

# EPIC FAIL

The Journal of a Homeless Gamer

Book 4  
on and on



by rabb1t  
aka  
Eric Stryker



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Day 1150 – 8/25 – Spilt soda  
Day 1151 – 8/26 – Hangin’  
Day 1152 – 8/27 – Winded  
Day 1153 – 8/28 – Friendly day  
Day 1154 – 8/29 – Peeling like a snake  
Day 1155 – 8/30 – Guild drama continues

#### *Week 166*

Day 1156 – 8/31 – Feeling sick  
Day 1157 – 9/1 – A new world  
Day 1158 – 9/2 – Yikes, spider  
Day 1159 – 9/3 – Strange party, not so strange  
Day 1160 – 9/4 – So sick  
Day 1161 – 9/5 – Boring online game  
Day 1162 – 9/6 – Paw is free!

#### *Picture series 24*

#### *Week 167*

Day 1163 – 9/7 – Crashing laptop day  
Day 1164 – 9/8 – Searching  
Day 1165 – 9/9 – Feel beaten up  
Day 1166 – 9/10 – Not belonging  
Day 1167 – 9/11 – Guild robbery  
Day 1168 – 9/12 – Looking forward  
Day 1169 – 9/13 – Little things

#### *Week 168*

Day 1170 – 9/14 – People care  
Day 1171 – 9/15 – Freedom at a cost  
Day 1172 – 9/16 – Two dinners  
Day 1173 – 9/17 – Another weird day  
Day 1174 – 9/18 – Not looking, but feeling  
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#### *Week 169*

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Day 1178 – 9/22 – Not my party, again

Day 1179 – 9/23 – Boots and background

Day 1180 – 9/24 – Leaving already?

Day 1181 – 9/25 – Not bricked

Day 1182 – 9/26 – First day, again

Day 1183 – 9/27 – Shadow of death

#### *Week 170*

Day 1184 – 9/28 – Suddenly very worried

Day 1185 – 9/29 – Sad day is saaadddd

Day 1186 – 9/30 – Hopefully tomorrow

Day 1187 – 10/1 – Might still be broken

Day 1188 – 10/2 – Another sad day

Day 1189 – 10/3 – Waiting

Day 1190 – 10/4 – Springer time

#### *Week 171*

Day 1191 – 10/5 – Even more waiting

Day 1192 – 10/6 – Guess I got lucky

Day 1193 – 10/7 – Sort of vroom

Day 1194 – 10/8 – No fifth gear

Day 1195 – 10/9 – Want to go home

Day 1196 – 10/10 – Seven hours for nothing

Day 1197 – 10/11 – Day of rest

#### *Week 172*

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Day 1203 – 10/17 – So much walking

Day 1204 – 10/18 – Feel sick

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Day 1206 – 10/20 – Remaining hopeful

Day 1207 – 10/21 – Wearing my bus pants

Day 1208 – 10/22 – Yet another day of waiting... and waiting...

Day 1209 – 10/23 – Anyther year, another dead car

Day 1210 – 10/24 – Sineater

Day 1211 – 10/25 – Hesitating

#### *Week 174*

Day 1212 – 10/26 – Miracles

Day 1213 – 10/27 – Fewer miracles

Day 1214 – 10/28 – Little more than a blur

Day 1215 – 10/29 – Unremarkable day

Day 1216 – 10/30 – Simple things are not simple

Day 1217 – 10/31 – No Halloween for me

Day 1218 – 11/1 – A rare smile

#### *Week 175*

Day 1219 – 11/2 – Sun up to sun down; sad reminders

Day 1220 – 11/3 – More unremarkable

Day 1221 – 11/4 – People who are not me

Day 1222 – 11/5 – Pouring rain; the four hundred

Day 1223 – 11/6 – Torture  
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Day 1225 – 11/8 – Over budget

*Week 176*

Day 1226 – 11/9 – A follower, a server, a cute girl  
Day 1227 – 11/10 – Noob at life  
Day 1228 – 11/11 – Gaming day  
Day 1229 – 11/12 – Still do not want  
Day 1230 – 11/13 – Can you imagine  
Day 1231 – 11/14 – Special podcast  
Day 1232 – 11/15 – Winter shirts at last

*Week 177*

Day 1233 – 11/16 – Dodger  
Day 1234 – 11/17 – My character's home  
Day 1235 – 11/18 – Still no car  
Day 1236 – 11/19 – Almost cried  
Day 1237 – 11/20 – One headphone  
Day 1238 – 11/21 – Nap day  
Day 1239 – 11/22 – A sad start

*Week 178*

Day 1240 – 11/23 – Impending sad  
Day 1241 – 11/24 – Thanksgiving, not  
Day 1242 – 11/25 – The pain in the tooth and the nice kitty  
Day 1243 – 11/26 – Extreme pain  
Day 1244 – 11/27 – Constant extreme pain  
Day 1245 – 11/28 – Maximum dose  
Day 1246 – 11/29 – Somewhat normal

*Week 179*

Day 1247 – 11/30 – Just about settled to normal  
Day 1248 – 12/1 – The fractured self  
Day 1249 – 12/2 – The tiny home  
Day 1250 – 12/3 – The fast unwanted day  
Day 1251 – 12/4 – Cold all day  
Day 1252 – 12/5 – Uneventful day  
Day 1253 – 12/6 – A rare ok day

*Week 180*

Day 1254 – 12/7 – Do not feel good  
Day 1255 – 12/8 – A blur of noise  
Day 1256 – 12/9 – Nothing to say  
Day 1257 – 12/10 – Not 36"  
Day 1258 – 12/11 – An odd day  
Day 1259 – 12/12 – Not much  
Day 1260 – 12/13 – A nice sound

*Picture series 26*

*Week 181*

Day 1261 – 12/14 – The terrible day  
Day 1262 – 12/15 – In recovery  
Day 1263 – 12/16 – Is this all?  
Day 1264 – 12/17 – Uncanceled / So sad a bunny  
Day 1265 – 12/18 – Sad day of busses  
Day 1266 – 12/19 – Star Wars eve



Day 1267 – 12/20 – The lightsaber goes meeeaaaarrr

*Week 182*

Day 1268 – 12/21 – Fun day

Day 1269 – 12/22 – Warm paws

Day 1270 – 12/23 – A year of podcasting

Day 1271 – 12/24 – Sad Xmas eve alone

Day 1272 – 12/25 – Just a day

Day 1273 – 12/26 – Twas the night before laundry

Day 1274 – 12/27 – Unknown

*Week 183*

Day 1275 – 12/28 – Bartender / Ninja / Jerk

Day 1276 – 12/29 – Not car

Day 1277 – 12/30 – A little rain, a little crying

Day 1278 – 12/31 – Not a party for me

Day 1279 – 1/1/12 – Helping and not

Day 1280 – 1/2 – Everything hurts

Day 1281 – 1/3 – A bit different

*Week 184*

Day 1282 – 1/4 – So confused

Day 1283 – 1/5 – I can't imagine

Day 1284 – 1/6 – Unusual day

Day 1285 – 1/7 – Sad health

Day 1286 – 1/8 – Feel like 300 lbs.

Day 1287 – 1/9 – Kids item

Day 1288 – 1/10 – Horrible blood pressure

*Week 185*

Day 1289 – 1/11 – Wrecked laundry

Day 1290 – 1/12 – Not free

Day 1291 – 1/13 – A sad reminder

Day 1292 – 1/14 – Terribad

Day 1293 – 1/15 – Gamepad

Day 1294 – 1/16 – Eve of a car

Day 1295 – 1/17 – Fail car sale

*Week 186*

Day 1296 – 1/18 – Return to sad

Day 1297 – 1/19 – Nice comments

Day 1298 – 1/20 – Digital phoenix

Day 1299 – 1/21 – Pee and situps

Day 1300 – 1/22 – Terrible dreams

Day 1301 – 1/23 – Dimes

Day 1302 – 1/24 – Feeling a bit normal

*Week 187*

Day 1303 – 1/25 – Not having fun

Day 1304 – 1/26 – Sad trap

Day 1305 – 1/27 – Tired

Day 1306 – 1/28 – One wolf dead

Day 1307 – 1/29 – rabb1t life for a day

Day 1308 – 1/30 – Seven

Day 1309 – 1/31 – Just a guy

*Week 188*

Day 1310 – 2/1 – Worried, but hopeful

Day 1311 – 2/2 – Go eat something  
Day 1312 – 2/3 – Imagination  
Day 1313 – 2/4 – A sad surrender  
Day 1314 – 2/5 – Not giving up  
Day 1315 – 2/6 – The test drive  
Day 1316 – 2/7 – Smiling girls

*Week 189*

Day 1317 – 2/8 – Another smile  
Day 1318 – 2/9 – No face  
Day 1319 – 2/10 – Offline mode  
Day 1320 – 2/11 – A bit chaotic  
Day 1321 – 2/12 – Too many fries  
Day 1322 – 2/13 – On the horizon  
Day 1323 – 2/14 – Wub day

*Picture series 27*

*Week 190*

Day 1324 – 2/15 – A virtual party  
Day 1325 – 2/16 – From good to sad  
Day 1326 – 2/17 – Sad and ouchie  
Day 1327 – 2/18 – Still my friend  
Day 1328 – 2/19 – Bathroom trips  
Day 1329 – 2/20 – 90%  
Day 1330 – 2/21 – 90% the second

*Week 191*

Day 1331 – 2/22 – Five and ten  
Day 1332 – 2/23 – Still hoping  
Day 1333 – 2/24 – Podcast in one day  
Day 1334 – 2/25 – Sleepy, sneezy blur  
Day 1335 – 2/26 – Famly day  
Day 1336 – 2/27 – Another lonely and sad day  
Day 1337 – 2/28 – Leet day (not)

*Week 192*

Day 1338 – 2/29 – Online fun  
Day 1339 – 3/1 – The following friend  
Day 1340 – 3/2 – Blurry  
Day 1341 – 3/3 – More online fun  
Day 1342 – 3/4 – Even more online fun  
Day 1343 – 3/5 – Not a midnight launch  
Day 1344 – 3/6 – Mass day

*Week 193*

Day 1345 – 3/7 – Dashed hopes  
Day 1346 – 3/8 – Phew, fixed  
Day 1347 – 3/9 – Weekly now  
Day 1348 – 3/10 – Different game sweetie  
Day 1349 – 3/11 – Wating  
Day 1350 – 3/12 – Surprise podcasting  
Day 1351 – 3/13 – Unmoving

*Week 194*

Day 1352 – 3/14 – Hello old friend  
Day 1353 – 3/15 – Maybe not as bad  
Day 1354 – 3/16 – Waiting for nothing

Day 1355 – 3/17 – Forgetful lonely day  
Day 1356 – 3/18 – Overly aggressive noise filter  
Day 1357 – 3/19 – Unexpected play  
Day 1358 – 3/20 – Not so bad

*Week 195*

Day 1359 – 3/21 – One more dumb assignment down  
Day 1360 – 3/22 – Made me smile  
Day 1361 – 3/23 – Ok alone  
Day 1362 – 3/24 – A lab not quite done  
Day 1363 – 3/25 – Lonely lab day  
Day 1364 – 3/26 – Ignoring the assignment  
Day 1365 – 3/27 – Finals day

*Week 196*

Day 1366 – 3/28 – Meet up  
Day 1367 – 3/29 – Videos and done  
Day 1368 – 3/30 – Holy socks  
Day 1369 – 3/31 – Disappointing car guy  
Day 1370 – 4/1 – Stupid coworker  
Day 1371 – 4/2 – My normal is abnormal  
Day 1372 – 4/3 – The day so far

*Week 197*

Day 1373 – 4/4 – Piecing it together again  
Day 1374 – 4/5 – Good day  
Day 1375 – 4/6 – Surprises  
Day 1376 – 4/7 – Friends  
Day 1377 – 4/8 – Lows and highs  
Day 1378 – 4/9 – Things in the dark  
Day 1379 – 4/10 – Probably sick

*Week 198*

Day 1380 – 4/11 – Another terrible class  
Day 1381 – 4/12 – Feeling worse, feeling better, feeling worse  
Day 1382 – 4/13 – Congestion  
Day 1383 – 4/14 – Messed up by medicine  
Day 1384 – 4/15 – Sick and sad  
Day 1385 – 4/16 – Still sick  
Day 1386 – 4/17 – More sick

*Week 199*

Day 1387 – 4/18 – Falling apart  
Day 1388 – 4/19 – Possibly more swollen  
Day 1389 – 4/20 – So tired  
Day 1390 – 4/21 – Maybe slightly better  
Day 1391 – 4/22 – Maybe better, maybe not  
Day 1392 – 4/23 – Stained lips  
Day 1393 – 4/24 – The appointment

*Picture series 28*

*Week 200*

Day 1394 – 4/25 – Better... ish  
Day 1395 – 4/26 – The stream  
Day 1396 – 4/27 – Dropped doughnuts  
Day 1397 – 4/28 – The soundtrack  
Day 1398 – 4/29 – Feeling a bit better

Day 1399 – 4/30 – General cold

Day 1400 – 5/1 – May day

*Week 201*

Day 1401 – 5/2 – General cold and fat

Day 1402 – 5/3 – Play day

Day 1403 – 5/4 – Hilarity ensues

Day 1404 – 5/5 – A different table

Day 1405 – 5/6 – A system scare

Day 1406 – 5/7 – Heartache

Day 1407 – 5/8 – The morning

*Week 202*

Day 1408 – 5/9 – Halloween costume

Day 1409 – 5/10 – Another sad party

Day 1410 – 5/11 – Getting frustrating

Day 1411 – 5/12 – Suconsious block

Day 1412 – 5/13 – Lingering cold

Day 1413 – 5/14 – Not a launch

Day 1414 – 5/15 – Waiting for Diablo

*Week 203*

Day 1415 – 5/16 – Lonely, but ok

Day 1416 – 5/17 – Magic hat with bunny

Day 1417 – 5/18 – Insanely priced shirt

Day 1418 – 5/19 – Lonely and sad day

Day 1419 – 5/20 – Today

Day 1420 – 5/21 – Extreme depression

Day 1421 – 5/22 – Don't understand

*Week 204*

Day 1422 – 5/23 – Failing work bandwidth

Day 1423 – 5/24 – Don't shift

Day 1424 – 5/25 – Almost a normal day

Day 1425 – 5/26 – Happy to sad

Day 1426 – 5/27 – Seeing a movie

Day 1427 – 5/28 – Resurging cold

Day 1428 – 5/29 – Feeling more sick

*Week 205*

Day 1429 – 5/30 – Quiet sleep

Day 1430 – 5/31 – Lonely, in a different way

Day 1431 – 6/1 – June bug

Day 1432 – 6/2 – Internet trouble

Day 1433 – 6/3 – Feels like broken ribs

Day 1434 – 6/4 – Taken by the void

Day 1435 – 6/5 – Get a bigger bin

*Week 206*

Day 1436 – 6/6 – Off balance sick

Day 1437 – 6/7 – Disruption

Day 1438 – 6/8 – Movie, no games

Day 1439 – 6/9 – Faded pictures

Day 1440 – 6/10 – The language of pew pew

Day 1441 – 6/11 – No appointment yet

Day 1442 – 6/12 – Returning to (homeless) normal

*Week 207*

Day 1443 – 6/13 – Better and worse  
Day 1444 – 6/14 – Waiting  
Day 1445 – 6/15 – Unofficial appointment  
Day 1446 – 6/16 – 90F  
Day 1447 – 6/17 – Hardly coughing  
Day 1448 – 6/18 – Not quiet  
Day 1449 – 6/19 – Nearly another year

*Picture series 29*

*Week 208*

Day 1450 – 6/20 – The secret beta  
Day 1451 – 6/21 – Hot chocolate shorts  
Day 1452 – 6/22 – A podcast visit  
Day 1453 – 6/23 – A lonely day  
Day 1454 – 6/24 – Seeing the friends  
Day 1455 – 6/25 – Cramps  
Day 1456 – 6/26 – Sad forgetful

*Week 209*

Day 1457 – 6/27 – No games day  
Day 1458 – 6/28 – Getting ready  
Day 1459 – 6/29 – Not backing it up  
Day 1460 – 6/30 – Another ending

*Index*

*Where did I see it?*

## Glossary and Links

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

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

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

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

**DS** - Nintendo DS, a handheld gaming system.

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

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

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

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

**teh Intarwebs** - lolspeak/leetspeak for The Internet.

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

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

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

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

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

**Michael Westen** - The main character in Burn Notice.

**Min/Maxing or Minimizing/Maximizing** - The act of selecting talents, skills, abilities, or spells, for your character in a way that gets you the most effect for the smallest (point)

cost in order to match your play style and desired build. When I say I am 'tweaking my character' this is most often what I'm doing.

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

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

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

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

**Nintendo Wii or Wii** - The current Nintendo console.

**PS3** - Sony Playstation 3, a console gaming system.

**PSP** - Sony PSP, a handheld gaming system.

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

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

**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](#)

[Grey Area Podcast](#)

[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 157**

### **Day 1095 - 7/1**

#### **Beginning again, again, again**

I suppose today was an ok start to year four. I didn't get to sleep in. The parking lot seemed a bit too empty when I got there. I went to the regular coffee shop and played online. There were quite a few students around though in the early afternoon when I had lunch on campus and did some stuff online. There were half a dozen or more in the area near the library and cafeteria, which were both closed. I had my afternoon shift and evening shift. The day was pretty warm, hot even. It still seemed so strange there was a day last week when it poured rain.

Nothing special happened today. No jobs were found to apply for. No changes happened in my life. It was a day being homeless, like so many that have come before it.

### **Day 1096 - 7/2**

#### **Working or not working tomorrow**

Today was ok I suppose. It wasn't at all how I would have liked to spend my day, but compared to homeless years past it was far better. I got to sleep in because there was a flea market thing at school. (Plenty of cars to distract and yet I can park in an area far enough away that noone would be likely to see me sleeping.) I had lunch on campus and tried to watch a show. I say tried because, as usual from the spot I was at it was taking twice as long as the show to watch it. I eventually gave up 3/4 the way through. I still don't understand why the connections aren't stronger. I went to the coffee shop I hang out at and played my game pretty much the rest of the day.

It was super warm today, like 90F. Some people in the guild had parties, and you could tell others around (RL) did too. It was a pretty low population. Once upon a time I had parties, be they my friends or roommates. Once upon a time I could sleep in then take a shower when I wanted, play when I wanted, and watch shows without lag when I

wanted. It is getting very difficult to remember what days and times my shows are on anymore. It's been so long since I could watch them 'live.'

I don't know if I'm supposed to work tomorrow or not. My boss lately has gotten.. well, dumb. It's likely she's overwhelmed by summer things, but seriously it's getting bad. I called on Thursday to ask about the time cards, which are due Monday. Monday being a holiday we normally do them early. My call about where and when my timecard would be was never returned. Similarly, there has been no notice about when, or if, we are closed for the 4<sup>th</sup>. In years past we always have been, but we've also always been notified well in advance, and given signs to post. Neither happened this year. Also, we were just closed for a month, so are we open to be nice to people, or not? I have a feeling I may wind up going to work and still not knowing through the shift. If I get a wireless signal I suppose I won't care. But if a sign has been put up today and noone told me not to show up I'll be a bit miffed. It's just... irresponsible to not be sure time cards get to locations where they should be every other week. (Remember, this is about the fourth time this year, so that's about a 30% failure rate.)

A few people have wished me well lately, so that's something.

I picked up Batman: Arkham Asylum today. I'd been putting off buying it for quite some time. Originally it was going to be a 'welcome back' gift to myself after getting back into a home. It was one of the first games to adopt triple monitor resolutions and specifically tweaked for it. That and 5.1 surround sound would be quite the experience. But, as time has gone on I've watched the price drop, and drop, and drop, and now it's lower than \$15. My fear was that I would wait so long I would have missed it entirely. It is the last 'milestone' game that I'd set for myself. To surrender that hope of playing it under 'ideal conditions'... it's very sad... and I guess I have to try and accept that what my life currently is may be the best it will ever be again... and that it will only continue to get worse as time goes on. 😞

**Day 1097 - 7/3**  
**Two Cs**

Today was pretty good I suppose, all things considered. I played pretty much all day online. I did stop by to check if work was open and it wasn't. I came back pretty quick, but decided not to try and sleep in. What with the holiday and the flea market yesterday it likely would be shut down there.

I needed to get a new parking sticker to park on campus, so I checked my grades since the screen reminded me that I could. As expected and hoped, I passed both classes with Cs. Not great, but not bad enough that I'd have to retake either classes ever again.

There were lots of beautiful girls about today, some even smiled and chatted in my general direction. (One shared a silly thing with everyone around her, and one asked me to watch her stuff.) Of course none seemed interested, but seeing them around and near, well, that in itself is something, as sad as that may sound.

Today didn't happen how I had wished. Granted it was far better than past years in recent times, what with two years ago having no system, and last year I believe I had a barely functional car I didn't really like. I do have gaming in my life again. Bandwidth willing I have shows. People in my guild are friendly. I suppose most fantastic is how cool my podcast seems and that people seem to enjoy it, and even sometimes find it informative. Those around me seem friendlier (and more normal) than in other years. (In fact, the manager at the coffee shop asked me what I was installing this morning and chatted for a minute.) But still... it was not a day I would have wished to happen how it did. I would have liked a party with friends. I would have liked to have a BBQ. I would have liked to have had a sweetie or love interest that I could have nuzzled her neck and hugged as we hung out with friends. I would have liked to be living alone and watching a marathon on TV. So many ways I would have liked to have lived the day in a normal way. And yet they are all ways I could not have lived it. 😞

## **Day 1098 - 7/4**

### **Sad changes**

There are some sad changes going on where I hide at night. For this holiday in particular people are setting things up and there are increased patrols and highly increased suspicion levels. What had been a normal routine lately, something resembling some level

of feelings of safety and security, has again been disrupted. I don't know if I've lost them entirely, it may just be temporarily unsettled, or unsettled for part of the summer.

My life is really taking a toll on me lately. I can't sleep well, my physical condition is breaking down to the point that it worries me, and I really want to get my stuff back. I want my stuff in a place that's mine, where it's safe and I have free access to it while it's out. The ex-house garage is safe enough, but it's not my space. It's not in danger, but the ex-roomies are burying it more and more as time goes on. Access to things are all more or less difficult at times. And now, I've recently seen signs of... degradation of the boxes. I noticed some are sagging from the weight of other boxes, meaning contents are at risk of being smooshed inside.

I decided to see Transformers 3 (since being out and about tonight would be highly suspect.) While it is an awesome action movie primarily about war, there are also deeper layers about love, family, friendship, belonging, home, and trust. All things I lack in my life. All things I've pretty much struggled to have all my life.

I have been, and am forced to still be, a wanderer. More than anything I want to be in a home again. I want to feel that I belong and that I am appreciated somewhere. And, as always, it would be nice to have friends and love once more.

## **Day 1099 - 7/5**

### **Back to not normal**

Today should be ok. I'm soooo tired though. I didn't get much sleep last night, and I couldn't sleep in this morning. I suppose I could have napped here at work while they did their thing in the side room, but I typed in Epic Fail instead, so that would be ready to go. I'll do a bit of podcasting, so that's always fun. Once I leave my shift I'll do my laundry, then be down at school and upload this first week of year four.

I don't expect anything of interest will happen later in the day. I always hope something positive does, but today in particular I really just hope things go back to not normal for me. I hope that things go smoothly for uploading at school and watching shows. I hope that I find an acceptable dinner my tummy agrees with. I hope that tonight I have acceptable bandwidth to play my game. And I hope that the spot I normally hide in

at night is settled back to its normal enough that I can 'be safe' and have my not normal nighttime routine. Hopefully I can get at least some rest tonight and in the morning, and, as always, hope that soon I'll see better days.

## Week 158

### Day 1100 - 7/6 It goes to 11 and beyond

Today was ok. And a good ok, not just a meh one. I got to sleep in, finally, for the first time since the shut down for the holiday. I almost got up at 9:30, but managed to fall back to sleep until about 10:45. I was pretty well rested. I did my online work for my friend, and that was all I had for responsibilities, so I got to relax a bit. In the evening I played my game a bit. Night was disrupted a bit, as there was still some activity in the place I normally stay, so rest time was delayed by about 3 hours. 😞

The podcaster I mentioned that I've talked to before wants to interview me for her podcast. 😊 She likes mine, and we have similar backgrounds and focus. Hers is on relationships between gamers, where mine is more psychology of being a gamer, sociology surrounding the culture of gaming, and motivation to be a gamer or behind your gaming. I'm not entirely sure what she'll ask, but she's very curious about my homelessness. I'd bet the lack of relationships in my life is what has her curious since a lot of gaming is all about relationships. I guess I'll see in the later morning. 😊

Originally the first people who suggested I do a podcast were saying that in regards to being homeless. But I didn't really want to do a topic that sad. I already have Epic Fail for that, and it seemed like a topic that would eventually just end at some point. It's why my focus has been on gaming instead. I think most of the topics I talk about could take place at any time, and in theory it's something I can talk on about for a long time. Yeah, I've briefly touched on being homeless in my podcasts, but I think of it as a minor aspect, a current filter for my life. Someday I'll be back in a home. I'll have friends, a sweetie, and maybe children. And all of these things are potential filters around gaming, potential topics to discuss, and even potential co-hosts. So I figured my homelessness could be changed and be only one of many possible side aspects.

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



## Day 1101 - 7/7

### It's ok to pee

I didn't get to sleep in this morning. I had a morning work shift. I'm soooo tired.

☹️ I had a pretty good work shift though. I did a touch of work on Epic Fail and played Batman: Arkham Asylum for about an hour. I rushed back to school after, grabbed a nom, and settled in for my podcast with Jenesee for the Grey Area Podcast. We got started a touch late, but she didn't seem pressed for time, so it seemed ok. We had a lot of laughs and I had a super good time. 😊 Hopefully she did too. She seemed to laugh a lot and thoughtful at times, so I think she had a good time. Hopefully I'll sound ok. My podcasts are done direct to my system, while the interview was done over voice chat on the school wifi, so hopefully it won't suffer too much degradation or difference in sound due to the different recording conditions. There was one point she was curious about which she didn't record because she didn't want to go too long for fear of her listeners getting too bored of me, heh. She was on a couch for a bit herself and she found that the day to day things, like a hot shower, were the most surprising to her (in terms of keeping herself sane and grounded to a regular non-homeless life.) We talked about that, but also how when you don't have a couch you have to carry everything around with you that you may need. The freedom of leaving stuff behind and walking away with only your wallet and keys is typically a freedom you no longer have. The most simple of things that people don't think about is going to the bathroom. I said I really had to pee and she said it was ok, she'd wait, and to just go. But I was like 'no no no, you don't understand. I'd have to completely pack everything up. I can't "just go".' In the library I don't really worry about walking away from my system and my stuff, but I was in a side conference room in the cafeteria building. While it likely would have been completely fine there, most places I can't just walk away. It doesn't *feel* safe. Even if it may be safe, you still have that nagging stress that it may not be. 'What if this is that one time something bad happened?' My point was that as a not homeless person you really have no idea how freeing and different a feeling it is to be able to go somewhere without any stuff. I can't do that if I want to even do something simple like pee – something most do without a thought by simply getting up,

walking 10-15 feet, and going back. For me it's actually a fairly big ordeal in that it requires 2-3 minutes of packing, walking a longer distance, and then unpacking everything again.

There are just so many little things like that in life that people seem to forget so easily when you have them. Hot water, a bathroom close by, a kitchen to cook in, (hopefully) a bug free home, a place to put your things, a place that has your bed, and most importantly, life without worry about your stuff or your personal safety. Until you lose those things you can very easily forget just how precious each and every one of them are.

## **Day 1102 - 7/8**

### **The lot stayed empty**

Today was a pretty good day. As I reflect on Jenese's words during our interview, I have been feeling a little less alone in terms of how I perceive the world since she agrees that she thinks most gamers feel as I do and have similar difficulty finding friends, love, and belonging in the world.

I slept in at school this morning, a rare thing these days as I'm still catching up from the holiday. When I woke up the lot was still basically empty. There were only a half dozen cars in each of the two lots I normally use. No sign of campus patrols though, even though they don't bug me anyways. The school library is closed on Fridays now, so I have to be outside like I am on Saturday and Sunday. Streaming shows was unusually bad. It was taking 3x as long, so I just gave up after only 15 minutes of a single show.

I played online for a few hours in the afternoon. There were no random groups that came up, and there were only about five guildies online; three of which said nothing the entire time I was on. (AFK or otherwise busy?)

In the evening there were similar bandwidth issues. I was showing 3.5k ping and couldn't even connect to my online game. I played Batman: Arkham Asylum for about 3.5 hours instead. While not being like I really wanted to play it, I'm glad I have the chance to finally play. It's one of the best games I've ever played. 🕶️ The art is great. The animations are almost flawless (almost only due to technical limitations of current day

technology.) And for someone at least somewhat familiar with the Batman universe, like myself, it's an awesome story.

I got a chance to work on podcast 20, and I think it's finished. It's at right around the normal 25 minute length, and I don't think there is more that I'd want to add. That means I'm 'ahead' by about four or five days which may give me a touch more time to think up stuff for the next one. 😊

The night and shadows close in on me now as I'm hiding and writing this. During the day, when I'm awake, I've felt a bit more... connected... lately. But now, as I need to blend in with the night, and I am alone with the shadows, hiding, and fearing noises that are close... it is hard to forget that I *am* still very much alone and hurting physically and emotionally. 😞

## **Day 1103 - 7/9**

### **Another fancy dinner**

I decided to have another super fancy dinner. I was considering a fancy burger, but I decided I am really tired of burgers. While this dinner will be pretty expensive, it should be ok. Plus, I've been sick lately. The past few days I've been sneezing a ton. I haven't been today, but I'm extremely tired. I figured I'd go ahead and get a fancy / healthier dinner as my body may really need the bits it's craving (to fight the cold.)

I don't know how the rest of the night will go, but my online game has seemed like an extreme waste of time. I played for about three hours and effectively gained nothing. With two 50s, and a 28, I really just grinded faction, which I never consider worth it in any game.

My day started oddly. There were people in the pool area during class, so I was totally safe feeling for sleeping in, but I couldn't sleep. I gave up and went onto campus. I had a decent connection for watching shows, so I got to watch the rest of the one I'd started.

I still feel a bit hopeful about things turning out ok, but due to my extreme tiredness and the online game not feeling worth their time, I'm a bit sad at the moment. Others are getting ready for an evening for fun, or with families, but I have little to look

forward to. My weekend is not a weekend, and I have no idea if it will ever be a proper weekend again.

## **Day 1104 - 7/10**

### **Where'd the juice go?**

I have no idea where my juice went this morning. It seems strange, as if faeries came and flew away with it or aliens took it away. But, no, it disappeared. This really describes how I feel more days than not. I'm at a complete loss as to where it went. I got it out in the morning before work, could swear I put it in my food bag, but when I woke up from my nap I couldn't find it anywhere. It's possible I drank it before my nap, separate from my food, which would be strange. But I have absolutely no memory of drinking it. All I know is it was in the car set out, it was in the bag, I opened work, I napped during the time the gym was empty, and when I woke up again when people were scheduled to show up, I couldn't find it.

The rest of the day was ok, but sad. My online game seemed mostly like a waste of time. I spent more hours than not just sitting around doing nothing. A group with guildies... wasn't bad really, but the tank couldn't keep threat on groups well, so we had a ton of difficulty where we shouldn't have. And someone playing a primary healing class, who normally plays it as DPS, was trying to heal, but doing so at great difficulty.

I did get a compliment on my system. The person I played a match in the tourney with said that I was the only fun opponent they'd met (most don't even talk at all.) And the manager person at the coffee shop said hey and was friendly to m for a few minutes. Oh, I saw some guildies online too that I hadn't seen in a while, so that was good. And I checked in and made sure another was ok that I haven't seen in a while.

But still... I am homeless... that has not changed. Nothing has moved forward to change it. I suppose when I get the chance I should try harder to make change for myself. But, it's like seeking shelter in a post-apocalypse desert. There just doesn't seem to be much out there to find. 😞

## Day 1105 - 7/11

### Stinky world smells bad

I'm having a lot of trouble breathing lately. I have allergies, and lately it seems like there is so much in the world that stinks. I smell perfume and cologne all the time at the coffee shop. One work location still smells like wax coating. The other day I could smell burgers outside of the cafeteria, like someone was BBQing dozens of them. On my drive tonight I smelt a stinky truck. In a home I could have an air filter and would run a couple of cycles a day and be fine. But homeless, well, unless I want to just about hit myself with asthma medication every 4 hours there is really no way to clear my lungs. Even if I could I'd still be in an uncontrolled environment.

I try my best to be ok, but it just seems like yet another reminder of how out of control my life is, and yet another aspect of my health going bad that I can't fix. 😞

## Day 1106 - 7/12

### Interview posted

Today has been pretty good so far. 😊 It's later afternoon and I'm at my short work shift. I wanted to just do my bla bla now so the week can get posted so everyone out there gets it as soon as possible. While I always hope for something amazing to change my evening, it is highly unlikely to happen. Even if it did, you'd hear about it next week. (Or if it was truly amazing I'd just update it, heh.)

Jenese posted the Gray Area Podcast that has my bunnah interview. It turned out pretty good. She did a super good job of splicing together the like seven or so pieces it got broken into. For some reason (probably the schools lack of bandwidth) I got partially dropped, and she couldn't hear my voice, but could see my text chat and I could hear her. So she had to stop, I'm assuming save the recording, then restart the voice chat and make a new recording section. I did seem to talk really fast in some parts, I think mostly because I was nervous, but I think part of it too might have been the Internets 'catching up' and speeding up my voice a bit. It surprised me how much the mic picked up my sniffles from my cold; hopefully people won't be too irked with that. The second half was

a touch bad, as I sound kind of like one of those people in the witness protection program or something with voice modulation to protect my identity. But, it was what it was. There really isn't any way for me to get a better connection to teh Internets without doing something like staying in a hotel room which offers a connection in each room. (Which is common enough around here, but at around \$150+ a night it isn't something I'd really be up for seriously considering anytime soon.) I still feel more connected due to the interview, more like a person who is part of a greater society of like people. Hearing myself in 3<sup>rd</sup> person as it were, while interacting with others, makes me feel a bit less sad. I can relate to me as another person who is part of a greater group, someone who shares like interests, thoughts, hopes, and dreams of other like-minded people, and I feel a bit less alone in the world. At least for the moment.

My sniffing and sneezing seems to have returned. It was gone for a few days, but now it's back. It may indeed be allergies instead of a cold. I feel overly tired physically, but not quite as much mentally as I have been lately. Though, as always it seems these days, I'm still in somewhat of a confused/dazed state more often than not. My body goes on with what it needs to do, sort of on automatic, but the brain lags behind, sometimes forgetting even simple things I was doing. (Like I'll put something down in a temporary place while I'm doing a something, side track for literally 30 seconds or so, and I will have completely forgotten about the first thing.) What once upon a time was something different and wondrous and at the top of my mind, now are things that I forget about quickly, and only the routine of what my homeless life has become seems to be what I can remember and retain.

## **Week 159**

### **Day 1107 - 7/13**

#### **Good comments**

I've been so sleepy today. I can hardly remember more than just the recent few hours. It's all kind of a blur. I got to sleep in, so that was good. Since I put up podcast 20 last night I didn't have to worry about doing it today (during the biggest traffic time.) Which was good, as bandwidth was non-existent. I spent 2 hours trying to watch a show. When I gave up I'd only seen 25 minutes during those 2 hours. The rest of the time I was waiting for it to contact the site and buffer. It was insanely annoying. I could have 'checked out' a system (that's on a landline), but I was trying to do my online work for my friend. I couldn't do that either as the bandwidth cut that speed down as well. In the space of time it took that I normally would have finished I'd barely managed to do 25% of it. I had an afternoon work shift after. Then in the evening I played my game a bit. I checked for jobs too - nothing I was qualified for.

Jenesea sent word she's gotten some good feedback on the interview podcast. No details on what that means though or specific quotes. Hopefully it means people were touched and that they wish me well. If not, hopefully it means they commented on her podcast and gave helpful feedback. It's probably well wishing, but either way, as long as my words and sad story help even a few that's something.

I've been super sad today lately. A lot of sneezing too. I'm forgetting little things. Thankfully I've remembered them all not too long after. But as I said the other day, my mind feels more and more scattered lately, and I feel more and more lost in life.

### **Day 1108 - 7/14**

#### **Compressed like a sponge**

Today I feel ok, but also sad. I do still feel more connected to groups I've felt disconnected from lately. I didn't sleep in due to a morning work shift, but I did get a chance to finish my online work for my friend, watch a show, check for jobs, and relax a

bit between shifts. My evening was kind of bad. There was a bad group that ate up about 75% of my playtime. I gained absolutely nothing.

I started a summer of movies today. It was kind of pricy at \$25, but that's for an unlimited number of rentals taking one disk at a time for one month. I should be able to get caught up on several movies and show series that I haven't been able to catch so far.

I'm exhausted though. Everything weighs on me lately. I'm sure those of you who aren't homeless can feel the strain of the excitement of being out; How the overstimulation of your senses wears you out. It's like a sponge really. The longer you are out the more it gets compressed and smooshed. Normally you can go home, get out of that over stimulating environment and decompress back to your normal shape. But for me it's just repeated smooshing, and I never get to decompress fully. It's just varying degrees of smooshed. It's so tiring and so taxing. Although time in my car while it's parked in a lot during the day or times playing my games are helpful, I wonder if I will ever get a chance to really decompress before I'm in a home again, or if I will always be smooshed to some degree. 😞

## **Day 1109 - 7/16**

### **Tears for the spider**

I got to sleep in today, which seems more rare these days now that I have morning shifts a few times a week. I feel pretty rested, but as with all getting caught up on rest times very tired and like I still have catching up to do.

I had to kill a spider last night. 😞 I was hiding at night, watching a movie, and saw it crawl up my monitor and around to the back. It must have been 1.5" big stretched across. In a home I'd have scrambled for a cup to capture them and taken them outside. But since I was in my car I had no such luxury or choice. The spider had to be killed because if they escaped to the local area I'd have no clue where they went. They could be anywhere in the car, my bedding, or my cloths. I got a paper towel and tried to smoosh them. They ran as fast as they could to get away. A second attack got them and they were smooshed. I feel so terrible. 😞 They were likely just curious, drawn to the system by the



light and the heat. They were just trying to live their life in peace, to get away back to their home close by. 😞 I felt so sad, and so very much like them. All I want is to get back home where I'm safe. I don't want to be out, alone, scared for my life... and killed for such a trivial, pointless, and unnecessary reason. I cried a few tears for the spider and myself.

At lunch today there were a few tiny birds near me while I ate. I tore off a few bits of my bread to feed them. They ate happily. Others came and after a few rounds of feeding, when I was done eating, there were about eight tiny birds.

I'm still so worried about my future, about my health. While my job pays me enough now, what would happen if (like in previous years) it dipped down to five hours again? While it is very secure, what if I left it for a new one and that new one let me go? I've seen several accidents in the road and parking lot during my time, what if it happened to my car, or me? With noone helping me and no safety net to speak of I feel very much like the terrified spider, wondering if something bad will happen to end me. 😞

## **Day 1110 - 7/16**

### **The wrong way idiot**

Today I encountered probably the dumbest driver in quite a long time. Mind you this is probably dumber than the person I saw in the school parking lot that tried to pass someone who was in the wrong lane and swerved into a parked car. It happened around dinner time. I was leaving the coffee shop parking lot. In the area I was in it was one way, and only about 1.5 lanes wide. There are two very large one way arrows on the ground. This guy starts to come forward to cross the exit from that area and he just stops while at about a 45 degree angle forward and to my left. My car is just behind the arrows, so they are clearly visible, and I am in the middle of the lane since it's a one way. I say to myself, 'What the poop? Get out of my way. What are you doing?' I stop and wait for him to pass by, but he just sits there. This guy then slooowwwly starts to turn into my lane and comes right at me (intending to pass me on my left) going the wrong way. I hit my horn to stop him from coming closer and possibly hitting me. A full three seconds pass as he's nearing the point of just about hitting me. He continues forward and I hold my horn down to

indicate he should stop and go back. All the cars and people walking behind me are now at risk because of his going the wrong way. He doesn't stop and crawls around me on my left. I yell at my closed window, "What are you doing? This is a one way!" He says back through his open window, "I'm going the wrong way." I mumble to myself, "Yeah you are." I'm sure he meant that he lacked the mental capacity to redirect his overall route. It boggles my mind as to why he didn't go forward from his original position, into a two lane two direction area, completely empty of parked cars (meaning there were about 5 lanes wide of empty area) and just turned around there. It is beyond me why he chose to go against a one way, where there were easily two dozen cars parked, arrows on the ground, all very clear marks this is the wrong way for him to go.

That idiot aside, my day was pretty ok. I slept in on school campus. I had lunch and watched a show. (Which, as usual, took twice as long. Why the network doesn't have the bandwidth it used to in previous years is beyond me.) I had a good group with the guild. I played a few matches against my guild leader in Starcraft 2. (I'm getting a little better.) And I had a slightly better dinner while getting caught up on Dexter.

Still... if I were in a home I wouldn't be at risk of these kinds of dummyheads. I wouldn't have to eat out. The food I eat wouldn't upset my tummy as it wouldn't be so delicate. I could sleep in a bed and take a nice private shower when I got up. I may still be alone, but I could control my environment. I wouldn't have to listen to the same songs every couple of hours (at least hopefully not). I wouldn't be around the overly bright lights that are always on around me. And I wouldn't be near people with too much perfume or cologne.

Well... maybe someday I can be back in a home and back to a normal life. 🙄

## **Day 1111 - 7/17**

### **Saved a spider**

Today seemed pretty good. It was a day catching up. I had a work shift in the morning. I get caught up on Dexter, and for video gaming I got started with Borderlands. It's super fun and I like it a lot. 😊 I think it would be more fun with friends online, but I have noone to play with. Even if I did I don't know if I could trust my bandwidth.

At work there was a spider in my stuff. This one was different; small, only ½” big, brown, kind of furry looking. It was super fast moving for its size. I got it on a paper and it stayed calm long enough to be taken outside and put it in the bushes. Hopefully it will find a good home.

I saw the work mouse outside not too long ago. I was worried because one coach had mentioned they'd called an exterminator to try and kill them. I felt so sad for the mouse I'd fed a cracker to. They just want to live their life somewhere warm and dry and a person wants to kill them for it. 😞 It made me sad to hear. Hopefully the one I fed and the one I saw are both safe and sound. While friends and loved ones would be great to have in my life, more than anything all I want is to have a safe place to sleep and call home.

## Day 1112 - 7/18

### Trust

Lately I've been thinking a lot about trust. It seems like a lot of my problems stem from people not trusting me. I see jobs that say x experience required, which is basically a job saying they don't trust you. People are friendly around me, yet noone is inviting me to be their friend, so that's like they don't trust me. People who are local and do know about my situation aren't offering help, so that's like saying they don't trust me.

I feel like I'm missing out on a lot by not having people in my life that I can really share trust with. Yeah, I have my friend/ex-roomie I trust to hold my stuff for me, but it's different from her also saying 'we don't want you to die, please stay in the garage at night with your stuff and be safe and as happy as you can be spending time with your stuff,' and then trusting me with certain hours during the night that I can sleep there safe and sound. It's not like having friends where I can share my stuff with and trust them to treat it right in the same way I would. It's not like having friends that I share hobbies with and, say, going to a scary movie with, where we challenge our perceptions and boundaries of things by trusting the movie makers to push our boundaries without going too far.

Am I still homeless, have I remained homeless for so long, because people don't trust me?

## Day 1113 - 7/19

### Gaming with snacks

Today has been pretty ok I suppose. It's early evening, just before dinner. I'll be having dinner and playing online at the coffee shop most likely, but that's probably it. It's warmer and there are lots of cute girls in shorts, so that always lifts my mood. I only got about 5 hours of sleep, so I'm completely exhausted. No jobs to apply to lately. In fact, most of my automatic searches I have running come back completely empty, or with 10% of what they did in years past.

Mostly I've spent the day gaming and getting caught up on shows. I even had a few bigger snacks, much like I used to do in a home. (Instead of the tiny ones I do at the coffee shop.) I had two small work shifts. I suppose in many ways today was what like a regular day in a home would have been for me. At least so far as it could be. My life forces me to live in a very diminished capacity and I wonder if I will ever be able to live as I once did ever again.

I suppose today was better than most, but since I'm so exhausted it's tough to feel positive about things. I'd like nothing more than to have a cooked dinner, watch my dinner time game shows while I eat, the probably just go to bed super early. But I can't. As is typical these days, I end my week of fail longing for the simple things I once had, the things seemingly everyone else has, and I wonder if I will remain on the outside for the rest of my life. 😞

## Week 160

### Day 1114 - 7/20 Nearly year 12

Today, like so many before, was basically unremarkable. I got to catch up on sleep a bit, so that was good. Bandwidth at school, as common for most Wednesdays for some reason, was almost completely nonexistent, so I couldn't do my online work for my friend. Instead I played Borderlands and got further caught up on Dexter. My short work shift went ok. The evening was ok.

As we near late August I am reminded of my birthday, but more importantly of being single. My ex left in July for a trip out of the country, but her breaking up with me wasn't official until my birthday in '99. I've been single ever since. Not even a date to speak of between now and then. If I'm doing the math right that means I'm ending the 11th year, and nearing the start of the 12th year, of being single. I'm not unattractive. At least there are comments here and there on rare occasion that seem genuine. But I wonder why have I been single so long? Is it this air of authority and self assuredness people have mentioned that I have? Is it because I have no social circle, and that is primarily how people connect for dating and love? Is it because people don't trust me, doubly so since I'm a total stranger to them? Am I doomed to become one of those sad stories that you hear about who, try as he might, no dating service seems to be able to help him and he finds noone on his own?

Like so many aspects of my life I wonder... can that ever be normal for me ever again? 😞

## Day 1115 - 7/21

### Plus one

Today was pretty good. On my social networking site someone wanted to add me as a friend. It's an online person, about the seventh or eighth total I think. It's strange to have online friends instead of real life friends that you see and do (physical) things with. I suppose it's just a change in my life that will remain different from now on. The world is changing frequently and style of connection between people is different now than when I was young. I isn't necessarily better or worse on its own, but it is different and something I'll have to get used to, as well as redefining exactly what that means to, and for, me.

Gaming and having online interactions with people still seems so different and strange to me. I can hide in a cubby at the school library and fade into my own little world – A world I once lived in. It's still only been about three months that I've had my gaming system, yet so much seems better in my life. So much back, at least in part, to what it used to be.

Things are still out of control. Things are still chaotic. Even now when I normally would be hiding in my night spot I'm hiding somewhere else, watching for an opening, because my usual spot seemed disturbed, potentially having unpredictable activity. And while some things are back on track, such as getting caught up on gaming, movies, and TV shows, I am still watching them on my laptop with headphones, at the mercy of school bandwidth or the coffee shop bandwidth. (In and odd twist it was the coffee shop that was completely unplayable while the school connection (for non-gaming) was tolerable.)

My life, once a clear solid picture, has been cut into a jigsaw puzzle. The pieces are scattered everywhere. Some are unrecognizable chunks that I have no idea how to fit into the others. Some are important corners that hold things together. And others still are ones I know have been lost forever and I will never see them again.

## Day 1116 - 7/22

### The bunny with no hop

A very sad thing happened and I don't know how it will turn out. I slept in on campus this morning, and it was a good safe sleep. I went to do my show watching and have some lunch. After lunch I had to go to the bathroom to poop. Someone was in there. I waited and waited. For like 5 minutes I waited. I couldn't wait anymore, no sounds could be heard, so I knocked, to hurry the guy up. It was one of the homeless that stay on campus. He came out cursing at me about 'me and my gang' and he 'hoped that I got an S.T.D. while I was here'. And he stormed off. Homeless is one thing, mentally unstable and attacking others is something else entirely. I made my way to campus security to report it. I didn't want that guy on campus if he's going to be unstable and attack people, if even just verbally. There is lots of construction going on all around campus. I had to make my way down a small bush covered hill. That's when it happened. My left foot slipped out from under me, caught on something, and there was a pop and a snap. The rest of me sort of slid down along the slope, so I effectively just landed on my butt. My ankle seemed instantly swollen. Its range of motion seems mostly normal, but nature's crash bags have deployed and immobilized it. Putting pressure on it for hobbled walking seems ok, but moving the foot in different directions generates shooting pain. While walking back to the car seemed to increase blood flow and increased range of motion has helped, I've now artificially immobilized it with my boot. I guess I'll be wearing them from now on, at least for a few months. It's only just now happened, maybe 30 minutes or so from the injury, so I'll know more later.

For now the bunny has no hop, and may not for a while. I prey to the gods it's not broken and it heals right. I suppose in a way it's poetic that it's the left foot. Now they both have had bad sprains or breaks. 🙄

Time passes

Looking around teh Internets it seems the snap/pop was a "good" noise. With my symptoms and the tests it references (toe wiggling, types and conditions of pain) it seems to be a sprain. I guess that's good in that it means it will probably be fine long-term.

It seems there is an emergency care place that I can get checked out at for free, so I'll likely go do that late this evening after work. It's an emergency room, so that's 24 hours. I guess we'll know more later. 😞

Time passes

In the hospital emergency room now. 😞 Been here about an hour. I've been to the window like three times. Apparently the visit isn't free but it should be \$20-50 for just seeing me, which is affordable. I don't know what the cost of other services like x-ray or casting would be if they had to do that. I've been waiting to be seen for about 30 minutes now. When I started waiting a guy with a thumb injury said he'd been here 45 minutes already. He's still waiting and hasn't been called.

I haven't been to an emergency room in about 22 years. I'd forgotten the lingering sense of terror, fear, and death, that hovers in the air.

It's kind of surprising that noone has been offered wheelchairs or things to do stuff like put up my injured foot and keep it elevated. It makes me boggle that a few staff rolled their eyes at me when I said I couldn't ice it and keep it elevated at work, yet they offer me nothing to put it up. They did give me an ice pack, so I guess that's something.

I'm so sad this happened, yet surprised it hasn't happened sooner. I suppose though I won't be not wearing my boots in the future. And I won't leave them partially laced. Nor will I be carrying my backpack on just one shoulder. From now on Mr. Flat Foot is keeping them on all the time just about. The doctor way back in the day warned me my feet would be prone to slipping and I should always wear boots. Had I been doing so this possibly wouldn't have happened (though I would have still landed on my butt). I had I not taken the 50' short cut by not going to the stairs, this possibly wouldn't have happened. Had I not been homeless I wouldn't have been on campus to use the Internet, and this certainly wouldn't have happened. Such a sad chain of events that may wind up having life-long consequences. But then, I suppose this is no different than any other risk my homelessness has introduced into my life.

Time passes

(I guess I forgot a final entry for this day. At 4 AM I was let out of the emergency room, with the final verdict that I had a fractured ankle, which may be so far out of place it needs to be reset, and a fracture fibula, which may need pins to set correctly. It won't be until the follow up appointment that we will know for sure.)



## Day 1117 - 7/23

### Crutches hurt more

This is too much to bear alone, but I have no choice. 😞 It's 9 AM and I tried to go get meds, but I'm not ready. The crutches take so much energy to use. I see why people would opt for the new-school one leg scooter.

There is a sickening smell in my car. I don't know if it's the crutches or the leg splint / brace thing. It's not a full and proper cast yet. I guess that's a later phase if necessary.

I've been feeling sick. I don't know if it's my body dealing with the trauma, lack of sleep, or what. It's only 9 AM, with all of the day ahead of me.

There were people asking what happened and offering well wishing and concern in the emergency room, so that's nice. Literally I'm still on my own. No offers of help outside of holding a door open or what-not.

More than anything I want to get some sleep. The pain has almost completely subsided since the leg and ankle have been braced, so what was tolerable before is even more so now. My meds would be good I'm sure, but right now I think I need some actual sleep the most of all. I stayed at the hospital and tried to get some since it wasn't until 4 AM that I got out. Adding 30 minutes to have the cast ready and it was rapidly approaching morning. I checked the school lot at 7. There should have been people for me to blend in with. But there weren't, and the gate to the pool area was locked, implying noone was expected in the next few hours or longer.

Feel sick. Must try and sleep. 😞

Time passes

It's later in the day, dinner time. I'm at a step above fast food restaurant, partly because I'm going to stay a few hours, partly because it's only a touch more than normal in cost, but considerably higher in quality. I may make this a semi regular thing. I'll have to see how finances hold once my hours reduce again in a month or so.

I'm discovering that the crutches are actually almost more painful than the breaks. They seriously dig into my armpits and it's killing my hands. Also, because I have to put all of my weight onto my one leg, after a very short while my right hip is sore. And due to all of this craziness I'm using all kinds of wrong muscles to try and remain balanced and

stable. I can only go about 25' before I have to stop and catch my breath and take a break. I can only do that a few times before I'm completely strained and on the verge of falling over due to strain. I'll have to give serious consideration to getting a leg scooter thing. There could be zero pain there and some have baskets for carrying stuff. It's a couple hundred on a website that I found for one type, so it would be a serious investment I'd absolutely have to get back after. I guess we'll see what is around after the financial damage from the initial costs. It may wind up being too much and I have nothing left. We'll see.

I'm so tired. I nodded off after my last location move. I sat in the driver's seat and just zonked out for about 45 minutes. Hopefully tonight I can hide and get some sleep.

I don't know how helpful the meds will be. Apparently one is an anti-anxiety more than pain meds and the other is a stool softener? I was expecting pain relief and anti-inflammatory. I wonder why I was given these instead of others. Maybe it has to do with my bad blood pressure.

Well, my life is what it is and I have to deal with it one piece at a time. 😞

## **Day 1118 - 7/24**

### **Disabled**

Today went... acceptably. The crutches still cause me a fairly enormous amount of pain. After only brief hobbles on them I feel sick to my stomach. I looked around a bit and it looks like the thing I'd like to get is called a "knee walker". Unfortunately they seem to be around \$400-500 new, so that's very far out of my price range. (To the point of impossibility, as draining everything I'd only have maybe \$200. And that's counting \$0 towards paying the bill so far.) There is this really cool high-tech thing that is \$400. What it is is basically a prosthetic calf and foot-like pad, very similar to what you'd see on an amputee, and it has a pad you rest the broken calf/foot on, and then the upper area straps to your upper leg for stability. In theory, after a short adjustment period it would be very similar to natural walking.

Being "disabled" is a very different experience. Many ask me how I am who I've seen on occasion and I know they are truly concerned. Some have shared their stories of similar injuries. A few were even like me, just a random slip. Though I admit mine may have been a bit dumber. Though in my defense had the grounds been tended I would not have slipped. Mostly I've just noticed people offering to do little things like hold / carry food for me. There are other things too, sad things. Like today at the coffee shop there were two girls at the handicapped reserved table. I came in and waited 5 minutes, possibly 10. I know one girl saw me, looked right at me twice. I think the other purposely didn't look at me. I waited until my leg was throbbing, when it was nearing 'very bad' levels for me (likely a point the average person would have been crying) I said, "I hate to ask this, but are you leaving anytime soon? My leg is beginning to throb in pain." When she replied with a confused look and said, "uuuhhh... we weren't planning on it." I felt like... well, doing or saying very bad things. They could go to the library to study (they hadn't taken any drinks of their nearly empty drinks in the entire time), to other coffee shops, to a table outside, to their homes, but no. They were extremely hesitant to leave the clearly marked handicapped table after I said I was beginning to be in bad pain.

I've driven to fewer places and stayed at them longer. It seems to work out ok. The pressure from shifting (the car) only causes a very brief feeling of, well, pressure. As if pushing gently on a swollen part. It's very tolerable all things considered. I hope I'm not hurting myself more. Honestly the cast rubbing against one part of my ankle hurts me more. And when I put my leg vertical, or bend it down to a natural sitting position while in a chair, it starts to throb after a few minutes, a more painful and uncomfortable feeling than the quick pressure from shifting.

Honestly I feel like if I could have a removable cast or splint it would be better. After it's been in a restful position for a bit I really feel like it just needs to be stretched out and gently massaged a bit. Though it does sort of feel like it needs to be popped, like you do to your knuckles. Hopefully that's not a sign it needs to be "realigned". The splint is somewhat loose now and wiggles a bit. Hopefully that's a sign that the swelling has gone down a bit. I'd really like to get some anti-swelling meds, but with these crutches every trip is a really big deal, even just going to the bathroom. Tomorrow I think I'll stock up on soups and other items and have someone load my car. That way I'll be covered on food for a while and can reduce my trips various places.

In regular news my work shift went pretty good. I didn't sleep in because everything else took extra long and I needed the time to finish the podcast. I had held it to give an update about my leg. It's ready to go tomorrow. Also, I had several good groups in my game, so that was fun.

I'm very glad this happened during warm weather time. I can just keep my blankets in storage instead of dropping them off and picking them up. Carrying items besides my backpack is very risky as I may get imbalanced and tumble. It's warm enough that a few layers of cloths are enough. It will be a bit more difficult in that it will be different sleep, so I will probably lose sleep, but I'll manage.

The little things escape me the most though. Things like I forgot to check if I had gummy bears, then when I remembered I didn't want to go back in the car and check because it's 'in the trunk' and difficult to get to. Same with contact fluid in my lens case. I dropped a pill once and just left it. Bending over or getting up from the ground is... challenging.

As with everything else in my life this seems yet another obstacle that there is nothing I can do but persevere. When the emergency room P.A. pushed on my swollen bits and I didn't wince and I told her, "Yeah, that's pretty sensitive." she said, "You are very stoic, aren't you?" I suppose in some ways that's true. I said, "A normal person would have screamed when you did that, yeah?" And she was like, "Ooooh yeah." It felt a lot like my arm break when I was a teenager – more of a bothered feeling by the swelling and tenderness than actual scream worthy pain.

Well, that's all I can think of. I'm so sorry to myself over this stupid injury. If I'd have just ignored that guy and not gone to the police, if I'd have not taken that short cut, if I'd have worn my boots, maybe it wouldn't have happened. 😞 My poor bunnah paw. 😞 I loves my hop so much, and now I don't have it. 😞 I hoped in my game a few times... and I almost cried. 😞

## Day 1119 - 7/25

### One sock

Today was pretty terrible. I went to the school library, which took 30 minutes (each way) because I hobble 15 feet, then need to take a 2-5 minute break. And every time I did it took longer and longer. In good news I found somewhere that will rent me the knee walker for \$140 a month. Unfortunately I don't have that much right now, even if I drained all of my savings. I'll have to wait until I get paid Thursday.

In, I suppose, good news my one small shift that was every day has stopped. So that eliminates a lot of time I'd need to drive to and from work. Fewer trips and spending more time at places is going to become my norm for a while. Unfortunately I completely forgot about a big heavy stage I need to push into place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Hopefully it will be ok, as I expect I can balance my weight and just push with one leg. It's not going to be slipping anywhere. If it's too heavy I'll have to get the people who are there for that activity to help and then be honest with my boss and report that shift should be given to someone else. If so that would be sad, as that's about \$150 in shift money I'd lose. It only goes another month, but still.

It's very strange only needing one sock. I'm going to try avoiding using too much laundry, but as much as these crutches make me sweat it may be unavoidable. It will be difficult to impossible to do laundry since I can't carry stuff. Yeah, there are baskets with wheels I put them in, but I can't wheel the basket and push myself on crutches at the same time.

I'm managing as best as I can through my daily tasks that I need to do, suffering through the various pains and troubles. But as worse as the emotional pains are I would rather just have them to worry about. All these physical differences make it even more obvious just how alone I am in the world. 😞

## Day 1120 - 7/26

### Appetite returning

It's way too early in the morning. I was awoken unexpectedly by some early activity. I wasn't discovered, so it's ok, but I am up about an hour earlier than expected to leave for work.

I'm so very hungry. Since the accident I've only eaten about 40% of what I regularly eat. I don't know if it's the pain, or exhaustion and pain from the crutches, or system shock overall, or a subconscious urge to want to avoid bathroom trips, or what. But, as of about last evening my appetite has slowly been returning. Hopefully that's a good sign.

Still, the most difficult thing is dealing with the strain of these crutches. After that is the throbbing that happens with my leg once that part is vertical either when sitting or standing. It starts almost immediately, so that's not good.

I expect most of my day will be spent in the library after work. I'm still not sure if I'll manage with the stage or not. I guess we'll see soon enough.

Time passes

It's early afternoon and I'm planted in the library. I finally managed to get podcast 21 up. It actually went wirelessly, and fairly quickly, both a surprise, particularly compared to yesterday's complete lack of bandwidth.

My wrists are pretty bad. I've even got some minor bruising on the back of one hand. It wouldn't surprise me if I've sprained my hand and armpit muscles with these crutches. I guess I can see if there are any videos online on how to use them. I suppose it's possible I'm still not quite using them right and it wouldn't be so bad a different way.

I guess I'll close out the week now. Though my life is extremely difficult and there is lots to talk about lately I don't think anything new will come up tonight. I expect I'll just stay in the library for the next 5 hours, and then go maybe have dinner and say at the slightly more expensive than fast food place I've been frequenting lately. I can actually sometimes see a signal to the coffee shop I normally go to from there. It's across the street. I would just get fast food, but I don't know, with the pain and sadness of the past few days, I think something slightly better and eating in a place I can at least continue to

get caught up on my shows may be better. It's a comedy series I'm watching now, so it may even make me laugh a bit.

As I say at the end of the podcast, the moral of the past few days, and well, all of Epic Fail really, is to really take care of yourself. Take those few seconds to be extra cautious. Make those extra steps to let people know you care. Be good to yourself and do what's important, but don't compromise other things that are important. Life can be so very short, and so very fragile.

## **Week 161**

### **Day 1121 - 7/27** **They love my shirt**

Today was pretty good, all things considered. I got to sleep in at school. I didn't sleep too late, just until a bit before 11. I went to have lunch at a pizza by the slice next door to the coffee shop I play from. I hated going that early and spending like 9 hours there, but by doing so I greatly reduced the number of times my leg was used for driving. When I got to the coffee shop a few of the workers said they loved my shirt. (It was the Gears of War one.) I told them the funny story of how I won it but haven't actually played yet. I think of all the workers there about 60-75% of them are gamers of some kind. There seem to be lots of people reaching out to me lately. I think people want to express concern and care, but since I'm a stranger they can only do it in a restricted way. I suppose it makes me happy though that it's yet another way I can tell people, or show them, how important and fragile life is. I've heard more than one conversation come up around me about people hurting themselves.

Still, in terms of pain, accidental hard steps when I lose my balance are far more painful than driving. And today my leg was often falling asleep when up on the chair, or throbbing quickly if put into a vertical position. The crutches are killing me, but if all goes ok I'll pick up the 'knee walker' after work in the later morning. So hopefully from then on trips will take much less effort, though I still won't be back to my regular self for several months.

That was pretty much my day; slept in, did online work for my friend, spent the day watching a few shows and playing my game. I kept my foot up basically all day and drove or walked extremely little. It was about the best I could hope for with my life what it is.

It feels a touch better. Pain is rare. It's mostly discomfort now. And lately, as it does get better and swelling goes down the hairs are bothered and it feels a bit itchy. The file that didn't exist is going to be put into record and I'll try again tomorrow to make the follow up appointment.



Not much planned for tomorrow. I have the small morning work shift, probably the last since my boss confirmed I have to move the stage and I can't do that, then I'll get the walker, probably go hang out at school for a bit after that, then play a bit in the evening.

Guess that's it for now. Please take care of each other and yourselves out there. This is yet another terrible thing I don't want people to experience. 😞

## Day 1122 - 7/28

### Forgetting how to walk

Right now my ankle and leg are super swollen. 😞 They were fine when I started the morning, but now with all the exertion it's pretty bad. The shifting likely is pretty bad for it, but really holding my leg vertical for even a minute causes terrible pulsing and bad swelling, let alone the physical exertion required to move around on the crutches. Speaking of which, the place I spoke to about the knee walker don't have any?! Apparently six were rented since I spoke to them on Tuesday. I'll have to check again in the morning.

It got so hot in the car yesterday several sodas were near exploding, leaking, and my shampoo had opened and leaked out. 😞 Hopefully soon I can get my walking thing and be able to go back to school for most of my day. Without the walker it requires too much hobbling, which causes too much pain.

The day is young, just past noon, but I doubt truly good news will be had. 😞 All this hobbling on crutches is causing me to forget how to walk normally. I am having difficulty remembering the steps involved. 😞

Time passes

These crutches are absolutely killing me. 😞 Everywhere I go I just about break a sweat and have to rest for like 10 minutes after even just a short trip in order to reduce my swelling and let the throbbing stop. I have a much higher compassion for the disabled and those, like me, who have to go through these things alone. I'm a very tough guy

emotionally and have a pretty high tolerance for physical pain. I have no idea how any normal person would endure this alone.

I suppose, in a way, I am not alone, and my guild is around when I'm online, and even a few are around when I'm offline. I know there are those out there who worry and check in on me. And I suppose that is something. 😊

## Day 1123 - 7/29

### The bunny with zoom

I may have lost my hop for the time being, but I have a ton of zoom now. I picked up the walker and wow it's easy to use. I don't tire out on it really at all and it takes just about no effort to scoot. I kick with one foot now and then, but mostly I slide along on momentum. 😊 I actually got it up to super fast speed at work, just to see if I could. I'd say moving fast on just a few kicks and 'the perfect surface' I was going at a pace equal to a fast run. Of course I won't do it again, it is very wobbly and at risk of tumbling over, but it was super fun. I was like wheeeee when I did it. 😊

I didn't sleep in in the morning because I started calling the phone at 9 A.M. Mostly I just hung out at the coffee shop and rested. One of the workers put her hand on me and said hey and smiled. She's not really my type, but attractive enough. I'm pretty sure she was just being friendly. There has been no overt or covert flirting.

Now that I'm scooting I have anti-inflammatory meds, and more importantly I'm not crushing my hands and over exerting myself. I'd guess I'd have to be using the walker for 15 minutes straight to have anywhere near the exhaustion level of just a few steps on the crutches. So hopefully over the next few days I'll see the swelling and throbbing rapidly disappear and it will be in much better shape on Tuesday when I have my follow up appointment.

Guess that's it for now. The walker is super fun and I have less frequent (physical) pain in y life. And that is something quite nice for my life right now. 😊

## Day 1124 - 7/30

### The bunny with zoom

Lunch time nom. It's a bit late for lunch, but it's when I'm having it. I suppose today has been ok so far even though I didn't sleep in. I played my game and tried to rest my leg as best I could most of the morning. I got a ticket for Captain America in 3D later tonight. And now it's lunch time. I did a bit of work on podcast 22, but mostly I just played my online game. I'm a bit extra spacey from the drugs today. 🤪

The beautiful blonde is here at the pizza by the slice place. 🥰 She's super pretty. Average height, a bit thin, blonde hair, blue eyes, and she's super nice and friendly. 😊 She's been here for years now I think. Cuties always cheer me up.

That's it so far. Hopefully things will turn out ok and nothing else in my life will explode.

