the age averages a fair bit higher people are still often 10-15 years younger. While there are many who are friendly, the odds of finding a true friend or circle of friends who would want me to hang out with them outside of randomly passing them here on campus is very very low. The odds of finding love even lower. (Though just today Fate did send a very beautiful and attractive girl near to me. She sat down on the other side of my barrierd paired library desk. They are divided into private cubbies, so I could only see the top of her head as she flicked her long black hair around while pondering her school stuffs.)

I suppose the terrible journey isn't all bad. If it weren't for my free time to ponder things, and a few people suggesting it, I likely would have never started doing podcasts. I like them and it seems at least a few out there so far have found them interesting and entertaining. Having no friends offline in my life right now I can see how it's even more important to be able to find things like that which have shared interests as you so that you don't feel quite as disconnected from others. Even if you don't know the person or people in the podcast you can feel at least some hope and joy that someone out there is enjoying the same things as you, or had previous experiences that are similar.

I'm worried about my health too. Though my blood pressure is getting a little better, it's still not great, and I fear without a place to cook it will remain bad, and without a calm private space to be in and relax I fear I may have a very difficult time changing my lifestyle to be happy and at peace with the notion of doing a little exercise now and then to work off this weight. Which again I wonder if I'd even be able to do as long as I don't have a place to cook and keep healthier foods.

As always I hope tomorrow will be a better day and bring some change to allow me to move forward, but more and more lately I wonder if what I have is it for me, and that I will never be able to regain what I've lost. 😞

### Day 1044 - 5/11 The party not mine

Tonight I was downloading some podcasts. A few doors down from the store another store was blasting music. It sounded like someone was having a great time. Once upon a time in my life I knew loud music party kind of people. I myself was never in the kind of lifestyle to throw that kind of party, nor was I ever the person being celebrated at such a party. I thought to myself how nice it must be to be that kind of person. It's been years since multiple people gathered to celebrate me. I can't even clearly remember when it was more than half a dozen who I genuinely cared about and who genuinely cared about me. It's been years since I got more than a few reminders and celebrations of me. I don't mean to sound selfish, quite the opposite. I am hoping to remind everyone out there to celebrate those who are important in your life. Celebrate large, as they said once upon a time. It's important to remind people they *are* special, they *are* important to you, that they *do* matter in your life, and that your life *is* better in some way with them in it and a part of it.

I don't know that I've ever really felt that way. There are a few people here and there that made me feel it, and in recent times a few rabbIt friend / fans have shown up and sent kind words, a donation, or a gift at gift giving times. But the big celebration, that loud music, that house full of guests chatting, laughing, and having a good time and sharing stories... I may never have that. Like so many things I may never have in my life I will miss that experience. I may never have a life that is celebrated. I wonder lately if I will have a life at all much beyond what little I've clung to.

I hope you readers out there have enough friends and loved ones around you that you can properly celebrate life and each other. Don't let those times pass you by. It's the person you are celebrating; that accomplishment, that event, those are just a change within the whole of that person. Celebrate them while you can. Don't ever let anyone forget that you think they matter.

## Day 1045 - 5/12

### Not total coverage

So I checked into my phone coverage today and it seems it is not total coverage. The one most critical thing I spent the extra \$75-90, whatever it was, does not cover breakage. How messed up is that? If I want to replace my cracked screen it would cost \$30. 😞 I may do that eventually, but it's lame that had I not gotten that coverage I could have fixed it or gotten a more protective case long ago. If the screen below the glass were damaged it would have been \$200, which is ridiculous as that's the cost of the whole phone.

I did some stuff for my class today. It took about 2-3 hours, over half the time I had before class to do stuff. I tried to do my online work for my friend, but the server was giving some kind of error, so I'll have to do it tomorrow when I would otherwise be watching shows. 😞

I'm so behind on life now. I have a bunch of reading for that class to do still, some dumb project stuff to do, and when I last checked on Tuesday I've got 19 shows in my queue. 😞

Everything seems like it's continuing to get worse and falling further and further behind as the days move on. 😞

## Day 1046 - 5/13

### Threw up a little

I got sick a bit tonight and threw up a little. 😞 It was just a tiny bit, but after work I suddenly didn't feel good and bleh out it came. 😞 I think it was the micro dinner I had. I've been eating these new steamer types, healthier choices of food for what I have to choose from, and the one I ate tonight was an old-school type and 'junky' in comparison. My poor tummy is so fragile lately.

I couldn't play my online game from work. Again the connection was poop and unplayable. I don't know why but for the past like month neither of my work locations

have had very stable connections. I've lost some or all of my playtime. It's ok. I've gotten very into Fallout 3 now. At first I had a hard time getting into it, but now that I'm getting to know the world and I'm getting used to the things that bugged me, I'm liking it a lot.

I finished podcast 14 and will post it in the morning. I guess it's only been a week since I did the last. I doubt I'll continue the trend of releasing sooner than every other week, but I don't know. The more I can play and have fun the more things keep coming to mind to talk about. It would be awesome if I didn't have to work and could spend all my time doing rabbit stuff. With more time to work on my site, play games, and start going to conventions, I bet I'd have even more interesting things to talk about and information to help people with. Everyone should be able to find or make a job that would make them happier if you ask me. 😊

Well, that's all I can think of for today. 😊

## **Day 1047 - 5/14**

### **Not much**

Not much happened today. I suppose it was ok. I slept in. I got to play for a bit. And I got a short work shift. Oh, I did post podcast 14 in the morning, but that really was the only thing of interest.

## **Day 1048 - 5/15**

### **Too hungry, too full**

I started today way too hungry after a work shift. Even though I had lunch my tummy wanted more lunch. I got a second lunch as it were, then I was overly full. I got an average sized dinner and again felt way too full.

I put my new case on my phone and totally love it. 😎 It covers all the glass bits and nothing is vulnerable. (Save for a pointy thing hitting the front, which no case could protect from.) I even saw someone today with my old case and showed them the damage

and warned them. They felt ok about the risk and didn't want to change. That's their choice I guess. Hopefully nothing bad will happen.

I've had a good time with guildies in the game today, and saw the super cute mousie visitor at work. I put a cracker out for him and he sneakily ate it. 😊 But I'm so very sad lately. I'm tired of days like today where I wanted to sleep in a bed, where I feel a bit sick and want extra quiet restful time, where I want to eat just a little, but can't because I can't store my food. Life is ok, all things considered, and I'm managing as best as I can, but everything weighs on me so much. I have my shows and movies, but it's so hard to enjoy them in limited form. I have to oversaturate myself in crowded public areas. I can't eat healthy cooked food because there's no realistic way to cook. Today things seem sad. 😞 My life seems sad. 😞

## Day 1049 - 5/16

### Stupid studying

I got up really late today, after noon. I think my body was catching up a bit. Sunday I had a morning work shift and couldn't sleep in, and there have been several nights lately I couldn't sleep until 2 or later. I may have a cold too. Since I threw up a bit on Friday I've been feeling icky in my tummy, congested, and occasionally sneezing.

I did my note making or my stupid test on Thursday. I'll be trying to study that over the next few days. It's all really basic stuff. I don't like the class though. The professor has been indirectly mean and insulting towards me, when it's her fault I didn't have a textbook for three weeks. If she'd just believed me or at least checked if it was in the library instead of refusing to believe what I said I'd have not been behind.

Someone got me all upset and stuff in game too. Almost immediately when I logged in they sent a confusing line of tells that didn't make sense. I had to unconfuse them over 10 minutes, which basically amounted to them asking me to help with killing stuff some 20 levels lower than me.

Not a terribly good day most of today I suppose, but my life is what it is. I'm trying to change it and remain hopeful, but nothing seems to change. 😞

## Day 1050 - 5/17

### Another week's end

Today doesn't seem overly sad, though it's most certainly my regular sad. I slept in very late again, watched a few shows, and did the input of Epic Fail. There were some other rabblty things to attend to with the launch of a new graphics card, so that got posted as well. I really want to do new system builds, but there just hasn't been time with all the school junk I've been needing to do. Maybe I'll have time this weekend.

