

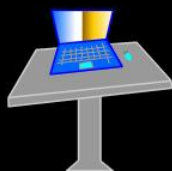
EPIC FAIL

The Journal of a Homeless Gamer

Book 8 Endless Void



by rabb1t
aka
Eric Stryker



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Endless Void

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Where did I see it?

Glossary and Links

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

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

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

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

Destiny - An online shared world shooter created by Bungie.

DS - Nintendo DS, a handheld gaming system.

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

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.

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

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.

MOBA - Multiplayer Online Battle Arena.

monies - lolspeak/leetspeak for "money".

Neverwinter - An instanced MMOG set in Dungeons & Dragons 4th edition in the Forgotten Realms campaign setting.

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 366

Day 2556 - 7/1 Torn flesh

Today I noticed my feet have torn flesh on both of them. I'd noticed one on my right one a few days ago. It's a gash two inches long and a quarter inch wide. My left foot was hurting today and I noticed a similar one on my left foot, inside on the ankle. It's only half as long, but it's nearly twice as wide. I checked the bottom of my boots too. There is maybe half an inch between the bottom of my foot on the left. The right one is much better at closer to one inch, but both are a far cry from the about 1.5 inches they started with. I have some older boots in the car. I may have to see if they are in better shape. I don't think they are, or not by much if so.

While tragic, my body will heal, and of course my bigger concern remains my car registration. I shouldn't be walking, as noted by the blister tears on my feet, but if I had to sell my car that would force the issue. 😞

I don't know what to do but hang on and hope I get help. 😞 I try to hold on to hope, but each day I am not helped it gets harder and harder to believe help will come. 😞

Day 2557 - 7/2 Holes in everything

I have holes in everything. My holes in my boots are so bad I had to change to my older boots, which are only slightly better. I have holes in my socks, some small, some large. There are holes in some of my underwear and on a few shirts. But most of all, because of all of my emotional pain and suffering there are holes in my soul. And worse than that, with the added lack of regular support, there are holes in my heart where love and safety should be. 😞

I have become that guy. I am starting to look for cans in trashes to recycle. I am seeing food in the trash, or on the floor, and I sometimes think how many years it's been since I had that food. And I am tempted to take it out of the trash or pick it up off the floor.

I have been suffering for so long and have been losing so much hope lately I am beginning to lose what little of me is left. 😞



Holed boots.

Day 2558 - 7/3

Holed boots, old boots

Today was extra sad. I spent the morning at the food store, for fear that if I went to school it would be suspicious. But I guess those fears were unfounded as there were some people on campus. Tomorrow should be fine too. Though it will be the 4th there is a flea market, so I expect it will be very busy until that calms down in the early afternoon.

Today I changed out my boots. My old ones I've been wearing have just gotten way too worn out. Thankfully when I got these I kept the previous ones. While they are bad and shouldn't be worn, they aren't anywhere near as bad off as my ones I'd been wearing. While better, I'll be surprised if they last more than a few months.

Things are looking very bad for me. Noone is sending help anymore. It seems my supporters on Patreon are it. The last boost I got was visiting the nice donator at his work, which has to be two weeks ago now, if not three. With it nearly a month since any donation I'm hurting terribly badly. I've got 1/16th of a tank of gas left, which I'll be lucky if it lasts through the weekend. And still I have nothing for the \$100 registration due in just about three weeks. And with one phone bill overdue, that can't go much longer without needing to shut it down.

It looks more and more every day like I'll get no help at all and be forced to sell my car. 😞 If that happens, I don't see how I'd ever be able to recover. 😞

I continue to pray to Fate for help and opportunities, and try to hang on to hope, but my times are getting more and more desperate. 😞

Day 2559 - 7/4

Putting away the monitor

Today is extra sad. My gas is nearly gone, so I'm constantly in a panic about that. Any food money glitch still seems to have not unglitched, so I will have \$4 for food tomorrow and that's it.

I sent out a message to the couple of people I play console games with last night. They both saw the message and haven't sent any new help. I don't know what that means. They've helped in the past before, so it seems sad and confusing they wouldn't send even \$10 in my time of desperation. The last time I put out a big call for help about three months ago one of them sent \$100, which was a huge help. But so far, after my recent post, no help has come. And with no reply about it I can only assume since none has come, none will. So there is no point in keeping my monitor in the car anymore. It was there so I could grab my console at a moment's notice to go play. But my subscription is running out, and I haven't been invited to a group with them in a month or more.

I always thought it was a bad idea to keep it in the car, but I get it now. It was one of those parts of me I am trying to hold onto. Having it ready meant I could go play with the others at any moment, almost like having it set up in a home. Needing to put it away in storage, being unable to play online with others if I did bring it out, or finding noone

online to play with when I do, seems sad. But sadder still is the fact that it feels like those I played online with no longer care. There was no return goodbye message. No message of hope and to hang in there. No message I would be missed. No message they were sending help.

Today I put away a part of me. And I feel as if it is lost forever, or if I do recover, it will be alone without those friends. Some would say I should sell it. And maybe they are right. With it being in storage that is almost the same thing. But I'd like to not sell it. Mostly because from a logical standpoint noone will want an older generation used unit with a bad controller. I'd be lucky to get 1/3 of what I paid for it. And even if I did get enough to pay for the car registration and get some gas, maybe even also get current on the phone bill, what then? I'd have sold a big part of me for effectively one month's time. If I continue to not get any donations I'd still not have money for gas after that, the car would still wind up immobile, and still wind up towed very quickly after that.

I don't think selling my items and giving up who I am is the answer. (Not counting that they really don't have any value outside of my car.) I wouldn't take much to save. On a regular basis about \$150 a month would cover normal costs plus a little bit to save towards bigger items. That's just \$10 a month from 15 people. (Reduced to just 10 people if I drop my phone plan.) A very small amount from a small number of people. I would think, and hope, there are enough out there who care and worry about me to accomplish that. But so far, particularly in these recent very hard times, it seems there isn't.

My struggle and pain continue. And all I can do is try to hang on to the hopes that there are enough out there who care that enough help will come, and that I can continue to hang on until I'm back on my feet. 😞

Day 2560 - 7/5

Broken heart, healing feet

My heart feels very broken today. I'm almost completely out of gas and there is nothing I can do but ask for help. My money for food is also just about gone. I had two small sandwiches today for food. It was... enough. I still have half a loaf of bread I can eat if I get hungry later. If my money doesn't show up in the morning that half loaf of bread

would be all I have to eat all day. I'm losing a lot of weight lately, somewhat rapidly. I should probably check how much I weigh, but I keep forgetting. With only eating 60-70% of what I normally would it doesn't surprise me that I'm losing weight. I've been wanting to lose weight for years, but losing it because I'm not eating right and my body is destroying itself isn't the way to do it.

Last night after putting away my monitor I decided I may as well put away my console too. It too was in a ready status for use. It had been put into an easy to carry bag with the cables and controller. Even though it isn't a whole lot 'more' put away in its box, putting these things away felt like I was being made homeless all over again. I suppose it mostly had to do with the fact that if I don't get help quick I'll lose my car, and I will take as big a hit down from where I was in a home to now again and lose just as much now to when I don't have a car.

I don't know how I'd recover without a car. Not counting the fact that taking the bus is double the cost of gas, or the fact that walking 100 feet causes me pain, let alone walking miles. How would I get to a job? Being in an urban area there are many busses (which again costs twice what gas does), but they are constantly stopping, don't run that frequently, and have limited run times. I recall taking a bus to my last job took 1 or two hours, depending on which location it was. Yet going by car that same trip was 12 or 18 minutes depending on the location. And then there is the question of where will I sleep? How will I be able to stay warm at night in winter when it gets extremely cold and near freezing? What about even smaller tasks like getting food or doing laundry?

Again, I hope and pray there are enough out there who care to help. I could survive without my phone for a while. And it wouldn't take much to save my car; just \$100 for registration and then \$30-40 in gas a month beyond that. Saving me for a month wouldn't take much at all. But I can't do it without help.

They say asking for help is the toughest thing. I need help to get back on my feet, and I've been asking. The question remains unanswered so far; will more help come in time? 😞

Day 2561 - 7/6

Feeling alone and that all will be lost

Today I am feeling very alone and like all will be lost. I've been asking for help for donations on the social sites for days. So far I've received none. While my car has not given me a warning light for gas yet, it is close enough to doing so I shouldn't drive it anymore. Tuesday I'll leave it where it is. Which means if I don't get help by Friday I will likely need to seriously consider selling it. Without even just \$5 a week in donations for gas the car would have to stay immobile. And once it is it will rapidly be flagged for being towed. And if it is, I'd not only lose it but lose any value it still has. (Which, if I'm lucky, appears I could maybe get \$1k for it. Which would rapidly be lost because my life would basically get a lot more difficult and costly without.)

I feel losing my car would be the end of me. Yes, sure, I could wind up like many long-term homeless who yet still live. But with nowhere to sleep, no way to get to a job quickly, no way to even consider a job that's more than a few miles away, no way to store or stock even canned items for eating and drinking, not to mention my showering stuff or making trips to do laundry.

Without a way to get around and have a safe place for me and my stuff I carry on a daily basis, it feels like things would rapidly end. It feels like I would never be able to recover. With needing just \$100 for registration and even as little as \$5 a week in gas (if I heavily conserve) I still seem very saveable. (Though other costs will eventually add on other small amounts.)

It is night, but the night is not over yet. I still hold on to hope word will come that someone has sent help. And over the next few days I will likely still hold on to hope. But it seems things are in Fate's hands, and those who are still out there looking out for me. It would take just \$5 now and then to save me from the worst of it. But I fear most just don't care, and that very soon it will be too late to save me. 😞

Day 2562 - 7/7

A terrible and sad preview

Today is starting out to be a terrible sad preview of what my life may become. I thought that I may have enough gas to make the trip to school, but when I started the car the 'check gauges' light came on. I shut off the car and made my way to school on foot. I have no choice since I need at least some gas to get to the closest gas station. A regular supporter did send some monies late last night, so a bit is coming my way and that will save me for a week. But it's not here yet, so I have to walk.

I suppose walking wasn't as terrible as expected. At least not just for today. It 'only' took 45 minutes to get to school - what otherwise would be less than a 5 minute drive. But now if there is anything I need that I didn't bring, I'm screwed. If there is anything unusual I may need that I keep stored in the car, I'm screwed. And, while I am now cooling back to normal fairly quickly I was pretty sweaty when I got here, so my shirt has been icked far more than normal. While a shower could fix my ick smell on my body, without being able to do laundry I probably added 3-4 days of slinkiness to my cloths in a single one way trip. 😞 It will get at least one more ick going back. 😞

While I could survive without a car it would be very difficult to truly live. Getting to a job would take hours each way, or simply be impossible for many jobs, and I've even had more than one job interview stopped because I was currently without a car.

Living without a phone is far more feasible and possible. I don't know how many years it's been since someone talked to me on the phone. And while it's nice to be able to check social sites or email when I'm hiding at night, it's certainly not necessary.

I continue to hold on to hope. I know some that will hold me for a bit is already on its way to the bank. But the question remains; with only needing \$5-10 a week (and occasionally some more for bigger yearly costs), which is only \$1-2 a day, are there enough out there who care about me to help me hang on until I recover? Or are the few supporters all I have, and today is just a small preview of the larger disaster and loss of what remains to come?

As I feared, the end of the first week of this year doesn't seem very hopeful. But, as always, I do what I must, and I try to hang on. 😞

Week 367

Day 2563 - 7/8 Sore feets

My feet and calves are pretty sore today from all the walking I did yesterday. It's odd that in many ways they hurt more than yesterday. The donation I got a few days ago cleared, and I got another today, so I should be ok on gas for 1-2 weeks. The much more pressing concern is registration. Not only was I a bit off on the date, but I also overlooked that it needs smog, which means in order to be spared I need \$150 within two weeks.

I will continue to reach out for help, as that's all I can do, but I need quite a bit to put me in a safe place. I can drive less. I can even maybe work out some way to only drive every few days if I have to, just enough for keep the car moving enough to not be flagged, maybe reduce gas costs. I can shut off my phone or maybe the phone company will let me put it on hold in some way. But I need to keep my car. I need to be able to drive places.

My eyes are crusty from lack of sleep, and I think the tears of the day, which are subtle, but fairly constant. 😞 My feet are sore from all the walking. 😞 My legs and arms always have bites or tears from where things are wearing on my parts. 😞

I will try to hold on to the hope that help will come and I will be ok long enough to get back on my feet. It's all I can do. 😞

Day 2564 - 7/9 No Internet

Today was a very quiet and sad day. The biggest issue was that the Internet was barely working. I only saw about half of one show because it kept disconnecting and barely had any bandwidth.

What made it so sad is that I am now at less than two weeks to get money for my registration and smog and there were no donations. I am very worried none will come and

I will be left without a car. 😞 It seems few are helping these days, and those who helped before have sent no help recent times. I don't know if it's because they can't, they won't, or they simply don't care that the loss of my car could literally be my death. 😞

My feet are hurting pretty badly today. My ankles are swollen and sore, as if they were sprained. They felt fine the other day during the walk, just very tired. I guess it was after that strain that they got hurt. 😞 I guess walking, as I expected, is not really feasible.

All I can do is continue to hope there are enough out there who care, and that I continue to be saved until I can get back on my feet. 😞 Or some other part of me which doesn't hurt so much. 😞

Day 2565 - 7/10

Friday becomes Saturday

Today started out very sad and depressing. When I went to the food store I decided to spend an amount at the higher side of my daily amount to sort of stock up my body on micro foods before the extremely cheap garbage I have on the weekends. When I got to school I didn't see more than a few cars. It seemed like school was closed. Checking the door at my regular building, things were indeed locked. Driving around to where the cafeteria is I discovered everything was closed. It seems Fridays have become Saturdays. Normally campus hasn't closed on Fridays during the summer until about mid-August. This is highly unusual and will make things tough for me. Not immensely tough, just a bit rougher due to my lack of food options.

So today's food was lost. I considered putting it in the sun to at least warm it, but that wasn't an option. Today was overcast, cold, and in the wee hours of the morning it had even rained. By 1 today it was still overcast and probably not even 70F. There was no way my food would even really defrost completely, let alone get warm. I had to throw it away to be safe. 😞 And, if I were to eat today, I not only had to spend another day's food money, but another day's gas money going back to the store, and then back again to school.

And on top of all that, to that point of the day I still had no donations. It seemed the day was starting off very badly and early next week I'd be forced to sell my car.

I waited a bit longer, then headed out to get at least some food and come back.

In the later afternoon I got some very good news. It seems I may be saved. My best friend when I was young, the Gray Ghost and his wife, sent me some help. In fact, it should be enough to help save me from needing to sell my car. I'll know for sure in a few days. Probably Tuesday morning I'll have the money and time to go and see about doing the test.

My feet are still hurting a ton from walking and the boots being bad. I really badly need new ones. And my eye under the left eye is actually crusty, swollen, and still pretty itchy. I don't know if that's from crying or some kind of infection. 😞

At least for now the crisis is averted. I am saved for the moment and now I just need to have enough to get gas and keep my bank account open. I suppose I'll have to shut my phone off, which may be kind of bad. Honestly it's been over a year since anyone has called me for a job reason. And in October I'll go into mini-crisis again as I'll need \$30 a month for insurance. (Or \$300 at once to pay off the year.) But being saved has helped greatly. It will be a lot easier to hang on. And hopefully I can continue to get other help with other things until I can get back on my feet. 😞

Day 2566 - 7/11

Feeling melancholy


Today I am feeling sad and melancholy. I am questioning why I am doing anything. And if I ever should recover, would I continue doing it? What I mean is my site, my podcast, and YouTube page - no one seems to care. I haven't gotten barely any new followers in the like 10 years since these have been around (2-3 for some of those.) Am I not entertaining? Am I not entertaining *enough*? Am I too philosophical? Or not enough for those who want that? If/when I win the lottery and have plenty of money none of that would change. Yes, the quality might improve. I can go to shows and get coverage for things I couldn't before. But I would guess no one would suddenly care who didn't care before.

A lot of it is being done because I am looking in. I am examining what I like, what I am enjoying, what I am looking forward to. And noone seems to care. What I can't do is look out - see other people looking back in to me.

But they don't. I want close friends again. I want people who care about me, worry about me, who share my interests and tastes, who I can invite over to do stuff with, or who invite me over.

I guess my time being homeless has just shown me more than ever before that I don't have any people like that in my life. And no matter what I've done in the past years I really haven't gained any. I have a very small few who do care, and who are watching, but for the most part all those around me have just done nothing as my life crumbles to dust.



If I had money to do things, to have things again, would my life be full? Or would the emptiness I feel still exist? Would anyone else care who doesn't care now? Would I ever make new friends and be introduced to other new friends? I am beginning to think not. And I am beginning to wonder if I should bother to do it if noone cares. But if I do... if I no longer care either... what does that leave me with? 

Day 2567 - 7/12

The pain of feeling unwanted

Today I am feeling the pain of being unwanted. I woke up basically crying. I think I told the story from about 25 years ago and the kitty named Spices. She was an ex's kitty, but she loved me very much. Unfortunately I was very allergic to her. If she scratched me it would swell up. And if I put my face against hers to kiss her, which I did pretty often, if her fur got in my eyes they would often get itchy and swell for days. When the person broke up with me I wanted to keep Spices, but I just couldn't. I was too allergic and got more so as I got older. I told my ex to come get her, and put her outside in the meantime. In my memory she was out there a very long time. But I don't think it was more than a week or two. But I find it very hard to forgive myself for making the kitty who loved me homeless. She had her kitty house on a balcony area, but I remember it would rain for

days, and she had dried tears all the time. 😞 But she always purred when I went out to visit her. She was never mad.

I guess it's because I am very much feeling a similar pain now. The pain of being unwanted. But every now and then something in a dream reminds me. And it makes me cry at how much she must have been hurting 😞 And now that she is since long gone I can never undo that. I can't take it back. I can't let her back inside. 😞

Today was a very quiet day outside of crying a few times over Spices, and for my sad situation. There was really noone around on campus, and it was warm and just a little breezy, so the day itself was fairly still.

My foot is still recovering. It still feels like the spongy bit between the ankle and foot has been sprained or otherwise broken. I don't know if that means I've gotten too old and broken to walk as much as I did a week ago, or if it means I can only consider it with newer shoes/boots and only when I've been resting quite a bit around that time and not spraining my feet as I am now, when I have to walk so much every day.

I suppose there is good news. I've confirmed I should have enough to cover my smog and registration thanks to the Gray Ghost's help. I will probably do that Monday night. And, in a completely unexpected surprise, someone sent me a donation of ESO. 🙌 So now I can escape to a different world on occasion and hopefully forget my troubles in this one for at least a few hours now and then. I'm sure that will become even more important than now in a few weeks when school is out for the summer and there will be no TAing to distract me.

I still try to hold on to hope I can make it back to a normal life. It seems I am not that far away. Yet, so many small things seem to be missing from such a life, and a year ago when I was working part-time I still seemed so far. Maybe it will be impossible to make it back on my own without something incredible happening. And maybe I will have to find friends to help me if I do start to make it back.

I still hold on to hope I can find such friends. And I still hold on to hope I can find a job and start to make my way back - better still if it's one I at least partly enjoy.

Until then I have to forgive myself. I may be suffering my pains I am now because I did not predict or plan well. But I have to forgive, and I have to accept that such things don't mean I deserve to continue suffering. 😞

Day 2568 - 7/13

Clean laundry

Today I have clean laundry. Since I was saved for registration and smog, and got donations from someone at school last week and today, I figured I have enough for a few weeks of gas and did laundry today. I was pretty torn on if I should do it or not, but it's been, I believe, a month. Everything had been dirty for several weeks, so I'm sure it was past when it should have been done.

It's sad to think things like the thought of being able to do laundry, or maybe have a single cooked meal, is exciting to me. These are not things that should. These are things that should be done all the time, without thought, and without fuss.

My parts are hurting though. My ankle still hurts, though it's slowly getting better. My right shoulder still hurts as if I pinched a nerve or something. It's been pretty quiet lately but started getting a bit worse when I was entering this week's Fail at the laundry. (I have to put my laptop on a high desk, and sit in a low chair, effectively putting my arms in front of me at shoulder level.)

Someday I hope to return to a normal life. But for now that seems to remain a distant dream, and everyday things that should be non-issues or things you can't ever consider special, are all seemingly impossible struggles for me. 😞

Day 2569 - 7/14

Ok to very worried

My day has rapidly turned from what should have been an ok day to a very worried one. I went to the smog place first thing in the morning. Apparently I had to go to a different place because it needs to be one of those star places. So they sent me somewhere that likely burnt up about 2-3 days of gas. When I got there the car was overheating during the test and failed. 😞 The guy said to come back later and we can retest it. I did notice for some reason the AC had been turned on, so maybe that was it. I don't think he would have turned it on on purpose, but there are fan settings that do automatically turn it on, and those had been changed. Revving with that turned off the

temperature didn't seem to go past it's normal 55%, so hopefully it should be fine. He said it was 68 of a max 60, so he said he could make it clear. But I'm very worried. 😞 If I have to spend more, I don't have it. If I have to do repairs, now or later, I absolutely don't have it. 😞 It's never had heat related issues before, so I don't know why it suddenly started today during the test. But then I suppose it's been a month since I've driven more than 2 miles at a time, and several months before driving more.

I pray for good news at the end of the day when I go back. 😞 Hopefully it was just the AC being on. 😞 But I can't help but be very worried about my future. If I did have to sell it with an unknown overheating issue I doubt I'd barely get half what it's worth. 😞

After first posting evening update

So what started as a promising day has rapidly turned to a disappointment. What was set to be a \$40 smog turned into \$60. And, while I passed the re-test, the guy seemed shift, and asked for my number for 'services in exchange for his help', implying he did something of questionable legality, like putting the testing nozzle in only part way, and that I now owed him in some fashion. And although I'm not too worried if he does take my number as I can both just ignore his calls and likely will need to change my number when I cancel my plan and move to a monthly pre-paid thing, I still can't shake the feeling that he somehow skewed things that way on purpose. And the fact that there was a first receipt for \$50 and then I came back and he said it would be \$10 more for the certificate, making another receipt, also seems questionable.

I suppose what matters is I passed. Though due to those extra costs, now if I spent everything I have I'm short on registration money by \$5. (Due in a week.) And, due to all the driving I did, twice, I've burnt through almost all the gas I had, leaving me with only a few days at most. The more worrisome question is; why was it overheating? It has never done so before, nor on the way back from the first test or the second, or either drive up, or anytime ever. It stayed it's normal 55% temp and only spiked up high on his testing rollers just today.