## Day 1125 - 7/31

### I've seen you around

Some unusual stuff happened today. Nothing mind blowing, mostly just odd. My day started around 4 after I was back from a morning work shift and doing laundry. The beautiful blonde at the pizza place asked me how I broke my parts (as many do). She seemed interested, which is cool. (So many ask seemingly out of politeness and then really don't seem interested when I tell them a story more than 10 seconds long.) At the coffee shop someone chatted with me for a bit. Not just about the leg, but about other things. She was reasonably cute, attractive, and friendly. She didn't seem terribly flirty, but then she asked if I used Facebook. Could this be a girl asking me out? That hasn't happened in more years than I could easily count. I am not convinced it was though. While I felt there could be chemistry, I felt no immediate chemistry, nor was she doing any of the normal overt flirting. She mentioned 'her organization' and how they like to help people, and her page has over 450 friends, so that is very unusual in an odd way.

Later in the evening the new cute blonde at the coffee shop chatted with me. She has very short hair for a girl, she's older than the rest I would guess, though I'd also guess closer to 10 years younger than me than not. It wasn't flirty chat, just general chat. She had mentioned how she was in Paris for a bit and it was common for people to buy a coffee then stay there most, or all, day. The shop keeps actually expect it there. I told her, 'heh, I stick around here quite a bit' and she was like, 'Yeah, I've seen you around.' 😊

In the evening when I traded movies the guy asked what I thought. Though I think he must be trained to do that because after my first sentence he kind of didn't really follow what I was saying.

It was nice to be included in conversations today, but I wonder. So many seem to be approaching me just out of some feeling of compassion or kindness for my leg. I seem almost invisible without the injury. Some of these people do seem the type I would hang out with possibly, and more chatting would be welcome. But like with the Facebook girl, and the movie shop guy, I wonder if there are ulterior motives, or if it's out of a sense of whatever about my leg, and if there is nothing more there that's real.

## **Day 1126 - 8/1**

### **Three falls**

Kind of a bad day today. I got to sleep in, which was great. I scooted to the cafeteria and library with ease. I talked to someone in the cafeteria that works there about my leg. She agreed that guy who scared me is crazy. Apparently he was stalking her at one point, and he's been told several times he's unwelcome on campus due to his craziness. During work a game group was going pretty good, but then my connection completely lost it and I couldn't connect at all to the Internet.

I took three bad spills today. 😞 One was on a street, where a driveway meets the street. The other right across that same street where a walkway met the street. Both times my wheel spun and I rolled down. My foot got banged up pretty well, and so did my knees. The third time was at the hospital on my way to financial aid. I guess the carpet was bunched up in on area, and again the control wheel locked up and all I saw were a few quick flashes. I saw the wheel turned, then my side, then the ceiling as my head

whanged against the floor. There's a big scrape above my left eye and my orbital bone got banged up. I was stunned and my eye couldn't see clearly. Thank the gods that cleared up after a few seconds.

I pray those and my other falls haven't caused further damage. I know what to watch out for now, but I fear these may not be the only spills I take.

I have my follow up appointment in the morning, so all I can do is hope for the best. 😞

## **Day 1127 - 8/2**

### **May need surgery**

Today's check up was good and bad. It was good in that the doctors were impressed that I didn't have any pain or sensitivity. There was some pretty bad bruising and my parts were still swollen, but the doc said that's not entirely unusual. I guess people's parts can stay banged up from such a fall for several months, and in some cases even as long as a year. The doc did go get a more experienced doc to get a second opinion on something. They said in terms of recovery I look really good, but that there may be some tendon damage. If there is I may have to get surgery because what may be happening is that the tendon isn't working right and bones are bumping up against each other. I said I wanted to avoid surgery at all costs, so what we did was cast me up super extra good, and I'll go in for a follow up in a couple of weeks. At that time they will run some tests and see if it looks like I'm healing up regular or if they may need to go through with the surgery. 😞

I guess that's really it for the week of fail. I closed out podcast 22 with the update, and I finished the first picture series for this book with my ankle boo boo pictures. I guess things aren't too terrible, all things considered. There are some things I would otherwise do, like shower, that I can't do with the cast, but I guess it's tolerable. I just have to adjust for a few more weeks or so, then hopefully things can start going back to normal. I expect it could take quite some time before I get all my hop back, but I guess all we can do is hope for a good recovery. 😞

## Picture series 23



Batman: Arkham Asylum



Fancy gamer mouse

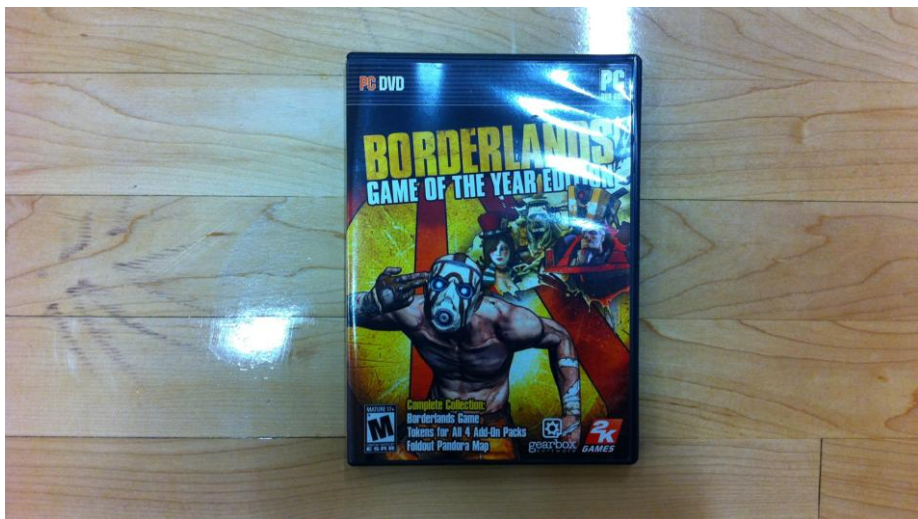




Fat car is too fat! Don't park there!



A fancy dinner



Borderlands



Bunnah leg is mummified!





Lesser fancy dinner



Ouchies, so many bruises.



Moar ouchies.



Cute cast is greeeen.

## **Week 162**

### **Day 1128 - 8/3** **Smooshed knee**

Today I'm soooo sleepy. I slept until nearly noon, and then after I left the school library I zonked out for half an hour before leaving. I don't know why I'm so sleepy. Maybe it's because the school Internets were, as usual for a Wednesday, moving at half the normal speed or slower. I did my online work for my friend, finished updating the system builds, and got some pictures for a game to use as phone wallpapers.

Nothing special happening today yet. While it's only an early dinner time around 5, I doubt anything of interest will happen later.

My knee is getting smooshed by the walker. It's scraped up and a bit bloody. I guess that's better than both armpits and my hands though. Hopefully it will get better over time as I get used to it and can balance better. I guess we'll see.

I wonder if my sleepiness is due to my depression. As we near my birthday reflection upon the last year and my life overall is unavoidable. I feel very alone and very sad about what happened to me, and now I have my ankle to worry about with the possibility of surgery and will never be fully right ever again. 😞

### **Day 1129 - 8/4** **Another bad spill**

Good day, bad day. It started with a pretty bad spill at school. Someone helped me up, which was nice, but again I jarred my ankle and scraped myself up. I discovered why I'm taking these spills. It seems the handle bars are now only very loosely attached to the control wheels. Instead of being locked in position, a crack of any size now knocks them off angle. Several times today I've seen it very easily get knocked off at least 20 degrees, which would have easily resulted in a spill had I not been staring at the wheels almost the entire time after discovering the looseness. I'm going to stop by to get it tightened after my appointment as it's getting extremely dangerous.

I slept in, which was awesome. I got up early at 10, which I guess was pretty cool too. I watched shows and messed around online. In the evening I had fun with my guild. One of the people who was like, 'No, I'm not going to move to Star Wars: The Old Republic, I love Rift,' was sending me tells about what he'd play when he moves to Star Wars: The Old Republic. So I was like, lol, now two days later you've changed your mind? hehe.

My ankle hurt for quite a while after the spill, but once it had recovered it was feeling pretty good. Several times I put my foot down to a normal sitting at a desk position for quite a while. I don't know if that's a good sign, but it is no longer throbbing in pain when vertical.

Still, even though I can play my games, watch my shows, and have a good time, the sad things in life seem insurmountable at times. I've been homeless for so long, and so few opportunities for change have come, it feels like it will never end. Or like with my spill and breaking my ankle and leg, it will end, but badly. 😞

## **Day 1130 - 8/5**

### **Dumb bureaucracy**

I had my second appointment with the financial aid person and I *still* wasn't told all the stuff I would need to bring. Seriously? The person who made the appointment with me didn't say to bring anything. The original confirmation phone message didn't say to bring anything. The person I saw said to bring a certain something, but the information she gave me was incomplete, so I only brought part of that. And when I went to the lady today she had a form with all the information I should have been given before my first trip. It's ridiculous the hoops they are making me jump through. And they want to see all the pages of my bank statement. Seriously? That's such a huge invasion of privacy. My first page already shows the totals for things. Why do they need to see every transaction I make? And they went by my last paycheck, which was nearly quadruple what I normally make, instead of using my tax return for last year, which shows how my pay balances out over the year. They better qualify me as all I'm saying, because proving that I'm low income is effectively impossible with the documents. I could very easily not be telling

them about a job, say that made 100k a year, and has a different bank account attached to it. Ignoring my tax return and requiring all the pages of my bank statement? Ridiculous.

I guess today was ok other than that huge repeating waste of time. No spills/falls. I got to sleep in until my appointment. I played a bit before work. My leg wanted to be down in a 'normal position' some, so that seems good. My toes can mostly bend up in a normal fashion again. I say normally as there is some weirdness/discomfort/pain as it reaches the max movement position, as it smooshes the broken part in my calf. Though it does seem tight in the cast, so it may be swollen a bit more than usual, which is one of my greatest concerns. 😞

Nothing really special to report other than that. Besides my suffering through sad days and a bit of well wishing here and there, my life feels very sad and unspecial at the moment. 😞

## **Day 1131 - 8/6**

### **Could be worse**

Today I heard more stories from people with bum legs. One girl had the same cast as me (in terms of size / position). She said she had pins in her ankle and couldn't move at all. She has to get surgery, she has no choice. I was wiggling my toes saying how I could move and she said she couldn't even do that. 😞 Another said she was out for three months, had surgery, and wasn't able to move or walk at all on the foot or a month after the surgery. She was just now starting to be able to hobble around with a sport bandage thing.

So, I guess my injury could indeed be far worse. Today several times I put my leg down from being up and it was ok for about 30 minutes each time. More and more it feels like I'm wearing my boot and I want to take it off. I can't really step with the foot though, but balancing on it while I move the walker to a different place, or baby steps to reposition how I'm standing, are a non-issue. It feels like I'll be mostly better in a few weeks. 😊 I don't expect to have full hop back for maybe 4-6 months after I get out of the

cast, and I certainly will always wear my boots from now on, but I think I'll be fine very soon. 😊

I'm still worried what the doc will say about the tendon, but all I can do is wait and see.

## **Day 1132 - 8/7**

### **The left boot**

Today I mostly felt like I was constantly wearing my boot and I wanted to take it off so much. Of course I can't because it's a cast. At night, possibly now because I've run out of that one drug, I'm starting to feel claustrophobic about it. (I am a bit in general.) I was freaking out and pushing at it to try and get it into a position where it didn't feel like it was smashing me and bruising me, and I had a very difficult time finding a comfortable position to put it in to sleep.

Today was pretty good for what it was I think. I didn't get to sleep in. I actually didn't even check if I could. I wasn't that sleepy, and I stayed where I was hidden for the night until a very late 8 AM. So I probably got a fairly solid 7 hours of sleep (which is fine for me if I were in a bed.) The following probably 11 hours I spent at the coffee shop. That's the most time I've spent there ever. The people on both shifts were fine with me, and know that I'm leg broke. They know I kind of need to stay put longer.

I had a few chats with people about my leg/ankle. Some people seemed friendly towards me. One of the guys at the pizza place and I chatted about games for a while.

I had good groups online, but for the most part there weren't a lot of guildies on, so most of the groups were with non-guildies.

But now, in the quiet of the hiding spot at night, my ears are ringing from the constant noise, and my eyes are tired from the overly bright lights. As I drove to my hiding spot I saw people's house windows open. Some were getting ready for the night, while others I could just see a brief glimpse of how they'd set up their home. It seems such a distant memory now... home. I can barely remember the freedom to watch what I wanted, to cook what and when I wanted, to play without lag or download stuff quickly, to not have to worry about what I do, when I do it, or things like safety. And most of all

sleeping in a bed. They seem such distant memories, and what's more, such distant feelings. I can't remember a time after I've been homeless where I could do something like sleep in without being disturbed and just showering and playing my game when I wanted. The closest thing would have been at C&H's when I was house sitting, but I was house sitting dogs and other animals, so I was disturbed at times. And I wasn't completely free. It has to be more than the length of my homelessness since I was free like that, and while I remember those days they are detached in feeling, as if I were watching a TV show. I no longer remember what it feels like to live in and have a home. 😞

## Day 1133 - 8/8

### Mini library

It seems today is the start of the school main library being closed until next quarter (August 22<sup>nd</sup>?). I guess the little side library room is open 4 hours Monday through Thursday, so I can still do that if I want. I don't think the cafeteria will be open though. I didn't check today because I slept in then ran a few errands before work. I didn't see hardly any cars in the lot, so I checked online and discovered the closed main library.

I suppose today was ok, though work lacked bandwidth to do any online activity past 5, which may indicate a bunch of people are starting to use it at home after work. I watched a movie and did some rabbit stuff, like worked on podcast 23 a bit.

My leg is feeling kinda bad today. It's been feeling again like the ankle is being beaten up by the cast, repeatedly re-bruising it and making it more swollen. I so very much wish I could take the cast off and let it relax and put it on a pillow and slowly stretch it out. I guess all I can do is be patient and hope it heals up as quick as possible, and as well as possible given the terrible life conditions that are imposed upon it. 😞



## Day 1134 - 8/9

### Five down

Today I didn't get to sleep in. There was too much construction noise on campus. Since I couldn't rest I just left instead of waiting several hours for the little side library room to open. I'm soooooo tired. I guess today was ok though so far. I spent some time with a few guildies in game, hardly anyone on so far. I watched a few shows. I checked for jobs. And now it's early evening and I'm settling in to have a dinner and do the school class planning I've been putting off so far.

There isn't really much to say about today. I'm still very sad about things. The emergency room bill is \$2,650ish before the low income plan thingy. I'll know more tomorrow on what that's reduced to once I have my meeting. Supposedly it's going to be covered and I'd just need to pay \$75. If it's not I have no idea how I'd pay that. That would take me like three years to save that much at the rate I'm going, even if we didn't add anything more for interest and whatnot. I supposedly have all the papers they need for the approval process, but since it's supposed to be a 30-45 minute appointment I'm still worried they may say no for some reason. I still think it should be based on current income or last year's tax return. I don't see how their requirements of current paycheck and three months of my bank statements is logical. There are simply too many loopholes in that theory, or trouble points, like the fact that I made nearly quadruple on my last paycheck, or that things like contacts (\$500 a year or so) and car insurance (like \$350 a year) don't show up during those months.

I can put my foot down about 5 minutes for every 45. I suppose that's something, but it seems ... not quite as good as before when I could put it down for about 15 minutes less frequently. I would think longer down periods are better. Sometimes the swelling in my calf area is down to the point I can put my hand in the cast up to my palm. But the area around my ankle seems like it's still pretty tight a lot of the time, and it never really seems to loosen up. I'm worried it's still being re-bruised constantly. I guess it's the inside bone bits and tendons that matter most though, and I can't see those with my eyes. I can wiggle my toes without any real pain, and recently I've been able to 'roll' the foot around and it doesn't feel bad or hurt. It feels odd due to the broken bit in my calf, but that's it. I haven't dared to put too much pressure on it, but as I said before, putting it down and



moving the walker or putting on my backpack while I balance standing up isn't an issue, so hopefully that's a good sign.

I guess that's it for this week. More sad and more worry. Things don't seem to be getting any better, only worse. And that makes me more and more worried. 😞

## Week 163

**Day 1135 - 8/10**  
**\$2695 reduced to \$50**

Today was productive financially and pretty good socially. I finally got all the paperwork in to the hospital financial aid. There was a bill for the emergency room visit that was \$2695 before the change, but reduced to \$50 after the coverage. 😊 So that is super happy to know that past and future costs are covered. I still won't really be able to do surgery under my current conditions, so let's hope that's not necessary.

My ankle and leg is feeling better in places. It can roll sideways and go up and down now, as much as the cast lets it. I can put my toes up or down. I dare not put real pressure on it more than just to balance because doing that does feel... wrong. I haven't let it get so much pressure it hurts, but I think it will be a while before I can walk again without a cane. I'd be ok with that if it meant no cast and even more so if I could do it without increasing the risk of surgery. I guess we'll know more in a week.

I played with my guild a fair bit today. One person was teasing me, which made me very sad and upset. I didn't like that. I'm not that kind of person - even more so now that my life is so terribly sad all the time. Hopefully they got the hint when I mentioned it, but I really didn't think they can comprehend how deeply that was really hurting me.

Other guildie groups went pretty good, and I had a chat with someone about my broken parts and my homelessness. They seem surprised and proud of me for doing my writing and telling my sad story. Speaking of which, there were some little ones that asked me what was wrong and how I broke my parts. I think the mom was kind of surprised that I explained it at a little one's level of understanding. I told them about the crazy person that scared me, that I went to tell the police, and that I slipped on a hill because I didn't take the stairs. One was very interested to know what kind of bush tripped me. I had no clue, so I said it was a "mean one", hehe. 😊

But now that the sun has set, now that I'm no longer in the noise of the coffee shop, now that it's night, I must hide. Again I must blend in with the shadows and be a

non-person, hidden, unseen, and be the nothing to the world that I so often I feel I am even when surrounded by others. 😞

## **Day 1136 - 8/11**

### **Falling asleep**

Today was reasonably ok I guess. My ankle / leg feels better I think. I sort f feel a bit sick, and it feels more swollen than not most of the time, but it wants to be down more often. Putting it up like I did just a few days ago tends to put it to sleep. Putting it all the way down is better and I can do it more often for 5-10 minutes without much issue. But that to causes it to fall asleep in some ways. It's like it wants to be at about a 45 degree angle to be happy. Mostly it so very much wants to be out of the cast and free to stretch and not be re-bruised or smacked by the cast.

I didn't really spend today how I wanted. I would have liked to have gone to the small library room, but I decided it was too much effort with my broken parts. I would have liked to have been out in the warm day, and gone a few different places and whatnot, but it wasn't worth the risk of damaging my ankle from driving or taking a tumble.

I think today, most of all, I feel sad. Sad about my ankle. Sad about my life restrictions. Sad that I have no friends. Sad that I have no sweetie. And, above all else, sad that my life has turned into something so very far from what I had hoped it would be at this age.

## **Day 1137 - 8/12**

### **Lonely birthdays**

Today was ok I suppose. I tried to sleep in on campus, but for some reason I couldn't sleep. I rested about 1.5 hours, then gave up trying to sleep. Unfortunately it looks like school doesn't start until late September, not late August like I remember. So I've got a month of things being completely closed to look forward to. I expect construction will continue and college employees may still be continuing to work, so it's

possible there will still be enough cars to blend in with. Also, I checked what I needed for child development stuff and at quick glance all I need is a "practicum" and then I'd qualify for a "teaching certificate". I decided against it though. It would be over 10 hours a week from 8:30-12:30 twice a week, which to me sounds like taking on a second job that I wouldn't be paid for. Since the child development units have done no good in finding me a job I didn't see how this would be helpful. I'll check again in future quarters, but for the moment caring for little ones between 6 months and 4 years old really didn't sound like something I'd enjoy or want in life. Instead I signed up for two computer classes, both of which are at my own pace and online, so I can do them whenever I want and as fast or slow as I want. That will be... different. I'd like to not do a class like that, but I actually have extremely few classes to pick from. I've got maybe one year before I *completely* run out of classes at the junior college level.

I decided to get myself some birthday presents today. I got two older games and a TV series I want to collect. All three were about the cost of a new game added together, so they were super cheap. 😊

These recent birthdays, even the ones before I was homeless, have seemed super sad. I've been alone, and each one has just been a reminder of how alone I am in the world of all the things I'm missing in life that I don't have. While this year will not be as sad as the last, I don't expect it will be particularly happy either. Oh sure, I'll have my stuff, I may get a fancy dinner, I may spend a few dollars on a single serving sized cake, a few may send me a surprise gift (which would be super happy 😊), but I will still be alone. I will still be homeless. The things I do will still be in a greatly diminished and restricted form. And above all I expect I will still be single, without (rl) friends, and certainly without children of my own. 😞

## **Day 1138 - 8/13**

### **Eating oddly**

I've been eating oddly lately. Most of the time I just don't have much of an appetite. I'm typically eating less or simply not interested. Sometimes too I feel kind of

sick. I haven't been on my meds save for swelling/pain over the counter meds, so it's not a reaction to that. I think maybe it's depression more than anything.

I decided to hold back the podcast until after my appointment. I noticed it was Tuesday, not Friday, so that is a lot sooner than I thought. Most of the time my leg and ankle feel fine. It wants to move around and stretch most of the time and to be rid of the cast, so hopefully that's a good sign.

I suppose I had an ok time with guildies online, though I probably spent more time sitting and waiting and doing nothing than I did playing and grouping. Grinding is uninteresting to me, so I'm not going to grind faction or dailies.

Hopefully someday things will be ok for me again, maybe even normal. But as more time passes, as I help people with builds online, as I hear people chatting about things they will do or did, as I hear about people's lives changing, as I'm recognized more and more in the places I'm forced to frequent... I still wonder if things ever really will get better for me. 😞

## **Day 1139 - 8/14**

### **Stretching on forever**

Today was long. And although all I did was basically kill time playing my game and chatting with guildies, it seemed to stretch on forever. I think it's because I'm out in public. The constant noise of music, chatter from people, and bright lights are exhausting. And it's cold. It's always cold in the coffee shop. I think it must have been a warm day because when I got back to my car when the shops closed my drinks and other items were still warm from the day.

Once upon a time, at the start of my journey until about 1.5 years in, I really had nothing to do all day and I sat and watched mini golfers, shoppers, and people in parks. Now I have my laptop at last, and all the Internets and what games I have are at my disposal. But my days still seem infinitely long, and in some ways more tiring. If I weren't ankle / leg broke I could go more places. But what would I do? I could go and watch those things I watched before I had my laptop, and during lunch or a nap that's fine, but there is really nowhere I can *be*. I am an invader. I don't belong anywhere. I have no

home. Everywhere I go, though some may greet and welcome me, I know people wonder why I am not elsewhere.

In the day I am in shops where I stay too long. In the night I hide away in the shadows hoping not to be discovered. I do these things because I have no choice. And it makes me sad that I have nowhere I belong.

## **Day 1140 - 8/15**

### **Hoping for the best**

My left boot is all ready to go in the morning. It's got a sock set in it and it's in the passenger area waiting for me to take it with me to my appointment. I actually slept in this morning for the first time since I think Thursday. After I played my game for a short while, then went to work a bit early to do some podcasting and take a shower. I didn't feel like playing my game in the evening though. I doubt I could have if I tried. The voice chat monitor showed ping averaging 1,500 and a high of over 8,000, which are unplayable conditions. It did barely have enough bandwidth to watch a few shows though (as it can buffer), so I did that.

I'm hopeful for tomorrow that things will be good news and I can get my cast off. I miss my hop so much. 😞 I am worried though. There is room in the cast, and it is loose more often than not, but there are still times when I leave it down for a few hours, or if I put too much pressure on it, where it feels weak, shocked, or simply swells enough to fill the cast and be just a bit too tight. Seeing it bruised still would not surprise me.

Can't think of what else to say. As usual nothing happened of real interest or change. All I can do at this point is hope that the morning brings good news.

## **Day 1141 - 8/16**

### **Three more weeks**

Good news sorta bad news from the appointment this morning. The super good news is that the ankle is almost all better. Apparently the doc said that you can't even tell

anything is wrong, no need for surgery. The fibula, however, is healing kind of slowly and still a touch out of place. He's not really worried about it though, as I guess 90% of the stress is on the big bone (the femur). But, because of that, and because of not doing surgery, and because if the ankle did shift it would be super bad, they are keeping me in the cast for three more weeks. 😞

That's all the news for today. It's not even noon yet, but likely nothing else will happen. I'll go ahead and close out the fail week here and get it ready for posting later. I won't be somewhere I can post for about 6 more hours though, so if anything does come up I can let people know. 😊

## Week 164

### Day 1142 - 8/17 Free hot chocolate

Late in the evening the manager person at the coffee shop gave me a free hot chocolate. 😊 He sent the cute blonde over to deliver it to me. (Though she's more of a sandy brown, and she's not at all interested in me. She's friendly and smiles, but she asks questions that imply she doesn't know anything about gaming and is just making conversation.) Though since she asked my name I think he did it to get my name. Earlier in the evening when I was in the bathroom I heard him say, "Oh, I think *he's* in there, the guy with the computer. I forget his name." That or he wanted to get rid of the milk. They are pretty friendly to me overall. 😊 I have been spending too much time there lately, but I think it's mostly ok. The place is rarely 100% full. It's only full about one or two hours total throughout the day. I was there for about 9 hours, and about 60% of the time the place had four or less people, including me. Of the remaining time I'd say there were six or less total. I'd say about 16 can fit in there sitting down before it gets full.

I started the day sleeping in. I slept really late, until about 12:30. I must have gotten 10 hours of sleep total. I think it was due to my injury as well as getting caught up from previous days that construction or being scared at night preventing me from getting sleep. I was pretty tired throughout the day.

Someone posted yesterday in an 'F5ing manner' asking where my podcast and fail week were. Nice guildies checked in today too. It was good to be reminded that people care about me, and think of me as unique, special, and look forward to my ramblings.

That was really it for today. I'm still somewhat out of whack mentally from my leg. It's thrown my routine off so much that I'm forgetting to do things, or undone because of my increased restriction. Things should be ok when all is said and done though, so hopefully I can re-balance enough to continue to keep myself on track.

They were a couple of dozen cars in my area in the morning at school and the administration area was packed. I don't know what is going on lately but it seems there has been a lot of activity lately. Tomorrow at least I should easily be able to be hidden, possibly Friday too. The weekend will be far more questionable, but last weekend it was



busy enough I could have slept, though I didn't. Hopefully I'll continue to sleep in the mornings. I'm soooooo tired lately. 😞

## Day 1143 - 8/18

### A blur

Nothing really stood out today save for putting out something like four resumes. It's so rare to be able to apply to things these days. They were all pretty much part time or I wasn't qualified, but more hours is something, and if I don't try for things that I'm not quite qualified for I'll never get the job. Sometimes I really wish we had old school apprenticeships so people could say, 'you have promise, let me take you under my wing, get you into the industry, and off you go.' (I think some 'trades' still do, like construction.) I suppose that's what internships are for, but I never found any.

The rest of the day was basically a blur of regular activity. I got to sleep in. I had a sandwich lunch and a bag of chips from a mixed bag I got the other day. I did something slightly different for dinner. But that was really it.

I did get my ticket for Conan in 3d on Saturday. And I did get some birthday monies from dad, but that was it. There wasn't any new or different socializing. There was no movement in my life in terms of getting better. (Or thankfully worse.)

## Day 1144 - 8/19

### So fast

It seems the summer is basically over and gone. Every year I say that, but it seems these past few years it's gone by quicker and quicker. That is probably due to the horrible downward spiral that has been my life.

Nothing really new or interesting in life re-establishing today. I played Force Unleashed II quite a bit. It... isn't really what I expected. It's pretty cool and all, but the main character is way way overpowered. The point of the series is for him to be, but this is just insane. I probably won't pick up future ones in the line, and I doubt I'll play this

again once I've finished. Maybe too I'm just getting older and prefer more strategy to action. I much prefer the older d20 system based Star Wars games. I suppose though these were made by a different developer, so that likely explains part of it. I also tried to play Fallout New Vegas, but for some stupid reason it's bound to Steam, and seems to be refusing to run in "offline mode". I'll have to research if I can get around that and get it working. I don't understand why a single player offline game like this requires online connectivity. It's my birthday tomorrow. 😞 Though I'm sure I'll get well wishing and maybe a surprise or two. I can't remember the last time I had a birthday where I spent time with friends, pizza, and cupcakes. Though I expect I will have online friends with me this time, an improvement over previous years, I yet again wonder if I will ever have a "normal" birthday celebration ever again. 😞

## Day 1145 - 8/20

### Nice surprises

It turns out there were some nice surprises today. 😊 I didn't get to sleep in though. I was woken up early by a noise in my area, so just to be sure I left. It wound up being about an hour earlier than expected. While there were half a dozen or so cars at school they were in an unusual location, and the pool area was locked, so I passed on sleep.

The first surprise was a something from guildies/friends. They sent me a nice card, but in it were two cute tiny cards. One has birds and the other frogs. It's those kind of cut from paper and stuff made into 3d kind of things. Hopefully I can keep them safe until I have a nice place to put such cards out. There were monies too. 😊 I'll save the actual cash monies for new boots, use the food monies on, well, food, and I've used up the restaurant gift card on a fancy dinner. I think that had to be the biggest surprise of the night. There was a super cute super attractive waitress. 😍 While someone like that was not completely unexpected, I did kind of chat friendly and flirt very slightly with her and she kind of did back a little. Though we should not get our hopes up. She did have a Celtic/Irish ring with a heart with hands pointing towards her heart. I saw it and said, "Oh,

so that means you are taken, eh?" And she replied, "meeehheee" and kinda wobbled her head. I laughed and said, "That doesn't sound too good, heh." She was super friendly and stuff and said to have a happy rest of my evening when I was going. I think she felt kind of "bad" because I was just me and I knew what I wanted and was "easy" to take care of. I left a rabbit card with the tab thingy and wrote on it that I had to at least try and flirt with it being my birthday and all.

About half a dozen said happy birthday online, so that was different from previous years. I saw Conan in 3d and Cowboys & Aliens. Those were super fun. My friend/ex-roomie left me some brownies, so I nommed those during the movie instead of a single size cake. It may not have been the best idea though eating both bits. My tummy is grumbly and upset. I think I talked about it before, that I can only take so much chocolate these days before that happens. It still seems odd to me. I think, once my ankle is better, I'm going to make a super serious effort to try and get healthier overall. I know I keep saying that, but with this scare, with my odd quirks increasing as more birthdays pass by, with cute young waitresses that make me happy and smiley... well, I would like to be in better shape so I don't miss out on what life I may have left. Be that the 40+ years I should have remaining, or if it only turns out being 4 weeks, I'd like what's left to be... better. I don't want to feel tired, sick, heavy, and congested inside. I don't know if eating slightly better and a tiny bit of exercise will do it – all I can manage for both categories while homeless – but I'd like to give it a serious try. I do love me, and the thought of things being cut short, well, that always makes me sad. And such thoughts come easily as fond memories fade and the darkness and isolation of the places I hide close in around me.

## **Day 1146 - 8/21**

### **Strangers**

I'm so exhausted today. I think I probably only got 5.5 hours of sleep. School's pool area was open, there were a few cars in the lot, but I just wasn't sleepy. How I wish I could have gotten a few more hours of sleep this morning. Hopefully tomorrow it will be back to normal and I can sleep in quite a bit then.

Nothing really new for today. I did find some videos for both Star Wars: The Old Republic and Guild Wars 2. It confirmed SW:TOR isn't really much new mechanically, but for the diehard Star Wars fan it's a solid looking game. Guild Wars 2, as it always has been, remains my most anticipated title. Several things do look new and different for it, and I'm even more excited for it to come. Hopefully its beta will start soon and I can hop in.

That was really it. The majority of the day I just played my games and watched my shows. It's awesome I can do that now, but I'd still like to be back in a home and playing on a desktop and watching shows/movies on my home entertainment stuff all proper like.

## **Day 1147 - 8/22**

### **The ghost who said "Boo, damn it"**

I got a very odd and unexpected (bulk) email invite to a birthday party (in two weeks.) I've mentioned 'the ghost who said boo, damn it' before, he's the ghost I've seen on the college campus in the little side cafeteria room for over a year now, but I don't know if I explained the story. Once upon a time, long, long, looong ago, my now ex-wife and our friends were moving stuff into the apartment, I forget what. I'm coming up the walkway towards the door and this friend leaps out from behind a bush, puts his arms out, and makes this face. It wasn't a totally scary face/pose, but it wasn't completely silly. So I stop and say, "Well, don't just stand there, say 'boo' or something, damn it." So he pauses for like 3-5 seconds staying in that pose, then says, "Boo! Damn, it." So, from then on, any time something was sort of scary, sort of silly, like most Halloween decorations, it was referred to as 'the boo damn it'. This evening when I could finally connect from work to the Internets I had a bulk email from him about his birthday party. I suppose I'll go and check it out. But it's odd. For a year or more I've seen him around campus, probably a dozen or more times. Once I even passed by him outside the library within about five feet. Never once did he approach me or call out my name to test if it was me (and not someone he thought looked like me, as I do look just about the exact same as he last saw me 10ish years ago.) We had been drifting apart and the last time I saw him was at a party at the

friend/ex-roomies house. He said something like, "I don't like any of these people. I don't know why I'm here." So I stopped inviting him over, as I was at a phase in my life where I was trying to make new friends. (I was recovering from a brief homeless period after my divorce.) So, to get an email now, after like 10 years of not talking to me at all... seems a bit odd. I'll plan about a three hour visit window of the possible nine that his party is running for and see what happens. Part of why we drifted apart is we had little in common anymore and he was starting to hang out in pubs, smoke, and drink a fair amount. And I don't want to be around people who drink, and in the case of smoking I can't, since I'm allergic and it makes me cough and can trigger my asthma.

I guess the rest of the day was pretty regular. I slept in quite a bit. I went shopping for a bit of food and to see if there were winter shirts in stock. There weren't, but I found some cool cammo shorts. And in the evening I had a work shift, during which I played one of the games I got myself for my birthday. I figured out how to get it running in offline mode, so I spent the whole time getting into it.

Oh, I started podcast 24 with a bit that I expected to be kind of short, but it branched out and turned out that I'm about 16 minutes into the podcast already. So, getting a bit more so that I can release at the 1.5 week timeframe this Saturday shouldn't be too tough.

Well, it's hiding at night time now, so I should likely put out my phone and be fully hidden in the shadows. Maybe tomorrow we'll have some meaningful change. 🙄

## Day 1148 - 8/23

### Shift it

It's about 1 and I have to shift around my evening. Someone asked if I could cover for them and I was like sure. So I have to hurry to finish the fail week input I've been doing, get the index page changes in, then go somewhere to post, grab dinner, and scoot off to work. I've got about three hours to finish up, so it should be plenty of time.

Nothing else different today. Oh, someone has been playing phone tag with me on a depression study. I told her if I wasn't expecting a call I'll probably miss it. She's called and I've missed it three times so far. 🙄

That's all for this week. Probably nothing of interest will happen though and I'll just play my single player games in the evening. Hopefully everyone out there reading, now and in the future, is doing ok and you are safe and sound wherever it is you call home. 😊

## Week 165

### Day 1149 - 8/24 Missed hot

Today was so hot. It would have been nice to be in a home that got warm. Instead I was indoors all day and only out in the hot day briefly. I suppose it's good to not be overly hot. I recall in years past being in my room with the system off because it would hit shut down points after a few hours running.

Some people talked to me about my leg today. One lady was totally impressed when I showed her a few steps. She said when she hurt her leg she couldn't put enough pressure on it to stand even after 7 weeks. I guess though she tore up her tendons and stuff pretty bad, and she needed surgery and was explaining different staple and screw materials. I was like yikes! 🤢🤮 Do not want to hear! I should be fine in two weeks when the cast comes off. I can take a few steps without issue. A dozen or more though and there is a slight charley horse feeling in my calf, likely due to the position of the cast. So, I'm trying to stay off it as much as possible (since I already have to continually do steps to shift the car.)

Other than doing my online work for my friend that was really it for my day. I played my game for several hours, watched a few shows, got to sleep in, and nothing of real interest happened. 😞

### Day 1150 - 8/25 Spilt soda

Last night was kinda bad. When I was "making my bed" I wound up spilling 2/3 of a can of soda on my favorite blanket. 😞 I had to let it pool up and it and bundle up the blanket so nothing else would be affected or I wouldn't have enough covers to sleep on and might stain the car bits. I slept ok-ish, and slept pretty well once I got to the school lot. In fact, I had some very lucid and strange dreams. When I got up I grabbed lunch

really quick, then headed off to the laundry place to wash things. I looks like everything was fine at quick glance (having the broken bits, stretching the blanket out fully is difficult, if not impossible). I did an expanded job check, and as usual these days the only interesting ones required experience or degrees I didn't have. I spent most of the day online doing random pick up groups. But the last three hours of the evening, when guildies started showing up, I had a pretty good time. I spent time with basically two different groups and we had some good chats about games and TV shows.

My leg is feeling better a lot of the time, and much of the time the cast feels pretty loose. I still sometimes get panicky at night and want it off. If I have to keep it longer I'm going to need some kind of medication I think because the claustrophobic panics are starting to get to me. I've got 1.5 weeks to go and I'm already having times where I'm thinking of ways to smash or cut it off. 😞

I suppose today is one of the few good days. ... At least it is so long as I don't think about my teeth continually rotting away, how I've likely gained 10-15 pounds, possibly more, due to the lack of walking, and how I'm still no closer today to getting re-established than I was over three years ago.

As always, I try to focus on what I do have 'today', persevere through my bad times, and hope that tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 1151 - 8/26**

### **Hangin'**

I guess today was pretty ok. I got to sleep in a lot at the school parking lot. (I may or may not be able to sleep on the weekend, so I'll need that extra sleep.) I tried to play my online game, but it's getting more and more dead. Random groups are taking 45 minutes to an hour and a half to join, and there really aren't more than about one to three others in the guild until about 4 PST. I watched a couple of shows and headed off to work. Work was fine. It seemed to go by quickly.

The only think of real interest thought was that when I left the coffee shop three of the guy workers were outside there and we talked about my knee walker/scooter for a bit. One mentioned he'd been in a cast for nearly 2 years because he busted his leg up pretty



bad, then broke his parts again right after getting out of the cast, then broke it a third time!

We talked for a minute about a cute girl that passed by and girls in general. 🤔 It's kind of like I'm extended family of the staff there. Everyone knows me and I'm one of the staff's significant other or something. I'm still pretty sure they are all fine with me being there. Sometimes we share lols about customers, and they always say hi and bye. Of course though, once I'm mobile again, more so once school is open again, I'll be there less. In a way I will miss the company, but it is really strange that I spend more than a full shift there and more days.

That was really it for my day. I finished podcast 24, so that's ready to go in the morning.

## **Day 1152 - 8/27**

### **Winded**

I suppose there is good news and bad news today. The good news is that counting my podcast downloads and dividing by the number of podcasts there are now a theoretical 60 listeners. 😊 That's like a small conference room! I'm so happy so many find my ramblings at least interesting enough or entertaining enough to listen to. 😊

The bad news is that due to my lowered activity level, due to my eating a touch worse due to not being able to micro soups, I'm now getting winded very easily. I can scoot for a short bit, but with the longer trips I have a bit of difficulty breathing by the end. It may turn out that re-learning how to walk isn't as difficult as actually having enough energy to do so. Let's hope that I can get myself back up and get into shape quickly again.

That's really it for today. I got to sleep in a bit at school, which was greatly needed because I didn't fall asleep until nearly 3. Outside of that it was a pretty regular day of gaming online.

## Day 1153 - 8/28

### Friendly day

Today seemed pretty good. Many of the shop workers (of different stores) said hi and I chatted for a bit with some of them about gaming stuff. I had a pretty good time with guildies too, though there has been a lot of bad drama lately and some people I liked were pushed out emotionally by others, which is not ok. 😞 There are still several I like, but things seem weird what with the dwindling numbers and drama that's gone on lately.

That's really it for today. Nothing really super special or sad other than that happened.

Oh, I am getting more and more winded from all my low energy times with the walker. I guess it's better than constant exhaustion from crutches, but again I am very worried I won't have enough energy to be walking right away again. 😞 I guess we'll see in about nine days or so.

## Day 1154 - 8/29

### Peeling like a snake

For about the past week, maybe more, the bottom of my foot has been super overly dry. The material that is protecting me from the cast is sucking all the moisture out of my parts. So lately when I've scratched the bottom of my poor paw little pieces of skin (maybe ½" big square) have flaked off in sheets. I'm really hoping that's just the bottom of the foot, that part that's extra rough, and not other parts as well. I wish they would have warned me. I'd have found a way to get something in there to maybe help with that. Well, in theory in a week in the morning the cast comes off, never to be seen again.

I guess that's it for my day. I slept in until later morning, but not as late as I have been. There has been a lot of guild drama lately, so I just did offline things and tried to watch some shows. (There really wasn't enough bandwidth.) I figured I'd just take a small break. Again I think the issue has more to do with a few people who are hardcore/raiding types, and that the majority of the guild just isn't ready, or isn't in a rush / focusing on that. A huge part of it is that the game is just a terrible grind. I really think at the rate we

are going by the time they are ready it would be the end of the year and we'd have a chance at being in two other games. In the evening I had a pretty quite work shift and did a mix of rabbit things and played a single player game. Not a terrible day all in all, but as usual no progress towards being no longer homeless.

## **Day 1155 - 8/30**

### **Guild drama continues**

There is more guild drama today. There is a sort of hot topic about people "leaving alts in the guild when their main changes guilds." It's stupid. I understand the game mechanic reasons in the arguments, but the arguments leave too much out. It's like a little kid saying so-n-so isn't my friend anymore because they played with someone else, or that if someone likes a particular sports team then they can't like others because then they aren't really rooting for that team. It's borderline "rabid fanboyism". It's sad because I like many of the people in the guild very much, but it's already pushed out a few that I was very fond of. It's like if the guild wants to be high-end / raiding ready they shouldn't be pushing people out. As I said in a recent podcast, gaming is a balance between (character) levels/loot, player skill/knowledge/experience, and gaming hardware. If you say 'we only want you if x', then you are ignoring 50% of the equation for being in a guild – you are ignoring/refusing a lot of the social aspects. It doesn't make sense. Most of those I like have friended me on Facebook, so every day this proceeds o get worse I feel more and more like abandoning them when I move to a new game. I don't feel so bad about it that I want to leave, if I did I'd just leave the game entirely, it's pretty boring. (I'm already starting to not show up before 4 PST because there isn't anyone around, groups take too long, and there's really nothing to do due to the way the game is designed.)

The day so far has been pretty good besides that I guess. I slept in at school. When I got to the coffee shop my table was busy with others. Since it was already lunch time I just went a couple shops down to the pizza by the slide place. The guy gave me a free drink. 😊 Since it's been empty save for lunch hour I just stayed here. It's about 4 now. Nothing really for jobs. A couple of part time things that I applied to, but that's it.

I think I'll close out the week now as it's unlikely there will be anything of interest in the evening. And, as always, if there is I can always mention it and update it, or simply talk about it tomorrow.

Hope everyone's life out there is safe, full of love and laughter, and you enjoy and have fun in all the things you do – free from dumb childish drama.

## Week 166

### Day 1156 - 8/31 Feeling sick

I've been feeling sick lately. Someone came in to the coffee shop and was coughing and stuff, and since then I've had a scratchy throat, sort of chills, and ringing ears. (Though my ears are often ringing from needing to be in places that have endless music going.)

Today was pretty good. 😊 Yesterday the nice coffee shop manager person said they missed me at the coffee shop when he saw me at the pizza place. (Someone was hogging the table and since it was lunch time I figured I'd just eat at the pizza place and stay there a while.) I think he actually meant it, as he and a few others and I shared some lols throughout the evening when I was there last night.

I got word that I have Monday off for the holiday, which being homeless is lame. It means lost money, and probably more importantly these days, lost microwave and shower. I suppose it's not the end of the world, I have "enough" for the moment, but still. I'd rather not have it off. Heck, I'd still rather have five days of the shift a week, but that's not possible with the way they give out shifts.

Again the study person called, and again when I called back I got now answer. I don't think I've mentioned it before, but this is another of those paid study things. (Again on depression.) This is about the fifth time they've called when I was sleeping or otherwise didn't hear the call, and when I called back either they didn't answer or the person for the study wasn't there. That's not ok. Once I'd even managed to agree on a time and day for them to call to do their pre-study questions and they didn't call at that time, nor did they answer when I called them 15 minutes past the agreed call time.

I had a decent time with the guild in the evening, though I'm still upset at the childish rules they added.

I suppose today was pretty good. My cheeks hurt a touch from smiling and stuff, so that's a good sign. But, sadly, nothing changed or moved forward away from homelessness. 😞

## Day 1157 - 9/1

### A new world

I got myself a sort of late birthday present. I kind of went overboard a bit this year, what with two old games for teh cheap, a TV series, new boots, and now this, but it's ok. I got enough gift money to cover all that and have a bit left over for savings.

It's another new world. A world of a gritty cyberpunk future - Deus Ex: Human Revolution. Escape to other worlds where I am important, where I am the center of the story, where I can overcome odds that seem challenging yet fair, is very important to me lately.

Here in "the real world" I seem unable to get back on my feet. I've gained no ground in several years without help. It previous times of homelessness I similarly needed outside help to be ok again. But this time I'm on my own. This time it seems I've been abandoned to the point of no help. While I am making some new friends who do seem to genuinely care about my well being most of them are in no position to truly help.

I keep waiting for that small change to come that gets me back to a place that I can recover. I keep hoping for that big break that moves me somewhere new and completely flips life around to become stable, yet something new and different. Yet I don't know if either of these will ever happen. All my life I've been the one who slipped through the cracks, who got places without steps others took, who got left behind and forgotten on the way. It seems I've never sat at that middle point of balance, always swinging on a pendulum between oddly lucky and curiously unlucky. It seems only when balances are aided by others has the swing slowed.

But this time my future seems as barren as the post apoclyptic futures in my recent games, and as strange as the alien worlds. At least in games things seem familiar and odly welcoming – places where my nature of being the outsider, the stranger, are welcome.

## Day 1158 - 9/2

### Yikes, spider

There was another spider walking down my window as I drove away from work. Yikes! I wiped the wiper to hopefully get it to a spot where it would blow away. I guess he didn't though, as I later saw a shadowed form climbing up a string to my hand! 🕸️ I shoved it away and hopefully this time it will stay gone.

Today was kind of sad. My new Deus Ex game is crashing and locking up my system, a lot. Some form posts said to update the drivers, so I tried that, but the crashing got worse. And, Fallout New Vegas crashed when I tried to play that. I rolled back to the drivers from '09 again, and I'm back to being more stable. I may have to wait for a patch, like with Portal 2.

Things at the party tomorrow will be... weird. I doubt I'll know more than the one guy, who as I said I haven't spoken to in 8 years (if you count email that wasn't replied to as spoken to.) And I haven't seen him in like 10 save for at school where he never approached me. I guess it is what it is.

Podcast 25 is effectively done. I just need to update for my broken parts, to do the close, and final edits and spacing. It's about a third stuff I've talked about before, so hopefully people won't be too bored by those parts. Still noone really making comments save for the two friends/guildies, so still no real feedback per-say. Ah well, it seems as with most things in my life that I am alone with my thoughts and I will just continue to do what makes me happy.

## Day 1159 - 9/3

### Strange party, not so strange

Today was ok I think. I slept pretty good at school. (There was a something that had lots of cars in the lot.) After, I played my game for a decent while and it only crashed a few times. I went and did a bit of my online game. Then I left for the party.

Seeing the friend wasn't as strange as I thought it would be. I was right in that he didn't recognize me at school. (Partly because I do look pretty much like I did at 25,

certainly like I did when he saw me 10 years ago. Partly also because I guess he wasn't expecting to see me at school, and thus I was out of context and invisible.) The other two that I know at such gatherings were there. (One was pretty heavily drunk, and he's pretty shy. Seems neither of those have changed in the past 10 years. The other guy I've only met about four times total, so I don't really know him.) I guess I had an ok time there. There were no games to play, so everyone just stayed outside. Most were drinking a bit more than a moderate amount. Basically there were six people smoking at any given time the whole time I was there. After a few hours I started coughing regularly. After the third ended I was coughing so bad I would have gone into constant asthma fits if I stayed longer.

We said our byes and he seemed genuinely happy to have seen me. I guess it was only five years since our last email, not eight. He was never great socially, and pretty terrible at expressing emotion, so I guess for him the time just passed by without much thought. He hoped things get better for me (as all do) and apparently he's only a few paychecks from being homeless himself. I told him it seems more are in that position than not, and 'hey, it could be worse, you could be like me and about one paycheck from starving to death.'

The night was weird, but not as weird as I expected. As always though, no new friends were made and I doubt anything more will come from the evening.

## **Day 1160 - 9/4**

### **So sick**

I'm feeling so sick today. 🙄 I don't know if it was all the smoke inhalation last night, or if it did just enough damage to my immune system to let that cold I have completely take over. I've been sneezing, sniffing, my eyes hurt, my ears are ringing, and I've been drinking about four times as much as normal. I kind of feel sick to my tummy too, likely from all the congestion. Hopefully it's going to only be a short cold and I'll be better soon.

I had an ok day other than that I suppose. I couldn't sleep in because I just wasn't tired and skaters showed up and started making skating noise.



I don't know if I'll get a chance to sleep in tomorrow what with the holiday. And that's extra sad because I need it now more than ever. I feel like I could sleep 14 hours straight. 😞

## Day 1149 - 9/5

### Boring online game

Today was ok. I decided not to check school for sleeping in and just left right from my night spot and hung out at the coffee shop all day. They really don't seem to mind me being there. 😊 Regardless, since I was there *all* day I took them a few pot stickers and cookies from Panda as a thank you. It wasn't too expensive, like \$7, but I hardly ever buy anything there due to my dislike/non-interest in coffee, the teas they offer, and lactose intolerance limiting the amount of hot chocolate I should drink.

I'm still pretty sick from Saturday night. It's probably just a horridly bad reaction more than not. I realize I had an inhaler and that pretty much instantly stopped my throat damage from progressing. Unfortunately, since it was so late after the smoke damage, and so much had occurred, I am already heavily damaged. I hope I sound better for tomorrow's podcast. I probably will still sound off.

I had an ok few groups with guildies in the evening, but the game was so boring and people were all doing separate things, so after I came in I left again shortly after. Then I came back, waited and got bored again, and left again. It wasn't until I came back a third time that enough people were there to be interested in doing something.

In theory my cast comes off in the morning. 😊 My boots I ordered aren't here yet, but should come sometime tomorrow. I'm so very tired of this cast. I really hope this is all done tomorrow. I'm going to have a very hard time getting around though. I'm getting very winded all the time doing anything, doubly so now that I've got this cold/allergy thing.

Well, that's it for now. Tomorrow is what it is. 😊

## Day 1162 - 9/6

### Paw is free!

Oh happy day! My paw is finally free! Again the doc said it looks like there wasn't a break. The x-ray tech watching the images come in asked in a confused tone, "Did you *break* your ankle?" And I asked if he couldn't see anything, and he replied that he indeed could not. So, hopefully in "four to eight weeks" I'll have full mobility back and everything will be fine. No twisting or sport activities during that time, but I'm free. 🥰

It's very strange to be free. My balance is all weird, as if I'd been wearing an unevenly weighed ankle weight and working out. (Which I guess I pretty much was.) It is still stiff in some ways, and a touch painful in up/down or side-to-side extremes. I kind of wince when I put it on an angle, like walking on a driveway, so I'll avoid that. It's still swollen, but may be for up to a year. I still can't see all the ankle bone bumps at all. There is, sadly, that dry necrotic zombie skin all on the bottom, sides, and back. I'll have to rehydrate it and scrape it off with a dried skin scraper. 😞

It's early afternoon now and I posted the podcast, but that's it so far besides my appointment. Oh, my new boots came in and they fit pretty awesome. I'm extra happy I have them because they have a zipper up the side, and with my ankle/foot not liking to bend much that makes it a touch easier to put on. I have to shift with my heel too because of that, but it's ok.

Seems like things will turn out just fine for the broken bunnah paw. 🥰 Now if only we were able to say the same about the rest of me with that certainty. 😞 My future overall still seems so sad, unstable, and uncertain. 😞

## Picture series 24



Birthday games to myself, 2011



Birthday gifts, 2011, woo hoo



Birthday dinner, 2011



Late self birthday present, 2011





Broken ankle all better, but still swollen



Broken ankle all better, but still swollen, other side



New boots

## **Week 167**

### **Day 1163 - 9/7** **Crashing laptop day**

Today was kind of bad. I got to school campus and it was actually a bit quieter than usual. However, due to my congestion and wheezing in my lungs I couldn't sleep at all. I rested for a bit, but eventually I just gave up. I did my online work for my friend. I decided to play Deus Ex for a bit. After just a short while it locked. And locked again. And it became more and more frequent. I tried my online game and that crashed too. What followed was about three hours of frustration of installing and uninstalling drivers. At this point I'm back to the original 2009 drivers. My online game was stable again, though Deus Ex still crashed. Thankfully though it crashed, not locked the system.

I'm really sad and frustrated about it all. I don't understand why it can't just work ok. I don't understand why when I look for jobs there is nothing. I don't understand why I can't find real life friends again. It's like there is nothing regular and normal and ok about my life. It is all super bad or super lucky. I don't understand why it can't go back to just being ok. 😞

### **Day 1164 - 9/8** **Searching**

Today was pretty sad. Well, I suppose more melancholy than sad. I looked for work, but mostly these days my auto searches send me empty emails, and manual searches, like today, yield only one or two minimum pay part time things, if anything. I'm still far more sick than I should be. My throat and lungs are not recovering quickly at all. My leg is still stiff in the ankle, and it seems my system will likely keep crashing with the game. There were some threads I found that say the bios needs to be updated in a few places for it to work totally right. I never recommend that unless it's absolutely necessary. With a desktop though at least there are often resets you can do if something goes wrong or gets corrupt. With the laptop there really isn't. And there were a few references to

people who had bricked their systems and had to RMA them. I'd rather just tolerate the crashes and not risk it. I guess next time I'll watch for a graphics chip launch and go shortly after. I knew this generation was coming in advance, but the new versions were about \$400 more (and were not 40% more powerful), so I didn't really have that kind of money. When my homelessness started you had to drop about \$1750 if you wanted any kind of gaming system. Prices have come down dramatically in these past few years. The good news is that the likelihood I can upgrade in a few years to get an awesome high-end system at \$1500 is pretty good, and a solid mid-range would be about \$850.

But I'm very sad. All these problems would not exist in a home. I wouldn't need a laptop; I could have a desktop again. I wouldn't be limited in food; I could just eat soups and teas and recover from colds quickly. I could sleep in a bed and be properly rested. I could control the volume and brightness of my environment. I could watch shows and play games whenever I wanted, not according to a pre-set schedule of when I did or did not have access.

I looked at my site stats today. It was odd to see that the RSS from my podcast has about five times as many "requests" as my most popular page at the site, the PC page. I wonder how those are generated because the podcasts themselves haven't even hit 1,500 downloads yet (though are close), which is a figure only 10% of the number of requests. I guess it counts when someone checks to see if a new one is up or something. Also, I was very proud to see someone recommended my site and system builds and gave fairly high praise on a gaming site to someone looking for system build spec advice. So, even though my life is sad, even though these travels are terrible for me, it's awesome to see that people do appreciate me. People do find my site and podcast of value. And people do pass on information to others. I suppose, despite how sad my life is for me, that is something very rare and special and I'm happy that it helps.



## Day 1165 - 9/9

### Feel beaten up

I feel beaten up. I guess I beat myself up in a way quite literally. I feel a bit sick, my ankle hurts, and it's all swollen. It isn't bruised, but it feels like it, and the muscles and stuff below the calf are still unusually deformed and big.

If I could have any (reasonable) wish it would be to have somewhere quite and private to be tomorrow. Everywhere I could go there will be varying degrees of people, along with varying degrees of noise. The places that are not noisy are not private. Oh sure, there are semi-private places like parking lots and staying in my car, but still...

My life feels extra sad today.

My computer issues persist but are tolerable, yet they are bad enough that I think on Monday during my next work shift I'll move a full backup between my laptop and my netbook. There are things like over 7 gig of audio in my podcast area, and I think 5 or more gig in the Epic Fail backup areas, that I've not backed up since the first move. They are too big to fit on disk, and with all the twitching my system is doing lately I don't know if I fully trust it anymore.

I don't want much, just a life where I feel safe. A job where I feel safe in how much I earn. A home where I feel safe to leave my stuff when gone, and to live near others in peace when not. A system stable enough and strong enough to feel safe when gaming or doing my rabbit things.

There really isn't anything in my life at the moment I feel 100% safe that it will be ok and I don't have to worry about it... and that makes me very sad. 😞

## Day 1166 - 9/10

### Not belonging

It's early afternoon, just before 3. My system is still being... weird. Video was paused not moving while audio still ran, then went all fast forward like. Steam was simply refusing to run. I wonder if the memory is corrupt. I'll have to check that later. It would explain program crashing.

I don't feel like I belong. I was at the coffee shop about to go to my cheaper restaurant, but I don't feel I belong at either place. I *need* to be there. I'm welcomed, people say hi and chat, and sometimes mention it's odd when I'm not there, but I don't feel like I belong there. Nowhere do I truly feel I'm welcomed and appreciated. Sure, sometimes on boards people appreciate my posts, occasionally I get an email thanking me for my site, a guildie will laugh and have a good time when I'm on, but lately I've been very sad. I think it's because now that I can walk and get around again it's reminded me just how much I have nowhere to go, nowhere I am expected or missed when I'm not around, nowhere people enjoy having me around (physically), or sometimes depend on me to do things they can't do themselves.

I suppose being homeless, without a sweetie, without friends or family, without a solid career, that is the most difficult, and what I miss the most.

## **Day 1167 - 9/11**

### **Guild robbery**

Today was a strange and sad day. I could have slept in, but there was so much construction noise I couldn't get any rest. I went to the coffee shop and when I went in to my online game they noticed we'd been robbed! 🚔 Apparently someone in the guild who isn't using an authenticator was hacked and these people took everything they could that was worth something out of the vault. It was very weird feeling. I'd never heard of that happening to anyone I directly knew, let alone seen it happen. The character was undeleted pretty quick, but the stuff still has yet to be returned. I don't get why MMO companies don't make authenticators required. They are very easy to use and can be physical, on your phone, or even bound to a computer I think. It would save them so much in costs of salaries to GMs/moderators to restore things, as well as sparing so many people pain and loss.

My ankle is feeling better overall, but still very beaten up, gets tired quickly, and still wants to be out of the boot as much as possible.

I'm also still very sick. I'm still very congested, coughing, and my lungs are messed up. I'm not recovering quickly at all. I'm getting a bit worried honestly. It's a fairly minor thing at this point, but still.

Things still seem so sad for me. So little has changed. So little seems likely to. The small victories and celebrations seem great during the day, but at night I feel so small, alone, helpless, and wonder if the really important things really will ever be regained.

## **Day 1168 - 9/12**

### **Looking forward**

Today I spent the few hours I had before work doing a quick job search application and watching videos for Guild Wars 2. I'm really super excited about it and it made me realize how important it is to have something to look forward to. It may not seem like much to look forward to getting a collector's stuffie, a game launch, a movie, or even a podcast to listen to, but I think it's important having something to always look forward to help keep you from going crazy. In my darkest times during these past 3+ years the worst were when I had so little money I couldn't look forward to anything. When I did get a little I could at least go to movies again, or collect them. In recent times things have freed up enough that if I'm *very* careful with my money I can pick up a game every few months, sometimes even one that's new.

I hope everyone out there has the opportunity and freedom to have things to look forward to. As sad as my life is at least now I do have small things I can look forward to. And having even a small something is a very big deal indeed.

## **Day 1169 - 9/13**

### **Little things**

It's pretty early in the day, not even noon yet. I decided not to do the backup last night. It would be a pain to have to make three or more passes of copying, moving the

USB, 'pasting', deleting, repeat. There must be a way to connect them directly via an Ethernet cable and have them talk to each other's hard drives. I decided to go over to my local Fry's and get a cable for that this morning. Someone was being arrested on my way out (presumably for shoplifting.) Strange to see after just talking about the guild robbery when I did part of podcast 26 last night. The podcast is mostly done I think. It's like 20 minutes unedited, so that's probably like 15 edited down. I'll do that now while I have lunch. 😊

I don't know how the rest of my day will go. I expect I'll look for jobs, probably look at a few more videos for Guild Wars 2, likely play my online game in the evening, and probably nothing will change. I always hope for change, yet nothing seems to happen. Little things have changed over time though. A few cuties here, and over at the pizza place, say hi, but no offers of friendship or more. (And once school is open again in about a week and a half I'll rarely see them.) I do have gaming in my life again, so that changes at times. I suppose if this is to be the rest of my life it's not so bad. I do have some good things. I do have some freedoms. There are small happy things in my life. There are limitations and sad things, but I guess we all have those, even if mine are out of my control and seem insurmountable alone.

## Week 168

### Day 1170 - 9/14 People care

I guess today was ok. It was very sad, very lonely, nothing found on job boards, but there were a few reminders that people care. A guildie sent an email saying how she and her husband worry about me. And I talked for a few minutes with someone about my being homeless (who I guess didn't know about it before.) People at the coffee shop chatted with me regular too, so I felt a bit more like I was kind of expected there than like an outsider.

I slept really great at school this morning. That's super important because I'm still sick and coughing up yuck. I grabbed a lunch that was bad for me, then went to do some stuff in the ex-house garage. I finally got to put stuff away proper that had been in a bad temporary spot for upwards to 10 weeks. I'd been waiting to climb up to the proper deeper storage because it's a touch dangerous, and the things I've bought since my ankle was broken really took over that area in a bad way. Today I was confident enough to go up and put things away proper. (Well, proper enough as their truly proper boxes are full and multiple things are going into a single overflow box.) I hugged and said bye to my charr stuffie. He's super soft and almost as big as my laptop. I took a picture so you can see how big he is. It's sad to put him and my movies into deeper storage, as I don't know when I'll see them again. Sure I can carry my movies and shows with me, and I do carry some, and I watch them on my laptop, but that's very different from being on their shelf holder where I can see them and take them down and watch them proper at any given time.

After that I went and did my online work for my friend, then watched a show, did a job search, played my online game in the evening.

I guess all in all it wasn't too bad, but it was just another normal day in the sad bunny life. 😞

## Day 1171 - 9/15

### Freedom at a cost

Today was ok I guess. It started scary. I got really great sleep at school, but I was plagued by nightmares about the start of an insect apocalypse. There were spiders as big as my hand (with fingers outstretched) and some kind of egg laying bug that had a huge egg sack/abdomen that was laying eggs 'in my house wall'. (The bug was maybe 5" long, but its abdomen was another 5" around; the size of my closed fist.) I spent quite a while watching half a dozen episodes of the Big Bang Theory season 4 to check my disks. I checked for jobs and put out a couple of resumes - things beyond my experience, but I won't ever get a decent job if I never try. I was yet again disappointed by my online game and lack of guildies on. There were five online when I came in at 7, and remained at five all the way until I left at 8:15. More often than not the guild is empty. A month ago, pre-drama, there would have been double or triple that number. I had way more fun chatting with someone in vent about various Guild Wars 2 videos we'd found or details we liked.

I chatted with someone about her podcast too. Recently I think she's strayed some from her original format/intent. Some of it is her choice, but I guess she is also doing changes to try and please sponsorship. While I haven't been offered any sponsorships I also have kind of purposely avoided seeking any out. With my site I never want anyone to get the impression may be influenced or forced towards certain products by any manufacturer. My freedom to say what I want about who I want, and change my mind at will, comes at a bit of a cost though. I have never been given special treatment by those who would give such by a sponsorship of any kind. I can also, at no point, at least so far, ever say I've been given enough money to live off of for my work. Heck, I haven't been given any, or even gifts in lieu of money sponsorship.

It makes me wonder if I would. Would I, for example, say I would never say anything bad about a manufacturer's product if they gave me enough to live? (Roughly 2k a month post-taxes.) I don't honestly know. I suppose it depends on the manufacturer in question and if I could... dodge said point by pointing say to other products of theirs in the same line and mention 'better positives' and thus ignore 'bad qualities' about the other product.

I really don't know. Right now my life has so many freedoms in so many categories, yet they all come at the cost of lack of security in those areas. I suppose what is best in life is a mix of both. Right now all I have though is freedom... at the price of constant worry about my lack of security and certainty. 😞

## Day 1172 - 9/16

### Two dinners

Today was odd. I slept oddly last night. I had a chance to fall asleep a touch early, which I did. I haven't been able to sleep before 2 or 3 lately, so it was a great surprise. But, for some reason I woke up at 5:15 and couldn't really get much more sleep before I moved to the school spot. In total though I suppose I got between 9 and 10 hours of sleep, which is very helpful to fight the cold and heal my recently broken ankle.

I ran a job search. I think I put out one resume. The day is kind of blurry in my memory. I tried to have a smaller lunch of an orange and chips, but I guess that didn't work as I wound up eating a second dinner while at work just three hours after I'd eaten the first.

My eating is so weird now. My tummy is getting better food this summer than previous ones, as I've had a bit more flexibility in my budget. But I've been eating the same stuff, the same junky category, for so long that my tummy is starting to be upset all the time at everything I eat. Hopefully when school opens back up in two Mondays I can go back to some stability since I'll have access to the micro on a regular basis.

It would be so nice to be in a home though. 😞 I miss healthy cooked foods. I miss picking fresh foods, different rices, and cooking healthy dinners. 😞

## Day 1173 - 9/17

### Another weird day

Today was another weird day. I couldn't sleep last night until pretty late, but I did get to sleep in at school. Well, sort of. For some reason I woke up at 10 instead of the typical 11. I went to upload my podcast, spent a bit of time at the coffee shop, then had lunch at the cheaper restaurant. (Not dinner, as I have been doing lately.) I had a work shift to cover for in the evening, so I planned to do a micro dinner there. I took an extra quick shower before my shift. The shift was good and it was one of the nicer girls I've worked with during the shift before. She has this weird shoe cast thing, so we talked about our broken parts and healing.

That was really my day. I didn't feel like doing my online game. More and more it's been empty and just felt like a waste of time. I put up an early goodbye post on the guild site, even though I may stick around and pop in from time to time through October.

The back of my throat has felt weird the past few days. I hope the lingering cold hasn't escalated. At least my blood pressure is still lowering. I finally got to go to a store that had a machine. Without the walker extra trips aren't too bad.

That's really it for today. I'm happy for things I can do, like gaming and my podcast, but still very sad about limitations in my life. 😞 It still feels sometimes like it's never going to get better. 😞

## Day 1174 - 9/18

### Not looking, but feeling

My ankle isn't looking a whole lot better and I as hobbling this morning, but this evening my steps were a bit more even. It's still swollen out of proportion. I still haven't tightened the left boot laces. It still very much prefers to e out and free, but it does seem to be improving. Hopefully the docs were right and it is healed up fine and just needs a bit of time to get better.