A towel has mysteriously disappeared. I had it in the morning yesterday, but I don't recall putting it into the laundry, and it certainly didn't come back. I have no clue how it disappeared between being in the car in the morning and the laundry. Maybe it slipped out of the cart carrying it in and someone swiped it. Well, I guess if someone really needed it that bad they can keep it. I got it on sale I think for \$5, so it could probably fairly easily be replaced. Maybe it was turned in to lost and found at the laundry. I may stop by and ask Friday if I remember. It's near my work locations, so it's not local to me on days I don't work.

Life still seems very sad. I'm very happy doing the podcasts and a few people have seemed to enjoy them. I still seem to get puzzled looks or comments when I mention it to people though. I guess they aren't as well known as I though. I'd have thought everyone knew what podcasts were, as I seemed to be the last person on the planet to hear about them. It's only early evening now, and I'm about to go get dinner and spend some time playing online. Though I'm looking forward to it, at the same time I'm not. I'm extremely grateful and happy to be able to play now, but the thought of needing to go somewhere public, somewhere loud, somewhere that I may or may not have enough bandwidth to connect, where I may or may not have any extra bandwidth to do anything like download and update things in the background while I'm doing it. My life today has freedoms I didn't have a few months ago, and even more than when I started this terrible journey, but it's still so far from what everyone else seems to have every day, and every day people seem to very easily forget everything that they have.



## **Week 151**

### **Day 1051 - 5/18**

#### **Another sad day**

Today was another mostly sad day. I suppose you could say I accomplished a lot in that I had time to do my online work for my friend, I did a bigger search for jobs, and put out a couple of resumes, and I got to sleep in for as long as my body seemed to need. But I'm sad. My life is what it is. Although I saw half a dozen cute girls, though I put out some resumes, though I did get to try and relax by playing a game for half an hour, nothing in my life has changed. No girls gave me even a glance my direction. No jobs I've applied to in the past sent word of an interview. Noone sent word that they have seen my site or heard my podcasts and want me to join their (paid) crew.

Days like this I feel very unspecial. I feel like a failure. I feel that nothing I'm doing to change my situation is helping and why should I bother.

I got an email from my guildies who are listening to my podcasts and they said they liked them and for me to keep my chin up as it were, so that's something. 😊 But still, I long for little more than having a job I at least moderately like, which pays me enough to live in a place and way where I don't have to worry about any of this. Living without real life friends would be bearable because I have online friends. Living without love would be tragic, but it's been my life for over 10 years; I'm used to it. But living without a home, without a bed to rest my head on at night, without a quiet peaceful environment to rest in, without somewhere to put my stuff, play my games, and watch my movies and shows... that is beginning to heavily weigh on my soul. 😞

### **Day 1052 - 5/19**

#### **Bad night, bad teacher**

So the teacher I've been talking about before was extra mean to me and ruined my night. Early in the day she sent an email to everyone which basically was another indirect attack against me. She was almost refusing to let me take the mid-term test tonight and

'wanted to talk' first. Again she did not offer a hand of friendship, support, understanding, or compassion, and was still holding her position that I should drop the class. She said she didn't understand why I didn't have a book or what to do about it. Seriously? I told her the very first night of class that none was on reserve in the library and she countered with what was effectively an insulting tone, in front of the entire class openly, saying that there was and that I was wrong. I explained how I searched three different ways, and the librarian searched the database about five different ways, and she held her position. I also told her on the following week that there still wasn't one. I explained I didn't understand why she wasn't being sympathetic about my not having children, not working with children, and don't know anyone with children. She said that my stating those facts "create a hostile environment in class." Are you kidding me? In a class where she's constantly telling people to state fact, not opinion, and to hold bias, that my stating a fact about my life that may create difficulty in completing assignments creates a hostile environment?! Bleh. She reluctantly agreed to let me stay but she still seems horribly bias for some unknown reason. The fact that I can't get a job in the industry without experience is exactly the same kind of bias I think she's holding. Some unknown thing that is likely giving her the impression that if people don't feel I'm trustworthy then I shouldn't be in the field or something. I don't understand how she can't relate it to someone who's in extreme poverty just trying to get an education, or someone who may be trying to get into a trade skill who lacks the money or means to buy the tools ahead of time. You certainly wouldn't expect someone in the medical field to have prior surgical experience when they are working on associates level classes towards a medical doctorate, why should I be expected to have that same kind of illogical connection to resources. I wrote to the dean of the department about it (who is the professor in the other class and who knows my situation.) Never in my 12 or so years of going to college level classes have I had this kind of bias and seeming pre-judgment towards me. Many professors in Early Child Development are thrilled to see males in classes, and if not many are pleasantly surprised. I've never had a professor like this before who seems to be following the same 'push them out' resistance I'm seeing in the field. (I'm the only male in this class.)

So that ruined my evening. What would have been an evening I otherwise could have had 2.5 hours to play online on a day I don't normally get to play at all. Not only was I in a bad mood after, I didn't want to be with other people who could have cheered me up.

I suppose, along with everything else in my life, I have to let it go. It is what it is. If she doesn't want to be a helpful professor I just have to try and continue to do my best and it falls where it falls. It seems yet another reminder that no matter what I try and do and hope to achieve someone will be there to beat me down for seemingly no reason.

## **Day 1053 - 5/20**

### **Smells like stinky feet**

I stopped by the laundry on the way to work. There was indeed a white towel the correct size to possibly be mine. It has no tears or discoloration so I'm only so sure it's mine. Mine or not, I have two big towels again. The lady said she found it on the floor, so it must have been pulled from the wash but not made it to the dryer. I'm usually so careful to double and triple check that. Since it's been wet all week it smells like horrendously bad stinky feet. I had it hung up in the car after giving it a quick dry, and good gods it smelled bad still. I put it into a plastic bag because I couldn't take it anymore. Hopefully it will be fine and not stink up my car further until I can give it a heavy soap wash Monday. I may even get a dryer thing that's perfumed to have some kind of counter stinkiness before using it as an under blanket again.

I was thinking about what to do about school. There isn't really anything I can for this quarter but grit my teeth and bear it and do what I can. It is what it is at this point. But the more I thought about it the more I've realized two important things. First, and this is the more technically important, it hasn't helped me get a job or back on my feet at all. I'd hoped the CBEST and Child Development stuff would get me into a sort of foot in the door position (towards teaching), but it just hasn't done anything for me. In the entire time I've been working on it I've had two interviews. Both were impressed by my education, yet both flat refused to give me a complete interview since I have no experience working with children yet. Second, and this is the more spiritually finding, I'm simply not having any fun. At all. Thinking back to my Psychology days, particularly the Associates level classes, there were a lot of times in class I had fun. Maybe the material was more interesting, maybe sometimes the class structure was just a bit more casual, I'm not entirely sure what it is. But in all classes I was either ok with the assignments or I was

having a bit of fun with it. In all of my time with Child Development it's never seemed more than a boring repetitive chore. And in cases like my current classes there are big projects due, much bigger than there should be for Associates level classes. And the professors, they are both far far too serious and demanding for this level. I've come to the conclusion today that I'm going to re-evaluate how close I am to a certificate and just take the closest one. I've had, off the top of my head, at least 18 classes. That's got to be close to some kind of certificate. It's three years part time and you can get an Associates in two full time. The last three quarters or so I've only had three classes per quarter I could take because I've taken the rest. This most recent quarter really only two, so I must be near the end of possible classes. If I'm only a few classes from a certificate then that's it; I'll finish and go. If it's more than about three classes I may just surrender and move on without a certificate. It's not helping and it's no longer fun. I'll take another look at what computer options I have. I know certification is out of the question (short-term). That's a four year full time degree, but maybe I can take at least a few shorter classes towards server admin or electronics towards a tech degree. (Ideally combine the two and do something like networking at a school campus.) Being somewhere that's not helping and not fun, and with this one professor where she's pushing me away... that's it. I'm done. If they don't want to help and it's not helping me get a job, then that's not for me. I don't go where I'm not wanted. Too few professors (only about two ever) were really happy that I, a male, and a person with my friendly empathic personality, was considering working with children.