For the moment I guess I just have to try to calm my nerves and relax, and my new game and a new show I found will help with that. (Provided my laptop doesn't break. Although my headphones that recently broke on the one ear now seem to be producing no

sound at all from that ear.) And I suppose too, once I get a little more and can pay the registration, my nerves about that will calm. But the feeling that there is something causing an overheat, even only under conditions I don't seem to meet is worrisome. And what about next year? Likely the same thing would happen then. I guess once I can get over the immediate hurdle of registration and getting enough for gas again those are worries I can worry about in the future, as a year is a long ways away. But for the moment I am shaking with fear. And I am on the verge of tears because things seem to keep going wrong.

Week 368

Day 2570 - 7/15 Feeling happy, feeling sad

Today I feel both happy and sad. I feel happy because I got to play my fun game quite a bit today and live in a world that helped me to escape my sad life. Plus, there was the class I TA for, so I got to help people and feel useful and wanted. But, as the night began to come and people in class were leaving and wishing each other a happy weekend, I felt sad. I know everyone had a good evening still ahead. They would have dinner, probably ones they cooked, rest in their home watching shows or movies. But I would not. I have no home. I have nowhere to go. And while I could stick around and watch shows online for a bit after class was over, my evening would come to an end. I would have to be offline. I would have to stop my fun. I would have nowhere to go. And my weekend would not be a weekend. It would be the same as any other day.

At least, I expect and hope it will be. I hope more bad things do not happen. And I always wish for good things to happen. But it seems unlikely. It seems things will remain the same. And I begin to wonder if I will ever truly be better and be back to having things seemingly everyone else has. 😞

Day 2571 - 7/16 Headphones refuse repair

Today I decided to try and repair my PC headphones. Since my console ones are basically not useable I wanted to see if I could repair the PC ones. (The console ones lost its padding cover on the one side, so it's only about 50% as loud as sound escapes outside as well as inside sound coming in.) While my phone in the earbud headphones 'work' on the laptop, they are not designed for gaming. So they are very quiet in comparison, and don't shut out outside sounds.

Repair would be challenging, as getting to the inside required removing the ear cuff padding. Destroying it would result in the same damage as my console ones,

rendering them useless even if I did repair them. So I very carefully felt for the screws, made a tiny 1/8 inch incision on the inner layer, popped out the screw, and repeated the process for all four screws. I was amazed at the precision and quality of the work, as I removed the padding and outer panel. The inside revealed the finest of wires. Oddly they all seemed to remain intact and attached to the smallest of circuit boards. (It was barely 1/2 inch long and not much more than 1/4 inch wide.) I wiggled things around. With fading in and out sounds the volume clarified and settled back o where it should be without too much fuss. I mock put it back together, listened for a minute, and the sound remained. I continued to listen to sound as I carefully put it back together for real. The sound remained while I did so.

I'd thought I succeeded. And in a way I did. t was the most minor of necessary damage, not even visible if you didn't know about it, and the sound was functioning as it should. ... For about a minute. Then the sound faded and was gone again. I wiggled the cord and it came back briefly, but then quickly faded again.

So it seems the headphones are certainly irreparable. If I were to take it apart again it likely would have the same result. Perhaps with the ability to re-solder the attached bits that would repair it. But without, and lacking proper other tools, my repairs would seemingly only work for the briefest of moments.

So it seems yet another piece of my life is lost. While new headphones are not out of reach, with a good pair at \$40, and a high quality one at \$60 (and a cheaper unfamiliar brand at around \$18), even that low of an amount seems impossibly far. With asking for donations to cover critical costs and getting so few, it seems I may be stuck with my phone in the ear headphones until those too die. 😞

It seems my life is now full of items of low cost which are very important to me, but seemingly completely out of reach on my own. 😞

Day 2572 - 7/17

Day of gaming

Today was finally a day of gaming. Something that took me away from my sad worries of my regular life. In the morning I played my new game online for a bit. I just

got to the first big city, sort of. I need to go back to the starting area for a bit first. But soon, maybe in a week, I'll be in an area and doing things where there are more people.

During lunch I took a break to watch one of my online shows. After, I played a bit more until the sun started to shine in my face and on my screen. (Usually around 4:30-7 that happens, making playing stuff difficult.) So I had an early dinner and watched another show online until I left in the start of mid evening.

While I got to play quite a bit today, it felt odd that much of the rest of the day I was just watching people play games and have fun with their friends. It's something I've wished I could be doing for almost more years then I can remember.

I continue to hope I will someday return to a normal life and be able to play games on a desktop system, sitting properly with speakers instead of headphones, as well as having real life friends to do pen and paper or board games. My life has become so unusual and so off normal of what it once was that even imagining such a life is becoming more and more difficult as the memories fade and painful recent ones push the good ones further and further from my mind. 😞

Day 2573 - 7/18

Unusual silence

Today was unusually quiet. In the early morning no creatures were stirring. When I went places there was an eerie silence. Even when I'd gotten my food and arrived at school there were few creature sounds and the normally visiting people seemed to be nowhere. I think, not counting an event in the evening, I saw fewer than 6 people in the entire day. (Normally I see about three times that.)

I played most of the day. I talked to half a dozen in game, so that was nice. I may have found a guild too, we'll see. It was someone trying to set one up, so that may be nothing but a few friends they know. I told him to let me know if they get some kind of site set up. I'm not one to just join guilds without seeing something of the personalities within it. I do not form bonds easily, particularly with 'home' things being so sensitive these days.

The headphones, well ear buds, were tolerable. I hadn't put them up as loud as I normally would because the white noise background hiss gets really bad and gives me a headache. But I'd say I can play and do stuff at an acceptable moderate volume. So hopefully they can last until I get proper headphones again. Though it seems I can sign up for the quarter in September late next week, so that should be a priority. I need to keep doing that to try to keep the school loans at bay, as well as try to find a new place in life since I've never really had anywhere I belonged in terms of a job.

Today I stepped into a different world where I am not (usually) sad. And that is something.

Day 2574 - 7/19

Bleeding ear

Today was another unusually quiet day. In the morning there were barely three birds making noise. And when I got to school basically none. It has been unusually overcast, particularly today with the sun only coming out from behind clouds for about an hour all day. Maybe the creatures sense rain or something.

I again got to play and have fun. I escaped my sad life for yet another day while time passes. Weekends are always difficult because all I can do is wait. Checking on jobs is practically pointless as there is nothing to be found. (Though I do find it odd some of the auto searches choose a weekend day to send stuff. But then I suppose those go off every few days regardless.)

I had an ok time though I worry with all the things breaking lately how long it will be before my laptop goes. It's showing no signs that it will, but at already 1.5 years old I worry a lot.

I had an odd feeling on my ear today and scratched at it. I pulled my fingers back and there was a lot of blood on them. I wonder if maybe it had been cut or torn and the feeling I felt was a loose scab. Not being in a home I really never see myself in a mirror.

Though I had fun today, and it was warm enough to take off my second shirt, and I got to play; I couldn't help but be sad about what I missed. I'd have liked a proper breakfast. I'd have liked a cooked dinner. It would have been nice to have an ice cream

snack and to be able to cross my legs, or put one leg up on the chair as I gamed. But I was able to escape from missing these things today. And for now escaping from what I miss is almost all I can hope for. 😞

Day 2575 - 7/20

Slow fast slow and broken shoes

This was a very odd day. I woke up about 45 minutes later than normal. Since that was too close to my normal time I knew I wouldn't fall back to sleep and started my day early. It was actually very calm and slow in the morning. When it was time for the class I TA for the time flew by in almost a blink of an eye. *poof* Six hours gone just like that. The remaining few after seemed very slow and lonely. Everyone is gone. It was a warm evening, and a warm summer day. And now I am alone with nowhere to go.

I noticed a few days ago, maybe a week, my boots are much worse off than I originally thought. While they are better than the previous pair which was newer, these are coming unglued from the sole. And in the heel where there is still a gel bit the casing holding that in place is dried, crack, and bits of that and the soul are flaking off and I see a few bits just about every day. They are better than my other worn out pair because they have more of the soul, but they are worn out, not good for me to wear, and likely won't last long.

Today passed quickly. And in the times my mind was occupied I was ok. But in the times around it I seemed very alone. And I still miss all the regular things people would consider pedestrian or menial. I suppose because in so many ways those are the things I do for me, and in a very small way, celebrations of me. While I am proud and happy to have help that I can offer others and am happy to do so, I often feel little more than a fancy signpost in the road. 😞



Worn other boots.

Day 2576 - 7/21

Bad dreams, 50 ants

Last night and this morning I had bad dreams. I was dreaming I was homeless and staying at someone's small apartment for a few days while they were out. I had to go out of the sliding glass doors and set explosive traps in one part of the dream because people were coming after me. And after that 'the devil' had come to hang out with me and suggest places to go. We had gone to a mall and I was figuring out where to kill time. When I left the mall I'd heard my car make a crazy noise and it died from the overheating issues. I lost the ability to control it (as you would with any power steering car) and crashed into the side of the road. When I woke up this morning, and even now about an hour later, I feel stressed and worried.

When I got out of the car to go to school under where my backpack was there were about 50 ants. It was crazy because they were only in that small 1'x1' space. I

scooped out as many as I could to safety. Though being so small I probably killed 15-20% of them. 😞 I have no idea how long they'd been there. Yesterday I did see a few on the table when I set my backpack down, so my guess is they must have snuck on to the bottom on one of the weekend days. Now any little feeling on my body feels like an ant crawling on me. 😞

I'm very tired, very worried, and sad about things I've lost in this terrible journey that I'll never get back. For the moment I have a new world to play in, and a few people have added me as a friend every few days, so you never know where that may lead. So despite getting closer and closer to school being closed entirely for the summer, I still hold on to hope I can feel ok long enough to make some kind of recovery. 😞

Day 2577 - 7/22

Drops a lot

Today was not what I planned. I suppose it didn't go terribly, but the network at school has gotten very terrible lately, and today it dropped quite a bit. Mostly it was reasonably functional except for about 2-3 hours, so mostly my day was normal. But due to it being broken up there was little I could do.

My boots are falling apart rapidly. I suppose that was to be expected. They were the old pair before the pair I just stopped using. But lately there have been bits falling off pretty rapidly. And today one of the gel bits in the heel fell out of one side of one of the boots. It's 'cage' that held it in no longer had the bars. They'd all rotted and fallen off, so it was no longer held in place.

I suppose that's what saddens me the most about seeing them. Not the squeak squeak as I walk. Not the flip flap sound on the stairs because the bottoms are completely flat, but the fact that they remind me so much of me - particularly my teeth. Falling apart, coming undone, with no way to repair them.

I got my new phone someone sent this morning. It seems like a smartish phone. It's recent, but by no means a mega powerful one like the ones you see being advertised today. Tomorrow or the next day I'll see about getting it a number and setting up the small monthly deal on it. Although I'm not sure I have enough to set it up with as my bank account has barely anything in it. But, in theory, I should be able to keep it active and have a potential plan for \$5 a month. I'll look into the details over the next few days.

I was very cold today. I'm congested and coughing and my eyes are very itchy. I wonder if I have a cold. 😞

Day 2578 - 7/23

The bank scare and the redhead

Today was a mix of very scary things and very unexpected things. The morning started pretty normal. I did get a nicer lunch though, as I'll be forced to get cheap junk for the next few days. So that was good.

In the time after lunch though I got a huge scare which won't even fully resolve until possibly next week. I got a notice from the PlayStation network thanking me for a one year subscription. I thought, 'awww, how nice of one of my console friends. One of them must have got it for me as a gift.' But then I looked closer and saw the second email which said funds have been automatically added to my wallet from my bank account. And I was like, 'What?!' I did not approve this. I'm certain I didn't have any kind of auto renewal on. And, when I got the subscription I did it through a time card, NOT my debt card. So I checked my bank account, and sure enough it showed a pending purchase of \$50 when I only have \$6 in there, putting me negative a whole lot. So that set me into a panic of getting them to reverse the charge at Sony, and since they refused, getting the bank to decline the charge and all that before it's approved and sends me negative. Because not only do I not have that \$50, but there would be more for overdrafts, and in a few days more for not paying that. And it would have gone on and on. Sony refused to reverse it. I'm sorry, you can't force people to auto renew, nor can you use a card used for game purchases when the subscription was done with a time card. That's B.S. I've never seen a subscription service which charged a card that was NOT used for buying monthly or yearly time. And apparently the rep said they will ban my account because I'm having the bank refuse the charge. While losing my account wouldn't be the end of the world since I've been getting no messages about playing from my console friends, and it was more than a month since we played before I stopped, that would mean the like \$80 I'd spent on Destiny and \$60 I spent on Dying Light would be forever lost, and if I wanted to play those again I'd have to re-buy them. I guess we'll see what happens over the next maybe week or so. I'm sure they won't ban someone who is homeless, unemployed, and was unaware I'd be charged, who has been a customer for nearly 10 years. But we'll see. It's out of my hands for now, so all I can do is wait.

My plans of looking at activating a new phone today were completely shot because of that. Now I have to wait for all that bank stuff to revert and settle before I'll have access to the remaining \$6 I had in there. If that's even enough to get it set up, I don't know. 😞

I did get to play a game and watch my shows, so that helped me settle my nerves quite a bit over the rest of the night.

Something very unexpected happened then. There is this super attractive redhead in a class that happens Tuesdays and Thursdays. I'm not in the class, but I've seen her around a few times. Her class came in to the lab when I was there and she sat right in front of me. She made my heart get all fluttery and I had trouble focusing. 😍 She's much younger though, and really didn't even glance my way, let alone take note of me. But it was nice to be reminded there are still girls out there who still make me feel that way. I've only met maybe six or eight in my entire life who did that, but it was a nice reminder to hold on to hope of someday finding someone like that who is affected similarly when she sees me or knows I am near. It would be very nice to be happy in love with someone like that. 😍

But now that my day is over and I am hiding for the night I feel sad. 😞 I was at school hours after everyone had gone because I had nowhere to go. I am not in a home. I did not have a good dinner. And although I showered, I did not just get into bed naked after my shower as I would have in a home. I had to re-dress in dirty cloths and did not get in bed. And when I do get in what counts for a bed for me I will worry about what repercussions the bouncing charge will have. And worry about the overdue phone bill I can't pay. And my boots, and the next school quarter, and all the things. I will worry about everything, feel very alone, and wonder how or if I will make it back to a new life. And as I hopefully eventually fall asleep, I will pray I don't yet again have nightmares about being homeless and wake up on the verge of tears, as I have so many times recently. 😞

Day 2579 - 7/24

Cheap chicken, grasshopper with no hop

It is sad that I had to consider today 'a good day' because nothing bad happened. Nothing good really happened either. My bank still shows the pending overdraw and I still haven't heard anything good or bad from Sony.

It is also sad that today was good because my lunches and dinner for today and tomorrow cost 75% of normal. (Down to \$5 from \$7.50.) It is sad to think that saving a couple of bucks is cause for celebration. 😞

And I was giggling over a silly grasshopper who was crawling around under my legs near my stuff. But then I was sad because it seems he has was only doing so because it seemed he has no hop. It looked like one of his wings was broken, hurt, or missing. 😞

I did get to play my game without issue today. It seems the school network has stopped being bad and is back to its previous super strong state. That is good news as I can start looking at doing dungeon groups, which means I may meet more people, eventually leading to finding a guild of nice people.

I got to watch my shows undisturbed as well. Though being that I still just have my in the ear low quality headphones I am kind of avoiding show watching in the hopes someone will send me headphones and I can watch them at least with proper headphones. Or who knows, maybe I'll get a 'spare' \$18 to at least get the cheap ones on my list. Though it will be tough to justify with needing \$50 to sign up for school (and \$15 for parking around the end of August), \$75 for boots, which are at a critical level, and then there is still the \$100 I owe on phone, soon to be \$150. 😞 I guess I will be really hurting on that for not shutting that down sooner. I thought I could get enough monthly help for gas and phone, but that certainly seems to not be the case. 😞 Which worries me greatly as we approach October and I'll need to get some for car insurance. 😞

So yes, today was 'good' in that nothing bad happened. But with so much being bad already at fairly critical levels I am very thankful I have a happy game. It allows me to at least escape, and pleasantly pass some time, and at least for those moments many of my real life worries seem further away. 😞

Day 2580 - 7/25

Feels like a week

I am in the middle of my weekend. Well, the evening almost done part of the second day. Once upon a time a three day weekend would be a blessing. But now, since it's not a weekend in the sense of being off from work, just away from passing students, it seems like forever. In many ways the weekends, particularly days campus is closed, feel almost longer than the weeks themselves - times when I can be on campus in a building.

I suppose today was good again in that nothing new which was bad happened. I got to play my game and watch shows uninterrupted. The network does seem completely stable and solid, at least for the moment. I again found someone to chat with briefly in game and they added me to their friends list. And I found the person who was starting a trade and role playing guild again. I'd actually forgotten their name. I am still hesitant to join anyone without an established community though. I need to be very sure what kinds of personalities there are in the guild before I join. I do not make friends quickly or easily and I need to be even more careful online.

I had bad dreams again last night. And I'm having a very hard time even getting to sleep lately. I'll guess that's from all of my stresses from all the financial issues lately, but I suppose part of it too could be my cold. My voice is still off sounding, I'm congested, and still sneezing on occasion.

Hopefully I can get to sleep at a more reasonable time tonight. And I look forward to another day of mostly playing in my new world and trying to escape the sadness of my real life. And, as always, I cling to the small spark of hope I still have that my life will someday turn around and have at least some of the happiness I dream of. 😞

Day 2581 - 7/26

Few comeorts

Today was one of the days it was just about as good as it gets for me. 😞 Nothing new which was bad happened, and the recent bad things are a few days behind me, so those worries, while ever-present, are fading. So today was a day of showering in the

morning, a quick check on the forums I help on, a very quick check for jobs (weekends have effectively zero posts), and most of the rest of the day spent playing my game and watching a few shows.

Thinking about the core of my day, the amounts and way I did things were different, but the what of the things I did likely would have been the same in a home. The difference is the comfort of it. Instead of being in a large public shower at the start of my day I'd have been in a small private one. Instead of a few handfuls of the one cereal I have, I'd have maybe eaten a tiny bit of fruit and a couple of sausages and juice. I'd have played on a desktop, with speakers, and been able to sit in a chair able to put my feet up or cross my legs however I'd like, instead of hunched over on the floor in a corner. For lunch I'd have likely had a cooked soup, instead of a half of a small salami sandwich. And for dinner, instead of the other half of the sandwich I'd have probably had chicken strips with rice and some vegetables. And when I had dessert I'd have had maybe a scoop of cookies and cream ice cream or a cookies and cream ice cream sandwich, instead of nothing.

The what of my day probably would have been the same, but examining the how... the how is so very different. And it is that difference that brings me down so very much physically and emotionally. 🙄

Day 2582 - 7/27

The blink of an eye

Today rapidly sped faster and faster until it passed in the blink of an eye. It started a bit slow, with editing Epic Fail and then spending over an hour in chat with someone from my phone company about my canceling the phone plan. Most of the time was because they believe my phone can be sort of demoted, down to no plan and just pay \$0.10 per minute as I go. I'm not sure I believe them, as there is no website to support that. The only data I found seemed to point to a plan like that which was a minimum charge of \$10 a month. Which is kind of upsetting because a few months ago when I first researched this I was told, and given a page, which showed the lowest plan was \$30 a month. I could have completely avoided the \$150 hole I'm in now if I'd have switched to

that plan when I first talked to someone. Although I suppose technically I only have myself to blame. Had I carefully considered things I could have dropped the data portion of my plan and basically cut 1/3 of my bill a month at least a year ago, if not more. Honestly I use so little data I could have easily convinced myself to use even less. I guess I clung to it because the more and more 'normal' things I lose the tighter I cling to the few I have left. So, I'll know more in a few weeks when I maybe have some donations to consider activating such a phone 'plan'. But it seems the phone my supporter sent may not be necessary. It will depend if this is truly doable, and if so is it cheaper than the plan they pointed me towards. One device would be much better than two.

But after a quick check of jobs I settled in to play, and later in the day I had the class I TA for. I actually didn't help anyone in class, but after that my day flew by. Which I guess is not a bad thing with so much stress and sadness, but too it does just kind of make me feel the pain of what I'm missing out on that much more.

When class was over and I was 'moved out' of the lab again, and everyone was gone again I rapidly felt very sad. I missed day and evening things I would normally do in a home. I was saddened by the thought I'd only have 1-2 more hours before needing to pack up and leave, instead of what would have been 4-5 hours more fun in a home. And now being in my sad hiding spot with two hours left before I can try and sleep I feel sadder still. Not only at what I am losing as I can do so little during this time, but again because it feels I am paying out my life, burning time before I am gone, and it is being lost for nothing. 😞 So many paths lost, so many happy things it could be used for, possible paths and times I may never see before my end. 😞

Day 2583 - 7/28

Can't afford to eat diet

My legs are getting back to thin. The wobbliness around my calves is almost gone. My arms have almost no wobble at all. My waist is still a touch chubby, and ever since I hit 30 my cheeks and neck always seem one of the last places to lose weight.

I guess I should be thankful to be losing this weight after trying for years. I haven't checked lately, but I'd guess I'm probably under 200, maybe under 195. At this rate,

should I keep getting a very slowly dwindling amount, I'll be back in the 175-185 range by probably September. Which I suppose is good, as that is close to 165-175, which is where I have the least wheezing and walking pain. But losing the weight because I'm eating about 60% of normal, and it's all microwave food, soups, or lunchmeat, can't be good for me.

At the end of the fail week I have far more to worry about than ever before. So many things are critical. So little help is coming. But I have my laptop still, and on it I have my fun world to escape to and my shows to watch. With as little as I have left, for the moment I continue to hold on to hope. And although I know there are a few out there watching out for me, each day that passes it seems less and less likely I will ever get back into a happy home, with friends, and a sweetie who loves me. 😞

Day 2584 - 7/29
Two become one

Today was good, though there was some frustration. The network in the building I am usually in was again complete garbage. In the time I as in the building I spent hours trying to play maybe getting 30 minutes of progress. Mostly I watched my online shows at a ridiculously low setting. Some poo like 360p.