Today was a mix of watching game footage and playing. I watched some more footage of Guild Wars 2, which was basically what I've seen before in recent times. And I



watched the PAX Star Wars: The Old Republic panel. I was... disappointed. They are still very focused on the "holy trinity" of needing a tank, healer, and dps, which made everything they said to follow seem very bland, boring, and tired. All the recent Guild Wars 2 footage has focused on group flexibility, how it's more like a pen and paper Dungeons & Dragon game where players have flexibility and choice in how they create their characters and play. I'm still on the fence about Star Wars: The Old Republic. Even though it looks like it will have an amazing story I'm just not sure if I want to play *yet another* game with the same old formula, particularly with a version of the game that costs +\$100 over the standard version. I'm not too worried. I have at least three months to explore my options on both games. That's quite a long time, even with the time passing as quickly as it has in recent years.

My evening was a mix. I spent two hours doing nothing really when I first got in to my game. The four hours after though I had decent fun with good guildies. It is hard to ignore the wasted two hours though. How does that make a fun or interesting game?

Well, nothing new for today. Maybe something interesting will happen tomorrow.

## **Day 1175 - 9/19**

### **Super mega backup, part 1**

Tonight was the first night of my super mega backup. I spent four hours of my shift moving files in the background while I watched some TV series I needed to check. Sadly the two systems didn't seem to want to talk to each other directly. I guess they need a router and file sharing settings turned on and stuff. I didn't want to mess with all that, so I've just been running the backup old-school USB style with multiple passes. I'm really going to need a Blu-ray burner with my next system so the media is big enough for complete backups. The CDs are fine for critical info, but with things like the podcast audio backup files nearing 8 gig already there's no way I can fit it on CD.

I slept in good at school. It was a super warm day. I checked the store for winter/night shirts, but they still seem to not be in yet. I'm so tired of wearing just the one all the time. I used to have four when the terrible journey started, but I've been down to one for like a year now. During work I just did the backup and show watching. I don't

think I played a game all day. Between the shirt search and sleeping to a slightly later time, then having laundry, there were only a few hours before work that I had to be on the Internet. I did do some work on podcast 27, so that was cool. But that was really my day. Nothing special or... anything else... happened.

## Day 1176 - 9/20

### Orders

Today has been ok I guess. It started oddly last night with trouble sleeping. I couldn't sleep until well after 3, after needing to make an unexpected trip out of my hiding spot to go to the bathroom. 😞 It's always the unexpected not controllable things that remind you the most that you are homeless. 😞 I got to sleep in at school, so that was good. It's still not officially open until next week, but almost all summer it's been busy with people visiting. I had lunch, checked for jobs, and did some messing around online. I made an appointment to check my blood pressure and ordered some contacts.

I'm going to finish Epic Fail for posting, and work a bit on the podcast stuff I have so far. I didn't do any editing last night because I wanted to be sure to leave work before it got too late and avoid some freeway construction closures.

I signed up for a LAN thing in October, more details as we get closer to that. I'm not going to compete in anything, at least I don't expect to. I'm just going to see what's going on with exhibitors and what games are being shown off. I expect it will be a pretty small show, so hopefully the monies will be worth it.

I guess it's really just another close to another week. My ankle is out of the cast now, so that saga is over. I'm still hobbling, but hopefully soon that will be back to normal. As to the rest of my life getting back to normal... I still wonder lately if that will ever fully happen. 😞

## **Week 169**

### **Day 1177 - 9/21** **Super mega backup complete**

Last night I finished the super mega backup. It took somewhere around 30 minutes to do the last move and delete the files off the USB. I wound up getting called in to cover a work shift just about immediately after I'd put up Epic Fail, so indeed nothing happened of interest the rest of the evening.

Today was pretty ok I guess. I spent most of the day doing my online work for my friend or getting caught up on Warehouse 13 and Eureka. I was right in that both series have not been getting released online. These shows for each I now have access too are from late July and August. I'm so behind.

In the evening I did some weekly stuff with guildies. It was fun, but really the same stuff I've done every week now for at least the last six week. I'm still heavily questioning how interested I would be in any game with the same tired formula in the future.

I got a call to cover two extra Sunday shifts in October, so that's good. It was super hot today, about 90F, some of the hottest weather we've seen in half a dozen years I think.

Like all days for me lately, today was just a day. I tried to do my best to get by and not go too crazy or be too sad. And I tried to look for jobs, and really found nothing. A while ago someone who tried to help said that if what I'm doing isn't working I need to think outside of the box as it were. The thing is I only know what I know, it's really impossible for me to think up things I don't already think of, ya know? I try my best, but I still wonder if I will ever get out of this on my own. I seem unable to find more work, and less and less work can be found as time goes on. More and more I hear about those falling on hard times. I really think I will need help to get back on my feet; someone offering a place to stay, or offering me a job in a solid career. The only problem is that requires connections to people who can offer such things, and it seems I have none.

## **Day 1178 - 9/22**

### **Not my party, again**

The big hub-bub at the coffee shop most of this week has been someone's birthday party after work tonight. I didn't expect an invite, even though many have been super friendly in a not just a nice customer way lately. It has made me think though, and remember. Not so much about times when I had invited coworkers to parties, I never really did that, but times with people I got along with. They all seem nice and they all seem to get along well, and talk of the party has made me remember back to the days when I had friends that came over for parties, when we would play games (video or other), eat pizza or other group shared dinners, and have cupcakes. I remembered the before and after times too – cleaning and vacuuming a bit before, tidying up, and throwing stuff away after.

In my sad times now I wonder if I will ever have such people in my life again. Will I ever be in a home or apartment again to even have somewhere to invite people over to? Such a common thing for people to do and look forward to, yet with my life how it is... the thought seems as unreal and alien to me as the game worlds. It's a life I once knew, but one I've been apart from for so long I wonder if I dreamed it.

## **Day 1179 - 9/23**

### **Boots and background**

I like my boots I got for my birthday. The zipper has been super helpful in accommodating my previously broken parts. But I don't know if I'm thrilled about the change. It was somewhat necessary, as the old boot heels had the tread completely worn down to flat in some parts, but I'm finding on an almost daily basis my ankles are both differently sized, particularly if we add on width of no pants (shorts) or pant legs being tucked in. I think once my ankle is better I'll run some more comparisons, but at quick comparison the older ones seem lighter, easier to move in, and more flexible. (Though I'll grant some of that as due to the occasional use over the past like 6 years compared to only having the new ones a few weeks now.) I don't remember if I got the new ones just for the

zipper and newer hybrid nature of the design or if I got it because my old boot manufacturer couldn't be found. Either way, like with my laptop, I'd forgotten how big changes can really impact your life and be uncomfortable and unfamiliar feeling.

I noticed background noise in both of my locations recordings for this podcast. I don't know if it's because I was listening to the playback on headphones more loudly than usual, or if the devices making noise in question were louder due to all the heat lately. I don't recall hearing those noises in previous podcasts, but I'll run some checks tomorrow before work. It could be the noise is only audible in the original, being at -40db while my voice averages at -6, and the compression cuts out the quieter background noise. It may actually be there in all of them and I can only hear it on my laptop with the headphones on, and it is inaudible with the headphones on the phone.

I guess it was an ok day other than that. I slept in good at school, though I was woken up by what seemed like a lot of teachers returning from a big convention like meeting around 10:30. The few hours I had before work I watched some shows, messed around on some forums, and did some food shopping.

That was it. Nothing life changing for today. Maybe a minor improvement in my podcasting will result from this discovery, maybe a life lesson in shoe buying, but no change to my sad life. 😞

## **Day 1180 - 9/24**

### **Leaving already?**

Today was kind of funny. Because of my work shift my coffee shop time was reduced, as was my lesser fancy restaurant time. In both places someone said something like, 'leaving already?' as I was leaving. It was funny because in both places I'd been there like four hours each. I guess they are super used to me not leaving until close when I'm there, heh. 😏

The extra (short) work shift went ok. Nothing fabulous there or with the rest of the day.

I did get a chance to finish the podcast though. A bit early even. It's been quite some time since I had one ready before the due date. I researched some of the audio noise

and I think I managed to clear it up. (I used a noise remover thingy that the software can do.) So again, with podcast 27, we should see an audio improvement. I think from a technical standpoint this will be the best/cleanest yet. I still hope people are enjoying them. Sometimes it feels like I'm repeating ideas more often than I'm coming up with new ones.

That was really it for today. Despite seeming normal and interacting with quite a few people I end the night as I always do – hidden, lonely, and unsure if my sad life will ever go back to normal.

## **Day 1181 - 9/25**

### **Not bricked**

Today was really just another regular homeless day. It was super cold, maybe 70F, which is very odd since just a couple of days ago it was like 90F. Rain clouds have been in the sky all day.

I decided to be brave and risk the GPU bios update. With half a dozen games coming by/around the end of the year I don't want to take the risk of them going crash crazy. That just ruins the experience of the game. Though I'm not sure how many of them I'll be able to get right at launch. Spreading my budget out until March, counting an estimated tax return of \$500 in February, I'm going to peak out at somewhere around negative \$200 if I get them all, more if I have to do things like the car's tune-up. With donations between now and then, X-mas monies from dad... it may be possible to get them all, but if so it will be very very tight. I'll more likely wind up just picking a top three or so and wait on the rest.

It's still so awesome to be able to game again, to be able to look forward to launches again, to be able to consider add on content like expansions and/or downloadable content. Things I was once too sad to follow can now be followed again. Of course I still have my limitations. If I want to play online I still can't unless I leave school and go somewhere else. I will still be limited by my hardware (which is enough that I should be able to play any game at decent levels for several years.) And I still have that constant worry of 'what if' something were to happen to the system (or my car.)

I'm still, of course, terribly sad all the time about being homeless. There are constant reminders. Putting away my contacts and seeing a dirty case, opening this book to write and seeing papers that would otherwise be in different binders or filed away, almost never feeling quite right due to what I have to eat or lack of sleep, waking up alone in my car instead of in a bed. I am very proud of myself for lasting so long and not going completely crazy, more so that my sad story has truly helped at least a few people. But, as I often wonder lately, I am beginning to think things will never get better. 😞

## **Day 1182 - 9/26**

### **First day, again**

It's the first day of the quarter again at college. I'd forgotten how crazy loud the cafeteria gets. I was in the library or the past 3+ hours and it was so much quieter than the coffee shop.

I noticed a field in the tag thingies on my podcasts have been blank since #8, so I updated all of those. I tried to upload one today to start updating the online versions, but the school wireless cut me off half way through and messed up the online version. I had to ninja a landline to fix it. I guess I'll have to wait to use the more stable connection point I have been using tomorrow.

I'm glad school is open again and I can go back to my regular homeless routine in terms of eating and such. (hehe, a cute girl was trying to play World of Warcraft just now as I'm writing. She was hitting the firewall. I had to tell her the firewall won't let her through and that's why she was getting an error. 😞) Though, it is a sad reminder of how much I don't belong. People here, for the most part, are just starting their education, not even at the start of the journey of their "adult life". When noone is around it's easy to think of as just a library I can access teh Internets from, or a place to go to the bathroom or shower. But full of life, of people who "belong here"... I can't help but feel like I've failed and therefore unworthy of being here. 😞

## Day 1183 - 9/27

### Shadow of death

It's super early lunch time. I got up at 10 and I'm starving. I got up at 9:30 yesterday, so it seems I'm getting up closer to my in a home wake up times.

I had an odd dream before I got up. I was a stock car race car driver. I was so fast that I could almost outrun death, so I named the car "Shadow of Death" because I was always still within reach. The odd thing was I wasn't driving anywhere. I was just walking through crowds. I could turn into a shadow / gas like form and go through people when they would have otherwise slowed me down. They also couldn't perceive me when I did. An odd dream, and I think nothing more than worry about my homelessness and mortality.

I've seen a couple of cuties on campus so far, and the day is just starting, so that's nice. 😊 Sad that I won't be interacting with anyone this quarter though, so I'll likely find that more depressing than not as the quarter continues. As people chat I hear bits and pieces of lives I'm not a part of. Yesterday, the first day of the quarter, I heard people talking about an online game, and I saw that girl try to play. Here in the little side room off the cafeteria there are no less than three (of about 25) playing games. So while I have noone to play with at least I know there are plenty of other gamers around me.

I may not wind up getting the extra Sunday shifts. The message the guy left for me said to call my boss and let her know if I could take them, which I did like a week ago right after I got the message. Yesterday she sent me an email saying someone else talked to that guy about it and she asked me if I had talked to him. Well, no, because his message said to call her, not reply to his message, so I followed those directions. So it's all confused now. I'm worried a touch though. She asked if I was free for a "review" this week (which is right before the start of the next rental period in October.) In the entire like 3.25 years I've been there so far I've never been called in for a review. It's the city though, a government position, so there are several levels of trouble before they fire you. More than likely it's just a formality or maybe something good since I've been covering for several people lately.

It's still early, so I'll leave the day open for writing more, but that's likely it. I expect I'll check in with my online classes (an error prevented me from doing it



yesterday). I'll probably do that stuff Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. I need to post my Epic Fail and podcast, but that's really it. I suppose I rarely expect yet always hope for change, but it is likely that this week will end no differently than all the rest have lately. 🙄

**Day 1184 - 9/28**  
**Suddenly very worried**

It's warming up again. The cold rain clouds are gone and it's in the low 80Fs. 😊

Despite getting about 8 hours sleep total I'm so very tired. 😞 I think it's a combination of my sad life and being depressed about classes. Though they don't seem like they will be difficult, they seem extremely boring.

I'm still so very sad I can't do my rabbit life full time. Today I tried to help someone on the forums but was delayed about 1.5 hours due to poo connectivity. I'd forgotten how there are times the school wireless just goes completely unresponsive.

Speaking of unresponsive, my boss still hasn't replied with a possible day/time for that "evaluation" since I sent the email on Monday. Three of the possible five days that were open have now passed. I guess I'll have to call her if there isn't a reply tomorrow morning. I don't like calling for that stuff, "paper trails" are better.

Didn't accomplish much today. The network was down more than it was up, so I've really barely done anything besides play single player games. At least I had that, but it wasn't what I planned to start my day with, nor what I wanted to focus on. Hopefully the load will be light enough after my dinner to finish my online work for my friend, look for jobs, and do more site updating. Tech has been settled so long I haven't changed my site in a month, let alone done a complete link check. I started to the other day but I only got through CPU and graphics.

Speaking of starting... I've started podcast 30. Yes, those with good memories will remember I should be on 28. But, 30 has a special theme. You can get a hint if you figure out its release date. 😊 I have no clue what I'll do for 28 and 29, but I guess I haven't had a solid theme or idea in quite a while and I've been ok.

Not sure what else to say for today but I'm sad. I'm sad I'm not where I want to be in life and sad I have to do so much to keep even more bad things from happening. I'm sad that I feel so very lost most of the time, and I don't know how to make things better again. 😞

Time passes

I'm suddenly very worried about my car. 😞 It's been accelerating slowly a few times lately (a symptom another car had from a misfiring cylinder that eventually killed it) and just now on the way to my night hiding spot the check engine light came on while it had some fuel popping. It seems ok if I push the gas more, and it's only at very low RPMs it seems super slow. I'm praying it's just in bad need of a tune-up, which is like \$250 I don't have. If it's another issue or not fixable I don't know what I'll do. I love my car, and most importantly my car is my home right now. It's all I have for sleeping and holding my stuff I use on a daily basis. I don't know what I'd do if the issue got worse before I could fix it.

I'm getting suddenly very worried that I'm not going to be ok. I'm barely holding it together as it is. I don't know how I'd manage without my car long-term. In previous years when my cars broke I had shelter, now I don't. It's still very warm, so I'd be ok for a short while if necessary before it starts to get very cold again, but there is no way I could afford much for repairs. I don't even have the \$250 for a tune-up. 😞

## **Day 1185 - 9/29**

### **Sad day is saaaddd**

I'm super sad today. 😞 I looked over my budget and even draining savings I don't have enough to fix the car. I have to wait until I'm paid next week, and even then I have to cancel my plans to buy just about all the games I had in the budget for the next six months. I'll still be getting Rage at the end of next month, but it's very likely I'll have to cancel the Star Wars: The Old Republic collector's edition I have on pre-order, and not get Skyrim, or Batman: Arkham City. Also, Guild Wars 2 and Diablo III are pushed past that time period too. My budget only goes six months out right now, so who knows how long it will be before I can go back to regular game buying again. In addition to that my food budget will be super tight. I'll have to go back to mostly cheap soups and my lesser fancy meals will have to go back to one a week, or less often. Besides Rage I now have

nothing to look forward to but canceling and trying to keep from going too negative from regular life things. 😞

I'm still not sure what is going on with the Sunday coverage. Apparently the guy called three different people. So now because of that things are all confused. My boss finally contacted me about the "evaluation". It's set for tomorrow before my shift.

It's an early dinner time now. The wireless was nonexistent for most of the day. I hope I can look for jobs after my dinner. Maybe I can find something. I so rarely get to put out applications these days.

I've been trying to distract myself with my games and not be so sad about things, but right now I'm super worried and super sad. Someone said they would send some monies to help, so that's good, but right now I'm very sad with little to nothing to look forward to but sad times. 😞

## **Day 1186 - 9/30**

### **Hopefully tomorrow**

I got help from my guildie friends. With their money if I just about completely tap out I should hopefully have enough to get the tune-up and have my car all better tomorrow. That is if the shop has time, if they have the parts, and if I'm remembering the price correctly. The website says they replace spark plugs and do fuel line stuff, both of those are possible issues with my very limited knowledge of cars, so hopefully that will fix the issues I'm having. I don't know what I would do if it doesn't. I just don't have any other money. Even if I canceled every possible game purchase left in my budget and all future ones it would take me a full year to save up even just \$500 or so since we are now past the summer when I have good income. During the winter I get the lowest pay during the year, so even having "enough" for just food and phone and stuff is difficult. I did get another evening shift in a few weeks, so I suppose that's something.

That's really it for today. I slept in at school ok, since the car seemed to hold out ok by overrevving. There hasn't been a warning light since that very low dip in RPM and fuel popping. A few days ago, basically the day after that incident, I did put in a higher grade of gas and one of those fuel cleaning additive things. While it still accelerates super

slowly it seems like it will hold out ok. I'm still very very worried, and it is affecting my sleep pretty bad, but I'm not so worried I'm in a panic state or on the verge of crying all the time anymore.

After I slept in I tried to do some web stuff in the library in the few hours I had before work. Again there was no signal. I guess I wasn't the only one having trouble though, as I saw several with the 'cannot connect' screens. They really need to fix their bandwidth issues. A few years ago I could stream video without too much issue even on busy days. My netbook struggled from lack of power more than lack of bandwidth. But for the past year or year and a half or so it seems I can't get a signal hardly at all. It's like if *noone* is in sight maybe I can get to some sites.

I had an ok time at work. I watched a couple of romantic comedies. I was super nervous on the drive back though with the low acceleration and possibility something really bad could happen. I guess all I can do for now is try and sleep, hope the car does fine on the drive to school for morning sleep after first light, then hope it does ok to the bank and place to do the tune-up, then hope that I have enough cash and that it will fix the issues. As always, it seems my life is in Fate's hands.

## **Day 1187 - 10/1**

### **Might still be broken**

Phew. With the help of guildie friends I had barely enough to do the car stuff today before it got worse. At first the guy thought it might be something a tune-up couldn't fix, so he said he would do a \$90 inspection, and if it was a tune-up he'd change that to free. 😊 So, about 1.5 hours later that was done and they were like 'see this here' showing me the spark plug, and even with my almost no car knowledge I was like 'even I know that's not supposed to look like that'. So they replaced those and cleaned the fuel lines, replaced some wires, and 1.5 hours later it seems to be running ok again. The bad news is though there is oil in places it shouldn't be, so they need to take something apart to fix that. That would be another \$175. Thankfully that won't stop the car from going. It's just... bad. He kind of winced when I said even in 6+ months it's unlikely I could save up

enough for that. I guess we'll see. Maybe some nice peoples will send more help, or holiday gift money will come in and cover it.

It's now just about 2. All I did so far was spend the last four hours at the repair shop. I did have internets through most of that time, so I watched some Guild Wars 2 footage and worked on podcast 28 and 30 a bit. I'm at the less fancy dinner place now having a cheap burger. They are on sale for half off between 11 and 4 on Saturdays, so that's effectively the same price as a fast food place for way better food, so it's what I usually do for my sort of fancy meal every week.

As always, I don't expect anything interesting to happen the rest of the day, but you never know. I guess the fact that this most recent crisis has been averted is enough good news for one day with how sad my life is lately.

Time passes

While the car did seem fine after leaving the shop, later, after I'd been at the restaurant for about 6 hours when I went to leave it was just as bad before the repairs. It choked on acceleration and there was more popping. 😞 It was, in fact, worse during that event than it had been. 😞 I guess I will keep my eye on it. Maybe the car needs to warm up for a few minutes before driving, maybe it will only happen after it's sat for a long while, maybe it is a symptom of the gas from the different gas station and it will be fine in a bit, maybe there was more lose stuff because of the repairs.

I don't know what may be wrong. All I know right now is the place did an inspection, this is what they found, they took almost every penny I had for the repairs, and then the issue still seems to be happening. I feel like one of those days where you just want to go to bed early and cry, and when you wake up in the morning someone who cares about you has fixed the problem. But I can't. I have no bed. I have noone that cares about me that will fix the problem. And with how my life is going I may never. 😞

## Day 1188 - 10/2

### Another sad day

This morning was more confirmation about the issue being worse than before. There were rare slowness and stutter popping. Additionally, while the acceleration issue was much less bad at high speeds, I could feel minor popping. I'm so very sad and don't know what to do. A guy at work said I should try this stuff called Sea Foam. I'd seen that name mentioned on a few posts when I researched fuel popping and acceleration issues last night. I may try it. I have a feeling that if/when I go back to the shop they will just say, 'sorry, don't know what to tell ya, we didn't find anything and we won't do anything else unless you pay us.' If it came down to needing another inspection I'd just find a specialty repair place for my type of car before I'd go back to that same place. I think though I may try that stuff though. There is a place on the way to work Monday that should sell it and I can ask them what they think of it.

The Sunday shift stuff was cleared up and I'm working both weeks. I just finished for today and it's early evening. It was a decent enough shift as far as shifts go. I watched some shows and got to micro lunch and an early dinner. I even got to do some web stuff. But despite all the good things today I couldn't help but think 'why me?' Two cars dead, and a third with an issue that after \$250 is the same as it was, or worse. Why? That's more trouble in the last three years than in my entire rest of my life so far. I just don't get it. And while I'm homeless even.

I don't understand why my life seems so hard right now. Why all the car troubles? Why all the difficulty finding work? Why is there so much difficulty getting a solid path for school to refocus my life? Why is the school network and work sometimes so bad that I can't even connect? Why have I not found new friends or a sweetie that I can hang out with offline? Why does it seem that I'm the only one I know who is this socially isolated and alone in life?

I don't know if I will make it anymore (due to greater and greater physical difficulty), but there are a few things that I thank the gods for. Thankfully my laptop seems fine now that I've updated it – no more issues with game crashes. I can keep my website current and podcast alive. I can be active on forums and at least get some games and do some gaming again. And I'm thankful that my ankle is still healing. I still have a

bit of a limp and it still seems a bit stiff at times, but it certainly seems like it should be ok eventually.

As always, hopefully everyone out there has laughter and love in their lives, you don't have the troubles I do, and maybe my words and thoughts have helped you live a better and fuller life.

## **Day 1189 - 10/3**

### **Waiting**

I'm having a bit early lunch on campus. I was expecting to go argue at the guys about the car this morning but it seems it was actually pretty ok. There was the reduced power and acceleration, but there wasn't any popping or stuttering, and there was enough power to drive and shift without much issue. Since the place likely will not have the skill to find out what's wrong, since they didn't the first time, I'll just wait and see what happens. I figure on my way to work I'll get that stuff then after work drive around on the freeways a bit extra and use a gallon or two of gas since it will be late and noone will be around. (It's not really risky at high speeds anyways, it just doesn't accelerate as fast and has like no uphill power.) Maybe I can burn through what's left in the tank in a half of a week instead of the week or so it would normally take and the stuff will do the miracle that people have said it does. The \$10 it supposedly costs is doable, whereas the \$100 for another inspection, plus who knows how much after, isn't even remotely possible until I'm paid Thursday, so I have half a week to wait anyways if I'm going to do a different shop.

That's all for today so far. As always it seems my life is more wait and see than not. I've got about three hours here for whatever, then it's off to laundry and work in the evening.



## Day 1190 - 10/4

### Springer time

Yesterday on my way off campus to work I saw a very Jerry Springer moment. This girl had hit this guy so hard that everyone in about a 25' radius turned to look. He was trying to walk away from her, but she was yelling at him (in some foreign language) and had such a tight grip on his shirt that she yanked it and it ripped in half. She was going completely nutso on this guy. (I watched for like a minute to make sure he didn't start hitting back. He appeared to not be responding at all.)

I may have to go nutso like that on the shop I took the car to. It's now worse, far worse. Every shifting point it's just about stalling out from all the fuel pops, even when I over rev it at times. Last night when I left work, at 15, 25, and 35 MPH where I normally shift it paused for a good five seconds at each having zero acceleration while I had the pedal all the way to the floor. When I confronted who I'm guessing is the owner guy today he said a tune-up would not fix the issues I described. Um, what? His mechanic, and another mechanic I talked to at a store, said it should have. Then he basically brushed it off when I told him the guy supposedly did a diagnostic first, saying that I have to talk to him, and that he's off today and won't be in until tomorrow. So I guess there will be no conclusion for you guys on the car saga for this week. 😞 It's now so bad I'm lucky to have 40% of the power and acceleration rate that I should. I guess we'll see what happens tomorrow, but if this guy doesn't fix this for free, if they change what they said previously and say a tune-up wouldn't fix it, I'll have no choice but to go to a different shop and get a diagnostic and see what they say. If they can show incompetence about the repairs (like they say they can fix what should have been done the first time) I'll be going all nutso on that first shop and be demanding my money back.

I suppose the only good news I can offer for this week is my blood pressure seems to be continuing to get better. My follow-up with the not-doc was good and she was super happy with the numbers. I have to get poked again to check that my kidney functions are getting better though. Do not want. 😞

The school wireless is still just about a complete failure. It just keeps going in circles to the login screen, or has so little bandwidth that I get dropped within minutes of connecting. I don't know how I'm going to do my online work or online class stuff under

these conditions. I'll probably have to get a physical system for both, or go to the less fancy restaurant and hang out there.

Everything seems such a complex disaster right now. Everything seemed so much simpler before. 😞

## Week 171

### Day 1191 - 10/5 Even more waiting

So it seems there will be even more waiting for repairs. 😞 I talked to the guy about the problems being worse. He seemed very willing to do another diagnostic for free. He even implied that they had specific policies in place for people like me who had stuff get worse after the job. That wouldn't surprise me at all. I'm still worried though. If they did the diagnostic already, why didn't the other issues get noticed? When describing my new issues, and going over the old ones again, he seemed to think it could be the catalytic converter (which checking online ranges from \$50-175 for the part.) I thought that the point of the diagnostic was to 'trace the line' as it were to find all possible broken / not functioning parts. I don't know. The plan is to be there first thing in the morning and he'll check things out and see what's what. I guess we'll see then. I'm still likely to give them the benefit of the doubt because he seems genuinely understanding about money issues and willing to help.

I went to the less fancy restaurant last night to be sure I had the bandwidth for my friend's online work that I do. I went to the computer lab to do work for one class. The other class has no fixed due dates, so I'll worry about that later (after the car stress / issues are dealt with).

As expected, things seem very lonely and sad today. I saw half a dozen beautiful girls this morning. Campus is quieting down now at an early dinner time.

The cafeteria group seems completely gone. There are no more people I remember from those days. The tables are still getting pushed together in that area, but the people are different. I guess they have all moved on. I hope they stay in contact with each other. Life seems so much more sad when you are alone. 😞

## Day 1192 - 10/6

### Guess I got lucky

So the repairs are sort of solved. After spending 8 hours on the car, the mechanic said it looked like the previous owner tweaked *every single setting and timing* he could off of factory settings. So, over the next few days he said he'll tweak a setting and then it has to sit for 4+ hours before the next. And, after all that, it needs a new O2 sensor because the last one was completely killed by the messed up settings, which is another \$225+ in parts and labor over what I already paid for the tune-up. I suppose I got lucky because the eight hours he spent was free, and the 3-6 more for the tweaking will be free. I guess they indeed did not do a full diagnostic like they said they would, as that would have indeed revealed that I would be in a world of hurt at like \$500+ like 12 hours of labor (which around here is like \$90-150 per hour depending I think), which easily would have totaled at more than the \$1500 I originally paid and the car would have been scrap. There's no way I could have paid that. So, I'm lucky that the \$500 I will have spent after these two things will be vastly less than it should have been, but it's very unlucky as that means I just lost everything I would have saved over the next year in the space of roughly one week. If I sacrifice and tweak my budget more I should barely be able to afford it. I'll have to check my bills, but I'll be lucky if I can buy any games at all in the next six months my budget goes to. It's not really good news, certainly no reason to celebrate, but I suppose had things gone differently it would have been far worse.

I suppose I can be grateful I had a decent Internet connection. With that I was able to do my next generation of system recommendations, and I got to watch a couple of shows. With as bad as the school connection is I likely couldn't have done either.

Guess that's all for today. Hopefully the car will survive the driving that I need to do over the next few days until it's all better (provided I do have the money.)

## Day 1193 - 10/7

### Sort of vroom

The car is sort of better. It's back to about where it was before I first took it in. It won't be mostly better until Monday when the guy does the O2 thingy. It's going to be another almost \$250. 😞 These two operations are just about everything I normally would save up in an entire year. Plus, that converter thingy is indeed dead. He'll clean it as best as he can, and it won't affect driving at all. But, it is connected to emissions, so there is no way I'd pass smog until it's fixed. With the part online ranging from \$50-175 I'd guess that's going to be about \$250 to repair as well. Since I don't have to worry about it killing the car I'll put it in the back of my mind and worry about it next year, after I'm past the holiday low pay crisis. I still don't know where I'll get the money for it. 😞 I don't remember doing smog last year, so it's very likely I'll have to do it this time when the thing is due in April.

Nothing really special for the day. The morning was sad and crazy what with dropping off the car super early, killing time until the place opened, then waiting until just about 2 for it to get done with this phase. I had a couple of hours free, then headed off to work, and that was it.

Nothing much else to say. Maybe tomorrow will be a better day.

## Day 1194 - 10/8

### No fifth gear

The car is still bad, but that's to be expected since it's not repaired until Monday. It has reasonable power in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, sometimes 2<sup>nd</sup>, but 5<sup>th</sup> is effectively non-existent. It has no power or acceleration. What typically was my driving speed of around 65 MPH is pretty much the max speed now, and where I'm holding my foot for what would be 65-70 I'm running at about 50-55. It's effectively like 5<sup>th</sup> gear doesn't even exist. I shift out of 4th and basically stay that same speed, just at a lower RPM.

I suppose the rest of the day was ok – car sputtering, stuttering, and other issues aside. I slept in until about 11:30 at school, got caught up mostly I suppose from the

troubled nights of worry about the car and needing to get up extra early for the drop offs. I went to the less fancy restaurant to get the half off burger where I dropped podcast 28 and updated some pages for the rabbit PC stuff. I watched a few shows and tried to relax. It was pretty chilly though. It didn't rain today, but it's been pouring like crazy the past few days. What was 90F just about a week ago is more like 60F now, and the car is covered with moisture and frost in the mornings. I hope it returns to warm weather for a bit more, but it seems unlikely. In the evening before my work shift I started podcast 29, so that was good.

That was really my evening, nothing new other than that. Things are extra quiet now that my game sub was canceled. I've dropped a few forums because of that. Now I'm really only on one, which I could easily complete a check for once a day in about half an hour. It's a slow one. Seems there isn't much change to look forward to, unexpected or not. (Save for spending too much money continuing car repairs, which is more a necessity than a thing to look forward to.) I have a regular sized work shift tomorrow, but outside of that I expect my life will slowly crawl along unchanging. 😞

## **Day 1195 - 10/9**

### **Want to go home**

More than anything today I want to go home. 😞 I got to sleep in ok at school, and got to work ok after that. The car is still troubled, but somewhat manageable. I had an ok time at work. It was a pretty quiet shift, nothing really special though. After work I hung around for a bit in the office watching a show and having private time. I didn't want to leave, but I couldn't stay either. I went out to my car and just sat for a while. I wanted so very much to go home. But I couldn't. I can't. I don't have one. All my stuff, just about, is packed up in storage. I felt like staying there and crying. 😞 But I couldn't. There would have been little point. I suppose, for me, when I cry it's because I empathize with someone or some tragedy, or I do so because I am so very sad and it relieves stress and then someone reassures me that things will be ok and I feel better. I don't know when that will be the case anymore. Once upon a time I was nearly certain of it, but now... Now it's

been more than three years and very little is different, and if bad were compared to good far more items would be on the bad side.

I must have sat there pondering what to do for a good 45 minutes. There was nothing I could do. Everything I can try I already try. So many things are out of my hands and I have so little power or control over my life... I just don't know what will become of me anymore. 😞

## **Day 1196 - 10/10**

### **Seven hours for nothing**

The car was supposed to be fixed today, but it wasn't. Instead I spent 7 hours waiting for the mechanic to show up. He never did. He supposedly had some kind of emergency. And he has tomorrow off, so I have to wait until Wednesday to try again. I'm ... upset that nothing got fixed today. I don't understand why he never showed up like he said he would in the afternoon, but more I don't understand why when they knew he likely wouldn't come in didn't any of the three mechanics who were standing around doing nothing do the job instead. Is he the only one skilled enough? Aren't they all supposed to be certified mechanics? I don't get it. It's like they just assume I'll get around fine. I told them I had noone else and I needed my car to get places. It's like they are forgetting my life and the lives of others are at risk with these issues. Sure, it's unlikely, but it's at the point where I can't use 5<sup>th</sup> gear at all. Tonight on my way from work to the hiding spot I was going 50-55 MPH most of the time. Around here that's dangerously slow. And it's been raining pretty heavily, so it's extra dangerous to be going slower than expected. I even saw someone whose trunk area was completely smashed in by someone rear ending them and their car's entire front engine section was all smashed up. (I think I saw two people standing near the cars so I think they were ok.)

What little there was that could be considered good today is greatly overshadowed by my complete waste of time. Sure, if I had a normal life and could just drop off the car and a friend brings me back home or to work, or I had money for a rental car or something, then yeah, it wouldn't be as much of an inconvenience. But with my life, not having my car is a huge disruption in my daily routine. They don't seem to be bothered by

the fact that I'm hugely inconvenienced by things like "I'll be in at 9" and then he doesn't show up until nearly 11, twice. Or that because he's off or out one day noone else does the work.

If the majority of this work weren't free I'd be so upset right now. Even though it is I'm going to be extremely mad on Wednesday if he's out again. Making me wait over the weekend to do it because they assume they will be too busy then not doing it first thing on Monday, and pushing it until Wednesday, is not ok.

## **Day 1197 - 10/11**

### **Day of rest**

It's right around noon. Hopefully today will be a day of rest; though it's hard to relax knowing tomorrow may be yet another 8+ hour day of sitting and waiting for the car to be fixed.

I got to sleep in, so that was good. I actually feel not overly tired. I'm still a little tired, but with my constant depression and lack of a bed/home my sleep isn't what it used to be. I can't remember a time I woke up feeling awake and alert in any of my homeless days.

There really isn't any Internet connection to speak of wirelessly. I may have no choice but to leave campus if I want to connect to the world. It's sad really that I have the chance to be somewhere reasonably comfortable with private cubbies or somewhere with Internet connectivity. (I can get time on a landline based system, but that's really only good for watching shows, as it doesn't have my bookmarks or programs.)

I was hoping to look for jobs first thing this morning, but I guess that will have to wait. I briefly connected and got mails, nothing there. I'm considering doing my online class. It's basically watching a 45 minute show then doing a little assignment, but I think I'm more likely to regularly do that on Thursday. We'll see.

Since it's only noonish that's really all for today. More may or may not happen before I send this week out. Since I can't connect at the moment it's not going anywhere.





It seems, as it always does, this week ends with more sad than not. Rage is playable since it got a patch, but my system still struggles with it at times. I should be able to play and get through, so that's fun. It's becoming more what I expected it to be now that I'm past the first few hours. But it may be the last game I can get for six months or more due to all these car issues that have yet to be fixed, so that is overly stressful and frustrating.

Oh, I will be going to this Nvidia GeForce LAN 6 thingy on Saturday. So, if you are in the bay area and want to say hey to teh bunnah and are there I'll probably be there from about 1 on (I think they close for general entry at like 5.) I do expect to get sea sick since it's on a boat, so I'm not going to be there the minute they open. Well, unless there is a presentation or something I want to see in the morning.

I guess that's it for this week. Hopefully everyone out there is having a trouble free life. 😊

## Week 172

### Day 1198 - 10/12

#### Stalling

So the car is supposedly better, but it certainly isn't running like it is. 😞 It's still all 'blaaaahhh' instead of 'vrrrooom'. Tonight when I was leaving work it stalled out twice when backing up. I had to floor the pedal to keep it from stalling while idling. On the way to my nighttime spot I was on the freeway going 45-50 in 3rd because 4th and 5th had zero power. I'm willing to give him the benefit of the doubt. He said it would be bad/worse before it clears up, but if it's like this all the way until I do that last thing that needs fixing... I don't know how it will last until February when I have the money. I'm actually very worried about this weekend because if I have to go up any hills I just don't think it will have the power to do it at all. I barely has enough power to get into 4th on flat ground sometimes, and it can only go into 5th when going downhill. I don't know, maybe overnight a miracle will occur and it will have its power back tomorrow. But if not, if I have to keep flooring it to not stall out, if I keep taking ten times as long to accelerate through 1st and 2nd, if I keep having to over rev past a full gear when I should have shifted... I'm going to be very sad, very mad, and worry that the shop broke something and they are just hiding it from me. 😞

### Day 1199 - 10/13

#### "Tell your sister you were right"

I was right about the car being messed up still. This morning it stalled like three times and I decided to take the car in *again*. He actually got there at 9 for once and I told him it was still messed up (though he didn't seem very interested in hearing the whole story about the issue. At about 5:30, 8.5 hours after he'd been working on it, he said yeah it was messed up and that the technician did something wrong (with the tune-up or fuel flush) and he cleaned out more yuck but he needs to plug some holes he made (to do the cleaning) and adjust the timing more. So it needs to stay there overnight for that. He was

shaking his head about it all and saying he wishes he could have done it in a different order. I guess because we didn't do the diagnostic first there is no way to have had the information he has now. It is what it is at this point and all I can hope is it gets its power and drivability back tomorrow.

Trying *very* hard to focus on the positive... I got to watch Psych, which I thought was canceled because I could swear it's been like two years since it last aired. I watched another show too, and I was surprised that I had found four or five jobs to apply to. I got my wish about the weather. It's back up to the high 80s / low 90s. Though I think it will only last a few more days before the rain comes back. At least tonight it won't be so cold.



Time passes

I was playing one of my games just now. I was walking around on some city streets. Out of the corner of my eye I see someone. She is sitting at a bus stop playing a game on a hand held system. I pause and watch her for a minute. I can hear the game sounds. I thought to myself, "She's just like me. All she wants is to have a little fun and go home." But then I became very sad. I was so sad I couldn't continue playing, because she is not like me. While her scene doesn't change, the story will. When I finish in the area time will pass. She will be home. But not me. I don't know when I'll be home. And lately with all my troubles I have begun to wonder if I ever will.

## **Day 1200 - 10/14**

### **More repairs**

So I spent yet another day sitting at the repair place completely not spending the day how I hoped. Despite the mechanic spending 6 hours on the car it's not a whole lot better. It does have a fair bit of the power back, I can drive in all gears again... ish... but it is horribly loud. Like hear it for a block or more kind of loud that could attract police attention. And, now he's saying the fuel issue and popping could be a timing belt issue, which he said is \$200-300. So now, to fix my power and fuel issues he's saying I need that, and to make it not sound like a giant lawn mower or very loud cruiser motorcycle, I need another \$500 or more for those past the \$385 I've already spent. If I really ream my

budget I may be able to save enough so that when my tax return comes I could have it then, but that's roughly four months before I'd have that money. While he didn't say the engine as really at risk I just don't see how it could last that long running as bad as it is. With the stalling and fuel issues in low gear, with the risk of being pulled over or followed from noise by police... I just don't see how I could make it that long.

*And*, this is all if he's right. He said my car has been the only one to be this troubled and puzzling in like five years. Bu is he right in his assessment of the issues? Should I get a second opinion before doing any more work? And if so, another diagnostic would likely add on \$100, putting that figure closer to upwards of \$750 than not depending on costs, on top of the \$385 already spent. (I'll check into that next week. Someone suggested a local shop that has honest guys.) With my budget balancing to just about zero every month, with now only \$15 in savings, there is no way I could even consider doing repairs quickly without getting some serious help. And that's with my game and movie budget already zeroed out for the next six months. 😞

## **Day 1201 - 10/15**

### **I'm on a boat**

I made it to the LAN event, barely. About half way there the car started losing power and I could only sometimes go to 5th gear. When I got off the freeway and stopped the engine stalled out from low RPM. There I was, on a freeway off ramp, some 50 or so miles from where my 'home area' is, stalled. Thankfully after a few minutes it started up again, but again a few blocks later it stalled. I made it to the event, though due to the rough driving and looks of cars I parked further away than I could have. I'm afraid that when I go back to the car it won't start at all. Hopefully it is just limited to short 20 or less minute trips and not completely dead. Though difficult, I could eventually get back. Either way, it seems I may have no choice but to request my money back and try to fix it elsewhere.

A line is forming for a something I want to do. No more time for sad writings now, more later.

Time passes

I feel sick. The car is not starting no matter what I try. Looking at the marked odometer it's used double the gas it should have. I don't know what to do. It seems safe here, so I might be safe here on this isolated road or in the park for the night, but I'm nearly 50 miles from my home area with a very hurt car.

I don't know what to do. I may very much have a dead car that's not sellable, leaving me with no car, no home, and no money to buy a new one. I guess I have no choice but to keep trying to get back to my home area.

Time passes

Midnight. Normally I'd be getting ready for sleeping about now. Instead I am outside of the event hoping a staffer happens to be going home somewhere on my side of the bay. I've been asking for the past 4 hours. I had someone imply they may help, but I haven't seen them since. I met a couple of nice brits coming over from the U.K. Nvidia staff. One said he had no idea what he'd o in my situation. I had a feeling if he's this important to fly over he would never be in my situation. Though extremely expensive a cab could get me home, or with a higher car insurance membership I'd have 100 miles of tow instead of 5 and been back in my home area already. We talked about my car troubles briefly, and I said my story got much worse and told them I'm homeless and gave them a rabbit card. The other said, "There you go, you can't judge someone by first impressions." It sounded kind of like he was making fun of me, but I do think they did feel genuinely sorry and worried for me since I have no choice but to wait here possibly over night until everyone is leaving when I'll have a higher chance of a ride. Even then, when I do get back, what about my car? It would take upgrading my membership to get that 100 mile tow, and that's \$100, which is everything I have in the bank. I'm going to see if the repair place will do it, but they don't have a truck, so they will likely say I'm on my own.

I don't know what to do. I don't want to sell the car I love, but I may have no choice. And if it's towed before I can get it I don't know what kind of nightmare it would be to get it back. I got the essentials out, so if I never see it again I'd just lose a few replaceable items (food, underwear, etc.).

I really hope things work out, but so far odds don't look good. The only possible hope I have so far is a few replies of "not today" to my query for a ride.

It's starting to grow cold. Event security seems ok with my being here, but I don't know when I'll get a ride, if at all. 😞

Time passes

Nearing 3:30 AM. More people seem to be leaving, but those who responded are going east or north, not south-westish which I need. A few offered a ride, but they were only going to local places, which doesn't really help at this hour. Looking up a travel planner thing it looks like there may be a possible way back via public transit, but it would take about 3 hours. (Which is 45-60 minutes by car.) It may be my only option to wait for tomorrow. With most people having big desktop systems, monitors, and all the other stuff, I basically have to find not only someone going my direction, but a single someone, or the car is full of stuff with no room for me.

All I've had to eat since lunch are a few crackers, a few Halloween sized KitKats and juice. I've retrieved all the critical items from the car... just in case I never see my beloved car again. 😞 It's on a road that's basically a few dock buildings, an abandoned place, and a park. If I'm lucky it will escape the eyes of police long enough for me to retrieve it. They have to give you a 72 hour warning, so if it happened soon I should be ok. (Last time I was tagged on my street back in the ex-home for not moving my car that's what it was.) Being an abandoned and not busy area hopefully it will just go unnoticed. The note I left is on the dash, so only passer-bys looking down into the car would see it. (Thus not calling attention to itself for passing by police, but easily seen by one looking at the vin number.) Hopefully if anyone does want to tag it they will call my number first and ask for an update before just tagging it for removal.

At this point it looks like I'm here for the night. 😞 Event security seems to be ignoring me, or passing by with a sad/sorry look. If my car had made it to the event lot I'd take a nap, but it's not. It's about a 5 minute walk past the furthest lot. It's not too far, but far enough out that a roving patrol car could easily spot my dropped seat. Here in the event lot people are coming and going all the time, I'd go unnoticed.

So sad a life. 😞 It seems to never get better. Here we are, year three, and a third car has died. If the gods smile on me I can get it back to the home area and convince the shop to fix it and get it running again for low cost. Even that though will likely be \$200-

400 more over the \$385 already paid when all is said and done. If I had money to take it elsewhere and demand my money back I would. But I don't. 😞

Time passes

Just after 4 AM. I guess this should be my last entry for this day, even though for me this day and the next will bleed together with no end.

There were more well-wishers hoping I make it back safe. I had a brief chat with a girl who's a mechanic (implied she had more than a 4 year degree), but with no light and no tools there likely wasn't anything I thought she could do for me. A few said they may tomorrow, so we'll see. At least in my home area I have the coffee shop, the less expensive fancy restaurant, a food store, and school all within a short bus distance of the ex-garage where I can put the stuff I collected from the car and use as a temporary changing place. Once back on that side of the bay I can call on my emergency sanctuaries and be relatively safe from discovery, as well as bus rides to get to work.

I don't understand why I keep having all this trouble. I don't understand why my car couldn't have been running fine now. I would have come and hung out for the weekend and just napped in my car, many seem to be doing it.

I suppose at least as people have come and gone past me I am recognized, and people feel more sad. There has been an offer now from a volunteer staffer who lives just about 5 minutes from my ex-house who can take me tomorrow at 11 PM, and offers from a few Nvidia people to take me tomorrow.

## **Day 1202 - 10/16**

### **Stranded**

It's nearing 8:30 AM. Some I saw leave last night are starting to come back and say, 'You're still here 😞?' It is, of course, inconceivable to everyone that I am alone, completely without help or people to get me home. Several suggested I go in and warm up a bit, but since I only had the day pass I don't want to be rude. 😞

All totaled I've had one hour of sleep at most and only crackers and juice to eat since lunch yesterday. I'm not all that hungry, nor tired, surprisingly. Mostly my sadness, depression, and anger about my car seem enough to fuel me for now.

There were some tiny white worms crawling towards my stuff. I tossed them away and decided to move my stuff. When I did there were probably a dozen more under my bag. 🤢 I don't know where they came from, but they disappeared quickly enough. They don't seem able to get onto the higher area.

I really don't know what will happen with my car. 😞 I guess all I can do is wait and see. I love it so much and I'm very sad that these dummy heads haven't managed to fix it properly in any of the three repair sessions so far.

Time passes

9:30 AM. I have several people on staff keeping out feelers for a ride for me. 😊

I smell a breakfasty smell. 😊 Bunnah is soooooo tired, soooooo sad, and soooooo hungry.

Though I wouldn't get food I'd consider another day pass to be inside, but even that \$20 would reduce me to the point of not being able to afford the membership upgrade to tow the car if that's what it comes down to.

Today reminds me of the early days. The days with no system and no fancy phone. The days I spent watching everyone else come and go and have fun, while I could have none.

Apparently the staff isn't done until 8 PM at the earliest. Just over 10 hours more before I may get a ride. 😞

Time passes

I'm back in the home area and it's not too late It's not quite 5:30 PM yet. A nice person named Victoria from Nvidia gave me a lift. 😊 I guess as the night went on more and more were looking out for me. She said she had heard about the stranded guy before she left the event last night.

Tomorrow yelling and fighting begins about getting my car back to the area.

I still have sea legs. I'm wobbly. From about 11 to 3 I went back in. It was actually ok. I didn't need to pay for a second general admission. Though with all my stuff with me



I kind of just plopped myself down in one area and worked on the pictures and page for the event.

The event was super fun overall. I don't regret going. It would have been nicer in a regular hotel, so I didn't get sea sick at all, or if I could have gone on a night tour of the officially haunted USS Hornet.

It will be tough to remember the good though with all of the bad car troubles. For now I do hope things work out for the best. Who knows, maybe one or more people I gave my rabbit card to will be able to help me find a job I'm happy with that pays me enough. Only time will tell.

## **Day 1203 - 10/17**

### **So much walking**

Today was different, but I don't know if I can say it was better. I started it by going to talk to the mechanic. Thankfully he seemed super understanding and more puzzled than anything else about my *still* increasing problems. He still thinks it's the timing belt and he didn't seem argumentative when I explained that \$200 would be pushing it for me in yet another repair. He said he may have someone that can do the tow, but he never got back to me today, so that's a huge time loss and the clock is ticking. I checked my bank and upgrading my account is not an option until basically Thursday, which means if the tow is left in my hands the soonest I could get it would be like Saturday, a full week after it was left there. But, I can't really afford that much, as that would leave me about \$100 for the repair (estimated at \$200-300), and even that is cutting my food budget in half and requires postponing my phone bill by two weeks past due.

After, I decided to go to the less expensive fancy restaurant and order a minimal amount of food and finish my Nvidia GeForce LAN 6 videos. I got all of the LAN stuff up, and the Intel socket LGA-2011 preview up. The DICE videos will have to wait until tomorrow. They are like 3 gig total, so I can put them on a USB and I'll go through a land line at school. You can go through any browser for that, so it's not like plugging in my laptop or anything.

The video and stuff took nearly all my time. I had about 30 minutes left before needing to take the bus to work. I got there super early, but it seemed ok. I just ninjaed into the office and left the lights off. (I always do that.) Sometimes the school coaches don't even notice me in there and I surprise them, heh. My work shift was ok. It took most of it to enter Epic Fail's week because it was so big. I also finished podcast 29, so I have that to edit and post tomorrow. It's nearly 50 minutes long, so I'll see what Rage stuff I can edit out. Likely there is a bit I can, as it's like half the podcast.

I'll probably be on foot the rest of the week, but I'm still hoping things work out ok and the car is actually fixed and working by Friday. I guess we'll see.

## Day 1204 - 10/18

### Feel sick

I feel pretty sick today. I'm all woozy and feverish feeling from lack of sleep and lack of proper food. My digestive parts are getting all messed up. I barely made it to a bathroom in time this morning. 😞

No call from the repair shop, but I remembered the guy has Tuesdays off, so I'll have to make with the yelling about the clock ticking away after I'm done with lunch nom.

My friend/ex-roomie just called me. 😊 She was worried if I was ok because I texted her about my being stranded across the bay. I didn't really expect her to reply when I sent the message, things have been weird between us, and I know her phone would go for hours sometimes more than a day before she would hear a message. It's good to know people worry about me. 😊 I am so worried about me lately. 😞 Though I'm interacting with people more lately, I feel so isolated, alone, and unloved most of the time. 😞

I think the last of my videos from the event got up ok. There was one that was "processing" and didn't seem to clear, so I may have to upload that again later. I'll give it a few hours to settle and see what happens.

I still need to close out podcast 29 and get it ready for posting later. The video uploading took like all my morning, more than 2.5 hours. It's an early lunch now but I

may need to leave campus in the early evening if I want to update my site. I had zero connection to school this morning.

I guess this will end yet another week of fail and my life that still seems to be crumbling around me. I had a great time at the LAN event; I'm still wearing the wrist band to remember it. And interacting with people, however briefly, has made me feel a bit happier. But with the car tragedy and possible permanent loss, with my being icky feeling with stress, sadness, physical strain from walking, lack of sleep, and hardly eating or eating worse food than normal... things again seem more bleh for me than not. 😞

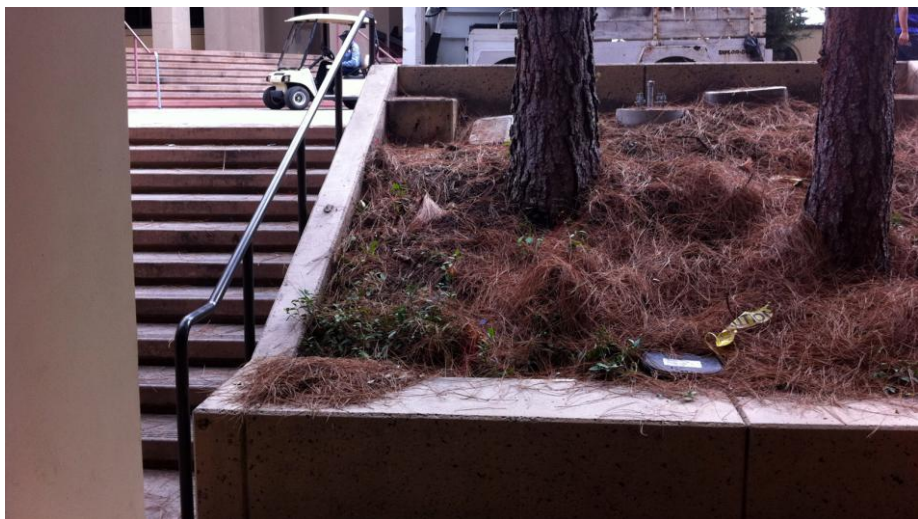
## Picture series 25



So cute a Charr limited edition stuffie.  
Remember, the laptop is like 18"+ big diagonally, so big a stuffie!



Big Bang Theory, season 4, yay for lolz



The evil Legbreaker Hill



Rage

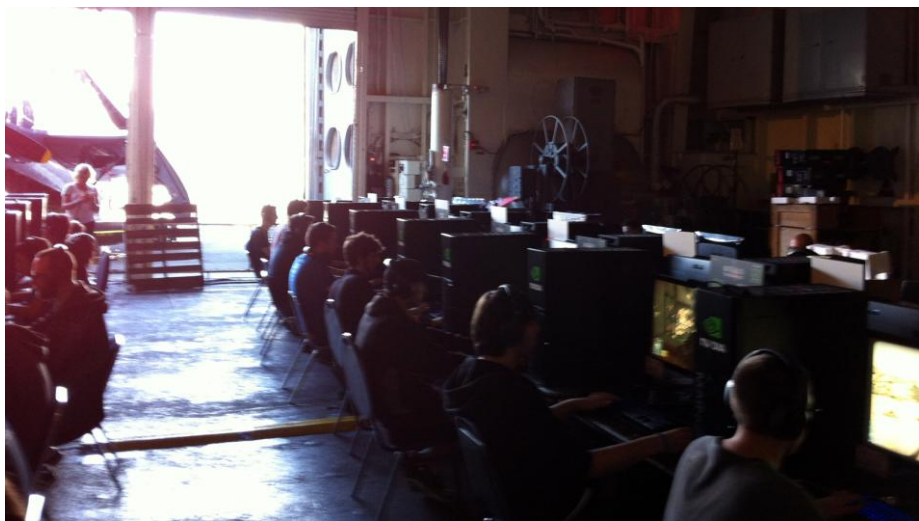




I'm on a boat!



There is a banner on the bridge.



The Battlefield 3 Tourney area (1)



The Battlefield 3 Tourney area (2)



The Battlefield 3 Tourney area (3)



The Battlefield 3 Tourney area (4), facing towards the front of the boat





Aircraft



"BYOC" area 1



"BYOC" area 2



Capsule



"BYOC" area 2, from the Capsule facing out

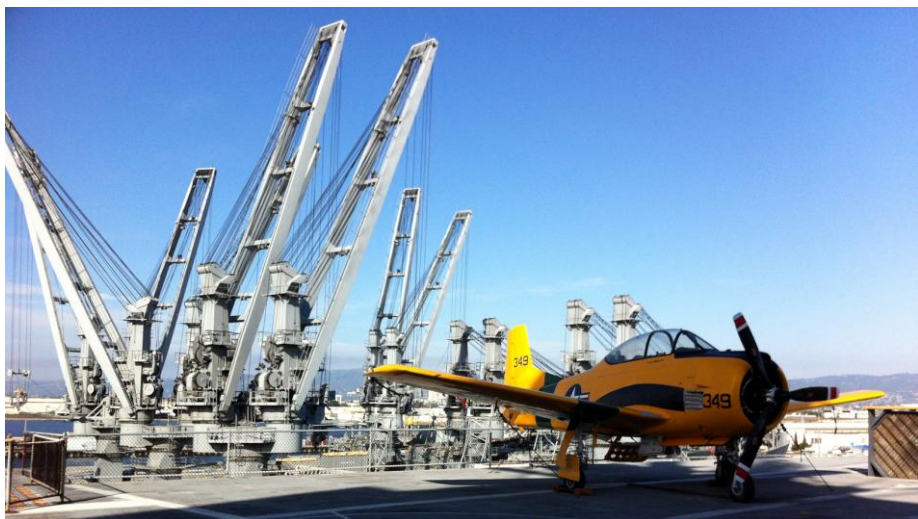


"BYOC" area 3





Flight deck, facing the front



Flight deck, old-school prop



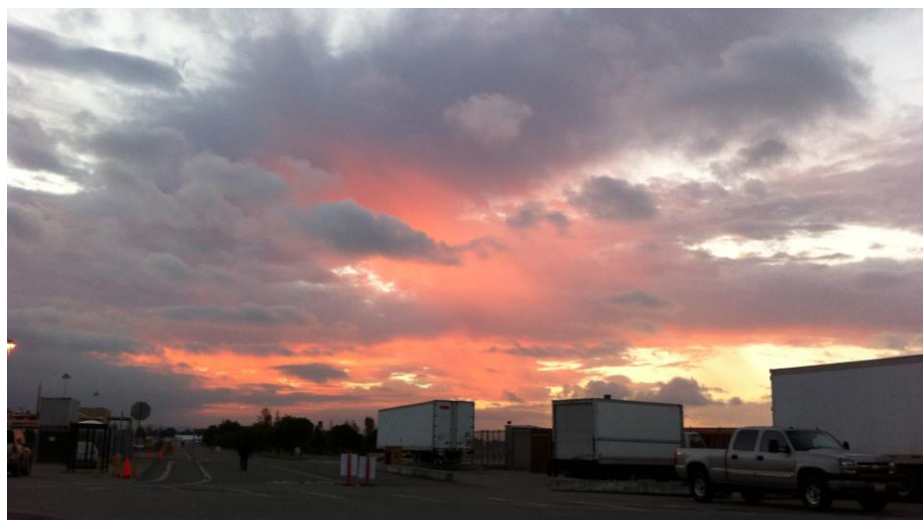
Flight deck, rescue heli



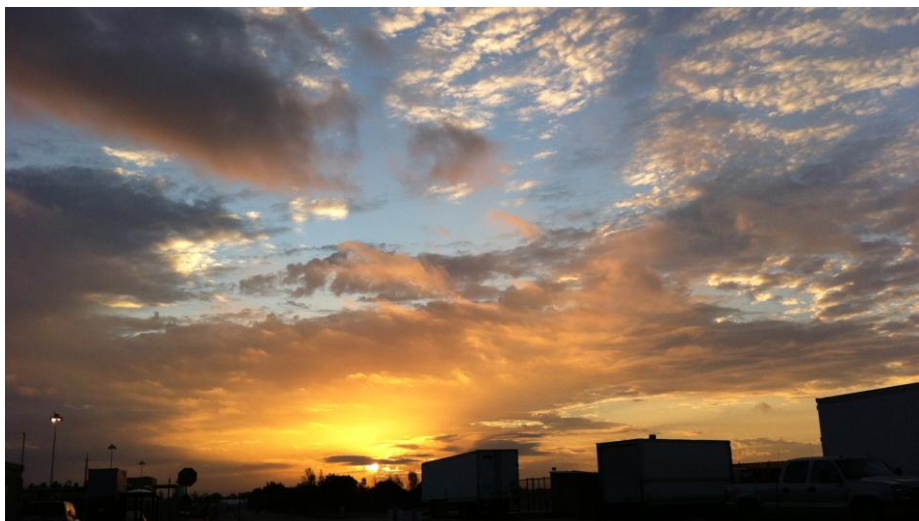
Flight deck, pew pew fighter jet, rarr



Bridge

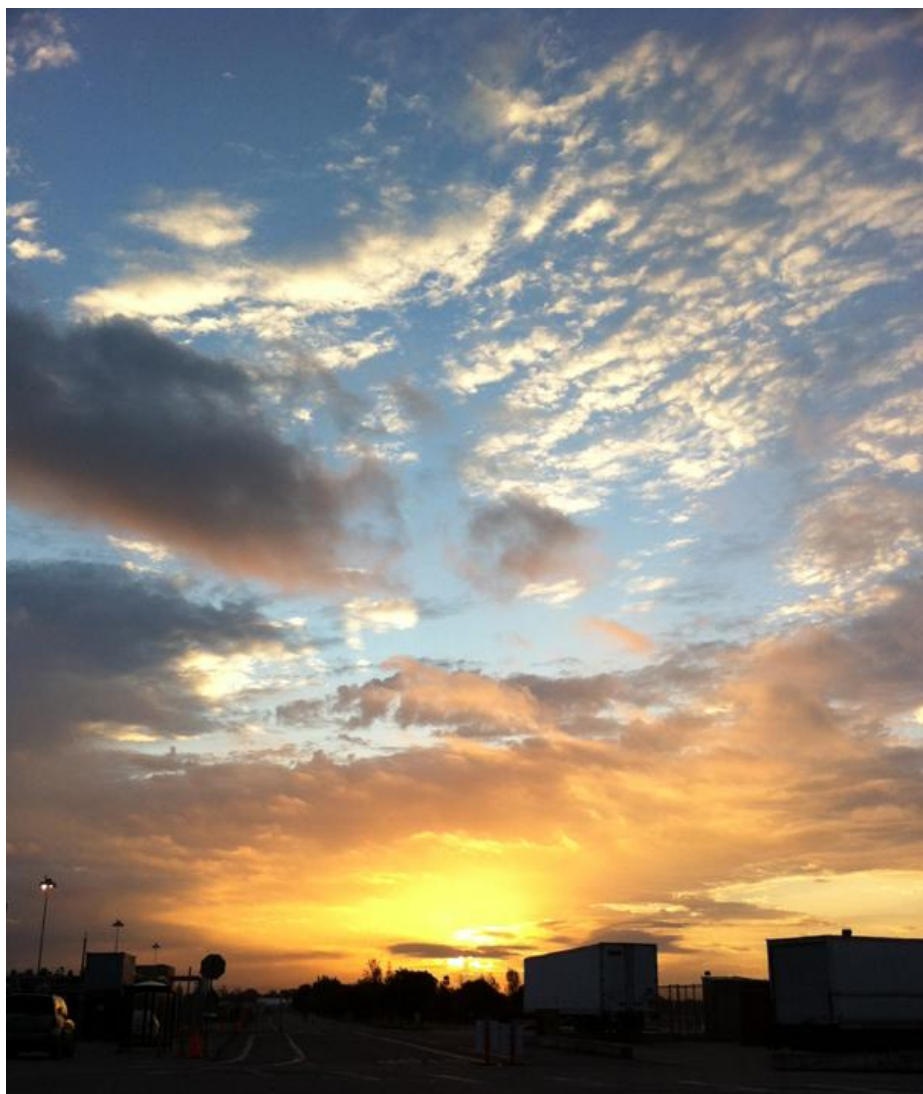


Dawn, the morning after



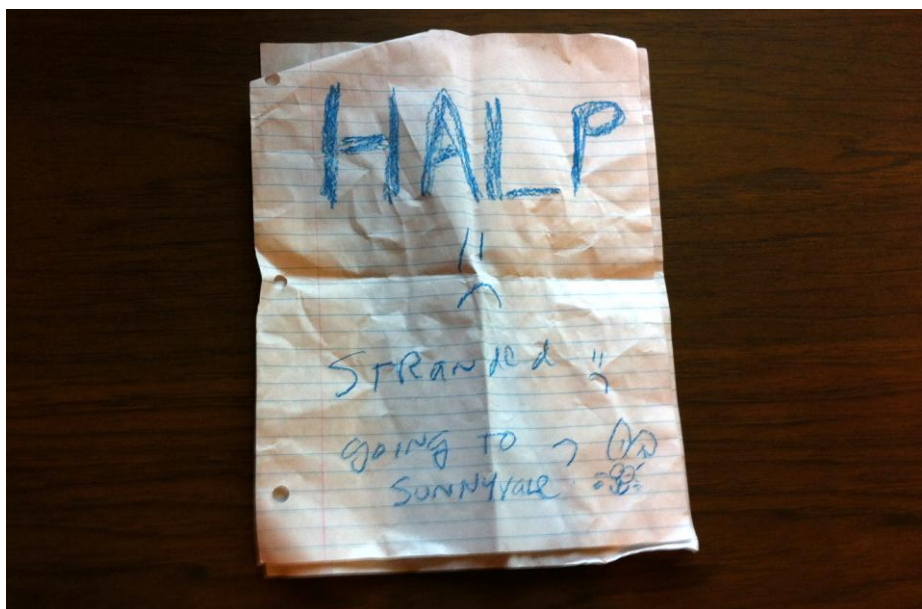
Dawn, the morning after 2





Dawn, the morning after 3





Stranded bunnah needs halp

There are videos at the event page.

<http://www.rabb1t.com/events/geforcelan6/geforcelan6.html>

## **Week 173**

### **Day 1205 - 10/19** **Promising**

Today has been... promising. I got good sleep for much of the "night". (It was only about 6 hours.) I haven't left the area I was in yet, so I haven't yet spent the \$6 for the bus day pass, though I likely will soon.

I talked to the shop and the mechanic said his truck guy broke down. He called someone else and is checking, so maybe there will be good news after I have lunch.

I did my online work for my friend super fast since I was on a connection that was decent. And, due to what I saw at the LAN where people had cases and systems that were huge and heavy, I decided to make two LAN system recommendations in my system builds from now on. So, that may help out a few people. The day is pretty early, but I remain hopeful.

### **Day 1206 - 10/20** **Remaining hopeful**

I'm so exhausted. I was fading in and out so bad I had to put my head down for a nap. I'm remaining hopeful that things will be ok though. Last night in the later evening someone I haven't talked to in eblebentybillion years said they'd take me to get my car towed. So, after a super long drive we got to the USS Hornet. The gods must be smiling on me because my car was still there. 🤔 I was right about the ticketing. They did ticket me. It was a 72 hour period. And that time had actually run out some 6 hours before we got to the car. So now, in the later afternoon, it's at the shop. I'm remaining hopeful it can be really and truly fixed. The mechanic seems to be very focused on taking care of me right and being sure he double checks what we'll get fixed before doing any work and charging me. It still makes me wonder if this means he didn't previously do proper diagnostics. The current theory is something timing belt related at a cost of \$200-300. I got some extra shifts on last paycheck, so I could actually do ok at \$200, and even still

have enough left over to put Batman: Arkham City back into the budget. I guess we'll see what he says. No reply yet. He had some other jobs and wouldn't be able to do anything on my car until Saturday, so I'll not push for a diagnosis until then.