Anyways, as I stopped my school stuff for the day and played games and focused on rabbit things I felt as if a weight temporarily lifted. It will come back quickly in the coming days, but I think it's time to move on from this attempt that's not helping me one bit so far.

Started podcast 15. Had an ok time playing online at work. Watched a show. Things seemed ok today. My sad life didn't seem quite so stifling.

## **Day 1054 - 5/21**

### **Just for four hours**

I played online for just four hours today. I don't know, I just wasn't into it. In the morning I got to sleep in, then watched a few shows outside of school.

I feel odd today. Maybe it's partly because I've gotten used to covering the Saturday and Sunday shifts and I'm not doing that this weekend. But it feels like more. Maybe I'm sick. I think it's just my depression and homesick feeling. I feel off, out of place, like I should be somewhere else, doing other things. My "normal" homeless life, my "normal" choices seem wrong and incorrect. I feel like someone else. I feel confused. And I feel like I'm lost in a land I don't understand. 😞

## **Day 1055 - 5/22**

### **Dreading the return**

Today was ok. I slept in, which was necessary as I again couldn't sleep until about 2 in the morning. I watched some shows and did some forum stuff while I had lunch. And then I basically spent the rest of the time in my online game just about solo the whole time. Guild chat and the voice chat were usually quiet too. It felt lonely and isolated.

I'm dreading my return to school stuff tomorrow. I've decided to get super focused and do overdue readings and check on assignments. It's been very tough to be motivated this quarter. I do still feel as if a weight has been lifted from my shoulder since I've decided not to continue if I don't have to. I think the fact that this has been yet another thing that's not helped my situation has been weighing on me far more than I thought. More classes aren't helping my applications, so there is really no point in continuing to higher levels if I've not been helped already. It's possible computer degree classes will be just as much of a waste of time, but maybe with that at least I won't feel like it's supposed to be getting my life on track, as I know I'm not going anywhere without certification. I don't know what to do though. I'd thought the Child Development would at least help me get my foot in the door where I'd be on my way towards a something, but so far it's done zero for these 3-4 years of classes.

Anyways... tomorrow and the days ahead are what they are. As always I hope for better days. I hope for new friends I can meet and hang out with. I hope to find a sweetie. And I hope to find a way back in to a home and a job I'm at least moderately happy doing.

## Day 1056 - 5/23

### A surprising number

Today someone on campus had the cutest tiny baby kitten. They were gray with white stripes. I would guess the baby was only 8-10 weeks old. They were maybe 10" long at most from nose to behind. I saw them from a distance, but the kitten looked so cute. 🥰 Back in the day I would go to pet stores and visit the homeless pets. It made me think back to that, to think of cute kitties I'd want to take back to a home and take care of so they would have love and shelter.

Still no change in my life today. I suppose I'm a bit more sad or melancholy what with this stupid class. And now too my boss has *again* forgotten to drop off the time cards at the work sites. I still don't know if I got all the hours on my last time card and now I get to worry if this time card will be messed up since it to will be electronic.

I didn't feel much like playing my online game today. I've been feeling that a lot lately. With my big body all there is left to do is grinding crafting really since I can't do raids. And my little body, well, level grinding. I think I'm losing interest quickly. I suppose in part it's because of lag and time constrains. I think though a greater part is there just isn't really all that much content.

I did remember something about my web statistics though. It shows file type hits. I remembered to look today, and if it's a correct number, there are over 550 podcast downloads. That's roughly 40 each episode if it were spread out evenly. That's quite a bit more than I was expecting. It's not a huge number, like 1,000 each or anything, but I was guessing there were only about a dozen listeners. Unless someone repeatedly downloaded them, I have roughly 30-40 listeners. 🥰 I did do a fair bit more on podcast 15 tonight. That's around 23 minutes so far for the first two segments, so it will be a bit bigger again. Hopefully people enjoy that.

I have a bunch of dumb school stuff to do over the next few days. I'm very tempted to see if I could drop that class with the bad professor and take some computer at my own pace classes to make up the lost units to satisfy Financial Aid. I'm just not comfortable about continuing if she is going to keep pushing me out. Seriously, when did teachers start turning into people who push students out instead of trying to help them and treat them as individuals with different learning levels and resources available to them? It seems like no matter where I turn with the job world or potential re-entry to the job world it pushes me away.

It seems the only times I'm really happy are when I go within, when I do the private things I enjoy that in turn helps an invisible audience.

## **Day 1057 - 5/24**

### **Indeed too late**

I checked the add and drop dates of classes and it is indeed too late to change anything for this quarter. I have no option to do as best as I can to tolerate the bad class and what happens happens. There are only five more meetings, so hopefully things will be tolerable and civil for that time. I am indeed not alone in my feelings. Someone today sent an email asking me for help on her assignment, as the teacher was unclear as to the directions and requirements. Apparently the bad teacher hadn't made it clear enough for her either, nor given enough notes on her paper for her to know what to do to meet the requirements in a re-do. I helped her out as best I could, as I too don't have any directions, and suggested that at the end of class when teacher evaluations go out she give the professor very bad marks in those areas. I really don't feel she should be teaching anymore. She isn't helpful to students, she seems tired and like she's got some terminal illness and was forced out bed to walk 5 miles wearing a 20 pound bag to do some trivial thing she didn't need to do. And this is every day anytime I see her. I don't mean to sound overly mean, maybe I'm just venting, but she may be great as a grandmother and teacher in a toddler or young child environment, but for college, she's way too slow, way to round-a-bout, and her assignments just don't make sense in terms of targeting the goal of students understanding x. The green sheet, literally is like "write x". The assignment lines

are five words or less, with no directions beyond that. She claims that directions are given orally in class, but seriously? They aren't clear. There are no hand-outs. And if anyone missed class there would be almost no guidance what-so-ever. (The book gives some guidance, but often times they are different forms than the bad teacher wants and in contradiction.) It seems like she's doing the job as some kind of condition of parole and that she's forced to be here. There seems to be no passion for teaching at all, nor any care for the students as individuals or people seeking understanding.

Anyways, I suppose it's better in a way that I can't redirect just yet. It means I have a month or two at a casual pace to look at classes and plan a redirection towards something; even though I know that redirection isn't likely to be achievable since the scope of this particular redirection would take far longer than I really should continue to be homeless for. Heck, I don't want to be homeless and sad for another month let alone another six to eight years getting an Associates level degree in a new field part-time would take. But if this current direction isn't helping, if the requirements are too high to get a job (with Psychology needing Masters or higher and ECE wanting experience I don't have and can't get), if I'm not having fun, if it's not helping on my resume for applications, there is no point in continuing along this path. I prey to the gods that as long as I'm working on something part time or more that Financial Aid loans will stay off my back, as that's \$800-1000 a month I'd owe at this point. Hopefully some day I can return to at least a minimal level regular life and have enough to stop going to school, pay off those loans, and be at least moderately happy with my life.



## Week 152

### Day 1058 - 5/25

#### Meh day

I suppose today worked out ok. School lacked the bandwidth I needed to do my online work, so I just spent the time playing single player games and studying. I woke up early to do an assignment for that stupid class, but now they are hopefully done and I just have to worry about minor ones tomorrow.

I did get a little encouragement from the professor tonight indirectly, who is the dean of the department, as she made a comment that the college is re-evaluating some of the requirements to getting certificates and degrees. Someone had mentioned it's not feasible for her to meet certain conditions, as she works full time, and the professor said that and other conditions, meaning people like me who don't have access to certain things, are being re-examined. So, hopefully at least for future people they won't have as difficult and frustrating a time as I'm having.

Nothing else to say really. Oh, I did notice a Firefly keychain thing on Amazon for \$11. I totally bought it. 😊

That's it for today. A lot of sad in my life lately while I seem to be surrounded by people doing just fine. 😞

### Day 1059 - 5/26

#### Displaced

It's evening time when I should be hiding in my semi-safe / semi-private space, but I'm not there. There was activity, so I have to wait. I'm not anywhere too suspicious, not yet, but the clock is ticking. I only have so long before my lingering becomes suspicious. I hate being displaced and reminded that I'm homeless. At least with some kind of routine I can pretend I'm not as bad off, that there are 'safe' places to be emotionally and physically.