However, there is some good news to report. Last night I thought about how sad it is to have my in the ear headphones and not real headphones. I decided since I'd used neither pair in at least a month I would see if I could make the two one. I guess it was a good thing I decided to sacrifice the PC ones, as I discovered upon pulling them out that the other side had snapped in a very similar fashion as the first. (So in the future I will hopefully eventually get a hard case to prevent that.) I carefully removed the padded ear cuff part in such a way that nothing had to be cut, so they were completely intact. I removed the one ear padding off my console headset and tested placing the PC ones in their place. They fit ok during the testing. This morning when I got to school I glued them in place. No worries about the tape on the padding turning to black tar like my console ones did. They worked beautifully. Though they look odd, I now have a fully functional headset again. The top spine is still broken, so they are a bit fragile, but I also salvaged the PC headset spine. Should it be necessary it can now be used to reinforce the console ones. I'll avoid that for now though, as a quick test revealed they would likely be so tight as to pinch my head. Since it's not a single spine, but a spine on a spine, it's pinching it smaller and taking up a smaller space due to pushing the other, rather than a single spine.

So... while other issues in my life are still cooling down today can be considered at least a small triumph in that I have real headphones again. Though broken and crippled, at least that is something until they reach their true death.

Day 2585 - 7/30

Hot day, cool inside

Today I guess was pretty hot. I had forgotten to bring in my soup in the morning and when I got it from my car in the late afternoon it was somewhat warm to the touch.

I guess today was ok. The morning and most of the afternoon was a bit frustrating, as from about 11-1 I was dropping quite a bit off the network. I probably was losing about 15% of my time to waiting for the server to respond. At around 3 I noticed the connection was up to the full five bars, and it seemed fine again. Hopefully it will stay this way this time. For the weekend it will be a moot point, as I'm over in the area which is usually unaffected by the trouble lately.

Nothing really bad happened today. My bank is still stable and there is still no notice about being banned. In fact, checking online I still show my account as being the same as it always has. I helped a few people in the class I TA for, and I got to play my games and watch my shows, which is truly rare these days. So I guess in very small measure compared to a normal life, today was actually pretty good.

Day 2586 - 7/31

Farewell to noone

Today pretty quickly got a bit sad in the morning. While I checked my PlayStation account last night and it was fine, upon checking this morning I got a reply of 'this account has been suspended' when trying to log in. It's the weekend, so I'm not going to try and find out if that's true or if it's an automated response and I'm actually banned. Suspended wouldn't really matter much. It seems the console people I play with really haven't had much interest in playing with me in a while. Plus, without being able to afford the game expansion and an active membership I couldn't group with them anyways.

So, it seems I may be saying farewell to no one. Again, the loss of the two games worth almost \$150 would be a pretty big loss. But, if I ever do get re-established in a home and were in a position to play again I likely could afford to re-purchase those. The real loss is the like 4-6 weeks of real world played time invested building up characters.

Yes, I could be back to the base max level in about 20 hours, but that month and a half of time... well, that was a year of play at about 10-15 hours a week. I don't know that would be something I'd want to invest in if I were just playing alone.

And too while I am hurt because it seems my console friends don't seem to care I couldn't play with them, if I truly am banned and not just suspended then how will I feel about the company turning their back on a customer who's account was 10 years old for what was basically their mistake? Do I want to continue supporting such a company in the future if they are going to be that careless with their customers?

So today I feel extra sad. While I don't know if I am actually banned or just suspended, it feels like I've lost another part of me. Like my terrible journey has created yet another scar which may physically heal in time, but may never heal emotionally. 😞

Day 2587 - 8/1

Not cheese sandwich

Today I really kind of wanted a cheese sandwich instead of lunchmeat. But being near the end of the month I have to be very careful with my budget. And, as odd as it seems, a pack of cheese that would make 2-3 sandwiches is actually almost double the cost it would be for that much lunchmeat. Plus, being warm summer days, if I don't basically immediately eat the cheese it gets warm, and the longer it's warm the greater the risk to my delicate tummy.

Not considering all my troubles I have, not counting how sad overall it is to be homeless, today was really good. I didn't get too much back pain from sitting on the floor all day. The connection was solid almost the entire time I played (only a few times got questionable), and nothing bad happened. I did feel a bit lonely playing. I still haven't found a guild home, and although there were quite a few around in the world, really almost no one was talking.

For what little I have left, today was pretty good. And I continue to hold on to hope that someday I may have a truly normal life again.

Day 2588 - 8/2

Almost zero

Today is extra sad because of how low I am on everything. My gas is again down to about 1/16th of a tank. I expect there is maybe 3-4 days left. By the time this is posted I may be in a complete panic about if I need to abandon it somewhere and walk a few days and pray donations come. 😞

I am almost out of food money again. I really don't get how, after monitoring all month, spending 4-5 in food a day is not enough monitoring. I guess the occasional costs like breakfast food and the rare snacks will have to be even more ridiculously closely monitored.

So these sad details, having barely enough food and gas to eek by a few more days have been super stressful all day. I can still feel the pinching tension in my back. Sitting today was extra challenging and I could barely sit in a just mildly painful position all day.

In good news, even though the pool area was closed from the flea market yesterday and I couldn't get a shower, I was pretty ok today. I got to play my game mostly undisturbed. The connection was bad and questionable before lunch, but after it was solid enough to not really be a problem. So for another day I got to spend most of the day escaping to another fun world where I didn't have these worries, and while not there I watched a few shows.

I survive yet another weekend. But still, at my core, I can't help but feel sad about not just the basics of being in a home, but all the nicer things I miss; friends to laugh and play games with, a sweetie, maybe online friends in a guild to keep me company at times in my online game.

With so many people in the world I continue to hold on to hope there are enough out there who care about and worry about me to send donations to help me along until things get better. And that once they are, I can someday recover from my fear and pain and again find those friends and maybe even find love again. 😞

Day 2589 - 8/3

Feeling sad

Today I am feeling pretty sad. Nothing new bad happened, but all of the sad that is in my life weighed down on me more. All the things I can't do felt sad. And all the things I wished I could do that I may never get to do seemed sadder still.

I am starting to feel very sad about basic things, most often food. I'll see people getting food that I haven't been able to eat in 4-5 months, and it makes me sad these things are only a few dollars. And other things make me sad, like hearing people talking about things they are going to do or that they are going to get.

While I still cling to the hope of someday recovering to my life, today feels like I will remain a hollow shell, and I will forever be discarded and forgotten. 😞

Day 2590 - 8/4

Trying

Today I am trying to hang on. Gas is almost gone. Food will be extremely minimal today and tomorrow. It's not at one meal a day minimal yet, but it's not much more than that. I had a hard time getting to sleep last night with my tummy rumbling and no snack to feed it, but I did somehow manage to get to sleep earlier than usual.

With everything so critical my life seems hopeless. 😞 When I had part time income that was at least something. I had balance, as small as it was. Without there seems no return as I am dependant on help from others, and it seems few to none are helping or putting the word out on my behalf. But until an opportunity comes into my life, hoping others will help is all I can do. 😞

Week 371

Day 2591 - 8/5 A feast tomorrow

Today was pretty terrible. I again got down to nothing on food and for the past 3 days have eaten garbage soups and canned food; The very cheapest of \$1-1.5 items. 🙄 It has... wrecked my system, which is already very sensitive to begin with since it's been forever since I have had fresh food.

But tomorrow I will 'feast'. I will have my money revived, so I can buy better food, even if it's only slightly better. And I can get a snack or two, and I don't have to worry about pinching every penny right away. Sadly I will have to, to some extent. Apparently if I don't I'll keep getting short at the end of the month. But for the next month and a half things will get very weird regardless. With school closed after tomorrow I'll have no access to a microwave. I'll have to eat 100% ready to eat food like lunchmeat and such. I pray my system isn't completely destroyed, but with not even enough donations lately to have gas, even just once a week fast food from a fast food place is out of the question.

Tomorrow is my last day indoors for a while. It's only about six weeks, so I'm sure the time will fly by. But will it pass well? Of that I'm not so sure. I haven't gotten donations in quite some time. I'm nearly out of gas. And even if that were covered I still really need to get signed up for class next quarter (which is \$50) to keep financial aid loans off my back. And who knows what kind of poo my phone bill will begin to reign down on me for owing them so much. 🙄

For the moment, as difficult as it is getting, I still hold on to hope. Hope that there is enough generosity in the world to have enough help to continue to eek by on donations. Hope that someday I will find a job I'm at least moderately happy with. Hope that someday I can get back in a home, that I can find true friends again, and that my life will someday return to the normal I remember it once was. 🙄

Day 2592 - 8/6

Thunder and lightning, very very frightening

Today was the last day I could be inside at school. It was pretty much a normal day (save for the connection dying for half an hour). But at the end, when I was leaving my spot for the last time, it felt very sad. And I shed a tear. School, particularly my spot, is the closest thing I have to a home, even more so now that I have no job and I'm there all the time. Leaving the spot, even though it's only for about six weeks, just seems oddly final. As if I will, in fact, not be able to return. As if this were another part of me lost and another step in the final few that will end me.

Outside of that my day was ok. I did job checking when I first got in, brief forum helping, a quick check of news, and then most of the rest of the day I spent playing in my game. I had a lot of fun, but I was still a bit lonely because I am in an isolated area and I still have no guild.

In the evening when I went to hide for the night, and now, it's started heavily raining (in terms of the drops being large) and there is occasional lightning and thunder, which is super rare here, even when it's in the rainy season. It is a bit frightening, as any unexpected light or sound makes me jumpy due to being homeless. 😞 But it makes me remember happier times too - times in a home when I would listen to rain on the roof. And a time when I was stuck at an ex's with a super high fever and it was raining and windy and there was a tree outside making scary sounds and shadows in the flashes of lightning.

I suppose today was pretty good, though I am worried about me physically. For a few weeks now I've had a cold or allergies, I'm not sure which. But today my voice is destroyed, and I'm super congested and sniffing and sneezing. It seems I'm having a very tough time getting over it because of all the stress over the money worries. 😞 Hopefully I can get some donations soon and relieve some of my worries. 😞

Please send help and pass on the word if you are reading this while my sad story continues. 😞

Day 2593 - 8/7

Sad morning

Today morning started again with sad news. It seems my account is overdrawn by 0.77. Apparently the monthly fee for being poor has been raised. So the \$11 and something I had did not cover the \$12 fee (up from \$10.) If I don't get a donation over the weekend I'll have to burn more than a day's gas going to the recycle place to get \$1-2 for the few cans I have to cover that overage. Thankfully I have five business days before they charge me an overdraft fee since it was such a small amount, so I don't quite get immediately screwed.

I started a new thing today. I wouldn't call it a job, but it's something online. I go and look at websites with specific goals while doing that while a screen capture thing 'watches' what I do, and my mic remains open so people can hear me talk about what I'm thinking. And, if it's good, for the 15-20 minutes I spend they will pay \$10 per thing. However, like most survey type things, most of the time I don't qualify. There were like six possible things today and I didn't qualify for any. I'll continue to check, but the friend who said her friend does this says she only gets about \$40 a month. I suppose though that's more than nothing, and since they pay 'off the books' it's not any income I have to worry about in terms of my getting disqualified for the food stamps because it will come from the same source as my current donations.

Even though life is terrible and I spent the first day of between six and seven weeks spending 12 hours sitting outside on the concrete floor in a corner, I feel oddly at peace. There were a ton of people roaming campus despite everything being closed, and cars coming and going all day long. Maybe it was from special school closing stuff, I don't know, but it makes me feel safe to park in the lot. I have a sticker good until the end of September, so nothing bad should happen. But still, I worry when school is closed.

Everything is terrible in my life. I am barely hanging on physically and emotionally. No doubt the phone company will quickly start hounding me to pay them, and my boots may lose what little they have left any day now. But I try to hang on until help comes or I'm back on my feet. 😞 It's all I can do. 😞

Day 2594 - 8/8

Sad dreams, oddly at peace

Today started strangely. I was in a very good and deep sleep for once, when suddenly at 5:30 I woke up and felt worried and alert. Something in a dream must have startled me. I started stressing out and my thoughts about my sad things in my life began to spiral and I didn't get back to sleep for another 30-40 minutes.

When I did I had a bad dream about moving in somewhere and fighting with Sony about my banning or suspension because I was setting up my console. Then, a giant light tan wolf spider as big as my palm (with its legs curled tight to its body) ran across my bed. I grabbed one of my coloring pencils from off the desk, and when it paused on the short haired carpet I impaled it right through the back of its abdomen. It did not bleed, just stayed there impaled, and slowly sank. I knew it could feel it's death. My fear turned to very deep sadness.

I woke up again pretty quickly after that, partly still fearful, but mostly still sad. I thought about what the dream could mean. Why did Fate show me this? I think the spider was me. A dull brown color would be something I consider bland and unattractive. I killed the spider out of a natural fear of what it was. Yet the spider did nothing wrong. It was just living it's life. It did not ask to be fearsome, nor did it intend to be, nor did it act so. It's just how it appeared to be. And when I was in the dream and it had been impaled I noticed it was actually not scary. It, in fact, felt and looked stuffed.

I don't really know why I had the dream other than I was both the fearful me reacting to the spider, and at the same time I was the spider, while the me was society and those around me reacting fearfully of how I appeared. But will people see who I am and not what I am really like before killing me in uncontrolled reaction? I guess time will tell, but it seems my unconscious is getting more and more fearful and sad all the time. 😞

Day 2595 - 8/9

An unexpected visit

Today turned out to be quite unexpected. My ex-roomie has kept recycling stuff for me to take to try and help me out. And since I'm overdrawn on my bank account I have no choice but to go in the morning. I asked if she had any and she said she did and that I could come over whenever and hang out because her boyfriend (the one who sort of doesn't like me) wasn't going to be around because he was out of town. So I got a short visit, we watched a movie neither of us had seen yet, and probably most importantly I got to do laundry. I think it's been probably six weeks or so. So that's awesome. Now I should easily be able to wear clean clothes for several weeks and not get too bad smelling. And with there being no school I don't have to worry about not changing my outer layer so often.

It was weird being back in the ex-house watching stuff with the ex-roomie like I used to. It felt like I could just turn the other corner from the bathroom and go into my old room. The door was closed, just like I kept it. Since I didn't let the kitties in my room for more than an hour every few days due to allergies, the door was usually closed, or open but pushed to being mostly closed. So seeing the door closed was a normal occurrence.

Though I'm sure my sadness will quickly return now, for the moment it felt like I had my old life. And, I suppose, I am a bit revived knowing old habits and thoughts came back quickly to me. Parts of my brain and thoughts I'd thought had long since been lost due to being shut off for so long seemed to quickly spark back on, not like something lost and drifted away to sea, but something simple like a dusty light switch. It seems I have not completely forgotten how to be in a home. I have not completely forgotten where my foods would go, where my cloths go when dirty or clean. At least I know when prompted by physical space my mind *will* remember where things go and how to live like a normal person.

But the question remains; will I ever actually see that day? 🙄

Day 2596 - 8/10

A scare and a surprise

Today was an interesting mix of things. The morning was sad and slow in that I killed time and edited Epic Fail until it was time to go to the recycle center. Once there I had to wait nearly 1/2 hour extra because I guess their actual hours are different from what is posted there on the sign or at their website. So that was a sad and slow start, not to mention the sadness of being so short on money that I needed to do any of that.

I got quite a scare though. Of my first few times starting the car, not in a row, but one normal and one odd, it didn't immediately start. There was the smallest quarter or half second pause. It went 'vrrt vrrt ____ vroooooom.' When it would start normally there wasn't that pause. With all the extra trips today I noticed that twice out of the six total times I started the car it happened. I was extremely low on gas, so I'm guessing maybe that was it, because I've been hovering between 1/4 and 1/16th or less for probably six or so weeks now. 😞 I was very super worried both times, but it hasn't happened since, so I will try to not let it worry me if I don't hear it again soon.

In the later morning I got word that there was an unexpected package for me. I got super excited someone bought me something off my wish list. No one had said anything lately, so I didn't know what to expect. Just a bit ago, at the close of my night, I grabbed it at the ex-house. It turns out one of the surveys I did, possibly months ago, sent one of the few prizes they gave out (in lieu of being a paid survey). I'd picked headphones if I got a something (since my PC mic had not been working for at least the last 1.5 years.) So, though it's not the brand that is on my wish list, they look like they should be pretty good. They have the larger speaker types, and it's USB based, and it has an in-line volume and mute. It does seem pretty light and feels like a cheaper plastic, but for free, and since the electronics inside is what really matters, I am anxious to learn what they sound like tomorrow. I'll likely try them without the special software first, as that is often unnecessary. But it seems promising.

I do have to say though that the headphones not being from a rabbit friend does concern me. That means I still have not gotten a donation in quite a while in either cash for things like gas, or in stuff from my wish list that I need or want. So while today was full of ups and downs, it seems it ends on a worrisome note that it still seems I'm on my

own, and donations have stopped for the moment, and it seems no one seems to be putting out the word on my behalf in places which are receptive to it. 😞

More and more I am beginning to feel like there are only fans - those who don gifts and attention to those being entertaining, funny, or who are very popular. And there are those like me, being more serious, or trying to create change, don't seem to attract the affections of very many people at all. 😞

Day 2597 - 8/11

Unknown day

Today is a bit of an unknown. It's the first Tuesday of the between time when I can't be inside at school. Yesterday there was a ton of activity. There were people doing a few tours, and apparently the student place for getting IDs and such and health center were open. But, unlike previous years, the building area of the cafeteria around that seems all locked on the side I come in from, and the lights are all off in the upper area that entrance is on, so I figure I shouldn't hang out in that space since there isn't easy access.

I briefly tested the headphones. They have super good sound. I heard subtle things I didn't with my console set and they were a good volume. They don't seem to have very much 'noise canceling' to them, which is both good and bad. It's bad in that once I'm back in a busy environment it might get tougher to hear. But it's also good in that when I am, if a student needs help it will be much easier for them to get my attention if I have my headphones all the way on. (Normally if I know I may be asked something when I'm TAing I have them down around my neck.)

I expect today will be pretty normal with a job check, forum check, and then playing and watching shows to distract me from the sad things I can't control. It still seems a bit odd to mostly wait, but with so little left it seems focusing on what little I do have, and can enjoy, is best. I would still love to get back to a normal life, maybe something like voice acting work or video editing work. But with no connections and no help from people with connections, it seems all I can do is try and do what I can when school is in session and wait until such an opportunity comes. Hopefully I can get some donations soon and get more gas and sign up for classes. It seems my life has gone from

big dreams of the future and big steps towards that to living one day at a time and holding on to a fraction of my dreams while praying I don't lose more of me along the way. 😞

Day 2598 - 8/12
Feeling helpless

Today I am feeling pretty helpless. Well, I guess for about a week now that's been the case, but even more strongly since this weekend started.

First, my cold is getting really bad. I'm sniffing and sneezing a lot of the time. Sinus pressure is so bad I'm getting sinus, jaw, and eye migraine pain all the time. Normally I'd just go to the store, spend \$6 on a nose spray, \$3 on pain killers, and \$2 on drops that are like cough drops, and I'd probably be better in 6-12 hours. But I can't. I don't have any money for even part of that. 😞

And in a related note I've been asking here, and on my site, and in my podcast, for help for weeks now, yet no help has come. In a few days I'll be out of gas. I may be able to delay things, stretch them out if I put myself through the extremely bad pain of walking. (Which it took my ankles weeks to recover from last time and have only barely started returning to normal. 😞) But once the car isn't moving I'd have two, maybe three days, before I need to move it again. With as little gas as I have that will need to be seriously considered at the start of next week, maybe sooner since there are only a few day's gas left. But asking for help has yielded no help lately. And I have nothing of value I can try to sell. Jobs I apply to never reply, though now there is also the concern that if they are willing to call me they will hit a dead number.

It seems lately I am unable to help myself, have been for quite some time. 😞 And it seems too there are fewer and fewer looking out for me, or willing and interested in helping.

I no longer know if any help will come, or if I will ever get back on my feet without it. 😞

Day 2599 - 8/13

Inside, and a surprise

I don't think I mentioned this before, as I discovered it a few hours after posting on Tuesday, but it seems the little area of school I said had been open in previous years is indeed open. I just have to go all the way around to the other side of the building to get in. I was open-ish this week, and will be again for the next two. So, like it was before, I can be inside where I can sit, get the wireless signal, and even use a microwave, from Monday through Thursday. At least that is something. Then for like three weeks after that school will be completely closed.

Someone had suggested I make a post about my sad life on reddit. That's not a place I normally go because I know that even though it has volunteer moderators for each section, being an open place on the Internet there is likely a lot of attacking and fighting going on, which I'd rather just avoid. But, with only a few days of gas left in the car I felt there really wasn't a lot to lose. Worst case scenario I get some poop and just back out. So far kind of the opposite has happened. 😊 I got a donation a few hours after posting, which I'm very hopeful will get to my account by Saturday. (There is an extremely small chance it may even get there tomorrow.) And, I got a message kind of encouraging me to hang on. I really expected the post to go unseen and sink more than any other result. But the fact that I already got one donation is very hopeful for me that will help me hang on, and that I might even get more in the coming days.

Day 2600 - 8/14

Gas, and the sun

Today was actually a pretty good day. As good as I can expect with my life so low. 😞 I went to check my funds in the morning, and indeed a miracle occurred and the funds showed up as pending and available. I took out what I could and proceeded with my day. (The close gas station was kinda pricy, so I went a bit down the road to the cheap one in the evening.)

My connection was solid and stable all day, so after posting my podcast, checking for jobs, and a quick check on the forums I help on, I got to play my game. And when not playing, I watched a few shows.

I grouped with someone I've grouped with before, so that was fun. But I am still sort of banished to areas where there really aren't any people, so I seem no closer to finding a guild home.

Since I was outside, the sun started blasting me around 4. I should really just move when that happens. There is a table close by that I can move to that is mostly out in the shade. It's an odd place / position to sit, and there would be zero back support so that would kill my back, but I get pretty warm with the sun blasting me in my normal spot.

I still miss a regular life more than anything though. To play at a desk sitting in a chair, to be able to get up and go to the bathroom whenever I want, to snack on good food that isn't garbage, to not wear headphones (which pinch me) all day. I suppose even going to work at a job I at least mildly enjoy would have also been good. And now, at this time, I'd have probably just recently finished dinner and be in the middle of a show.

I still hope to one day have a normal life again. And, who knows, maybe the few small dreams I have might even come true.