The USS Hornet was super spooky when we were there. It was foggy and extra quiet. I'm still sad about not being able to go on the haunted tour. 😞

With no car I'm hurting pretty bad for sleep. I'm running on maybe half lately, and only about 3-4 hours of sleep today. So, fooooo so tired.

I'm hopeful though. Just getting my car I love so much back is a pretty big deal in and of itself, and a huge stroke of good luck. Maybe my luck will start to turn back around and the shop will actually fix what's wrong for cheap, or better still for free since they have done me wrong so many times so far.

## **Day 1207 - 10/21**

### **Wearing my bus pants**

I'm so hungry. So hungry and so tired. 😞 All this walking is so exhausting. And being on roughly 40-60% of "normal" sleep is really whacking me out.

I've decided at this point that if the shop doesn't do the repair well enough that my car is not making bad low RPM noise/failure that when I do drive away I will immediately complain to the Better Business Bureau. All I have to say at this point is they better not say it's something expensive after giving them \$385+. They still haven't looked at it this morning. If they don't tomorrow either I'll be very upset. I guess we'll see and I'll remain hopeful things will work out.

Nothing much really to say. I tried to do stuff for one of my online classes, but I'm so tired and hungry I was just completely unable to focus. I'll have to do the assignments tomorrow.

I was hoping to see a movie this weekend. Someone gave me a gift card so it would be free, but I have a feeling that chances are higher than not all this car worry and stuff is going to ruin any weekend plans I may otherwise have planned. 😞

## Day 1208 - 10/22

### Yet another day of waiting... and waiting...

Today was yet another day of waiting and waiting. I waited for the repair shop to open. I waited for the mechanic to show up. At 11:30 I heard the owner's wife talking to someone else saying that the mechanic was sick and she was waiting for him to call her back. I knew that meant he wouldn't be in. We talked about my car, how it's been waiting since Wednesday night, since this now *fourth* time back for the same issue that's been there for *three weeks*. She seemed understanding and compassionate. She said they did have a second mechanic there and that if the mechanic didn't come in they would have the second do what he was supposed to. The rest of the day passed. I waited and waited for a call that I never got.

Today seems yet another day in a long line of days I didn't get to spend how I wanted. I did finish homework for one class, so that was good. I did get to watch my Blizzcon footage online, which was good. (It's a good thing I paid for that months ago, or that's yet another thing I would not have otherwise had the money for.) But I still spent a few hours riding or waiting for busses. I yet again barely made it to a bathroom in time this morning. I was in places that constantly bombard me with light, sound, and smell. And now, spending a bit with my stuff in the ex-garage trying to relax a bit, there is a very noticeable (to me) slinkiness from my unwashed cloths; some more than a week dirty because I don't want to carry a like 20 pound bag of cloths for hours on the bus and all day wherever it is I travel. And my food supply is growing low, meaning I will need to buy larger, heavier, difficult to carry items to restock, or pay a ridiculous amount daily for things I always eat.

While today isn't very different than any other for me, I'm so very tired, so very sad, and feel very helpless. As always, more than anything I just want to be at peace, and in a home. 😞

## Day 1209 - 10/23

### Another year, another dead car

It seems my car I love so much may be dead. They spent half the day looking at it and they say they want \$400-500 on top of what I already paid to do the timing belt check, and that may not even solve all the issues. They say it "doesn't have compression" and looking at that issue may or may not fix the issue. Also, there is a belt digging into a cover, which may or may not also be an issue.

I don't know what to do. I love my car so much. 😞 Even if I pulled off a miracle and got close to \$500 for selling it, that's nowhere near enough for a new one. I'd have to get all the money I paid so far back, and even then I still wouldn't have enough until February after I got my tax money. So, it's like even if it was like \$500 more to fix the car that would get me my car back if that's all that needed fixing, which is something I wouldn't have if I had to look for something new.

I don't think I'll get enough help to try and save it though. I've put out calls for help before and while I did get some help those avenues of help have basically been tapped out. Without help, without as low of cost repairs as possible, I'll be on the streets. I can stay on school campus a lot, but for a bit more than those half dozen hours during the darkest night I'll be extremely vulnerable. I can call on sanctuary sometimes, but the more I do that the greater the risk.

I have a few days to figure something out, so if you are reading this right when the week is posted I may still be in limbo and trying to figure out what to do. But it's very likely that within a week I'd have no choice but to sell the car if I can't find enough help to try and save it. 😞

It seems for a third year in a row I'll be spending \$1k+ on car stuff. But unlike previous years I'm no currently on someone's couch. This year, if it's not saved, I will be on the street. Possibly for a very long time. 😞

## Day 1210 - 10/24

### Sineater

I really don't get what is going on in my life. 😞 I've lost more cars and had more car trouble in these last three years than all the other 23 I've been driving *combined*. Just now as I looked around the library in the morning, and in the afternoon, *every single person* was connected wirelessly and happily doing stuff online all day. But not me. I couldn't see the connection. I stayed connected maybe two minutes all day if you added the time up together. My phone seems to see it ok. Why not my laptop? Must *everything* I own and have not work correctly or fail? Why am I the only one who seems to be having anywhere near this much difficulty in life? Why now, when I'm at my worst?

I don't have the answers. I never did. Hopefully one day I will come out of it ok and I can play my games and watch my shows and movies just like I did once upon a time. But days like this, where my car is dead, my laptop doesn't want to talk to the Internet at all, where I've barely gotten any sleep, where I'm eating bad foods because healthy foods are too expensive or inaccessible... I wonder if anything I do matters. I wonder if any steps forward I try to make will matter. I can't even seem to get back to holding anything close to a zero point balance in life. I can't imagine how I'll ever have any positive movement.

## Day 1211 - 10/25

### Hesitating

I find myself hesitating this morning. I've been at the food store eating my breakfast for about 15 minutes. I think I've been eating slowly in part because I don't have much to do before heading to work at 3, but I think more so because I don't want to say bye to my car I love so much. 😞 I was so overjoyed when I got it back, and now... now it's been declared dead. 😞 I suppose the gods made it happen this way so I had transport to the LAN and had a good time there. I got good footage and now my site will have LAN build recommendations. I may do such a build for myself with my next build since it's

minimal like I prefer. (Though I suspect that the tiny case fans would make it louder than I'd like. I suppose I could get some bigger ones and just plug those in instead when it's in the home, heh.) Getting the car back renewed my hope that things may turn out ok for me. But now to lose it again... I guess I have to hope it is for a "higher purpose". Though I can't help but feel it is yet more of my life continuing to crumble around me. 😞

I'm going to close out this week early, as I have a shift to cover tonight when I'd normally post. I doubt anything special will happen between now and then. The ghost said he'd give some help for the car. We are tentatively meeting tomorrow night. Someone in the guild I was in put out a cry for help on the forums. No replies in the thread, but the guild leader sent something, so that's helpful, and others may in the future, who knows. I find it very hard to remain hopeful these days though. Everything seems to be falling apart again.

The next week won't be posted until after Halloween, so happy Halloween time everyone. 😊

## **Week 174**

### **Day 1212 - 10/26** **Miracles**

So it seems miracles may happen after all. Someone overbid on my car. I'm theoretically meeting him at 9 in the morning and he's theoretically giving me \$800 for the car I posted at \$600. I'm still very *very* sad to be selling my cute car, but \$800 is a huge chunk of what a new one would cost. And there was a ginormous donation, which added to some help from the gray ghost, and a few others, added to what I can squeeze out of my account, I should have right around \$1500 by the weekend. Which, in theory, means I can start looking for a replacement car early next week.

I'm not getting my hopes up yet. Even though it should all add up to enough I will still need to find a new car. If I recall we pushed and pushed to get me that much last year when this happened and it still took, I think it was nearly two months to find something not broken.

I had a pretty good day, though again I had almost no connectivity at school. I was connected from about 8:30-9:30, but for the entire rest of the day I couldn't connect. I also got some tremendously bad news in that one of my classes effectively has a required \$160 purchase. What the poop?! Why wasn't this in big huge bold letters when I signed up for the class?! That's going to be a huge drain in my car monies if I can't avoid it.

I saw the gray ghost today. He brought down monies to help, so we hung out for dinner. He also took me to the car to get stuff that I need to move to the ex-garage. That was a super huge help. That would have been such a pain in the butt to lug it around on foot.

It doesn't seem like very much when I write about it, but the day was a huge whirlwind of activity. My ears are ringing in the quiet of my hiding spot. I don't know if that's from the excitement of it all or the volume of everywhere I've been.

I'm hidden somewhere for the night. It's a bit chilly, but I'll survive. I think with all the good news (unless a passerby rouses me) I should sleep pretty well for once. Maybe soon I can go back to a regular homeless in a car routine. It certainly looks like it will be far sooner than I thought.



## Day 1213 - 10/27

### Fewer miracles

Today was pretty bad and sad. It started as all my days do these days with getting up far too early. Since it was only a few hours until the guy was supposed to look at the car I decided to just rest at the car and say goodbye as it were. If he had given me the \$800 he promised it probably would have been a good day. But no. He looked at the engine, he listened to it trying to start and dying, and then he low-balled me at \$400. I said, "No thanks, bye." After he pleaded I went on to explain that others were offering the \$600 and looking forward to seeing it and he was only allowed to see it first because he was one of the early replies and he offered more than they did. He raised a bit and I still said no. It wouldn't be fair to others to let him take it for less than they were offering when he pushed them out of the way as it were. I begrudgingly agreed to \$550 only because of what a pain selling it is, and that it was nearly 10 and having to arrange a meeting with someone else in less than the 24 hours I had that I could keep the car there would be unlikely. I called for the tow truck to take my beloved car to his shop and waited just over an hour. Time I was not expecting to waste.

I had soup at school. These days most foods go straight through me. So that was not fun. 😞

I went to try and do the assignments for that one class, but apparently that \$160 fee is unavoidable. I was told a professor would be there at 5, so I left to go to the library until then.

I had Chinese food at the cafeteria, something I'd been looking forward to since Monday. But they didn't have dishes I liked. (They only have a few and rotate them.) I had to try different stuff that turned out to be meh. I should have just passed. So that was terribly disappointing as well.

After dinner I went to talk to the professor. She was very unfriendly and not understanding or seemingly uncaring. Apparently next quarter there will be a single class license option at \$70, but now there is only the four pack at \$160 option. I decided to take my chances and drop the class. With then only 10 hours available for "8 hours of class work" I didn't feel it was worth the risk of auto drop. Plus, with needing all my money for the car, that \$160 could be the difference of soon vs. not. I think financial aid won't be

affected long-term, but I'm kind of running out of time to avoid some kind of repayments either way.

Like I told the gray ghost yesterday I don't know what I'm doing anymore. It seems like regardless of the classes I take they don't help; regardless of what I try to do to move forward it's like I'm in a pitch black warehouse walking in circles. I know there are people out there who care what happens to me, who do worry about me, but due to my actual failure, seemingly no matter what I succeed at, I can't help but feel lost, alone, and like I will never recover. 😞

## **Day 1214 - 10/28**

### **Little more than a blur**

I didn't really remember what I did today. I know I spent the morning going to the food store to buy drinks and spend some time checking for cars. School bandwidth has been non-existent. It's a good thing I did too. There was hardly any bandwidth, as expected. I checked for jobs and checked for cars again. I think I found one job to apply to and it took about half an hour of trying before my system had the bandwidth to send my email application.

That was really it. The school connection was so slow that in the just under 5 hours I was there I accomplished extremely little. Of course the fact that I was fading in and out from lack of sleep didn't help. I would have tried to nap a bit, but it took so long to do the morning car search it was just about lunch time by the time I finished.

Hopefully tomorrow will be a better day. I know my connectivity should be fine, but I expect with no car I'll be places that blast music constantly and have overly bright lights all day long.

Hopefully I can get back in a car soon. I'm so very tired. 😞

## Day 1215 - 10/29

### Unremarkable day

Outside of getting some donations, today was unremarkable. I started my day at the coffee shop I used to go to all the time. I haven't been there in about a month. They've redesigned the place. If you ask me it seems very unfriendly now. Instead of two sofa like chairs, five tables, and six bar seats, there are now two small tables, four small high tables that require high chairs to sit at, and really only room for four bar seats. And, none of the chairs at the high tables or bar have backs anymore, they are all stool types. This shop's majority of customers are college students (it's about a 2 minute drive away, just a few blocks) and now they effectively have nowhere to sit comfortably. Plus, there is no way you can fit books and a notebook to study, or more than a small laptop on the desk. They've crippled themselves if you ask me.

I got a pretty big donation from the two friendly guild mates that keep helping, and another from a different one. I looked for cars a few times, watched some shows, and that was really my day. It was really fairly unremarkable, doubly so if you count that probably just about everyone is at a Halloween party.

As always I wish I was in a home. I wish I could have slept in. I wish I could have watched my shows on a TV with surround sound. And I wish I had friends to be having a party with. My life feels extra lonely and sad lately. People are helping me to recover a car, which is great. But inside... where I should feel warm and loved... it is dark, hollow, cold, and only a faint spark is there because there are those few out there who help every great once in a while.

## Day 1216 - 10/30

### Simple things are not simple

Today was a reminder that the "simple things" in life aren't simple for me. It started with laundry. I figured it was better to carry it as a special trip on a weekend day than extra weight on a weekday. I went to the ex-garage to drop stuff off and get laundry. I walked nearly 10 minutes to the bus stop. I don't know why I didn't think of this before,

but there are two very large apartment type complexes along that route. There must be a laundry room in one of them. (One may be multi-plex homes, so they may have their own laundries.) But I was already at the bus stop. The bus didn't go as close to the Laundromat as I thought. (It wasn't my usual one I go to near work.) I had to walk an extra 5-10 minutes. When I got to the cloths back to the ex-garage I figured I'd spend a few hours at the coffee shop, then move across the street at the less expensive restaurant. The coffee shop's speed turned to poo, so I went across the street early. It seems the wireless was *still* broken from its disconnect at 6:15 last night. It was the same manager guy, and I think he just doesn't know how to reset it. So, I went to a different food place to kill time and use the Internets. While the speed was ok there were pop-ups that interfered with things, so I left there early to go to a different coffee shop. That one's connection speed turned to poo as well.

I decided to stop at the food store and get some (sea salt) chips. It reminded me of when I was in a home. I would often get a 'chips and (cheddar) cheese' snack when gaming or watching a show. But, I have no cheese now. I can't. It would go bad in a matter of days unless I only bought a few slices.

All day everything I did was overly complicated. I couldn't just walk down the hall to do laundry. I couldn't just hop in the shower and shave my parts. I couldn't watch shows without lagging. I couldn't download the games I got on a sale the other day at a reasonable speed. I couldn't have a simple snack. And now, while alone for the moment hidden away, I am still homeless, still without a bed, and completely and totally exhausted from all my walking. While I don't feel particularly bad today I do feel helpless, and like a failure. I still wonder if I will be able to make it on my own or will I just continue to spiral downward; both physically and emotionally. 😞

## **Day 1217 - 10/31**

### **No Halloween for me**

Not much to say about today. There was too much walking in the morning, no sleeping in after getting to school, and nearly no Internet connection to speak of. There was enough to check for cars a few times, but there really weren't any to speak of to be

found. There was one I liked, but it had high miles, no front bumper, and a salvaged title. At \$1400 it may be a bad investment. I sent an email with questions, so I guess I may have more info to go on if they reply.

The big thing for me today is that for the first time in I think ever I really don't have a Halloween. With no home there are no trick-or-treaters for me to give candy too. With only having online classes, there are no classmates to give candy too. All the lesser librarians all seem new, so I couldn't even pass any out to them. I did give some to the people at the less expensive restaurant and coffee shop when I was there over the weekend, but it's not the same. The not-sis and her family sent me a Halloween treat, so that was a nice surprise. But overall today seems extra sad - a reminder of so many things I don't have in my life, and may never again. 😞

## **Day 1218 - 11/1**

### **A rare smile**

Today I have something rare for me, a smile from things I did not do. Last night I found a Halloween treat waiting at the ex-house for me from the not-sis family. Also, I got a chance to watch a trick-or-treat video someone posted in response to my podcast ramblings about how around here people don't do that anymore. Today seems pretty good so far. I'm smiling and somewhat happy. These are rare things indeed for me these days.

It's just past noon, but I think I'll close this week now and post. School bandwidth has been good, which is very rare these days. I checked for cars, jobs, and did my online work for my friend. In a bit I'll head over to the less expensive restaurant and sit in a comfy booth and watch my shows and continue to download the game I got on sale. I got all of the first, but I expect I'll finish before the weekend and be ready to play the second. (Unless for some crazy reason their wireless is still broken.)

I don't expect anything special to happen with the second half of my day. The first half has been pretty good so far, and I am smiling a little, and that is something. 😊

## **Week 175**

### **Day 1219 - 11/2**

#### **Sun up to sun down; sad reminders**

Today was long. All week seems long. Today was a sad reminder of being homeless. I was up before sunrise. Nothing special happened all day. I could barely connect to the school wireless. I checked for cars like four times during the day. I checked for jobs. I was so exhausted I napped for about an hour. And when it was past dark I went to hide in a sanctuary for the night. But, as sometimes happens, there was a weirdness going on, so my plans for being undisturbed and having a bit of peace and quiet were interrupted, and I had to remain in a public space for longer than I would have liked.

I suppose it wasn't a bad day. Nothing got worse. But, as seems usual for my life, nothing got better and certainly nothing was as it should have been for a normal life. 😞

### **Day 1220 - 11/3**

#### **More unremarkable**

Today was again unremarkable. The school wireless was dead for all but about 30 minutes of the seven hours I tried to use it. This time it wasn't my laptop. My phone also couldn't connect, and someone who was sitting nearby asked if I could connect (he couldn't.) Nothing was changed. I suppose you could say I accomplished stuff in that I did run about three car searches and a job search, but I don't think I replied to any ads of any kind.

That's really it. Nothing changed, so noting to talk about. 😞

## **Day 1221 - 11/4**

### **People who are not me**

It's the weekend tomorrow, which is important and special for people who are not me. For me it means extra time in loud public spaces, extra time in overly bright areas, and being in places I have almost no privacy. With a car it's not so bad. I can sleep in and drive to a few places that are somewhat private, or be in my car and have a decent amount of privacy (though not much to do.)

Nothing new happened today. It was basically the same as the last in that noone is returning my replies to their car ads.

A few people checked in to see if I was doing ok. It's always nice to hear that people worry/care about you. I suppose that is something.

## **Day 1222 - 11/5**

### **Pouring rain; the four hundred**

It's getting to be crazy weather here. It's pouring rain now, has been for about three hours. I'm hidden in a sanctuary, but my bag got pretty wet on the way here. The rain easily penetrated the non-laptop area and almost penetrated the laptop area. I'll have to be extra careful with that. And that was keeping my umbrella over it as much as I could.

Nothing special happened today that was really positive. Noone replied to any of the car ads I replied to. I stopped by the bank and put away the \$400 I still had in 100s. With noone replying there is no point in my keeping it handy. The rest of what I'd gotten I kept / have been using as food money. Since I'm always getting 'ready to eat food' it's just easier to use cash. Though I probably should stop at the store and get some micro soups. It's tough though, as they are so very heavy when you get more than a few. And going every few days is a decent amount of extra walking.

I love being in a nice warm home when it's raining. It's so very sad I'm not. I can see people's homes as I pass them by, smell their fires going, but I don't have one. Though I have safe shelter to call upon and hide in if I'm careful and not discovered, keeping me

and what I carry dry and warmish, it is a very far cry from a home. And, as always, I wonder if that is something I will ever have again. 😞

## **Day 1223 - 11/6**

### **Torture**

I'm feeling pretty sick today. 🤢 It started at probably 9:30 AM or so. I started getting a massive headache and feeling motion sick. My eyes had that fading blurriness too, and my arms lost circulation a bit. I think it was/is just a migraine from all the lack of sleep and overstimulation. I get drained just from a few hours of being out and about, but now I'm in it constantly. There is constant bombardment of sound, light, not enough heat, not so good food, not enough sleep, and constant motion around me. In many ways it's not unlike torture. I feel like crying from the pain and sick feeling. But if I want to be somewhere moderately warmed, with power, and Internet, I have no choice but to endure it. 😞 And without a car, I really have no choice. 😞

## **Day 1224 - 11/7**

### **Another sad day**

There was yet again no Internet at school really. There was enough to do a few car checks, and enough bandwidth from work to do a few more, but again there were no replies. With how bleak things look for me lately it is getting harder and harder to hang on. As I lose more and more sleep it becomes easier and easier for me to feel sad. Overall today was really just another lonely sad day in a long line of lonely sad days.



## Day 1225 - 11/8

### Overbudget

Lunch time. I'm going over budget on food quite a bit lately. I got a Chinese food plate for lunch. I'm so hungry. It's about double to triple what I should spend on lunch, but it seems so much better for me than micro food. There's some asparagus and mushrooms in there, so that seems a bit more healthy. I think in part it's depression about my sad life, but probably in greater part is all the sleep that I'm losing. Since I'm awake more I'm burning more energy, even if I'm fairly sedentary.

Things seem super sad lately. 😞 I do have my games though, and I am finally on a gaming laptop, so that's super happy. I do have some online friends too, which is odd because people talk about each other on social sites, not to or with each other. I think that's probably why I don't get most of those. You are talking about yourself to others instead of with them. But then, that's what I'm doing here and on my podcast. Speaking of which, due to all my sads lately, I think podcast 31 is more sad than usual. Hopefully it will be ok.

I have some games coming up, so that should be happy. Someone pre-ordered me one that should be here early next week, possibly sooner, and I pre-ordered one for myself that should be here around Turkey weekend.

Though there are some happy things in my life it still seems like there is so much I'm missing out on. I still have no sweetie to love, no family of my own, no friends to hang out or do stuff with, and no home. The few nice things that I do have help to make me happy, and I do smile now and then, but there still so much sad in my life. 😞

## Week 176

### Day 1226 - 11/9

#### A follower, a server, a cute girl

Today was pretty sad for me. I think it's a combination of the lack of sleep, the cold, the loneliness, and not finding a new car or job.

Someone started following me on Twitter today. At first I was like 'oh bother' because I'd have to start posting there. But after a few minutes I was like, 'Wait a minute. This means someone (along with other followers I already have elsewhere) thinks I'm worthy of their attention and a few minutes of their time now and then. I matter and am considered important by someone.' So, that made me feel pretty happy in otherwise very sad times lately.

I just got into a beta yesterday during the later afternoon. The good news is that this gives me a chance to look at a game I've been on the fence about buying. The bad news is it's a massive download (over 20 gig) and it's only access for during this weekend. When I left the less expensive restaurant tonight (after downloading yesterday and today) it showed 6 gig left, so currently my odds look pretty decent at making it by the weekend. But, I am downloading it way slow compared to in a home. I'm getting 0.5 to 1 gig an hour, compared to in a home where I'd get at least 2 an hour, and I think up to 3 or more depending. I'm going to be spending far more time and money at the less expensive restaurant and going over budget this weekend. I suppose it's all right. If we assume \$5 extra a day, that's about \$25 extra for the weekend. But, that may save me between \$65 and \$115+ in spending if it 'proves' I won't like the game enough to pass on getting it. I have a feeling it will just be 'meh', and with my current situation I can't afford games that are meh.

When I left, one of the servers that's there pretty regularly shared a laugh with me. He and another guy were being silly with me about how much I'd been there lately. He said, "So, probably see you tomorrow, eh?" And I laughed, sighed, and said, "yeeaaaa, probably." I chatted for a bit about how I'm trying to download something. They have a good laugh with me because they like me and because I sit in a remote corner, so they

forget about me or don't see me when they start their shift, so they are always like 'woah, I didn't see you / forgot you were here.' hehe.

At the bus stop I chatted with a cute girl that smelled nice for a few minutes about the bus schedule. She said her name and I said mine. No doubt she was just being friendly and maybe a bit nervous about being at a bus stop with a guy in the dark at night.

A pretty sad and plain day. I checked for cars and got no replies. I checked for jobs. I did finish Pure Pwnage on Hulu, which is awesome since I think it's been like 2+ years since they started their show on TV and it was restricted to Canada only. So now we finally get to watch those and get at least somewhat caught up. It's very different than the web series. They are restarting and going a somewhat different direction. Hopefully it will get back to the old style pretty quick. No doubt it's to appeal to a non-gaming audience and bring them up to speed as it were.

Anyways... feeling super sad lately about everything. I have my small things that make me smile, but at the end of the day when my system is off, I'm hiding in the dark alone, I have no bed to sleep in, and no home to keep me warm. 😞 At the end of the night all I have are my memories and my lingering sadness. 😞

## Day 1227 - 11/10

### Noob at life

I feel like such a failure at life lately. 😞 People did appreciate some comments I made about gaming stuff, and I know my knowledge, thoughts, and perspective are appreciated, but... when days like today pass by I feel like I'm failing at everything. 😞 I made several checks for cars. Nothing. I made a check for jobs. Nothing. I thought I finished the huge client download for the test that opens tomorrow and is only open for three days, but no. After uncompressing the files it said it wanted *another* nearly 8 gig, which is another estimated 10+ hours of downloading, putting completion sometime around Saturday late morning or early afternoon.



Friends I connect with online seem to be getting on with their lives. They are having kids, kids are growing up, they are getting new jobs, new homes, yet I seem

completely stuck. The one thing I'm really good at *is* appreciated and wanted, but I'm not paid for it. Noone cares about me in what I can do for a job. And so I'm stuck. Nothing changing. Nothing improving. Just more sad and more failure the more that time passes.



## Day 1228 - 11/11

### Gaming day

Today was a pretty good day for gaming.  I picked up Skyrim at the ex-house and went to the less expensive restaurant to continue downloading the beta client. I'm very super happy someone got it for me. I'm having a lot of fun, and I expect I'll have lots more in the days to come, as it's designed around being replayable.  The beta client isn't quite done yet, but will be tomorrow in the early morning. Of the hours I could have played I'll lose about 1/6<sup>th</sup> due to how long it's taken me to download.

Other than lots of play time with Skyrim my day was pretty bad and sad. There were no car ads to reply to, nor any job ads, nothing outside of my gaming life changed. One of the people at the restaurant chatted with me about gaming, so that was good and a bit different, but that was it really.

Things are happy now, and I'm smiling. But as the night goes on my smile will fade. And as the days and weeks pass I'm sure my extreme depression will return. But for now I have a new world to escape to, and it is fun, and happy, and that, at least, is something to help keep me going while things are sad.

## Day 1229 - 11/12

### Still do not want

Today was pretty good overall, but still very sad. I finished my test client download just before lunch. I'd been playing Skyrim for a few hours prior to that. The rest of the day I spent mostly playing the test, but also watching some shows. All in all for a

homeless life it was a "good" day. I got to have quite a bit of fun and nothing new went wrong.

However, I was alone. I expected to be during my single player game, but I didn't get in contact with any of the ex-guildies who were also in the test. About four or more are in there, so there should have been a decent chance to see one. In addition to my general loneliness there were no cars to send replies to, and no jobs to be found, meaning my life would remain unchanged yet another day, and in fact, another weekend, as there will be even fewer posts tomorrow.

As always it seems these days, though I have my games to bring me a bit of cheer and help me stay indirectly connected to people, I still feel alone, sad, and wonder if I will ever be able to experience my days as I would have liked – sharing my game with others, being able to play with my 5.1 speaker set I have with triple monitor, able to cook healthy foods for lunch and dinner, able to watch my shows on my entertainment system, and, at the end of the night, going to sleep in a warm comfy bed.

## **Day 1230 - 11/13**

### **Can you imagine**

My day basically started in the coffee shop when I was setting up my system. As I was getting settled I overheard some people talking. One person said to his companion, "Can you imagine a world where you *can't* get up, take a shower, and go get a coffee after?" I thought to myself, "Why yes, quite easily. That's been my life for nearly 3.5 years now."

The less expensive restaurant has become my new weekend home. I suppose that may change back after I get a car, but they don't mind my being there at all. Plus, on Saturday I can get a burger half-off, which is a pretty big burger, so that makes it \$2.50ish. Sure, fries are a bit expensive at \$2.50, but I think they are fresh there. Though they don't taste like they were done in the healthier cooking style. And too I can get a refillable drink. It's a bit pricy too at nearly \$2, but if I get three cups worth it's paid for itself. (I do about 1 per 1-1.5 hours, so it's always covered.) And I can do lemonade there;

it doesn't have to be soda. It's also good because then I don't have to buy/carry drinks around everywhere on those days. Drinks add up fast in weight.

My test weekend is over now. I only had access for this weekend. I can't talk about it yet, but of the total open 55 hours I could have played if I could connect 24/7 I played about 10-12. It was... enough to come to a few conclusions. I will say it's a decent enough game, but in my current homeless state not one that I'd pick up.

I played a fair bit of Skyrim today too. I like it a lot. I'll play a ton more in the quiet time in the school library. Right now my ears are still ringing from the music in the restaurant and songs echoing in my head. It's a peaceful enough environment. I'm mostly alone in my side room, but, as always for public spaces, things are too bright, too cold, too loud, and often times a swirl of constant movement.

There was one car ad reply, but this one is about 3rd or 4th down in the type I like. And the car's price is \$1800, the max of my entire budget, leaving nothing for paying the title transfer. The guy did not give his address or a time to see it, so so far it's going nowhere.

I'm very glad I have my games back in my life – windows to other worlds. Gaming is in my mind, my heart, and now literally with me wherever I go. Though I constantly worry. What if my system were stolen? What if it were spilled on by someone? What if I dropped it either totally on accident, or as someone nearly once did, bump into it in a way that knocks it off the table? So much worry. 😞

My health seems to be getting worse too. I think I'm getting heavier again. Likely due to the larger portion sizes at the less expensive restaurant and cafeteria compared to micro foods. The micro food is very difficult to get these days, as I can only really carry a few due to weight, and I don't want to go out of my way to a store every other day. My ankle seems to still be getting better, but the inner bump part still feels bruised, and is still sore, stiff, and tender at times.

For now I survive; physically and emotionally. But how much longer will my laptop stay safe? How long before I'm in a car and getting regular amounts of sleep again? How long before I find more work, or a new job, or a solid career path so I can get re-established in a home? How long before I start to emotionally lose it for good? For now I survive... and that is all I can say about myself. 😞

## **Day 1231 - 11/14**

### **Special podcast**

Nothing much happened today. School Internet was total fail again. I couldn't connect at all. I had to use my phone to check email. In theory I have a car viewing set for Friday or Saturday. I'll know more when the guy replies. The car will be all of the money I have, which is risky, so I'm going to try to be super careful with this purchase.

The only positive things today were that I got to play my game a lot at school in the quiet of the library, and at work I got extra time to do podcasting. I couldn't think up what to say for podcast 32 (which leaves me only one recording session if it's to go out on time, eek!) so I did some stuff on the beta I was in. I have to edit it, but that will be all ready to go once the NDA drops. I suppose that's something.

Since school wireless hasn't at all been working I'll probably skip going tomorrow and just pick up a prescription and look for winter shirts, then go to the less expensive restaurant early. I have been making it a regular thing there on Tuesdays to post Epic Fail since the school has been so much fail. Easy enough to go early and do things like my online work for my friend and watch my class video. Plus, if I get a soup that's \$3, which isn't too bad. A cafeteria food would be more, so I 'save money' compared to that. Micro food would be \$2-2.50, but I get more there at the restaurant, plus the refillable drink, so I can just get that and extend its charges/respawns as it were.

That's it for today. Hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 1232 - 11/15**

### **Winter shirts at last**

Finally, after years of checking the store they had the winter / house shirts I like. I got three, so hopefully they will last ok. I started my homeless time with three I think and they got all used up in that first year just about. The last has lasted until now, but its left elbow has no material. I should have probably gotten more, but at nearly \$20 each they

were a bit pricier than I expected. Plus, I really have no clothing storage space to speak of what with being homeless and all.

It's only just now about 4, later than I thought, but that's really my day. No news back from that guy for the Friday / Saturday car. I did send a second reply to someone who re-posted a cute tracker, but it is really out of my price range at \$2k. Plus, they live about 45 miles across the bay from me, over near where I got stranded for the LAN, so getting there would be extremely difficult and time consuming. I guess we'll see what pans out.

For now my life is stable. I'm still very sad, but my games are distracting me for the moment. As always lately I wonder how much longer this will go on before I return to a normal life. It seems like I will never return, and that the old me will never be again. 🙄



## Week 177

### Day 1233 - 11/16

#### Dodger

It's technically the wee hours of Thursday morning. Nothing happened during my day. I got enough bandwidth at school to run about three car checks and a job check. There were two that replied, both dummy heads. The first is claiming that 100k of the 160k miles were "tow miles", meaning the car hadn't been driven. While I suppose that's possible, it seems very unlikely. Next she says that fixing a leaky gasket "isn't a big deal". Well, maybe not for a mechanic, as it's a \$75 part, but for the rest of us that's an estimated \$750-1000 repair from what I can research. So, no, I'll pass on that one. The next dummy head is asking over bluebook value for a car that not only has a like \$200 fix it ticket, but a salvaged title for "the little back door damage" that he fixed. I'm pretty sure cars aren't changed to a salvage title unless the damage exceeds the bluebook. Which means that little door damage was unlikely to be all that's wrong, as the bluebook value is \$1700, so no, without a mechanic's diagnostic certifying the engine and body are ok I'll pass.

I played my game a lot today at school, so that was happy. And, I finished getting the special beta test podcast ready for when the NDA is lifted. Though I had a great time I was very sad and lonely. I wish I had others to play and share with.

After I went to hide for the evening it rapidly got even more sad. As I said, it's now the wee hours of the morning and I'm only just now able to sneak into sanctuary. I had to basically stand/sit out in the cold until it seemed clear. It was cold. My feet got so sore from standing and sneaking around for 5 hours. And I got a few scares as roughly six police patrols went by me at slower speeds. (Possibly a "man hunt" going on of some kind.)

So, it seems today has been a sad reminder of just how out of control and out of my hands my life is. 😞

## Day 1234 - 11/17

### My character's home

Today was pretty much the same as all the others. I looked for cars and found none. I looked for jobs and found none. I theoretically have a time and place to go see the car that responded to me. It's across the street from the college, so it shouldn't be much more than 5 minutes walk away. Though the guy didn't give me his number, nor did he confirm a lower price would be ok, so I'm not going to hold my breath.

I bought my character a home today in Skyrim. I've been meaning to as I need the storage for dragon stuff. But, it asked if I wanted furniture. I figure I needed bed stuff and living room stuff, so I got that. I took my key and headed off to find my house in the city. It's a very simple home from the outside, just like I like. But when I went inside I shed a tear. My character is half way through his life basically. He's been running around on quests, doing dungeons, and trying to help people. He's so tired. He hardly ever has a place to rest. More tears fell. I went upstairs to see if my storage was there. It was; right next to the nicely covered and made bed. Everything I needed was there waiting for me. And there was a sweet roll treat on the end table, welcoming me home. There were more tears. I had to pause for a few minutes and wipe away my tears.

I can't stop. I can't rest. I never have a place to stay. But at least now my character can. He has a home. He has a place he belongs. A place to rest. A place to put his things. And he even has a spare room with a smaller bed in case someone needs to stay. I can't have a home, but at least my character can.

## Day 1235 - 11/18

### Still no car

Not much really great to say about today. I finally met the guy about the car. It didn't seem like a safe purchase. It was higher mileage than the last two that died, and the engine shook when it was running. I've owned that kind of car before and it's not supposed to shake. The guy said it had done that since their transmission rebuild. It didn't seem trustworthy. 🙄

I did get extra time to work on podcasting, so I rambled out podcast 32. I'm surprised it was the regular length. I didn't figure there was that much to say, but I guess there was, so that was happy.

My evening at work was ok. I got to play and it was an uneventful evening. I'm sad though my car search continues, but I guess it's better that then have something that may or may not work ok.

## **Day 1236 - 11/19**

### **Almost cried**

Not much to say about today. I was very sad about not having a car still, and that there really aren't any other to reply to. I suppose I could have trusted the guy and not been in this position, but I just didn't feel right. But the holidays are coming. It's likely fewer cars will be able to be found. And I'm so very tired of walking. I'm so very tired of being without a home. I'm so very tired of eating not very healthy foods and being out of good shape physically and emotionally.

When I left the less expensive restaurant to go to the bus to get to sanctuary I teared up a little. I didn't have full tears but I was very sad. I'm so very sad about my life and how it seems to be falling apart more and more. Though I'm extremely grateful I have the ex-garage to keep my stuff in and a few emergency sanctuaries I can sneak into and stay dry and off the street. The clock is always ticking and the odds those will remain grows slimmer, and the fight for my physical and mental survival becomes more and more difficult the less I have.

## **Day 1237 - 11/20**

### **One headphone**

Today was ok I guess. It rained off and on, but not directly on me, so that was good. Someone pointed out that the NDA for Star Wars: The Old Republic doped, so I got to put up that podcast.

In sad news there was barely any car posts, and none really to reply to. That's not a surprise though. I didn't expect any what with it being Sunday and all.

But in other sad news it seems one of my headphone ears is broken and no sound is coming out. What's worse is that I've only been heavily using the headphones about six months. I guess all of the winding and unwinding of the cord several times a day finally wore it down. And with it only being six months really (with only rare use prior to that) it would probably be unwise to get another wired pair. The wireless ones I want are \$150 not on sale, currently reduced to about \$115 (unstated reason why). Which is far too much for me to spend without worry that it is going to put a dent into my car money. I do have my phone headphones, which are ok, but they are nowhere near the quality of decent gaming headphones like the ones I had. Well, I guess I can hope someone gets them off my wish list for me at some point, or I suppose worst case scenario I can get them around February when my tax money comes (if I've gotten the car by then.) This, at least, isn't the end of the world, as seems the case with so many other losses in my life. But still, not having gamer headphones is going to greatly reduce my enjoyment of both gaming and my TV shows. 😞 (Not only are they better quality overall, but it's very hard to hear the lower volume cheap headphones that came with my phone.) At least, I suppose, once I do get the nice wireless ones they should, in theory, be fine and last until I'm re-established in a home.

I suppose an ok day overall, as I spent it gaming in shops that didn't mind me hanging around, but sad that now my life's enjoyment ability has again been lowered. 😞

## Day 1238 - 11/21

### Nap day

Nothing really special about today other than I was able to nap a bit in the library in the morning. Normally my arms fall asleep and I can only nap about an hour, but today I napped a couple. 😊 The day went pretty quick. I did a few car searches and job searches. There were a few cars to reply to, but I didn't hear back.

Nothing else really happened today. I did have enough bandwidth at work to do my online work for my friend, so that was awesome, saved some time there. Tomorrow I really need to try and do laundry. It's been far too long. There is so much that it's going to be a total pain in the butt though since I'm on the bus / foot. I'll grab some tools too and see if I can jerry-rig my headphones back into working so I can still use them.

Well, I guess what tomorrow is will happen tomorrow.

## Day 1239 - 11/22

### A sad start

Today had a bit of a sad start. I'm lugging around my big cloths bag to do laundry. It's probably been weeks. 🤢 For more than a year I've just left the bag in the ex-garage where my stuff is safe and sound, and visit every day or two to get clean cloths, leaving dirty clothes in the car. It's so sad having to lug the big heavy bag around.

Also, I grabbed tools to check out the headphones. They seem unfixable. There is a single small wire running the length, and I'm guessing the fault lies in the connection to the speaker. I can't get to that section without causing serious damage to the housing, making it unusable after. So, I had to throw them away. 😞 Something I've had nearly the entire time I was homeless being used up before I get re-established seems... terribly sad.

I expect cloths to be, but items like headphones I thought would last. 😞

It's almost noon and I'm in the middle of laundry. I'm so hungry. 😞 I went back to the ex-garage for stuff, so that's why I got sort of a late start as it were.

Hopefully the rest of my day will be happy though. 😊 One thing I grabbed at the ex-house was Batman: Arkham City. Also, there is a podcast I listen to waiting to be downloaded, and there should be a few shows for me to watch one I do finally get to the less expensive restaurant. (Though I expect my tables near power will be blocked by lunchers. 😞) So hopefully my day that started sad and troubled will turn out ok.

My life seems tolerable lately, neither overly good or bad, but certainly plagued by more troubles than usual it seems.

Have a good Turkey time everyone. 😊 Be extra nice to those you don't see very often, for life is fragile and time will pass quicker than you may think.

## **Week 178**

### **Day 1240 - 11/23** **Impending sad**

Today was ok I guess, considering it was a day being homeless with Thanksgiving tomorrow. There were no car postings, which is not surprising being the day before a long holiday weekend. I expect posts won't start showing up until Tuesday or possibly Wednesday.

Tomorrow will be tough. In past Turkey days I've had a car, so it wasn't too tough, but this time I'll have to be extra careful of what I eat and where I hide. I will be fine in a sanctuary I'm sure, but still.

I'm not sure what else to say. I have a few new games to keep me happy and distracted lately, but with holidays based around celebrating loved ones, family, and progress and stability in life, things are extra sad for me since I have none of those things, and may never again. 😞

### **Day 1241 - 11/24** **Thanksgiving, not**

Thanksgiving, but not for me. There are no newborn children, no cousins I've never met, no relatives with new inlaws/boyfriends/girlfriends, no football playing too loudly, no new games being shown to friends, no friends, no sweetie, no table with too much Turkey and three pumpkin pies because everyone brought one but noone thought to bring whip cream.

I am alone. I am cold. I am uncomfortable. But at least I have my games now. At least my stuff and my bunnies are stored somewhere I know they are safe and I can visit. At least my health isn't too terrible.

I hope people out there reading, and indeed everywhere, do have that normal Thanksgiving weekend and a good time with life. Noone should be alone like me. Noone should have to suffer through being homeless without help.

At least if it has to be someone I am glad it's me, for there are so very many out there who could not survive in my position. 😞

## Day 1242 - 11/25

### The pain in the tooth and the nice kitty

Today has a sad story and a cute story. The day itself though was uneventful. I spent the day at the less expensive restaurant playing my games and trying to get ready for the Star Wars: The Old Republic weekend beta.

The sad story is about a tooth that hurts. I won't talk about it much, as my teeth are one of the things I've been most sad about throughout my life. But, yesterday while eating a cold turkey sandwich (that's what my Turkey day meal was 😞) as I bit down there was some pretty bad pain, as if I'd fractured yet another tooth. Feeling around with my finger I can't find any change in the structure (of what's left) in that area. Pushing up on them doesn't trigger it. It only happens if I have solid food and bite down. I think what happened is some cold turkey hit a nerve and triggered a super heightened sensitivity. Hopefully it will continue to subside to normal pain levels. It may also be one has lost its insides but it's shell remains, and that's why I can't feel it with pushing. Anyways 😞, sad reminder about my ever deteriorating teeth. 😞

The cute story was that I was at the ex-garage and I heard a meow on the other side of the garage door. It had the, 'help, I'm stuck outside my warm home and don't know how to get back in' sound to it, so I went out to see. There was a big orange kitty that let me pet them. I said hi and asked if they were Copper, a kitty that belongs to the friend/ex-roomie. The kitty pushed against me as I pet them. I scooped them up into my arms and scratched their chin. They purred and let me kiss them as they pushed against me. I carried the purring kitty the like 35 feet to the front door and rang the doorbell. No answer. I carried them the 30-40 feet around to the back of the house. They had a worried 'raaarr' when I started to go around back, but I soothed them and said, 'Why are you worried? Isn't this your home?' When I got to the back and looked inside Copper was there looking outside from the couch. I looked at the kitty in my arms and said, 'If you



aren't Copper who are you?' I kept scratching their chin and carry them back to where I found them. The kitty leapt down to the ground. I pet them a few more times before saying bye. I hope they are safe and sound back in their home. Such a nice and friendly kitty has to be an indoors kitty. 😊

That's it for me. My life remains sad. There are more car postings than I expected, but still either no replies to my response to their ads or they are obviously bad purchases. Things like, "Runs fine, but there is smoke." Well, no, smoke means it is far from fine. Or things like it's not smogged or registered indicating that it likely isn't going to pass or has overdue fees. (Here in California you are required to smog a vehicle within 2 months before or after a change of owners.)

I try to remain hopeful about life, but it seems things in my life that are worsening are reminding me that they are constantly there, and things that could change are not changing, my health overall continues to feel like I'm not doing so good inside... these things make me worried that I may never recover. 😞

## **Day 1243 - 11/26**

### **Extreme pain**

Last night I was in extreme pain from my bunk tooth. 😞 It became unbearable for a while and I was nearly in so much pain to be crying uncontrollably. I did have a few tears, which, well, I can't remember more than two other times in my entire life that I was in so much pain I was crying from it. (Once was when I was like five with a 105F fever, and once more like 7-8 years ago when I had a bad tooth that had fractured and lost about 1/3 of its mass.)

The rest of my ay was fairly meh. Since I still have no car I spent more than 12 hours in constant noise, overly bright lights, and almost constant motion around me. I was in my own world though, playing my games and watching some shows. Things are very tough though with my phone headphones. Sounds are... scratchy? metallic? And I have to always use the volume booster no matter what I do just to hear things, which pretty seriously alters the sound. I'm hearing stuff that should be in the background in the

foreground. It's almost like being two feet tall and behind the actors instead of head height several feet in front of them.

I suppose my life isn't intolerable. I *can* be indoors. I *can* always have access to the Internet while in such places. They *are* dry and reasonably warm. I *do* have non-aspirin type medicine to try to make my tooth pain tolerable. Nothing (else) has gotten worse, and I *do* have some games. (Though a new dumb security layer seems to be preventing me from getting in to this weekend's test of Star Wars: The Old Republic, so I'm going to miss out on that.) I suppose my life could be far worse, and as sad and bad as it seems, I do still have much more than some in the world. 😞

## Day 1244 - 11/27

### Constant extreme pain

Last night was pretty bad. From about midnight until 2 AM I was in extreme pain. It was so bad that for a good portion of that time I was crying from how much it hurt. 😞 This was worse than any of the pain from my broken ankle. At least that, while very awful, was bearable and brief. The pain got so bad last night that for most of that time about 1/6th of my entire jaw was numb from the pain, if that makes any sense. Basically the entire upper right quadrant of teeth, a bit of the lower jaw, and the area of the skull/jaw up to my cheekbone was pulsing with pain. It subsided enough to finally get some sleep, but it returned in the morning and it's been there all day. I'm overdosing on pain medication and it's ranged from bearable to being on the verge of tears. I haven't nailed it down to anything yet in terms of a reason, but it seems to be worse with external temperature, and to a lesser extent internal. The warm salt water rinse method didn't help. My guess is this is likely a growth phase. Crazy thing to think at my age, but it has a similar feel and conditions. For the longest time, from about when I was 12 until my late 20s, every year to every other year around September to November, one or both sides of my jaw would hurt like this. Again, having pulsing pain up near the jaw where my cheekbone is. My jaw is very small and when I was very young a dentist said I should remove some teeth or they could crash into each other when I was older. I wonder if this is what's been happening all these years and if I had if this wouldn't have happened. The

bottom row was aligned once upon a time, and now several are crooked and kind of mashed into others.

I tried to distract myself all day with gaming and shows and such, but it was difficult. As I said, the pain varied between tolerable (but very apparent) and barely on the tolerable side of being on the verge of tears. Really I'm only holding it together because there isn't anything I can do about it. With no insurance a dentist would easily take all my car money and more. And even if I did want to go in and have them look, there aren't any locally which are open today or Monday. If it is a growth phase, if it is something shaken up, if it is a dying root, the pain should subside in a week or less. I'm praying it subsides much sooner. It is such terrible pain. 😞

When I started writing this my pain was barely noticeable, but now it is starting to throb and hurt a lot. I'll stop writing as there isn't really much to say. I need to try and distract myself again and not focus on it. It won't go away, but it seems more bearable if I have anything else to think about. I pray it lessens enough to sleep. 😞 With how bad it's been today when I try and sleep and have no distractions it will likely become unbearable to the point that all I will be able to do is cry. 😞

## **Day 1245 - 11/28**

### **Maximum dose**

The pain was better today. It seems to be going back towards its normal dull low level of pain that I've had my whole life. It's been ranging from tolerable to bad. It's only neared extreme a few times. Hopefully in a few days I'll be off the pain meds entirely. Today I'm at just a hair over the maximum recommended dose, so that should be good.

There were a few cars to reply to, so that's promising, but it's been the same constant batch of non-replies and dummy heads.

I did some rush work on podcast 34. It was my only chance to record for it, so it will probably wind up being a bit short. Hopefully it will still be interesting to people. 😊

Nothing else really to talk about today. 😞

## Day 1246 - 11/29

### Somewhat normal

It's just after 1:30 and my pain level has been tolerable so far today. It's almost down to normal. I'm not going to risk eating on that side for a while, just in case, but hopefully within a few days I'll be off the meds entirely.

I did some last recording for podcast 34 today. Editing it sounded very weird, as I'm still on my phone earphones, which sound very different than my dead headphones. It is a bit short; maybe 25% shorter than normal, but hopefully it's ok.

That's really it for today. I'll go ahead and post things, as I don't expect anything will change. This past fail week has been a pretty crazy whirlwind of having no car, getting dumb replies or no replies, and daily routine upsets due to the days off for the holiday; not to mention the past few days I've been in bad pain from the tooth/jaw pain.

Then too last week I lost my headphones. 😞

Tough times for me lately. 😞 Hopefully everyone out there is having a much better time and had a good Turkey day.

**Day 1247 - 11/30**  
**Just about settled to normal**

Not much to talk about for today. My day didn't even really start until after dinner at 6 at night. Prior to that I had zero Internet at school. School is nice because the library is quiet and the cubbies are private. There is no blaring music or overly harsh lights. But on days like today and Monday, where there is effectively zero Internet connectivity I wonder if it's worth being there.

I put out a few replies to cars, so I suppose that's something. One guy was so dumb though, he replied back, "With so many questions you should just come look at the car and answer them yourself." Really? I can get answers to questions like, "Why are you selling the car?" and "Are you the original owner?" By looking at the car? Seriously, if I know why you are selling the car by looking at it then it likely is in a condition noone would buy it. That's dumb to say someone can get the answers by looking at it. That's dumb to say someone can get the answers by looking at it. Likely this guy saw I had questions, then didn't really read them. Another dummy head said he refuses to smog it until he has a solid buyer. Really? Or is it more likely the case that's just what you told me when I said it's required by law when it changes hands and when it doesn't pass smog after selling it to someone who doesn't know that you'll just say, "Sorry, I didn't know it wouldn't pass. Too bad for you." Ug. I'm so tired of dummy heads and mean / selfish sellers.

The tooth pain has settled back down to its minimal levels just about. I'm taking meds as a preventative measure. I don't think I really need them, but I'll continue through tomorrow just in case. It seems, due to gentle testing, to be sensitive to pressure, as in air / spatial pressure. Which leads me to believe it is indeed a sore root, and not due to the crack / fracture that has been on that one side for as long as I can remember. Hopefully it will return to normal, or the pain nerve will shut off (as so many others have) in time and I won't have to worry about it in the near future. My teeth have always been my most sensitive and sad feature about me since I've never had the money to do anything about them. Had my parents said it was ok not to use the toothpaste (it always makes me gag

and choke), just to brush super super well and sometimes use mouthwash, who knows. This probably wouldn't have happened. But I never got positive alternatives. It was always do it right or don't do it.

I'm very hungry lately. 😞 I have no snacks. 😞 With no car having them is difficult. I can store some in the ex-garage, but carrying groceries is difficult, as I can only carry one, maybe two, bags in a trip. And weight is a far more limiting factor. In a car it's not an issue, but without, food storage is just about impossible.

My mind wanders to days in a home a lot lately. I'd always have at least two, sometimes three or more snacks to choose from. I'd have chips or crackers and cheese, often at least one cereal, animal or other cookies, and an ice cream or pie. I'd always have at least two items to pick from, and I'd rotate which I'd have. But at the moment I have none of those. And although I had some pie during Turkey weekend, I struggle to remember the time before. I think it has to be a full year back to the Turkey weekend before.

So much of what was once my life is missing now. And, as more and more days pass, I wonder if I will ever have them again.

## **Day 1248 - 12/1**

### **The fractured self**

I've been feeling sick. Not from my tooth having the dull ache of something being stuck there not from lack of sleep, but something else I think. I feel so very sad and alone lately. I know people out there care for me and want to see me get better and get back to a normal life, but I feel so very alone. During the day things are manageable. I can be a shadow of my former self, blending in with others. But at night until late morning I am not. I do not belong. I have nowhere to go to. I drift, or else I must stay somewhere too long. I have no choice.

Everything wears me out. Light and sounds are so intense. Walking is so tiring. My feet are so sore. I'm tired of dirty cloths all the time because I have to wear cloths 24/7 and can't wash them easily. I'm tired of not being able to shower regularly. I'm tired of there being no point in showering regularly because I have to walk everywhere and

wear dirty cloths. I'm tired of meh, bad, or worse food options. I'm tired of not having privacy where I can be and do what I want. I'm tired of everything in my old life being restricted, limited, or reduced if I try to do them now.

I want to sleep until I wake up without need to be up at a certain time. I want to have private quiet space that is undisturbed. I want to be able to shower and wear clean cloths and smell nice. I want to store and cook healthy foods. I want to game and watch shows in a comfortable manner. I want to be at peace, and free.

Such simple things, but I cannot have them. 😞

## Day 1249 - 12/2

### The tiny home

Jenese of the Grey Area podcast got me a tiny home. 😊 It's a handmade jewelry from a place in Oregon and it looks almost identical to the ones I've used on the cover of book three and four. It's a necklace, so I could wear it, but I'm not sure what to do with it. On the one hand I could wear it and it could bring me hope for a better tomorrow and the reminder that there are people out there who care about me, think about me, and care what happens to me. On the other, it might serve as a reminder of what I'm missing in my life, things that are often in the foreground of my thoughts as it is already. Plus, the longer I would wear it the more I would worry it would permanently become associated with just the sad times in my life, the terrible time I was homeless. And there is always the risk of damage or being lost if I wear it, which would make me extra sad. But too, I'm worried that in with storage it may become lost and forgotten. I don't know what to do with it. It's not a movie, so I wouldn't just go with other movies, pleasantly re-found when I'm back in a home if I did forget about it. It's not a game, to be installed, played, and enjoyed. So, I don't know. I fear that so many small and precious things may be lost along the way during this terrible journey. 😞

## Day 1250 - 12/3

### The fast unwanted day

Today passed very quickly. It seems just hours ago it was, well, now, but yesterday. I didn't really do anything today. Like yesterday I ran around and around and around in circles trying to find car ads to reply to. It's crazy how time consuming it can be when I check then go back and recheck older ads every few hours.

I tried to watch a few shows in the evening while I was at the less expensive restaurant, but the Internet cut out. It cut out at roughly the same time and same day as it did last time. So something is definitely up, because it doesn't drop that close and in the same way if there is a random issue. This is likely something the server is doing, or that their ISP is doing; maybe a monthly event. It wouldn't be that predictable if it weren't a scheduled thing.

I suppose I can't complain. I mean, sure, I can, but this is my life. I *am* without my own Internet; I *am* without my own car, so this is what must happen. Troubles and limitations must be accepted as a part of it. And it will likely continue for some time as well.

I had a dream I was with a sweetie and we were getting ready to go to a LAN event. But it was when I was living my rabb1t life "full time" after winning lottery money. I had met her in the L.A. area where I'd moved to. So, if this were a vision of the future (as some of my dreams have been) it may be a while for it to come true, as I have not yet won enough money to live my happy rabb1t life. 😞

For now my life remains sad. Things that should be simple and easy, like doing laundry, are incredibly difficult and exhausting. I am not looking forward to it. My life is poor, and after dreams where I am free, when I wake up I feel all the more trapped. 😞

## Day 1251 - 12/4

### Cold all day

Little to talk about today except for that I was cold all day. The place I sit in the less expensive restaurant is a bit colder than the rest of the place, but today it seemed like



it was blowing cold air. The manager person said that I could take a look at the Internets. They were still broken this morning. Sure enough, unplugging the wireless router to reset it worked. He didn't want to risk doing it himself. I guess the registers connect to somewhere over the Internet. But, that router is connected to a hub, and the landlines on it only go from the hub to it, and from it to an Internet radio (that connects to the stereo system). So, sure enough, unplugging just that router worked. I didn't do much on it today, but I did get to do the car searches and watch some shows (that I don't normally watch) during dinner.

I looked for cars and put out replies for about four I think. Only one replied back so far, and he was being dumb about it getting smogged first. Really? Why do these people with cars that supposedly "run good" think I'd be trusting enough to buy a car that isn't already smogged recently. Oh sure, it's like \$50-75 depending, but if your car really is fine, if it really is what you claim, and you price it anywhere close to blue book value, there is no reason it can't sell in a week. Heck, there was one guy that replied his car was sold and I'd gotten that email within about three hours of his post. This and people not replying at all to my replies are the biggest stumbling blocks I'm facing. I'm willing to accept that I will have to settle for a car with faded paint, imperfect interior, and very likely something that just looks meh overall. But I don't get why people are unwilling to 'prove' their car "runs fine" by having a smog, or by even being registered. (There seems to be a bunch of unregistered and unsmogged cars lately who claim the car is fine.) One guy even said he needed to sell his car to pay off a suspended license. Really? So, what, you'll have your license back but no car? That makes no sense (unless you have 'extra' cars.)

I signed up for classes the other day. Neither class seemed like something I would really want or find interesting, but they are entry level / required for the networking path. I really hope I can win some money to do what I want and get out of these slow paths to careers that seem unlikely to help. Though doing network admin stuff could make me happy, it would be years, even if I could go to school full time, before I was certified to do anything. And even then, would anyone touch someone with no network admin experience? I'd much rather be spending those approximately 10-15 hours a week over the next few months learning cascading style sheets or maybe a scripting language to make my site cooler, faster, and flow better for everyone.

I guess today and all the plans I make really just add up to my spending my life not how I'd like, and having little to no control or choice in changing it for the better. 😞

## **Day 1252 - 12/5**

### **Uneventful day**

Today was basically uneventful. I have a hard time even remembering what I did when I was at school. I spent too much time looking through car ads, checked for jobs, and spent a few hours playing games. Work went ok, as usual. I did get an unexpected window to do some podcasting, so that was good, as I basically finished podcast 35. And, it's basically the normal 20-25 minutes long, so that's happy since last time was a bit short.

That was really my day. Nothing memorable really happened other than my podcast, which will go out Saturday.

## **Day 1253 - 12/6**

### **A rare ok day**

Today seems pretty ok. I did the final edits for podcast 35 (though I still have one more recording session before it goes out, so I can still change it if I want.) I shared some lols with online friends. I looked for cars, again people are being dumb. It's early afternoon, but I'll likely just do my online work for my friend, play some games, and watch some shows.

Next quarter is going to be lame and sad. I'm not really interested in the classes I'll be taking, and one is from like 1:30-5 Tuesday and Thursday, so that's annoyingly right in the middle of everything. I keep hoping to win some monies in the lottery or find a job that I'm at least moderately happy with. I'm so tired of being on these slow trains nowhere for a career.

With all the continuing and recent fails in my life it's becoming harder and harder to stay positive and remember the happy things I do still have. They are there in my mind and heart, but my sad often overshadows them.

## Week 180

### Day 1254 - 12/7 Do not feel good

I'm feeling more and more sick lately. 🙄 My tummy does not feel good and I've got a pretty bad headache. This winter seems to be weighing on me extra heavy with not having a car, feeling sad about everything in my life, likely worsening blood pressure (construction at school makes it very difficult to get to the machine to check), and all the added stress of yet another winter and another year coming to a close.

I bought a "throw blanket" to help me stay a little warmer. It's super soft and was pretty cheap (\$10). It's a bit smaller than my others I'm using, but hopefully that will be ok. My sanctuaries that I hide in keep me... warm enough... at night. As long as I remain undiscovered they will continue to be a safe place from the elements. It's all the walking and waiting for the bus in the morning and night that is doing the real cold damage to me. That and the times I'm outside of the sanctuary dodging unusual activity.

Once upon a time I could get out of the cold of winter. I'd step outside, go bbbrrrrrr and go back in as quick as I could. I would eat treats for the holidays, sure, but I could cook healthy food like chicken, rice, and veggies, and only eat probably half as much as I often do these days. Stockings would be put up somewhere, I rarely had a chimney, and although I've never been one for big trees with lots of decoration, there would be at least a small tree lovingly cared for. (Though in later years I've become more sad about having them. Even though they are 'just trees', chopping so many down seems sad. It's part of why I started getting smaller ones.)

Now... I'm alone physically. My stockings are in storage. My choice of food is junk, worse junk, meh, and pretty good but very expensive. Lights and trees are signs of a different world I am no longer a part of. They are at the house with warmth, family, friends, and holiday cheer. I am but a shadow in the cold dark, passing by in the night, quite possibly gone forever by morning.

## Day 1255 - 12/8

### A blur of noise

Nothing really happened today. I suppose that's a good thing considering how much bad has gone on in my life lately. Most of my day was spent at the less expensive restaurant. I still feel a bit icky, so even though I knew it would mean I would constantly be subjected to semi-loud music, I decided it was worth it. Now that I know for sure how to reset their Internet it means I would have a solid fairly fast connection compared to the horrid or non-existent speed of school. Also, the couch like booth I sit on is pretty comfy. The school library just has hard wood chairs with no padding. And they have a cheap soup that's super good. (It's \$3, which is more than some soups on sale, but it also isn't a microwave soup.)

Today was a blur of noise. I don't really remember much. I spent most of the day looking for cars. I did do some board surfing and news reading too, and watched a couple of shows in the evening. I only played games for like an hour, which is very unusual for me. Mostly I'm trying to stay focused on getting back into a car, as it is only going to get colder. People are still being stupid about not replying. 🙄 It seems I may not be able to find one before the end of the year. I figure there will be one more week of sale panic to get money for the holidays, but after that I expect the posts (much like the job postings) will drop to just about zero during the holidays.

Well, as always it seems my life is what it is, and without the opportunity for change all my readiness is for nothing.

## Day 1256 - 12/9

### Nothing to say

Nothing much to say for today. It was yet another day of car people not replying. And the one that did, big surprise, had some major repair work needed that was not mentioned in the ad (something about the suspension being bad.)

I started podcast 36, but I have no idea what to say. All the games I'm playing I've talked about. And now that I'm not in an MMO there is really no interaction going on to

talk about. Hopefully I'll think of something or I'll wind up just talking about my sad life, which I don't want to do on a podcast set to release just a few days before Xmas.

I guess that's it for tonight. Maybe there are better days ahead. One can only hope.



## **Day 1257 - 12/10**

### **Not 36"**

Not much to really say about today. I spent the day looking for cars and watching a few shows. Again, due to how much time the car searching took up, I didn't do much gaming. It's ok. I don't feel like I'm missing out. I think part of it too is that I'm getting more depressed as the weather decreases and cheer around me increases.

My pants I got not too long ago that were/are too big now were really annoying me lately. (They tend to fall down even past my butt if I'm standing still.) I couldn't find my belt since I got them until today. To my sad surprise the belt is a few inches short of going all the way around me. I suppose I'm not surprised, as the last time I used it (maybe a year ago?) they barely fit on the last setting. I flipped it over and it showed 36". I've had it forever. I think I was 34" when I first got it. But now, I don't know how big I am, but my cammo pants I got had to be the size that goes up to 40". I don't put it all the way out though. Oh good. My falling down pants show 38", so I must be around 37", not a whole lot bigger than the 35-36" I used to be. I feel a lot bigger though. 😞 I can't get to a scale to check, but I really need to get back in a car so I can go back to my regular eating habit and maybe start exercising a little. (I don't really have the time while riding on the bus, as there are no private times to do it.)

I feel so out of shape, unhealthy, fatter, and sad about, well, everything. 😞

## Day 1258 - 12/11

### An odd day

Today was a bit odd. It started as a normal day, but in the early afternoon I decided to update some games and play one I haven't played in nearly six months. My ex-guild leader was on, so we played a few games as a team and chatted a bit. 😊 I guess it was his birthday today. 😊 I also got an Xmas time card from my ex-guildie friends that check in with me, so that was nice and made me smile. 😊

That was really it. I spent most of the day looking for cars. It's been like six weeks now, which is pretty crazy, but not entirely unusual with my history of getting cars. It would be very nice to get back in a car before the end of the year.

I guess school should be open this week, though it's shut down for three weeks after that. I guess I'll know more tomorrow. Work will be shutting down for a few weeks soon too, but my boss has been super lazy about saying when. Not really surprising now that her forgetting to put the time cards where they go every other week is likely nearing a 60-75% failure rate. Seriously, if it's so hard to remember to spend 15 minutes driving to two locations every other week when the time cards come delegate the duty to someone else. 🙄

While waiting for the bus today it seemed warmer than yesterday. Last night I was coughing and gasping so bad I felt like I was going to throw up. Tonight though I was fine, a bit chilly but I walked at a normal pace and had no cough. Checking the temperature thing on my phone it was just as cold, so maybe I've been getting over being sick or something. Still very sad about my waist size and undoubted heavier weight, and that's not going to get better over the next few weeks to a month while I have no microwave access and no private time to myself. (I really don't know how I'm going to manage podcasting.)

As always, it seems my life is at the mercy of my surroundings, and try as I might they remain unchanged. 😞

## Day 1259 - 12/12

### Not much

Not much to say for today. There was zero Internet connectivity at school, so pretty much all day I couldn't do anything. I made the extra trip to the store to grab a micro dinner and another item I needed. When I got to work I ran a car check. As expected there were hardly any, and none worth replying to. Work went ok. I finished podcast 36, so that's ready to go early unless I think of something else to say. I'll probably put it up early Saturday. (It's not scheduled to go out until Wednesday.)

That was really it. Nothing got better or changed in my life. 😞

## Day 1260 - 12/13

### A nice sound

Nothing changed for today in regular life stuff. Still no cars to reply to. I even took a risky / desperate step of posting a 'please help' post on the sale pages. I got *one* reply in the past 2.5 days it's been up. Job posts, as expected during the holidays, are non-existent.

The good news is that after weeks of suffering through bad sound and needing to max things beyond max and cover my ears just to hear things, I now have good gamer headphones again. 😎 I got some Creative Labs Fatal1ty MKII ones on sale for \$50 down from \$75. They are louder and better sounding than my last pair. (Which were an older version of the next step down from the ones I got.) They have fancier insides and gold plated connectors. I'm mad at myself though because I threw away the nice bag that came with the last one. This one doesn't come with one. It used to, but I guess they stopped doing that.