I am displaced. I am alone. I am sad. Anything good during the day has faded in memory along with the sun light. Now with only shadow the world becomes dangerous and I can no longer blend in and appear like just another nobody. Now I am the outsider, as easy to spot to the trained eye as if there were a spotlight on me.

## **Day 1060 - 5/27**

### **Feeling sad, but grateful**

I'm feeling very sad today I guess. I got to sleep in, but it was my last day to sleep in (in theory) until Tuesday. School is closed for the weekend and I'm pretty sure that will mean an empty parking lot patrolled more frequently than usual. After sleeping in I got yet another reminder of homelessness as I had to eat right then if I didn't want to pack and unpack everything in the middle of my school time. Eating right after I get up is not something I like to do. (Not even with breakfast foods.) Playing in the library was very private; again a reminder of what my life should be like. Since there were only a half dozen in my area I easily got into playing my games. There wasn't enough bandwidth to watch shows unless I went to a system with a landline. Yet another slap in the face.

Today I'm grateful I have my gaming system at last. And I'm grateful someone suggested I do podcasts once upon a time. I like doing them a lot. 😊

But I'm sad. The sad won't go away. The sad affects my health, my general ability to function, and I still wonder if I will ever be able to recover on my own. 😞

## **Day 1061 - 5/28**

### **Tiny bird rescue**

I don't know how or why, but there was a tiny bird in the coffee shop today. They were flapping around near my feet between my stuff and the window. I asked for a bucket to capture them in and someone who used to work in animal rescue happened to be there buying a coffee and suggested using a towel. I guess if you put it over them it calms them down because you can hold them all around and they feel secure. (Like we humans can

measure that. 😊) On the third try I got the little fella. They weren't much bigger than my two hands cupped together. Just their head was peeking out. I could feel their heartbeat and it did seem to slow a bit as I talked to them calmly and took them outside. 😊 People seemed impressed I rescued the birdie so quickly. 😊

Once upon a time when I was little I nursed a bird back to health. I was probably around 6 or so. Where I grew up they had this style of house where the back was all glass in the living room area, with vaulted ceilings. Every now and then birds would bump into that upper part thinking they could pass through the house. 😞 One day I saw one that was hurt and fell to the ground. I put them in a box. I gave them some lining to rest on and covered them up at night. I put a water dish in there, but I remember being very worried that they didn't eat or drink that first day. I think it was about three days before they were sitting upright most of the time and starting to drink/eat and stretch their wing out. I think it was a full day between their being restless and only flying a few feet off the ground before they could back up to the telephone pole and off out of sight.

Nothing else really interesting today. I did most of the new system builds for June. I'll finish probably tomorrow. Since school is basically the only place I can upload my site there's no super rush. I basically have until Tuesday.

That's it for today. 😊

## Day 1062 - 5/29

### The story

So awesome a movie Kung Fu Panda 2. 😍 As I was in the theater it felt almost like I was a part of something. We laughed and shared an adventure, a story, and our emotions. I was alone, but for a brief few moments I was not.

It makes me wonder where I am in my story. Is this the terrible beginning? The middle (as it hopefully is in the middle of my life)? Or the sad end after a long journey along a forgotten path that no one dare travel? And what of you, the readers? Where are we in your story? Is this the catalyst for something new?

Only time will tell. Only those who hear the tale and live beyond will re-tell it.

## Day 1063 - 5/30

### Being human

For podcast 16 I decided to talk about being human. The more I've thought about it the more I notice things about it. Like today and yesterday everywhere I went people talked about BBQs and gathering with friends and family. Traditionally the holidays are part of being human. If you have none, if you are like me and can't, it makes you feel less human, isolated, alone, apart from what makes you human. I know I've talked about daily routines and holiday celebration before, but it really is these seemingly trivial traditions and routines that make us *feel* human. Not having a choice to celebrate or not, not having friends or family to celebrate with, not having optional choices to do while ignoring mainstream choices (such as TV marathons), these will cause you to feel like you are losing your connection to humanity.

It's crazy to think, but you have no idea how much a hot shower and getting dressed and ready in a casual environment makes you feel human (and like a part of things) until you can no longer do it.

## Day 1064 - 5/31

### Getting it done

I finally got to sleep in. Campus was indeed closed on the weekend. Well, Saturday the gate was open to the pool area, but there were no cars around, so I decided not to risk it. At last I'm not dead exhausted and feel like I'm going to fall over asleep at any moment. All three days on the weekend I wound up taking a nap after lunch. It helped, but only a little.

Today I have to work on the school junk I've been putting off. I have to run research for that stupid presentation and I have to do an observation for that class with the mean professor. At least if I can get those both done they will be done, and bigger projects than not will be tended to, leaving only a few small ones before the end of the quarter in four or five weeks whenever it is. I'm so looking forward to the end of the quarter. I'm so sick of this one. I need a break and to not need to worry about doing

anything (save for looking for a job) for a while. What with all my pressures I never get a break. I never get to relax and just stop thinking about stuff. It's constant, and at times overwhelming.

Someone posted a thread on one of the boards I'm on about helping people in need. It was about helping people who are lying, but I did some bla bla on my perspective of things. It was sad, but as I typed it I felt more factual, historical, more just explaining what is than not. Hopefully it will help some people to think about things they otherwise wouldn't, but I wonder if it will really change anything. Most of what's said in forums is quickly forgotten or ignored by the reader. As always I hope my terrible journey and my podcasts help people's lives in some way, if even just for a short while.

### Day 1065 - 6/1

#### The horrible nightmares return

Today started out bad. 😞 After I got to the school parking lot and fell back to sleep I had nightmares about being forced to move out and being homeless again. Not just one, but two different ones. The second made me so sad that I started crying in my sleep and it woke me up. 😞

I suppose the rest of the day I was okish. My blood pressure was way down at 145/88, the lowest I think it's ever been since I've been tracking it. I did my online work for my friend without too much lag. I had time to see if a game I've been trying to play would play from school. Turns out it won't there either. I'll have to see if I can get it to play without an Internet connection or I'll have to wait to play (until I'm back somewhere with an un-firewalled connection I can play from.) And I watched a show and a few episodes of True Blood season 3. I guess it's been exactly a year since I saw those first few episodes. It's so crazy to think that it's been that long. Work was ok, but there was zero bandwidth. So, I got an extra shift at work during which I got to watch more True Blood. After, I did work on podcast 16.

As usual for recent times I've been feeling very sad. Noone would be able to tell if they were to look at me or talk to me though. My life looks normal enough looking in. But it's the little things that add up. I had to shower at work. I haven't had a shower since Friday. I got strawberries for teh cheap for \$1.50 for a small plastic box, but lacked the money to get loaf cake to go with it. (I get paid tomorrow, so I can get them then. 😊) And, instead of watching my show first run I watched it a year later on my laptop, with headphones. I did not immediately leave work to rush home. I have no home.

Although I know there are people out there who care about me I am alone. I live my life differently than everyone I know. And I have no idea when, or if, that will ever change. 😞

## **Day 1066 - 6/2**

### **Preparing to prepare for battle**

Amongst my messages this morning was one that mentioned a Starcraft 2 tournament. I'd been thinking about picking it up lately. I'll go ahead and get it tomorrow and prepare for the tournament. It's online, so it really wouldn't be all that different than any other online matches. I'm pretty terrible though and don't expect to do well even in the amateur league. But, something different, something where I could win a prize, something I may have fun with and be able to say, 'yeah, I was a part of that,' could be just what I need.

It doesn't start until the end of June, so I've got a little while. It should be just enough time to put this bad class junk behind me. I was about to describe my night to you, but I scratched it out. It's just not worth fixating on. She's a terrible professor and I'll leave it at that. The class will be over soon enough, and hopefully I can put it behind me.