Day 2601 - 8/15

The blurred distance

Today I feel pretty sad. I think it was a mix of being on campus with no one around, needing to be on campus both because I'm homeless and because I have nowhere better to be, eating the same food all day as I ate yesterday because I have to buy on sale and cheap foods, and just being alone, not just in my game but knowing no one would talk to me in messages.

When I got settled in to my spot I looked off to the parking lot where my car was. It's far, a few minutes walk for me, but the trees seemed oddly blurry. It seemed like there was a blur in the distance overall, as if there was a fog back or small fire. I'm not sure why this made me feel sad, but it did. Maybe it's because my own life felt just as unsure in the distance. Maybe it was because I don't recall if I could see that distance and more

clearly, after all it was very far and certainly beyond what I should see clearly. Maybe it was the stillness and silence on campus, how it is a constant, and much like my own life the campus stays still, unmoving and unchanging. Yet everyone who passes through moves on to other things. But not me. At least not now.

I am still unsure of my future, or if I will ever have one, especially in these present times. I continue to hold on to hope that enough average people will help me return to an average life. But I wonder... while I am certainly not extraordinary, at least not right now, I am certainly not exactly normal. I wonder if that means someone equally unusual will be the only type of person who can save me. But without any connections, and not knowing such people, I wonder if such a person will ever come along and notice that I am here needing to be saved. 😞

Day 2602 - 8/16

100

Today was super hot. It was 100F the two times I checked the temperature online.

👤 I was worried about my laptop by about 11 because it seemed to be a fair bit warmer than normal. Not a whole lot more, but noticeable on the one side where I'm assuming the graphics chip is. I was getting fearful I should turn it off, but it seemed to not get much hotter. To be safe in the future though I'll monitor the outside temperature and if it feels hot, and the site says it's over 90F, I'll probably shut off my system. Systems which aren't liquid cooled can only cool the parts to as low as the ambient temperature. Which this hot, fooooo, is way too hot.

I took a big chance and posted that I'm looking to play games with people on a site. I don't expect a reply though, as only around 550 follow the site. Spread across just the US that's fewer than about 12 people per state. Considering it's a worldwide page it seems highly unlikely to find people in my area. But people are right. I do need to take a chance and reach out if things are to change. But I am very very afraid, almost terrified, to find people in real life. It's a scary prospect opening myself up like this, and I worry that it may go badly. I am in such a fragile state now. 😞

I suppose, despite the heat and how much I'd have loved a pool to swim in, and a cool home to have ice cream in, today was ok. I got enough playing, and because I stopped almost 2 hours earlier than usual, got caught up on a few shows. (Though I may wind up dropping one. I don't like one of the new hosts, and as a variety show it's just meh.)

Tomorrow I can, in theory, be back in school. It will be shaded and air conditioned, and quiet, and somewhat private due to the lack of people. I'll take micro food, so hopefully I'll still have access to that. I saw a few workers using it last week, so I'm sure they will always request it be somewhere they can get to.

I'm still very congested and sick, less so earlier in the day during the heat, but now it's coming back again. But hopefully that will go away soon. Hopefully I can sleep well today. Hopefully I can have a good day tomorrow. And, who knows, maybe I'll get a nice donation or some kind of lead on something. All I can do is try and stay hopeful. 😞

Day 2603 - 8/17

Must have been, might have been

It must have been super hot again today. I was in the lower level of the cafeteria area, so mostly I was in a cool fairly air conditioned area. I came up to the upper area to micro my lunch and it was a bit warmer. But at 5 when I went up to do dinner it was significantly hotter up in the upper area. The area up there has glass on the outer walls. It's all windowed with basically glass, so the sun was likely beaming in for the previous few hours. I have Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday to still be inside, so as much as I love the warmish hot weather, hopefully it will cool back down by then. If not I'll have to seriously consider alternate locations to be on the weekend.

Thursday it will be my birthday again. And, as always around that time, I reflect even more than usual. I am profoundly sad. 😞 I don't look good. I don't feel good, either emotionally or physically. I've been sniffing and sneezing so long I am getting very concerned about permanent damage to my voice, throat, or sinuses. And while I can eat

micro food for many meals it is destroying my body. I have never lost as much weight as I have these past 6 months. 😞

When I was very young, up until my early teens, I always thought and dreamed that by this point in my life I'd have a decent job, kids, and occasionally go on trips to fancy places. Or, if I didn't, it was because I'd become someone rare and special. Not world-wide kind of fame or anything, but someone known in a smaller community (like gaming) who would be invited to be a speaker or guest at panels at different conventions across the country.

While I still hope the later will come try, as it seems 'to late' for much else, I grow very worried about me. Each year I seem to get further and further from *any* goals, let alone ones where I exceed what is considered 'normal'. Things that were once rare, like new friends or trips to conventions, or other special gatherings, have become nonexistent. I may meet people online, or people may follow me for a while, but pretty quickly they fade. And I can't remember the last time I could afford to go anywhere special. (I remember a few events, but would have a hard time recalling the year, and a month and day would be impossible.)

It seems I am not special. I am not noteworthy. I have no skills people assign real value to. And it seems as if I did fade away to nothing, only a few would notice. And even if they did, it seems I would quickly be forgotten after. 😞

Day 2604 - 8/18

Tiny dream

Today I feel very sad. I feel very sad about what my life has become, both because of things I guess I failed to control, and from years of things I could not control weighing me down. I am sad because it seems very unlikely my dreams I had as a child will ever come true. And with a touch under half my life left, if they do (which hopefully they still will) I may be too old to truly enjoy them. Or too old to have found people to share them with.

What once were big childhood dreams have turned to very tiny ones. No longer dreams really, more just the last remnants of hopes of wishes. With my birthday coming

in a few days it seems the best dream I can have is getting \$75 or more so I can sign up for classes next quarter and have the money for a parking sticker. Such a dream isn't even a second thought for normal people. If it is in their plans they just do it and it's done. But for me it's an uncertainty. Like so much else I've lost or not been able to attain lately even that small 'dream' may never come.

If I have lost so much hope I can no longer wish and dream of what the future might be for me, what has become of me? 🙄

Day 2605 - 8/19

Lemon honey burn

Today started a bit frustrating, but it wound up ok. I've always been concerned about the security of my web host, so I tried contacting them to see if they had some kind of authenticator layer I could add. The person took like 20 minutes for me to be connected and she wasn't sure so she sent me to someone else, who then took another 45 minutes going in circles saying stuff. When I finally discovered they had completely misunderstood my questions and had been leading me in circles the wrong way. So my first 1.25 hours of my day was lost in slow pointless web chat with customer service people.

The rest of my day was just about as well as one could expect. Well, on average I suppose. There were no jobs to apply to, no online site survey things to do (there actually haven't been any at all since the first few days), and my time at school was stable enough to play my game and watch a few shows.

I'm having another cough drop I got free from school. They are... actual cough drops, so they taste pretty bad. They are like honey and lemon and have that super hot menthol stuff. They don't really help. My not cough drop things I use are way better. But even at only \$2.50 that is something way out of my price range.

Tomorrow is my birthday. Outside of another day like today I expect nothing. There will be no special dinner. No cupcakes nor ice cream. I will be very surprised if there are any presents or donations. I will even be surprised if more than half a dozen post any well wishing. I still hold on to hope donations and gift money will come so I can sign up for classes at school. Hopefully if I can it's not too late and the few I can take aren't full.

Of course it would be nicer still if I had a few spare donations to et lottery tickets and won it for my birthday. After all, someone wins every few weeks. Sometimes several someones. More if you count the bigger prizes which are just four or five numbers. Then you are talking about thousands of people winning each week. So *shrug* why not me?

My life seems full of unusual things. Why not the ultimate unusual ending (and new beginning) to my sad story?

Day 2606 - 8/20

Surprise cookies

Today started off kind of poorly. I spent two hours basically arguing with someone via email about what was said, why, and how it was not what they realized. It was not how I expected to start my birthday, and it really killed what would have been a good start.

Trying to ignore all of that heartbreak and move on with my day, I did a very quick check of the forms and then moved on to fun stuff. I had half a dozen b-day wishes, with half a dozen more later in the day. Nothing special happened when I played my game, but the fact that I could pay it, and was inside, helped tremendously. I had a pretty decent day considering I really couldn't expect anything. And, I did get a few donations. It's not enough to cover next school quarter yet, and it's sad I can't use it for something fun, but it is a very strong start. Dad said he sent a card and monies today, so hopefully all added up I can at least sign up for classes and get a bit of gas. Oh, and my most helpful current rabbit friend sent half a dozen little games, most of which I've never heard of, and one medium sized one I had on my wish list since it had come out. One of the little ones was actually one of my favorite tower defense games from back in the day which I haven't played in years, so that should be fun.

In the evening I got a surprise from my ex-roomie. She left a card with some monies out for me, and some cookies she made. I almost cried. 😞 It doesn't seem like a big deal, but I can't remember when I last made cookies in a home. It had to have been quite a while before I left, because that last year or so I was there I was struggling pretty badly.

Overall today had some nice surprises. It was not what one would expect living in a home, but being as alone and outcast as I am it was nice to think that some do still think about me at least once in a while. As always I hope this is the last homeless birthday, and

that the next time I get gifts I can return to getting gifts which are just for fun and celebrating.

Day 2607 - 8/21

Sad outside time

Today started off badly again. I had hoped to restart a fun day, like I'd hoped to yesterday, but that didn't happen. Again the person who was bugging me via email was doing it again. Several times during the day there were several emails. It really brought down my whole day and has me irked and stressed out. I have a feeling I may just have to hope for the best and just start ignoring him completely again. I've had his emails auto filter into the trash ever since the last time, months ago, when, for the third time, he said he was 'done with me' and would stop following me and emailing me. For some reason he just can't let things be and revisit being friends in the future when I'm in a better place.

Outside of that I tried to have a good day. I checked job stuff and my forums I help on quickly and tried to get in to play my game as quick as I could to try and have fun. It was really very quiet again. I'm still questing and leveling up in places which are basically empty, so it's kind of sad when I'm alone in those areas. Once upon a time with my first MMO I had a similar experience. I was leveling out kind of at a different speed than the bulk of players, and not knowing many people, I was alone basically all of the time. Here though I'm coming in to the game when some others are, as a sort of new generation added recently. But because I play so much I'm basically ahead of them, so I'm kind of between the bulk of where the max level players are, and the bulk of players with the new generation. I still hope to someday find a happy new guild to be with, but it seems that will be more difficult than I originally had hoped.

There was some good news in the late afternoon though. My ex-roomie sent me a second b-day present of monies. So, I'll have enough to safely sign up for next quarter once it hits my bank account. 😊 So that will be nice. Though it is still very sad to think 'my future' is really only planned a few months in advance, and more often, only days or weeks in advance. And beyond that I have no future.

Maybe someday I can still return to a normal life and have bigger dreams again and look further ahead. 😞

Day 2608 - 8/22

Big events that are not mine

Today was odd. There was some big event getting set up around 1 right near where I normally sit. I decided that would be weird to be next to a big event, so I moved to the other side of the cafeteria building. It was ok because I got an outside seat at a table close to a plug, so I didn't have to sit on the floor in the corner. However, the connection on that end is somewhat bad. In the like 4 hours I tried to play on that side I probably disconnected 12-15 times. And watching my show was a nightmare, as it was in garbage resolution and what should have been a 3 minute commercial break was taking like 5 or more minutes for each 30 second commercial. So I just gave up on show watching.

I checked my car data. It looks like while the radiator fluid change was a pretty long time ago in real time, about 1.75 years, it was only about 7-8k miles ago. I doubt the place will check it free, but I may go check out if they will. I'd rather not have to drive over there, but seemingly, like all automotive places they still live in 1985 and the only way to contact them is by phone.

I had a pretty fun chat with the weekend security student. He was there last night and said hi to me as he went in to the building right before I left for the night, and I was surprised to see him again this morning. I asked where his beautiful partner was, as I'd always seen him with a beautiful thin blonde girl partner up until recently, and he kind of chuckled and said she worked a different shift now. Which isn't really surprising being that school is mostly closed for the summer and they don't really need people around. He chilled there for a while and we talked about gaming stuff and a few other things for like 30 minutes.

My day was pretty regular other than that though. The displacement was disappointing. The automotive place having no contact but phone is upsetting. For some reason I had a massive headache for a lot of the day. But other than that I guess things were reasonably ok.

Day 2609 - 8/23

Chilly at night

Again the big event was set out when I got to campus in the morning. I settled in at the alternate back spot and looked up the event online. It went all day yesterday, will go all day today, and is set to continue tomorrow and Tuesday. I guess it's pretty huge. Monday and Tuesday though is the start of the last week I can be inside, so for those days it won't matter. I'll have my inside spot and be back to a stable solid signal area. Today wasn't bad though. It was reasonably stable. I disconnected quite a bit, but not as much as yesterday. The funny part is that at lunch I moved my laptop just a bit, rotating it about 30 degrees and moving it about 1.5 feet to get better shelter from the glare of the reflections behind me, and for some reason that small change gave me just enough stability that pauses during video were extremely rare, and commercials basically took their normal amount of time. If I'm forced back there in the future I'll try to remember that.

I'm finally getting over my cold. While I seem under more physical stress due to emotional stress going on lately, as well as physical changes in routine, the last two nights I took just one cough drop and it's made a pretty big difference. Yes, it could be coincidence, but I'm a lot less congested, and slept a lot deeper. Though I remember having very strange dreams last night and this morning, I can't seem to recall what they were now.

Today was a bit overcast. The 100F of last weekend seems long gone. I'd be surprised if it got much over 75F today, and at night it started to get pretty chilly. I wouldn't be surprised if it were down to around 60-70F now. It might be higher. My ability to sense these things has become off over these homeless years. And now I'm losing weight at a seemingly increasing rate, so it wouldn't surprise me if my senses were getting thrown off.

It felt odd being in the back today. While I suppose the distance I could see was actually shorter than my usual spot, the view was quite different. In my usual spot I can see some outside seating, a path, a few buildings in the distance; it seems almost like a view from an apartment over a central area of the complex. But in back it seemed strange. I was on a raised area, college walking paths here and there, buildings and doors to the buildings in view. I guess it felt more like an actual spot outside in public. Maybe it was

just because of the difference of the time spent there. I've been in my usual spot on weekends for months, and off and on during weekends for years. It's been years since I was in the back area hanging out, and even then, in total, I've probably only done it half a dozen times.

I think that is really the key to my emotional stability lately. I've said it before, but my routine, something I can expect to hang on to, seems to be one of the few things I can use to keep myself grounded. And when that routine and stability is thrown off outside of my control, I get very fearful, worried, and stressed out. But, as always, I can't control what I can't control. All I can do is hope for the best, and in many cases simply avoid possible trouble, and hope for opportunity for change in the future. 🙄

Day 2610 - 8/24

Felt like a pizza party

Today was pretty much as expected for a Monday. All was quiet in job searches due to the weekend. The forums I help on were extra quiet due to maintenance and then a new expansion launching, so issues were typically ones that had nothing to do with things I could help with. My friend I sometimes do dungeons with was on when I first got in my game, but she basically left right after that. She's east coast and had stuff to do today, so I basically spent the day doing solo questing. It's fine. I like to do that, as much of the stuff is single player oriented. There were some people here and there I helped though, or very briefly acted silly with, so that was fun.

I got a shower in the evening and shaved all of my parts. That had been bugging me all weekend. I used to shower Saturday morning, but lately football people have been in there, so that is weird since they are the only ones there, so I skipped that one this week.

For some odd reason around 3 or 4 it felt like soon I was going to be packing up to go meet friends at their house and eat pizza and play a game. I'm not really sure why. I haven't had friends like that in more years than I can easily count, so that happening out of nowhere would be impossible. I suppose it might be because Critical Role is usually up on Mondays, and I watch at least part of that. Often, since they play the game from 7-10

PM, they are eating pizza or chicken or some other easy to eat gamer food. Outside of that I have no idea why I felt that way.

I paid for classes today, which put me in a pretty hopeful mood. One class I got, but the other one I'm the 10th person on the wait list, which means I'll probably get in. Usually a few don't show up and a few are added, so usually if you are with the first 10 you are ok. I'm shorter on cash left than I'd hoped, but I still don't have dad's money, so hopefully I'll be ok for getting a parking sticker and having enough gas to last the next few weeks, and enough to see if I can set up a new pay as I go phone. Though so far I really haven't needed it. No surveys have come and I haven't put a resume out in a few weeks. There are a few sites it's on where employers can, I guess, just look at it, but I've never been contacted like that ever before for a job.

I guess today was decent. I was inside with a strong signal and could microwave foods. And these days that's something.

Day 2611 - 8/25

Risking chocolate

Today I don't really expect much. School is still partly open so I can chill there. So barring any crazy Internet outage or closing the area I'm in unexpectedly, things will likely be normal. No card from dad yet, but that's ok as I have 'enough' to be safe for the moment. I still could very much use donations to help with all the things coming up soon, but today, right now, the critical issues are covered.

I'm risking a chocolate doughnut today. My tummy really can't handle chocolate at all like it used to. I've always been lactos intolerant so it's always been a bad idea, but it used to be with moderation it was ok. Now it seems like even the smallest amount can end badly. I don't know if that's just age, or a combination of that and not being able to eat well and my tummy being off and sensitive in general.

Things seem off of 'normal' for today. They seem settled, quiet, and at peace. Maybe it's because I'm getting over my cold. Maybe because I slept a bit more than usual. Maybe because it's been cloudy and overcast, a bit chilly, and I always kind of feel like that in this weather. Maybe a small part of me is feeling hopeful for the future since my

immediate troubles are less troublesome due to the birthday boost. For the moment I continue on, and I wait for opportunity, and hope for the chance one comes up to find a new path.

Day 2612 - 8/26 Alone, not alone

Today was mixed. Not in that something good or bad happened, it was basically neutral as always, but in terms of feelings. In the morning and early afternoon there were a fair number of people around. A few small tour groups came through, and there were between 4 and half a dozen people around me almost all the time. But in the later afternoon and evening the place was pretty empty. And while I was not alone I felt kind of alone. None of these people were my friends. I don't know any of them. I recognized two or three, as they are people who walk by me several times a day, but they aren't my co-workers, and they didn't introduce themselves.

It's an odd place to be emotionally. I am not necessarily scared to let people in because they hurt me, but I am very selective of who I let in, who I tell private things to, and who I talk about certain things with. So I am not one to chat with strangers who I have nothing in common with besides that they are sitting next to me. If I want to reach out I will have to find a place people have common interests and reach out. Maybe soon I will try and reach out again, as my recent reaching gave me some possibilities, but due to financial or physical limitations aren't an option right now.

I do want to get into a job I enjoy, or at least expand my current hobby enjoyment to have more interaction. But without an opportunity to get into that job line or work I would enjoy, I may be stuck. And with my current limitations on hobbies my options are limited.

Speaking of jobs, there may be something someone I recently helped as a TA may have for me. It would be a single shot kind of thing, she says 15-20 hours, but next week I'll know more. It's an editing thing, so I should be able to do it on my laptop. I'll know more probably next week.

I guess, besides feeling out of place as I often do lately, and not counting what feels like an extra sad broken heart lately, I guess today was pretty ok.

Day 2613 - 8/27

Must have been hot

Today must have been hot. Up on the upper area of the cafeteria part that is open it was quite a bit warmer than down below. When I left everything was pretty warm and it was kind of mid-evening getting towards night.

Nothing special happened today. There were a few jobs that caught my eye, but they required a hardcore biological / science degree with research experience, so there was no way I would qualify. Still nothing has come up on the work at home thing I've started to try and do.

I got dad's card and money today. I guess he sent it to the wrong address, so I'm lucky it got to me at all. It was actually quite a bit for my current situation, so it will help a lot. It's a check, so I'll have to wait a few days before it can clear before I can use it for anything.

I've been thinking a lot lately about being or doing something special, like I talked about I think just before my birthday. Today I was pondering about how, for many people, when they got to the sort of middle part in life they turned things around, or changed directions, or careers, and everything worked out ok. So I hope that winds up being my story. In a way I'm free to go wherever I want in terms of a career. But sadly, no matter what direction I choose, without knowing someone in that field who would give me a break, or without finding my break on my own, I will remain where I am.

I really do hope I someday matter to a number of people. Not for myself because I desire fame and adoration, but I hope as an inspiration or beacon of some kind. Acting in a positive way for them to change or act in a particular way I would approve of or be proud of. I know a few over the years have said my writings have helped them find their own strength to recover or continue, or their own understanding and courage to re-approach something they feared or was sad about and repaired something emotionally. But I do hope someday to reach more. Hopefully a lot more. To see a result, to know I matter, that would be something.

Day 2614 - 8/28

Tiny cute lizzard

Today was odd. It started out pretty slow. I had some extra stuff to set up for my site in the morning, then played a bit, then had lunch and checked for jobs, played a bit more, then did more site stuff. But the day seemed to pass very slowly. Also, my heart and chest still feel off. I don't quite know how to describe it. It feels both like congestion all around my heart, and yet at the same time like an empty stillness. I may have a deeper cold. Part of why my day felt slow was I was extremely tired all day. Like I could barely stay awake and kind of feeling tired.

There were a few people around expecting school to be open, but mostly today was like the first Saturday in a long line of three weeks of Saturdays. And not in a good way. I saw the security guard again. He was busy but he said a quick hi when he passed me the two times I saw him today.

My day kind of ended on a laugh though. On my way off campus I stopped in the bathroom, as I often do. There was the tiniest and cutest little lizard zipping across the floor. He couldn't have been bigger than about two inches long. Years ago on vacation on the east coast I saw them everywhere, but I've never seen them over here on the west coast. So it was zipping along and it made me smile and laugh because it was super cute. Lizards walk funny, particularly when going fast. I very carefully scooped them onto a paper. He seemed pretty calm on the paper, which is good because I didn't want it to fall when I carried him out. I set him down at the nearest green bush. He happily scooted off into the bush.

I guess all in all, despite it being super hot and my brain not working and my chest feeling weird, it was a pretty good day.

Day 2615 - 8/29

A month early

Today was ok I guess. There were some laughs in the morning when someone came by looking for a yoga class. I told him, 'uhhh... unless you are here for a special

event everything is closed until next quarter.' We pretty quickly figured out that for some reason he was thinking it was September. His brain was an entire month ahead. We laughed.

A similar sort of thing happened to me last Thursday when I saw the friendly security person. I asked what he was doing there on a Tuesday. And then I was like, why do I suddenly think it's Tuesday?

Nothing really happened today. My 'work at home' thing went a little crazy in the head saying there were like six possible tests for me. When I checked the site it said there were none, so I'm not sure what's up with that. The friend type person I may do an editing job for got in contact and said stuff might be ready tomorrow, but maybe not until Monday, so we'll see I guess.