The day is still pretty early but I don't expect much to happen. Though my car and job situation are not likely to get better anytime soon, at least I have good sound again, so the things I do to distract myself will sound as good as they can again. (Extra important as the next few weeks I'll have no work and not be able to school, meaning I'll always be in

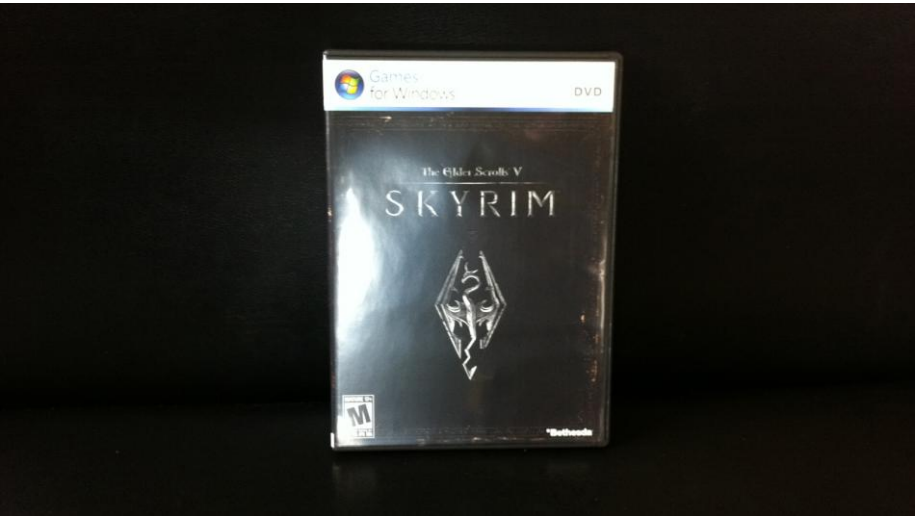
places with constant/loud music blaring.) In my sad times and limited life, at least that is a small something that's positive.



## Picture series 26



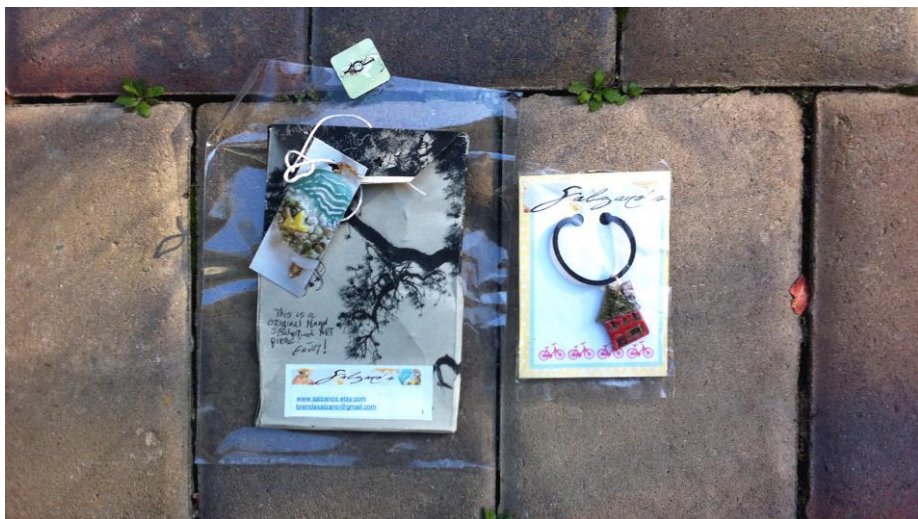
Surprise treat for me from the not-sis' family; Halloween 2011



Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim, so nice a gift! 🥰



Batman: Arkham City



A tiny home for rabbit



So soft an x-mas blankie



So nice a sound

## Week 181

### Day 1261 - 12/14 The terrible day

Today was pretty terrible. While not as terrible as when I broke my ankle, I could be looking at needing to do a full system wipe. Around 2 today I was trying to get some more room on the system by deleting some stuff. One item I tried to delete caused the system to lock up. I tried to start Steam to verify if the game had been deleted, but it too had locked up. I tried again. It locked again. One system lock is bad enough, but multiple risks things getting lost or messed up. I tried deleting Steam and reinstalling and it still locked up. By the time I'd locked like 6 or more times I discovered deep in the system area is a Steam service file that seems to be a ghost file. Nowhere on my system does that file exist, but it shows as available in the system area and I can't get rid of it. I have a very bad feeling it's become corrupt and I'll have to reinstall my entire operating system. And, when I uninstalled Steam it took *all* the games with it. While that isn't a huge loss I suppose, as the ones I would really want to play I have on physical disk and restoring them would just be a bit for patching, some items I don't have a physical disk. And with my download speed it could be a very long time to restore those. I don't even want to think about what restoring the online games will take, which are pretty much like 20+ gig each. Granted I probably don't need to restore them, as I'm not playing any, but it is nice to have them there 'just in case'.

I don't understand why this keeps happening to me. One little improvement in my life, getting nice headphones to replace the ones that died, then, the very next day, I'm having issues which at the very least will require a complete reinstall of my operating system (I already tried a system restore) and at the worst may be a hardware issue and I'll have to send my system in to be RMAed.

I don't understand why I can't have a normal life. Today people spent time starting new characters in Star Wars: The Old Republic, seeing friends or family, buying or exchanging gifts for/with loved ones, getting ready for exciting weekends. But not me. What did I do? I spent half the day nearly in tears because my system is now randomly locking up and nothing I did seemed to fix it and all my data may be at risk. I don't

understand why I couldn't have had a peaceful day. I don't understand why I can't just have a normal life like everyone else. I can't understand why my life seems to be full of never ending suffering and punishment now. 😞

## Day 1262 - 12/15

### In recovery

So, I spent most of today in recovery, as I expected. The super good news is that the system restore and a free registry cleaner I found seem to have cleared up the issue. There were no lockups at all today, Steam is running normally again, and basically I just spent most of today backing up my system. There are still half a dozen things Windows thinks is installed and I get an error from the uninstall utility, but at least it's not a system freeze anymore.

The Steam games are still wiped, so I have to recover them. One that is download only was 30% recovered yesterday, so I'll get that by the end of the weekend. I grabbed the two I'm fairly likely to play on disk, so they should just be an hour or so each to install and patch.

I'm still kind of between games though until February. What I have I've completed, save for one that refuses to run. (Likely due to program incompatibilities since it's a few years old) and one that just keeps being dumb. (I get bad faction with a group every time I play, then I'm constantly attacked by groups of five of them.) So, not really sure what to play. There are still half a dozen older games I've yet to buy and play that I'm behind on, but still needing a car they are very very tough to consider getting.

I guess today didn't turn out so bad. A few hours (maybe 6 so far?) of backing up and checking, then more installing while I can do other things, is very good news compared to the possibility of my system being broken, or at the very least requiring a full format.

Still... my day was not what I would have wanted really, or at least not how I would have wanted it. More than anything I want to be a normal person in a home, doing things and eating types of foods that I did once upon a time.



## Day 1263 - 12/16

### Is this all?

I suppose today worked out ok all things considered. The game I have to download is still going at a decent speed, and the two I recovered by physical disk were recovered without issue. I even still have the save games for the one I was likely to play. So, all I really lost was time, and I got the big scare.

I put out more replies to car ads than usual, but as of early evening I'd only gotten one reply. And the person had only owned the car a few months, so I'm not feeling very good about trusting their knowledge about possible issues.

With all of my trouble and sadness in everything I'm left wondering yet again if this is it for me? Am I to be homeless and alone forever now? If I do ever finally recover is the rest of my life going to continue being meaningless dead-end jobs that barely cover bills and I continue living paycheck to paycheck because I can't find a decent career? Once upon a time I thought graphic arts would be good. I did that for five years and it got me nowhere. I got a degree in Psychology, but again that's done nothing to help me find a career that I'm happy with and pays at least decently. Am I cursed in some imperceptible way? Am I in the wrong area of the country to find such a job that would make me happy? Or is it that all I need is help from the right person, yet they refuse to help, are unwilling, or don't yet know me?

Despite things working out ok with my system I still feel like I live in a different world than everyone else and that my world has no way out and I will remain alone and isolated the rest of my life. 😞 And with how I feel physically lately I fear that will end up being a lot shorter than it otherwise would be. 😞

## Day 1264 - 12/17

### Uncanceled / So sad a bunny

Today I was incredibly sad and lonely all day. As time goes on it's become more and more difficult to cope since change seems to not be coming and my future seems more and more bleak. Although it seemed just meh to me, I decided to pick up a regular

version of Star Wars: The Old Republic. (That is only \$60 vs. the \$150+ of the collector's edition.) I may wind up playing on my own, as I rarely saw my old guild outside of events, but I suppose at least it should help me feel a little less lonely. At the very least there are good stories to be a part of and companion characters to talk to. At the very least it will be a bit of a distraction from my sad and lonely life. Even though that \$60 is still pretty expensive for me, not to mention the \$15 monthly, if I even get a dozen or so hours of distraction it will be a decent purchase. If I can get a few dozen then it will have been just as good as any other single player purchase I've made recently. I don't know how long it will keep my interest, but I need some kind of distraction, some kind of stimulation, some kind of interaction, to help keep me bound to a social place. Without one I feel far too sad, isolated, alone, and lost.

These past few days and weeks have been some of the loneliest and saddest in my whole life. 😞

## **Day 1265 - 12/18**

### **Sad day of busses**

Today was a lot of extra bus time. I covered for someone for 3 hours at work. I probably should have just passed, but I really could use the money. It did mean an extra hour or so total of walking and nearly two hours of bus riding. It's ridiculous that with a car that all would have been reduced to about two minutes of walking and 30 minutes of driving. Speaking of cars, there still has been nothing. I didn't put out any replies today that I recall, and one person who was talking to me did sell to someone else. I'm not real upset about that loss though. It would have been an estimated two hours (each way) by public transport, so I really wasn't looking forward to the possibility of doing that. Plus, while not ugly, I was not at all interested or liked its model and year. It would have rated as 'meh' at best in terms of car looks to me.

Again I was super depressed and sad today. Mostly because of all this lameness with the car. I not only lost 3 hours from the extra busing today, but probably 1-1.5 hours for the regular riding (which likely would have been 45 total minutes of driving for the

entire day by car), not counting lost time I could be at shops doing things instead of going to hide early (because I need to get places before the buses stop running.)

But my life is what it is. 😞 I do not have a good high paying job that allows me to have a home. Since I don't have a home I can't cook good / healthy foods, nor can I participate in special holiday treats. Without a car hours upon hours are lost each day. Without a home or a car regular activities, such as showering and doing laundry, become difficult to impossible to keep on a regular schedule. What could have been a day playing in my new game was not, because getting the early entry client would take an estimated four or more days to have gotten it, nearly the same time as it would be to just wait and get the physical disks. What I have deteriorates and breaks. What does not is limited and restricted to less than it could otherwise be. And as far as me... I wonder if I can ever be whole again, or if I am doomed to fade away in the near future since all that is special and unique about me generally remains unfound by others. And if, when I'm gone, more than just a few will feel my absence.

## **Day 1266 - 12/19**

### **Star Wars eve**

Not much to say about today. I guess it went ok. I got my headphone bag. It's sadly a bit too small. Hopefully it will stretch out a bit to fit well over time. I'm still very mad about myself about that. Yet again an example of something remedied by a 2-3 minute car trip (I thought I should go back to get it within an hour), but since I didn't have the car I didn't want to spend the like 30 minutes walking each way or wait until the once every 45 minute bus went past. My work shift went ok. It was pretty quiet as most aren't coming these days what with the holidays. No cars replied to my replies, and, of course, there were no jobs to apply to.

The only real thing of interest is that tomorrow I get Star Wars: The Old Republic in the mail and hopefully can get it installed and patched before an extra work shift in the evening.

That's really it. I was fairly distracted today, so there hasn't been much time to be overly depressed about things. Of course I am, but at least today didn't seem to




overwhelm me. Though I'm sure in the coming days as more festivities happen and the weather grows colder it undoubtedly will be harder and harder to keep at bay.

## **Day 1267 - 12/20**

### **The lightsaber goes meeeaaarrr**

Today should be pretty good. It's only just now late morning, but today should be pretty busy. I'm installing Star Wars: The Old Republic now, so that should be ready in I'd guess an hour or two. I may or may not have time to play after, as I'm covering a shift tonight. With no car I have to leave hours sooner than I otherwise would.

Hopefully my new game will help distract me from all my sadnesses I have in my life.

 Not much else to say. Hopefully today will be pretty good and I have some better days ahead in the future.

## Week 182

### Day 1268 - 12/21 Fun day

Today was fun for a change. 😊 It's rare for me to get a new game these days to have fun with. I actually had more fun than I expected. I played probably 8 hours today and had a bit of a tough time convincing myself to take a ½ hour break during lunch and a 1 hour break during dinner, so that's a good sign. 😊

There were effectively no car posts today. I mean, yeah there were some, but none I replied to, and far fewer than before. As expected, as we get closer to between Xmas and New Years there are fewer and fewer posts.

For the moment I am distracted. But all day, particularly as a few were talking about gifts in guild chat, I could feel all of my sadness in the back of my mind. It is always there. Sadness I can't play on a desktop system. Sadness I don't have my home theater stuff to watch shows on. Sadness I can't cook healthy foods in just the right sized proportions. Sadness I can't get up, take a warm/hot shower, and put on clean cloths (or at least ones I haven't worn more than as house cloths for a few days.) And above all, sadness I don't have a warm bed and home to sleep in at night. As always lately I still wonder if I will ever recover, and if things stay the same, what will become of me? 😞

### Day 1269 - 12/22 Warm paws

Today was pretty good again. I hardly slept all last night, so I was up pretty early. I was at the coffee shop for a bit and one of the workers and I chatted about the game for a bit while I played. His friends picked the opposite faction of what he wanted too. It's an odd journey. Much like with the Mass Effect games, even when I'm in a position of evil I'm still half good or mostly good, heh. I think I am about 55%/45% on good/evil points right now, so it's interesting seeing how that character's story is turning out. (Though

since most quests are isolated to just that quest, and there seems to be no faction for groups, it seems to have little real impact on the story.)

Playing my games was really my day. There were no cars to reply to, nor did any old ones reply back to me.

Oh, there were a couple of unusual things. My gloves that I ordered about a week ago came, so I have those to hopefully keep my paws warm now. 😊 These are for climbing, so they are extra sturdy fingerless types, so I can wear/use these year 'round. They have padding on the finger middles and back of the hand. So I'm covered if I ever need to do some superheroing. 😊 And in super happy news I was invited to the Diablo III beta. I'd actually almost forgotten I got that invite, as it took effectively the entire day running in the background to download the 5 gig client. So, I've got that to check out. I should have time before work, but we'll see. I'm still bussing, so instead of leaving to be at work at around 4:30 I have to start heading to the bus at something like just before 3, cutting out a huge piece of my time.

Lots of happy gaming news, but I was still very sad I couldn't be in a home. 😞 Though the people at the less expensive restaurant don't mind my being there all day it's still weird. And the food, while better than junk food, are larger portions, and causing me to be heavier, which makes me feel slow and unhealthy. I suppose once school is open again I'll go back to doing more microwave foods and maybe lose some weight. Part is likely due to car stress, so hopefully that will be gone soon too. 😞

## **Day 1270 - 12/23**

### **A year of podcasts**

Today as I was doing the intro for podcast 37, the last step to finishing it, I realized this was the last podcast for 2011, after an entire year of podcasting. Had I realized that sooner I may have done something special. I suppose I can next podcast if I want. But it struck me as odd. No longer do I have a life that celebrates milestones. No longer do I recognize my accomplishments. I have no real way, and no one, to celebrate

with. As I realized this I thought it sounded very sad. But then, that's exactly what my life is right now. 😞

## **Day 1271 - 12/24**

### **Sad Xmas eve alone**

Here we are, Xmas eve. Today was pretty good in the morning and afternoon. I go to play without issue and I had a lot of fun. The story for the game is really good, but I don't really know how much of an impact my light side choices will have. Most missions seem to be self contained, and there appears to be no sign of faction anywhere. It's like it was developed to be the most easy to get into MMOG yet. That isn't going to win over the hardcore crowd. I'd guess within 4 months they will be capped and bored with the simplicity.

Now it is evening, and I am hiding in the dark. I have a few hours I can work on my podcast or play offline games, but then it will be too cold to continue. Hopefully the night will pass quickly enough without issue.

It still seems so strange to be in such a position. This is now my fourth homeless Xmas, and the worst by far. I have no car, so going places and blending in is impossible. With one I could still be out, probably catching a movie somewhere, or playing at the Internet café I used to play at. But while I have basically been alone on Xmas and New Years ever since about 2000, this one is different. This time there is no way for me to get anywhere, nowhere for me to get to, no room to warm with tea light candles and play my games or watch my shows. There is only the dark, the cold, and solitude. But too I know in a way that I am less alone than I have been. I know there are at least a few out there who do care, who are hoping for the best for me, and if I were to be gone from the world it would impact them if just a little. At least that is something.

## **Day 1272 - 12/25**

### **Just a day**

For almost everyone in the world today was Christmas. A day of joy, of love, of family and friends, children getting up extra early and bounding about the house excited to find out what's waiting for them. But not for me. Today was just a day. A day with even more limitations. There was really only one place I could be, though I was grateful that I could be there. With a car I'd have had options. But as is usual for my life, I don't.

Most of the day I played Star Wars, though now that my highest character is 20 experience seems to have slowed to a crawl. I'm gaining levels at half the speed as before. In fact, in the 7 hours I played I don't even think I got 2/3 of a level compared to the previous 9 hours where I got something like 2.5 levels. I tried to play the Diablo III beta, but the coffee shop connection was really terrible, and I was too lagged to play. It seems my play may be restricted to only two possible locations due to the sensitivity of the bandwidth requirements. However, part of that may be due to the beta server state, I don't know.

Today was a decent enough day I suppose what with my life being what it is. But, it certainly was not filled with the excitement of little ones, a day filled with greetings of joy by friends, nor one of mixed joy and discomfort of relatives. There were my online friends and people who care about me. And as sad as my day was, as cold as I was shivering at the bus stop with a few tears at my loneliness and the cold, I suppose knowing there are those out there who wish me well is something.

## **Day 1273 - 12/26**

### **Twass the night before laundry**

I guess I should do laundry tomorrow. It's again very overdue. I did look for local places to my ex-garage that would not require a bus ride, but I only saw one room and it only had one old washer and dryer. They looked small and untrustworthy. I guess all the local spots are places with their own washers inside each unit.

Today I started a Jedi on a server with a friend. It's nice to be good without having to struggle for it. Plus, the dark side is very evil in some cases. It was starting to bug me. I don't know how often I'll be good compared to evil. It's pretty much just a body to hang out with that friend and group with when we both have time. So I don't know. I really wish I was in a home and had regular reliable gaming again. I mean, sure, times I have now are pretty reliable, but they aren't in a home, it's not in an environment that's controlled by me, they aren't times I can extend at will if needed, and above all they aren't done on a reliable land-line connection. As always, my life is limited by what I have available and it seems there is nothing I can do to change or correct for that.

I put out a resume today, which was pretty unexpected. I also replied to a car post and the person replied back, which was equally surprising. Though he turned out to be kind of an ass. He answered all of my questions and seemed honest enough, so I asked when he would be available to meet tomorrow and what his address was to look up the route. To my shock it said it would be nearly 2 hours, yet it rated it as 15 minutes by car. I replied and asked if he would be willing to drive up to me, then we drive back to his place as the test drive. He replied 'if (I) didn't want to spend the time to come to see the car then I'm not serious about buying it.' Really? You say you understand my position and my caution then say you are unwilling to sacrifice 15 minutes extra of your time to spare me some 2+ hours? Well, he's not getting my money that's for sure. I mean if it were longer, sure, I'd understand, but unwilling to sacrifice just 15 minutes? That's just really selfish sounding to me.

Well, that was really my day. Like all my days lately there isn't too much to it, and if I think upon it too much the sadness and depression return. 😞

## Day 1274 - 12/27

### Unknown

Today is just starting. It's just past 9:15 in the morning and I'm doing laundry. I don't know what the day will bring, but I'll close out today now. I'm expecting to spend the day playing with my friend in the game, so really I don't expect anything to happen other than that since I'll be in the same place all day. Also, I want to close out the week

now while I have no wireless signal, so it and the podcast are all ready to just be uploaded when I do get to a place I can upload them. That way that's out of the way before my game time and I can get in a bit quicker. 😊

I expect there will still be effectively no car posts, and job postings these days are non-existent. Every year job posts basically stop appearing between Thanksgiving and about mid to late January. I will, of course, continue to look for both, but I expect to find nothing.

My life lately is super extra sad. Though I know there are people who care about me, and friends online, I am becoming more and more sad at my (physical) solitude. It never really bothered me before when I was in a home. I guess because I had my private space and knew that if there ever were to be any friends or love interest to invite over I could. But now, without, I seem extra alone and even more isolated. My games help to distract me as I visit other worlds, and knowing people enjoy my podcasts are something too that helps me feel connected in some way.

I try to continue to keep up hope of recovering and having a life back someday, but more and more lately I think that no matter what happens I will always live an unusual life. But in a way, I suppose I always have.

### Day 1275 - 12/28

#### Bartender / Nina / Jerk

I had some very strange dreams last night / this morning that seem to have stuck with me in the back of my mind all day. The first was that I was on a beach with someone and we were walking and talking. They kept slipping in the sand dune as we went up a path and I suggested that they use the tree roots instead of the sand. They said thanks and we continued up the path. There was a sign above a shop that read "Bartender / Ninja / Jerk." They asked which I was as they pointed towards the sign. I looked up at it, pondered, and said, "I suppose bartender, though sometimes jerk." They nodded and that dream faded shortly after that, but we continued on in to the shop. I suppose it's fairly accurate to most people. There are a few like me who would be bartenders, those making sure people have what they need and are ok (as many go to the bars and drink when they are unhappy.) Then there are those who are ninja, who try to stick by the shadows unseen. And then, well, there are the jerks who are selfish and don't care about others. In the dream I knew I said I was sometimes a jerk because of what I post on forums sometimes sounding arrogant or like I know everything.

Another dream was that I was part of a group of people who did live role playing events. I was doing monsters, but I was really an angel. Often I'd hover in place to prove it to people, outstretching my hands and feeling light. In many dreams I'm an angel, but I never fly. I can only hover, and often that distance is limited. I suppose it's because I feel I am sacrificing myself all the time.

Today was ok I guess. Some friend/guildies emailed to check in with me, and the gray ghost checked in and gave me a couple of gift cards to places for nom. 😊 I played my game and watched a few shows during dinner. I did put a few replies for cars, but again the one that replied was to tell me that it sold, within less than three hours of the post. There's no way I can compete with that.

Nothing else special happened during the day. I guess with as bad as these days can be, today was actually pretty good.



## Day 1276 - 12/29

### Not car

Today I was pretty close getting a car. I guess I was the second person to call, and it was within 30 minutes of the posting. I don't know how I'll ever beat that. Even if I were first it was unlikely he'd have waited the 1.5+ hours for me to get there by bus. Everyone assumes people will have someone to help them out. I don't know how I can compete with them with no resources. 😞

The rest of the day is pretty much a blur. I played a new alt in the game to get someone up to help heal the guild. The group experience I had really kind of ruined my time though. There was one person that was like level 21 in the group, and this is designed for level 10, so it's like what the poop are they doing in this instance?! It would be fine if the game capped and dropped their level down, but it doesn't. So, they aren't treating it like it should be treated. New players are completely messed up in terms of learning their capabilities with someone like that in the group.

I guess my day was ok though. I'd rather have it a blur of playing my game and watching shows than like the old days when I couldn't. At some point too I did verify my paycheck went in ok and checked the few bills I have. But my days are becoming harder and harder to remember clearly. It's like my brain is so under stimulated from all the depression, sadness, and lack of things to look forward to – and I mean the little things; bed, cooking dinner, relaxing in a quiet controlled environment, showering, not having to worry about 'what if's all the time because I'm out in public – it seems the only days I really remember clearly these days are ones that break me out of, well, me. Like yesterday when I saw the gray ghost. Or like I remember Xmas eve pretty clearly too when the friendly person at the coffee shop and I talked about the game. But everything else these days seems a blur blended with the day before. It is becoming impossible to know where I'm going, where I am, or where I've been. It's all becoming a blur of sadness. 😞

## Day 1277 - 12/30

### A little rain, a little crying

I was pretty sad today. Not because it's New Year's Eve's eve and I have no car to go places even if there was somewhere for me to go tomorrow, but because I am worried about me, about my lack of a future. This morning as I was playing my game at the coffee shop I glanced up outside and I saw the old (local) homeless guy walking by with his bags and sleeping bag. I again wondered if that's what will become of me. Will things continue to get worse for me? Will I lose my storage space and have to sell everything but a few bags of stuff? Will I become that homeless guy who sticks around that everyone knows, but noone really cares about?

I know people are out there who do worry about me, who's lives I may have touched in some way. But I don't think there is anyone who would be devastated if I were gone. I don't think there is anyone who would be sad more than a brief while if I were gone. I cried for a few minutes a little while ago. I cried for me. I don't want to become that old lost homeless guy noone cares about. But I'm afraid that's where I may be headed. Things are not getting better. School hasn't seemed to change my odds, ever. New friends only seem to be appearing online, and those seem very few. And while I have my games for the moment, everything else seems in steady decline. My health remains bad, and feels like it's continuing to get worse. Cloths are always getting worn out. Even if it's only a few items a year they are being worn out faster. And there is a constant strain on my system from cramped and bad sleep, and from stress of overly bright and loud environments.

I'm tired, so unbelievably tired. I want things to be over, in a good way, and return me to a normal life. And while I try to hold on to hope, I'm beginning to wonder if it will really ever happen for me. 😞

## Day 1278 - 12/31

### Not a party for me

Today was sad, but passable all things considered. In the morning and afternoon it was a regular enough day. I played my game and watched some shows. As the evening came it became more and more not my party. I saw people dressed up in fancy party cloths on their way to parties that were not for me. I can't remember the last time I had a party that I dressed up for, and I never had friends who got dressed up this fancy. I'm not an overly fancy guy, so I don't mind being outside of the norm there. But it was sad not to have friends, to not have family, to not have a party to go to, or somewhere others felt that I belonged. I felt like an alien from another world, observing a culture I was not allowed to join.

## Day 1279 - 1/1/12

### Helping and not

Today was pretty good I guess. People on my alt server in guild were talking about collector editions and I mentioned that I'd just talked about it in my podcast. They seemed interested in checking it out. 😊 Also, on my regular server someone asked about graphic cards. I was on my way out, but we talked for a bit and I pointed out some things they didn't know and told them about my site, so I got to help someone there too. Also, in a few different groups in my game I did some pretty hardcore leading by setting up target marks and talking strategies and got some crazy groups through some instances. (One had no tank and one had no healer.) They complimented my organization and strategy. 😊

I didn't really look for cars what with the banks being closed, but there were hardly any posted, which is not surprising.

While being at the less expensive restaurant has given me a superior Internet connection I think the better food is now not helping. Because I eat it so often I'm feeling fatter, slower, and I always feel like I'm eating too much. They also don't really have great food choices. It's all burgers, bbq, and the like. Well, there is the chicken soup, which I get often, but for lunches I typically eat the regular semi-bad options, and they are larger

portion sizes too. I'll have to try and cut back some in the future. School starts next week, so that will likely help some, as I can go back to somewhat healthier microwave foods. However, with still having no car getting there is tough. Hopefully car and job ads will start to pick up a bit once we get into the middle or late January time.

I guess that's really it for today. Not much is changing in my life these days with the holidays still around. Heck, my life doesn't really change at all. It just remains it's same sad. I know there are people out there who worry about me and share in my sadness, and hopefully that is enough to keep me going. As my options become more and more restrictive I become more and more worried about my physical stress/strain and how bad I feel most of the time physically. 😞

## **Day 1280 – 1/2**

### **Everything hurts**

Everything hurts today. My jaw that was hurting before is starting to hurt again. My eyes are hurting. My ears are ringing. My tummy feels overly full or overly empty. My nose has pressure on the inside eyeball area and roof of my mouth. My feet are tired. My ankle is a bit sore on the bump on the ankle that was broken... everything is so tired and worn down feeling. Hopefully I'll be ok, but I have no true privacy. I have nowhere to unwind. There is no time I am allowed to not be at least a little alert. I have the sanctuaries, which are quiet, and for the most part peaceful; but they are not a home, they are not a place I can rest, relax, and be free from worry.

Today was ok. I played my game most of the day. There weren't really any shows to speak of. I helped that person a bit again. There were barely any car posts at all. I suppose they will likely remain low this week.

This journey is becoming so terrible. While I am in a far better position now to take care of physical needs than when the journey started (minus the car), emotionally it is taking a far greater and greater toll as time goes on. Though I feel connected on days like today where I chat with others, I still feel more and more disconnected, as the longer I am out in the wild the less I feel I can really relate to normal everyday things. Like today I thought about when I was taking a bus to hide in a sanctuary that normally would

be my time to start dinner, yet my night was basically over. I am now hiding in the dark when I normally would be eating a healthy dinner and watching a show.

I seem to have fallen so far. And the light at the top of the pit is diminishing to the point that I don't know if I will ever be able to find my way out.

## **Day 1281 - 1/3**

### **A bit different**

Today is a bit different. I decided to have something different for lunch. It was super tasty and I'll probably get it in the future, though it's on special Tuesday and Thursday, when I'll be in class. Also, someone needs me to cover their shift tonight, so that's some extra unexpected money, which always helps.

Still nothing on cars. There have been very few posts lately. Now there are even more showing up that are completely broken or are so old it's not even funny. (A lot from the mid 70s for some reason.) Not really sure what else to say for today since it's just past noon and in a few hours I'll be leaving for work.

I guess all in all lately today has been ok. It sprinkled and was misty this morning but now it's clearing up. I'm not as sad for the moment, but it is always in the back of my mind. I'm not looking forward to my new classes. Nothing seems to be helping my situation and taking all these extra steps is no longer fun. Starting next week my posts won't appear until Tuesday evening at the earliest instead of the morning. So those of you used to reading on Tuesday may have to wait until Wednesday. 😞 I guess that's all for this week. Maybe next week I'll have something fun or interesting to talk about. 😞

## Week 184

### Day 1282 – 1/4 So confused

Today I've been very confused. I was so out of it this morning I paid \$5 for a \$2 item, was looking at my money and spacing out, then took the item and went to leave without waiting for change. Had the clerk not called me back I would have probably completely forgotten about it. I've never done that before. 😞 And on Monday when it was nearing lunch time I thought it was Tuesday. 😞 Today when playing I couldn't at all remember the quest story the person *just* told me for my next quest goals. The other day I got a vitamin to help with my sad sluggish feelings, but it may be having a sleepy confusing effect, one almost opposite to what it's supposed to do. I'll stop taking it and see if things become more clear. It was only \$3, so it's ok if I don't use them all.

Cars were non-existent. There are still only 10-25% of what there was prior to Xmas. I replied to only one today.

That was really it. Nothing special happened, but I guess thankfully nothing bad happened either.

### Day 1283 - 1/5 I can't imagine

I can't imagine what my life would have been like in a home today. As I left the less expensive restaurant I thought that I kind of live there now, at least for the time being. I tried to think what my day would have been like in a home had I woken up in a bed in my own room/place. I likely would have showered, cooked some breakfast noms, probably washed cloths, gone to a "9-5" job if I had one, done some podcasting, made a healthy dinner and watched TV shows while eating, and played my game for a few hours in the evening before bed. But that's only a guess. I may have done something different and new, like worked out, seen friends, run a D&D game, any number of unforeseeable things. I think, besides my health potentially being critically bad, this scares me the most.

It has been so long that I've been homeless that I don't know who I am anymore. I'm not who I was. Who I was is in a box. And when I return to a home, if that ever happens, that person will very likely not be coming out of the boxes. There are new things that have been acquired, things that have changed. There are old things that are things I will no longer do. And who, or how, I live when and if it does happen is a complete unknown.

I can no longer imagine what life would be like for me when I'm no longer homeless. I no longer know who I am. I know what I do, but that is not who I am. The core of me is as it always was. But much like the seed of a tree I have no idea what shape it will take once I can put down roots again. ... If that ever comes to be. 😞

## Day 1284 - 1/6

### Unusual day

Today was pretty unusual. I was awake over an hour earlier than I needed to be. Despite knowing I was "safe" I just could not fall back to sleep. I got "out of bed" just over 1/2 hour early. I got to the coffee shop and played my game. The friendly manager came by and said, 'My coworker and I think it's cool that you play *that* game \*point\* wearing a cloak 😊.' I said, 'Technically it's a trench, but yeah. 😊' I've often thought that when I see my shadow. With my hood up it definitely flows and looks very similar to Jedi robes. It certainly is the closest you can get these days without being in costume.

The not-sis was supposed to hook up with me in the early afternoon and we were going to see a movie since she is in town. But she was running late, so we just chatted for about an hour. I guess she's flown in to see a specialist. She has some funky medical stuff that people are having a very hard time figuring out. I hope she's ok. 😞

The evening was my typical work night. For some reason though when I was editing podcast 38 it took over 3 hours to finish. Normally it's edited and ready in about half that time. It's not any longer than normal, so I have no clue why it took longer.

That was really it for today. I have to bundle myself up quickly now. It's grown super cold at night these past few days. 😞

## Day 1285 - 1/7

### Sad health

Today I felt so fat and overfull I almost cried. I was fine in the morning, and at lunch I had just the right amount, but I started to feel pretty hungry again for dinner, so I bought some extra food. It feels like it was a terrible mistake. I feel overly stuffed. I feel fat. I feel very unhealthy. And I worry because I get winded so easily. I don't think I actually am all that much bigger, and I doubt my blood pressure is all that bad, but I really need to try to go back to doing lemonade mix more often. I really need to see if I can come up with a way to reduce portion sizes of what I'm eating.

Today was different in that while it would always be so much better to be gaming on a desktop system with my 5.1 speakers instead of headphones, while it would be so much better watching shows on, say, a 40" HDTV with my 5.1 surround system, today more than anything I wished for a kitchen. I wished I could have taken out some frozen chicken strips (with no skin) and eaten them, rice, and some mixed vegetables. My system feels so very bad about my eating habits lately, and those can't really change at all. At least if I had a car I *could* go out of my way to get some fruit or something. But without, and with being forced to eat "fast" food all the time, or pre-portioned micro foods, my options are pretty limited. About my only real control is the healthier micro food and trying to stretch out during my work shifts.

Today I am very sad, and very worried, about me. 🙄

## Day 1286 - 1/8

### Feel like 300 lbs.

I feel like I weigh 300 pounds today. I was ok most of the day but after dinner I again felt overly full, weighed down, and get winded very easily when moving around. I suppose things will get better though fairly quickly. Starting tomorrow I'll be back to an in school schedule. So, even though I'll probably still be eating more than usual, a lot of my meals will turn back into smaller portions and (partly) healthy micro dinners. I've also set a goal for myself for trying the child sized meals. I've meant to, as there are things like



three chicken strips and small side (which can be healthy apples.) So, that may work out. I'll check on that tomorrow, as it looks like as many as five lunches per week would be at the less expensive restaurant. Granted, such a meal is \$1-2.50 more than I need to / should spend, but with no car options like doing self made sandwiches are difficult.

Anyways... the short version of today is I feel overly fat, unhealthy in general, extremely tired, and stress fatigued mentally and physically almost all the time these days. Things seem to be weighing down on me extra heavy, and I pray I make it to spring and summer when my body tends to lighten up and have fewer issues with being homeless. I'm so very tired, and so very sad lately. 😞

## Day 1287 - 1/9

### Kids item

Today was pretty uneventful. I did decide to try a "kids menu" item. It was plenty of food for me. 😊 I don't actually eat all that much. So, that should give me a few cheaper meal options to pick from. Well, cheaper than "full" menu items. They are still \$5ish, which is more than the \$2.50-4 I typically spend on a cheaper meal. Hopefully though that and eating regularly at school again will help get me back into shape a bit.

No cars to speak of. Posts are still just a tiny trickle.

I'm not looking forward to class tomorrow, but it is what it is. I must keep looking and trying new ways to find a better job. I guess I should be proud of myself for not giving up on trying to find a solid career and "better life", but I still really wonder if it's not too late, and if I'll ever really get that chance at starting over so much later than everyone else is starting. 😞

## Day 1288 - 1/10

### Horrible blood pressure

It looks like the construction that has blocked the blood pressure machine at school is finally done. I have confirmed my fear and my blood pressure is really terribly bad again. (Around 150/95 up from the 135/90 it had gotten down to from what I recall.) I'll only casually check for a few weeks to give my body a chance to re-balance to at school diet. Since I can eat smaller portions again, and have access to at least some vegetables through the Chinese place again, I'm hoping I can balance out pretty quickly again.

It looks like the classes I got are; programming in C intro, which may be somewhat challenging, though once upon a time I knew a reasonable amount of Basic. I'd even created a few programs; one a game where you 'chased' a space ship and shot at it, and another that was a maze that was randomly generated. (Well, it was walls and random holes were generated that made it like a maze, heh.) The other is a web page class that's online. So I guess that one won't be as bad. It may actually be so basic as to not help, but my life is what it is. I need more than one class to keep the financial aid hounds off my back. Class is from 1:30 - 4, which is not as late or long as I thought, but it eats up the bulk of my day.

It's a bit warmer today and there are a few cuties around, which always makes me smile. 😊

I'll close here as I expect nothing to happen during the rest of my day. But if it does, I still have a chance to change it before posting.

(Edit: A cutie did say "nice bunny 😊" when I came back from break after I'd drawn my bunny on the board on the way out. 😊)

## Week 185

### Day 1289 - 1/11 Wrecked laundry

Today one of my shirts had something weird happen in the laundry. It's even weirder that it only happened to that one shirt. What happened is that when I was taking stuff out of the washer to put it in the drier I noticed the shirt had all this stuff stuck to it. It looked like it had been dropped onto a super dusty surface. But it was only this one shirt, no other laundry was affected. I saw that kind of thing back in the day when I used to use powder soap, but I've used liquid soap for I don't know how many years. And, at this place I've been walking to I've filled it half with water before even putting the liquid soap in. So, very weird day for laundry.

Other than that the day was pretty basic. I played my game, looked for cars and jobs, and that was really it. Overall it was a pretty uneventful day.

I should have looked into my online class, but I'll hopefully have a chance to do that in the morning. Hopefully I won't forget or need to do something dumb like last time where they wanted \$125 in what was effectively book fees. The physical class seems like it won't be too bad. The professor seemed to go super slow and the grade is 70% based on homework. So, I have plenty of time to do it, I can do it on my system wherever whenever I want, and there is a tutor and other helpers for the class in case I do need help. So, it should be easy as long as I keep up with the busy work.

Still... I'd rather have had the day free to live as I like. I'd rather be free to do whatever I want to work I like and live without worry in a home. But I guess, at least for now, that is not to be. 😞

Today was reasonably good. It was super warm. The temperature showed 65F, but it felt almost like spring. Basically all day I had both my sweater and trench off. If I had a car I might have even left them in there. It wasn't until it got dark that it turned back to winter weather.

Class was pretty good too. The professor is going slow, but the time in class doesn't feel like a chore. It is learning a different language, even though it's a computer language, so I expect once we start talking about code that may change. There are, as expected, gamers in class, so before class I was talking to others about gaming stuff. One followed me to the bus booth Tuesday and today to keep chatting about the game. He seems like an ok guy. He's very energetic though, a bit more than I prefer in someone I'd consider being friends with, but that's to be expected from someone in their early 20s. And, I'm guessing he doesn't have friends to talk gaming stuff with, so that is likely causing extra excitement for him.

There were no car postings to reply to, and jobs are still extremely rare.

An (online) friend has been very sad lately, so that made me sad too. 😞 She lost sponsorship for her podcast, which I guess was paying her to buy her stuff (her salary as it were). But the loss also seemed to hurt her ego too. I tried to cheer her up by saying her creativity and success with them is her doing, not due to someone backing her financially. Hopefully it will help her to be happy again and help her to get to the point of renewing her interest in continuing, if that's what she wants. Previously having a sponsor she has lived in a very different world from me. I do my podcasts for me, online and offline friends, and the rabbit followers, so it's really about having fun and being informative where I can. There is no business gain in it, no agenda, no trying to please corporate entities, and no restriction on what I can or can't say. Though it did make me a bit sad. Because even with those freedoms I am not free. I'm down to 1-2 recording sessions per podcast now because I have no car and no home. I am trapped in when, where, and how I can create content unless I want to put it 'at risk' of background noise. I know people probably wouldn't mind, and that's how the early podcasts were done, but still. Similarly I was talking with someone about a build and there were a few questions I couldn't really

answer. It's like, yeah, this is why I wish I could live free to do rabbit things full time, so I can run tests and answer these questions since review sites aren't doing these kinds of tests and comparisons.

So... today was warm and seemed happy, but it seemed everything I did I did because I am not free. I did not sleep in a bed. I did not shower when I got up. I went to class because I need to find a new/better career. I told someone in class, "Yes, I carry my laptop and this stuff everywhere. I have no choice." I couldn't answer my online friend's hardware questions, since the research isn't there and I can't buy the stuff to do myself. And my podcasting friend and I are both sad due to limitations in how and when we do podcasting. Even now I am writing this sad tale because of my traps. While I may have some freedoms in my life, I am very much not free. 😞

## **Day 1291 - 1/13**

### **A sad reminder**

Today was one of those days I got a sad reminder that I am not in control of my environment. I am not in a home. My work locations are where I've been podcasting. The Friday location has machine noise that creeps in to the background when the volume is loud enough. Effectively I can't use that location while it's running. Monday I'm at the better location. Students have started being in the gym right until my shift starts, so I have no time before. And in the last few months the janitor has started showing up immediately after, so that location is out. It seems I either have to hope the machine noise stops at the Friday location, or go back to podcasting outside or in empty rooms at school. I am really disappointed and saddened by this podcast, as my podcast being of nice quality was one of the few things I had left that I could control. Now that is taken away from me and I'm back to losing control.

This morning too when I picked up my blood pressure meds that I needed to see my doctor before the next refill. They refuse to refill it again. I told the person I don't

have a doctor. I can't afford insurance, so I don't have a regular doctor, nor a regular hospital. She just kept saying 'sorry' and shrugging.

Today I am sad. I am reminded of all of my limitations. And, at least for the time being, one of the few resources I had left is so heavily limited I either have to stop using it, or do it at a quality and way far below what I'd prefer. 😞

## **Day 1292 - 1/14**

### **Terribad**

Today I finished podcast 39 and it sounds really bad since I did it on the street. I had a choice. I could wait until Friday to finish, where there was a high chance there would still be the machine noise in the background, or I could wait until Tuesday or Wednesday and try to find some space at school. It was going to be bad and "late" with either of those options, so I decided on an option that turned out probably worse than either. I did it on the street as it were. I did it in a parking lot with a fair amount of background noise going on. With a car there would have been options – places to try, areas to park and do it in the car – but without, my options are terribly limited. And the sad part is, they may remain so for quite some time.

I suppose the day was fair. It was a bit warmer still. I got to play my game. I got enough food. But there were no cars to reply to, and none that responded back to my previous replies. I looked over class stuff and I've got a lot of unfun reading and projects ahead of me. But I have no choice. I basically have to keep trying. I have to keep going under these conditions and going these places if I want to game and use the Internet. I have to keep looking for a car.

I can't give up. It's not an option. And yet, that's all I want back in my life... options. 😞

## Day 1293 - 1/15

### Gamepad

Today I picked up my gamepad from the ex-house and got it set up on my system. It's the first time I've had a gamepad in like 7 years? I was very hesitant to get one, but a few games would likely be perfect for it, a few games I've recently played would have been better with one, and I used Xmas money to get it. My friend/ex-roomie sent me monies, and for weeks I couldn't figure out what to get. Since my life is so bad and sad I didn't want to use it on something that would just go away quickly, like food. These days, particularly as more time goes on, when I do get gift money I try to spend it on something that is more likely to last. It may wind up going into storage pretty quickly after I finish the games, but hopefully it will be one of a few things I can look forward to unpacking. And, in the meantime, maybe it can help improve my enjoyment a bit.

There was a creepy guy who was probably drunk here today. While he did buy a small soup, I'm pretty sure he was homeless, as his shirts and socks were pretty ragged. He swayed a bit as he sat. His head seemed to randomly bob around now and then. And I wondered if he was talking to the football players on the screen. He left and came back once, and when he did I saw an overly large silver can hidden in a paper bag. He stole food people had left a few times. But he was being creepy about it, staring their direction when they were nearing being done, or were done but not yet leaving, kind of like a crow may stare at people at a park. I don't really blame him for taking food. If he needs it he needs it, and there is tons of food wasted daily.

And again I wonder... is that how I'm going to wind up? Will I be that guy in a few years? I try to keep up hope. I try to think about the people I do talk to and see online. A few have helped me in my hard times in the past, and with getting a laptop, and recently car money. But I always wonder... do they really genuinely care? Or do they just feel sad and when I am gone will I be quickly forgotten?

If you have loved ones and close friends hold on to them and let them know they matter. There are people in the world who feel so alone and don't have those kinds of friends or loved ones. And I am one of them.

## Day 1294 - 1/16

### Eve of a car?

Today was odd. I had no work in the evening due to the holiday. I actually kind of forgot it was Monday. It pretty much played out like a Sunday. In the morning I put the finishing touches on podcast 39 and decided to post it early. For some reason iTunes isn't seeing it. It may be because it was dated for release two days from now. In the past it's always shown right up, even though it was posted sometimes almost 24 hours before its date. If it's not up by tomorrow something may be up and I may have to give a call to my ISP. The podcast itself links correctly, but if there is weirdness with the rss then anyone who subscribes wouldn't see it.

In the early afternoon I decided to call on a car that was posted that I left a reply for yesterday. It actually hasn't sold yet. (Probably mostly due to the fact that it's a stick with manual steering and >240k miles on it more than anything.) I have a meeting to see it tomorrow sometime after class, and the guy knows I can only offer \$1500-1600 of his \$1800 asking price. We'll see. It's a totally cute type with a small soft top section in back. It's similar to my previous trackers, but with more hard top area. I remain hopeful, but curious why it hasn't sold yet. It is right at a fair blue book value even for that mileage at \$1800. Several cute cars of that type have been rapidly snatched up in the past months that I've been looking. If I do give him \$1600 food is going to be very tight. I'll have to spend most of what I have left on registration (I'm guessing ~\$75-100) and a parking permit (\$15), and need at least a bit for gas. I'll be left with just about the bare minimal amount for food until my next paycheck, with less than zero wiggle room for the next 3 or so weeks.

So, that was really my day. Different. Odd. Unusual in some ways. But most things are left until tomorrow to reveal if they will or will not turn out for the best.



As I kind of expected, the car purchase didn't happen. As we got closer and closer things got weirder. First, the car is at >240k miles, which is a ton of miles. Most don't get much past 150k. So already it's in questionable condition, as he'd have to take perfect care of it to be fine with that many miles. Also, the pictures are all of the outside of the car, and taken at a repair/smog shop, so that's doubly questionable. And it's not smogged yet. He said he would smog it yesterday when I called, so I'm like ok the bank is closed anyways. But when I call today he's like, "Do you have the money? Cash? We have to do all this paperwork." I get the feeling he seems very over-eager. I ask 'what paperwork?', as there should only be two papers involved that takes about five minutes. And he gives the impression it's more than a title and receipt, saying we need to make copies and all this other stuff. Apparently it's in his mom's name, and I'm fine with that. I'm fine with him selling it for her. But now he said that it's not really. That the title is in his name, but he never filed it, and it's due in a month. So, not in his name at all, not in his name legally but supposedly it's transferred to him (here in CA you must file within 5 days of a change), parked at a shop instead of a home, this all seemed way too suspicious as I got deeper into investigation.

So, it seems I'm back to zero on a car. In this case I'm sad because it was one of the cute types that would make me very happy, but at >240k miles, and the other suspicious activity, it was probably the safest bet to pass.

I guess the rest of my day is ok. I got a new game demo that's awesome. It's perfect for using a gamepad. Class was ok, but it does seem like the difficulty will ramp up pretty quickly. I was looking ahead in the reading a bit and got so very lost. I'll just take it slow with lecture and do the extra homeworks and see how it goes.

I guess I feel ok. Things are... chaotic... but tolerably balanced. Well, most things are. I guess at least, as terrible as it is, I have a survivable routine.

## Week 186

### Day 1296 - 1/18

#### Return to sad

Today was pretty sad. I didn't do the school practice work I was expecting to do. I was too sad. I guess I got my hopes up pretty high with the car being one of the types that are my favorite and the guy coming down to my price range. Now that he was weird and it fell through and I'm back to where I was I'm sad again. I can't go back on things though. If it were to be undone he would have to come to me and answer why it was not kept at his house, why did he not offer to meet after his work hours in the evening when he wouldn't be pressed for time, and why did his mom transfer the title to him but he never legally filed the transfer. Even answering those questions, with registration due in only one month that means I'd have about \$100 less to offer.

I got a chance to play the Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning demo, which I thought was awesome. It *is* very much a console game. I would likely have found it frustrating without a gamepad to play with. Combat is just too quick paced. Playing the demo was really the highlight of my day. There was maybe one car ad I replied to. I don't even clearly remember if that was today or yesterday. But I was too sad and depressed about no car, the increasing cold, and my very poor health to do the school practice lab stuff. Hopefully I'll feel a bit better and do it tomorrow. In a home I could have done it. It wouldn't have been that bad in a controlled and not time restricted environment. But with all my restrictions, all my limitations on where and when I can be, how late I can be up and access stuff, how late I can be out before I get too cold and must hide in a sanctuary... my life again feels very restricted, without options, and like I will never recover. 😞

### Day 1297 - 1/19

#### Nice comments

Today was... better. I had some nice comments and interactions from/with people, so I was in a bit better spirits. I decided that my Tuesday and Thursday mornings will

likely be in the computer building lab. Their wireless is more reliable than the library, and if I need to I can use the computers that have access to my assignment stuff. I struggled a bit on some of the lab stuff, but once I had the comment syntax for what I needed the rest flowed pretty easily. After class I spent some time and got caught up on my other class stuff too. So, not counting reading for the html class yet, I'm all caught up. If my mood holds I'll probably do some or all of next week's stuff over the weekend.

There are still no cars. Being back to square zero I've no leads on anything. At this point I'm fine with it. That car would have drained me to very dangerously low levels, and in a few weeks I'll have a lot more flexibility after getting my tax return. Hopefully I'll get my thing so I can do that soon. I don't have it yet. It normally goes out around the 15th, so it should be in my hands any day now, and after that I can bang it out online in about an hour.

I guess that's it for my day. Nothing really special happened, but I suppose I feel a touch less sad, and that is something these days.

## Day 1298 - 1/20

### Digital phoenix

Today was pretty good I think. The time before work seemed to pass by quickly. I watched a show, checked news, had to do a stupid thing for school (stupid because the class is *not* being run like *every other* online class), and checked for cars and jobs.

I didn't play my games at all today, come to think of it, which is extremely rare for me. At work I watched a movie and edited podcast 40. There were no kids before my shift, so I actually had plenty of time to do podcasting. To my surprise not only did I talk about what I had notes on, but I thought up a few extra things to talk about. It's not quite done being edited, but I expect in the time during the morning that I am firewall blocked I should be able to finish the editing and put the tags on. Hopefully it will rise from the digital ashes of the last a beautiful phoenix.

Today seems like just another reminder that for whatever reason the things I am good at and really passionate about are not the things I am paid to do, nor the things I have the most freedom to do. Maybe someday that will change.

## Day 1299 - 1/21

### Pee and situps

Not much to today. I spent a bit of it finishing podcast 40 and posting it. I had to keep re-checking because iTunes didn't show it immediately again. As of my last check, some 9 hours after my original posting of it, it *still* didn't show up on the network. The only thing I suppose of real interest today is I've started a 'pee and sit-up' policy to try and do some exercise. I'm going to try and remember to do 5 sit-ups when I go pee. Of course I can't do this in most of the locations I travel, but I can at the restaurant and work, as they have carpeted areas that wouldn't be too dirty or icky to do sit-ups on. I'm so terribly out of shape that I can't even do full sit-ups. They are half sit-ups. 😞 Well, without being able to do my 'light saber training' that I wanted to do after work, this is about the next best thing in terms of linking something to something that I will hopefully remember to do.

Overall today though I was pretty sad. It was pouring rain all last night. I got rained on a bit (last night). I was somewhat chilly most of the day. Of course I was out in loud public areas. My tummy was... upset 😞 ... with lunch. And I just wasn't really in the mood to play my online game. I did for a bit, but I just wasn't into it, so I left early. I hope my days ahead will be happier, but as always, the longer this continues the less likely it seems that it will ever get better. 😞

## Day 1300 - 1/22

### Terrible dreams

Today was odd. Last night I had terrible dreams about being homeless all night. And I mean that literally. There were at least three different dreams that I remember. 😞 I was groggy and out of it all day because of it. It was one of those days you just can't shake the feeling that you didn't really sleep. Although, I do have to admit that a night of sleep with terribly sad dreams is much better than being so afraid or so cold that I couldn't sleep at all. Both of those are not so far in my past that I do still very clearly remember

them. Though I fear I will likely have these kinds of dreams for years after I'm back in a home.

Most of my day I don't clearly remember. I do remember doing half of the lab work for next week. I had to stop due to not knowing the syntax to continue. I watched several shows. And I played my game for a few hours. Again I just wasn't really feeling all that into it. Now that it's turned to whack-a-mole I'm losing interest pretty quickly. I really dislike playing the hotkeys instead of the game.

I feel kind of bad today too. There is a weakness in my chest, near my heart. I feel exhausted, but I'm not sleepy. It's probably just bad blood pressure and continually bad health. I think too it's sadness. Sadness about not having a real life, possibly not having one ever again, and being so very alone physically (and to a great degree mentally).

## Day 1301 - 1/23

### Dimes

Today was odd. Not really in any bad way, just in that I still feel really out of it from the bad dreams and odd sleep lately. I don't clearly remember the day. I watched shows, checked for cars, did online work, checked the next assignment for the dumb class, and had a work shift.

A few people have checked in with me lately as it were, so that's nice. 😊 I feel a bit more cared about. I have been very worried about me lately. I'm so sad and things seem so unchanging lately. To look at me though you'd never know. I'm a bit more listless, a bit quieter, playing games a bit less, but otherwise seem the same. I've never really had anyone in my life that checked in with me when I seemed off. I was always the empathic one of... well, everyone I knew. No one else seemed to 'play that part'.

I've found dimes lately. I found one about two days ago, yesterday, and today I found a dime and a quarter. It is likely just coincidence, but it seems very weird that it has always been a dime, and that it happened several times in a row when I can't remember the last time I found money on the ground.

I guess that's it. I feel strange now though. As if something's changed, but I don't know what. I don't feel bad or sick, or like my world will end. I guess all I can say is it

feels like the world has shifted around me. Like I'm slightly different and this version of me has three shows that are different and three blue shirts instead of only one, maybe that the busses have an orange stripe instead of the blue. Most of the time these feelings pass uneventfully and nothing has really changed around me that will reveal itself later. I expect this time will be no different. I suppose overall it doesn't matter. I'm still very sad. I still have a sad life. Nothing in it has changed from yesterday, and likely tomorrow will be no different. I suppose though it has thrown me off just enough that I am distracted. And I suppose that is something, as I am not quite so sad as I have been lately.

## **Day 1302 - 1/24**

### **Feeling a bit normal**

Today I guess I'm feeling a bit more normal. I got better sleep, so that helps, but I'm still in a haze. I did some school stuff and had class. In class others were confused about what I was confused about, so that made me feel normal. There is a lab due Friday, which I think I was the first to do it, which seems odd. A cutie was out last time, so I had printed a copy of my notes for that day and gave them to her. It was hardly anything but she seemed really surprised and super grateful and was all smiley 😊. I chatted with my in class friend a bit, and there are other gamers in the class, so we kind of chatted. We were all pretty tired and out of it, so mostly we were more quiet than not.

It's late afternoon / early evening and I am settled in at the less expensive restaurant. The manager was like, "Where were you? You gotta call when you are going to be late. We worry about you." I know he was probably more kidding than not, but still.

I guess nothing remarkable changed this week. It was basically the same as the last. If anything I was more sad than not. The weather is warming up and people do seem to worry about me, so I guess I feel a little better about things turning out ok someday. And I guess that is something.

## **Week 187**

### **Day 1303 - 1/25**

#### **Not having fun**

Today was very strange. It started with laundry, which didn't drain right, so I needed to spend an extra \$1 being sure my cloths all dried properly. I'm so looking forward to going back to my laundry near work where they have better machines. I'm tired of this place with worse machines that cost more just because it's on the way for my bus route. I was in my usual spot for the day and I was visited by the friend that I do online work for. We chatted very briefly about the online work but mostly I think she was checking in with me. She seemed to have sad pauses when asking about where I was spending my time. I think, if she didn't have a youngling (he's like 2 or 3) she would probably convince her husband to let me have some crash space. That's nice to know she worries about me. I played my beta for a bit and checked for cars.

I tried to play my game for a bit, but I just didn't enjoy my time. I am really losing interest in how it plays now that I'm higher level. So many MMOGs turn to this style, but it's sad that it has since it started out so differently. I don't know how much longer I can continue to play since the enjoyment is becoming lower and lower the higher level I get.

I guess that was really my day. Oh, I did most of my taxes, but it seems I'm probably getting \$150 less than I have the past few years, despite my earning less. (I got around 9.5k vs. the 10.25k of last year.) So that was pretty sad to see since it means I'll have, at most, a few hundred to add to my car search and just about zero for other things that might come up.

As always, it seems all I can do is hope that tomorrow is a better day.

### **Day 1304 - 1/26**

#### **Sad trap**

Today I feel kind of sad. I think it's because I'm feeling more trapped than usual. Class was pretty good, but when I tried to do my online class studying I was told they did

not have the book in the library, nor any book close to it. So the lab for Saturday is going to be about a week late since it deals with code that I don't know. With a car I could get to the library tomorrow or Saturday morning, or even could have gone today, but without... I don't know that it's worth the walk to check. Yeah, I could look online to see what they have first, but if it's going to be late I may as well just buy one and wait a few days for it to get to me. I don't like this class. It's not fun. Even though the other one is pretty fun I'm only taking them because I have to try something. I have to keep going towards a new career. There were no jobs to apply to or cars to reply to either. So again, I'm trapped in that sense.

I got a chance to stretch out a bit and lay flat. Sheesh that was painful. My back is so constantly messed up that being flat hurts. How messed up is that? I can't remember the last time I could regularly lay flat and stretch. It had to be back during summer. I'll try to remember to do it more often, but I don't get many chances these days.

Someone did say thanks for linking their site, that they were a long time follower, and thanked me for everything I've done for the communities over the years. So that was nice and made me smile. 😊 I really need to update my system builds. I've been forgetting to keep an eye on my site lately. Nothing has really changed lately, but the builds are all old. There are new graphic cards coming, so I may wind up needing to change them pretty quick, but I try to do them every 2-3 months these days. I still wish more than anything I had enough money and freedom to live my rabbit life; to check parts more frequently, to match to global prices/availability, to have boards at my house with projected launch calendars to remind me, to be able to cover conventions and events, to be able to test hardware both for checking my build recommendations and for answering questions other reviewers don't ask, but most of all to play games and have more exposure to talk about things and to verify and get a real feel for that fine line of exactly how various hardware does at various settings in different games and really maximize my recommendations.

But, it seems at least for now, I remain trapped. And my options and choices are not really mine to make. 😞



## Day 1305 - 1/27

### Tired

I'm so very tired today. I think it's mostly because I'm still having bad dreams and not sleeping well, but I'm also so very sad that a normal life seems so far off, and a happy rabbit life (full time) seems so impossible.

I'm so tired of my online class teacher being stupid. Several email questions spammed me today. (For some reason we have to sign up for this thing that emails everyone instead of using an online forum like all the other online classes do.) She told me I can look things up online and don't need the book. Seriously? You have an assignment where you link example stuff and don't link a page that explains things? If I could drop it I would in a heartbeat. But I can't. I need to struggle through it to keep financial aid loans happy.

I'm so tired of taking busses everywhere. I lose hours of time every day. This morning I missed one and that lost even more time than usual. The other night one smelt like a fowled toilet. 🤢 I had to keep my mouth and nose covered so that I couldn't smell whatever or whoever was making the smell.

I'm so tired of not being free to record my podcast when, where, and how I want. I had a big topic read to go, history, side points, and everything, and again I was completely blocked from recording today. Which effectively means the podcast will have to wait a full week longer, or I really can only record at school. With a car I could get to alternate locations on alternate days, but without, my options are just about zero.

I'm so tired of all the limitations of my sad life. \*sniff\* 😞 It makes me feel like crying because each day I feel more and more like I will never recover and I will meet a sad end.

## Day 1306 - 1/28

### One wolf dead

Today I got an odd item for taxes. One of the wolves (ex-creditors) has suffered permadeath (canceled my debt) and I guess I need to report that as extra income, which is

nearly \$3k. It shouldn't change anything, as it isn't taxable income, and there is a form to subtract stuff that I owe from stuff I have and if it's below a certain amount I don't owe anything on it. Considering just student loans I owe are nearly \$70k I think I'll be fine.



There is a super cute good car up on the boards lately, but he's asking nearly \$2k. I'd be pushing things if I offered even just \$1500. Things keep draining me down (basically school, having not car expenses, and other life stuff), so I'm down a few hundred from where I was originally. After my taxes (if they do remain unchanged) I will still only be up to about \$1700. I sent him two messages now, but only being 75% what he's asking for the car it's unlikely he'll reply. I don't know though, he has posted it twice now in three days. Maybe a miracle will happen.

That's really all for my day. I sat and watched shows and played some games. The people at the restaurant were super nice, and I think it's actually as weird for them to not see me there as it is for me to not be there. I don't like being there so much, it's not what normal people do, but I really don't have much choice. They have the best internet connection, food that's reasonably affordable, and they are easy to get to by bus.

An online friend just bought a pretty redonculous system. It is in many ways over my highest rank system (triple monitor, and he spent double the money on CPU and motherboard.) He said that in one test he did it rated at over 100 FPS at high settings. He's got a pretty awesome life. He's happily married, has some little ones, and has a job that seems to pay him pretty well (he goes to football stuff in addition to gaming). I'm glad to know he's doing well and succeeded in life. But it makes me wonder. How far off am I from such a life? I'm pretty sure I'm a few years older, certainly older than most start a family and have kids, some my age even have newborn grandchildren. Will I ever see such a life? Will I ever be able to build any new desktop systems for myself ever again? Will I recover at all? Lately it seems unlikely and that I'll never recover at the rate I'm going. 😞

## Day 1307 - 1/29

### rabb1t life for a day

Today I kind of lived a rabb1t life or most of the day. In the morning I was talking with people about a build I helped someone do and I was reminded that I wanted to do the system recommendations for February. I spent about 4 hours going over those, checking links, updating links, and adjusting the builds in a few parts (hard drive prices have really spiked on the low end due to some shortage.) It made me feel pretty good and pretty happy knowing I'm doing research and recommendations that hopefully people find useful.

Before that I did something I hadn't done in I guess 1.25 years. I kind of forgot about my "game watch", where I go in depth on a game that may not be getting as much hype or press. I kind of have been talking about games that interest me on my podcast and Facebook, but the game watch was designed to go deeper, be more objective, and talk about why it would succeed or fail based on the developer and the industry. I've been more opinionated or talk about how it relates to just my interests, so I think it's important to bring it back. I also will put it on my podcast, though at both my site and my podcast it will likely still be a rare feature as most games do get tons of coverage.

So, for most of the day I was as happy as a rabb1t can be. But now, now I am sad. My heart hurts again. I am cold. I am hiding in the dark. It's very very quiet, which is nice, but sad because it must be quiet, not because I'd like it to be. And all that there is of my life is sadness, worry, feeling very out of place, and the fear that I may never recover again. 😞

## Day 1308 - 1/30

### Seven

Today I feel a touch better about my bad health. I discovered that I can not only do full sit-ups, but I can also do seven instead of five. So that's something. It's still not great. Back before I was homeless I was doing sets of 15 about twice every few days, plus

push-ups, plus sideways sit-ups on each side, plus thrusting things, plus general stretching of my parts.

A regular life in all aspects seems such a distant memory now. I still do many of the things as before, but I have to do them so differently. Remembering things I used to do every few days or weekly, like shop for food, is such a distant memory I would likely forget half the stuff I need. I'm so very tired today. And my throat is all scratchy. I don't know if it's because I did so much podcasting all at once this morning or if I'm catching a cold. Since I'm so tired, and have a headache lately, it's more likely to be a cold. 😞

Nothing super special happened today. An ex-guildie/friend checked in to see if I was ok, but that was really it besides trying to do my podcasting in the morning (because my one chance I had at the regular location wasn't able to happen.)

## **Day 1309 - 1/31**

### **Just a guy**

Today, at least for now, the early afternoon, I feel like just a guy. Mostly. I did start the day doing some rabbit things with finishing podcast 41, but during class time I was just a guy. My class friend and I chatted about the cute girls. We chatted with another guy about game stuff. I knew some answers. I blew some answers. I helped a few people on their labs during the break. I gave some people some cough drops and shared some lols because they are nice berry flavors instead of the normal kind I find too harsh. And after class my class friend followed me to the bus stop and we chatted for a bit more about gaming stuff.

But now I am back to the homeless me time. I'll try to stay happy and be just a guy, but as the night goes on I will be more and more the homeless sad me.

But, at least for a brief while I was sort of social, just like normal people, and just a guy.

## **Week 188**

### **Day 1310 - 2/1** **Worried, but hopeful**

Today I am worried, but hopeful. This morning I was sort of caught in one of my sanctuaries. It should be fine. It appeared like I was looking for something where it was ok for me to be, it was just at an unusual time. Nothing odd happened because of it at the time, and it should pass by quickly forgotten, but it was another reminder that my life is not safe. My life is not in control. And that it is only a matter of time before things must change.

I am hopeful things will get better though. I've been watching the Penny Arcade shows, and while they are about special events are really stories about the two founders and their hard and troubled past. They did what they enjoyed and through all their sad past they endured, and they are ok now. They are really the kind of guys who a success story like that only happens once in a generation, but hearing that their past is sad like mine, that they are doing ok now... it gives me hope that maybe someday I can be ok too. Just like their show, I hope my story can someday show others that one may feel alone in our troubles, but we really aren't alone. Our pain and our troubles are similar to others, even though there are times we feel very alone and isolated when they are happening.

### **Day 1311 - 2/2** **Go eat something**

Today was an average school day for the most part I guess. I got to school and did some homework stuff in the morning. I played for a bit before class. I talked gaming stuff with the class friend. He hadn't eaten at all when he found me before class at like 12:30. I guess he didn't want to eat alone and none of his friends wanted to eat. I'm like 'psh, don't be silly. Come on, let's go get you some food. It takes like 2 minutes to walk to the cafeteria.' I guess he'd never been there. It's the building right next to the one we have class in. I was like, 'here's pizza, and here's Chinese food, and Mexican food...' And when

we sat down he was eating super fast and burning himself from it because it had just come out of the oven. I'm like, 'Calm down spaz. We have like 20 minutes before class. Let it cool off for a minute or two, sheesh.' After class he was asking what I did and where I went after class. I told him about the restaurant and he asked, "Don't you ever go home?" And I was like, 'uhhhh... no.' I pointed him to more podcast listening, as he'd only listened to the most recent one. I didn't want to flat out tell him about my sad life because I don't want things to be weird. Those times around class where people are chatting is really the only time I feel fully normal. The rest of my days something is almost always reminding me that I'm homeless and my life is not what it should be.