I did some searching for jobs, but, as usual, found nothing to apply for. I did find a few interesting jobs, but they required at least a year experience in a medical setting, which I don't have. I guess I just have to keep focused on the positive aspects of the job that I do have, the freedoms I do have access to, and then keep myself feeling productive with my site, my podcast, and happy with the games and shows I can afford to get.

If I do get Starcraft 2 tomorrow it will very likely be a better day, as I often hope for, but let us hope it is at least a small step forward. Even if it may only be in happiness and enjoyment of my own personal life.

## **Day 1067 - 6/3**

### **Lost hours**

Today pretty late in the day I got notice that my main work hours will be lost for three weeks. It will sort of balance out in that I'm doing 30 or so of (yearly) training and getting other hours through the summer, but still, it's effectively about \$350 I won't be getting (because work didn't do the yearly maintenance during the holidays like they normally do and are doing it now for some reason.)

I didn't have the bandwidth to play tonight. I can't clearly remember when I last did from work. It's ok though. I did some single player gaming, some series watching, some work on Epic Fail, and finished podcast 16. That's all ready to go in the morning.

I suppose everything will still work out, but I still can't help but feel an immense sadness about my life. My hours at work are ramping up for summer, which is good, but it's a job that wouldn't ever give me enough hours to move back in to a home (on its own.) School is coming to a close in a few weeks, but I'm no closer to a career with the close of this quarter than seemingly any before it. I was again one of only half a dozen on campus at any given time wherever I was. I again got no notices on jobs. I again did everything someone normally would during a day in a way that was not normal.

It's beginning to lightly rain again. And that's just about how I feel inside too. 😞

## Day 1068 - 6/4

### So fast

I guess today was ok. I had a good time with guildies and had lots of laughs. 😊 I tried playing my competitive game online, but when it was trying to figure out my rank the games were incredibly fast. There would be no way I could play it in that tier. Good times with my guildies in my online game though. 😊

Nothing really new today other than that. Oh, I posted podcast 16, so that was happy too. 😊

That's it for today I guess.

## Day 1069 - 6/5

### Group means group

Today was ok for only getting around 6 hours of sleep I suppose. There was a bike thing with extra police going on in the area I normally sleep in on the weekend, so I decided not to risk it. I played my new competitive strategy game a bit (single player



off-line) and then played my online game quite a bit. There were a few groups with guildies, and we shared some laughs, so that was good.

I can't believe the group for this group project. I think I've mentioned them before. We met like eight weeks ago. Nearly a week ago I did a bit of research and said 'our presentation is in like two weeks, here is some research I did and thoughts for my part'. Normal group projects people talk and share ideas and make a cohesive and focused thing. But not this one. There have been secret meetings between two of the six members. Last week my email got replied to with basically, 'don't worry, we did your part.' I heard nothing until today where a new email said, 'we are finishing the project in the next couple of days', note that it's due on Wednesday night and no slides or presentation has been emailed, 'your part is a few slides but you have to come up with what you are saying.' Um what? So after an entire week of having my parts I sent they are telling me that my part is completely up to me and that none of the presentation slides are ready? There are only two people of six who have been having secret meetings and have had a say in the slides or the presentation or paper? It would have been nice to know a week ago that I was on my own completely, or eight weeks ago for that matter. Needless to say I'll be letting the professor know. That's not ok nor fair to anyone in the group to imbalance the project. A group project is for learning to work in a group, not have two people do secret meetings and exclude everyone else.

Well, maybe tomorrow will be a better day. I have the week off from work, so that will be different. The week after I work 30 hours (triple normal), so that will balance it out in pay, but be equally as weird. I'll not get to sleep in at all that week and it will be hell. 😞 Well, my life is what it is I suppose. 😞

## **Day 1070 - 6/6**

### **Need a rest**

I'm so emotionally tired today. Not working has thrown me off in weird ways. I got to sleep in, which was awesome as I couldn't Saturday or Sunday. Since I didn't work in the evening I immediately left school campus to have lunch and do laundry. I stopped by work's office to do my time card, then came back down to school. By then it was just

about 3, leaving very little time to work on papers and presentations. I suppose they will all have to be done in the next few days, so even though this week will be very busy over the next few days I will pretty much get a break after that.

I really need a break though. I'm so emotionally drained from, well, everything in my life I just want to be somewhere (like a hotel room) and just stop worrying about it all. The not-routine of my routine today really threw me off. Sure, lots of people can't do laundry in their home, but once upon a time I could. I could shower anytime I wanted in privacy. I could eat what I wanted and just how much I was hungry for, or save any extra if need be. I could watch TV or movies. I could cook. I could study morning, noon, or night in a quiet private space. I could play my games, and I never had to worry about if I needed to be connected to the Internet or not because I always was.

Reading those I'm sure you were bored. They are everyday things just about everyone has and don't give them any thought. But not me. I can't even clearly remember the last time I could do some of those things – let alone doing several at the same time. My life is a constant single task at a time emotional disaster. I always hope I can return to a normal life, but I no longer know if I will be able to.

This morning on campus I had strange dreams. Not nightmares or sad dreams, just odd. I was, not a talent scout, but a middle person between one and people. I'd just gotten someone hooked up with an agent from the U.K. who was going to give this digital artist 20 million for work he'd already done. I celebrated with the artist for a bit, and after I was talking with someone else about how I'd connected several people at 5-10 million, but 20 was the highest. I'd wondered though why noone had been interested in me, how noone saw what I did as being valuable. Why was I still relaying and connecting talent, but could not connect myself.

## **Day 1071 - 6/7**

### **Done sooner than I expected**

Today I discovered something that's happy. This week is the last week of classes. Next week are finals, where I'll just show up for the test then go. I'm so relieved that the classes are almost over. I'm not happy about how the Wednesday class' group project was

not a group project. And gods know what a disaster the Thursday class has been. It will likely be the first not A or B I've gotten in a very long while, possibly the first ever D if she follows through with her earlier implication/threat (if I didn't drop the class, which I couldn't at that point.) Hopefully financial aid will be ok if I do and it will take a GPA average overall. I don't think the one class will do any true damage long-term in GPA. Emotionally, yeah, it was the catalyst to convince me maybe I won't continue in Child Development. I've gotten some very positive warm welcomes from professors, but almost always they seem confused and uninterested in helping me do anything about not currently being able to find a job in the field. Experience required is experience required, there seems no way around it even if professors were willing and interested in giving me glowing letters of recommendation (which none have so far, despite their excitement at seeing a male in the class.)

I tried to do some of the final stuff for the classes I needed to do today, but I was unable to focus. I did less than half what I wanted and my brain simply didn't care. I don't know if it really cares about anything today though. I would like to play some games and watch some shows, but not with an overwhelming sense of joy and excitement that I normally would compared to doing other things. Overall I just feel kind of bla. I am burnt out. I need a rest. I need to stop. I need to be able to not worry about things and just get a fresh and good start after that short rest. But I can't. My life plods along one day at a time. And each day the steps forward are seemingly not forward at all.

## **Week 154**

### **Day 1072 - 6/8** **Non-functional brain**

My brain was non-functional today. I was sleepy all day even though I'd gotten 9-10 hours sleep. I couldn't focus on projects and only managed to do the bare minimum due. I still have a bunch to do tomorrow. Since the network was barely connecting I couldn't accomplish anything online either. Pages would load and never connect. That didn't help wake me up or energize me at all.

I suppose it was a relatively stress free day in that nothing new stressed me out, but it was completely fail in that all my old stressors are still there and nothing was accomplished really, so nothing was relieved.

### **Day 1073 - 6/9** **Not my graduation**

Today everything seemed overly heavy. My backpack seemed to weigh 50% more. A couple of books I had that I carried seemed to weigh at least 5 pounds each. I've no clue why.

I almost finished the projects I need to do. I find out last night one was due, so I totally blew that. I can turn it in by Friday though. It's about half done. I need to ask a place some info before I can finish.

Tonight all the high schools let out. There are graduates and other students everywhere. Now at night and hearing them about, it reminds me of my own graduation. All the parties I heard about, all the places people were going, seeing people I know going here and there that I wasn't invited to.