I guess today was ok. Mostly I played alone. But I'm really used to that. It kind of made me think back to a MMO I was playing about 9 years ago, and another about 14 years ago, where I'd be on most of the day, but since I knew few people I was basically soloing in quest areas that had low populations. I may try and go to a high population area and try to find a guild, but I don't know. Part of me feels I should just do what I do and let Fate cross my path with a guild. Right now I'm still trying to find a balance emotionally and figure out a future for myself; if I have one, what it is, what is my least risk path, is there something better that might be not too risky, and if so what is it? Things like that. Though with few to no resources things still seem difficult to impossible, or that I really have no choices at all.

Day 2616 - 8/30

Headphone shell

Today was ok I guess. It was very calm and quiet. There was the church group at school, but besides them all was quiet. Though I got a fancy dinner and my tummy is not very quiet at the moment. It seems to be disagreeing with me. 😞

I don't remember if I mentioned that with part of my birthday money I got a protective shell for my headphones. It is way bigger than I thought it would be. This huge clam shell thing. Though putting my headphones in I discovered two things. First, it's

actually just the right size. Particularly if the headphone ear cuffs were rigid and didn't want to rotate. (My current ones rotate 90 degrees.) And second, as a bonus because of its larger size, my mouse actually can fit pretty easily in the space between the headband and the ear cuffs. So now not only are my headphones in a protective hard shell, but the mouse is too. So, no more worries about either of those being hurt, smashed, snapped, etc. by the sad days in my backpack.

However, something new may have come up. A couple of times while playing the power line shut off and my laptop went to battery mode. I can tell because the screen dips darker in battery mode (I set it that way). It seemed to be related to my power cable, and when I placed my leg on it. So I investigated. It seemed the bends were maybe pinching something. I unwrapped that bit, sort of unpinched the bends, and things seemed stable again. But later it happened again, and I got worried and looked up a replacement (which would be \$60 😞). I again investigated and was somewhat relieved to narrow it down further. It's a single 'joint' bend in the line, which I'll tape more rigid like a brace to help keep it straighter. And, it isn't visibly damaged, just one of the bend spots from being wound up together, and only seems to suffer the power loss symptom *only* when that area is pushed certain ways. Left alone the power flow is normal and solid. So, I'll tape that bit both to reinforce it, as well as to remind me to avoid pressure or bends in that section. Hopefully it will be fine.

My tummy has been extra sensitive lately. I'll have to eat very carefully over the next few weeks since I can't get to a microwave. In previous years summers weren't so tough because I could micro at least one meal 3-4 times a week at work, and I had enough income to eat ok on days I couldn't. But now, with not being able to afford 'fancier' ready to eat food from fast food places (outside of special times like this when I have birthday money), it is going to get very tough to stay balanced. (And too I wonder, is it all due to my homeless diet? Or is part of it because I'm getting older? 😞)

Day 2617 - 8/31

Surprise open

Today had a pretty big surprise. There were some students on campus in the morning, more than there should have been if things were totally closed. Around 10:30 I saw one come out of the door next to where I sit outside. In a strange turn of events it looked like not only was the main area of the cafeteria not closed off from the other bit, but the lights were on. When someone I knew came by about half an hour later I had them watch my stuff, walked around, and discovered that indeed not only was the lower cafeteria area open, as it has been, but the upper area as well. About an hour before I left in the evening a security person reminded me of when things close. I asked why things weren't closed for floor cleaning, and would they still be open. Apparently they just mop most of the areas, and the part they re-wax was what they did over the past few weeks. So not only is the lower area going to be open as before, but the upper area too. I can continue to do micro food for sure and be inside Monday to Thursday like before.

The evening had an odd twist. I went to shower, but lately the fans haven't been working. There are still classes for little ones going on, so I guess due to how many showers had been going on during the day, the shower area was extremely hot and stuffy even with no one in there at that moment. I waited in the hot for a minute, deciding if I should stay, and I was pretty quickly starting to have a difficult time breathing. I decided it wasn't worth it and would just try again later. My hair had been bugging me though, so I quickly shaved that in the sink and wiped off my head. An odd turn of events, but that should easily hold me a few days until I can check again and see if it's as hot and stuffy.

Day 2618 - 9/1

Quiet beinning

Today has just started. There are one or two around in the school cafeteria area that's open, but that's it. I can hear fans of machines above me, someone walking in the distance down the hall, but overall it's quiet.

No replies on jobs in email. Word from the person I'm editing for came that stuff should be ready tomorrow night. I haven't yet checked for jobs or forums or started my day. But things seem quiet, peaceful, and settled for the moment. I need that. I need things to not be upsetting, worrisome, or go badly. It takes all the balance I can manage, and a lot of fun that I have available to me, try and remain ok enough to try and heal emotionally. And if I can manage that long enough, and finances stay at least at a minimal manageable level then I can remain hopeful that I can make it until positive change opportunities come along.

Week 375

Day 2619 - 9/2 **One shot job**

Today was pretty good. In the morning I was suuuper tired. I was up earlier than usual, but by the time I got settled in at school it was about the normal time. I checked jobs and forums I help on, as usual. I played, but remained suuuper sleepy until the early afternoon.

My friend type person with the job came and brought a disk with her stuff. Bt it was everything on her whole system, so we couldn't find the footage quickly. She will get to it when she gets back from vacation early next week. The job is actually for her - a project she really didn't finish during class back several months ago. I was basically the person's job she was paired with to get it to the editor and get cut, but it never really got there (despite the person being put in contact with two other editors, not counting being put in contact with me as well.). So now that class is over she's going to go ahead and finish it herself. She spent like \$800 or more on location and food and the camera person for it already, and she doesn't mind spending more to get it edited and actually have something she can show people.

The friend who was freaked out a few times and said he hated me has recently been emailing again and we've been talking like regular people about things we haven't fought over. So he's finally taken my suggestion and appears to be talking about things we don't get upset over and won't fight about. Maybe now we can start trying to discover if there can be a friendship there. So that seems to have turned around.

In the afternoon I actually grouped with the person I've done dungeons with before and a friend of hers, so that was fun. But that was really my day. Pretty basic, slow sleepy start, played online, met with the friend like person who talked about the job, and that was it. And, as sad as it seems to say, that's a pretty good day.

Day 2620 - 9/3

Beginning at the end

Today was kind of backwards in a way. Normally I record my podcast in the morning, but since there really wasn't much to talk about I decided to do it at the very end of my day.

The rest of my day was ok. Again I was super tired in the morning. Again I felt like I would fall asleep until the later afternoon when I woke up a bit. Nothing happened in my games. People are likely all in the new content areas. I'm considering if I should get the expansion. It's pretty cheap, but it's mostly PvP focused and it will probably be mid to late next week before I'd even be at the level the content is designed for. Though there were jobs to look at, as usual I didn't qualify for any.

I wonder if my feeling sleepy has to do with my weird dreams. Lately I've been sleeping unusually deeply and been having more vivid dreams than usual. Often it's something to do with coming out of being homeless, like I'd recently moved in somewhere, or some moment after that and having a normal life but there are odd aspects that make me feel or remind me of being homeless. I think last night or the night before was something about being at a convention, but the walls and stuff I was holding was all plastic? I don't remember most of it, but they are weird. At least I guess I can be thankful they aren't making me cry or scared like they used to.

I guess today passed peacefully and quietly. And although I wished I could have had people to play with in my game, or friends in real life to play pencil and paper or board games with, I guess a quiet and calm day isn't too bad, particularly in my life right now.

Day 2621 - 9/4

Goodbye trees

Today was a bit worrisome and a bit sad. In the morning things were a bit frantic. I was going to the recycle place, and since it doesn't open until later in the morning I washed some 'bed' stuff I haven't washed in I don't know how long. After, I dropped it

back off to be safe in the ex-storage where I keep it, zipped over to the recycle center, got food, then went to school. So there was a lot of running around in my first 2 hours of my day. I got quite a scare after getting food. When I went to start the car it went 'vrrrr pppt' and stopped trying to start. I was super scared and tried again, and it worked as normal. That sort of happened last time I started a lot in a short time as well. In fact, I think both times it was the fourth trip start that had issues. There were no issues after that in the evening though, so it may just be a thing I have to watch out for - don't make multiple trips in a short time. I've also noted my clock on the CD player is 7 minutes fast. In previous years during that 6 month window between time changes it would only get about 3-4 minutes off. I wonder if there is indeed something off with the battery. When I did that smog check the guy said it was old and should be replaced. I guess I should look into that, but as they tend to be pretty expensive I haven't looked into it. As with all car things, I hope it can hang on until maybe I get a big donation, or someone knows a someone in my area that can look at it free, or I get a boost in money like the tax return.

When I settled in at school something very sad was going on. For a few days now there has been a lot of noise, but being downstairs and unable to see I couldn't see what it was. In the area near the cafeteria entry area there are, or were, several trees. They are big and old. The trunk is probably maybe 3-4 feet thick, but they always kept them trimmed to about 30-40 feet tall. But they were cutting them down entirely. 😞 Over the course of the first four hours or so I was on campus I saw them cut huge bits off, take a big crane thing, and put them on the ground to be put in a bin or shredded into tiny bits with the chopping machine. It made me very sad. 😞 The trees are nice. They provide shade and make things look alive instead of static concrete. Plus, those particular trees had dozens of housing structures for the birds and squirrels to live in. 😞 I don't understand why they would just cut them down like that. 😞

Due to all the business in the morning my day passed seemingly very quickly. I barely got to play half the time I normally would before the sun came into my spot. Though I suppose that is how much I would have gotten if I had a job, even if I were in a home and feeling emotionally 'better', as I would be in a better mood and do other things than just play a single game. I checked for jobs, but there was nothing. There rarely is on

Fridays. I checked a few of the online at home things, but as usual I didn't qualify for them.

That was really my day. Clean bed stuff, played a bit, nothing on jobs, and made me very sad seeing the trees cut down for no reason. In a way that seems a lot for a day. Once upon a time when I had a 'normal' life less than that happened in all of most weeks. But today that seems like very little. It feels like more should have happened. I guess I am just feeling philosophical today. I thought of maybe 'doing some voice work' by filming something and doing voice over poetry or talking about something. It might be something different to consider to post. Not sure if there is an audience for it since I'm an unknown person. It certainly wouldn't be something my current 15 subscribers to my 'channel' would expect. But it might be something the 'want to do voice work' side of me would enjoy. I'll have to think about it. I haven't written or done a lot of stuff like that in quite a while outside of the few story type things in the early days of Epic Fail.

Day 2622 - 9/5

Max, but not

Today was an odd day. Things felt peaceful. Things felt slow. They felt out of place and yet they felt as I expected.

The morning started out as normal. I didn't look for jobs until the afternoon because it's Saturday and there is never anything posted. I played my game, and in the early afternoon I finished the last solo quest. Everything I have now are achievements for certain things (exploring, killing certain bosses, doing certain dungeons, etc.) and group quests. I'm maxed, but not. There are still three more vet levels I can get before the levels stop and I'm truly maxed, but now I'm out of solo quests. It feels odd. I haven't had a max level character in a game for a while. Well, not counting Destiny which is basically designed for you to be maxed after a dozen hours. I still haven't found a guild home. Hopefully I will, otherwise I will get pretty lonely. It's happened in other games where I've been max level. It would be a lot easier in a home though. I wouldn't feel quite so lonely at max solo. I guess we'll see how things turn out in time.

That was really it today. Being the weekend nothing happened. Being a flea market weekend a few people were around, but I don't know anyone. They were fish in a sea around me; going here, going there, but I had nowhere to go.

Day 2623 - 9/6

Cold shade, hot sun

Today was a bit weird. I don't actually remember very much of it. I remember it was pretty normal. I remember I got in a long group and got no lunch time show because it ran during that time. But that's really all I remember.

I remember the weather, and feeling cold and hot. In the shade it was cold. I kept my hoodie on until the later morning. But about 3:30 when the sun came at me it rapidly started to get warm then hot. My laptop and stuff isn't in the sun, I shade it with my backpack (and my headphones are shaded with a sideways baseball cap). But it seemed strange to be cold in the morning, then sweating slightly at night even with only a tank top on top and regular blue jeans.

As the sun came at me I was again sad about the trees. They should have given me shade, but they weren't there. My not having shade wasn't what made me sad though, it was just a reminder. A reminder the tree is no longer alive. While some would question if it is alive to begin with, I am still sad it is gone. And all the critter homes. There must have been more than fifty critter homes in each tree, with who knows how many bird and squirrel families living in each home. 😞 It seems very sad. 😞

I guess there is a holiday tomorrow and many things will be closed. I wouldn't have even noticed if someone didn't put something on their social page about it. I was really looking forward to being inside and eating micro food. 😞 Being outside isn't super terrible I suppose though. It's the same Internet speeds, basically the same power. I'm just missing glare protection, and of course I'm at the mercy of whatever weather is outside, and my back kills me at times due to not being in a chair.

I will make it through tomorrow as I did today. And the day before, and the day before that. And while I continue to hold on to hope for change, it seems I will have to

keep waiting for that special opportunity to come along. And until it does I have to try very hard to not lose hope as the 'normal' days pass. 😞

Day 2624 - 9/7

Return of the 100s

Today was a bit odd. I started my day as normal. I considered parking across the street from school, just to be not weird feeling about being parked there on a holiday, but I remembered the officer said he sees my car all the time but doesn't worry about it because I have a sticker. On the way in the motorcycle guy was coming out and he stared at me. I wonder now if he was a different guy and was looking at the stickers. I have four on there, so they are easy to see at a distance, and maybe he was looking for a valid color. I parked, noticed he didn't turn around, noticed half a dozen cars already in the lot, and went about my day. Oddly within about 15 minutes of my sitting down another officer came walking by. He said hi to me, I said hi back, and asked if he was looking for anyone in particular since he seemed to be looking for something. He said the vending machine was broken and getting broken into at night. I do recall a week or two ago I saw it open and someone had put a dollar in it, presumably because they took a drink.

The rest of my day was pretty normal, save for some very upsetting stuff in the early afternoon. It had thrown me off so much emotionally that hours later I had apparently completely forgotten to eat dinner. I was so messed up emotionally and unbalanced I didn't recognize that the extreme hunger in my tummy was because I'd missed a meal.

It was pretty hot today. I noticed my laptop was a bit warmer than usual, as was my power plug. I didn't think to check the temperature until it was night (again likely due to being thrown so far off normal emotionally) and when it was starting to be night and I finally checked it said it was 90F, and that earlier it was 100F. I absolutely would have moved to the back of the building instead of being in the sun if I knew it had gotten that hot. It seems the weather of the 100s is returning. Glancing over the next few days when I'll be indoors it will again be in the 100s, and later in the week when things are closed

again it will still likely be in the high 80s to the low 90s. I don't worry about weather past three days though. Things seem inaccurate beyond that.

I didn't really check for jobs. Holidays like this nothing is posted. I did help a bit on the forums that I always help on. And I got a decent amount of time playing my game before the sun started blasting me in the face (around 3:30, down by an hour from what seems like just a month ago). But now I will wolf down the half sandwich. And hopefully it's not too late. Eating late since I've been in my sad homeless times often leads to an unhappy tummy. 😞

Day 2625 - 9/8

Excitement building

Today coming on campus there were a lot of students milling around. More and more are showing up getting ready for the next year. It's still two weeks away just about, and I'm sure that will pass slowly, but it's kind of nice. It helps distract from my sad things. And it reminds me that soon there will be new and different classes to take and there will be my professor's classes I can help in.

I still don't know what will happen to me. Things are still more down than up. I still don't really have anyone emotionally helping me through things. There are a few who every few weeks I hear from and sort of remind me there are people out there who care. In general though I am on my own. I have to fight off or get around as much bad and sad feelings as I can to try and hang on.

Someone has recently been pushing that I should do something about the physical things I miss. But he doesn't get it. He's not seeing the real message. Sure, I miss my pepper strips. I miss lemon chicken. I miss steak with sautéed onions and potatoes. And while it may be possible to have those back in some form, it's not the physical thing I miss. It's the ability to properly do them that I miss. The emotional feelings that come along with being in a home-like place where I *can* cook. It's not about the specific food. It's not about being able to watch movies. It's not about pets I can't have. It's not about, well, anything specific in the physical sense. It's the way you do that physical thing. The how, the when, and the surrounding conditions that make it that complete emotional

experience doing something physical. I suppose that has been the strength people see and understand in my writing in that I can persevere the physical sadness and hardships missing those things. But even though I can persevere doesn't mean I don't miss the true forms. Getting a sample of something won't stop me from missing that true form, that complete experience. That is what I miss, despite talking about the physical aspects I miss. And the hope and memory of having that is what helps me keep hanging on to hope of having it again.

Week 376

Day 2626 - 9/9 **Out of the heat**

Today must have been seriously hot. The upper part of the cafeteria was considerably warmer than downstairs where I sit. And, when I left an hour or so after it started getting dark, it was what I'd consider comfortably warm bordering on too warm, which means it was probably somewhere between 75F and 80F.

I guess things were ok. Mostly I played my game alone. There were no jobs to apply for and no work at home online things. There were no shows to watch, so overall my day was pretty slow feeling.

I guess overall that's ok. It's nice to have some overall slow days, particularly since I can't ever really take any days off like normal people. Though lately it's felt like I've been forgetting something. I've had that feeling for a few days now. I can't think of what though. All the things I should have done, and could do, I've done. The only outstanding things are things I can't do yet, or don't have money for.

I guess today overall was an ok day save for a few things I'd rather just forget about.

Day 2627 - 9/10 **Still so hot**

Today was pretty good, save for some poop that again took up hours of my day, and took nearly the rest of the day to try and re-balance from. Hopefully that poop will stop soon and I can go back to trying to heal my wounds from my sad life and move forward again. These repeated poops have put a serious setback in what was the start of recently feeling better enough to try and make new and different steps forward.

Other than that, in general my day was k. There were a few jobs to investigate, but even though I had the necessary experience I did not have the necessary degrees. There

were also a couple of work at home things to try, but I didn't meet the requirements for those.

Outside of that I played my game and had fun with the couple of friends I group with. There weren't any new shows to watch, so I rewatched an old one.

I guess it was super hot again. Again it is in the evening, and again it is still super hot from earlier. I don't know how hot it was because I was inside and didn't need to check. I'll have to keep an eye on it this weekend when I'm outside though, and if it gets too hot I'll have to go to the food store.

I don't know what to expect of this weekend. It will be hot, which will likely make me think back to days of BBQing and watching movies or playing games with friends. With no shows or movies to watch things will likely feel slow, and I'll probably not do much but play games. I might do the job for the friend person. I emailed her today and she is back from her trip, but probably won't have things ready until this weekend or after. If she does, I may do some editing for that. But I don't know, I guess I'll see as it happens.

Day 2628 - 9/11

Nice people, unexpectedly inside

Today turned out quite differently than expected. In the morning I got to school and there was a very unusual number of cars in the administration area and in the parking lot I park in. I wondered if things were open and peeked in, but saw nothing unusual. Around maybe 9:30 the chef came in and asked if I wanted in as he went in. I told him it would feel weird and I was used to being outside. Around 10:30 a student in a blue shirt exited the building near where I was. (The blue shirt people help with new student orientation.) She asked why I wasn't inside at my usual spot and said the building would be open from this Friday on for students to do getting ready for next quarter. So woooh, I can be inside on Fridays now too. Though I guess it's not a huge difference, as it's just today and next week, and after that school is open again.

The rest of the day when I was inside I played my game and watched a show. I'd already checked for jobs outside in the morning, as well as the forums I help on. I talked with the friendly student security guy a bit when I saw him in the early afternoon.

So, what would have been a good day outside, and hiding from the sun from 3:30 on, turned into a pretty regular inside day. I didn't have micro foods, as I didn't expect to be indoors, but everything was nice inside besides that. And I suppose for my sad life having that bit of unexpected extra comfort and balance can do a lot to lift my mood.

Day 2629 - 9/12

Gray skies

Today was pretty unusual. In the morning things were slow to warm. So slow, in fact, it never really warmed. There were gray skies. It was nowhere near the 80F weather the weather website predicted, probably being closer to 70F. In the later morning there was spraying going on - some kind of power wash cleaning. I got bumped from my spot and moved around to the back. The connection was tolerable, and I returned to my normal spot an hour later.

I helped on the forums and checked the work at home jobs as well as the jobs emailed to me from my automatic searches. Nothing came up for either.

In the later afternoon I figured my game friend wasn't coming on. She normally leaves by 3 or 4 my time. So I got in a random pickup group. It turned out to be a pretty bad idea in the end. They didn't know how to do the final boss fight, and they seemed unable to kill things fast enough despite being a higher level, so we just died, a lot.

The person who I'm supposed to do the editing work for was feeling sick, so she didn't meet me. We rescheduled for tomorrow.

The skies never cleared up. All day it was gray and overcast. Most of the day I've had this odd feeling - like I've forgotten to do something I was supposed to do. I kind of felt that way yesterday too. But I don't know what it could be, and it leaves me feeling odd.

Day 2630 - 9/13

Wet butt

Today was a bit out of sorts. In the morning the power wash people who were there yesterday were still there in the outside area at school washing stuff when I came in. My spot was totally wet and so was the surrounding area. Yesterday he said when he did my area it would take 30 minutes to dry, so I just detoured around to the back and waited 1.5 hours to be sure. It was not dry when I went back. But since I'd disconnected a lot in back I didn't want to wait anymore. It was 'dry enough' to sit there. I had a wet butt though, which kind of stayed that way until the late afternoon. But it was ok. I was in my usual spot with a strong and stable connection.

In the early afternoon I met with my friend person who talked quickly about her job. She got me the footage, but her timetable has shifted a bit. She wants to re-shoot a scene and she knows going through the footage will take time as well. But, she does want me to start on it and get me some more monies, so things are in motion.

Today was pretty cloudy again, as it was yesterday. I think it took until nearly 4 for the sun to start to come out and it was warm enough to take off my hoodie.

There was another bad group in my game, so that was sad. I guess yesterday and today both were random pickup people. And apparently neither time they really knew what they were doing. I'm going to insist to my friend that she only find people from her guild. That should increase the odds of finding someone patient who we can work with if things go badly. I guess we'll see if that happens maybe tomorrow.