There was a car to reply to and it was awesome. But, it's currently out of my price range. With my tax money it wouldn't be, but it isn't here yet. I sent a reply saying I was very interested, but the odds were not good that they would be willing to hold it, and it more than likely will sell in a day or less. 😞 So sad because it would have made me a very happy bunny again to have a super cute/fun car that wasn't broken or ugly.

I do have a special voice work project for Jenese. So hopefully I'll have my window to do that tomorrow. If not I'm guaranteed one Sunday before an extra shift I'm working. But my window on Sunday will be small, I won't have much time.

As always life seems to be out of reach and I am unable to change it for the better. All I can do is make the best of what little of my life I can hang on to.

## Day 1312 - 2/3

### Imagination

Today I feel pretty good I guess. I had an ok time in the morning and during lunch, and in the evening before work I had time to do podcasting and get a shower.

I think I did a pretty good job for Jenese's podcast. She asked me to do some announcer guy type voice stuff for a new co-host she has. I came up with 38 sayings for it. 😊 I also did it in a way that most of those can be mixed and matched. I guess we'll see if she likes them probably tomorrow. I think I did what she was thinking of. Asking someone to do something creative is always tricky because you have this image in your

head and the artist's vision may or may not match your vision. So hopefully I got close enough to her idea that some of them at least will be useable.

This was really my day. Not a lot to it, but I suppose it wasn't bad and nothing got worse.

## Day 1313 - 2/4

### A sad surrender

Today started out good, but wound up being very very sad. I got word from Jenesse that she and her hubbie totally loved the voice work stuff I did for her. She said for like 5 minutes they were laughing and laughing listening to some of them. 😊 So, that makes me super happy it was both what she was hoping for and that she liked them and laughed. 😊

I decided to check in if my tax monies have come yet, and it was a nice surprise that it has. I called a car person from the Thursday ad. It was a super cute little tracker just like my previous three I had that died. As I expected though, between my asking if they would hold it on Thursday and today it sold. 😞 I was very sad. I was cleaning out some files and decided to delete my pictures of my last one. No need to keep the pictures since I've never heard back from the guy that bought it months ago. I shed a tear for my cars that I loved being lost, and for losing a chance at a new one. They are so very rare it could be a long time since I see another with low miles and isn't broken like that one, if I do at all. 😞 If I had another \$800 or so to look up to the \$2500 range I'd be much more likely to find something in good condition like that, but in the range I'm looking I'm restricted to broken or super high mileage stuff. 😞

After that sadness I got more sadness because this stupid online class I have an assignment for, where I followed the directions exactly, was returned and the teacher said this and this were wrong. I got frustrated by going in circles for an hour before giving up and sending her a message back saying I'd followed her directions exactly and didn't know what was wrong and why it wasn't working. She replied again with a line or two saying to try removing x, when x was exactly what her directions said to put in. I'm so

sick of that class. I hate it. There are basically no directions. It's like if I wanted to get a book and learn something on my own I wouldn't need a stupid three unit class to do it. Seriously, I'm learning nothing in it and it's just stressing me out and eating up time.

And after that one of the followers of my site sent an email basically telling me what to do and how to live my life. It's like, I appreciate the thoughts, as I know they are trying to help, but I'm not going to abandon who I am and go live like a gypsy. That's not who I am, not what I want, and while that may have worked for him with his connections that helped *him* get out of being fully homeless, if I wanted to do that I'd have done it already. I really can't say enough how much people telling me what to do bugs me. My ex-roomie used to do that and bug me about job searching, but she went all of 2010 and half of 2011 without a job before deciding to work for herself. It's like, if her method of job searching is so much better, why is it she was out of work for over a year when she has 10+ years of experience in her field? Maybe my search methods back in those final days weren't so wrong after all. And visitors to my work site who are friendly with me sometimes ask how the search is going, then proceed to tell me how to look for a car and what to buy.

It really irks me when people try to help, but what they are really doing is just telling people what they are doing is wrong and they should do it this other way that worked for them without seemingly considering that the person they are talking to is *not* them. I don't know, maybe this is why I fail so much. But I am me. I know what I like. I know what I want. There is only so much less I will settle for. To settle for less than that would make me not me. I would not be happy, and more than anything I would be miserable because then I *would be* someone else, living someone else's life.

I want to be me. I want to be proud and happy to be me, with my choices. I may never get to be 100% me ever again, but I'm not going to wipe it all away and not at least try to get some of me back while holding on to what little of me is left.



## Day 1314 - 2/5

### Not giving up

Today I'm still very sad about the person telling me I should sell all my stuff and give up. I knew he meant it in a way that was designed to maximize money savings so I could, in theory, recover faster. But I think if I didn't have my job, didn't have my stuff waiting for me in storage where I can visit it and swap things out, if I only had one bag of cloths and nothing else... I don't think that would be a hole I could ever get out of. I think too much of me would be gone. I think there would not be enough left to hang on physically, or emotionally. I may, someday, have no choice in the matter, but as long as I have a choice I choose to cling to the ashes and crumbs that remain of what was once my life.

## Day 1315 - 2/6

### The test drive

Today was a bit unusual. This morning I decided I *would* get candies for this year's roses. In recent times I'd been feeling like I wouldn't, like it doesn't matter since noone has shown any interest in me in, well, now more than 10 years. 😞 I decided to be minimal and only spent \$10. The cuties I will be giving the candies too basically ignore me. One is the one who said she liked my bunny, and two are from the restaurant (I know one likely has a boyfriend and I've flirted with the other with no response.) During work I put those packets together.

My day got pretty crazy in the afternoon. I saw a cute tracker up and contacted the guy. He said someone was coming up to look at it from Santa Cruz (about 30-45 min through the windiest most dangerous hill drive around here), but I would be 'next' (my words) and maybe we could meet later in the day. He called a bit later and said he would drive over. Woot. 😊 That was like a 30-45 minute drive for him. And, he had it posted at \$1,800, which was 20% over perfect condition value, but he agreed that \$1700 would be ok. He answered my other questions, and it seemed like an ok deal (though still considerably over the high blue book value.) We agreed to meet. A few hours later I went

and took the money out from the bank. We met up, but then things got questionable. The front license was off, which was not a huge deal, but odd. The back soft top wasn't sitting right. One strong rain and enough water would get in to possibly ruin the entire interior of the car. Replacing the soft top would be a \$150-300 item depending. (Closer to \$500-800 for a hard top, which are rare to find.) The seats were old and faded, and one was ripped with a like 8" long rip. There was no stereo at all. The car was *far* from perfect blue book value. At most something in its condition is worth about \$1,200. But, because I miss my cute tracker so much I said, "Let's go for a test drive." It's been so long since I've driven, and every stick is different, that I was over revving. Normally this isn't an issue, but when we stopped I could hear the reflection of the engine off of other cars and it was like, 'puh ptth puh pop puh pop.' Normally the speed and state of the engine stopped, having the engine rev a bit and the clutch barely out, it would go, 'ptta ptta ptta ptta', and it would just cycle faster or slower smoothly depending. This one was erratic, which had very soft popping mixed in. It was not smooth, nor solid. However, it was barely audible, and I have excellent ears, so I trusted his statement that he had never noticed before. I questioned its history. Apparently he got this for his daughter, but she didn't like the stick, so he was selling it after only having it a few months, and he didn't know the history of the previous owner. So he had no idea if the engine was having compression issues, when the last oil change or tune-up was, or anything. That was it... questionable performance (very early signs of something that might have been what killed my last car), a top that would be \$150-300 to replace, moderate tires (another \$200 to replace), no stereo (where did it go?), bad seats (I'd guess \$150 minimum to replace), plus it was over even perfect condition rating for blue book. So I said, 'Sorry you guys drove so far, but I can't trust this without a mechanic certificate saying the engine is ok.' We'll see if he gets a certificate (likely \$75-150 for an inspection), but since they made no mention of the length of ownership in the ad, since the top was not in the pictures, I have a feeling he was really aware of these issues and just trying to dump it before it dies on someone who is... less knowledgeable about the details of these cars. If I hadn't previously owned several I'm sure I wouldn't have known any of those (well, accept maybe the seats, which is pretty obviously not in good condition.)

I guess overall though I feel ok about it. I would rather save my and donators money during fair weather times than put it at risk by buying something that is questionable.

It's the eve before Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning comes out. I've had hours to kill here at work, but no desire to play other games. I'm super excited that it should be here in the morning. 😊 (I think around 10.)

Guess that's it for today. I'm so exhaustedly tired. 😞 I haven't been sleeping well lately, bad dreams, and it's taking me longer to get to sleep than it should. 😞

## Day 1316 - 2/7

### Smiling girls

Today was actually pretty good, though technically I suppose there is a decent amount of hours left before it's really over. I waited for Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning in the morning at the ex-house. It took forever to get there. Normally packages get there at 10, but it didn't show up until nearly 11:30. The time before class was lost waiting. I'm now installing it after class. (The school firewall blocked doing it during class.)

I gave out my candies to the two cuties in class. One was like, 'ooooh candy 😊', and later I heard her from my spot allll the way across the room talking to someone saying it was 'candy for Valentine's Day. 😊'. She smiled and waved and said thanks again when I peeked over. 😊 The other cutie showed up pretty late, so I had to wait until class was nearly over to give her hers, but after she was like, 'are these *all* for me 😊?' And I said, 'Yeah, well, unless you are allergic to chocolate or peanuts.' She said, "I looooovvvvee chocolate 😊," and we talked for a minute about how she's allergic to flowers, but nothing else.

The game is only 28% done loading, so I have a bit before it's ready, but today I have a fun new game, I made cuties smile, and I am a bit smiley, so today is pretty good.



Oh, PS, it poured rain pretty heavily last night. Had I gotten that car it more than likely would have gotten pretty wet in back, so it seems Fate approves of my decision.

## Week 189

### Day 1317 - 2/8

#### Another smile

Today was pretty uneventful. I spent most of my day playing my new game. I did pause to do the dumb homework, check for cars, check for jobs, and watched a few shows. No cars or jobs to reply to at all.

There was another cutie that smiled. One of the restaurant cuties was there in the evening and I gave her the candies and she was like, 'You're so sweet. 😊', and she hugged the candies and smiled.

That was really it. My game was super fun, but still, I'm so very sad I don't have a home to cook healthy foods, be warm, be freshly showered with clean laundry on, and game on a desktop without headphones. I've been having trouble sleeping again too. I was good a few days ago, but now it's back to difficulty getting to sleep and having bad dreams.

Ah well, my life spins out of control. As always there is no opportunity to change it. As always all I can do is escape to my games and hope it helps to keep me from going completely crazy. 😞

### Day 1318 - 2/9

#### No face

Today seems odd. I wonder if I'm coming down with a cold. Most of the day seems little more than echoes of what's come before. I played my game. I looked for cars and jobs. I had class. I watched a few shows. The only thing really different was in the morning, when I went to get a song off of a CD, the disk drive button smooshed in. It seemed like it broke. I investigated and investigated. After I finally managed to get it open I noticed the face just pops right off by pushing in the tab things on the side. Looking at the button it wasn't actually broken. It seems to have two arms that go into little stick bit holders. However, there is nothing holding it down; no glue, no springs, no

nothing. I put it back in place, but the button is a full 1/4" from the back. There is nothing stopping it from falling right off again. I wrote the company and asked for a new faceplate, or the bits to hold it, or what to do with it. They will likely tell me to return the entire laptop. I'll say no thanks, and just find some glue and glue the arms down myself. Until then my drive has no face. It's fine like that really; it's just exposed a bit. Looking at the other ports (USB, etc.) they were all super dusty. I still don't understand why the laptop manufacturers don't make soft rubber/plastic covers that flip over them when not in use.

Not a terrible day, but a blur of memories that would not exist in this form if I weren't homeless.

## Day 1319 - 2/10

### Offline mode

Today was ok. The morning was spent doing regular stuff, the afternoon playing, and the evening doing rabbit stuff and homework. I did discover that my new game *must* be connected online to be put in offline mode. It's the same dumb problem as Steam. It's like why can't it figure out to put me in offline mode automatically if it can't connect online? So dumb.

I finished podcast 42, barely. It's really frustrating having my few recording sessions blocked or otherwise cut short.

The limitations of my sad life seem extra sad lately. 😞

## Day 1320 - 2/11

### A bit chaotic

Today seemed a bit chaotic in terms of the number of activities I did. It started with lugging my laundry around to the local laundromat. While there I finished editing podcast 42 so it could get posted. I had barely enough battery to do it. I finished with like 7% left. I went to the restaurant and got a half-off cheezburger. I uploaded my podcast and checked for cars. There was another super cute tracker. Again it was seriously

overpriced at 15% above perfect blue book value. There was mention of "a little oil leak", so I asked for details. Apparently the mechanic told him it would be a \$400 repair. Yeah, that's probably not a "little" leak, and it's more than likely that's the real reason he's selling the car. I told him if he got it smogged and dropped to about \$1500 (down from his original \$1900, which was still about the perfect blue book price) I'd happily buy it *if* the oil leak repair was not an immediate critical need repair. I expect he will not change his price and likely just sell to someone who doesn't ask for details.

I played my game and watched some shows after. And that was really my day. Nothing special or interesting happened. Again, it was a day I tried to stay positive, tried to cling to what is left of my life, but nothing changed from its usual homeless state. 🙄

## Day 1321 - 2/12

### Too many fries

Pretty basic day today. There were a few ok seeming cars, but I didn't reply because, as always, they were high mileage and greatly overpriced. (With notes of 'I fixed x, so the price is firm'.) It's sad that I got so much help back when I first lost the car to get back a replacement as quick as possible and I'm *still* not back in a car. I'm sure though people would rather see me in something safe than something that is likely to fall apart quickly.

I had to do more stupid class assignment re-dos. I hate that class. The teacher doesn't teach anything. It's like I'm supposed to do all the teaching to myself. All she does is correct assignments. There is zero instruction. With no book and no instruction this is the stupidest class ever. I don't understand why it's full credits when she is giving zero instruction.

It's been raining off and on lately. It's sad that things are going towards rain since I don't yet have a replacement car. But, I suppose overall the weather should be better quickly enough. Of course not having one greatly reduces the distance I can search, as well as any last minute work coverage I can do.

Well, as sad as things are I suppose it was an ok day. I had all day to myself to play my games and watch some shows. I am very thankful and grateful for that at least.

But still... my day is *not* normal. For lunch I was given twice as many fries as I should have gotten. My tummy would rather have had a very small lunch preceded by scrambled eggs, some bacon or ham, and a little bit of fruit. For play time I'd rather not have needed to wear headphones. And in the evening I would have liked to have stopped everything to cook a healthier dinner and settle in and watch a movie. I often did that on Saturday and sometimes Sunday once upon a time, but that is not my life anymore. The basic freedoms of the weekend are no longer mine. The options of fun, alone or with family or friends, are not mine to choose anymore. I have what I have. And it feels like so little of it is a choice I would make if I had other choices.

## Day 1322 - 2/13

### On the horizon

Today was ok I suppose. I didn't do my school stuff, so it was just a day of looking through overpriced or broken cars and playing my game. The offline mode worked, so after a \$2 movie rental I played for a bit at work.

Tomorrow the Mass Effect 3 demo should be out, which will be awesome. 😊 It's Valentine's Day as well, which I expect will be not as awesome. It is really no more or less sad than any other day though. Maybe it's because I've been single like 12.5 years now and I'm just used to, and expect to remain, single.

I have a test for the stupid class on Thursday. I'm not looking forward to it. With no book I'll be at a huge disadvantage for an open book test. But, I suppose, on the other hand I've occasionally been looking at HTML for the past 12 years, so it should be pretty basic stuff for me. I guess we'll see.

It's been raining lately, which is sad, but it's been off and on, so I've managed to stay dry pretty much all the time.

I keep forgetting there is a holiday and that I'm off next Monday. If I weren't homeless and without a car I suppose that may mean something. But in my current situation all it really means is a day's lost pay. Well, there is still a week left, so I will remain hopeful that I do get a car, and thus my options for the day may shift.



I guess that's all for now. As always, all I can do is hope that tomorrow is a better day.

## Day 1323 - 2/14

### Wub day

Today is ok. I had class and I'm smiley from doing silly things in class. I'm the guy who says silly answers sometimes (in addition to the totally for teh serious correct answer.) The Mass Effect 3 demo *just* finished downloading. I want to play so much 😊, but I have to let my peoples who wub me know how I'm doing first. For the moment I'm ok. But it's Valentine's Day, and I'm single. I'm still homeless. I'm still without a car. And things don't look like they are going to change at all. So, overall I'm still very sad. Life is the best I can try to make of it, and I try my best to keep moving forward each day. But it seems we are at the end of another week where my life is the same at the end of the week as it was at the beginning. I have my small pleasures, the little things I can try to cling to what's left of my sanity. But is it enough? I suppose only time will tell.

## Picture series 27



Star Wars: The Old Republic, I can has it



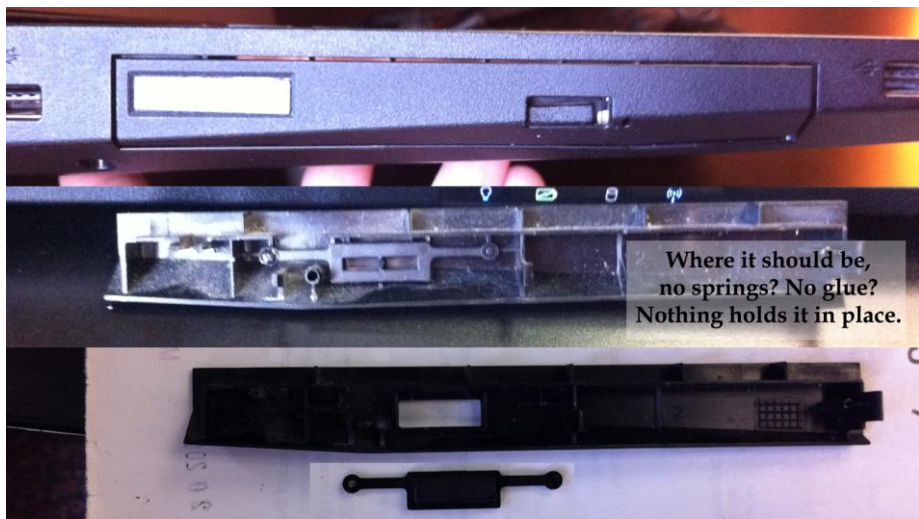
Captain America in threedeeeee



Warm and safe paws, I has them



For teh fun



Button is not so buttony



Reckoning box





Reckoning bits

**Day 1324 - 2/15**  
**A virtual party**

Today was ok I guess. In the morning I didn't play, but one of the gamers that works at the coffee shop chatted with me for a bit about games. 🤔 I did my online work for my friend and checked for cars. There was a super cute car, but it had nearly 250k miles, which is crazy, and it was \$1800 with a high blue book value of only \$525. There is no way it's worth what they are asking. Apparently the owner had a bunch of work done and *then* sold it to the shop to sell, uh what? That makes no sense. Anyway, basically no cars or jobs to apply to. I did apply for one recently, but I think that was yesterday.

Something different did happen yesterday in the evening. If I had held the Epic Fail writing like I should you'd have read about it and not needed to wait a week. Anyways... Jenesea had sort of a virtual hang out and game playing Valentine's Day party. There were only four people there (and me), but it was cool to hang out and talk game stuff and listen in on them playing stuff. (I didn't have the games they were playing.) It was kind of odd though, because three of them are ones who's voice I hear every week on podcasts, heh. 🤔 I didn't talk too much, mostly because I didn't want to torture them with the incessant background music, but also because they were good friends who were familiar with each other, so the rhythm of conversation didn't always leave me a pause to talk. I had a lot of fun and it was very nice to be 'at the party' and 'in someone's home' even though it was virtual.

It made me think about parties though, and being in someone's home in general. I think it's been probably over a year since I've been to anyone's home. It's possible it's been more recent, but I can't remember clearly. That's how long it's been. And, that was for a party where I didn't know really anyone save for the host. This virtual party was different because I sort of knew the people, and at least some of them sort of knew me (at least Jenesea, not sure if the others listen to my podcast.) It made me very happy to be included, but, as always, it makes me sad and I wonder if I will ever do that 'in real life' ever again.'

Speaking about if I will live to see something... I've been feeling bad again lately. My heart has felt... bad. Kind of like there is a bunch of congestion around it, kind of like it's just weak and tired all the time. I'm getting very worried about me. 😞 But there isn't anything I can do about my sleep, which has been terrible lately. I've been feeling cramped and messed up and not gotten to sleep for hours later than I could, nor is there much I can do about eating better. With no car healthier food options are very difficult under the best of conditions. The restaurant and store I go to for work dinner on Monday and Friday do have turkey options, so maybe I should try that. I have been doing lower calorie micro dinners, but maybe a turkey something now and then would also help. With all the extra physical strain from working, and no car to get around, good habits are next to impossible since my life is already so terribly limited.

Well, two tests tomorrow (both open book, which I don't have, and open notes), so I should try and at least rest, and hopefully sleep.

## **Day 1325 - 2/16**

### **From good to sad**

Today I started out feeling pretty good, almost genuinely happy, but over the course of the day things became more and more sad. 😞 It started off with a bit of extra sleep, a very rare and extremely precious thing these days. I had some very odd dreams last night, but at least it didn't take half the night to fall asleep like it has lately. After I got a touch extra sleep I went to the ex-garage. I did some decent podcasting topics and I think it should sound ok. I didn't have much choice this week, as my last recording window was blocked, and Monday I'll have no chance because it's a holiday. With only one possible session I feared it wouldn't be enough. I left the ex-garage feeling pretty good.

When I'd settled in on campus to do some game playing and casual studying I was given a minor scare. The thingy tried to log me in when it was supposed to be in offline mode. I thought, "Well, crap, there went my 2 hour window." I decided to try and log in anyways and by some miracle it let me through. I went to offline mode as quick as I could before it lost connection and got to play and study like I had planned.

The test seemed super easy. Within the first few minutes people were rifling through their books. I finished the 10 questions in less than 10 minutes and people were still rifling through the books and their notes. If it was as easy as it seemed I got an 80-90%. I think I didn't get 100% because as I was on my way to the bus I thought back to an answer and I probably wrote it in reverse of what it should have been. I put, 'bla is not correct because it must start with a character.' When what I should have put is, 'bla is not correct because it cannot start with a number.' These are technically very different answers, as a number *is* a 'character' in the computer ASCII code set. So I got at least that wrong if that is indeed how I phrased it.

I had to do a second test in the evening for the stupid HTML class I hate. It was also open book/notes. However, I couldn't answer three questions, as one is something I don't know and two required a chart. That is so unfair. It's nearly 19% of the grade points that would be answered by the book in about 15-30 seconds per question. But, since I don't have one I'll be lucky to get a C on the test if he's not lenient about it.

But the thing that made me the saddest is how someone replied to a post I made. Someone mentioned cookies that were seasonal and that she missed them since it's not their season and I posted, 'Try this one, it's basically the same thing and you can get them any time.' Not many people know about it, so I always let people know when I see it come up. But my friend posted a reply that could be taken in two ways. The first is like, 'zomg om nom those cookies look tasty damn you for tempting me.' While the second way could be, 'quit being a creepy stalker and posting things to make people like the stuff you like.' Being that I'm so sad all the time and how I'm barely holding on emotionally I took it the second way. She probably means the first, but I may never know.

Overall today has just led me down a path of being very tired and sad about my life. I'm soooooo physically exhausted, especially on days like today where I have all this extra walking. I'm so messed up from not sleeping in a bed. I'm so messed up in health from not being able to eat right. An what with not really ever being able to relax or be free from stress I'm constantly worried and on edge emotionally.

Today is one of those days where I'm on a spinning playground thing and telling the other kids I want to stop and get off, but they keep spinning me and I can't get off because it never stops. 😞



## Day 1326 - 2/17

### Sad and ouchie

Today I am very sad. Last night I was more and more bothered by the cookie post incident that I deleted the post. I still don't know what I did wrong. 😞 I was so distraught by the event today that I went half way to Monday's bus location instead of Friday's, so I wound up walking like 5x as far as I needed. 😞 I got a small window to do podcasting, so I decided to finish and close out podcast 43. In it I tell the sad story of the cookie posting incident. I still feel very hurt and sad over the incident. In my normal state now I'm always needing to watch out, always having to be very careful about I guess trusting people to let me in and be friendly and close, and now intentionally or unintentionally one of the few people who I would say I'm close to kinda hurt me pretty bad. Nothing else has changed, so I still don't know what was meant by the post, but I'm like a nervous bunny who got a huge scare, and now I've run off to hide in the shadows in the corner until I know if it's safe to come out. But can I? Will it happen again? I don't know.

I'm still very worried about my physical health. I skipped my blood pressure meds this morning and probably will tomorrow too. Early on the bad feeling in my heart was likely a symptom of the early stages of kidney problems we found in my lab blood work, so if that's the case again maybe being off it a few days will help. I may also cut down to a quarter pill for a bit. It doesn't feel as bad now, but I still feel as if I have a broken heart. It's probably everything that is sad in my life adding up, but regardless of the cause it still feels like a broken heart, and I wonder if there will ever be anyone in my life that can really help me to mend it. 😞

## Day 1327 - 2/18

### Still my friend

Today started out pretty sad, but turned out ok I guess. This morning I was still super sad about the cookie post incident. I finished editing and preparing podcast 43 and put it up. (The background logo is again messed up, and 42 was still messed up even

though I re-uploaded it. Though both show as ok everywhere that's not on my phone. I don't understand.)

I did my stupid lab for the class I hate and finally, after an hour, got it to clear the check thingy. I re-checked it and sure enough the thing said there were like 35 errors. I sent him an email basically saying F that, I'm not going to stress out over it anymore today and I'll deal with it tomorrow or next week. I already spent too much time on it. Seriously. I should not be required to spend 30-45 minutes making content for a class that's supposed to teach me design elements of something. The content should be copied and pasted and the design should be what is checked. This would be like someone in a science class for dissecting a frog needing to go out to a swamp and find and catch a frog. It's time wasted that has nothing to do with the goal of the class.

I tried to forget about it and spent some time playing my game and watched some shows.

I got word from my online friend about the cookie posting incident. She heard the podcast and was super sad, sorry, and worried. She indeed meant it as a joke and was very sorry it hurt my feelings by my perceiving it as an attack. We talked for a bit and I'm not sad about it anymore. I am still a bit worried. My feelings did get pretty badly hurt by the misunderstanding. I'm worried it could happen again in the future. Not with her, as she said to just ask if I question things, but overall I worry. I am still in a very sensitive place and anyone can post something like that which could seem like an attack against me. As I say in the podcast, it can sometimes be very easy to misinterpret stuff people say if they aren't careful.

But I'm very happy my special online friend is still my friend and it was just a huge misunderstanding. 😊 I feel much better now. 😊

Though... my heart still feels broken overall. I still worry about that. I don't know if it's medicine related. Maybe if it still feels bad when school is back on after the holiday weekend I should make an appointment at the clinic or something. Though I don't know if any symptoms will show up. It may just be my overall bad physical health and stress and sadness getting to me. I don't want to die. 😞 I want to get better and have a regular life again. 😞

## Day 1328 - 2/19

### Bathroom trips

Today I felt kinda sick. I made a lot of trips to the bathroom because... well, my tummy wasn't really happy with what I was eating and it was going through me pretty quick. 😞 My heart still feels bad. Feeling my tummy area I feel fatter again, and I have difficulty bending over and doing simple things like breathing while scratching my toes. I'm sure I'm not much over 215, if that, but it wouldn't surprise me if I *am* heavier again. I'd just started going back to 190 and under from the first car loss when I lost this last one. Hopefully I can find one soon and get some better food and get my health under better control.

My online friend and I were talking regular online again today, so things seem back to ok there. 😊 I'm still very worried about me emotionally and physically, but until I'm not homeless anymore things likely will remain in an overly sensitive state. If I could get back in a car and get more work hours to get more income that would certainly help things though.

I played my game quite a bit and tried to relax and have fun. I'm still getting stressed out over this stupid class I hate and more stupid assignment stuff that was giving me trouble. I'm *very* tempted to spend the \$150 on a current student version of Dreamweaver so I have an HTML program that isn't using legacy code. (The one I have was bought in like 2000.) That way when I get frustrated I can just do the assignment in that, strip out the unwanted stuff, and boom I'm done. I really have that very high on my list, but it really needs to be saved until I get a car.

I guess that was it for my day. Nothing really got better or changed in my life. 😞

## Day 1329 - 2/20

90%


249

I guess I feel okish today. Nothing really happened. I spent the day at the restaurant playing my game, watching some shows, looking for cars, and checking for jobs.

Things are settled back to normal from the cookie post incident, so that's good.



The grades for the stupid class mid-term were ready. As expected due to the stuff I couldn't answer due to not having a book I got a C. However, it doesn't seem to have really affected my overall grade, as it's showing a 90% total so far. Still, it's upsetting to see the average at quick glance was closer to 95% and nearly everything I could have gotten wrong would have come straight from the book. Well, just grin and bear it for the assignments and I'll be ok I guess.


That's it for today. Though nothing good (or bad) happened today it was nice to be able to play my games somewhere and know that my online friend is still my friend. 

## **Day 1330 - 2/21**


### **90% the second**

Today has been ok so far I guess. I'm soooooo very tired though. As usual for being homeless without a car, there are few to no times I get to sleep more than a handful of hours. No sleeping in until 10 or 11 when I would otherwise naturally get up. Though I've been needing to get up at around 6 to 7 for so many years now I wonder if my old sleeping times would still exist at all.

Nothing really special for today. I got the test back for the class I like. I got 90%.

 I missed one of ten questions. It wasn't the one I thought though. It was one that had a phrasing that made it sound like it was asking something else. Apparently most thought as I did. Ah well. It's 1% of the total class points, no biggie.

I hung out with the class friend before and after class. He's funny because he's so young and energetic and obsessive about whatever he's obsessive about *this* week. hehe

 (He was saying how it was weird that many in his guild are "old" and "in their 40s"

and they are "so different from him because they are parents and grandparents". I decided to say nothing. He knows my site and podcast, but apparently hasn't discovered my age or that I'm homeless yet. I'll leave that unsaid for him to deal with in his own time. I think if I just flat out said it he'd be shocked and things would be weird at least for a while.) I'm still not sure why he hangs out with me. I guess I'm the only friendly person he knows at this time on these days.

Nothing on job or car news. And with being settled at the restaurant now nothing is likely to happen. It would be nice to talk about a new love interest, or a job offer, or a big change in my life, it's why my writings are potentially interesting, yeah? 😊 Alas, no such change this week. As always it basically seems to end like it began. 😞

## Week 191

### Day 1331 - 2/22 Five and ten

Today was pretty good I guess. It's very difficult for me to say it was "good" or that I was happy. Yes, I got to play my games and watch shows all day. Yes, even just a year ago I couldn't have done that and I am extremely happy and grateful that I can now. But even with these happy things, even with these small freedoms, I am *not* free. I *do* constantly have to worry and keep my eye out, if even just a little. I do have so very many other things still wrong or bad about my life.

No cars to reply to today. They were ridiculous mileage (150k-250k) or just not something I'd be at all happy diving.

My heart seems a bit better in some ways. Today I discovered not only could I do 10 sit-ups a few times during the day, but five half push-ups as well. (My regular workout before I was homeless was three sets of 10 sit-ups, 5 push-ups, 10 sideways sit-ups on each side, and pushing up my tummy while laying flat, followed by a brief pause to catch my breath and stretch my back / sides between each set.) Now that it's night and I'm hiding my heart still feels a bit bad and sad, but not as bad as it's been lately. I'm still on ¼ pill instead of ½, so I'm on half my medicine dosage, and I'm trying to cut back on caffeine a bit. I think I may be heavier than I think. I peeked at my tummy and upper thighs in the mirror during a bathroom trip and it looks bigger than it feels. There are no scales I can easily get to, so I don't know for sure.

All in all I guess today was pretty ok, but I can't escape the fact that everything I have now, everything I don't, and everywhere I look, I am reminded of how much of a failure I am, and how much I feel like a failure, and that I won't ever be able to recover.



## Day 1332 - 2/23

### Still hoping

Today was pretty ok I guess. I tried to study in the morning, but I was so sleepy the book just didn't sink in. It doesn't really matter though, as we are behind and it's a chapter that I've read before. Class was a big headache. We went over something we'd done before, but it's a tough concept and pretty confusing. Before class I hung out with my class friend. I finally got a chance to show him around the spots gamers hang out. It was kind of disappointing because even though he seemed thankful he didn't seem really willing to break out of his shyness to visit the areas to meet people. I worry that after he doesn't see me anymore he will be alone and wind up being like me when he gets older.

😞 He still has no idea that I'm so much older than he is. I bet if he were to guess that he'd guess I was less than 25, heh. After class I was at the restaurant and I played my game and watched my shows. Again there were no cars or jobs to reply to.

It was nice and warm today. If I had a car and had some extra cloths in it I may not have carried my sweater and trench and put on my shorts. It seems so sad I have to carry all this extra with me everywhere. Of course, all the other things about not having a car are also sad, and I'm pretty tired of that. As always though I can only try to control what I can control. I can't control if there is opportunity or not.

I still hope everything will work out for me and I do get to live a normal life again someday, if not a happy rabb1t one. But for now I am still just as homeless and bad off as I have been so many days before, and all I can do is hope that tomorrow is a better day.

## Day 1333 - 2/24

### Podcast in one day

Today was different. It wasn't different in what I did or how the day went; I still found no cars or jobs. But, it was different in that I came up with a bunch of stuff to talk about on the podcast *and* had a chance to record. And on top of that I actually recorded the entire thing and got it all edited during my shift. So that's all ready to go in the morning.

That was really my day. Nothing else of interest happened. 😞

## Day 1334 - 2/25

### Sleepy, sneezy blur

Today was ok I suppose. I think I have a bit of a cold coming on. I'm sooooo tired, and for the past couple of days and today I've been sneezing now and then. I have a bit of snifflyness too. Today was pretty much a blur. I only remember bits and pieces basically. I was completely out of it until about the early evening.

I posted my podcast in the morning. Noone has said anything about it, which isn't unusual, but for some reason I feel extra alone. I feel very lonely, and despite the constant noise of the music and chatter of people around me, I feel alone and isolated.

I did my stupid class homework for this week which thankfully 'only' took about an hour (so far). I was expecting it to take longer. I played my games and watched some shows. Noting special or different happened. 😞

## Day 1335 - 2/26

### Family day

Today was kind of sad. Sure, I played my games and watched shows, so that was certainly a great homeless day. But emotionally I am very sad. Today was family day at the restaurant, as it is every Sunday. Even before I was there I saw families at the coffee shop. I saw a little one, couldn't have been more than 2, start to snifle and tear. She was so cute, but so very sad. I wished very much that I was her dad so I could have scooped her up in my arms and asked what was wrong. (Apparently even this young she noticed that her drink was not in the same kind of cup as everyone else and she just wanted to be like everyone else.) Later in the restaurant I noticed several families with little ones. Some as young as her, but more closer to around 5-7. It made me sad because I am alone. I am always alone. Not only am I alone, I was not with a family (in the sense of being a single person in a family). I have no little ones. I am not a daddy. And since I am old



enough most "my age" are starting to become grandparents, it seems my having my own someday seems an impossibility. ... If I ever even regain my balance and survive being on the streets.

Those of you who have little ones, or loved ones who are not yet starting a family, take a few moments to remember how lucky you are, and how truly special that is.

### **Day 1336 - 2/27** **Another lonely and sad day**

Nothing really to say about today. I spent the morning at the restaurant, then I had work in the evening. Nothing special happened and there were no jobs or cars to reply to. Again I felt pretty lonely and sad, but that's not really anything new in my life.

### **Day 1337 - 2/28** **Leet day (not)**

Today was pretty sad. I did some work on my next podcast this morning, so that was good, and I had some fun with my class friend. But, despite that, I feel sad and lonely. For the longest time all I wanted was the freedom to have my games and shows. Now that I have them it seems to emphasize what I'm still missing in my life.

Things are better now than they were before, but again I'm starting to feel very alone, very isolated, and very depressed about all the limitations in my life. 😞 It seems the few triumphs I have are small and fleeting and that I may never have more ever again.



## Week 192

### Day 1338 - 2/29 Online fun

Today was actually different for a change. It started out with rain and laundry. Needless to say, on foot that was a huge pain. Most of the day and the early evening was sad. I felt lonely and didn't want to do any of my normal stuff. I have stuff due still for the class I like, but I didn't feel like doing it. I had my online work for my friend, but I crashed the other day, so the stored passwords were lost and I didn't have her login info. So basically I just blew everything off. I was so tired.

In the evening I had some fun with online friends. 😊 I met up with my friend Jenese and some of her friends and we played some Mass Effect 3 demo multiplayer games. It was super fun. 😊

I guess I'm still sick though. I'm so very tired. I'm so very easily angered with all the little things in life (overly bright lights, people talking near me, etc.) I've been getting winded super easily. I was walking at ¼ to ½ of my normal pace, and even now after I've been sitting at rest for a while I'm still having difficulty breathing. There was occasional sneezing and a bit of wheezing, but that's getting better.

Today was pretty mixed, starting sad and lonely, then having fun, while overall feeling kind of sick. More than anything though I still wish I could be living a happy rabbit life. There were some podcast topics I would have liked to have rambled about and tweaked for this week, but I couldn't. There was stuff I'd have liked to have researched and tested, but I couldn't. I keep hoping that I can someday, but sadly the reality is more likely that's a dream that will not come true without a very special lucky event happening. People *do* win sizeable amounts of money in the lottery all the time. I suppose there is a chance someday that person could be me.

## Day 1339 - 3/1

### The following friend

Today was different for a change. I expect even just a month from now this will have no impact on things, but today my class friend decided to follow me to the restaurant. I let him play stuff he didn't have for a bit. It was fun to hang out and have a friend person to chat with. He is super young and super hyper though sometimes, so he'd be tough to hang out with for long periods I think. But the class time and one hour after is fine. 😊 On his way in he left his stuff in the car. I was like, 'You don't need any of that stuff?' And he replied, 'No, why?' And I mentioned how it's just very odd for me to not have anything with me when I go places and that going places without stuff is like normal, but not an option for me. He didn't get it, nor should he, and I hope he never needs to.

With my online fun last night and the extra time with my class friend I feel a bit more like a normal person today. I would even say my heart issues seem lighter and that I don't seem to have as much difficulty breathing, but that would be very difficult to verify as mood related and not just that I do have a cold and it's getting better, or that my normal dose of blood pressure medicine today didn't have something to do with that.

Normal... I still seem and feel so far from it. At least days like I've had lately I can at least sometimes feel a bit closer for a brief time.

## Day 1340 - 3/2

### Blurry

Today was pretty much a blur, but it was ok I guess. I spent the early part of the day at the restaurant. I can barely remember my time there. I watched a show or two I think. Then my work shift was ok. I got a chance to finish recording for this week's podcast, so during my shift I did that and watched a movie. And that was really it.

I feel more normal than not today, though nothing in my life has changed.

## Day 1341 - 3/3

### More online fun

Today was pretty good. I actually did my assignment that was due for the stupid class. I originally thought I wouldn't do it. It looks like the teacher has also put up the next three, which are all the ones left for the class. I may actually try to do them all next week just to get them all done and over with.

Most of the day I played Mass Effect 3 demo multiplayer online. In the evening for about 1.5 hours I even played with online friends, so that was super fun. 😊 We are set to play again tomorrow starting at 5, so I can play a bit before I have to catch the bus to go hide. 😊

Oh, I posted podcast 45 in the morning too, so that was new too. I'm a bit happier with it in terms of style as some lately have felt very rushed. The style of 'talking on the phone late night with a friend' was starting to disappear, so I made some special trips to the ex-garage for a few recording sessions. Just doing it once a week before work was really stressing me out and forced me to rush through them. As long as I'm homeless my recording will be less than ideal, and I just have to try and deal with it as best as I can.

So, today was actually pretty good. 😊 I don't feel too sad, although my sadness is ever-present. Also, I still feel a bit sick, congested and an occasional sneeze, but I'm getting better. Hopefully tomorrow will be a better day. 😊

## Day 1342 - 3/4

### Even more online fun

Today had a surprise and was pretty fun. The early morning wasn't anything special, but then I played some Mass Effect 3 demo multiplayer online. My online friends surprised me by coming in around 1:30 my time. I guess they meant 5 *their* time, not my time. So that actually worked out super good because we got to play a lot longer than if it were 5 my time. Of course I wouldn't be so pressed for time if I had a car. I could stay

until 9 instead of 7:30 on Sunday. And, if I were re-established in a home, or even just on someone's couch, I could play until I started getting super tired at like midnight.

I remember being in a home, free to stay up and play, or get up and play, whenever I wanted. It's such a simple thing, but something impossible in my life. The memories of my once life seem stronger now than they have been, possibly because my connecting with people to play with online has allowed me to have some sort of connection to things that were. But it still seems so strange. I remember what it was like. I remember the freedom of it. But I can't remember how it felt. Maybe I took it for granted. Maybe the world I live in now is just too different. Maybe, even though I was free to, because I had no friends online to play with as I do now I didn't really have fun and enjoy it like I would now.

I have some online friends I can play with now. And it makes me happy and it is something. But when it is night, when I have to hide in the dark, and I know they are still having fun or snuggled in their beds, I wonder if I will ever be able to truly play with everyone else ever again. 😞

## **Day 1343 - 3/5**

### **Not a midnight launch**

Tonight all over the country there were people out in the cold, waiting in line for the midnight launch of Mass Effect 3. They likely had a temporary camaraderie. They likely talked about their favorite companion characters. They probably talked about other games. And, who knows, maybe while in line they also played games.

Once upon a time I would have been among them. Once upon a time I'd have been cold from the night, yet warmed by the many people close to me. Once upon a time I'd have cheered and wooted alongside them when the store started letting people in. And probably at 1 or 2 in the morning when I got home with the game I'd have installed the game while I calmed down from the excitement and got ready for bed, so it would be ready to play the minute I got up in the morning.

But that isn't my life anymore. Tonight while they were cold and in lines I was cold too, but I was alone. The quiet around me deafening, in an entirely different way

than the cheers of joy that likely happened at some of the launch events. Tonight while they shared stories and made friends, if even for a short while, I did not. This is my life now. Cold. Lonely. Silent as a shadow in the night, for fear of being discovered. And while they wondered how long the line would be before they could take their copy home and get in bed, I wondered if I will ever have a home, and if I will ever be able to be in a bed again. 😞

## Day 1344 - 3/6

### Mass day

Today was genuinely super fun. 😊 It started slow with waiting at the ex-house for like 2 hours for my copy of Mass Effect 3 to show up. (It came significantly later than the normal delivery time.) I went to school, then met up with my class friend and we ate and chatted before class. I was able to install the game during class, but it gave me a weird error when trying to connect to the game server. It's likely that school only has one layer firewalled (the game itself, not the service login site.) But, it did get all installed and ready to play after class. My class friend followed me to the restaurant. Even though I made him swear not to talk during the story bits he went on and on. 🙄 He also couldn't get over the fact that I picked a female character. It wasn't that I was playing a female per say I don't think, it was more an issue that I guess he has an issue with / mental block about female soldiers. He also didn't get why the story was important and wanted to fast forward through it all. I'm not going to say younger people can't be empathic, sympathetic, or emotional, heck I've seen ten-year-olds that showed more emotion and sympathy towards others than some adults I've known, but he certainly is in the mainstream bulk of late teen gamer male. I likely will not let him watch me do single player anymore. That's really a private time thing for me. I don't mind so much sharing with someone, but they would have to be a totally silent observer, any talking would only be during breaks (like I pause to pee or whatever) or when the game is off.

After he left I had about an hour to continue single player, and then Jenese showed up, and a person we've regularly been doing online multiplayer stuff with showed up, so I had super fun during multiplayer with them for a few hours. 😊

I didn't want to stop playing, even though when my last bus was coming they needed to leave for the night. If it were any other time in my life I wouldn't have stopped. I could have still played for a few more hours before getting tired. I wish I could have. I want to get more time in and be able to podcast about it. But I can't. Now I have to hide silently in the shadows. I have to hope I get enough play time and enough recording windows to try and podcast.

For a few brief hours today I felt like a regular person. Like my old self. Now in the shadows for the night I again wonder if I will ever be able to return to a regular life, or if I will ever get the chance to live a happy rabbit life.

## Week 193

### Day 1345 - 3/7

#### Dashed hopes

Today was very sad. It was my mid-week break, one of the few days I reserve towards mostly resting and doing a bit of studying (but only when I'm in the mood.) But it seems it was not to be. As what seems usual for my life my new game is broken. I played multiplayer for hours last night without issue. I played the demo of multiplayer for several days without issue. But when I tried today the system locked up. And locked up on a second attempt. And a third. I tried single player and it works 100% fine. I tried updating my graphic card drivers (again) and they locked up the system just like the last time I tried to update them. (Though the drivers now show a February 2012 date instead of 2009, so that's good. I'm ok with the overall software being unchanged as long as the actual driver is recent.) But there was no change. I tried dropping firewalls and it still locked up. I tried doing a system clean to wipe out temporary files and it still locked up.

It makes no sense at all. It worked fine last night and before. Single player works fine. The only thing that changed on the system was an auto-update. While I could roll the system back to before the update, then what? I can't not ever let it update, which it just about immediately would try to do unless I disabled it.

My only chance at happy online play with my friends is to do a complete file check. Which, if it has to download everything all over again means I'm looking at several days of it running the download. Even then from its symptoms I am doubtful it will be fixed. Unless single player and multiplayer .exe files are separate, and somehow only the multiplayer one got current since I played *last night* I don't see how it would be fixed.

I don't understand why I am the only one with these problems. (There are like six other posts about it total which are close to my issue.) I don't understand why I can't have at least a somewhat normal life. 😞 I don't understand why every time things start to even slightly get better for me it gets pooped on. 😞



## Day 1346 - 3/8

### Phew, fixed

Today I feel a lot happier. This morning I tried to do some podcasting, but the program locked up. While upsetting and stressful, it indicated that the issue was possibly with the sound chip. I disabled the sound chip and tried again. The podcasting program worked. It only let me record one track, as it complained it didn't see a sound device after that. While I didn't get as much podcasting done as I would have liked it confirmed the issue was somehow related to sound. The sound chip drivers are from before 2010, so that was pretty ridiculous (particularly since I bought the system in early 2011.) Once I was in class I could check for newer drivers. They were still pretty old, showing a date of early 2011, but they seem to have done the trick. I got to play for a few hours with my online friends in my new game. 😊

I had a decent time with my class friend too. He was hesitant about following me to the restaurant. I guess he had guilt about last week. I was like, 'Yeah, you promised to shoosh and you talked *the whole time*.' He was pretty good this time. He wasn't shoohed the whole time, but shooshed enough.

I guess that was really it. The rest of my day was basic. No cars to reply to, nor any responses on jobs. I feel a lot better now that my system is working again, but it is just a reminder it could go at any time. I could lose all my rabbit data and access to my games. I'm going to run an important backup tomorrow. It's been a while. As to getting out of being homeless to not be in such a high risk category... well, as always, that I seemingly have no ability to change and no control over. 😞

## Day 1347 - 3/9

### Weekly now

Today was mostly a blur. I had a pretty good time in the morning playing my games, watching some shows, and checking on what classes I can/need to take next semester. Before work I got a chance to do some podcasting, and podcast 46 hit a new record in that it is the longest yet before editing (at around 46 minutes oddly enough.)

There was a lot more dead air than usual, but it's still something around 35 minutes edited, which is still longer than my usual ones. So, this is about the third time in a row it's been weekly. I'm still not sure how long I can keep this up since I've so little going on, but I actually had stuff jotted down I didn't talk about yet, so things are looking good for next week being in a week. I guess we'll see.

## **Day 1348 - 3/10**

### **Different game sweetie**

Today was pretty fun. I decided to blow of the class that has dumb assignments and I'll do them later. I suppose I should be careful not to forget to do the assignment for the class I like. There's one due for that too.

I played my game all day. Mostly I did single player. I have an in-game sweetie now so that's fun, yaaaa for love. 🥰 It's odd though because in previous games I had different sweeties, but since I didn't carry over the save game it's like it never happened. Also, they treat you pretty much like nothing happened in most situations, which is always odd. It's like a few key points have any different conversations. It's nice to be able to do that though. It is strange though that the conversation choices don't show a detailed outcome. In the second game you could easily pursue choices that turned out differently than expected. It seems so strange that possibility still exists instead of using more detailed systems as they have in other games they've made.

I did some multiplayer and it was a mixed bag. Some experiences were just not worth my time. Some were good, and one was not too my liking, but more puzzling than anything. These guys were selecting a specific map and specific group to fight against and doing the hardest setting, and had apparently been repeatedly doing that for the past 2+ hours. It's basically like they were cheating. Two of the players were a class that could make the enemy fight themselves, so they were basically making the bad guys kill like 90% of their own guys. It seems like they were sort of exploiting and not really playing the game the way it was meant to be played. It would be like if you challenged someone to chess, then said, 'oh, by the way, you only get 20% of your guys and this grand master is going to be playing in my place, and the only work I'm going to do is tell them when

it's their turn.' I really hope the developers find out that is going on and they patch something to prevent that. Maybe something as simple as 'all gold level difficulty games must be on random maps with random enemies.' Though that's still a 1 in 6 chance for the map and 1 in 3 for enemy type. Ah well.

Overall today was pretty fun. Would it have been what I did if I were in a home? Absolutely not. I'd have showered, had breakfast, probably done some school work, maybe done some stretching or a small workout, and probably watched some kind of movie during a dinner that I cooked. I suppose, as different as it was, it may have been one of the better days I could have had in this sad homeless life. I guess that's something.

## **Day 1349 - 3/11**

### **Waiting**

Today was pretty good despite being so lonely. I basically spent the day playing my game, both online and off. I waited for the online friends to show up to play, but we never got together. I had an ok time with random games with strangers, but I'll likely stop doing that pretty soon. It's just a lot more fun with friends than with strangers.

That was really it for my day. There were no cars, and being the weekend there were no job postings.

More than anything today was like my others where I played and did stuff in a different order or under different conditions than I would have in a home. And more than anything I wished for the soft quiet comforts of having, at least, my own private room in a home. It seems such a simple thing, but it makes a world of difference and shapes your entire being. All the stress, physically and mentally, may someday be the end of me. My games and online friends help, but most days I feel like I'm barely hanging on. 😞

## Day 1350 - 3/12

### Surprise podcasting

Today was pretty sad, but turned out ok I suppose. The morning was decent enough. I felt pretty alone though, but that is really kind of expected as pretty much everyone works in the morning and is not online. The bus to work was delayed due to some traffic, and while sitting in traffic it made me sad about my life; about needing to take the bus, about working different hours than others, about not being able after work to just drive back to a warm home, soft bed, and waiting system to play on.

Work started out with a nice surprise. It looks like there are some groups not showing up anymore. So I had a 3 hour chunk of noise free time. Some school people left late, and people for the later slot showed up early, but it left me with a surprise window of about 1.5 hours to do podcasting. It made me super happy, and I even made some surprise silly voice work for a friend. But it also made me sad. Again it reminded me this is how I have to podcast. I can't do it anytime I want. If I could, these bits would have been done already.

As it seems so often lately, today seemed a reminder of what is missing in my life, and that control and ability to change remains out of my hands. 🙄

## Day 1351 - 3/13

### Unmoving

Today I am pretty sad. I had a good time with my class friend, but it seems everything else I've done has served as a reminder that my life is unmoving and unchanging, and that everything I do is because I have to do it, not because I want to. And the few things I can do that I genuinely want to do are limited. I see people talking about things that are changing or improving in their lives, yet mine stands still. I see people gaining new friends and making new connections, and while I've made a few it's at a far slower speed, barely moving forward, and the connections don't seem solid or like they are only a connection because another connection was made (a 'this person is only

interacting with me because someone else that I know is and they know them' kind of thing.)

It's only later afternoon / early evening now. I still have time to play and for stuff to happen, but I doubt it will. Lately it seems that, even though I am sort of re-connecting with people, that those connections are really just serving as a reminder of what I don't have. Things I see or hear them talk about remind me of the things I wonder if I will ever have again. Things that are basic and commonplace for them are not part of my world, and limitations of my world are, in ways, inconceivable.

I try to hang on and be ok, but it is becoming more and more difficult as the days continue. Where once my days ended with a heavy sigh and simple hope that tomorrow will be a better day, my days now often end with worry and fear that, for me, tomorrow something may happen and it may be my last. 🙄

**Day 1352 - 3/14**

**Hello old friend**

Today was different. Probably not in a way where anything truly lasting will be affected, but different none the less.

Last night someone I haven't seen in about 15 years said he wanted to chat when I got the chance. It was good to chat and catch up a bit in an old school way, though we only talked for about 10 minutes. I was in the noisy restaurant and my phone connection is just poop overall. I guess he just wanted to mention that he missed me and has thought about me and has fond memories of when we were together. Though my memories of those days are pretty blurry, of the few months (?) he stayed at my place I do have half a dozen memories that have lasted all these years. In fact, some of those memories are among the strongest I have. One was a conversation while he was doing dishes. I forget what we were talking about, but I remember I reassured him that he was way more handsome and charismatic than he gave himself credit for. I remember he was so choked up he got a little misty, thanked me, and laughed. I guess his self confidence was pretty low at the time. But now things seem crazy. He has over 850 friends on Facebook and when we talked he said that's not even everyone he knows. So I guess things have changed. 😊

Not too long ago I sent a series of messages to Jenese. She was feeling pretty sad and unappreciated and generally off due to losing her sponsorship on her podcast. The messages were to convince her to make a wish list on Amazon. She finally did. She felt weird about mentioning it, so I made a public service type announcement to play on her podcasts. I didn't say anything, but I was certain the list would get a response, and that very likely a big something would be bought within a week. She made a post today thanking people for gifts. I was right. On her doorstep this morning was a big something. 😊

So today it seemed that I got two indirect reminders that I can help people see that they do have an impact on people, and that may cause them to see something for years

after. I know there are many more who's lives I've touched, and I always hope it's for the better. 😊

## Day 1353 - 3/15

### Maybe not as bad

Today turned out ok. The morning was a bit frustrating, as I had a lab thing due for my programming class and it wasn't working. It got partly sorted out before class with my in class friend, and then I stayed after to get help and it was quickly sorted out.

My weight may not be as bad as I thought. I checked when I made an appointment on Tuesday and after subtracting cloths weight I'm probably only about 215 lbs. I feel closer to 230 lbs, so that's good that I'm not as bad as I thought. Still, that's about 30 over average, and at least 20 over what I was before I lost the car this most recent time. My weight and blood pressure has shifted so much lately. 😞

I also looked up the thing for my headphones and it was only \$30, so I went ahead and ordered it. It's a USB thing, so my laptop should sound better overall, and it should be able to greatly reduce the background noise from voice chat, so my online friends shouldn't have to suffer through the incessant noise quite so much.

I think I have a cold. 😞 My throat is scratchy and my lungs feel congested and I'm sneezing now and then.

There were still no cars to reply to. They are still all broken in terms of the engine or have serious body damage. One odd one made me laugh pretty hard. The text read something like, "nothing wrong at all." Yet in the picture its front right corner was smashed up, and the hood and bumper were crinkled. Yeah, that "nothing" would have probably been \$500-1000 in repairs by my guess.

I guess overall it was a good day, but again I wish I were in a home and could have done more school stuff that I needed to do, done more gaming with online friends instead of needing to leave, not tortured them with incessant background noise, and most of all, been able to eat healthier.

I guess, as usual, all I can do is hope tomorrow is a better day.

## Day 1354 - 3/16

### Waiting for nothing

Today was ok, though it started out sad. I made my way to the ex-house to pick up the X-Fi Go and a movie, but after waiting 1.5 hours they hadn't shown up. I decided it was wasting too much time and I gave up waiting.

I went to the restaurant and got a soup. I'm so sniffly and congested today. 😞 I only had a few hours since I lost so much time waiting, so I just grabbed my dumb assignment from online, had lunch, watched a show, played very briefly, then headed to work.

Evening work was uneventful, as usual. I got enough time before work to finish podcast 47. I spent most of the evening editing, making the page post, and checking it. I only had 45 minutes of my shift left over, so I've decided to postpone my dumb class assignments until Monday. I figure I can power through the two I'll be late on Monday and Tuesday, and hopefully basically complete what I need to do. With all the lost time from not having a car being motivated to do school work that I don't want to do has been very difficult.

It started pouring rain while I was at work. It was nice to see and hear. I wish I could have enjoyed it from the warmth of inside a home looking out at it. It's eased off now and the late night is quieting down.

Maybe tomorrow will be a better day.

## Day 1355 - 3/17

### Forgetful lonely day

Today was pretty sad for me. It was raining last night, so I decided not to do laundry, which is very overdue. When I got to the restaurant I was so busy testing my new X-Fi Go that I completely forgot to post my podcast. I feel so terribly sad about it. I stayed a little longer than usual to try to get it posted and I did manage to get it posted in time to make the bus.



I still don't feel like doing the web class stuff, so I just played my game and watched shows. Even though we'd said that we would play together noone that I normally group with showed up. So I was sad and lonely. Playing online with strangers is fun enough, but since noone ever talks (since you'll likely never see that person again) it feels pretty lonely.

The saddest thing today is that my X-Fi Go made things sound *worse*. There was horrible distortion over the mic for some reason. So, after all that I'm going to wind up just returning it. And to make matters worse, for some reason my microphone, in general, seems to sound like a bad digital recording that's breaking up. I guess I never thought to test it because I have the podcasting microphone, but now that I did I feel bad because it not only sounds bad in general, but that means if anything did ever happen to my microphone this headset can't be used as a backup mic. It's sound is just terrible. I still have to get a car first, but now I have a very high need for a new headset because unless I do live happily ever after very soon, I will undoubtedly be using a headset for much of my gaming, possibly many years to come.

I suppose though, all things considered in my life, these troubles are really very small. And, as I wished for years, I am *very* happy to have *these* troubles and not still out in a parking lot staring at shoppers for 14 hours a day. At least now some of my troubles are normal gamer troubles.

## **Day 1356 - 3/18**

### **Overly aggressive noise filter**

Today was ok, but again sad and lonely, and a day that reminded me I have limitations I would not otherwise have if not homeless.

I took an extra shift from someone, which is good in that it got me extra money, but sad because on a Sunday that means I lost about 2.5 hours extra going places on the bus (compared to what would otherwise be about 30 minutes by car.) People are still posting broken stuff that isn't worth the risk to buy.

I did some research on what I thought was my headphones being bad, but it seems that I've tracked down the real culprit – a poor quality noise reduction filter. It seems the

recording conditions with the headset mic plug has to be almost perfect to sound good, or I have to turn off what a reviewer refers to as "an overly aggressive noise reduction filter". With the software filter turned off I do sound normal, not like poor digital quality. However, all of the background noise is much louder and there is an audible hiss from somewhere. So I assume that this means that no matter what I can't use that port for emergency podcasting if my USB podcasting mic were to die. I guess I could use my old netbook if I absolutely were in such a position, or try it with the filter off, but it's really lame that a gaming laptop has such a horrendous limitation. I guess the ok thing is was my online friends that I play with said that the background music is more bothersome than the digital quality and that overall it's "ok".

Speaking of my online friends that I play with... again they weren't around for some reason. I played online, but I was sad because I would have rather played with friends. Sadder too is that next school quarter I have no choice but to take the lamest time slot class ever. It's Tuesday and Thursday nights from like 6 to 8, so it effectively blocks out the time I could play with them, as that doesn't leave enough time to leave school and get somewhere to play even if I had a car. My only nights to play would be Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.

\*sigh\* Again today seems another reminder of everything that is normal that I don't have. Although I prey I can someday return to a normal life it seems further and further off as time goes on, and that it will never again be more than a distant memory.

## **Day 1357 - 3/19**

### **Unexpected play**

Today turned out pretty good. This morning started out disappointing, as I couldn't get my package returned. I needed to make an unexpected trip to print stuff, then I had no tape. I guess tomorrow I'll look for tape at the bookstore.

I was good and almost finished my homework that's overdue. I was happily wrong though. I'm not three assignments overdue, I'm only really one. I do need to do this one, one other, and the final though, so it's still three total. I shouldn't have much issue

finishing by this weekend. The code for this one is all ready. I just need to grab text and stuff, which I still think should not be part of the class.

The evening turned out fun. I got a chance to do some podcasting. I had nothing prepared, but did about 10 minutes worth. Also, I got invited to play with my online friends. 😊 I said I had to work, but sometimes have ok bandwidth, so we'll see. To my surprise I had like the best bandwidth ever at work and I played almost totally trouble free. So, I got to spend fun time with my online friends. Yeeaaaa. 😊

I guess that was really it for my day. It wasn't too bad, though I'm still pretty sick.



## Day 1358 - 3/20

### Not so bad

Today was ok. The morning started slow. I was trying to do my overdue homeworks, but I was too sleepy and easily distracted. I did do some rabbit site updates, so that was good. I wish I could have spent more time researching and updating, but I have too much to do these days. 😞 Class went ok, and I hung out with my in class friend a bit before class. As usual he was his usual 'train goes faster and faster until he crashes and wrecks, then starts over on a new track', but I'm putting in the seeds of beating him into shape into his brain. Hopefully as time goes on he settles and becomes a good person.



My blood pressure appointment was ok. It's not great, in the 140s / 90s range, but the doc isn't super worried considering all the extra bad and sad things I have going on in my life. She seems to think all the extra walking is good for me though, which my body seems to disagree with. I'd agree I need exercise, but I'd disagree walking on flat feet with an ankle that's still healing up from being broken is the way to go about it. Certainly not my choice to do so. We have an appointment set again in a week and we'll peek at how my blood pressure is going at that time. I don't expect it to change, but I think she's just worried that it may be getting progressively worse overall. She did say she was somewhat

confident that if my life wasn't a total wreck, with proper sleep and decent diet I just may not need any meds to stay ok. So that was good to hear.

It's later afternoon and I'm at the restaurant. I may get a chance to play with online friends. One will be free sooner than expected, but I don't know about the others. I guess we'll see.

Still... for the end of the Fail week nothing seems changed. I do have online friends now that I play with. I still keep tabs now and then on the ones I played the MMOGs with, but I don't really interact with them regularly anymore since we aren't in a game together. Things are still better now than before since I do have a gaming system and I'm having fun with that and my podcasting, but nothing else seems changed. What seemed like it should have been an easy recovery back to a normal life seemingly continues to elude me, and I wonder if I will ever be back in a home ever again. 😞

### Day 1359 - 3/21

#### One more dumb assignment down

Today was ok I guess, though it seemed to pass quickly. It started with doing my overdue laundry. Of the "simple things" I think there is nothing more I like than a nice almost hot shower and putting on clean cloths after. It's sad that it's basically been years since I could do both of those at once.

After, I went to the restaurant and did one more of my dumb assignments. I now just have to worry about the final for the dumb class, which I don't think is due until Tuesday, nearly a week from now. Tomorrow when I get to school I have to try and catch up on lab things for the other class. Ones that aren't due until the end of the semester have gotten very behind. I also have a lab project thin due for that class due Tuesday. I'll probably try and work on that Friday and on the weekend.

I actually finished the school stuff I planned to do pretty quick and was online playing games by 2. I played for a bit alone, then my online friends came on and we played together for a bit. 😊

There was only one car post to reply to, but I don't expect a response. The car is broken in that reverse and 5th don't work. This guy has posted the car three times over the past six weeks, and the last two times he didn't reply either. That's why I don't expect a reply this time. I doubt the repair would be something I could afford, but it would be nice to know the estimate.

That was really it for my day. I suppose it was ok overall, but it was still very sad since it was not in a way I would like to be living my life. I have so many reminders that I'm homeless and doing things that are not what normal people do. I try to escape and distract myself and do normal things, but I so very rarely genuinely feel normal. I suppose the fact that I still think normally and have normal desires; in that they are what I wanted before I guess in some way confirms I am still normal. But I'm still the worst I've ever been physically and possibly emotionally. Though I always hope to make it back to a life I once knew, and a life I envision I could have, I still seriously wonder if I will ever make it. 😞

## Day 1360 - 3/22

### Made me smile

Today my professor of the class I like made me smile. 😊 Every now and then I say something silly (basically when the class is asked something and they are all like "..."). Today he was doing a review for the final and asked, "What is the relationship between these two?" And for a good seven seconds or more the class was like "...", so I said, "On their mother's side. 😊" The professor chuckled, sighed, then sat back down at his high chair behind his podium and asked me, "Are you *sure* you can't make my class next semester?" I explained that there are only six where I work that could cover me, and of them two had already said no and the others had not replied and probably wouldn't. He was sad and said, "I'm really going to miss you." It was nice to know I'm appreciated. I do give the class the right answer sometimes, but when they seem stuck I also like to jolt them with a lol to maybe trigger something that gets their brain going again.

Nothing super special happened today. I got to play online with my friends, which was like yay! 😊 No replies on cars or jobs though. As always my life really seems to be unmoving.

## Day 1361 - 3/23

### Ok alone

Today was ok I suppose. I was alone all day basically. I tried to play in the morning, but the coffee shop didn't have enough bandwidth, so I gave up. I watched a show and played a bit at the restaurant. At work I got a chance to finish and edit podcast 48. There were people in the gym doing something, but if it was going to make the once a week schedule I had no option on my recording time. I tried to watch some people streaming online while at work, but it lacked enough bandwidth at the time, so I missed it.

Today was decent enough, but everything I did I did alone. I don't really mind being alone most of the time, but it would be nice if I could have the normal things in life. Being alone with a regular life, or a life where I didn't have to worry too much about bills

and resources, would be fine. I accept there are some things I may never have again in my life; love, "real life" friends, children, but it would be very nice indeed to have the "basic" things; food, a bed, a home. As always, there seems to be nothing I can do to change my life. All I can do is try and be accepting of it while it changes for the better.

## **Day 1362 - 3/24**

### **A lab not quite done**

Today was pretty good. When I got to the restaurant I remembered to upload podcast 48 right away, so that made me happy. I had lunch and played for a bit. After, I took a break and tried to do the last lab for the class I like. Part of it I figured out pretty quickly, but part just confused me. Even though I had someone's code right in front of me I couldn't figure out how they did it. Tomorrow I should be able to finish without too much trouble.

In the evening I met with my friends and we had fun online. So that made me smile. 😊 We are tentatively playing tomorrow, but we will see who is doing what and how it works out. If noone shows up I can do the two projects I should finish by Tuesday, so it would be ok either way.

It's raining pretty hard now, but I'm safely tucked away in a sanctuary. Though I had a ton of fun and put out a podcast, which I do enjoy doing, my day is still troubled. There were issues with my bandwidth and now, as it has been for so many nights, I'm not sleeping in a bed, and conditions overall are pretty sad.

As always, I guess all I can do is try to hang on to my happy memories for today.

## Day 1363 - 3/25

### Lonely lab day

Today was ok, but very lonely. I didn't have enough bandwidth to play as much as I wanted before the restaurant opened, so I worked on my lab a bit. I got it to the point that it was doing what it was supposed to and only needed one last step. It took much less time than I thought, so that made me super happy. Though, after lunch when I tried to finish, the last step wasn't working. After some help from the professor it is sort of working, but instead of the right numbers it's like 19455944 coming out of nowhere. It's like what? You showed something like 315 in the data cell. Where are you getting that crazy number from?