My changing high schools half way through really hurt me. I didn't really make any new connections. I had maybe half a dozen who were friends at the new school. By the number of people who asked if I wanted my yearbook signed. I probably could have had a lot more friends if I hadn't been so shy.

I don't think I have those yearbooks anymore. I remember once upon a time I was very sad and burnt at least one school year, possibly all three. (I never had all four.)

I wonder if those who are graduating know how important and special those times are. How lucky they are to have people in their lives. Those who have love, how special that is, and how rare their sweetie may be due to body or personality type. I doubt they do though. I remember back then I thought things would last forever. I thought nothing much would change. Though I had only a few friends I saw no reason why I couldn't make new ones. Though I was single for half of high school I didn't think I'd stay single forever.

It seems I was right, but for the wrong reasons. Things are almost the same now. I have very few friends (basically all online.) I'm still single and jealous of the young healthy guys I see with the beautiful girls. I'm not going along the same path as everyone else. And just as it was then, it is now. When I can no longer hear the parties I feel alone and sad.

Every celebration that passes, every cycle that renews, and even sometimes every day that passes I think now I've missed my chance. Life went on without me then, and it seems to still do so now.

And more and more I worry that I won't make it on my own; that without help or a vast increase in income, my physical deterioration and sadness will be the end of me. No matter how much I wish and long for a simple normal life like everyone else.

## **Day 1074 - 6/10**

### **Feel ok about the day**

Today was ok I guess. I slept in a fair bit, but not quite as late as I have been lately. I was up at my old time of about 10:30. I went on campus, tried my best to finish a project that's due (I lack info to properly finish it), then did my online work, then even had time for a show before leaving to play. Nothing really special happened online. Hardly anyone was there. It was weird not working.

Nothing really new in my life. I sent some helpful notes to another small gaming podcaster. She seemed appreciative, so that's good. 🤔 A lot of it she knew already

though. She seems nice and like a fun person. It's a shame I don't think she's close otherwise, who knows, we could be RL friends.

I'm still super sad about my life, but it is what it is. I just have to continue to try and make the best of it. 😞

## **Day 1075 - 6/11**

### **Bustin' out the podcast**

Today was ok. Nothing huge happened in terms of life progression. Well, nothing at all really. I did get an unexpected work shift. So not only did I get a tough more money, I got a chance to do some podcasting, which is huge as I wasn't expecting to be back at work where I do it until after about 2.5 weeks from the last podcast. So, in a stroke of awesomeness I got it basically ready to go. There is editing and formatting left to do, but I can do that quite easily from not work.

## **Day 1076 - 6/12**

### **A day of change**

Today feels like a day of change, like a transition is about to happen. It's probably because transitions *are* going to happen. School has next week then finals. And next week I have yearly training at work. The weather is finally becoming warm again, so there is that too.

I had a good picnic time at school, spending time on teh Internets, and having lunch during what was finally a warm day.

Not everything was good though. My health is still terrible. My heart and chest feel ... off, weakened and unstable. I've been stuffy and sneezing. And... I didn't quite make it to the bathroom in time. 😞 I was very embarrassed but noone saw. More than that though it was one of many reminders that my life is out of control. I can't just get up and walk to a bathroom 10-20 feet away like everyone else. I have to use public places, sometimes wait in lines, or sometimes need to pack my stuff up just to go. And now at

night I'm hiding in the dark. I can't play. I can't watch shows. I can't do homework. While I may feel somewhat normal at day when everyone is around and I blend in, when hiding at night it's obvious that I'm an outsider. And there are so many things I wish I could do but can't.

## **Day 1077 - 6/13**

### **Bubble**

Today wasn't a haze, but I don't really remember it. It was as if I were in a bubble. Anything could have happened around me and I probably wouldn't have noticed. I did most of an assignment. I'll finish tomorrow. I really couldn't focus on much. I messed around on the boards a bit. I helped a guildie figure out part choices for a build. Her graphics card died so she needed to pick up something. She had been planning to buy a new system anyways, so this wasn't a completely unprepared catastrophe.

That was really it though. Nothing really good or bad happened. Mostly it was weird due to not working and being in a haze.

## **Day 1078 - 6/14**

### **Returning summer staff**

Today was the first day of staff training that's going on for the rest of the week. I couldn't sleep in, so I'm exhaustedly tired as I'm running on about 4 or 5 hours of sleep. The training wasn't that bad. They did it in a different style than they have in previous years, and the time seemed to pass quickly. There were some people who said hey to me, so that was nice. Though they seem to be genuinely happy to see me, none of them are people who would invite me to parties or to hang out with them. If they were we'd have been doing so over the last year. I don't blame them. All but one were about half my age, so there isn't that bond there that you have in your teens and early twenties that you have with others your age.

I had an appointment to check my blood pressure after. It came out a lot lower than the machine has been showing me. It's possible that it's not been as bad as I've thought for a while. It could be that by waiting 5 minutes to test myself I will see lower results. I was typically only waiting about 1 minute to test myself, and it seems that may have been resulting in a score that was 10 points higher on the first number and about 5 on the second. The not doctor person said that she was happy with those numbers, and even more so because I'd lost 8 pounds since my last visit. She does want to get me poked again, so that's sad. 😞

It's about 8 now and my long day is nearly over. I'm going to close out Epic Fail and see if I can get my podcast finalized so I can post both before the library closes in an hour.

Nothing has changed lately. I'm still overly sad, have no prospects coming forward, but I'm trying to remain hopeful and persevering as best as I can.



### Day 1079 - 6/15

#### Chlorine in the nose

I got too much chlorine up my nose and in my tummy today. 😊 It was the first day of training for summer. It was actually more fun than previous years. I don't know why. But now I'm a bit dizzy and icky feeling.

I was a bit sad today. I've been posting comments at a new podcast site. They seemed kinda new, so I suggested some things I thought might make them a better podcast. Also, it's a game doing D&D. I have only skimmed the new books, but with probably 200 or more hours of listening to other D&D podcasts, and having designed and run several gaming systems, I feel pretty confident about the rules. I made a few private messages about the rules, not to be a rules lawyer or nerd rage, but to be sure they are clear on things. It's a group of new players, and with new players potentially listening I feel it's very important they have certain rules correct. It was only a few mistakes, but ones if new people learned incorrectly could greatly hinder a person's learning. I got one silly comment erased (which I don't understand at all), and a reply via private message that I may enjoy another podcast more. My last podcast talked about style, so, sure, I'd agree maybe it's not a good match for me since I do enjoy a certain level of... correctness... exactness... in gaming, and if they don't care about that, or aren't focusing on that, then maybe not listening would be best. And I'm honestly ok with it (though I'll likely keep listening a few more times and see if that changes.) But still, it felt like I was young and someone said "I don't want to be your friend, go away." Not because of how they replied or anything, just that I have so few connections that one being shut down seems... very sad.

I still hope to have friends to have fun with again someday, but with every day that passes that I don't get an offer to hang out with people, or classmates who are friendly are never seen again when class is over, or seeing possible friendship or network lines are cut off... it makes me sad and I wonder if it really will ever happen for me... or if not and all I have now is it. 😞

## Day 1080 - 6/16

### Fading in and out

I'm so exhausted today. Earlier I was fading in and out. I couldn't concentrate at all after work. Thank the gods I didn't have class tonight.

It's hilarious. This teacher who has been so terrible with directions and such is having a huge comprehensive final that's like 40% of your total grade. For some insane reason she is collecting people's notes. Many people have hand written ones with no copies. (I always type mine in; most directly to the file.) She made everyone turn them in last week, two weeks before the final, when she knew she would likely be out the following week. And to my not surprise she was. Who knows how many are now not going to have their notes to study from. Isn't that insane?

That's really it for today. There was work training. Oh, I did get a small shift this morning and got to start podcast 18. So, I did that too. But work, burnt out too much to really do anything after, watched a few shows, and that was my day.