I feel kinda sad today, mostly because my butt and legs were a bit wet most of the day, but also from the bad group. It makes me sad because it feels like we just wasted our time and lost a lot of resources and died a lot and got frustrated for nothing. 😞

Day 2631 - 9/14

New power supply

Today was mostly good news, save for feeling sick as I write this. Last night for a very brief period and all today I checked on my new power supply. I don't remember if I

talked about it yesterday, but Saturday it was a bit more fussy to set up, and Sunday one of the time I set up it took about 5 minutes to find the right setup so the plug was charging the laptop. So in the later morning I ordered a replacement one with same day shipping. Which boggles my mind that not only could I get same day shipping at all (free since my ex-roomie has me under her plan for some free shipping offers) but it was shipped on a Sunday to boot. I was really anxious because it took basically all of the money I could spare, but today as I checked on the things all of my fears were replaced with relief.

First, the system runs much cooler overall all the time. The battery area when not gaming is nearly as cool as when the system is off completely. It's very hard to feel warmth in the battery area now. And when gaming it's barely warm at all there. For at least the past 6 or 8 months, maybe more, the battery area has always felt very warm all the time, as if the system were drawing as much power as it could to charge the battery constantly at maximum charge ability. When gaming the system is barely warm at all now, whereas again for the past 6 or 8 or more months it felt, not dangerously hot, but I could feel much more warmth than there should have been. If I were to guess overall the temperatures are down 15-20%. And, when I stop gaming the fans stay high for about 2 minutes and then the system is cooled and you almost can't even tell the system is on, as the fans are barely a whisper and there really isn't any heat. I can't remember the last time the system acted like this. It is almost as if the previous power supply lost its ability to monitor its charge and it was always running at 100%, and maybe even running at 110% and putting everything on the laptop into overdrive status. (And as such into, not overheating, but more than the maximum heat it normally should have been generating.) SO I am very happy with the purchase as that means I am avoiding probably what was unhealthy voltage to the laptop. All the issues I thought it may have with the battery, with GPU temperatures, with the hard drive temperatures, with the fans, all of those fears are gone as the system is now back to temperatures I haven't felt in probably as much as a year.

My day went well enough. I didn't do a lot of job checking because Monday and Friday are always dead, so I just did some of my searches, but mostly I played my game and had a pretty good time and tried to relax.

In the evening, however, I felt kind of sick, and still do. The showers were still not cool. It was humid and hot. When I left my ears were ringing like crazy and I felt dizzy

and like I was going to throw up. Now, almost an hour later, my ears are still ringing. The past few days I've noticed they have been sensitive to 'popping'. There was a shrieking and slight pain if I did. So I suppose it's possible I'm starting to get a cold or an ear infection. 😞

Other than feeling kind of sick my day was pretty good. I am very happy the new power supply makes my laptop feel like it should, and I no longer fear issues that seemed troubling. And I got to play and have fun quite a bit today. Although I expect I'll do some work for my friend tomorrow, hopeful the good trends will continue.

Day 2632 - 9/15

Slow and quiet

While things are a touch later for me than usual right now, things have started slow and quiet. When I was up and starting to move around no one was out and about. Hardly any cars were moving, and the food store was completely empty of people. It was like today was Sunday, or like it was an hour earlier than it actually was.

It's nice to have a quiet time though. Maybe it's because I'm different, but I like quiet building up slowly. I would even prefer slow quiet times all the time in the day. Maybe it's because I am easily distracted, so that can easily throw me off if things are busy.

While it is quiet today, next week things will start to get crazy. Not more than usual when school is on, but I'll have potentially two classes (one I'm wait listed for, so we'll see what happens with that), plus the two I TA in. It will be nice to see things start up again and go back to what counts for normal in my life at the moment.

Week 377

Day 2633 - 9/16

A few tears

Today as I left my school spot I shed a few tears. Thinking about it must have been because today felt kind of normal. The 'blue shirt' person said hi most days this week when I've seen her (sometimes she goes by when I'm playing and she knows I won't hear her.) I checked for jobs, checked forums, got to play a bit, and spent a decent amount of time going over the friend's footage and starting to put something together. So I think when I had to put my stuff away and leave it felt like I was leaving a home. I was 'in the zone' today on all my things, and distracted from my sad life, for a moment forgetting it, and feeling ok about its current state. Until the putting away part. That part reminds me this is not a home. As welcome as people may make me feel by letting me stay, I can't. At night I can't be there. It's not a home.

Another part might be because of what more I could have done in a home. I could have done more work. I could have played more. I could have cooked. I could have done some kind of chores. If I had money to spare I could have donated to a few things I support, or even maybe have reached out for things missing in my life.

But packing up to leave I was reminded of my limitations. Though my potential exceeds what I can reach, without being able to reach that potential it remains untapped or undiscovered. Without that opportunity for change all I can do is wait, and keep my eyes open to see when it comes.

Day 2634 - 9/17

Feeling sick

I've been feeling more sick from my ears ringing. I've been colder and colder lately too. I think the temperature in the cafeteria might be down, but I've felt super cold. The weather has been wintry lately. It's been so cloudy and gray I thought it rained yesterday afternoon and today in the evening. It didn't, but it looked like it. But my skin

has been super cold, like I have chills or I'm somewhere very cold. I even have an extra shirt layer on.

I guess today was ok. I tried to do a work at home thing, but again it failed to work correctly. That's twice out of two times I've tried and it's failed. I don't get it. The trial test thing worked fine, but now when I've tried to do it for real it fails to generate what it's supposed to. I guess it's ok. I did a few hours on my friend's project and I'm still pretty far from even a complete rough cut of it, so that will probably get me quite a bit of work. Of course not as much as a real job, being a onetime thing, but it will help for sure.

I did realize something terrible last night. I didn't work in 2014. As such, I paid no taxes. If I paid no taxes that probably means no tax return. 😞 That will hurt quite a bit. I suppose the money from the friend's job will make up for it, but I was kind of planning on the money from that return. 😞

Guess that is all there is to talk about today. I put out a resume for a part time thing, so that's something. But that was the only job to apply to. Played a bit, did my friend's job a bit, helped out on the forums a bit, pretty usual day other than feeling sick.



Day 2635 - 9/18

Feeling odd

Today I felt odd. Maybe it was because I have that cold still. Maybe it's because I'm not used to being inside on Fridays. I'm not sure.

It was a pretty regular day. I did my regular things for the most part. Save for spending a few hours working on the friend project, which is a new thing lately. I haven't spent as much time on it as I thought I would have. There are a lot of exhausting aspects to it, but I've spent like 10 or more hours on it so far. It's probably 2/3 the way through the first rough cut. It's going better than I thought it could, so that's good.

Nothing terribly special or different today. I feel odd. And I feel extremely tired. There were times during the day my head was almost nodding off to sleep due to feeling so tired. Hopefully it's just a cold and will go away soon.

Day 2636 - 9/19

Late lunch

Today was pretty different. The morning was normal, but I met the friend person for lunch. She wanted to thank me again for doing it. It was a much later lunch time than usual, later still because she was more than 30 minutes after she said she would be.

After, I settled in to play a bit more. My friends who I haven't seen in like a week were on, so I got to do one dungeon with them, then they had to go.

It was good timing though, as I was in the sun and it was way too hot. The weather has turned from gray and rainy looking to clear, and according to a web check 90F+. So once the sun got to me it was way too hot and I had to go to the back of the cafeteria area.

The day moved quickly since I did so much. It was nice to be out in warm weather, but it was actually a bit too warm. Things are building up for school starting next week. It should hopefully be pretty cool to be back. I know I like helping the people doing my TA thing. I just hope I can find a part time thing that doesn't interfere with the times. It would be very sad to lose a 'job' which has really been the first ever I've enjoyed and would like to do as a paid career. 😞

Day 2637 - 9/20

Too hot, sweaty

Today was actually way too hot. I did my laundry in the morning, and things were already warm enough I was still warm with just a t-shirt top layer. By the early afternoon I was concerned that my system seemed a bit warm and I remembered to check the temperature. It said it was nearly 100F! 🤯 Very shortly after that I went to the back of the cafeteria area and I didn't game for the rest of the night. Even hours later when it was starting to get dark it still showed in the mid 90s. When monitoring my system temperature just watching videos it wasn't too bad. It was pretty warm on top, but the back vents weren't super hot, meaning there was more external heat than internal. And, the battery area and bottom of the system were very cool compared to before when I had

the failing power supply, so I knew it wasn't anything to worry about. I would have liked to play more, or to have been able to do video editing (which pushes the system almost as much as gaming) but with the heat I just didn't want to risk it.

Tomorrow will be weird. It is the start of school again. It seems like so long since I was at school, yet at the same time I've been there every day for months, and in a way have never left. But the returning professors, the returning students, going from a very quiet and empty campus to super crazy busy. That will all be very weird. I am both excited and a bit weird feeling being somewhat unable to move on.

Day 2638 - 9/21

First day

Today was the first day of classes. But not for me, as I don't have a class I'm taking until Wednesday. And even counting classes I'm TAing for there isn't one until tomorrow. It was weird to be somewhere different. Yet I was somewhere the same. I was in my old spot, and even a couple of people commented it would have been weird to not see me sitting there. Half a dozen I knew said hi and chatted with me for a bit. Half a dozen others I knew waved and said hi in passing but kept going. I'm excited for tomorrow, even though it is unlikely I'll help anyone in either class for nearly a month I do like helping and being a TA and giving input and help students understand things better.

Besides that I did the usual job check, forum helping, a bit of game playing, and now in recent times work for my friend's project. I didn't watch many shows mostly because I was busy with other things, but also because something new I wanted to watch didn't get posted until it was time for dinner, which was only a few hours before I left, and there was still a something I wanted to do before leaving.

All in all things made a pretty good day. And I'm sure, in time, the return to school will help balance me just a little more. And who knows, maybe even move me a step closer to finding a happy place in life.

Day 2639 - 9/22

Up too early

Today I was woken about 1.5 hours before I normally would have (not counting snooze time.) I suppose it wasn't entirely from odd noises, but in part due to excitement. Excitement about being able to go online and play games or watch shows soon. Excitement about being able to get stuff set up in the lab and TA in the late afternoon and evening. Excitement about some thoughts for the final scene of the friend's movie I'm working on and finishing the rough draft.

Though all the things in life are pretty sad, I have a few things to look forward to today. And even a few things these days helps me to hang on.

Day 2640 - 9/23

A different class

Today was a bit different. I had a pretty normal day in the morning and afternoon. In the evening I went to the class I'm on the wait list for. It felt weird. It was uncomfortable. And the teacher talked about the assignments in a way that implied I really wouldn't learn anything from the class. Since I already know so much about sound and editing from my podcasts, plus what work I've done on school projects, it seemed very unlikely I would actually learn anything in the class. So, since all week so far so many have said they are taking such-n-such class and why haven't I taken it yet because it's required, I decided to ask the professor if I could add that class. So, instead of a Wednesday evening class I'll be doing one Friday in sort of the middle of the day. It goes from early afternoon until about 4 hours later. It should be pretty good. Most of the time they are watching movies. I would always see the professor getting the movies each week and ask what they were watching. A surprising amount of stuff are movies I've actually seen. I think I'll like that class more.

I have been getting more and more worried about my car. I guess I shouldn't be. It's been behaving ok, and the temperature increases still seem to only go to a certain point unless I'm sitting parked, which still seems to indicate a more 'minor' issue. If I remember in the morning I'll hop out of the car when I get to school and see if the fan is on since it's over 50% all of the time. The fan should be on I'd think. So, if it's not, I probably don't need to do further testing. I don't know how much said repairs would cost though. And no matter the cost, I wouldn't even have money for even just the inspection, let alone repairs. 😞 So I worry. 😞 If I lost my car, or my laptop, for any reason, there would be no way I could replace either. 😞

Day 2641 - 9/24

Unknown cap

Today was pretty good. My day passed quickly because I didn't have much time in the morning before class. And that class went quickly even though it was a review of the previous class. And in the evening there was the class I TA for, where people are pretty chatty and happy seeming, so that should go pretty well.

Someone confirmed I may just be low on coolant for my car. That's something the Gray ghost said a while ago. But I can't find the place to add fluid. The only cap seems to be to the overflow area. The main reservoir seems a completely sealed contained unit. And the radiator is way at the front of the car under some stuff. Bending and looking around as much as I could I couldn't see any place a cap would be, nor anywhere to access it. But he confirmed that without a smell or odd noises it is probably just a little off and nothing to panic about. I tried looking for info online about checking stuff, so I guess I'll do more since that person confirmed they thought I just need coolant. While it would take about all the money I have (since I paid off the overdue phone bill and a month of car insurance with what my friend has paid me for editing so far) the like \$15 that should be would be ok.

So while I am still worried about the car, I am hopeful it's a simple fix of finding where the place to add fluid is hidden and then just monitoring that. Maybe that will lead to better times very soon.

Day 2642 - 9/25

A new class

Today I started the new class. It was super fun and interesting, so I'm very glad I changed to this one. I dropped the sound class and oddly heard last night that the person who's the other TA in the classes I'm a TA in is also dropping it. When asked what his reasons were he gave very similar ones as mine.

I got a little bit of play time, but most of the day I was in class. It was a pretty good day though - balanced in many ways. I checked for jobs, watched some shows,

played a bit, took a class, and got a shower after the evening was over. (Though I'll likely not do Friday nights again. They used to close at like 9:45, but when I was out of the shower at 9 things were already being locked and closed. It looks like this quarter things are going to close an hour sooner.)

I still don't know if I'm on the right path, but last night's TA, and this morning to afternoon's class going well feel pretty good. It feels like a good path.

Day 2643 - 9/26

Super

Today might be the super moon I've been hearing about. The moon is sooooo bright. I can hardly see any stars, but the clouds are brightly lit. I can see basically just about as much now at night as I can during the day. Of course I almost can on normal nights because I have super incredible night vision. Normally there are lots of shadows to hide in, but tonight even what would be the deepest shadow is merely a medium gray to me. I guess in way I am thankful to see it. In a home I'd just have likely not cared and just gone to look for five minutes then gone 'meh'.

Today was pretty good I suppose. I helped on forums and checked for jobs. As expected, since it was the weekend there wasn't anything to be found. The friend I'm editing for came by for a bit but I didn't have anything new because I've been busy with classes.

I got to play a decent amount, and although I was alone and didn't group in my game I had a pretty good time. Campus was fairly quiet, though a few were walking around here and there. There are some Saturday classes, so I guess a few students are to be expected.

Overall I guess today was pretty good, despite all of the sad things in my life.

Day 2644 - 9/27

Magic reservoir

Today felt weird. In the morning I was just out of it. I felt like something was off. Like I was supposed to be somewhere or do something. In the afternoon I played. Half of the time I was alone and just followed the masses in the PvP area. But after lunch the people I play with came on. We didn't have a super good time though. One quest thing didn't track right, and in the second group we just died and died, which is always frustrating and sad.

In the evening my coolant stuff was set to be at the ex-house. I grabbed it and went out and put some in the car when it was settled in for the night. It was dark where I had parked, unlike last night I couldn't see anything. But the reservoir was like some kind of disappearing magic trick. The part I could see look like a sub-divided bit of a bigger thing not much bigger than a cup. But I'd prepared a water bottle's worth of mix, maybe 32 or more ounces the bottle didn't say (4-5 times the size of the overflow area.) The 15% that was in that area didn't rise as quickly as I poured in the mix. I put in 1/3 and it barely changed size. I put in 1/3 more, and the overflow area there was maybe half full. I put in the remaining bit and then it was up to about the mark it showed on the outer area.

It seems crazy that you are supposed to fill an area that says 'overflow' when the 'fill to' mark is nowhere near that cap, probably 10 inches away. There must have been some kind of small opening in the bottom where I couldn't see that connected to the other area. With the car off I didn't see how it could have been getting moved by any pumps.

Hopefully the Gray ghost and the other TA I talked to Thursday who think it's coolant are correct. I won't know until the morning and I likely won't feel truly 'safe' until after nearly a week of driving. But for the moment I feel hopeful. The amount it took indicates of that total area it must have only been 15% full, not the 30-40% just the area I could see would have indicated.

But this discovery makes me feel sad. What has happened to my self esteem to have made me give up before when I checked a few months ago? Why did I feel like I was doomed and helpless? Yes, much of my life lately has been reinforcing that is true for years. But I have always been able to hold on to hope. Always looked beyond just the surface. The car saying overflow deterred me. I accepted it. I did not look for where to fill

it until now, months later, when I had pretty much accepted my doom. Was it just because now I have a tiny bit of money and having the \$15 to order the coolant seemed worth trying? Or was it the difference in my life position? Has being in school and having a place I belong, as well as a game to regularly distract me, allowed me some balance and I am closer to my older, calmer, less doom accepting, investigative self?

I may never know the answer. But hopefully as I drive here and there tomorrow and other days things will be cool, and things with the car will seem back to normal. ... Save for being about 700 miles over for an oil change, heh.

Day 2645 - 9/28

Seems resolved

Today driving around the car heat seems resolved. In my trip to school things were still a bit on the warm side, but stopping at school and staying parked for a minute staring at the heat gauge it didn't move. Going back to my nighttime spot I'd even made an extra stop for gas, and the gauge never seemed to be above the old 55-60% range. And, it actually looked even a bit lower than before. I forgot to check again if the level had lowered from last night and it needed more, but I'll guess since it stopped going in last night it probably doesn't. I'll try to check tomorrow though, and certainly keep my eye on both the gauge and the level over the rest of the week. But so far, it seems things are solved and safe again.

I think things have turned poorly though for the editing project. My friend person talked to one of the professors and got her opinion and she said basically the same things I've been saying. What is there is missing too much to be more than it is and it's not worth the time and effort to try and add more. So, she is basically happy with what is there and it seems like she won't be doing more. Which is sad because I was kind of expecting \$100-200 more from that. It seems what I got so far may be all I get. I guess it was enough though. The phone bill is paid and I have October's insurance covered. But without more the clock is ticking again. I don't know how I'll pay for future months, or things like the web fees due at the end of the year. 😞 Particularly with the realization that I probably won't get anything for a tax return since I paid no taxes last year. 😞

I checked for jobs, but being Monday found nothing. I helped on forums, as usual. And I got to pay a bit and watch some shows. But with the news of my friend probably cutting the project short my worries about all the bills in the very near future suddenly feels a lot closer. 😞

Day 2646 - 9/29

Worried again

Today seems good o far. It's a bit early on campus, so it is super quiet. I remembered to check the coolant level on the car before starting my day. It's maybe a touch lower than before, but it's 90% or more of the full line. I'll maybe put a touch more in tomorrow night or tonight if I remember, but it's fine at either the new normal (since the coolant change 11,000 miles ago) or if it was above only by a hair. At the light it normally would have gotten to 70-75% it didn't seem over the normal 60-65%. So it seems fine again.

But I'm worried about everything again. While I have nearly half a tank of gas, my bank account is nearly empty. I'm almost out of food money because I was celebrating a bit due to the editing job, getting an extra item here or there, or a more normal sized meal. So I'm worried about that. But most of all I am worried about the near future; gas money, next car payment, my website hosting at the end of the year, getting some kind of phone set up again. Nothing truly immediate, but with donations and help being so rare these days things seem very worrisome. 😞

Week 379

Day 2647 - 9/30 **Feling hopeful**

Today I am feeling pretty hopeful. Yesterday afternoon I got a donation from someone, and it was pretty big so I have a bit of a cushion. They also told me to hang on to hope, so it was nice to get a note of well wishing.

Today at school there were a lot of people saying hi to me, both people I sort of know and former students that were in classes I TAed for. So I feel pretty good about that.

I checked forums and jobs, but there weren't any jobs close to me. I'm not sure why ones from across the bay or down in the LA area show up in my searches.

I did what I thought some final stuff on the friend's editing project, but she said to try and tweak some things, so there are a few more hours work I can get for that.

Though a homework I already finished was in the back of my mind I played a bit and watched a few shows and had a bit of time to relax. So overall today seemed pretty balanced. I'm still worried about my future and wonder if I will ever find a job I am happy with and friends (in real life), but I guess only time will tell. 😞

Day 2648 - 10/1 **Talkie**

Today was pretty good. It went by incredibly fast since I only had a very small amount of time before my class and then the class I TA for after that. I got to play a tiny bit and watch one show, but the rest of the day I was busy busy. I was somewhat chatty with other students for various reasons, so that was good.

Today was pretty good, but very busy. I'm so very tired, and so very not used to this much going on.

Day 2649 - 10/2

Sleppy

Today I've been very sleepy. I got ok sleep, but I had some weird and kind of disturbed dreams. I checked for jobs and forums a bit in the morning, then tried to hurry to get a few hours playing time before class.

Class was cool and fun. There is a super cute and really attractive girl in class. 🥰 She sits all the way on the other side of the room, and it's likely she would never even notice me. But it's good to know I can still feel hope for love. 😊

I played a little bit more after class, and I was in my old summer spot. When I left I guess my mind was in that mindset because I was half way to the wrong parking lot when I remembered I was in the regular spot. I guess it was good that I felt comfortable enough to forget something like that, but at the same time it felt weird to have forgotten.

Day 2650 - 10/3

Kinda bad day

Today I learned something odd. There were campus maintenance people doing some painting and they told me the downstairs area was open. I never really thought about it or investigated it before, but I did always wonder how people were walking around with coffees or coming out of the ATM area on flea market Saturdays. Apparently the coffee shop and downstairs areas will always be opened for a bit on those days. I didn't move in, as I was already settled and someone was going to meet me in a bit, but that's good to know.

The person who met me is the one for the editing I'm doing. I figured she might invite me to lunch but since she hadn't mentioned it I ate a bit before the meeting. She did, but she also said what she wanted to say would just be 5 minutes. I convinced her to just do it at that spot since I'd already eaten and it would be easier than a crowded restaurant. But then I felt guilty we didn't go, as everything she said took an hour anyways.

The rest of my evening was progressively sad. I had a fun group with the people I play with, but then one left and the other wanted to go to the PvP area. I should have just

passed. It started ok but then she went into deeper areas, and there was PvP stuff, then we went to an area that is just way too hard without a group and I really didn't have a good time. 😞

So, overall I just felt progressively sad as the day went on. 😞 I suppose tomorrow is a new day, and with every new day I try to hold on to hope that it will be better than the last. 😞

Day 2651 - 10/4

Ray of hope

Today was quite different. It started with laundry. Which wasn't super different, I had last done it a few weeks ago, and a few weeks before that, but before that for a few times it had gotten down to a month.

When I got to school I helped on forums a bit and very briefly played. It was nearly lunch time so I didn't play long.