I got to play my online game a lot, which was pretty happy. 😊 But... I missed my friends. 😞 None of them were on for online play. I guess they were busy. 😞 I felt lonely and sad. 😞

I am in the dark hiding for the night. I feel like crying. 😞 All I want is to have my room again with my stuff out around me instead of boxed up; bed ready to sleep on, and my desktop and home theater stuff ready to go. I just want my regular life and regular freedoms back. 😞 Things seem so sad for me and I don't know if they will ever be happy again. 😞

## Day 1364 - 3/26

### Ignoring the assignment

Today was pretty good. My professor helped me with my final that I was stuck on. I still don't get the logic, but I did figure out all the other parts. It still seems odd that it works fine as one block of code, but doesn't the other way.

I decided to ignore my HTML class final that's due soon. I'm still upset that so much of it is designing content. That's not how most sites work. Most have staffs of writers and photographers, or at least more than one person generating content. "You" don't have to get all this content and junk yourself. (Unless you are the very very rare



person like me who is doing everything for the site.) Anyways... I'll do it tomorrow. I have roughly 2-3 hours in the morning and should pretty easily be able to do something that's passable. The difference in grade between a C on the project and an A is like 5% of the final grade for the class, so I'm just not going to care much and get it done and over with. It has not been a good experience.

I had a good time at work. I had nothing noted for podcast 49 and I wound up doing something like 12 minutes (after editing it down). So the podcast is like half the size of normal already. I figure that I should have something interesting to say about tomorrow's event.

I actually got to do some play with my online friends during work, so that was surprising and fun. 😊

I guess that's all for today. I actually replied to two or three ads on cars, but noone has replied back yet. Nothing really amazing. The one that might be is about a 30 minute bus ride, then over an hour on a train, then whatever more to get to the guy's place, so it's unlikely he'll even bother replying to my questions since I'm so far.

As always, my life is what it is. 😞

## **Day 1365 - 3/27**

### **Finals day**

Today was ok so far. It's only early afternoon, but it's unlikely anything super eventful will happen. Today was stressful, but in a different way than I expected. I did my final for the HTML class in the morning. My blood pressure checkup was ok, but the doc wants to put me on a different med since it's worse.

I waited and waited for my class friend, but he never showed up early. I guess he didn't have a class before, so he showed up at the last minute. I felt meh about a few of my answers on the final, but it's likely fine. Though I still have a final on Thursday night classes are basically over. It seems strange to be again at the end of something without having goodbyes or any real progression forward to a known and tangible goal.

As always, today seems that despite my best efforts and recent achievements, that it is just a day in a long string of days. And at the end of the day I wonder if anything has really changed for me.

### Day 1366 - 3/28

#### Meet up

Today was different. It started out normal with playing and watching shows at the restaurant. But, I had an event to go up to the city, so I wound up taking the bus/train at 2:30 and spent the next 2.5 hours on public transit. Even though the event notice said to "arrive early" I guess the event staff didn't want us to do that. I got there at about 5:15 and I was the second guy there. (I guess the first guy showed up at noon? 🤔) They said they would not let us in until later, so it was like, seriously? I didn't really eat dinner. They had pizza delivered for Nvidia staff prior to the event, but we attendees got weird catered stuff. (I'd have much rather had the pizza.) There were tiny tacos that looked... funny (plant red with stuff coming out?), and some skewered meat pieces that were super tasty but very small. (Yes, let's give people at an event single bite pieces with 12" wooden spikes and not have anyone collecting the used skewers. Good way for someone to get poked since there were very few trashes. Let's not even count the fact that these are all gamers, people who tend to take such things and play/duel with them.) I was surprised that before the event started the head guy came out (Drew Henry) and he actually remembered me from the GeForce LAN 6 event back like 6 months ago. (I remembered him, but I only met half a dozen people there. He probably met hundreds.)

I suppose the event was ok. They really only told us one thing we didn't already know / hadn't seen. The rest were all charts and demos I'd seen on reviews or online. These days the minute something happens everyone who wants to know about it can. The smell of alcohol and the number of increasingly drunk people really got to me though. There was a lot of smoke smell too from people I guess going outside and coming back in. Most probably wouldn't have noticed, but to my super nose and allergies both were pretty noticeable by about half way through.

I got word on my final for the class that I don't like. Well, the lab final I tuned in. The final test is tomorrow. I got 100%, and a note that he thought it was "well done", which kind of surprised me. It's like, yeah, I'm pretty pro at basic HTML, but still. I don't know that I went all out. I did use basically all the elements he taught, so I guess that's

what matters. With 100% on all the labs, and the final project, I am pretty much guaranteed an A if I get even a C on the final test. I don't have the points on the sheet, but I think it's impossible to get lower than an A, which is good.

That's it for the day. With nearly 3 hours each way on public transport I'm totally beat. It would have been so much nicer to have a car, and a home to come back to. I probably would have taken a 5 minute shower, gotten in bed, and been asleep by now with a car and a home. Well, maybe someday I can have a real camera, with some kind of stand to put it on, a decent car, a home, and the freedom to live my rabbit life and go to these events more regularly and do more coverage. Though events like this heavily drain me now, I think it would be fine if I had the freedom to "do them right".

## **Day 1367 - 3/29**

### **Videos and done**

Today seemed very busy. It started in the morning by sorting through my footage of last night's Nvidia event. I made the short descriptions of all the videos to post and started posting them. They were going very slow wirelessly, so I only got about half done by the time it was just after lunch. I played for a few hours, then went to school to finish the video posting and gathering stuff for the final.

The final went ok I guess. As I said, I think I should get an A even if I just do meh on the final. There were only a couple of questions I couldn't answer. His test is dumb. He could easily do a multiple choice online and have the class 100% online instead of needing us to come in for 2-3 sessions.

Though that was it for my day, I'm exhausted. I feel so burnt out. My feet are throbbing from the extra walking. There are even tiny blisters. 😞 My body is sore from all the extra stress of everything.

After the final I was walking around. I heard a dog barking in the distance. There was the occasional woosh of passing cars. The street lights had their persistent bzzzzt. I was so exhausted by my physical weight, of both me and my bag. The noises of the night seemed unending. They seemed the same noises I would hear out and about when I was 12. I thought to myself I should not be hearing them. I should be in a home, resting. And I

thought, at this time it seems more likely these will be the sounds I hear every night for the rest of my life. As it seems my life has become as seemingly unchanging and unending as the night itself.

## Day 1368 - 3/30

### Holy socks

Today is kind of sad. I discovered there was a hole in my sock. I went to replace it just now and of the two socks I pulled out, one of those also has a hole. It seems so sad this is happening. I remember it doesn't seem like more than six months ago that I got them. I remember they were soft and fluffy when new. Now they are so worn out I'm having to throw them away. Yet again something bought while homeless that I thought I could keep until I was back in a home. Yet again something that doesn't make it.

I had no school stuff today, which seemed strange. I wish it could be over and I could move on, but it seems as stuck as the rest of my life.

I got to play for a few hours today, then had a work shift. During my shift I got to finish recording podcast 49, so that's all ready to go in the morning.

I saw someone has linked to one of my videos, so that's very cool. It's like at least some kind of recognition and thanks for posting it. 😊

My friend checked in with me too. We were supposed to do online play, but there really wasn't anyone around. She didn't want me waiting and feeling lonely, so she showed up to say hi, which was super nice. 😊

I guess that's all for today. I suppose I did achieve some things, but I still feel as if I will never really recover. I know the things I do touch a few lives, and that is something, but I still can't help but feel as if I'm being punished for doing something wrong. 😞

## Day 1369 - 3/31

### Disappointing car guy

Today was a bit disappointing. I saw a car that was posted last night around midnight. It was around 10 AM, and I called the guy, and after like six rings left a message that if he still had the car I would be very interested in buying it. It was one of the cute little types I'm looking for. He actually called me back about 10 minutes later and was like, 'You called me?' And I asked if he still had the car, and he seemed confused by the question. Really? Did you not listen to the 30 second message I left? So I asked why he is selling. Apparently he needs to fix another car, so he's selling this one. I suppose a reasonable enough reason. I ask this and that question, and they are ok answers. I ask if it's been smogged. For those who don't know, California law requires cars be smogged within 90 days of title transfer, and has, last I heard, a much stricter requirement to pass than the other states. He says, "No, but it passed last year, so it will be fine." As much as I'd like to believe that, I explained I had two other cars that died around that mileage, so since it's half not my money I couldn't risk not having it already checked. He said, "I understand." And there was a good 5-7 second pause while I waited for him to offer to do that. I said, "Well, if it did pass and there was nothing wrong with it I'd totally buy it." Again a pause. So I continued, "Well, I guess let me know if you do that because I'm super interested in the car." He again said something like he understood. There was a smaller pause after which I said goodbye and hung up. I was tempted to ask if he would do it, but here's why I didn't; To me, knowing what I know about motivation and psychology, the fact that the car is probably \$300 less than what it could be posted at, the fact that he *didn't* offer, are pretty high indicators that he knew something was wrong or that it wouldn't pass. If he was really confident that it would pass, my offer to buy it would have had him excited enough to say that he would, as it would only take like half an hour to do, and we could have met at the shop or something. The fact that he didn't, to me, implies he feels it won't pass, or simply doesn't care to take the time to do it. And if it's that he doesn't care, he probably hasn't taken proper care of it. With two others dying from natural causes around that same age I absolutely can't afford a 'fixer-upper' type car. The purchase price would have been all the money I had.

So, that was really the only big news for today. Again, close to getting a car, but the guy seemed dumb and untrustworthy. And since this is every penny I have just about, and it really is only half my money, I'm still without a car.

## Day 1370 - 4/1

### Stupid coworker

Today I'm pretty sad about the car situation. Not necessarily this most recent one, but not having one overall. I'm soooooo very tired. In a car is the only quiet, private, slightly controlled environment I have. Without, I'm out in bright lights, sometimes bad smells or smells I'm allergic to, in uncontrolled temperatures, and most of all subjected to constant noise. There is no time I get to rest peacefully. More than anything right now I want a day that's peaceful, quiet, private, and that I can control. Outside of renting a hotel room, there is no way I could get it.

I had an extra work shift this morning again. The stupid coworker that was supposed to show up at 2:30 didn't show up until after 2:50 when I called him and asked where he was. I guess he was out in his car sleeping or something in the parking lot?! That 20 minute delay caused me to miss the bus back to the restaurant, which meant I got back like 45 minutes later than I should have. (A full 1.75 hours after a car would have gotten me back.) Additionally, due to buses running less today I have to leave 1.5 hours before close. With a car I could have had nearly 3 more hours at the restaurant to try and relax and watch shows and play. Or, if I wanted I could have rested and had alone time in my car, or gone to a movie, or any number of things.

I saw my online friends a bit. We chatted and had about an hour or so of fun online. 😊 I didn't meet up with them again in the evening. I guess they were all busy doing things. That's good though. I don't want them sacrificing a happy life just to be sure I have someone to hang out with. I would rather they do live their lives and have fun while they can.

I feel really super fat today. I've been on the new meds two days now (oddly they look like tiny triangular cat treats) and I guess, in terms of physical exhaustion and

potential blood pressure, I feel better. But, my tummy and stuff feel overly large and like I've gained 10 pounds in the past few days. 😞

I feel very sad about my life today, and sorry to myself that it's happening. I suppose I failed at life by not establishing a proper base and moving up. I've always had one general / menial job after another and never had a proper chance for better. Now I wonder if I ever will. 😞 I still can't help but feel that I'm being punished for being me. Like someone who is 'in control' is purposely keeping a decent life away from me just because I'm *me*. 😞

## Day 1371 - 4/2

### My normal is abnormal

I realize, particularly lately, I say I want a normal life back. I suppose that's not quite accurate. My normal is not normal and I suppose it never was. My normal has no music, no sports, no drinking or drug use. My normal has video games; with skills I guess you could say are one standard deviation above normal; it has creative times, like with my podcast and website; and it has analytical / philosophical times, with things like going to events/conventions, talking about my experiences, and comparing current things to older things, or ponder connections or interactions with other things.

I suppose too I've never had normal relationships. Maybe I have "for a gamer", but I've always only had a few friends, and never formed strong bonds with family or people passing by (such as school mates or coworkers.) Oh, I get along with people fine, and understand their perspectives and motivation, and even remember or guess details about them others don't, but they are not bonds like others form.

I want what I want and like what I like, and I realize that my "normal" is not true normal. And I'm ok with that. 😊



## **Day 1372 - 4/3**

### **The day so far**

So far today has been ok. It's super busy lunch time at the restaurant now, but I feel, I guess, a bit better than usual. I did some stuff I needed to do, looked up some stuff for my online game fun, talked (via message) to some friendly online people, did my online work for my friend, and watched a show.

As it has been for years, my life seems to be unmoving. It doesn't seem so terrible today, but sadly the week ends as it started, seemingly no closer to recovery than it was last week.

## **Week 197**

### **Day 1373 - 4/4** **Piecing it together again**

Today was decent. It's nice to not have class stuff to worry about. It would be nice if I earned enough I could consider stopping. I suppose I could keep the wolves at bay if I did, but there would be other consequences. (Like, how would I find a job if my current experience hasn't gotten me one already, how would I afford the \$75+ a month for the bus since I get a pass for free from school, etc.)

I've decided to do a secret editing job for my friend's podcast. I'm basically taking 10 podcasts and making a summary for those not keeping up with the podcasts. It's something they said they kind of wished they did before, but none of them had time. With no school this week and nothing to listen to I've got a few hours a day where I really don't have anything more important to do.

I played my online game a few hours with my friends. I don't play by myself with strangers that much anymore because I get pretty easily frustrated with them, and lately it's like I'd rather just wait and play with my friends.

I added in one of the other exercises I used to do to my mini-workout. It's more of a repeated stretch than a strength building thing, but I think it works several parts I'm not happy with. I'm still not back to even one full cycle of the routine I had before I was homeless, but I'm slowly putting it back together one piece at a time.

I guess it was an ok day, though, as usual, there were no jobs or cars to really apply to, and of those I did, noone replied.

### **Day 1374 - 4/5** **Good day**

Today was a rare good day. It started with fun, but slow fun, as I was editing some podcast stuff for a surprise for friends. It seems odd that editing is fun to me now. Not that it wasn't before, just not something I ever saw myself really doing. I did a bit when I

was young on a tape recorder. And in my early 20's I used to make sound samples from TV shows and movies. So I guess it's not completely surprising I like digital editing.

In the sort of mid-evening my online friends showed up to play and we had a lot of fun. 😊 They said that a something will arrive for me in the morning. 😊 Whuuut? My guess is it's a bunny day something, but I won't know until the morning.

Still no luck with cars. I even looked about four times as frequently today. Nothing. There were a few prospects, but they were too far, too broken, or had dumb things like, "only reply by phone, serious inquiries only." Which really translates to, "you must be willing to pay my asking price and not care that things are broken that I haven't listed." I was really hoping to find something this week what with the restaurant being closed Sunday. It's getting tougher overall to be without. I suppose it's still possible with two days left, but it's very unlikely.

I guess that's it for today.

## Day 1375 - 4/6 Surprises

Today was a bit odd, but good. Some online friends who are becoming 'real' friends sent me a somethings, so I spent about an hour waiting for it this morning. It never showed up in that time, so I made my way to go about my regular Friday routine.

I had a few hours at the restaurant and I spent pretty much all the time doing a special podcast project for those friends. 😊 When I got to work I did some stuff for podcast 50. I couldn't really think up much to say, so instead of being long and full of extra stuff like I expected, it's short and really kind of empty. There are really just a few people talking to me at all about them, so it's pretty hard to come up with topics to talk about.

Later in the evening I mostly had enough bandwidth to hang out with some online friends. Some only knew of me, as it were, so they were surprised to 'meet me', even though it was only very briefly. It was super exciting and fun 😊, but sadly I really lacked the bandwidth, and I can't ever be guaranteed stability from either work location.

Still no cars or jobs. I know I've never been good at finding things like this, but I still feel like I'm being punished in some way. I know my place. I know the things that make me happy. Why can't I have the freedom to do them? 😞 Why can't I have enough support to do them 'as a job'? 😞 All I can do is keep hoping, and maybe tomorrow will be a better day.

## Day 1376 - 4/7

### Friends

Today was pretty good. 😊 I got to see what it was my friends sent me. They sent two movies. 😊 They were collection type movies; things I'm getting for the sake of having more than because they are new and cool. One replaces one that I had in a collector tin, and the other is a Blu-ray up-conversion of something I probably haven't seen in like 20 years.

It seems strange to think of online friends turning to 'real' friends. It's been so long since I've had people in my life who didn't know me as just the online me. We each have several different selves, and I only have a very small number of people who know me as more than just the one online me of all of my many selves. (Though really there is only the online me, the real world me, and the at work me, since the romantic me and with friends me doesn't really exist since I'm alone in those areas.)

It was very cool to get a bunny day surprise. I don't know exactly why he sent it, but I think it was as a thank you for doing various fun and friendly things, sort of appreciating the rabbit work type things as it were, but also because we are becoming 'actual / real' friends.

It seems so foreign, and wonderful, to be forging new friendships again after so many years of being alone and only having fragmented friendships due to them just covering one small portion of my life.

## Day 1377 - 4/8

### Lows and highs

Today is a day of lows and highs. It started last night at about 3:30 AM. I was sound asleep hiding in a sanctuary when I was startled awake by a very loud and unfamiliar machine noise. This wouldn't have been so bad by itself, but I think in the last few seconds of my sleep it permeated into my dream. In the dream I was shocked back to where I was in real life, but terrible things were happening. The corner of the room had been blown up and burrowed into by this machine, and a crack in the floor had opened up. I knew it went to Hell, and a demon had appeared from the crack (about 9' tall and pure black) who was grabbing at me and dragging me in while the machine still dug away at the corner and opened the crack further and further. 😞 I awoke panting and terrified to my core because the noise didn't seem to stop. I waited for what seemed an eternity, wondering what was happening as things were still as dark as ever. No discernible lights or signs could be noticed pointing towards the origin of the noise. After probably what was really only about 30 seconds, the sound stopped as mysteriously as it had started. I would guess it took me 15 minutes to calm myself back down and conclude that the machine must have been something automated that was accidentally left on that hadn't been before. It probably took another 15-30 minutes to get back to sleep, during which I cried a few tears because I was startled so badly and I am so sad that I am in such a position; that things in my life are so out of control, out of whack, and that after nearly four years I am still no closer to recovery, I still am not somewhere that I am welcomed, and I am still not somewhere that has even a medium level of predictability and normalcy.

Sometime last week, I forget when, maybe it was two weeks ago, I told one of the people at the restaurant that I was there, in great part, because I was homeless. He replied something like, 'You may take this the wrong way, but why is it everywhere I go there is a nice homeless guy? You know, the person who seems totally normal that you can talk to. You are here, and where I was before in a different town there was one too.' I guess it's good to know that, at least on the surface, my fears, worries, and troubles cannot be seen by others. I do not wish my sad story upon anyone who is not ready to understand it and take *good* things from it into their own lives.

My day was actually pretty good being bunny day and all. 😎 It started with an extra work shift that was totally empty. There is a soccer group of young kids for most of the shift on Sundays, but they didn't show up. So, for 2/3 of the entire shift I was alone with decent Internet connectivity. After work I went somewhere and had ok connectivity. I played my online game with my friends for a few hours I think, then they had to go. In the evening I went to a fancy dinner with monies my friends sent. 😊 I actually only spent 2/3 of it, so I still have a small bit left, but most of all it was a nice surprise that dinner was less expensive than I expected.

But now it is sad again. I am hiding for the night, where in a home I would still have 3 more hours of play time before I even really began to get tired. I am again worried about 'am I really safe' at night, 'is my routine still somewhat stable, predictable, and will I be ok here'. But most of all I still wonder if I will make it through these terrible trials at all. 😞

## **Day 1378 - 4/9**

### **Things in the dark**

Today was ok. It was very nice to be back to a normal routine where I don't have to worry about what is closed where. In the morning I found some news to read for my site, so I spent some time going over that. I still really wish I had the freedom to do my rabbit life full time so I could have a calendar and stuff in my 'work area' to keep better track of things. After, I did my online work for my friend. It's cool that I'm still doing that, as I'm beyond the point I'd had that income in my budget, assuming I'd move on or it would have changed in a way I could no longer do it. So, it's nice to know there is still that extra bit of income.

I only had a few hours at the restaurant, but I had a good time there watching a show and playing my game a bit.

Work was ok. I had connectivity, so I played a bit more with online friends until they had to go. After, I did some rabbit stuff in the time before close. Oh, I did do a bit of recording before, but I didn't edit it yet.

Things in the dark seem extra scary. Once upon a time I welcomed the night. I was a shadow among shadows and moved unseen and unheard. I was no different than any other night creature. But now that I'm homeless I have too much stuff with me, too many things to worry about, too many things to lose if caught. Now I fear that which I was once a part of. I don't know that I miss it, but I do know I don't like the uncertainty, the sadness, or fear that may accompany the night now that I'm homeless. 😞

## Day 1379 - 4/10

### Probably sick

I'm probably sick. 😞 There is a lot of congestion in my throat and lungs and I have a bad cough. 😞 Someone was in the coffee shop on the weekend coughing her guts out and I probably caught it from her.

I have new classes today, so that starts in the evening. I'll let people hear about it tomorrow and not hold up the week's posting. I doubt it would be worth holding for.

Today some Mass Effect 3 multiplayer stuff came out, so I'm totally looking forward to the new characters and maps. Guild Wars 2 had their pre-purchase offer starting as of today, so I did that too.

Besides being pretty sick, today seems promising so far. 😊

## Week 198

### Day 1380 - 4/11 Another terrible class

Last night's class set a terrible president of things to come. The teacher is terrible. It's as if she took a mace and did this crazy finishing move to a dummies head and then asked, "So, everyone understands how to fight with a mace now? Everyone get it?" Um, no, crazy lady. This is the first class and you did 10 things in 3 seconds, so noone gets it. On top of that she is forcing us to stay for the lab the entire time. Meaning I lose not only the 1.5 hours extra of class that I'm forced to stay for, but an hour after that of waiting for the bus. I tried complaining to the head of the department, because some of us don't like being forced to spend 1.5 hours in a room with 30 people all doing stuff, which is extremely distracting and not at all an environment for studying, if I even chose to study at that hour. Apparently it's unavoidable. Next quarter lab time will be optional, but not now, and this dumb teacher is sticking to that. 😞

Today I'm very sick. 😞 I've had heavy lung and throat congestion a few days now. As of yesterday I have had a bad cough. This morning I probably had a fever, and it certainly felt like I had chills. But there was nothing I could do. I have no home to sleep in at. I have no car to rest in. I had to get up like it was any other day and go do regular things.

I am a bit better now, but I still feel pretty terrible.

I tried to be restful today. I did get to play my game most of the day, so I suppose that was good. More than anything I wish I could have slept-in in a bed, been able to watch TV very quietly when I felt too bad to be at the computer, and been able to eat better / healthier foods to try and get better.

A sad day that is a sad reminder that I have no control in my life. While I can do some things to stay in good health and get better, it is likely more in Fate's hands how sick or well I am, as I have no control over my environment or people in it. 😞



## Day 1381 - 4/12

### Feling worse, feeling better, feeling worse

This morning and last night I was feeling pretty terrible. I still feel like I was feverish and had chills. And I had really crazy dreams. (Which is not uncommon when I have a fever.) I was actually coughing so bad that I spazzed out a muscle along my ribcage and that hurt every time I coughed for the rest of the day. Since I have no car to sleep in or rest during the mornings after I leave the sanctuary I went to the store and got some medicine.

When I got to the restaurant I took a second dose and was feeling better. If I stretched out before coughing to put my chest into a 'don't bend' position when coughing I could carefully cough without hurting myself. The fever seemed to settle a little and the chills were basically gone. I skipped school and rested as best as I could. I drank probably double or triple the normal amount. I was supposed to not drink so much soda, but part of me seemed to want it to keep me revved up to fight my congestion.

My fever has time things confused. Things that happened days ago feel as if they just happened. Like the other day the manager person at the coffee shop said people are still mentioning me in reviews they do for the shop, even though I'm not there as much these days. It feels like it happened this morning though. I still feel his light touch on my shoulder to get my attention as if it just happened.

In the evening as the cold night came it began to rain again I started feeling worse again. My cough returned a bit and some of the difficulty breathing returned.

I suppose it was an ok day besides feeling super sick. I watched my friend stream her podcast and played my online game most of the day. I only got to play a little with online friends, as they were mostly all busy.

I'm still not sure why I have so little support in my life. I guess it's how I've always been really – alone and independent. It still seems odd that people see me as different, and sometimes unique, and yet I'm still homeless, missing so many things everyone else takes for granted on a daily basis.

## Day 1382 - 4/13

### Congestion

Today I started getting super congested. It's like the fever/chills has changed into congestion/ear screeching. The coughing got worse and worse as it passed through last night into today. By the afternoon I was coughing up yuck. 😞 It seems to have settled a bit for now, so maybe I'm finally starting to get better.

Today was fairly disappointing. I didn't get to play much because people kept being stupid and trying missions higher than they should, or would leave in the middle, or simply didn't know what they were doing. 😞 It was frustrating. My friends were busy, so they really weren't around.

During work I wanted to be online to watch a friend stream something, but it only held for about 30 minutes, then I effectively couldn't stay connected anymore for the rest of the night. I guess it was ok as there was other stuff I could do.

Today though I really just wished I could have slept-in in a bed, had a chicken soup and plenty to drink, a hot shower to try and decongest myself every few hours, and a warm and quiet home to keep my senses not over stimulated. But that was not to be. Today my body was as out of control as my mind often feels about my situation in life.



## Day 1383 - 4/14

### Messed up by medicine

Today I started out pretty bad. I was still coughing a lot, still had what seemed a bit of fever, and for the most part my brain really isn't working. As the day went on my cough settled, possibly in part due to being very thorough about taking cough drops to prevent coughing. I still hurt tons when I do. But I wondered as the evening approached if I was getting to the point that the medicine was messing me up more than my cold. If I get through the night without too much trouble, and feel better in the morning, I'll drop to half of the medicine I took today. Hopefully I'll start feeling better soon. Recovery from illness with no home and no bed to rest in is difficult under the best of circumstances.

Besides my being sick I guess today was ok. I got to stay at the restaurant and had ok time before it. I uploaded my podcast, and even did a few other things for people. I played my online game for most of the day, but sadly I didn't really see my online friends. Only one was on, and only for about an hour. The rest of the time I was left to random groups. Only a few were good, most were just farming gold level missions, or just frustratingly bad. I'm sticking to my opinion that they should change gold levels to force random maps and random bad guys. In more than one gold that I did players only managed in one spot on the map. Several times they wiped if they were forced to move. Which means they really were not ready for gold level. Just because you can do one map from one spot against one bad guy doesn't mean you are deserving to play at that level. Sure, they have to "start somewhere", but I don't think being able to win under 1 condition out of say a possible 100 should grant them the same rewards.

Very sick. Very tired, exhausted even. My eyes hurt. My ears hurt. My ribcage hurts from too much coughing. I'm so sniffly. 😞

I suppose though, things could still be worse. 😞

## **Day 1384 - 4/15**

### **Sick and sad**

Today I'm still pretty sick and very very sad. 😞 Today I really wanted to sleep in, to have someone who cared for me check in on me, bring me soup, to be able to take hot showers to try and decongest myself, to be able to nap if I need, but most of all to have a quiet, controllable, and comfortable space I could rest in.

While I suppose I am getting better, with mostly just a seemingly non-soothable tickle feeling in my throat where cough drops nor drinking can reach, today was one of those days where I feel very alone. There was not someone who checked in on me. There was not a bed to rest in. There was just me caring for myself. I wonder, should I live the remaining 40 plus years I have estimated left, will I remain alone that whole time? Will I ever find love again? Will I ever have people who care about me around me? Or will I always be as I was today, alone. Will I always go into coughing fits and there not be

anyone to hand me a drink or medicine? When my end does come, will I be alone with noone to care, and noone to notice that I'm gone?

Today feels extra sad and lonely. 😞

## Day 1385 - 4/16

### Still sick

I'm still very sick. I'm mostly better, but my throat still has that strange tickle, congestion, cough, and I'm very very tired. I get exhausted whenever I do anything. And I'm very... irritable I guess you could say. I'm very hungry, which is new, but at lunch I barely touched my food. (It took hours to eat what normally takes 15-20 minutes.)

Due to my exhaustion and simply not wanting to waste hours and hours at night I'm considering not going to class tomorrow. The thought of three hours with a bad teacher and forced lab is not in the least bit interesting. I'm considering seeing if there is the possibility of dropping since lab in future quarters would not be forced. That alone would be a huge change. I recall there being some rule with financial aid I couldn't ever drop classes. But then, that may be for aid I don't qualify for anymore. I'd be out like \$50 if I didn't get my money back. But I don't know, I really dislike the teacher, and the forced time in lab is fairly unbearable. I think it will really depend on how I feel tomorrow in terms of my cold.

Today was again pretty sad. Really again all I wanted was to be able to sleep-in in a bed, rest, have the foods that would help me get better, but most of all be surrounded by peace and quiet (not out in public with blaring music, overly bright lights, and people constantly around me.)

Some aspects of my life that are worse than usual don't seem that bad. But then, as I have so often wondered lately, I wonder is this really all I have left? Is this all there will ever be for me?

## Day 1386 - 4/17

### More sick

Today has been a weird day for my cold. I sort of felt better for a bit, but now I feel kind of worse than before. I'm so exhausted. Going any distance, even just from my table at the restaurant to the bathroom exhausts me. My cough has settled, but my tongue feels really weird. (Half like it's asleep, half like it's been wrinkled in a bath.) There is a dry flakey feeling in the back of my throat, but it's surrounded by yuck that comes out if I sneeze. I'm really hungry too, but when I try and eat I eat about half of normal then feel very full. I never actually finished lunch (there are a dozen uneaten fries) and of my soup and grilled cheese sandwich I had for dinner half of the sandwich has sat here untouched for the last hour. (Though I'll eat it soon I think.)

I told my professor there really is no way I could make class tonight. She basically said, 'too bad, drop class.' I've started talking to financial aid about it to see if dropping changes anything in terms of qualifying for the fee waivers that I do. I'll probably hear back on that tomorrow since they are already closed today. I already have the bus pass, so that covers through June if need be. I'll order the parking sticker too, which covers until I think late August after summer is over. (Even though I have no car now, school is where I sleep in, so it's important to get since parking is \$2 per visit, while the sticker for all those months is only \$15.) I would feel weird dropping. It will be nice to be rid of the professor and her inflexible and uncaring ways. I am unlikely to learn well from her anyways even if I stick with the class. And she would be docking me 5-10% of my total grade if I don't, which is ridiculous. But, it would seem odd to be free. It would be the first time in not summer that I've not had classes in like 12 years. I know it's not giving up on me if I do, particularly since it could still be a while for me to really recover what with my sad life what it is right now. I am still trying and determined to find something to find at least a normal life again. But it would be, at the very least, weird.

Just spent a little time playing with an online friend, though my favorite friends haven't been around in a while. I miss them. 😞 That, plus my sick, plus my sick reminding me of everything I'm missing in life... I'm a very sad bunny this week. 😞

**Day 1387 - 4/18**  
**Falling apart**

Today I feel like I'm falling apart. At lunch a part of a corrupt tooth broke off, and a nearby filling went with it (likely because it was just being held in place.) The surprising thing is I am actually ok with losing it. It's been corrupt for years. That tooth had gone bad like probably 8 or more years ago. I did get it filled once upon a time, but it was a major work. During my homeless days I lost that filling, so it was just getting more and more corrupt as time went on. What is left seems 'good', so even though most of it is gone, what was long dead has now been cast off.

Although I didn't really cough at all last night my cold / flu / bronchitis / whatever seems kind of worse. I feel just terrible and get exhausted even more easily. I'm also literally choking myself. My throat lymph nodes are so swollen and you can easily see my throat is bigger around than usual.

Despite not needing to worry about class today I felt lost, alone, and adrift in life. (Though I did not get a reply to my email, so I sent another one, and I'll call or something tomorrow if I still don't get a reply.) I felt as lost and like I was set out in the world to fail just like when I was kicked out of my masters some five years ago.

Today I feel as if my life is falling apart. I feel lost. I feel like a failure at life. I feel like the things I'm good at, the things I enjoy doing to "be productive", don't matter to others.

But I know that's not the case. Even if I do drop the class, the next round starts in late August. Some online friends / ex-guildies sent me a special card they made with some monies to get socks for my paws since so many of mine have holes now. And one of my new friends popped online to see how I was doing and all since he knew I was sick and I hadn't seen those friends in a few days.

In many ways I do feel like I'm getting better, both from my cold and my loneliness and isolation. But because there is noone around me during the day (physically), because I am alone at night, because my life is unchanging and I'm missing

so many critical things... I still feel like I'm falling apart and may never recover at the rate I'm going. 😞

## Day 1388 - 4/19

### Possibly more swollen

Today I felt sort of better through a decent part of the day. My neck looked more swollen though. And as the night went on I felt colder and more and more like the lymph nodes were choking me. I was coughing pretty badly for a while, but it seems to have settled again. Though walking is extremely exhausting to me tomorrow I think I'll see if someone at the health center can look at me. I'd guess this is why cough drops haven't really helped. It may be something on the outside of my throat, likely just the swelling causing things to smoosh together that normally don't touch.

I'd probably be over this by now if I weren't homeless. In the last week and a half I probably would have gotten between 30 and 50 more hours of sleep. Not to mention overall rest. When I can be somewhere quiet my ears ring and my eyes hurt. I suppose for a normal person it's like being at a sports bar or quiet concert. The overstimulation is really draining on my systems under the best of times. But when I'm sick... foood. 😞

My new friend is sick too. She had some kind of allergic reaction and had to go to the hospital. 😞 Her hubby thinks she is doing fine and should be released in the morning, but still I worry. 😞 Who knows what other unknown allergies she could have. 😞 When I was 13 my mom went to the hospital with a super bad thing (tuberculosis) and they gave her a medicine she was allergic to and her lungs/throat swelled up and she suffocated. So... I am very worried about my friend. 😞

So many sad things in my life, and I am seemingly powerless to change any of them. 😞

## Day 1389 - 4/20

### So tired

Today started with me trying to set up the appointment. There wasn't anyone who could see me today, so I have an appointment set for Tuesday. I do feel a bit better, though I'm super tired. I dozed off on the bus on my way to work.

Nothing really new for today. My friend is back at home now from the hospital. She says not to worry, but since they don't know exactly why the allergic reaction happened I will always worry some. 😞 With an unknown cause there is an unknown way to avoid it and it can happen again in the future. 😞

It's super warm lately. It's almost like summer. If I at least had a car it would be great. I could wear shorts and leave extra cloths I don't need in the car (jacket, pants, etc.). Without... it just seems to serve as yet another reminder of how different my life is from the average person. 😞

## Day 1390 - 4/21

### Maybe slightly better

Today I'm maybe slightly better. The tickle in my throat and lungs was pretty extreme at times, and I was coughing very badly in the morning and night. I stayed at the restaurant all day, and with a free refill soda I basically constantly drank and was ok. (Unfortunately it seems to have to be something caffeinated, as non-caffeinated drinks, or water, don't seem to sooth my throat and I start coughing and wheezing again.) I'm still drinking two to three times normal, so that's not good (overall). But besides the cough, raspy lungs, and very quick exhaustion I'm feeling maybe a bit better. My confusion is lifting and time is becoming a constant again.

There were no friends online today, so that was very sad. I had a new game I got for cheap to keep myself occupied, so it wasn't too bad of a day. I hope they are all ok and having fun wherever they are. I know they are all out there, so while I am a bit lonely lately I'm ok I guess.



It was a super warm and nice day. I think it was over 80F. I was out in very little of it, as I needed to be indoors most of the day. In a home, with a car, things would have been so much better. I could have slept in, napped if need be (I almost did doze off for a bit a few times), and I could have opened my windows to let the warm fresh air in. But as sad as it is, my life seems to continue to be not normal. 😞

## **Day 1391 - 4/22**

### **Maybe better, maybe not**

Today was another extra work shift. It's good because it's more money, but without a car, sheesh does it waste a lot of time on Sundays. It's like 3 hours spent traveling when it would otherwise be 20-30 minutes by car.

I worked on some rabbit stuff I needed to do, so that was good. I had zero internet connection though, so I played my new single player game.

I had a few hours at the restaurant, but none of my friends were around. The one that needed to go to the hospital recently was on for about the last hour I was there, so we chatted for a bit. 😊 But noone was around to play, so that was pretty sad.

I've been better and worse today. As per usual lately my cough was pretty bad in the morning and evening, but when I was about during the bulk of the day the cough was pretty mild. Mostly it was just the very extreme and almost constant fatigue / sleepiness that got me. I do seem to be getting slightly better, but at the rate I'm going I'll likely still be bad on Tuesday for my appointment, which is good in that maybe enough will be left for the doctor person to have drugs that can help me totally get over it.

I guess that's it for today. Just my usual sad life and regrets about all the normal things that I don't have in life really. 😞

## Day 1392 - 4/23

### Stained lips

Today, even though I'm coughing a ton, I feel a touch better. I did notice that my lips seem to be stained more red from the cough drops. (They are red/purple.) I thought that was kind of funny.

I guess today was ok. I saw and played with one friend for a bit. He's ok, but he's a friend of a friend, not a 'direct friend'. We grouped with one friend of his when we played during the day, and a different one when we played at night. The first seemed ok, but the second wasn't really my type of person. He had his mic on the whole time (thank the gods I couldn't hear his game sounds), but the whole time his chair was screeching, his mouse was thumping, his keyboard was really loud, he was eating stuff, and bla bla bla and swearing. Not the kind of person I would choose to hang out with really.

I really like my two new friends Jenese and Tinzien. And I like their friend Daniel a lot too. They are much more my style in terms of friends. They are chatty but equally quiet. For the most part they don't make a lot of noise or broadcast everything. (Though a bit too much noise comes through Jenese's mic sometimes, and Daniel doesn't always mute when he eats.) I wonder if that is part of why I've had so few friends. I really only like a very small number of people because I only like certain types in terms of personality, and they kind of need to have certain... habits(?) in terms of polite habits, conversational style, etc.)

Nothing really different today. The car ads are becoming more numerous, but it's because more and more are either broken or are really big cars (which would be high maintenance, poor gas mileage, or both.) I guess things don't seem as bleak as normal with the weather being warmer and my health slightly improving. But I can't help but wonder as I always do near the end of a Fail week; is this all there is for me? Will I never return to a home and a life I had? Will I ever find any new friends that I like that are close enough geographically to be "real life" friends, or will they only always be some form of online friend?

## Day 1393 - 4/24

### The appointment

I had my appointment today. They almost didn't see me. 😞 It was at 9, and I thought I remember it being 9, but I had 9:30 in my notes, so I went in at 9:20 and they sort of said it was too late. 😞 They wub me though and squeeze me in. 😊 There was the cutest registered nurse there. 😍 I need to find me a nurse/doctor sweetie that's a gamer. That would be one of the best sweeties for me I think. 😍 So the doctor person listened to my lungs and did hear the wheeziness. She gave me an inhaler for when I need it, some anti-biotic drugs, and they hooked me up to some vapor inhaler machine for like 5 minutes. My lungs feel a lot better after doing it, but bleh, it made me have a few coughing fits, so I probably didn't get as much of the medicine in me as I could have. So, as expected, they agreed I have some pretty serious stuff going on (bronchitis / pneumonia / other), but the meds should help clear me up. 😊 Oh, it did cost \$25 for everything, but that's super fair, as they don't normally charge me for visits, which is \$10, and had I gone to the actual hospital I have coverage at it would have cost \$25 just to be seen, then who knows how much for medicine.

It's still fairly early, not even 10:30 as I write this. I'll be settling in at the restaurant soon and going about my regular routine of looking for a car, jobs, and playing my games to try and be somewhat happy and forget my troubles. I suppose today ends the week in a hopeful note of being better soon, though overall things still seem very lonely, lost, and sad. 😞

## Picture series 28



Mass Effect 3 and From Ashes downloadable content



Drag Me To Hell, sort of early bunnah day present



Nvidia GTX Meet-Up 1 swag bag

An actual backpack, Nvidia shirt, Nvidia baseball hat, lanyard, contest entry for Nvidia gear.



Catering; the tiniest cupcakes ever!  
(You can't tell, but they are like 1" big.)





New blood pressure meds look like kitty treats, lulz!



om nom nom the Easter candies.



Easter pressies. What is they?!



So fun, movies!



Dinner noms, phase 1.



Dinner noms, phase 2.



## Week 200

### Day 1394 - 4/25

#### Better... ish

Today I'm feeling better while I'm at rest. I don't cough or feel bad really. However, when I'm moving, even if it's just going to the bathroom I tire out, feel a bit like coughing, and do sometimes. There is still flemy yuck when I cough at times, and I'm soooooo very tired. Overall though I feel a lot better now that I have the meds, so hopefully I will continue to improve pretty rapidly and be recovered by the weekend. (My main meds are a five day dose, so that means the last pill is Saturday morning.

I think I had an ok day. Honestly the majority of it is just a blur of doing stuff offline, like looking for cars and jobs, and playing single player stuff. My online friends were around in the evening, so we played together for a few hours. 😊

The school administration thing shows a credit for nearly \$50, so I guess I should see about collecting that when I feel well enough again to walk longer distances. With a car it wouldn't be a big deal, but without it's adding quite a bit of walking. Right now I still get too exhausted to even walk around the store to get my new fluffy socks and pants some friends sent monies for.

I'm a bit sad thought. My bestest friend that I play online with was sad because she may not be as into the game anymore. It's ok because gaming to me is about going in cycles, but it's sad that she didn't enjoy her time tonight. Maybe it was just something tonight, but it seemed like something she'd been thinking about / feeling for a while.

That's really it. Nothing really special today. Still feel pretty icky, still very sad that my life would be so much better in a home, particularly now with me being so sick, but it seems I still have no control to change anything. 😞

Today was actually a bit different, both in a good way and in a bad. To start, I'll mention the regular things, as people will likely be curious about that. I still feel pretty bad. I get winded and have to pause walking every 25 feet or so, but I needed cough drops, so I went to the store. I took things easy enough that I managed to get the fluffy socks and new pants. These pants are 38" and seem to fit just right, so if I get heavier they won't fit. But that might be good incentive as I *am still* about 30 pounds over my average lately. It was a good thing I got the cough drops, as my lungs seem extra congested and a lot of yuck is happening. They don't feel as dry as they did before, so hopefully that means I'm getting better, but I did need to use a lot of cough drops to keep from coughing.

The thing that was sort of bad, sort of good, happened in the evening. My friend Jenesea had her video stream of her podcast and there were some popular people on and there were like 50 people in the chat room. They were all having a super good time, but I only knew one person. I felt very much like I was at a party where I didn't know anyone. They were all fans / friends of the guests, so they all basically knew each other because they all were a part of the social network that is that site. While it was awesome to be a part of it, at the same time it brought up a lot of confused and sad feelings for me. Jenesea's podcast and mine are about the same age as it were, but she gets tons of people who subscribe and listen, and she now has over 300 friends on her page. I have not even 10% of that number, and none of them are important in the industry type people. Granted my site and podcast target regular gamers for the most part, while her's focuses on interviews with developers and I guess you could say enthusiasts. Heck, I don't even have interviews at all, heh. I'm super proud of how she's grown in her success, but at the same time it makes me sad (for mine). I don't have that kind of recognition or following. I don't know if any of what I do *matters* to people. I see that strong community connection and see everyone having fun and talking amongst themselves and think to myself that I'm an outsider. I wonder if I will ever have a following like that. I wonder if I will ever have or be a part of a community like that. I am reminded, even though noone there knows, that I am not a young person forming bonds and connections with others that will last for years

and years. When it was over I "went home alone", just like any event I go to, just like any party. I made no new friends. Noone approached me in more than just a passing way.

My feelings seem like I want that fame, that recognition, that success. And while I admit those things would be nice, I think, deep down, that's not what really affected me the most. I think what affected me the most is that it seems like just another reminder that I don't have a place I *belong*. I don't have a community that I'm really a part of. I'm not viewed as a part of something, or someone who is, special. I am still the outsider. I am still alone. I am not a part of that crowd. And being older and feeling those things... no matter how much I wish it were not so, it seems that for whatever reason I will remain an outsider. I will not be recognized or acknowledged by more than a few. And, most sad of all, that I could have forever missed my window for those things to happen for me.

## Day 1396 - 4/27

### Dropped doughnuts

Today was fairly disappointing. The morning went reasonably normal, though I didn't get a micro dinner because I just didn't have the spare energy to make the trip. During lunch before work I played the Guild Wars 2 beta weekend a bit. I didn't get to play the race I wanted, as it wasn't selectable for some reason, but it was also an unoptimized client, so things are pretty laggy as well as overcrowded by players. It seems decent, but due to not having anyone to play with I'm kind of unsure if I'll pick it up. There is still no launch date, so we'll see as we get closer to an actual date what is going on in my life.

All day I'd been wanting to watch my friend Jenese stream her Death D4 Dishonor podcast, but the connection at work crapped out and I barely got to see half. And just now during a night time snack I dropped several mini doughnuts onto the floor.

Today I feel pretty sad. I lost tons of time on the bus that I could have spent playing. Because I'm stuck with no car I had a dinner that was bleh instead of the usual. My bandwidth for watching my friends online died. And because I'm homeless I dropped snacks onto the floor. I am very sad that my life seems such crap right now, and it seems like it's never going to change. 🙄

## Day 1397 - 4/28

### The soundtrack

Today was a bit different. Every now and then I've done different; I guess you could call them sound bites, for my friend's podcast. Lately I've thought, "You know, if you add all of them together, plus this cast member's sounds, you'd have a whole soundtrack." So I did that this morning. I spent probably two or three hours putting together the sounds I've done, giving them tags, making CD style art for the cover and back of a case, and threw together a site for downloading it all. So, while it's all technically live and ready tonight, my friend will announce it at the Death D4 Dishonor site I'd guess tomorrow or the next day. It still seems strange that in the early days we kind of butted heads and I got very mad at them and now I'm doing things for them and things are happy, and some of them are my bestest friends. I think part of that could be due to some cast members changing, but also how they run they rules has settled a bit, and I too have settled a bit in terms of not being rules-lawyery and letting it be its own thing. Maybe someday when I'm not homeless anymore I can be a part of it proper like instead of just in the background.

Speaking of limitations of being homeless... today was better, but still bad, as it were. I really wanted basic food – chicken soup for lunch, and boiled skinless chicken breast with white rice for dinner – but I couldn't have those. I did have soup for dinner, but it was a very funny version, and the on sale half-off cheeseburger at lunch didn't really agree with me at all. I guess I was betterish in some ways though. I still exhaust pretty easily, my throat, nose, and lungs are pretty congested, and my pooper... well, it's not happy at all lately. 😞

I guess, overall, today was pretty good though. I got my podcast ready to go. I did the soundtrack and felt helpful and productive with that. I posted it all when I got to the restaurant. I played my online game a bit, played part of the Guild Wars 2 beta weekend, watched a few shows, and in the evening got to play and chat with my online friends. 😊 As far as homeless days go it was pretty good, not counting the feeling sad from sick, which was a very sad reminder of how different things are now from before. 😞

## Day 1398 - 4/29

### Feeling a bit better

Today I'm feeling a bit better. The day started with me messing around with more stuff for the soundtrack. I wanted to tweak some stuff, so I did that and it sounds even more awesome.

I felt pretty congested in my throat and lungs much of the day, but I didn't really cough at all. I'm still super exhausted though. At one point I almost fell asleep in the restaurant.

I got to play Guild Wars 2 a bit more. I think it was only a few hours, but it was pretty fun. Again, being that I have noone to play with and I'm homeless I'm still on the fence on if I'm going to really go through with the purchase. It's fun and awesome and all, but as something I'd play by myself... I don't know. It seems kind of sad playing an online game alone.

In the evening I got to play a new game with my online friends. 😊 Well, it's new to most of us. The game has been out over a year. We had a lot of fun, so that's good. It gives us something else to play online together. 😊

I guess that was really it. I think I'll feel mostly all better in a few days, but actual recovery will likely take a week or more at the rate I'm going. 😞

## Day 1399 - 4/30

### General cold

Today I don't know if I'm really getting better, still sick, or have a new general cold. I still fatigue extremely easy, have a lot of congestion in my lungs, my eyes hurt, my ears are ringing, and I'm just soooooo tired all the time. I do feel much better than before, but fooooo I'm still bad. Of course with needing to always be up and about, not having a car and needing to walk everywhere, constantly being places that are bright and loud... these things at the very least aren't helpful.

Oddly I don't really remember much of today. I don't remember the morning at all. I think I updated my site and did a touch of research. I did my online work for my friend. And during my work shift my online friends that I play with were on, but I didn't have enough bandwidth to play. It was like 0.15 I think, when basically 2.0 or higher is required to be stable with games. Oddly though voice chat was mostly ok.

I guess all I can really hope for, as always, is that tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 1400 - 5/1**

### **May day**

Today I feel pretty good so far emotionally, but physically I'm still pretty wiped. I've got a decent amount of congestion in my chest and throat. I'm not coughing too much, but occasionally I do go into a coughing fit. I'm still wiped in terms of not having energy and being really sleepy as well.

I was thinking about if I should continue to post the Fail week Tuesday mornings. I don't know that it really matters to hold it or not. Thinking back there really hasn't been anything worthy of holding it. So, while I technically should save it so Tuesday is a complete day, not a partial, I can't even remember the last time it would have made any real difference.

I guess this week was a bit different what with my still being sick, the chat room incident, and my being super creative in making the soundtrack stuff. My new game with my friends is pretty fun as well. 😊 It's cool to have multiple games to play. Previously online friends have come from a MMOG, so when I stopped, or they stopped playing, I didn't really play stuff with them after that. Overall though, the regular life things still seem to be outside of my control. 😞

## Week 201

### Day 1401 - 5/2 General cold and fat

Today I do feel better, but I almost certainly have a general cold that is lingering. Lately I've been cold most of the time. I was so cold today that I was gritting my jaw much of the day. I'll have to wear more cloths because noone else around me seems to have issue with the restaurant temperature. I still tire very easily. I don't have to pause my walking like before, but if I'm doing anything but sitting and resting I just get exhausted. I can recover enough energy that I can do a few small exercises during the day, so that's good.

I wonder if I've gotten fatter over the past few weeks. It's becoming increasingly difficult, and now basically impossible, to bend straight over and put on my socks and shoes. 😞 If I were to guess I'd say I'm near my heaviest and wouldn't be surprised if I were 220-225 lbs. 😞 I really feel terrible about how my tummy is, but without good sleep, without regular (not fast) food, with everything emotionally weighing down even the good things I do have, it's going to be very difficult getting this weight off and keeping it off. Maybe I can get better once things warm back up in the summer and I'm back in a car. 😞

### Day 1402 - 5/3 Play day

Today I played probably more than I was expecting to, so that's good. I really feel pretty good today emotionally. The day started with checking into something (for hobby stuff), then I spent a few hours on rabbit site stuff, then I spent about 7 or so hours playing with my online friends. 😊

I guess today too I feel a decent amount better. I'm not as congested and I didn't really cough since this morning. I am still terribly worn out in terms of physical endurance, but at rest I feel much better than I have lately.

I guess that's really it now that night is upon me and the solitude is setting in as I need to hide. Though I had a pretty good day, my thoughts quickly begin to get sad as I think of all the basic things I am still missing in my life; things both fun and basic things that would greatly improve my quality of life. 😞

## **Day 1403 - 5/4**

### **Hilarity ensues**

Today was ok I guess. The bulk of my day was pretty fun playing my game, but everyone was busy, so I was alone.

In the evening my friends had their podcast. There was extra silliness and hilarity ensued. I think that part of it may have started because the GM started with a not serious intro. They don't have any kind of settling in time before the podcast, and I think doing that kind of gave them the ok to be silly. When you are a GM it is really up to you to help, or make, players focus on the game. Back in the day I would do about a 6 hour gaming session when I was GMing, but the first 1-2 hours of that was for eating dinner, messing around, updating characters or talking about rule things. Without some kind of 'warm up' or 'cool down' I think it can be very tough to get your players into the mood for being serious.

That was really the highlight of my day, though I could only stay connected for about 75% of the podcast. There were no cars or jobs to be found, so my homeless life remains really unchanged. 😞



## Day 1404 - 5/5

### A different table

Today was kind of sad, but ended well. In the morning I put up my podcast then played my game (solo) for a bit. I got several decent loots for a few characters, so that's fun. Sadly, most of the day I was alone and felt tired and lonely. If I could have napped I probably would have. In the last couple of hours that I was at the restaurant a few of my online friends came in and we played a few rounds. 😊 It made me super happy to see them. 😊 I wish there were more times to play together. It seems lately they have only been able to play a few nights a week for a few hours.

The only real big change for today was that there were several parties at the restaurant, so I had to sit at a different table. It seems strange to think that my days lately, well for the past month or so really, I've been sitting at one spot for basically 10 hours. Sure, in a home I'd play and be on my system a lot too, but if you did one of those time lapse videos I'd be in basically one spot the whole time, unlike in a home where I'd be on the computer, sitting somewhere else to eat, leaving to shower, change my cloths, maybe open or close a window, turn on or off an air purifier to help my asthma and allergies, go sit somewhere else to watch shows or movies on the TV, etc. It sort of makes me think back to my early homeless days where I'd spend that same amount of time, and more, watching people come and go because I had nothing else to do. I guess, even though my life is very sad, I have a tiny handful of friends now, a system, games to play, and through my site and podcast I can help or entertain others. And I guess that is something.

## Day 1405 - 5/6

### A system scare

Today was ok, but pretty lonely. I had a scare yesterday with my system. On boot up it said there was something wrong and it had to run a disk check. Thank the gods 15 minutes later it said everything was ok and it booted normally, and has since. But to be safe I ran all the critical bits of my monthly backup. That is going now. After, I'll let it do a disk defrag until it is totally done. Before the weirdness it said it was like 24%

defragged, which is insane as I've only seen systems that bad which had never had a defrag run in like 4 years. I guess with all of my games going on and off the system, and getting unoptimized test clients, it's gotten really messy.

It was quite a scare. Sure, nothing I have could not be replaced. I may lose an Epic Fail page or two, or some bits of podcasting, but things could eventually be recovered. I'd rather not lose anything though. While I never really worry with a desktop, as I'm always very thorough with my backups, what with my podcasting being 14 gig, and my video stuff from events, that stuff gets backed up very rarely, as it requires file swapping via USB to my netbook because it's too big to put on a standard DVD. I can't easily do multiple disks, or attach on a spare hard drive to run a backup.

While I am relieved that everything seems to be ok, a part of me is kind of sad I wasn't forced to buy a new system. While it's a horrible thought financially, part of me is sad I was not forced to buy a new system. By draining the car money I could have gotten a new Alienware M14x (which was just updated on specs a week ago) - a system that would have cut my weight by half and size down to 75% as big. It would have run for probably triple or quadruple the time gaming unplugged, and easily 5 hours just doing general use stuff or web surfing. Since it would be so much smaller it would have been far easier to pack and unpack, as well as meaning I could change to a normal sized backpack instead of this overly gigantic one. Though I would have lost Blu-ray (without paying an extra \$200, which is a bit pricy) and 1920x1080 resolution (it maxes at 1600x900), due to the next generation gaming chip, and the lower resolution, it would have out-performed what I currently have in speed.

Well, better that I still have the money for the car, even though noone is posting anything worth getting. Again, today the few that looked good at first glance were broken in some way. I guess, as always, I am at the mercy of where Fate is taking me, and all I can do is hope where it is taking me serves some "greater" purpose.

## Day 1406 - 5/7

### Headache

Today was kind of a blur. That might be in part due to the headache I've had all day. I'm not sure if it's a lingering cold that is causing it or the sudden change in temperature or what. (It was like 80F today I think. 😊) I don't really remember the day. I have a vague memory of getting my blood pressure meds in the morning, working on my online work for my friend, then playing my game alone during the day. In the evening my online friends were on for about an hour, so I got to play with them. 😊 My lag from work was pretty bad, so that hurt us I think. 😞

I did get word that the Death D4 Dishonor soundtrack is getting much love. I looked at the stats, and if they are correct, there has been about 40 downloads since it was first posted five days ago. 🗣️ Wow, that seems pretty crazy. I'm glad people seem to like it and have fun with it. 😊

No cars really to send word to. There was one, but the rest were all broken. That's really it. Just a regular day for the most part. Which, I suppose, in my sad life is a good thing.

## Day 1407 - 5/8

### The morning

It's sort of later morning, but I guess I'll close out the week now. I don't expect anything to happen, and if it does I can update the page later. 😊

I didn't get my system fully defragged yet. It's taking an insanely long time. I ran the system for about 3 hours the other day *just* doing that and it only cleared about 6%. It still shows 18% messed up. I don't understand why it takes so long. It has a second drive in there. It should just be able to copy a chunk, delete a chunk, repeat. It doesn't seem like it should take as long as it is. Maybe I'll delete a couple of the bigger games I don't play anymore. Maybe that will help. I've got a couple of MMOGs I'm unlikely to go back to that are probably 20-30 gig each.

I feel tired, but the past couple of mornings I got to sleep in a bit, basically waking up before my alarm. It makes such a huge difference being able to sleep until you wake up naturally compared to when an alarm wakes you up.

I suppose I feel hopeful today that things may change for the better – probably due to the warmer weather – but the reality is that nothing is likely to change at all and the most I can hope for is my friends are on and I can spend a few hours playing with them and that worries and sad things seem a bit less for a while.

## Week 202

### Day 1408 - 5/9 Halloween costume

Today was ok. It was mostly sad and lonely, like every day. But there were a few good moments.

It started with laundry, which was very overdue. I didn't smell or anything. I don't sweat really, so I rarely smell bad. But I didn't smell fresh. That is really difficult for me, as I don't get a shower every day, nor do I have a place to take clean clothes from after the shower. While I was there I saw a wasp trying to get out of the shop. The critter couldn't figure out how to get past the invisible force field that was the glass wall. I felt very sad for it, and sad specifically because all this critter wanted was a chance to live its life, just like me. I watched for probably half an hour while I was doing some audio editing. I finally grabbed a magazine that was there and very gently offered it as a place to climb on to. The critter did, and it stayed still while I carried it outside. Once past the barrier it immediately flew up into the air and away from the shop. I was happy at least one of us was free, now having the opportunity to succeed once more.

At the restaurant I played my new game, but I decided to try out a class that would be support. I've decided that while the knight class is cool and has some useful tower things, it's not all that fun to play grouped because there are just sooooo many bad guys. I think I'd like a ranged person more. Anyways... my plans were quickly changed when I decided if I was going to play that I wanted a special costume. Unfortunately you need to complete a special level on hard to unlock it, so back to my big level 61 body I went. Try as I might through the day I never unlocked the costume. I'd even leveled to 70, where the level recommends 60+. I guess I need to tune my strats and maybe get a few more levels.



Yesterday I did have something happen after I posted the week. I saw a cute car, with a hard top instead of a soft top, and it wasn't too far. I called to ask some questions. Turns out the guy basically lied as to where it was. It was some probably 30 miles away across the bay, which meant what was possibly a 30 minute bus trip became about 2.5-3 hours. I suppose it's ok. It was the same mileage as the last two of that type which died, so

it probably wouldn't have lasted very long without a lot of work. After that I was pretty sad most of the day, even though I'd started it feeling hopeful.

In the evening today my friend popped in to say hi to me. She didn't want me feeling sad and lonely. 😊 We chatted for a bit by messages, but I bet she fell asleep because she stopped messaging shortly after. 😊 If she was tired and needed extra sleeping then it's better she get that than stay up and talk with me.

It was pretty warm again today, but being in the cooled restaurant I wound up changing to pants pretty early. Without a car, without a home, there is no way for me to enjoy the warm weather as it were. At the rate things are going I'll miss a portion of this nice weather, if not all of it. And even if I do get a car... I still have a very strong feeling I will miss a great many things this summer, just like so many before it.

## **Day 1409 - 5/10**

### **Another sad party**

Today was mostly ok I guess, but it became more sad as the day turned to evening. I woke up early, so I got an extra hour just about to do things. When it's because you wake up naturally, being up early can be a good thing. I started my day with doing some audio editing. A friend showed up online, so I played for about an hour with him, then needed to move over to the restaurant to eat. I had lunch and checked for jobs and cars. I decided to check more often today just because the weekend is coming up, and I'm always a bit more sad when it's the weekend and I have no car. It not only means an extra lost 3 or more hours over those two days that I could play, but even more lost time if I'm working on a Sunday morning shift, which I am, in addition to things like the possibility of going to a movie at night or other activities. Through the bulk of the day I was playing my new game, again trying to unlock a special costume for a character. I got closer, but it's very frustrating in that I'm 10 levels higher than the level recommends and I *still* can't beat it to get the unlock.

In the evening my friend had another party type podcast stream. Earlier in the day I had a feeling I should pass on watching, but I decided to peek in and see. They were getting drunk, and I don't like being around drunk people, so only the first half or so was

interesting. The rest was them being pretty drunk. Granted it was silly and fun for those who do it, but for me it was like, bleh. A one point someone got super sick and had to leave, but their video was still going on their empty chair. I was pretty worried, because that's how I am, but I guess noone had his number, which seemed odd since they were all on the staff for that website.

But again there were similar feelings as last time. I wondered if I would ever be a part of a community like this. Would I ever have friends to have a party like this? But this time it... well it hit home as they say, more because they were drinking. Since drinking is an activity usually done in a safe place, at a safe time, near your bed / home, or you have an easy way to get home. So people were saying how drunk they were, and how they should go to bed, and they were having fun and bed was easy to get to. I have none of those things. I can not drink and be silly online in a chat room with people. (Not counting that I don't drink at all.) My bed is only near to my computer in that both are packed away in storage. But, most of all, I was reminded I am not young. I don't fit in with the age of most of those people. If that were a real (physical) party it is likely noone would have talked to me save for the like four people I knew. I would have likely sat alone for the evening. They would not be young, cute, attractive girls flirting with me because I would not be a center of attention in such a group.

I am sad, but I suppose it is more an acceptance that I know who I am. I am not young, like most people. I am not charismatic or a central figure. I do have expertise and special knowledge, but it is not considered valued by most. I wouldn't say I feel undervalued, but I would say most of the time I feel unappreciated, unnecessary, alone, and an outsider even within the communities which are 'in my interest'. And because of all of these things happening at once, I feel so far out of the norm, so much of an outsider, I wonder if I can ever *really* be a part of anyone's world ever again... or if I ever really was before.

## Day 1410 - 5/11

### Getting frustrating

Today was ok, but a bit frustrating. I again tried to focus on getting a special costume unlock for my game. While I'm closer it still seems impossible. It's very frustrating now as I've been trying for about 15 play hours. I really don't expect it to take a long time and certainly not this long. This seems... unfair since they rated the level at 60 and now I'm a 71+ and still have yet to unlock the item.

In the evening I got to work on my podcast, so that's all done and ready to go. Unfortunately I had just about zero bandwidth at work, so I couldn't watch my friend's stream, which made me very very sad, as I look forward to that all week.

Oh, oddly, for no discernible reason I had a really bad migraine level headache most of the day. Also, my eyes hurt, and I was really extremely tired. I'm not sure what's up with that.

Nothing really different for today. Overall it was really just another regular day. My sad things remain sad and unchanged. 😞

## Day 1411 - 5/12

### Subconscious block

Today was mostly ok I guess. It was a bit extra lonely with people out doing stuff (for Mother's day?) But for the last 1.5 hours of the day I got to play online with friends.



During the day I again tried to get my special costume in my game, but I failed solo. Later in the day I looked for an existing game for it and there wasn't one. Then, after probably 16 total hours of trying over the past 4 days (which includes today) I had the thought to make a game myself. Once upon a time I'd have probably done that after only a few rounds of trying. I really didn't understand at first why I didn't do it sooner. After a while it dawned on me – it is because of all of the limitations in my life being so deeply rooted in my core. Because of all of the instability with my connection, because of my not having friends outside of the circle I play with (who are only on a few hours a few days a



week, and not of the right level), because of fearing various inappropriate or unfriendly interaction with strangers, I simply didn't even consider the fact that I could make / host my own game. The first try failed, but the second (with an 83 in the group, max level) worked fine. So, after maybe an hour or so for that I got my costume. 🥰 It seems strange that the limitations and thoughts of 'I can't do x unless I can do it on my own' have become so deeply part of my core of who I am. I think though, more than anything, it is sad that I consider myself so far outside of normal now that I don't even think in ways that I used to.

## Day 1412 - 5/13

### Lingering cold

Today was ok I guess. It started with an extra work shift. Being Mom's day there was only one person there the entire shift. I did some podcast stuff, editing, and then played for a bit. After work I went and hung out at the restaurant. Like work, there was almost noone there. I didn't get to play in the evening with friends, noone was around, but that was to be expected.

I actually got a reply from a car person. I don't know if I will wind up going to see the car though, as it was one of those 1.5 hours each way trips. I told them to let me know if it doesn't sell and is available to see Tuesday. That's the soonest I could make a trip that time consuming.

I must have a lingering cold. My eyes still feel like they are being pushed from behind, my ears are ringing a bit, my headache is there but not as terrible, but mostly my tummy is really unhappy with what I ate today. I'm also very sleepy even though I slept very decently last night, which is extremely unusual for me.

More than anything right now I wish I were in a quiet, calm, peaceful home, where I could cook... gentle foods, and snuggle in to my bed early and get extra sleep. I feel very sad I do not have it. I almost feel like crying, not so much because my life is sad, but because I just want to be somewhere quiet, peaceful, and where I can rest. I just want to eat not fast food and rest. And I don't understand why I can't have it. 🥺

## **Day 1413 - 5/14**

### **Not at a launch**

Today was ok I guess, but more lonely and sad than not. Nothing bad happened. It was just one of those days where I basically didn't see friends, didn't play with anyone, and the routine of what little of a work day I had wore me down emotionally. I didn't hear back from the car guy about going down in the morning, but that's ok. I have a package to wait for in the morning that I've been forgetting about.

Right now people on my coast are waiting for Diablo 3 to launch. People on the other coast already got theirs, installed, and are playing. I don't really mind missing the launch. It's not a super huge deal. I can wait until morning. But if my life were better, if I could take the time off from work tomorrow, if I had a car, if I had a home... Yeah, with a normal life I could have gone to a midnight launch. I would have taken some videos. And I may have some silliness I could have shared. But, as so many launches lately, that is not my life. It is not something I am able to do. And I don't know when I will be able to again.

## **Day 1414 - 5/15**

### **Waiting for Diablo**

Today will hopefully turn out ok. It's I guess mid to late morning, a half hour after when the delivery person used to show up at the ex-house. Lately she's shown up between 11 and noon, but I really hope it's sooner rather than later. I hate wasting part of my day in the ex-garage waiting. With a car I'd have been doing things, then just check in every few hours. Without, well, walking to the bus, getting on, going somewhere to do something, coming back... I easily lose 30 minutes each way on a very conservative estimate (compared to the same trip in a car being 5 minutes.)