I suppose there is a new debate on the guild boards as we continue to lose members. It isn't surprising at all. Several of those early people who were pushing for gear have simply stopped showing up, leaving under geared people to fend for themselves. Those who aren't so ready have no way to do much in the way of content because everyone on the server just about is 50. Whenever I'm on my alt body I never see anyone questing in any areas and I really don't get groups. I'm honestly about to the point of canceling and going monthly by gift card one month at time. There just isn't any content and it's not designed for people not max level, which just hurts far too much of the population. While many / most in the guild are 50, the majority don't care to repeatedly grind the same things over and over for little to no reward.

Anyways... maybe tomorrow I can get some rest, but I'm too exhausted to continue talking today.

## Day 1081 - 6/17

### A party

Today was ok I guess. There was work training in the morning, which I basically did nothing at. All the training was stuff I did several times before and stuff I don't need to know. Again, I didn't get to sleep in. After, there were a few hours I got to play a game, which was good. Then in the evening I went to a party at the friend's house who I do the online work for. It's still odd to call her a friend. I mean she is, but the last time I saw her was 6 months ago, and we don't talk online more than maybe once every other month, so it seems odd as I consider friends people you talk with, see, and hang out with often, and she and I haven't been like that in, well, a very long time. I guess though even if I had more friends that probably wouldn't be the case. It's been years since I've had friends like that - maybe a decade or more.

I'm so exhausted. Must try and sleep. I've got an emergency sort of shift tomorrow pretty early. It's only a few hours though, so I'm hoping I can go somewhere to sleep after. I guess we'll see.

## Day 1082 - 6/18

### A lantern of green

Today was just a regular day pretty much. I had an early morning shift at work for a few hours, so that was ok. I went and watched a show on campus while I had lunch. I updated a couple of things on my site.

In the evening I saw Green Lantern, which was super awesome. 😊 There was no line when I got there about 1.5 hours before the start. I guess there wasn't going to be a line in addition to this new lame policy of not letting anyone in more than an hour before the movie starts. (And apparently not letting drinks or food from outside at all. They used to let in coffee and fast food, but not anymore.) The movie was awesome and I liked it a lot. 😊 I don't understand why it's gotten bad reviews. Of course, I don't read reviews, so I don't know why they don't like it.

That's it.

## Day 1083 - 6/19

### Steak dinner

I am eating a fancy dinner. It will likely be about quadruple what I'd normally spend, but I really want steak. Once upon a time it wasn't a big deal. I'd have steak and potatoes and rice about once a week, sometimes I'd be super fancy and sauté onions with it. It was special, but far more common. Now... now I'm surprised such a thing is a rare treat. So much so that I don't even think of it. Such a food no longer exists to me. Things that were normally cooked are long forgotten. I don't think of them, and I don't know when I'll be able to cook them again. It's not that the recipes are forgotten or anything. It's just that they see so far out of reach I don't ever think of them if I do get a chance to cook.

It's dad's day. Yet another holiday I don't celebrate. And being such a specific one I wonder if I will ever be celebrated as a dad. 😞

## Day 1084 - 6/20

### Found me

Someone found my site today. They sent me a donation and some very kind words of support. 😊 It's kind of funny it happened now, as I'm working on a podcast that, so far, is titled appreciation.

Nothing else really happened today of interest. It was a pretty crazy day actually. I slept in at school, but woke up very early at 9:30. It could be because it was so warm today. (Though I was in a covered parking area.) It must have gotten up to 85F. After I got up I messed around a bit. I tried to watch a show but the bandwidth was too poopie. I had a new summer work shift. Then I played a bi online after. That was it.

A guildie asked me the other day why I'm still homeless because I seem so talented. I still don't know. Granted I'm not the best at finding jobs, but it's like a perfect storm. There are no family or friends that can help. Every job I try and apply to reportedly has hundreds of applicants. The ones I try for that are a stretch have applicants with dozens of years of experience. And, unlike real experts in their field, noone is approaching me to offer me a job. Only two people ever offered me a job by them

approaching me. The first was at a company that failed, so I was only there about five months. And the second was so flakey I never actually met up with the owner to get a formal offer. He kept going out of town or was busy.

A better day in teh rabb1t life. It's warm and things don't seem so bad. There was some appreciation online, some nice chats with guildies. A good group or two where I felt helpful. But... no real growth or movement forward towards recovery.

## **Day 1085 - 6/21**

### **Another poking**

Today was pretty ok. I slept in, but again woke up early at about 10. I went on campus, had an early lunch, watched a show, then left for my new afternoon shift. I played for a bit and after the shift played a bit more.

I had to get poked again too, so I did that on my way to work. I did the drink a lot trick before and it seemed to work again, so that was good.

I checked for jobs, but didn't find any. Well, there were a couple, but I lacked the correct background and experience.

I'm extremely hungry lately. Ever since I had the fancy dinner my tummy has been really hungry. I think that having nice food again has reminded it what it's missing. I think, at least during summer while I have more income, I may go to a better meal like once a week. Not always 4x the cost like on this weekend, but maybe a better restaurant style French dip or burger meal, something 2-3x normal cost. It will be nice, but sad to be alone.

I'm still so sad lately, but I'm happy doing my podcasts. I'm having a decent time with guildies in the game. And a few librarian people on campus have said hey lately. Life is still so very sad, but I don't feel quite so sad about it.

## Week 156

### Day 1086 - 6/22 Sensitive heart

So I got a call from the school today and it looks like I may have been right. I think I mentioned my heart feels... bad... congested... while on this medicine unless I'm on a very low dose. She got the lab results and a number is 135 when a "high rating" for that number is 134, and it was a lot lower on the first test. So something with the medication isn't playing well with my kidneys. I may indeed be feeling the effects of that. She's having me cut back and we'll check again in a month.

I ordered the popper stopper yesterday and it should be at the ex-house tomorrow. I was re-listening to my old podcasts and there is just far more popping and distortion than I'd like. Newer ones are better, but I'm a long ways from the professional podcasts. Granted a \$60 mic can't compete with the hundreds of dollars (in some cases thousands) of the professional level ones, but I'd like to see if the \$15 popper stopper allows me to be more bold and produce clearer, louder, quality stuff.

Final tonight for the Wednesday class. That's over now. According to the points I should get a C+ or B-. The professor will likely be nice and bump it up to a B or B- I think. It won't be good for my GPA because it's not great, but it is what it is. I think it's time to move on as that field and classes haven't helped me get a job at all.

That's really all I can think of for today.

### Day 1087 - 6/23 Final final

Not much to say today. I got the popper stopper for my podcasts and it works awesome. 😊 I took the final final, so that's done. And I had a good time with my guildies even though I only had a few hours of play. Not much of a day, but it was pretty good I suppose. 😊

## Day 1088 - 6/24

### Strange dreams

I've had very strange dreams lately in the mornings. I didn't recall any of them now, which is probably a good thing, as I remember them being disturbing.

Today is the first day of summer as it were. I had no studying to do, no assignments, no classes to worry about. I spent all my library time watching shows and having fun. The connection at work was kinda bad, so I didn't get to play much. I played after though.

I talked to a few guildies about Guild Wars 2. There are others in the guild looking forward to it.

I feel extra sad today. I think it has to do with it being summer. I should be glad of the warm weather, the extra work hours, people being happier, summer movies... but sadness fills me. My mind can't help but think about what I don't have. How I'm sleeping in my car instead of sleeping in a bed. How I'm showering at work instead of showering after I wake up. How I'm going to the library and watching shows online instead of on TV. How I'm buying food from a cafeteria instead of choosing from many foods in a fridge and cooking. How I'm looking forward to games, games I'll have to play wirelessly on a single screen with headphones instead of on a desktop on triple monitor with my 5.1 speakers. So many limited things in my life. So many things that seem sad. So many that seem they may never change back to the way they were.

## Day 1089 - 6/25

### Another fancier dinner

I decided to go to another fancy dinner this week. This one isn't as fancy, only about double what I would have spent. At \$10 it isn't too terrible. I kind of really wanted a French dip, but there aren't really any two restaurants locally. The place I could have gotten one closed down at the start of the year for some reason. I'd have to drive about 10-15 minutes away to do it. It's not too far or anything, just further than I think I really wanted to go. Maybe in a few weeks. 😊

It's an ok day I guess, but sad and lonely. Things seem out of control. They are I suppose, but they seem extra sad lately.