During lunch, on an odd whim I decided to check the PlayStation Network. To my surprise it logged me in. Not just that, but my trophies appeared intact. I tried to click on a thing to see if games and such were there as well, but the site just lagged. I decided to check in an indirect fashion and logged in to the Destiny site. Not only did it access my login, but it showed my account and my characters, still intact. So there was quite the surprise.

I will likely return to my PS4 and Destiny when I'm re-established in a home now that I can. But in a way the damage is done. I no longer trust PlayStation Network. I will go back to getting physical copies of things and avoiding games that bind to the account if I can. I will no longer ever again keep a credit card on file. And while Bungie technically did nothing wrong during our separation, the immense time required for little gain - which is not achievable solo - and my friends not even saying goodbye and they would miss me when I said my time was running out, has left me wondering just how quickly I would even want to return when I can. I would have to get a monthly subscription to PSN to play

group content, and with no one to really play with I feel no real desire to return anytime soon. Particularly with my current sad life and the difficulties in getting on to play.

There were other good surprises. Since I found some money I decided to finally look into getting new boots. There was a warning flag when I tried saying someone has already bought them for me. 🙄 When the night was over I checked at the ex-house. There were no boots to be found, but there was a package. Opening it up there was a new hoodie. I tried it on and it feels pretty good. It smells a bit funny, but new cloths often do. That will fade in time. As I had it on I cried a bit. 😞 To normal life living people it may not seem like much. But the old hoddie with ratted cuffs, always in view when I had it on, fragments of cloth on the floor reminding me when it wasn't, always reminded me how sad and terrible my life was every time I saw it. Now it is gone. No more will I be reminded every minute of every day what my life has fallen to. Though none of that has changed, not being constantly reminded will be a huge burden lifted. The old hoodie will remain though, for a while, just in case, but out of view.

I don't know who sent the hoodie. No 'card' nor description was included. In fact, had I not gotten the warning from the site when trying to buy the boots for myself (with some of the editing money) it may have been days before the ex-roomie even mentioned that something was at the ex-house for me. I don't know when, or if, the boots are really on the way, but it seems unlikely my entire wish list would be flagged. That would kind of make it too easily accidently discovered I think. Plus, the item likely would have been flagged as delivered already when I tried. I guess time will tell.

For now though, for today at least, it seems there are people watching out for me who do care. And it seems too that sometimes bad things may not be as bad or as permanent as they seem. And because of these things, maybe in the near future things will be less stressful and I can continue to focus on healing.

Day 2652 - 10/5

Anxious paws

Today seemed pretty happy, but overall fairly normal. The day started with checking forums and looking for jobs. As expected, things were still very slow from the

weekend. I played a tiny bit before lunch and again a bit after. In the back of my mind I was working on an assignment for the writing class, but I am no closer to being ready. I knew these assignments were coming for the past couple of months too, but being creative things if creativity doesn't strike you will have problems until it does.

In the evening I checked the ex-house again. And again there was another package. It was indeed new boots. 🐾 I have anxious paws for tomorrow. I tested them very briefly with a little pacing back and forth in the ex-garage. They felt super good and super comfortable. The bottoms seem appropriately grippy too. Once or twice when I've gotten boots before the rubber has been hard, not soft like it should be. But this time it seems proper. However, I am a touch concerned that I may need to be careful and retrain my brain to walk, as the old pair was very worn out on the heel (all the way to the shoe bottom in places), so the way my weight goes and the boot goes are ... different. Also, being flat footed, the arch seems to not support anything, which is as it should be. So I hope that is a non-issue, as on bare feet my full foot hits flat, not heel-to-toe like a normal person. I'm sure it will be fine though and my paws are anxious to have comfy supportive boots once more. 🐾

Again there was no notice on who it was, but I'll assume with arrival on back to back days it was a singular person, and very likely the one who sent the donation, as an order date likely would have been that day or the next, so that timeline follows. If not, it is a pretty big coincidence for different people to send a donation of monies and cloths on the near same not Tuesday day. (Which is the day I normally get donations due to that being the posting day.)

I feel like I will sleep better, feeling much more like my old self. I will keep the old boots, just in case. I will keep the old hoodie, just in case, but only to sleep in. And maybe reminding my current self about my old self, and separate from the failing self, will help me heal and move forward.

Day 2653 - 10/6

Feel normal-ish

Today I feel normal-ish. With the new boots and new hoodie I feel like the early homeless days me, when I was close to being in a home. Nothing besides those have changed, but not being reminded every minute of things I've lost and can't fix is a huge change.

The day has just started. It's pretty early in the morning and nothing will begin to really get going for me for another 3.5 hours. And even then I'll just be set up in the lab ready to help people and don't expect I'll actually see anyone until the class I TA for starts 4 hours after that. But today should be good. I feel like things have settled a bit. And in recent days with the sad things turning around I feel like I may finally be in a place to heal. I even had a craving for a certain type of cookie this morning that I haven't had in probably a year. I couldn't find it in the store, they'd recently re-arranged that isle, but to be emotionally balanced enough to feel a craving for something, even just a food, is something.

Week 380

Day 2654 - 10/7 **Pretty good**

Today was a pretty good day. I sort of took the day off. Though I technically have every day off it is rare I don't have a class I am taking or TAing for on weekdays. Monday and Wednesday are it, and that's if someone doesn't ask for help with something. So I basically took the day off to play. I did wind up thinking about one writing assignment, and spent about an hour on it, and another hour testing a system in the lab, but overall I tried to have a fun stress free day before my very busy day tomorrow.

The boots fit almost perfectly. The only issue is my second toe on my right foot is a touch longer than the big toe, so it presses against the boot just a little bit. I could exchange them or a half size larger, but since all other parts fit perfectly I'd rather not and see if my foot adjusts. I'll give it a week before I decide.

Today went by pretty quickly. I was pretty sleepy through a lot of it. Likely because of my cold. My eyes are a bit itchy, I'm sneezing, congested, my lymph nodes on my neck seem swollen, and my tongue feels a bit swollen too, so talking is weird. But overall it was a pretty good day.

Day 2655 - 10/8 **Busy busy**

Today felt like a pretty good day. It started kind of slow in the morning. I had a bit of time to do some daily stuff in my game before lunch, so I did that.

When I had lunch the dean came through and I said hey to her. I had just settled back in with my food and she was like, 'you know you aren't supposed to have food in here?' And I was like, 'In the rooms, yeah.' And she was like, 'Not in the building at all. There are signs everywhere.' And then she went in to the bathroom. That is complete crazy talk. The signs are on the rooms, yes, but nowhere else. Thousands of students go in and out of the building unchecked for food. There are no guards at all in the building. It's

perfectly reasonable to say no food or drink in classrooms because many have computers, and a few are theater-like and the seats are fixed in place and a lot more difficult to clean, but not in a school building at all? Where *no one* has ever enforced that rule in the halls before? Complete crazy talk. I went outside to eat, at least until she had left (she rarely comes in the building, and when she does she basically just walks through once or to a specific place, and it could be weeks between times I see her), and I'll be mindful to be careful to watch for her in the future, but that's just crazy.

My classes were busy busy, so most of my day whizzed by. I talked with people in the writing class. And in the class I TA for I talked to some people and they asked my opinions on stuff, so that was cool.

Today I was distracted from my sad things and that was a very nice change.

Day 2656 - 10/9

Split day

Today felt odd. It was split. In the morning and evening I played just for a short while and watched a show. In the middle of the day I had class. Which again was good and pretty fun, but I nodded off just a tiny bit during one of the slow times. A few people talked with me and I had an ok time when I was doing stuff alone.

In many ways today was similar to being in a home. But, as always, everything I did was not done in the way I would have in a home. I'm getting used to it, and in a way thinking of doing things how I used to, and the 'luxuries' of being in a home (controlling temperature, showering when I want, eating better and when I want, or dressing how and when I want) all seem like strange and foreign ideas to me now.

I hope this too is just a cycle. I've been homeless for brief periods before, and each time recovered and almost forgot what those days were like. While this time has been so long I've started to forget what being in a home is like, hopefully someday this will end, and in time these days pain and trouble will be long forgotten. 🙄

Day 2657 - 10/10

No phone change

Today was kind of scary. I made a few trips in the evening, and again on the third start in a short period there was a small pause before starting. It still seems heat related, as it doesn't seem to happen if the car is not at normal temperatures yet. Though the overheating seems almost completely gone. It does still get a bit warmer, going from about 55% to 60%, rarely peaking at probably 65% (down from what probably was 75%+ peak), but I can't quite figure out when or why. It doesn't seem entirely stop or speed related, as it only goes above the base rarely. So I'm still a bit worried about the issues, and that the car is getting on in age in general, as it's over 111k miles now.

I tried to set up my phone plan on a \$0.10 a minute plan, but as the website implied it is a \$25 for 3 month minimum or \$10 a month, which is much more than the \$3 a month plan someone sent me info about a while ago. Now that I finally have a teeny bit of flexibility I can look into that. But the thought of keeping my old phone seems unlikely. (At least to use as a phone.) I'll look at the info on the site either tomorrow or the next day. But today there was no phone change.

The day was ok other than that, but with the car issue and the phone plan deal my sad homeless life seems very sad and I am strongly reminded of the bad things today. 😞

Day 2658 - 10/11

Struggling with sadness

Today I am feeling pretty sad. I guess the day started well enough. Being the weekend I got to sleep in just a little bit longer. Things on campus around me were quiet. Today seemed especially quiet. But things seemed too quiet. I was too isolated. I am too alone.

I wanted to research setting up the phone, but I couldn't. Each time I thought about it I was reminded of how I have failed over the years. How I can't afford a normal phone connection like I used to - like everyone else seemingly can. The more I was reminded of how much of an outsider I am the more sad I became.

While falling there are several lines you'll cross. Who you are as defined by what you do, when you do it, and how you do it. While in the middle of such a zone there is a kind of balance. You become accustomed to what changed and why. But every time you get near a line, be it up or down, you are tested. The who of who you were is challenged by the who you will become. And with each passing there are more and more ghosts that haunt you. Lines and transitions may seem trivial - I have to carry salt and pepper packets in my wallet, I have to watch rented movies on my laptop. But the trials may become much greater - one salt packet broke, now everything in the coin area has been coated in salt for weeks, the movie I rented to watch as a Saturday night movie as I always used to do in a home wouldn't play because it wanted a software update and I was offline.

When tested you may break. And if you don't and you are forced into change, are you still you? Are the things you do just as important as the how and the when? Is the person who eats a meal they cooked at 8 and watches a show on their TV the same person as the one who eats out of a can at 5 because they have to watch the time of day they eat?

I hope the answer is yes, but over time I feel more and more that I am losing me. I am forgetting the how of who I am. I may still appear to be me on the surface, outside to others. But inside, where I am me, I worry that things may not change, and the true me may be nothing more than a fading memory. 😞

Day 2659 - 10/12

Feling small

Today I played my game quite a bit, but in the early afternoon I felt more and more like not playing and actually left earlier than planned. After, I paid for my next year of web hosting (which would have come due at the end of December) and researched the phone change a bit. As I charged the phone and resigned myself to reading the manual before continuing on, I accepted the coming change, but also realized why I've been feeling so sad lately. I feel small. My steps forward, while huge steps in my current life, are teeny baby steps in regular life. And while I helped half a dozen people in the lab which may create long-term unknown change in their lives, in the other things I do very very few seem to care. To basically everyone I am 'just another gamer'. It doesn't seem

that my thoughts on playing games or any game related things really matter to anyone, certainly not more than a few. And if that is true, if I am the same as millions of other gamers out there and not different... then I am not different. And I am truly just talking out loud to myself into a microphone.

For a while now I have questioned if my gaming stuff matters. Only a few ever have mentioned they thought my podcast was interesting or my builds or PC discussion was helpful. After so many years of having my regular site and now Facebook page and so few seeming to care I question if anyone does see it as different from their other gaming friends. And if it's not, and not enough really care, is my heart in it anymore?

In many ways I guess I feel like my heart is broken. And I've mentioned it before. If people truly don't care, I get it. I don't have the emotional peace to use my time to research things. With the other things I do I don't have the time to research even if I did. And my opinion, well, it seems no different from others. And if it isn't, why would people listen to me instead of a twenty something girl saying the exact same thing? Or someone who is already an established authority?

I feel heartbroken and lost. I may take things in a different direction. I may just fade back some and let my hobby life be, well, just a private hobby life if so few do care to share it with me.

But which way is forward? How I do mend a broken heart? Which path will make me feel whole and happy again? That I don't know. And that is what I fear most. I fear even if I do recover to be back in a home that my heart will remain broken.

Day 2660 - 10/13

Another cold

Today I am feeling very tired. I've been tired for a few days now. But my throat is also getting rough, there is a lot of congestion, and my eyes are itchy. There is definitely another cold coming. 🙄 I hope it gets better very soon. I told someone I'd help with some voice work on a project and we are supposed to be doing the recording tomorrow.

It is very early in the morning. I'm on campus in my spot, but I'm earlier than normal, and no one is here. I hope today will be good, filled with helping people with all

the things and playing games a bit. That's really all I can hope for these days. The rest is too uncertain. 😞


Day 2661 - 10/14
Sore heels

Today was ok. I tried to play in the morning. My game friends were already in the game but the network at school has been pretty bad all week. I dropped and died several times in the group so I just left to do other things. An unstable connection just puts people at risk when a group member drops.

The rest of the day was ok I suppose. I helped a few people with their projects. I did a bit of 'homework' stuff. And I checked for jobs and helped on forums, as usual.

My heels still hurt quite a bit. My feet are used to the new boots no. There is no unusual pain. But the bottom of my feet still hurt when I walk. It's no doubt from all the extra walking I've been doing over the past few months, and that everywhere I walk is hard unpadded surfaces (unlike in a home or office building). Going in and out of the food store every day, going to my spot on campus on weekends, going to and from the cafeteria to cook my foods a few times a day; it all adds up. And, with up until recently having old and busted boots my feet likely took some damage and may take quite a while to rest because I can't stop those trips. If I could afford cafeteria food like I used to, that would at least cut out maybe 15% of my walking every day, which would help a lot. But sadly I can't. With the food stamp money I have to buy everything from the food store. And day by day I grow more and more worried that will stop at the end of a year's time.



Though I am no longer constantly reminded of how bad things are (by the busted hoodie and boots), other reminders still come up. They remind me the clock is ticking. And with no money, as things run out (break) I won't have any way to repair or replace them. 

Day 2662 - 10/15

Farewell old boots

Today was kind of sad for a couple of reasons. First, I decided since my new boots fit fine I would throw away the old pair. (Two pairs ago technically. I'll keep the most recent just in case still.) It was very sad because those fit me the best and were the most comfortable I'd had in quite a while. But since the bottoms were so brittle they were breaking off in bits and it had lost all of its springy gel, they weren't salvageable. They were not a design someone could repair. I can't recall how long I had them. I am tempted to say I wore them probably three years as the primary pair and then on occasion after at certain other times.

The night was also sad because I smelled a fireplace smell. But it was also a cross between that and a campfire. So many memories of happy times in a home, as well as times I was cooking outside, times in the SCA, or other camping times, came to mind. Yet now I can't do any of those.

Overall I guess the day was ok. But it was my busy day, so most of it is a blur of activity. But the events at the end made me sad. I guess I at least have those happy memories to remember.

Day 2663 - 10/16

Didn't want to

Today I didn't want to do anything. I guess it's just one of those wrong side of the bed things. Maybe it's because of my cold. But I was tired all day. I was cranky, though no one would have really noticed unless they knew me very well. I didn't want to go hang out at school. I didn't really want to play my games. I didn't want to go to class. I didn't want to watch shows.

Today I guess I still feel heartbroken. While crossing my legs I could smell my feet inside my boots just a bit. It was icky and reminded me I can't take care of things as I normally would. It reminded me of the boots I'd just thrown away. It made me think to the

future when I throw this pair away. And it made me think of y own (body) with things rotting and falling apart and how it feels like when I am gone no one will really miss me.

But I did feel better while at school. I did feel a bit better for the brief time I did play my game. I did feel a bit better watching my shows. And I did have an ok time being in class. And while I helped no one from the classes I TA for, I know my help is appreciated. And while I heard no well wishing today I do know some are out there who do hope I get better and do hope I feel better enough in the meantime to hang on.

And I guess that is really all I can do; continue to do the things I will be most likely to enjoy or be balanced by, and just try to hang on to enough of me until I can get back in a home and properly and truly recover. 🙄

Day 2664 - 10/17 In the 818

Today seemed pretty good. Now, thinking back on it, it is difficult to remember. It flew by pretty quickly.

The morning was a pretty regular morning. I played a bit, checked the forums I help on, and checked for jobs. But during a break in the afternoon I finally looked into activating my new phone that someone sent me. When I went to pick a number it told me there were none available in my area code. Which seems like insane crazy talk. I checked if I'd be charged for a 'long distance' number, as I am pretty sure that had been done away with years ago. And, sure enough, I could pick a number just about anywhere. So, I decided to pick a number from down in Van Nuys, which is in the Los Angeles area.

So now it is funny to think that my number is from future me. A me living down in LA, who has a home, who is doing voice work, and who hopefully has friends and real life people who care about him. Things feel different now. And even though it isn't anything more than 'make believe' stuff, it seems like hope. It seems like a 'real' step towards such a goal and change in my life.

Will I ever make it? Will I ever be more than the very little I've fallen to now? I suppose time will tell, but for today it feels like there is hope. It feels like I do have something to look forward to. So, sure, why not.

Day 2665 - 10/18

Gray skies

Today was pretty good, but cold. All today and yesterday the skies were cloudy and gray. It is turning to winter more than it is remaining summer.

I played my game in the morning, but in the afternoon I got kind of sad. Because I am crafting my own stuff the resources I need are coming very very slowly. In many ways too slowly. In many ways the best case scenario I can hope for is one piece every two weeks or so, which means about four months to complete a single set. And with running one set for tanking, one for healing, and one for doing damage, well, if those numbers are accurate that would be an entire year at my rate of gain to get a top tier set for all the roles. So it makes me sad that it will take so incredibly long at my (usually solo) rate of speed. I hope things aren't really that long, and that it just seems that way. But yes, in any game once you get a top tier set you are happy with there isn't much left to do. But it makes me a bit sad to think that my in-game gain has become almost so slow as to be imperceptible, since that reminds me of my real life gain being equally imperceptible.

I suppose my day was ok other than that. There weren't any jobs to check for, and things were peaceful and quiet, and my connection was stable. And these days there seem little else to hope for.

Day 2666 - 10/19

Feeling forgetful

Today I'm feeling like I'm forgetting something. I've actually felt that way for a few days now. But I really can't think of what it would be. My phone is now hooked up, so I remembered that. My car insurance is paid until December, so it's not that. My web space is paid for, so that's covered for more than a year. So I can't think of what it could be. The homework I have is stuff that is kind of always being worked on in the back of my mind.

I had a pretty good day. I played in my game a bit, helped on forums, did some TA stuff in the lab, and did a bit of work on the editing thing for a friend. It was actually a pretty full day in terms of being busy and doing things.

I am torn though. On the one hand I would like to get back to having a job and working some, as well as having friends to do stuff with. On the other hand, days like today seem very trying. I suppose it's just the lack of proper rest and sleep, but I am just completely exhausted lately. More-so mentally than physically, but the thought of doing even more busy work... foووو it seems very tiring to me. 😞

Day 2667 - 10/20

Chilly

Today is very cold and chilly feeling. Yesterday or before it was raining. While it looks clear today it is much colder. Winter is coming, and it is on its way sooner than other years.

I feel sleepy, congested, hungry, and tired. But I am hopeful today will turn out to be good. I am awake, and alive, and with that I continue to hang on to hope.

Week 382

Day 2668 - 10/21

Virtual sad

Today I'm feeling very sad still. Over the past few days I've felt pretty sad. My game I usually play is still super fun, but after doing the maths it seems like to get the gear I want it will take months. And, since I can do basically everything already, would getting it make it more fun?

I guess why it weighs heavily on me is that it feels a lot like real life now. It is slow, and there is seemingly very little gain when I do it, and besides the two I group with I am usually alone, and have no guild or anyone to talk to. Much like real life where gain is imperceptible, and outside of helping people in class, I really don't talk to anyone or do anything with anyone.

There are a couple of new games very soon though. One released today that looks super fun. It's pretty cheap at \$20 normally, currently a few dollars or so less for a launch sale. And another in about two weeks. That one is a bigger game, possibly huge, and it's a full priced game at \$60. I certainly can't afford that one, and even the lower priced one would be a risky choice with only \$50 left in my account. And if I did have enough, honestly the money really should go to an overdue oil change for the car. It's now 1/3 of the way to being two times overdue.

So I feel sad. I feel trapped in real life. And, at least for the moment, things in my game life have slowed to a similar stand still. I don't know when for sure either will change. And not knowing a when makes me the saddest of all. Because without a when, it becomes a question of ever? 😞

Day 2669 - 10/22

Doesn't feel like Friday

Today is a bit odd. It doesn't feel like it's Friday tomorrow. All this week has felt slow and like no time was passing. Today, however, felt super fast. The day pretty much

flew by. The morning time when I did my job check and quick forum help seemed a bit slow. But even just the few hours gaming and one show at lunch felt like they passed very quickly. Then, class and then the class I TA for just flew by.

I guess today I feel ok. I feel less sad about the things. Though that may just be due to being distracted. I will probably know more on Saturday. That's when things will heavily slow down again.

Day 2670 - 10/23

Slipping

Today things feel like they are slipping away. I am almost out of money again. Certainly low enough I can't spare any. And the automated high school number continues to burn up my phone time. I am losing it quickly, and I can't spend more since I have so little left. In fact, I have to give serious consideration to if I can afford the \$5 for laundry or not on Sunday.

Things feel like they are slipping away again. And while I got help not too long ago, quite a bit actually, with everything going to paying off the upcoming things, it feels like it is rapidly slipping away again with little help to come. 😞

Day 2671 - 10/24

A nice day

Today was a very nice day, despite sad things. First, there was stuff going on last night, so I was worried and kept up until nearly 2:30, so I lost a lot of potential sleep. Next, there were a few more messages on my phone, so again that worries me that any allotment will be burnt up and that will be lost. And lastly, due to not having cash and a limited amount of food to chose from, as well as what my body will accept, my tummy is a bit upset from junky sandwich lunchmeat. 😞

But today was actually kind of ok. Despite my still very much wanting the new game that came out last week, I played my game I always play and had a good time. I was

not sad about the progression being slow and reminding me of my sad life. In fact, in the second half of my play day I spent some time making some sort of lateral gains.