I'm happy Diablo 3 is finally here to play, or will be when it arrives. But it seems kind of surreal. This is again one of the games I've known about and seen go from development to completion while homeless. I suppose almost all games now are like that since I've been homeless for so long now. But it's the thought of people going to their job, coming up with the idea, putting all the art and sound and coding and other work in, going

home to their lives, day after day, until the game is completed and launches while I'm still homeless that gets me. In all that time my life has remained sad, remained relatively unchanged. Some who have followed Epic Fail may have started *and finished* high school or college in the time that my life has not changed. So much change for them, so little for me. As time goes on my life seems to get further and further behind. And I feel more and more lost and an outsider as I watch everything around my life thrive and change with time while I stand still.

## Week 203

### Day 1415 - 5/16 Lonely, but ok

Today really isn't much to talk about, much like most of my days. The far car guy never replied with times that are good, so I guess I'll not worry about it. I really wasn't looking forward to a 1.5+ hour bus ride (each way) for a car that was meh looking with high miles.

This morning started oddly, as the Internet was out at my morning place. Hopefully it's fixed before tomorrow morning when I'll be there again. With no car, going elsewhere is difficult. Yeah, there is a shop two doors down and the restaurant across the street, but neither have access to power since they don't open until 11, so I can only last 45 minutes tops before that. Normally I'm at the coffee shop for about two or more hours.

The rest of the day was lonely, in that I didn't get to play with friends. 😞 I haven't 'seen' my friends I like so much in about a week. 😞 I did chat with one via messages, so that was nice. 😊 I played my new game alone all day, which was more than I expected to play, but being that I played alone it was pretty lonely. 😞 (Though 'all day' was really only about 7 hours in three sessions. More than I probably would have played in a home, but less than the total hours I was out and about.)

Nothing really to say for today. My cold seems to still be lingering with some congestion, super tiredness, and occasional headaches / eye aches. Car people continue to be dumb and post things like "the car runs fine, but the clutch went out", or "there is something wrong and I don't want to take it to a mechanic to find out what it is". So, cars are still basically broken or super high mileage with terrible fuel efficiency. If I had \$500 more it would likely put me into the next bracket and be a different story, but I have what I have. People who were going to help with that already have, so that isn't likely to change.

I guess all I can really do is hope that tomorrow will be a better day.

## Day 1416 - 5/17

### Magic hat with bunny

Today was very sad and lonely, but ended super happy. Again there was no Internet at the coffee shop, which is super annoying since I can't just go somewhere else quickly or easily by car. I did find enough to keep busy, so I suppose it wasn't completely intolerable.

One thing I tried to do was to, in effect, make a song. Having never made one before and knowing nothing about it in terms of rhythm or timing, it really didn't come out like I had in mind. I wound up scrapping the idea and just going with my standard 'sound clips with music in the background style'.

Once I got to the restaurant I had lunch, watched a show, and again spent all day alone playing Diablo 3. It was pretty fun. I had a good enough time. But, being alone, it was very sad. The odd thing was there were two people on that said they were getting the game to group, and are part of the regular online gaming people, but neither of them really said anything or offered to group. One even was complaining about how the game 'doesn't remember his progress' and said it kept dropping him. I was trying to explain that its randomness is good, and it's how the last game was, and that was *not* a limitation of his being online. He didn't listen. And he seems to have forgotten he was complaining about lack of connectivity and bandwidth like last week. I was like 'um... I've been on just fine for 3 hours now so far with no issues'. But he refused to accept that and said stuff like the game is sending "junk code" through his modem and "breaking it". I don't know what his deal is. He just seems to really be hating on the game for some reason. I think he's just not used to game launches this big. I mean this is a huge massive launch. Probably, I'd guess 10 or even 20 times the player count on other online games. It wouldn't surprise me to hear if there were several million trying to log in and play at the same time. Anyways... no sign of my favorite friends that I've been missing, and I'm not sure what's up with the two that were on not wanting to group. I guess they just wanted private time. \*shrug\*

In the evening I got the cutest magician's hat with bunny. 🧙🐰 One of my new friends sent it because he said I was always coming up with ideas out of nowhere, like magic, and he thought a magician's hat is a good home for a magic bunny. 😊 The magic bunny is held on with Velcro, so I freed him (he had a tag going through an ear to the hat

as well), and now he is in my cloths bag safe and sound with my other bunnies. But the hat I'm worried about. I'll have to probably get a new bin to put it in and some other things that have been loose. But I always worry about nice things gained while homeless. I'm worried my ex-roomies will move it. (Thankfully they don't seem to mess with my stuff on the shelves, and with how sad I got last time stuff was moved, basically don't mess with my stuff at all.) I worry that I will forget something and never find it again. Things in my life now are easily forgotten. It's like my old stuff is remembered because it was there when I had a home, but new stuff, stuff I can only see briefly then it has to go into storage, that I forget about quickly. It's like my mind can only remember out of momentum, long-term memory as it were, things that were always out in the open when I was in my room. Now, it's like I have almost no memory. If I put something down I almost immediately forget where I placed it if it's somewhere different than 'normal'. It's like my mind knows and remembers what I was, but I can't remember what I am. I only know where things are if they are in their place, and if they aren't, or they are new or unusual, I am likely to forget. (Say, as example, putting a snack out, turning around, then turning back and knocking it over because I forgot it was there.) Someday my magic hat will be in its special and proper place in my home, and the small house charm necklace will be around my podcasting mic, but until that day I worry these new special things will be taken away from me as well; lost as inexplicably as my former self.

## **Day 1417 - 5/18**

### **Insanely priced shirt**

Today was pretty regular. It was lonely and sad, as none of my friends were around. The only one I saw was the one who was complaining about the game. He was only signed in for about two hours (usually he's there all day) and he only played like one hour. So again, I really think it's his connection and not the game. Of four hours of my lay time I only lost connection once.

I saw someone had a shirt with a cool logo and I had to ask about it. It was an odd skull and crossbones in that it had bunny ears and bunny style teeth. I looked it up online and good God are they are pricy brand. The shirt the guy was wearing was at least \$65.

And shirts that were 'house shirt' style, like the one I recently paid \$15 for, were \$125+. That's just insane. Like four shirts is probably more than all of my shirts put together. How nice it must be for him to work at, I believe, one of the top 10 companies in the world to be able to afford a \$65 shirt. I can barely imagine a world where I have a job that high paying and a life capable of buying (business) casual looking shirts that cost \$65. I may be at the same coffee shop as that guy, or the same restaurant – I likely pass 150 or more employees with badges from that company in a day – but I am not in their world. They do not see me. They do not know who I am. I may be 'the guy in the corner who's always there', but I would be surprised if more than one in a day knew of my site or my podcast, or less. I would be surprised if any of them ever talk to me, even though I sometimes overhear them talking about gaming or movie stuff that I am also interested in. They live in a very different world from me – one I think I will never be invited to.

## **Day 1418 - 5/19**

### **Lonely and sad day**

Today felt very lonely and sad, and became more so as the day went on. I suppose it started somewhat sad after uploading my podcast when I discovered that the "fixed" coffee shop modem had terrible ping and as little as half the average bandwidth of that location. (Which is about 1/4 the average of "fast" public wireless.) I didn't even try to play for a while because I knew it would be too unstable. As usual, I was depressed by the lack of car posts and that noone has responded to me. (This sadness grew throughout the day as I replied to two or three other cars and also did not hear back from them.)

At the restaurant I watched what I wanted to watch last night; the stream of my friend's podcast. Last night I had no bandwidth, so I really couldn't watch it live. I felt a bit lonely since noone showed up online, but I wasn't too sad, as people don't normally show up until 4 or 5.

I played Diablo 3 alone until about 4:30. It was pretty fun, I had a good time, but I kept hoping some friends would show up to play together. Noone did.

I decided to take a break for dinner. I watched two shows and still noone showed up to play. I was pretty sad by this point, as there was only 1.5 hours left before I had to

go to the bus, and the time to find a car for the day had now long passed, as the bank was now closed for the weekend.

When I played Dungeon Defenders alone it felt so sad I almost shed a few tears. It seemed very lonely and very empty. Maybe it was because last time I played that level I was with my friends that I normally play online with and two others were in our chat and we were all having a good time.

I probably would have been less sad in a home, as I would have had other stuff to do. I think it was the combination of people not being around, and my being homeless and not having anything else I could do that made me sad.

I do not fault my friends. They are busy doing things with other friends, family, little ones, whatever. And I am happy that they have things to do and people to do them with. I guess I just miss... well... me. In a home alone is one thing, but alone while homeless... that is much harder I think. At the worst of times I feel like a bug or pest, something someone wants to shoo away. At the best, when I am alone, I feel like a shadow, something unseen and unheard. Not a part of the world, not a part of anyone's life. I feel stuck in time, isolated, and like nothing will ever get better. 😞

## Day 1419 - 5/20 Today

Today seemed pretty sad. I was reminded that I'm homeless when I was at the restaurant when there was a reserved sign on my table. As I walked back to the counter to order food I asked if that was for today or if it were left over from last night. (I have to leave about 1.5 hours before close Saturdays.) The stick-in-the-mud manager confirmed that it was today. I said half-joking, 'Oh noes my table,' to which he responded, "They are everyone's table," which made me feel unwelcome and like I wanted to leave. For a while now he's seemed unfriendly and cold towards me compared to about a month ago when we would chat about stuff and he would laugh. It's probably just stuff he's dealing with, extra pressure or whatever, but still. It made me feel somewhat unwelcome.

I spent the day playing alone again for the most part. I got word from my nice friends they would be on. That made me super happy as I've missed them so much. 😊



It's been like a week and a half since we got to play, but by the time they managed to make it in we only got to play about 1.25 hours before they had to go. After that I was alone again.

There was a bee on the sidewalk this morning. He was upside-down flailing his legs in the air. I figured he would get up eventually, so I walked on. I decided maybe he needed help after going just 10 feet and turned and walked back. A few feet away another bee lay dead in the same on their back position. It looked like maybe they had been poisoned. I felt sorry for them and walked away. Again after just 10 feet I turned back. I got a leaf, picked up the bee after righting him, and placed him on the dirt near the plants. I don't know if he was hurt, poisoned, or what, but I felt it was important to give him a chance to feel better and get back home. He at least deserved a chance (instead of leaving him on the sidewalk to be possibly smooshed.)

With all of the sad events of today I held hope in the thought that it was just today. In the evening a different manager came in and he was happy to see me. He'd been gone for a few weeks on vacation. He's joked before saying there should be a plaque at my table I sit at saying it's reserved. (To which I replied that would be cool, but probably sad, as those are usually only done for dead people.) He knows I have nowhere else to go really and is in some tough times himself, so he is happy to know my being there and giving me a break helps me out. Also, my friends business is over, so they will be able to play a few nights a week again now, and they missed playing with me too.

So, as I often say, maybe tomorrow will be a better day. Maybe my life being sad today is just for today.

## **Day 1420 - 5/21**

### **Extreme depression**

Today I am extremely depressed. If I were doing a check-up survey for the study I was in years ago I likely would rate in the 'extreme clinical depression' category. Mostly I think it's just the constant piling up of everything that is sad in my life, and how lately things seem to be further crumbling around me.

I got word that last night I came off as... a big poo head in voice chat during online play, and that my friend is kinda mad at me because it upset his friend. I understand why they would feel that way from what he described, and I'm very extremely sad it came off as my seeming that way. 😞 It makes me sad to think my friend is sad, and that in a way he's disappointed in that I came off seeming like a poo head when meeting his other friend for the first time.

The only thing I can really think of is that what little of a routine I had is being more and more thrown off. I'm getting blisters on my feet from all the walking. I'm always kind of limping or tired walking simply because it is so much walking overall and my ankle is a bit stiff. I no longer have a bounce in my step because I no longer have short walking trips. I'm losing a lot of sleep from not being able to sleep in in a car in the mornings. What I have gotten lately has been plagued by terrible nightmares about my being homeless. Even with gaming, where I was starting to get regular time with people online again, has been disrupted a lot lately with people's schedules changing and extra instability at my connection points. What little bit of a routine I had is being more and more lost, and I think it's taking a greater and greater toll on me and my emotional stability. It is so bad that I could be recording now, but don't feel like it, nor do I feel like gaming or being social at all.

All I can do is continue to hope, as I always try to, that tomorrow is a better day. But it will not return to my normal routine. For good and for bad I accepted three extra work shifts during the week to cover for someone for a few weeks. So I'll be working all five weeknights and covering most Sunday morning shifts for at least a few weeks. That will certainly help with car money, but travel may be difficult and time consuming, as it is at the tougher to get to work location and will take 1.5 hours on busses to get there, and if I come back to my usual sanctuary upwards to 3 or more hours, with most of that time being walking. Once I get a car though that would be reduced to 15 minutes, so hopefully that will happen soon.

I try to remain hopeful though. I've found cars before, and I know that there are people out there now who do want and look forward to playing games with me. If I can manage to survive long enough to get a car, manage to survive and remain healthy long enough to re-balance a bit to my previous homeless levels, maybe then I can go back to something closer to a stable state.

## Day 1421 - 5/22

### Don't understand

Today I'm still very sad about... well, everything. With a car my life would be a lot more balanced. I could go places without worry of time. I could consider different things, like where to eat, if I want to sleep in at the school parking lot, if I want to go to a movie. I guess mostly things will seem better and even out once I'm back in a car again.

I'm probably only really managing to hold myself together because I know nearly all of my sad issues are related to money. With more money I could get a car. With a car I can go to the store and sometimes buy cheaper food, saving money. I could go to interviews which are not in my immediate local area. Once I got more income I could get back in a home. In a home I could have a regular desktop again, regular landline connection again, watch shows and movies on a home entertainment system again. With all of that my life can become balanced once again and people will want to hang out with me more. I may even make new friends.

But as we come to the end of another Fail week I can't help but wonder... with no opportunity the chain of events to cause change cannot occur. And it seems, at least for me, whenever I do manage to reclaim a step forward I am knocked back down. I don't understand why. I don't understand why Fate does not let me move on. All I can do is hope that I am on the right path, and that my writing and ramblings help spare others the pain and sadness I have, and that others can live a better life because of it.

## Week 204

### Day 1422 - 5/23 Failing work bandwidth

Today was ok I suppose. It seems to have passed in a blur now that it has passed, but it passed slowly while it was happening.

In the morning I played just for a little bit. I still really don't feel up to playing since I'm so sad and lonely. I watched a few shows too, some I'm getting a touch behind soon.

In the evening I had another extra work shift. I guess it passed easily enough, but work had zero connectivity. It's the location I work at on Friday, which has been slowly getting worse over the past year. Last night and tonight it basically couldn't connect at all. I was maybe connected for one minute out of each hour that I was there. I watched a movie I had a digital copy of and did some work on a podcast. Since there isn't much going on in my life there isn't much to it. It's only 8 minutes long so far, so hopefully I can think up more to say or it will either be very short Saturday or have to be held up for more content.

That's really it. I have been in contact with a few people on cars lately. One hasn't gotten back to me on their smog check and the other I'm supposed to see / do a test drive for. He's very close, along one of my bus routes just a few minutes ride from where I spend my day, so that's very convenient. I guess we'll see tomorrow, but I won't get my hopes up, as there have been so many failed car meets and so many that were deceptive postings. It would be nice if it worked out though. While not an awesome car, it's an ok one of a type I've had before, so I know its style is meh, but it works pretty good. It's not amazing, but tolerable.

That's it for now. Perhaps tomorrow will be a better day.

Today was hopefully the start of a little recovery. The car from yesterday didn't sell, and it seemed ok when I looked at it and test drove it, so I went ahead and picked it up. Though it's odd because it's an automatic, and I've driven sticks most of my life, so I have to keep remembering not to shift. So, I have a car again. It's not great in the type. It's not one I would love. But it's a type of car I've had before, so I know it's pretty reliable. The paint is good. The interior is pretty great for cars in this price range. It still does strike me as odd that he sold it to me for \$1,500 when the blue book value is \$2-2.5k. I guess he didn't know the value. He said he didn't mind and would just rather sell it quickly. Normally someone blowing off upwards of \$1k would throw up all kinds of red flags and I'd stay very clear of it. But, I looked this guy up on the Internet and he did apparently work where he claimed, that same top 10 company I won't bother to mention, and he's got 12 patents for firmware. I wouldn't be surprised if this guy made in one month what I make in an entire year, if not more. So, sure, the \$500-1k is probably like a day's work for him, so I could see him thinking that it's not a big deal.

I took a full shower at work with all my scrubbing and scenting. (Though the scents in my stuff is very subtle. If it weren't it would make me sneeze, heh.) I don't know how long it's been since I could use the luffa-like scraping sponge on my feet, nor my other aftershave stuff. It's probably been the entire nearly 6 months that I've had no car. You would be very surprised how much better you feel when you can't do normal things and then suddenly you can again.

I also walked in to my regular food store again, without my backpack. Again, it's likely been 6 months. I didn't think of any food to buy at the moment, though I did later when I was at work, but it was very nice to be at my "regular" store, where I could rent movies to watch during my work shift. (Annoyingly one refused to play from about half way through on.)

Tomorrow I'll take my cloths to my regular laundromat, at the regular time. Saturday I can sleep in at school, and either Saturday or Sunday night I'll go see a movie. There are a few I'd like to see. At least now some re-balancing can begin.

## Day 1424 - 5/25

### Almost a normal day

Today was almost a normal Friday. The big difference was that I decided not to sleep in at school. I had a store to shop at, so I did that. I didn't really feel tired enough to try to go back to sleep, though boy did I later in the day. I had time at the coffee shop in the morning and wound up doing some rabbit things. I played for just a very brief while at the restaurant because I needed to leave earlier to do laundry. On the way to work I did laundry at the regular laundromat and watched regular laundry time shows.

For the last bit of the podcast I decided to talk about my most recent game watch article. Unfortunately something at work is malfunctioning and there was an odd distortion in the background. I also discovered how to make my voice work stereo without sounding bad. It turns out that a filter set in a certain way was partly causing the distortion. So, that was solved, and three of the Death D4 Dishonor soundtrack tracks got turned to stereo.

That was my day. It was almost a homeless normal. I didn't connect with friends at all, so that was sad. But then I expect I won't really be able to do that except on Saturday and Sunday. Tomorrow is my only day off, then another six days in a row where I work a shift. It's not bad though. It's only for 5 hours, and I do need that money for a car tune-up and could use some to have some kind of savings to speak of.

I have to post stuff right after I get up, mostly because I can, but maybe I'll try and get some extra sleep after. I have a feeling by the time I'm done with all the posting I'd only have one hour to rest, which really wouldn't be worth it, since I'd be unlikely to fall asleep in that short of a time. I'll sleep in Monday for sure. That will be my first big catch up sleep day. 😊 Oh poop. 😞 I guess not. It's a holiday, so school will be closed, so there will be no student cars in the lot. I guess Tuesday then.

## **Day 1425 - 5/26**

### **Happy to sad**

Today went from happy to sad. I checked school and there was indeed noone there. The pool area wasn't locked, but with no cars I didn't want to stick around. I expect that will hold true Monday as well. I was ok with that, as I needed to post my podcast and some improved tracks for the Death D4 Dishonor soundtrack.

While it made me happy to know 'the fans' have some goodies, my day just got sad after that. Friends never showed up online. I played one game, then another, then watched some shows, then another game, then more shows, but I remained alone.

I suppose my day was better what with no real deadlines since I had a car. But with my current games seeming sadder without friends, the day just seemed pretty sad. Tomorrow I may go to a movie since I expect I won't see my friends then either. Though I may not. I've been feeling kinda bad with sniffing, sneezing, and head and ear aches.

I'll see what tomorrow is tomorrow.

## **Day 1426 - 5/27**

### **Seeing a movie**

Today was a blur, but in a good way. It started pretty early with a morning shift. I wish I would have known people weren't showing up until noon though. I'd have taken a nap in the office. After, I went to the restaurant to play. My friends had come on very early for them and were actually on just before my work shift ended. They were still there when I moved to the restaurant, so we played for a few hours. They were getting hungry at that point and we decided to go to movies. (Obviously separately, as they live on the other side of the country.)

It was very nice to be able to see a movie in the theater again. I was pretty shocked as I saw it in 3D on opening weekend and the theater was only about 20% full. As always I was the first to get a ticket and the first there. It was pretty fun, and I'm glad I didn't miss seeing it in awesome form, as I have a few others lately.

The day overall was kind of tainted with sad though. I guess it was three weeks ago now during my shift someone collapsed and in convulsions and we had to call paramedics and they rushed him off to the hospital. It looked pretty bad since he was convulsing and non-responsive. I talked to someone today and apparently the guy died. Not only did the paramedics not save him, but he was literally dead before he hit the floor. I guess he had a previous condition and a year ago had undergone major heart surgery, and this time his heart just gave out. I didn't know the guy, but I know he had a wife, as they had gotten a hold of her by phone. But the reason why this made me extra sad was this guy was not super old. He was, according to what I overheard, almost exactly my age. Now, I don't exert myself like that, and apparently this guy had a previous condition, and lived what I guess you could call a high-risk lifestyle (fast cars, extreme sports, etc.), but it made me sad. I have no sweetie. I have no little ones. I only have a few people who I know that care about me at all. I know I'm not in the same risk category as that guy, but what if? It would be sad to go now, with so many things missing in my life, even more so right now in particular while I'm homeless. I would like to have a sweetie again, little ones, though it is unlikely at this point they will be children of my own, and friends that I do regular stuff with again (movies, BBQs, gaming, etc.) But without a regular life, without social connections, these things may never happen for me. I would just be gone, and those few lives I do touch now through my site would quickly lose track of me, and likely quickly forget once the site is down. It seems strange to say, but as nice as it would be for people to care about me, I want to have these things to be a part of other people's lives. I suppose, more than anyone, I know how important it is to have special people in your life you care for.

## **Day 1427 - 5/28**

### **Resurging cold**

Today I think my cold may be coming back very strong. I've been sneezing, nearly constantly congested, and really ridiculously tired. Also, I've got jaw pain, eye pain, and my ears are ringing. I should have taken a nap, but I just didn't have time or a safe place. I wonder if maybe this is a new cold from someone at the movies last night. 🙄



I guess, besides the sheer exhaustion, today was pretty good. I finished my silly tracks I was working on, did some rambling for my podcast, and my feet are starting to recover from the beating they have taken.

My main online friends were on tonight for a bit and work actually had enough bandwidth that we could play together and have a good time. 😊 Sadly I probably won't see them again until Saturday because the bandwidth at the other work location is so bad.

I guess that's it. I'm so completely exhausted. Hopefully I can sleep ok and get to sleep in in the morning if I need it. Last night I was so sniffly and had coughing that kept waking me up during the night. 😞

## **Day 1428 - 5/29**

### **Feeling more sick**

Today I'm feeling a lot more sick. I'm congested, coughing, sneezing, my tummy feels weird, I have chills, and most of my skin feels cold to the touch. If I don't feel better soon I'll make an appointment with the doc at school. Later I'll get some decongestants and hopefully that will help me recover.

It's earlyish, just after sleeping in at school and just after the restaurant opened. I'll just add this to the week and release it. I don't expect anything to come up later and with a work shift tonight a delay means not posting until tomorrow. There is new content for free for one of my games, so that should be fun, but that's about it.

I'm slowly starting to move back towards having a car things. I slept in this morning, and the past couple of work days I picked up a cheap movie rental to watch. It will be a while I think before I really settle back in to a homeless routine, if I ever do. Things are different now. Some things I won't need to keep doing, others I will. I guess my life is what it is and until I'm back and settled into a home it will always be unstable and in flux.

## Week 205

### Day 1429 - 5/30

#### Quiet sleep

Today was the second morning I got a chance to sleep in. I always forget how much quieter cars with regular tops are compared to soft tops. Of course too they are ovens in the sun. Fooooo was the car hot today. It has air conditioning and I'll need it until I get used to how hot it feels. But it was very super quiet in the morning at school, so that is good for sleeping in. In risky to sleep places that could be a bad thing, as I would not be able to easily hear others coming up on me. I have the sanctuaries though, so as long as those are available I shouldn't have to worry about risky sleeping places.

I'm still not caught up on getting back in a car. I still have to change the title over, go get blood drawn for a test, and set up / go to an eye check-up. But in a few weeks all of that should be taken care of and I should be all settled again in terms of routine and al.

I guess today was ok. I'm still pretty sick. Mostly it's just sneezing and congestion, but sometimes too it's coughing, wheezing, and feeling chills. Sleeping in and the decongestants seem to be helping a lot, so hopefully in about a week that will be cleared up. I only remember a few bits and pieces of today. Sleeping in at school, playing with friends a bit in the afternoon, trying to play but having bandwidth cut out in the evening, getting caught up with one of my shows with a collected season.

I guess all in all it as an ok day. But still, at the end of it I do not go back home. I do not sleep in a bed. 😞

### Day 1430 - 5/31

#### Lonely, in a different way

Today seemed lonely, but in a different way. It was more busy than not. It seems now that I can go places I almost seem to be hurrying about to and fro from various places. In the morning I had to transfer the car title. That was nearly \$150 to put into my name. 😞 And the fees are due in a month, which is another \$100, plus a tune-up, which

is like another \$250 after that. I didn't have enough time to rest after I did that if I wanted to be at the restaurant when it opened. I did have nearly two hours, but with the time it would have taken to get to sleep, time to wake back up, it would have been closer to one hour, which didn't seem worth it. So, I instead just went to the coffee shop. I played for a bit there, played at the restaurant a few hours, then went off to work.

I didn't see any of my online friends today. Everything was quiet really. It was lonely, but not in a way I have felt lately. This was more like the old days, back when I had a home, but was too busy to be able to stay in one place for more than a few hours at a time. I am thankful for work. The 30 hours a week I'm working for these few weeks is what I really need to be working if I'm to get back into any kind of home. But, it is just temporary, and in a few weeks it will stop. (Though I may get other kinds of extra hours or day.)

Soon I will be back to my normal homeless state and times. I will hopefully settle back down in weight, emotion, and sleep. But, as always, I wonder if Fate has forgotten about me. I wonder if I will ever be in a home with a truly regular schedule and life ever again.

## **Day 1431 - 6/1**

### **June bug**

Today was another day that passed seemingly quickly. I slept in at school for a few hours, so that was good. I'm still a bit worried at just how much I don't hear when sleeping in the car, but I've never had trouble on school grounds, even on days when it was a lesser holiday and I was one of only a few cars there.

After I got up I went to get poked. I guess it was a little over a month ago I got the new blood pressure meds and the doc wanted me to get re-tested to see that my blood work was ok I guess I may hear back in a few days. I think she wanted to add on the old meds on top of the new ones to see if that helped. So, if that's the case I guess I'll hear back on if the blood work looks ok for that.

I tried to play one of my online games for a bit at the restaurant. I only had a few games with others. Mostly the people were dummy heads and not coordinating or trying

to do things beyond their ability. I miss my online friends playtime. 😞 I did get to play online while at work, but I couldn't connect other nights. Hopefully over the weekend we can play and have fun. 😊

It's June today. The start of the last month of the Fail year of being homeless. It's tough to believe that another year has passed with really no change. I suppose this year it doesn't seem surprising. I remain trapped by the limitations of both what I am able to do and the knowledge I have in terms of ways out. Obviously something needs to change, but the ways I know are the ways I know. Previous thoughts and searches for alternate paths revealed nothing, and would be the same if I were to look again. I guess, as I have for so many years now, all I can do is try to get by one day at a time, and hope that whatever it is Fate needs me to do comes soon and I can move on. I am ok with who I am, but it seems apparent I am not yet in the place or time for change to occur. So until then all I can do is try and hold on. 😞

## Day 1432 - 6/2

### Internet trouble

Today has become sad. It's only just nearing 6:45 PM and my day is basically over. The Internet went out at the restaurant about an hour or more ago and it hasn't recovered yet. They claim to have reset it a few times and basically noone can connect. I've been telling them for weeks they should have someone look at it because it's been dropping connection *a lot* and that's not normal. Maybe one lost connection every four months, sure, that's not unheard of. But more than that is not normal, let alone one or more drops every day several days in a row.

There are a few other gaming grade connections I could try in the area now that I have a car, but my main friends that I play with are busy until 7 or 8 my time, and after a day of doing stuff it's very unlikely they would feel like playing.

So I am sad. My connection to everything was cut off for a long time. When it was supposed to be working again it wasn't, and I am forced to move if I want one. And while it's possible moving somewhere and reconnecting may make me happy, without

friends around, with noone to talk to and share things with who I enjoy the company of, I just don't think it's worth trying to reconnect somewhere. I would consider going to a movie, but when I am sad is not the time for that. I will probably just be sad, accept the limitation of my homeless life, and go be in my car somewhere and do nothing, listen to podcasts, and maybe try and sneak in "to bed" early. Sad day in my sad life is sad.

## **Day 1433 - 6/3**

### **Feels like broken ribs**

Today I feel extra bad. I don't really feel more sick, but last night when I was getting gas I got sick. I started coughing and coughing and my rib cage was squeezing and I threw up. 😞 Twice. 😞 Not a whole lot, maybe half a soda can worth, but still. Today my ribs feel kind of broken. My lungs feel... bad. I think it was a mix of several things; too many medicines, too much congestion in my lungs and tummy, too much dairy (I'm lactose intolerant and even in the best of health too much is risky), and all of the general stress and sadness in my life. It was just after I'd left the restaurant and done my writing too, so that (losing Internet) stress may have been part of it as well.

I had an extra work shift this morning, so that was good. The first few slots were empty again. I should have napped in the office, but I didn't. The calm and quiet environment seemed enough at the time to just be restful, but now I'm regretting not napping. I'm so very exhausted. Other than some extra tiredness and congestion I don't feel too bad.

The restaurant didn't connect to my phone when I tested after work, so I drove away immediately and went to a different connection point. I saw my friends and we played for a bit. It wasn't long though, only about an hour.

Since they left so early (it was barely 5:30 my time) I went to see a movie I'd been wanting to see since it came out like a month ago. I'm glad I finally saw it and didn't miss seeing it in a theater. I'd decided long ago to continue living my life even though I was single and without friends to do things with. But then, I wouldn't want to be with people just to not be alone. I want to have friends I get along with, and a sweetie who is like my best friend. (I suppose theoretically that wouldn't be terribly hard since I have no offline

friends. 😞 I do like my life at times. I am quite sensitive to volume, incessant or even repetitive music playing, scents, routines in terms of activities and energy levels... I do remember through most of my life when living with people these can be disrupted. But, I would like a complete life back. I would like a home back. I would like (offline) people in my life who understand and respect these things. I do so hope to find these things again, but I worry that I never will. 😞

## **Day 1434 - 6/4**

### **Taken by the void**

Tonight I am very very sad. There is this place in the ex-garage I call the void. There is this furniture thing I have to put some of my stuff on, and the area behind it is the void. Before tonight it had already claimed a large collector's box of a game. Today I got a new smallish box to put some movies and games in that have been scattered here and there. I put some into the new box, then placed it on top of the furniture thing. I heard a 'shwoop thump' of the box sliding off the top into the void. I moved some junk and recovered, I think, most of it. I don't even know what all I'd put in there. But I can see at least three or four items still in the void. I can try and move like a ton of stuff to get to that section of the void, but I'm guessing it would take at least an hour because the ex-garage is getting more and more full of junk and there is nowhere to move stuff to. (And yes, most of this is literal junk. There is hardware here that is between 6-15 years old, stuff long past being useful, and much of it not compatible with anything anymore. There are other things that is stuff noone wants that's not been moved in 3-14+ years. There's even a bin of baby toys here for when the not-sis visited that the ex-roomies had borrowed, and the not-sis' little ones are now in their teens.)

The easy thing to do would be to have some kind of 6+ foot long grabbing thing to get the items with, but I don't think such a thing exists. The longest I've seen is about 2-3 feet, and a child's toy.

I hate this. My precious things are in such risk of being lost and forgotten. The only reason I remember the void has my collector's game already is that I put it at the forefront of my mind every time I go to the ex-storage. At this point I would never

remember the other items it has. After a week or so I'd be sure to forget what they were. Best case scenario I recover these then get them into the new box and maybe tape it shut or something. But then what? Do I stop buying things so I have no new games or movies to worry about losing? Do I stop buying or being gifted other things? My only other option would be to move my stuff into a storage unit, bringing them out from behind layers of stuff that's not mine into an environment that I, in theory, 100% control. But that isn't financially feasible. Last I looked the smallest spaces are \$100-150 a month. And, I wouldn't have 24/7 access, which is a pretty important feature to keep me emotionally balanced. I guess my only real option is to recover what I can and be super extremely careful of placement. Beyond that my only option is to sell stuff in the shelf area to possibly make some room for the new stuff that's in an overflow area. I guess maybe too I could get a bigger bin, one not at risk of falling into the cracks. But a big bin is more obviously spotted.

My precious thins... the fragments of my life... are starting to be buried and lost.



## **Day 1435 - 6/5**

### **Get a bigger bin**

Today has been a nice surprise so far. It's nearing 1 and everything I'd hoped to do before my work shift is already totally done. Since the Internet has been broken at the restaurant I decided to start my day by sleeping in at school with no alarm. I had trouble getting to sleep at first, but then I slept until just past when an alarm would have gone off. It was nice to let my body sleep with no stress of alarm though. I went to pick up a bigger bin at the store after. I got the smallest big one for \$10, which is less than I thought it would be, so that was good, I went by the ex-garage to see about the retrieval project. Not only did my Tetris plan go as well as expected it only took about 15-20 minutes from start, to retrieving my items from the void, to putting all the junk back. Now all my recent precious things are in a big bin safe and sound (including the magic hat.) 🧐 I dropped off some chips to my friend/ex-roomie at the ex-house on the way out. (The mixed pack comes with some I don't like.) She was there and invited me in and we chatted and stuff

for about half an hour. Nothing in the ex-house has really changed in the like year+ since my last visit. There were some pictures on canvas that were new. She found a place that takes your pictures and does that. They looked pretty good. (Likely a straight digital printing of some kind from the file.) Things like the table with junk that had been there for the last 5+ years appears to be untouched. I guess it's more normal than not, maybe it's just my Spartan lifestyle, but I would never leave stuff like that around when I didn't want them there. Stuff out that I didn't want there would bug me, especially if I had decided I didn't want that area messy.

So here we are, mid-day, and everything I'd hoped to finish in the whole day is done and I can try to relax. The restaurant Internet is still down, so I'm somewhere else. Since some managers have changed and they've shown no interest or care to fix it, it may be days or weeks or never before it's fixed. At least I have other places I can go to try and play. And, as sad as my life remains, I know there are people who worry, care, and hope I recover. All I can do is try to hang on until I do.



## Week 206

### Day 1436 - 6/6 Off balance sick

Today I feel sick from being off balance. My whole schedule is chaotic now from the restaurant being out. I slept in at school with no alarm, which was awesome. I got nearly 11 hours of sleep total I think. But then I went to two different, well three different, places. One to get food, one to have Internet for a bit, and one to try to sign up for a 'season of movies' since I have extra hours through the end of the month. I guess the local store is closing down though, as all rental stores have, so no more store rentals for a month for me. It could explain why the rental movie box is shut down as well.

When I left work I almost threw up from coughing. While I am super congested and sneezing I'm beginning to wonder if this isn't more stress related than anything else. It did start when I lost Internet at the restaurant. Before that I did feel sick, but not this kind of sick. Routine and stress management have been critical to my staying mostly ok, and I think this has really thrown me off. I think tomorrow I'll go back and see if I can get them to reset the modem again. The other connections around are too unreliable really, and not the best place to be for gaming with friends.

I did a bit of work on podcast 59, so that was good, as I had nothing so far for it yet. I don't know if it's my balance being wrecked lately or just because my friends aren't around to play with and talk to, but I don't really feel like playing much lately. Granted that in itself kind of imbalances me too.

My whole life is in flux and off balance again because of one change. I really wish this stopped happening and I could recover to a normal life. 😞

### Day 1437 - 6/7 Disruption

Today was kind of about disruption. It started at school, where I was having sad/scary dreams and forced myself awake to show myself that I was safe and sound on

school grounds. It was strange to think such a bad dream could have come less than 1 hour after falling back to sleep.

I decided to eat at the restaurant and the second disruption came. The wireless was on and connected, but only for 2.5 hours, when it decided to drop me mid-game. I have been talking to their corporate tech support and I guess the issue has something to do with the cable lines themselves and goes deeper than the modem / router. So hopefully that will be resolved soonish and I will have the option to go back again.

In the evening my cookie eating was disrupted by them being all melty from hot weather even though they had been in the trunk. I put them in the fridge for a bit at work to re-solidify the chocolate, but that just got them all stuck together after.

Haven't seen my online friends in a while to play. I guess they are super busy with stuff for the next few weeks. An ex-guildie friend checked in with me though, so that was nice. 😊

One thing did stick with me today. When I was at the restaurant with my headphones on but not listening to anything – I do that sometimes to block out the incessant loud music – I overheard someone in a group of about six say to his friends, 'Awww 😞 Look at that guy in the corner all by himself.' It was nice to be noticed and seen, but it kind of reminded me this is how my life is. I'm the guy people see alone in the world. And, in a way, I've always been sitting alone in the corner. I don't know why, but I've never really had more than just a few friends. I've never been one of half a dozen in a lunch group like this guy was. I don't know why, nor do I know if that will ever change.

## **Day 1438 - 6/8**

### **Movie, no games**

Today was a bit different. Since I didn't know if I wanted to see a movie this weekend with a crowd I decided to see one in the late morning. I guess it was due to it being opening weekend that the theater was as packed as it would have been at night, so that was kind of sad. They were all quiet during the movie, and no one sat in my section at all, so there were no scents to bother me.

After, I only had about 1.5 hours before I needed to head to work, so I just had lunch and did some web news reading type stuff. There wasn't really any time for games.

In the evening I did most of the finishing of podcast 59, and watched a couple of movies during my shift. Both work locations will be closed for a few days for school graduation, so I actually get three days off in a row. As odd as it seems to sound it seems like forever since I've had a break like that.

That's really my day. Nothing interesting or really special happened. As always, I wished I had a sweetie or friends to have shared the movie with, among other things, but my life is what it is. And that's how it seems it has to be for now. 😞

## Day 1439 - 6/9

### Faded pictures

Today was a surprise. I decided not to sleep in, as it would have been later than usual since I posted my podcast first thing in the morning. I decided to go get a burger for half-off at the restaurant. Much to my surprise I could connect to the Internet, and it stayed connected all night. I guess maybe it's fixed now. So that was quite a surprise to find. I look forward to going back tomorrow after my moving post-nap.

On the way to hiding I saw into a few people's windows. It's getting warm again, so some people had their windows open with covers drawn. It made me think of my rooms in the past. My stuff is not in a room. Nothing is out to have things properly put away. In fact, the memory of my last place is now as faded as the one before, and the one before, and before, all the way back to my first room I had as a child. I thought of all the pictures and screenshots I have on my computer and phone, and realize they are more vivid in my memory than my room, even for places I've never been and people I've never met. As much as American culture focuses on being an individual and being different, and while my life *is* unique and different from everyone else, I wish it wasn't. 😞

## Day 1440 - 6/10

### The language of pew pew

Today was pretty sad. It started with not being able to sleep in at school. There was some event going on with a heightened police presence and who knows what kind of audience.

Then at the restaurant the manager who was once nice, but has recently seemed unfriendly and like he's pushing me out came to talk to me. Apparently he saw the messages I sent to corporate and was like mad that I didn't talk to him about getting things fixed. I told him his server said they, implied the management, weren't interested in looking into the problem. We chatted for a bit and he seemed interested in trying to fix the problem, yet at the same time was trying to deflect blame on me claiming that I had high usage and that was causing the issues. Sorry, but no. If my normal gamer activities on a slow speed connection (landlines go 6-10x faster) was capping bandwidth and causing issues then I'd guess just about 75% of every gamer out there would be having issues. After our talk I found reference to a 300 gig a month soft cap for residential customers (which they are probably under). After 9 hours there today my regular activities had barely used 1 gig. So, even if I was there 100% of the open hours and open days, which I'm not, my average monthly use would be about 10% of their total monthly cap. There is no way my gaming / show watching is causing issues. If that were true and possible so many gamers across the country, and probably the world, would have serious issues. So, while he explained he has been overworked lately and was sorry for the outage and misunderstanding I don't know how I feel about his blaming me for the outages. (Especially since I've now been coming here for nearly a full year, having the same habits I do now in terms of bandwidth use.) I already feel weird enough being there so much to try and have somewhat of a normal life and keep my sanity. But he can't understand that. Noone who hasn't been homeless without any help for a long time possibly could *really* know how it feels to, in a way, need to force/impose yourself on others to try and cling to some kind of feeling normal.

The afternoon was ok. I played a game I don't normally play. I grouped with some strangers online. There were some people speaking, I think, Russian. We did pretty good together. It was funny because after a while I had figured out both voices were coming

from one person's account. I guess there was a girl playing and she was explaining stuff to the guy. It was funny because I could kind of tell by her tone/inflection what they were talking about in terms of what was going on in the game. We did mid-level difficulty missions and did good for several rounds, which is rare, so I'm again impressed that even though we couldn't talk to each other we understood enough about the personality and style of the other that we did good as a team.

I think I am definitely sick again. I'll probably make an appointment tomorrow. My throat and lungs feel dry, and taste oddly. I am still coughing so much I sometimes almost feel like throwing up (usually when I taste the odd taste from my lungs). I'm sneezing a ton, and since last night my ears are ringing and get plugged up.

More than anything I want to be in a home, alone, save for being with friends or a sweetie of my choosing (not just people I am friendly to, like roommates in a house, that I never spend time with when they aren't around.) And more than anything I want to be in an environment I can get healthier, like running an air purifier, and cook healthy / good foods. At the end of the day these are always the things I hope for, but lately wonder if I will ever see.

## **Day 1441 - 6/11**

### **No appointment yet**

Today I felt pretty crappy. My ears are still ringing, I've been coughing and sneezing and feeling bad. Before my nap I tried to make an appointment at the school. The person wouldn't set me up because I show up as not a student now. I'll try again on Wednesday maybe and see if the person who has known me forever is there. This was not the usual receptionist person. If I am still not snuck in then I'll have to go to the regular hospital. It wouldn't be terrible, but it would be like 30 minutes drive, plus waiting to check in, plus waiting to be seen, etc. etc..

Other than that I guess today wasn't bad. I spent the day at the restaurant since I had the night off. I didn't play much though. As I've said, without my friends the games I have that I'm currently playing just don't seem as fun.

I did my online work and that was really about it. I had strange dreams again at school. Not bad I don't think, but strange enough to remember that they were strange.

I chatted with someone at the restaurant about bunnies for a bit. She saw I had a picture of some on my phone. She mentioned that since they are a preyed upon species they don't show weakness until it is basically too late. She lost her bunny because they couldn't tell he was so sick. 😞 I suppose that's another thing I share with them. People who don't know my terrible story would never guess it's there. 😞

## **Day 1442 - 6/12**

### **Returning to (homeless) normal**

Today has just started. It's just past noon and I just woke up a little bit ago. 😊 I'm at the pizza by the slice place having lunch noms. Things are possibly slowly returning to homeless normal. I was undisturbed and uninterrupted at the restaurant yesterday. When I checked my blood pressure it was way down at 122/81, which is the closest to my previous 120/80 that I was in more years than I can count. My body has been sleeping in and catching up on sleep for a while now. I've got a few hours today and then I'm off to do laundry, which will include a couple of extra loads to do my sleeping blankets, which haven't been done in probably 8 or more months. 😞

It seems today things may finally be returning to homeless normal. If that's enough to allow me to eventually return to a truly normal life, only time will tell.

## Week 207

### Day 1443 - 6/13

#### Better and worse

Today I feel better and I feel worse. Most of the time I feel pretty good, with just a bit of a wheeze and cough. But other times I get into a coughing fit and feel like I'm going to throw up and I'm gasping for breath. I'll definitely try and see if I can see the school doctor when I wake up, but it's more likely that I'll have to go to the regular hospital. With it being nearly two weeks since early signs this new, or returned, cold is obviously not going anywhere and sticking around with a vengeance.

I guess outside of that today was decent. I slept nearly 10 hours, getting up just before noon. I had nothing I needed to do, so I had some lunch and watched a few shows. I played a few rounds of one of my games online, and it went decently. At work I watched a silly movie during my shift and had a chance to do some podcasting.

I am hiding for the night now. Just about an hour ago I was coughing and gasping for air, but everything seems to have settled back down again now. There is still congestion and a bit of the chalky feelings in my lungs. They certainly never feel their normal healthy soft and slightly moist that they used to, haven't since that time I threw up a week and a half ago. I wish I was in a home and could rest properly. I wish I had a bed to sleep properly. I'm so very tired of my sad life, yet it seems I am powerless to change it since I have no opportunity to do so. 😞

### Day 1444 - 6/14

#### Waiting

Today I didn't do some things. I probably should have made a doctor's appointment, but I didn't. I looked up stuff online, and if it is still bronchitis they say it can last up to three months. 🤒 The people at school were again not the super friendly one I've known forever, and apparently even if I was a student they don't have appointment slots for several weeks. I guess if I still feel terrible I'll make an appointment

soon. I don't really feel all that bad. The coughing is bad, but it's starting to become very infrequent. I do still sometimes cough up a little yuck, but the sneezing has basically stopped entirely. So no I just feel a bit congested (which honestly I feel most of the time unless I'm in a perfectly conditioned and air filtered room) and I feel like there is chalk or ash in my lungs. I'm sleeping a lot now that I can sleep in at school, so I will hopefully recover pretty quickly, as it seems unlikely there is medicine to help unless I overdose since the last round of meds didn't fix me.

I didn't go to the restaurant today. I still feel a bit weird since the signal drop and the confrontation. I only had about 4 free hours, so I just stayed at the pizza by the slice place instead. Their Internet has ads, but it worked ok. It didn't interfere too much. The other day when I was at the restaurant they told me the Internet guy discovered that the hotel people were using it a lot. I'm not sure how they would know that (unless the login times were tractable), but it makes sense since I guess they want \$10 a day for access. That's ridiculous. I could see \$1 or \$2, but \$10 is insane, especially when they are already asking \$400 a night. No, that's not a suite or anything. If I ran a hotel that charged that people would get free Internet and breakfast because that's just insane. Two nights is about what a room costs here for an entire month to rent last time I looked.

I guess tough, all in all, today was ok. I didn't feel great. I would love to be somewhere that's not constantly bombarded by lights, music, and people, and to be able to cook better foods, drink tea when sick, and take showers to get vapors into my lungs. But it seems that is not my life. And as we near the end of a fourth year of being homeless, while I may be able to accept that this is how my life is now and it seems unlikely to change soon, I am still sad about it, and still wonder what I may have done wrong to deserve it. 😞

## **Day 1445 - 6/15**

### **Unofficial appointment**

Today was ok I guess. I slept until just about when the restaurant opened. I have had trouble getting to sleep lately though, so I probably didn't fall asleep until about 1:30. I probably got 9 or so hours sleep, so it's probably ok.



I often forget that one of the people that comes with her guy to the gym on Fridays is a nurse. I don't know what level she is (there are like four levels of skill / knowledge / training that I know of), but she thinks I'm just fighting off the same cold. She says if my cough doesn't become worse or more frequent I should be fine. She was unfamiliar with the ash / chalk taste though. I wonder if that's from throwing up a week ago. Even though breathing and eating are different tubes, once it gets to somewhere in your throat it's one, so I suppose if the tummy acid burnt stuff it may have altered how my throat normally tastes in away that could take time to heal.

I guess today was ok. I played online a bit with strangers. After a bit I did start to feel sad that I wasn't playing with friends. They are still out. I got to see a show that hasn't been on in what seems like forever, so that was good. And I watched a new dating kind of show, which made me smile and laugh a bit, so that was good. During my shift I finished podcast 60, so that was good.

That was really it for my day. Nothing new or special. Just the same lonely, sad, homeless activities. 😞

## Day 1446 - 6/16

### 90F

Today was very slow and sad. It was super hot outside. I guess my phone app says it got up to 90F. I was in the restaurant most of the day, so I kept cool. But, I still have cold symptoms. I'm super exhausted again. I have felt like I would fall asleep at any second all day. I played my game and had fun for a bit, but most of the day I was alone, watched filler shows, and just felt beaten down by my cold and sad.

Today I wish it was a day of old, where I could have called out for pizza and watched a movie or two while being in my chair or laying lazily across my bed. And then, gone to sleep early. Being out in public bombarded by noise and lights was not what I wanted. I have a headache, have had one all day, my ears are ringing, and I'm so very tired.

## **Day 1447 - 6/17**

### **Hardly coughing**

Today I've felt a bit weird in terms of my cold. I've hardly coughed at all, which is probably great, but my heart feels surrounded by congestion, super tired, and like I've had an elevated heart rate all day. Plus, I ate probably double normal, which may or may not be a good sign. I slept really good though. My sleep wasn't interrupted by coughing or other things, so that is probably another good thing. Hopefully these are all signs I'm getting better and almost over the cold.

Now that the combined blood pressure meds have seemingly settled me back to true normal, more than anything I'd like to get my weight back under control. I'm probably still closer to 215 lbs. than not, and I'd really like to at least get back down to 185. Unfortunately I have a feeling that as long as I'm homeless I'm probably going to continue to get bigger and bigger. Other than changing food to healthy sandwiches, drinking almost entirely just water, and taking vitamins, I really have no way that I know of to get calories back under control and moving towards healthy. I don't want to go to that extreme yet. Since I have a car again I suppose I can try and remember to get fruit. It's very difficult while homeless due to both cost and that in weather like we have here lately fruit will only last a few hours, or half a day tops.

I guess today was ok. I basically worked all day. I got more than the usual shift, so I only got to spend about 3.5 hours at the restaurant. I sort of could connect online while at work, but I didn't have much to do, so mostly I was bored.

In my homeless life a decent number of hours to work and a few hours to watch some shows or play games and at least smiling for a short while is about as good as my life can get.

## **Day 1448 - 6/18**

### **Not quiet**

Today I'm sort of better. I've only had like one coughing fit all day, and most of the day I didn't cough at all. My ears are kind of ringing though. One of the things I miss

most is having quiet times. For the past 12+ hours I've been constantly subjected to overly loud noise. I miss quiet. I miss having the chance to have volume set how I like, or not having noise at all. What's worse is I really can't look forward to quiet times. Oh sure, when I hide it's quiet, but I'm hiding. It's not a normal awake time kind of quiet. There is no quiet wake up, shower, morning time routine like I used to have. I am either awake and somewhere that is loud/noisy, or I am somewhere quiet but I can't do anything at all. I think quiet is one of those things most often taken for granted.

## **Day 1449 - 6/19**

### **Nearly another year**

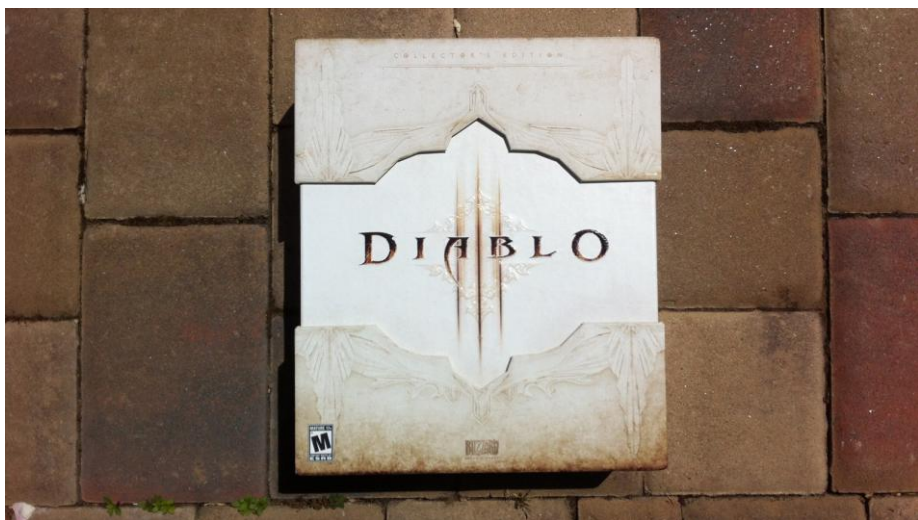
It's later morning. I've got a few hours before I have to go to work, so I'll post the week and picture series now.

The end of the year is nearly upon me. I guess it will hit mid next week. I suppose like any holiday or event in the end it is just another day. Well, I suppose more accurately just a series of days. This time things are different though. I have a gaming system and friends I play with semi-regularly. I suppose at the end of last year I did have guildies I played with, so that's not completely different. While I'm still in contact with several of them I don't think our paths will cross again in games for a while. I suppose though that's ok. There are people out there who enjoy spending time with me, enjoy and/or appreciate the various things I do, and do worry for me in these terrible times. I will not give up. Why should I if gaming and what I do are so deeply a part of my core of who I am? But, as I so often wonder lately, I don't know how long it will take to make my way back to a home. 😞

## Picture series 29



Soft fluffy socks and pants



Diablo 3 collector's editon box



Diablo 3 collector's edition stuff



Magic hat. So nice a home for a bunny!



It's even not too pinchy to wear.

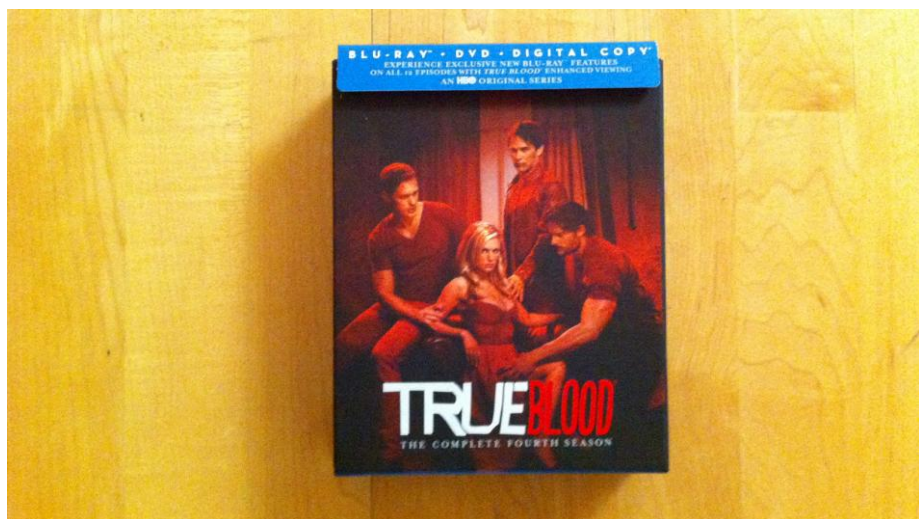




Single serving micro apple pie? om nom nom



Sometimes you just have to celebrate... you.



Catching up with season 4 of True Blood.



## Week 208

### Day 1450 - 6/20 The secret beta

Today was pretty good, but super extra tired. Yesterday right before going to work I got an invite to the last Secret World beta weekend, which is this weekend. So, I skipped my morning nap today to have extra time to get the client. I'm about 1/4 of the way there after today. It's going to take all of my time tomorrow and Friday to finish before Saturday, which means I will have already lost a theoretical 6 hour play window on Friday. 😞

I also picked up Magic The Gathering: Duels of the Plainswalkers 2013. It's pretty fun and something I can play alone, or offline during work. It was only \$20, so it was pretty cheap. That should help during times my friends aren't around to play stuff with online. There's another game was looking at for some single player time because it just got an expansion, but the game plus expansion would be \$60, which is pretty steep since I'm kind of bad at that game. (At least I was with the previous one.) I'll see how duels goes. Maybe it will hold me for quite a while.

I got a lot done for podcast 61, so that's good too. It's basically the normal length already and it's only two of typically three sections long so far. If I can think up extra stuff people can get extra ramblings. 😊

I guess that's it for today. My slow downloading game client took up my non-work time, I watched a couple of shows, and had work, and that was really it. No jobs to apply for, and since I can't remember the last one I did apply for, there were no replies for interviews. Today wasn't terrible, but, as always for homeless life, it would have been much better in a home.

## Day 1451 - 6/21

### Hot chocolate shorts

Today was kind of sad. I'm spending extra time not napping while trying to get the game client, and while at the coffee shop I split hot chocolate all over my shorts. 😞 It cleaned up pretty quick, but I had to go to the ex-house and make an unexpected change at the ex-garage. When I got to work I rinsed them quite a bit and they should be fine, but that was my cleaner pair. Now if I want to wear shorts I have to wear the ones that are a week dirty.

I've been very easy to anger lately. It hasn't resulted in anything bad, but it's like if people are dumb when I'm driving I'm making comments about it for several minutes. I think it's just everything wearing down on me at once. I have 'enough' work hours that this could be a simulated 'forever' work week, as 30 hours a week would be enough to get back in to a room. (Though next week is it, then I'm back to two days a week.) And now that I have a car there is that. So, I think lately my brain has subconsciously said 'this here could be the rest of your life, plus being in a room somewhere.' And that has made me really sad, frustrated, and angry in a way. I don't want to be stuck in the same kind of dead-end job, or career that doesn't pay me what I'm worth like I have been previously. I don't want to go from one cramped apartment to the next with neighbors who don't respect my hours or preferences. I don't want to be forced to have cars that are 'serviceable' or 'better than all the other ones I had to pick from' that aren't ones I am really happy to own. I guess lately I'm closer to feeling like I would in recovery, but it seems a terrible trap. It seems the same sad, stagnant existence, super low income life that I had, with no chance of a way out to something better. Yes, it would be more than I have now, but would it be better? Lately I think it would be almost as miserable, just in a different way. It is beginning to feel like even if I can physically recover, that true happiness, real life friends that I can see, love, may all be things I never have again.

## Day 1452 - 6/22

### A podcast visit

Today was pretty good, but it felt rushed. In the morning I spent my nap time again downloading the game client. It ate up all that time and most of the time at the restaurant. I had something like 30 minutes to try and get through the tutorial before work. It seemed pretty fun, but that short of a time was little more than a glance.

My friends missed me while they were gone 😊 so I was invited to listen during their podcast recording. It was super fun and everyone laughed when I did talk a few times. 😊 The bandwidth mostly held out, so I got to hear most of the podcast fun. Unfortunately one member was super sick and not really feeling good and another dropped after only 30 minutes or so, so they didn't get to record much.

I finished my podcast, so that's all ready to go in the morning. With the new stuff to talk about it was a bit longer than it has been since the change to doing it weekly, so that's good. Hopefully people will enjoy it.

My cough is finally almost totally gone. Only about three times all day did I have any kind of attack, and when I did some yuck came out. I have been sneezing more though, but I think it's just the congestion being loose. One odd thing I have noted though is that my lips feel oddly dry, like I've been out in super hot weather all day. Not chapped, but like they love the taste of salt? It's like I'm dehydrated or something. And it's extra odd lately because I've been having more lemonade flavored water than usual. But boy do my lips and tongue love the taste of salted chips. I wonder if it's maybe a side effect of the dual blood pressure medicines, though I could swear I've done that more than a week now, so I'd think if that were the case it would have shown up sooner.

Not much to say really. I feel pretty good since I had some laughs with friendly people. 😊 It will be nice to not need to work tomorrow. Phew, finally some rest (from work).

## Day 1453 - 6/23

### A lonely day





Today was pretty lonely. I spent the day playing my game for the weekend test, but I was alone. My friends never showed up, though they said they would. The game is ok, but I don't see it surviving with it requiring a monthly fee. I don't think it's that good compared to other subscription based MMOGs out there and it will have a very hard time fighting new ones coming along that don't have a monthly subscription. There are a lot of old-school ideas that hold it back, and from what I can gather it looks like it's going to be really short on content for a subscription based MMOG.

That's really it for my day. It was nice to have had a day off, but it was a lonely day trapped by my homeless limitations.

## Day 1454 - 6/24

### Seeing the friends

Today turned out ok. I had work in the morning, so that was some unexpected money. (Well, unexpected in that it's not my regular shift.) After was pretty lonely as my friends weren't around and I hadn't heard from them since last night. I played my game test for a bit then decided to take a break from gaming for dinner. My friends came on.

 So, I got to spend a bit of time with them after all. They were only on for about an hour though.  I feel sad for them. They used to have more time to play and stuff, and lately they have seemed really busy and tired sounding.  I hope everything is ok and that they are just busy doing things they want and not things they need to do. Once, long ago, my life was like that. It's no fun to need to do stuff all the time that isn't stuff you want and have no time left to have fun and relax. 

I guess today was one of my better homeless days. But now that I'm hiding in the dark, now while my tummy is rumbling upset at something I ate, now while my throat still feels scratchy and I've been sneezing so much today... I wish that I could go home.



## Day 1455 - 6/25

### Cramps

Today moved well enough, but it seemed tiring, unchanging, like this is all I will have for the rest of my life.

My cold is again better and worse. Now it's changed again. I'm sneezing somewhat frequently and my eyes are a bit... sensitive feeling, and I have congestion and still a bit of a cough. But it feels more like general allergies than anything else. When I took my shower my legs / butt cramped up a bit. It took a while to clam down. Now my shoulders are feeling the same. I'm sure it's nothing and will pass.

I chatted with my friend super briefly, so that made me smile. 😊 I rambled on my podcast about The Secret World and that was 15 minutes of bla bla, so that was surprising that my discussion on it took up so much time. Hopefully someones will find it informative or at least entertaining.

I guess that was really it for my day. I had a work shift and did laundry before work, but that was it. I decided to get a single serving cake and it wound up being too much, so it was actually two servings. I'd forgotten that most of the time I do that. I really do eat so much less than the portion sizes I am forced to eat. I got a salami sandwich yesterday, and boy did it not agree with me. It wasn't a lot of meat, it was the amount I always used to get, but I guess I'm so not used to it that I probably should have only eaten half.

Anyways... as I approach the end of year four of being homeless and having a sad unfulfilled feeling life, hopefully you all are doing ok and are safe and sound.

## Day 1456 - 6/26

### Sad forgetful

Today I am sad. I had some stuff to do in the morning, and it didn't go as expected, and in the shuffle to adjust my brain completely forgot to post this week's fail. In a way it's better, as I shouldn't be posting until the day has actually passed, but I am disappointed in myself for forgetting. 😞

I seem to be forgetting a number of things lately. So far they have all been pretty small things, like forgetting to make an appointment with the eye doctor, yesterday I forgot to get decongestants, a few times I forgot to unlock the side door before getting out or to check for my keys before closing the car door. I guess it's just depression and a frazzled state from all these extra shifts. That will end though. This is the last week of extra weekday shifts, and Sunday was the last Sunday. So, unless I get asked to do more extra things I will return to my regular two day week. I expect I'll get more Sundays throughout the summer though.

Overall today was good in that I watched some shows, got a movie to watch at work, played some new downloadable content, and overall I'm feeling a bit healthier. But there is still too much depression and I am always sad about, well, almost everything, and I worry that I will never truly recover.

## Week 209

### Day 1457 - 6/27 No games day

Today was ok I guess. It was kind of sad and lonely in that I didn't see friends all day. I didn't feel like gaming before work, so I just watched some shows. I went to work, and before work I did a lot of rambling on podcast 62, so that was good. At work I just spent the evening watching a movie then editing the podcast. I got word from my friend that they were playing and asked if I wanted to play, but I had almost no connection at all, so I couldn't.

It was strange not playing games today. I guess it was a combination of not having anything that really thrilled me to play alone, and feeling sad and just not wanting to play.

Hopefully I can continue to have 'enough' money for 'enough' food and 'enough' games. But as we enter the final days of year four, and as more and more time passes where I am no closer to being in a home, I wonder if I will just get more and more sad if days like today become more common. 😞

### Day 1458 - 6/28 Getting ready

Today was ok I guess. I was so asleep during my nap time my snoring woke me up, hehe. 😊 I've been a bit more congested, but I'm coughing much less. I coughed a bit in the morning and that was really it. I haven't coughed since. My throat feels like it still has some of the roughness and odd taste, but I think it's finally getting better.

I ordered an external hard drive for backups. I am worried about all my media for my site; my raw podcast data and event videos. While I can take three DVDs and back up the other info, all the stuff I want to back up that I haven't in quite a while is nearing 40 gig and growing. So, I looked at some 64 gig USB drives and for the price they just weren't worth the cost since, for just a little bit more, I could get an external backup drive that was 500 gig. It's not only a ton more space, but in theory it won't take hours to back

up every time since the software would theoretically only back up the new or changed information, drastically reducing the file count. I guess we'll see. It's set to arrive tomorrow, so that is my big plan during work (to get it up and run the first backup.) I know most of the info really doesn't matter that it's backed up, as I can just pull it offline from my site, but still. I worry about losing info.

## Day 1459 - 6/29

### Not backing it up

Today was ok I guess. I was surprised at the number of cars at school. It was finals week and I was sure that the lot would be empty, preventing nap time. It wasn't though, and I slept pretty well. 😊

I was supposed to get my backup drive today, but something weird happened with the shipment. I checked at the ex-house at 11 and again at 4 and didn't see it either time. When I got to work the shipment thing said it was delivered at 10:50. I think I saw a truck at that time when I was there, but they didn't stop at the ex-house. So, either it was delivered to the wrong house or they delivered it at some other time. It was there when I checked after work, so I have it now. 😊 It's kind of a little sad though because my main plans for the evening was to set it up where I had lots of room and I'm not disturbed / distracted. Now if I want such conditions I have to wait until Monday. I'll probably wind up doing it at the restaurant, which is not the experience I wanted.

Tomorrow is the last day of year four. I can't think of anything else special to say. I guess in a way I've become kind of numb to it in my acceptance that I seem helpless and unable to change things without some kind of opportunity. I guess the good thing is it doesn't currently feel like I'm in a war zone. Though with all of my stuff in storage for who knows how much longer it becomes less and less useful in some ways, while my body and physical items with me can't be cared for and rot and wither around me with use, I feel like I'm on a timer running down to extinction. While life *is* a natural cycle of wear and renewal, since I seem to have such low renewal cycles it feels like the 45ish years I should have left may never come to pass. 😞



## Day 1460 - 6/30

### Another ending

Today is the last day of year four. Unlike the early years, where I felt surprised and shocked, this time I'm not sure if I feel much of anything. If I do, it is a feeling that it is just another day in a string of days that seemingly have no end.

Physically I am better fed, more able to keep myself warm or cool, but I think less healthy overall. My teeth continue to be more and more terrible and a source of great sadness. While my blood pressure is under control, the fact that it is off and has to be balanced with medicine is a sad change. My weight seems to be getting worse with no sign of going back down at all. I get winded and out of breath doing... well, anything. And in recent times this cold / cough / allergies keep cycling between being mostly better and worse. (Though I think it may finally be moving towards truly being better as the odd taste seems gone and congestion is... looser.)

Emotionally... I don't know. While there are times just like a little bit ago when I played online with my friends and I felt happy and almost normal, there are times like the other 11 hours of my day today that I was alone, feeling sad, and doing things that were fun or entertaining enough, but not what I would have done if I were in a home; even a home where I lived alone.

This year's end, while I still hope for recovery, more than anything I feel like what I have is it, and it will be all I ever have. More than anything I want to go home, but this year more than others, I feel I may never have one again. 😞

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## Where did I see it?

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

Day 1190 – Reference to Jerry Springer, TV show and celebrity.

Day 1199 – Reference to Star Wars, Episode 6, line by Darth Vader.

Day 1207 – Reference to the Big Bang Theory.