Hum, my burger's "lettuce" is coleslaw. Don't so much like that; different thing. Ah well, nom is ready, so I should eat. Not much going on besides that.

## Day 1090 - 6/26

### Sad tournament losses

Today was the first match in my tournament. As expected I got beaten. 😞 I got beaten really super bad though. It seemed like this guy belonged in the pro bracket. I wouldn't say he was unsportsmanlike, but he wasn't real friendly towards me as a new player. He has his guys in my base and knew I couldn't win, yet did things to harass me. I know it's a tournament and all, so you don't really want to be merciful and all, but sill.

I don't know why I decided to do this. I wanted to be part of something bigger than me, but I have a feeling I'm just going to continue to get stomped and it will make me a very sad bunny. 😞

Noone in the guild was really on today. There were half a dozen on at peak time, with it mostly being closer to three. Granted it *is* Sunday, but still. It seems our numbers continue to dwindle. People aren't leaving, they just are showing up for less time on fewer days.

One of the managers at the coffee shop gave me props. 😊 He said he saw someone posted about their shop on a review site and that the poster gave a shout out to the gamer with big headphones. (I'm one of the only gamers and the only one with big headphones. The day of the post lines up with a potential time I was there too.) This shop is pretty nice. They all know me as the gamer guy, hehe. 😊 Back like a year ago when I was at the other store and you had to pay to use more than 2 hours of Internet some of the people at that shop didn't seem so nice about it. Maybe it's in part because the one I frequent now is more college people and some of them are gamers, so they are used to people staying longer and what not.

So, kind of ok day, kinda very sad day.



There was a crazy person at the shop as well. He's talked to me a few times. I say he's crazy because the first time I'd seen him he was arguing with his girlfriend because he spied on her online and that she'd hung out with a few guys when he was out of town. The next time I saw him he was telling someone he was sad that he couldn't join the military because he has a criminal record. This time he was on the phone with his mom and telling her that he could volunteer and get free pot. (I guess he's one of those people with a medical card.) So that was just another reminder of my sad homeless life. That's not the kind of person I want to associate with or thinking that I'm a chatting buddy. In a home I wouldn't have to worry about avoiding such a person.

Someone was meeting a person to rent a house too. It seemed like he and his girlfriend (not present) were going to move in together. How exciting. I can't remember really what it's like to have a sweetie and be in love anymore. 😞 I have no idea when, or if, I'll ever be planning to move in together. 😞

My life seems so strange and sad now, both the good and the bad. I suppose though that I'm glad it is still my *life*. What with the kidney function issue with my blood pressure meds I'm still very worried about me. 😞

## Day 1091 - 6/27

### Shifting shifts

Not much of interest today. I got up late, but not super late. Since I do laundry on Mondays I only had a few hours on computers before needing to leave for that and my afternoon shift. I played from work for a bit but then I got word to trade evening shift locations with someone. Neither of us knew why when he stopped by where I was. It made no sense to reverse our locations like that. Ah well, it was what it was.

It was odd being on campus today. It was the first class day of summer, which I don't do classes during. (They are like 6 or 8 weeks every day for like 4 or more hours a day. I can't memorize that fast.) There weren't many in the library, but it wasn't completely empty.

It's still so odd not to have a break to have time to relax and not worry about things. My life is so stressful, and has been for so long. I'm used to it, but I'm also so tired of it. It seems so strange to think of myself as feral, something so outside of a normal routine that I don't even think in those terms anymore. So much of "being normal" again seems to require a sequence of starter steps, yet all of those starting steps have seemingly eluded me for years. 😞

## **Day 1092 - 6/28**

### **Moar hours**

Got a few more hours for over the summer. It's not a ton, just about 4 more, but still that's about \$75 more a paycheck. Every little bit helps I guess. Nothing much else going on. Pretty much the same routine of looking for jobs and not finding anything, or not finding much. My life inches along, but seemingly never progresses.

I am still loving doing my stuff for my site and my new podcast, and I do have gaming in my life again, so that's something at least. 😊

## Picture series 22



Easter 2011 to my ex-roomie/friend. Bunah day, yer doin' it right.



Easter 2011 to me self



Order of the Stick armor for my phone



One movie for teh cheap, one for the superlulz



Firefly keychain boxed



Iz a tiny spaceship for teh fun!





After a year of waiting, just about the happiest my sad life gets; True Blood season 3

## Week 157

### Day 1093 - 6/29 One day left

There's only one day left of year three. It seems to have snuck up on me. I'm still constantly surprised at how terrible and long this journey has been, and still is. I'm still no closer to getting re-established now than I was on day one. In fact, in many ways I feel more lost and alone than ever.

Many people are sending kind words and well wishing now, but the reality of the situation is still ever present. I am still eating microwave or fast food, not cooking my meals. I am still sleeping in my car instead of in a bed in a room in a home. I do still only work 10 hours a week on the average when it's not summer. I still have no new RL friends. I still have no new love interest. My classes aren't helping me advance towards a career. And, in fact, haven't helped me get a job at all.

Things this year didn't end all bad though I suppose. I do now have a gaming laptop. I do have a fancy phone with some games and helpful apps. I do still have unlocked nodes to update my site and keep things current. I do have my podcast and people seem to be enjoying it.

While I am proud of how I have endured my terrible times I am very worried for my future. My health is not good, probably the worst it's ever been. I seem incapable of advancing in job income, so my financial position is breaking even at the minimum at the best of times. (If we ignore things like my teeth, and other issues that are in constant deterioration and are too expensive to repair.) And I fear more and more every day that I won't be able to get out of this on my own, that the worst will come, and this terrible journey will be my last. 😞

## Day 1094 - 6/30

### End of year three days

I suppose today was an ok day all things considered. I had the new summer morning shift, during which I finished podcast 19. I drove back to school after and did my online work for my friend and uploaded the podcast. I watched about two, maybe three shows, I don't really remember. They were on in the background in another window while I worked, so I kind of lost track. I went to my afternoon shift. After I had a tournament game against a real pro. I don't just mean that metaphorically. This guy was in the top ladder online and had a pro badge on his account, implying that he'd played in the world-wide pro league and placed. As I left that location, a super beautiful and attractive girl said she loved my shirt. 😊 I've had more people comment on my Bazinga! shirt than all o my others combined. I would love to have replied, "I love your everything 😊", but she was with a guy who likely wouldn't have been too happy about me saying that to her, heh. 😊

There's really nothing I can think of to say about the end of the year that I haven't already said. It seems like just a few months ago I was finishing the last and starting this year. I suppose things have turned around slightly. I was carless at the start of the year and now I have a car again. One of the types I love even. Recently I've gotten a gaming laptop, at long last, so I finally have (full) gaming in my life again. I have guildies that I have fun with in an online game, several of whom seem to genuinely care about me, my sad story, and hope that I get better and recover soon. And I have my podcasts too, which has exposed me to even more knowing me a bit and possibly having their lives enriched by my thoughts and words.

Since it's summer and I have more hours, and everyone in the world seems more outgoing and friendly, things seem to be looking up a bit. But I know that it is only temporary. I know, like my appearance t others, that below the surface things are not so much. My job prospects are the bleakest they have been. My classes I'm spending all this time and emotional energy and stress on aren't helping to get a job. I still have no offline friends to speak of. (I've seen the one I do the online work for only twice in the past year.) No love interests have come up at all. And my health is likely the worst it's been in



possibly my entire life – not counting when I wasn't on blood pressure meds or otherwise seriously sick.

I try my best to endure this terrible journey, but it seems with each day that passes things slip further and further from my grasp as they move more and more out of my control.

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## Where did I see it?

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

Day 838 – Song: Eurythmics

Day 847 – Movie: Get Him To the Greek

Day 853 – Song: Pet Shop Boys

Day 1036 – TV: Farscape