The weather was moderate, not too cold or too hot, though I wore my hoodie most of the day. It was a pretty good day, which gave me cover, so I didn't get blinded after 4 like I normally would have. (Which is good since yet another tree seems to have been removed. 😞)

Today my life is very sad and worrisome. But I suppose it is no more or less than it has been for quite some time. And, for today at least, things were mild feeling and I was mostly ok with all the sad things in my life and not brought too low.

Day 2672 - 10/25

Too cold

Today seemed ok. It actually passed very quickly. I was too cold. Even with winter layering I had my hoodie on all day save for about 2 hours. And the concrete under my butt was cold all day long and constantly drained my warmth.

My game was pretty fun, but the group wanted to try a thing which a few of us knew would be too hard. So we died, a lot.

I also watched some shows, but again, my heart kind of felt broken and I wasn't really having a good time. I am still very sad from all the worry about all the money things, all the things I should be doing in upkeep if I had more, the few fun game things I'd do if I had some, and, as always, all the regular life things which are basic everyday things I can't do not in a home.

Maybe I was having an extra hard time because of the other homeless there. While not terrible in clothing, there has been this couple there on weekends who are a bit older than me, but are wrinkled and messed up far beyond their years. And seeing them there, coming to school to wash, rest, and plug in their battery chargers (leaving them scattered here and there like leeches on a body), makes me sad and worried that could be me in a few more years.

Hopefully I'll be ok. Hopefully I can continue to survive. And, hopefully, most of all, I can continue to play my games, keeping my interest, curiosity, and imagination

alive. And I can continue to hold on to my dreams and hopes for the future. Even if they never come to be, because it feels like as long as I keep my hope, it is like a light holding together a shooting star, and with that light that falling body can make it safely to the ground.

Day 2673 - 10/26

Too much gray

Today I decided to try something I'd been thinking about for a while. When I shaved my face, I also shaved 75% of the sides and back to have what I still can of a fat mohawk. It's about as wide as my four fingers on one hand, kind of more a military style cut than a mohawk. It's only a quarter of an inch big, but I don't know if I should let it get much bigger. It's only about 50% there on top, and by that I meant most of the top of my head. So it's a pretty sad mohawk. But the sides have been getting gray to the point that it seemed it was probably 30-40% speckly gray instead of black, and that felt like too much. So I'm trying the mohawk thing.

It's not that I necessarily mind signs of age, or having gray hair, it's just that I don't feel old. And I don't want to feel old. I feel there is too much I haven't been able to do to feel old. I feel no one respects my age, nor celebrates it, so signs of it just serve as a reminder of what I haven't done. So maybe this will help me feel a bit better. Like the tattered hoodie and busted boots, maybe getting the gray hair out of sight will put it out of my mind and help me to still feel as young as... well, I feel, but also act.

I don't want to be old. I don't want to think about that there are likely a hair fewer years ahead of me than there are behind me since so little has come before that is worth celebrating or remembering. And maybe, just maybe, this is one of those changes that help things move forward in an unexpected, unusual, or unpredictable way.

It doesn't feel like I thought. Last time I shaved my head it felt hot and cold and weird. Now it feels almost completely normal. Maybe it's because I've been keeping it so much shorter in recent years than the last time I shaved. I guess we'll see if it works out. It will be tough to keep looking good, as razors are not something I see a lot of. And not

being able to see the back, or even the sides really, it may be more of a disaster in looks than it feels.

No jobs to apply to, and not much help needed on the forums. I played a fair bit, and besides one elitist jerk things were ok. I also contacted the principal and like six other staff members, as my phone is now up to about twelve calls / messages in just about one week, cutting me below 50% of my remaining time for the month. Hopefully that poop gets stopped before my time is bled out completely.

Maybe today changed something. Maybe nothing will change. I suppose only time will tell.

Day 2674 - 10/27

Short

Today my short mohawk still feels almost like my old haircut. No one has come by yet who knows me, so I don't know if it's super noticeable or what people think. Though since it's not a true mohawk in terms of thickness I don't know what people will really think, as it's unlikely people will really say.

I'm hoping to get into a new beta test for a game. No news yet, but they are doing maintenance for another few hours.

I'm tired. I'm sad I don't have money to just buy what foods I want whenever I want. There's always a lot of stress from that, even though it's such a simple thing. But I feel ok, despite a little congestion, so I am hopeful today will be ok.

Week 383

Day 2675 - 10/28

Down

Today I didn't get to play very much. The game server was down almost all of my play time. I barely had a few hours left to play by the time it came back up. I did play just a little and had fun, so I guess it's ok.

The rest of the day I kept hoping an invite to a beta that started yesterday would come, but nothing has come yet. I checked for jobs and nothing was in my area. I did a bit of stuff for the writing class, so that was good. And I helped some people in the lab.

I also did some voice work for a student project that someone was doing. But fofoo, the voice they wanted me to do is my angry superhero voice, which of all the voices I do is the second roughest, so I really exceeded my limit there. At least I know I can only do about a page of script before that voice needs to cool off and take a drink. It was pretty fun, but also nerve-racking, as they just gave me the script then, so I guess that's what I've referred to as 'cold reading'. And the script wasn't written well, so a lot of the wording and spacing was poor. I even had to re-write a couple of lines so they weren't tongue twisters. It was fun though.

Not much of a day. Didn't play much. Not much happened besides the voice work. I guess it was ok though, despite the sad things on my mind and the cold rainy weather.

Day 2676 - 10/29

Broken things

Today some stuff seems broken. First, I tried charging the old phone. This time and a few times before it's said USB device not recognized. I'll try to check other parts, but it looks like my cable to the old phone isn't 100% working. It still charged when it was plugged in to the outlet directly, but it didn't connect to the laptop or charge when it was in there. Next, when I was leaving for the evening and I put my key into the trunk it just went in circles. It was dark nighttime, so I'll have to wait until the day to investigate,

but it seems the lock bit isn't working with the key. It still seems to latch, and popping the trunk from the driver's release seemed to work, so it may just be the lock where the key goes isn't working.

My day was pretty good besides those parts, but with those things failing, things I use often more than once every day, it just seems like another sad reminder of things not going as they should. It seems like another reminder of the ways my life is failing. 😞

Day 2677 - 10/30

Cloths, not BBQ

Today was a bit different. In the morning when I went to put on my two month old headphones the minor splits in the headband spine on one side turned into a major split, almost a complete break. Really? Less than two months old and the headband is so bad I can't use them without the risk of them snapping in half? I'm so glad I didn't pay the \$60 retail they would have been because the quality seems less than \$20. I had my suspicions since it was neither of my normal two brands, but it is a highly popular brand, so I really expected more. I put in an RMA request a few days ago, but I've not heard anything. And, since they were a prize with no actual receipt I expect they will deny the return. (I've gone back to my sort of broken console pair for now because the PC ones are at too great of a risk of complete failure.)

Later in the day I tried again to change and connect my phone to the laptop. I decided to try the old school 'blow it out' method since the phone parts are exposed to all the pocket fuzz and such that can fall in. (I don't know why they don't have rubber covers for those areas included with the phone.) To my surprise it connected normally, so I guess it just needed cleaning. So, even though the phone is not connected to a phone service, and it is too outdated to play games anymore, at least I can still listen to music and podcasts and use it as my main note device and clock.

I had a chance to inspect the truck lock at school. It is indeed just spinning inside and not working right. I'm not sure there is anything I can do about it through. I may investigate it more later, but since I only need to get in twice a day for the moment the release at the driver's side door will work fine.

In the evening, since school has been getting shut down so early, I decided to do laundry. It was very overdue, and some things didn't get washed because I had just too much to wash and not enough money for more than one load. 😞 When I was there I was feeling very sad. I've been that way lately. There have been a lot of people running to get dinner during classes, which just reminds me I can't and that I don't have a normal life.

For some reason though, when I passed a Korean BBQ place next to the laundry I recalled a cafe restaurant type place on (I think) Melrose that I was at maybe around 25 years ago. I was there with a girlfriend at the time, a friend, and we were meeting someone who was living in the LA / Hollywood area. He took us on a sort of night tour to a few places, and we ended there, walking down the street and seeing what was still open. Not many places were. Mostly just the food shops were open and other stores were closed. But for some reason the smells and look of the BBQ restaurant brought me back to that memory.

It made me very sad, so much so I had to fight back tears. 😞 I want a regular life again. I want to have friends to go out walking to restaurants on occasion like that. To be able to call people, see what is happening, and if we are bored maybe make something happen.

While I hold on to hope that can and will happen again, for the moment I don't have that life anymore. And it has been so long since I have, I wonder if it is now too late to get it back. 😞

Day 2678 - 10/31

No candies

Today is pretty sad. There are no candies. There are no parties. There is no trick or treating. I almost got candies for students the other day, but with \$25 in food card money it would have been a bad choice. And today I've completely run out, so it is very good that I didn't. I have some canned super cheap food to last a bit, but I will probably be very hungry very soon.

Someone did donate a fun and cute looking game. So I'll play that after I'm done writing just for a little bit just to have a small bit of Halloween fun.

But today I am very sad. I miss my old life. 😞 I miss fun holidays. 😞 I miss having things to celebrate. 😞

Day 2679 - 11/1

Empty

Today all the places were empty. School was empty. Really no joggers or bikers like usual. And even the church group had a smaller number than usual and left early. In my game, population was still extremely low. It seems all the places are low population due to the holiday.

I guess today was ok. But being outside is sad. I suppose it could be worse in that I may not have a car, or may not have my gaming laptop. But still being homeless, having to shower in a public bathroom sink, not being able to sleep in, my butt cold most of the day due to being outside on cement, tummy upset from too much lunchmeat... things seem pretty sad. 😞

Day 2680 - 11/2

So very tired

Today I'm completely exhausted. It feels like it's about three hours later than it actually is. I'm just flat beat for some reason. I got ok sleep last night. Very weird dreams, kept up by a lot of rain, but otherwise fine.

I didn't spend my energy on much today either. I helped someone for maybe 10 minutes, and outside of that it was a regular day; check forums, check for jobs, then play a bit.

Maybe it is because of a teeny bit of a diet change. I've had to basically just have cheap soups lately because I'm almost out. Only a few cheap soups remain and that's it.

Maybe it's the time change. Maybe it's stuff I'm working on for school in the back of my mind. Maybe it's stress from no money left and worry about all the things.

Whatever it is, I'm very very tired today. 😞

Day 2681 - 11/3

Possible RMA

Today should be pretty good, though it will be difficult to keep sadness from my mind. The headphone people said they would take an RMA, but if I have to pay for shipping to them I don't have the money. 😞 I'm also down to about 5 minutes on my monthly phone plan, so that will start eating up the other month's monies if that continues. And while I have a quarter tank of gas, that will go pretty quickly. Another big concern is I'm basically out of food. I have some for today, and one more soup in the car, but my money won't cycle until Friday, and I only have a few dollars in my bank account. 😞

There is new content for my game, so that is super happy and fun. I have access for a few weeks, but it would be \$15 to unlock it permanently. Just yesterday alone I've already spent six hours there, so it would totally be worth it. And one of my classes I TA for is tonight. Though I tend to not help as much in that class, it's still good to think I'm wanted and helpful.

This week seems to end on a very low point, but hopefully the few positives can help me hang on. 😞

Week 384

Day 2682 - 11/4

Getting colder

Today things went pretty quickly. My morning I checked for jobs, checked forums, and then played a bit. I went in to the not job just before noon, but even though there were people who came in to the lab no one seemed to need any help.

It's rapidly been getting colder. By the time the sun goes down it's already getting pretty cold outside. Hopefully that slows down because at the rate it is going it could get very cold very fast. 😞

Tomorrow I will try showering in the morning again. The evening things are closing so early it's really no good to go over as early as I'd need to. It throws my schedule all out of whack. But, Monday when I went there were homeless in there. Though I am one too I don't really look any different from other students. These have suitcase like bags hung up or left on the floor just outside the showers, and sometimes they don't have any concern for the hair and stuff they are cutting and leaving around. It's really rude and gross and not something I would be around if I have a choice. Plus, they remind me of just how sad and out of place I and my life are. If it happens again in the morning I'll probably go back to doing it in the evenings, despite it needing to be earlier. Of course, there is always the chance I'll forget and just go about my day as normal. That is honestly the most likely scenario.

Day 2683 - 11/5

The gift

Today was a mix of emotions. I started out hopeful, as I was one of only a few who actually did the work I was supposed to last week and was ready for class. I felt confident going in to class that I'd do well on the thing. But people really didn't get it.

They kept getting stuck on pieces of the idea and looking at each individual piece instead of looking at the whole. And they didn't look at the notes I had beyond what was needed that filled in a lot of the gaps they didn't get. So my day quickly turned to feeling like people just didn't get me. 😞

In the later afternoon there was my class I TA for. Someone in class is a voice actor. It's kind of made me sad when it was brought up in previous weeks and this week. He's super young. I'd be surprised if he's even 25 yet. And even if I were to ask him how he did it, that wouldn't change the fact that I don't feel confident enough to try yet. I would want, and in many ways need, to be in a much more emotionally secure and confident position to feel comfortable trying. So in the past weeks when I've heard it brought up I've felt sad. I've felt like a failure. I've again felt like there are people out there doing the things I would want to do who are half my age, and so why would people want me?

In the evening I got a surprise. The nice person who sent a donation early in the week sent somethings to me. They were waiting for me at the ex-house when I checked. There are so many nice things. 😊 There are some pants, some underwear, a powder for when my feet get stinky, and even some various candy packs to snack on. (Though I'll have to be careful not to have too many chocolate ones or it will upset my tummy. 🍌)

So today was an odd mix of feeling confident, feeling sad, feeling like a failure and that I'll never achieve my dreams, and a bit of hope that there are some people out there who do care and worry about me.

Day 2684 - 11/6

Last one out

Today seemed a bit sad. We got let out of the class early because the teacher was feeling tired. So that was 45 extra minutes that, at any other time in my life, would have been awesome to have. Yes, I spent it playing a bit, but it seemed sad. I do love my game very much, and the ability to play is one of the things that keeps me going, but it seems very sad compared to extra time in a home. 😞

I think too it made me sad because on Fridays, well, all days really, it doesn't mean much to get out early. I have nowhere to go. And on Fridays it really just reinforces that fact. Nights like tonight people quickly leave around that time and I became the last one out of the building. The last to leave an empty building, going nowhere. 😞

Day 2685 - 11/7

So very cold

Today was actually pretty good. I got food at the food store. Then I got to be inside the cafeteria at school most of the day. It was a flea market day, so I was inside from when I got there until about 3:30. I went outside to my usual spot after. It was very cold all day. I didn't think they turned on the heat. 😞 When I was outside it was a bit colder, but not much. I had all my cloths on all day, and even inside much of the day I had my hoodie hood up to keep my head warm. When it got dark it got even colder. I was shivering after about 5. 😞 It's so cold it's almost like January winter weather.

If we ignore the cold the day was pretty good. I actually got lots of sleep last night, which is rare .And the connection was strong and stable all day for playing and watching shows. There were no jobs to apply for, but that is expected for a weekend.

Hopefully the rest of the weekend will be good, but if it continues as it was today I will be very very cold. 😞

Day 2686 - 11/8

The dying light

Today was cold and rainy. It started with a bit of a surprise as I discovered the recycle place opens an hour later on Sunday. So my day started a bit reorganized, but in a good way. It's good to know it's not too inconvenient to do on Sunday mornings.

I settled in at school and started my day. Not too long after I'd settled in it started raining. It's fine if it does, as my corner is protected by the roof. So there is a plenty of

cover so I don't have to worry about splatter or a sudden gust of wind blowing rain onto my system. But it was sad that it was so cold and so rainy. The day never warmed up and by late afternoon I was shivering a bit.

The only sun I saw all day was a brief period of maybe 30 minutes or so. It had stopped raining, the clouds parted just a bit, and the last rays of the setting sun had shown through the clouds.

I don't know what to expect tomorrow. School will be closed, so I'll be outside again. And though I originally wasn't worried due to a park thing going on across the street (meaning the school would be the parking lot for that) with the rain I don't know what to expect. I always feel weird about parking at school on holidays hen there aren't other cars around.

I guess, as with all days, all I can do is try to hold on and hope for the best.

Day 2687 - 11/9

Shivering all day

Today was good, but also bad. It was good in that I got to play all day. But it was bad in that things didn't quite go as planned. Yes, I wanted to play, but I also wanted to spend time on the writing assignments I have coming up. The reason that didn't happen is the weather.

It was cold and cloudy when I got on campus. But being before 9 AM I really wasn't surprised. What did surprise me is that instead of warming up it did just the opposite. By 10 there was thunder and lightning and it started pouring rain. While it let up a bit by mid-afternoon, all day I was so cold I basically never really stopped shivering. In fact, I had my gloves on basically all day. And my hoody hood was pinched closed and just my eyes and nose peeked out. It probably would have looked super silly if I could see it.

So, with partly numb parts and weather more like January than November, it was much too cold to really do anything. My brain was basically frozen into non-function, and if it could have my hands were occasionally shaking which would have made typing difficult. So today was odd in that, despite the building power supply sparking for a

second and the Internet going out for 5 minutes, I got to play almost all day, and my otherwise very sad cold day was not quite so sad.

Day 2688 - 11/10

Feeling hopeful again

Today I'm feeling a bit hopeful again. I got a shower and shaved all my parts, so I feel a lot more regular again. It is actually warming up outside and the rainy skies from previous days are clearing away. And, most of all, I'm in my spot at school, which is one of the only spots where I feel kind of like I'm in a home. And one of the classes I TA for is tonight, so I have feeling helpful to look forward to, along with maybe some lols with people who are friendly.

My writing assignments are freaking me out though. I have today and tomorrow to work on the big one due Thursday and I'm still struggling with it. It's one of the ones I knew all summer would come up in the class and all summer I never got a good idea to work on. I may be stuck tweaking the one I have to work, regardless of how the story will change in the process.

But today with the small turn for the better I feel a bit more hopeful, even though I know nothing has really changed.

Week 385

Day 2689 - 11/11 Balancing

Today my body and mind are balancing from the weekend day off. Yesterday didn't feel like a Tuesday, but today half felt like Wednesday and half not. Hopefully tomorrow things will feel normal again. But then Thanksgiving is in a few weeks and I'm sure that will throw things off again.

Today was pretty good. It was cold in the day but now at night it feels a proper amount of cold. Maybe the extra cold that has been around is leaving.

I finally put some work into my writing thing that's due soon. To my surprise it only took a bit over an hour. Though I admit that probably means it's not very good. I kept meaning to work more on it, but due to the holiday and due to a lot of sadness, my balance was off and I couldn't focus. Lately I am still having a very hard time focusing. That probably won't really change while I'm homeless, but certainly all of the other worries about things that need my attention don't help. 😞

Day 2690 - 11/12 Better day

Today was a better day. The day was chilly, but not too cold. The night now feels like a proper temperature for November.

In the morning I got to play a bit. I was going to do some more work on things before class, but the time got away from me. The assignment went ok, so I feel ok-ish about it. In the evening I had my class that I TA for and that was super fun. A few people asked my opinion on stuff, so I felt useful and helpful.

In the evening some donations I knew were on their way arrived, so that is super nice and helpful. While it makes me happy and in a way very proud to have people looking out for me and helping, in a way I still feel sad that I am in a position where I

have to ask for help. 😞 But it is good to know that there are some out there who do watch out and who do care.

Day 2691 - 11/13

No pen

Today I have no pen. I lost the cap for it, and knowing it wouldn't last through the night I threw it away yesterday. It was only after that I discovered it was my last one. I checked on getting more at the store, but with only a tiny bit of money in my account I couldn't afford the \$2.50 and will try elsewhere.

It was very sad to think that is too much for 10 pens. It's not a lot individually, but all together it wasn't affordable. Once upon a time that would have been completely trivial. And even just 1.5 years ago when I had my part-time job I would have had the money to not worry about it. But these days \$2.50 for pens, or even just \$1.25 for an ice cream sandwich treat, is too much. 😞 I struggle to get \$5 for laundry, \$10 for gas, and \$30 for insurance a month. No matter how small the costs now, no matter what the item, it is all a source of stress, as well as a painful reminder that it is a thing that shouldn't even be given a second thought. 😞

Day 2692 - 11/14

Returning habbit

Today an old habit has returned. Because I am showering in the mornings during the week due to the closing earlier and earlier, it makes sense to shower on the weekend if I get a chance. So this morning I got a shower. I was alone. No people came in until I was leaving, so that was nice.

I could have gone inside for a couple of hours in the morning, but the morning wasn't actually too cold. I decided to just stay outside instead of being inside and having to worry about moving. It was tolerable enough for most of the time, but once it got to

about 3 and after it started to get very cold and I started shivering. 😞 I may have to start going to the food store due to the cold, which likely would be horribly sad because I stopped going due to the connectivity being garbage. Well, the future is the future and I will try not to worry and continue to hope for a chance for change.

But I guess today was ok. There aren't really any jobs to apply to. The postings are shutting down for the holidays, so almost nothing is being posted. But I got to play my game and watch shows, so at least that is something.

Day 2693 - 11/15

Too much wind

Today was pretty sad. I had sandwich stuff for lunch and dinner, which is meh. I don't have any money for laundry, which is overdue. And while I could be in my spot with a solid connection it was way too windy to stay in the spot. Leaves kept blowing in my face and on my laptop and mouse pad. And while it wasn't too cold to be out, the added cold of the wind made it impossible to retain any heat, so it was colder than it would have been otherwise. 😞

I may be forced to be inside at the food store or other places that I can be without money. My options will be very limited, but if the weather continues to get cold I will have no choice. It is getting too cold to be outside of school many times. 😞 This will likely be a very cold and extremely difficult winter. 😞

Day 2694 - 11/16

Will there be a tomorrow?

Today things seem very sad and worrisome again. This morning the car had a bit of an issue starting, as well as last weekend. Doing the math it's about a 1-2% occurrence rate for how many starts don't have issues, but it has me worrying more.

Will there be a tomorrow? Obviously the world will turn and the morning will come, regardless of what happens to me. But, more than likely I will sleep and wake and things will be the same. But what if it doesn't? What if I get too cold and too sick and something bad happens? What if the car gets worse and stops working? What if my laptop stops working? I got an email about signing up for next quarter, which starts January 4th, but I don't have the \$50 for classes nor the \$20 for parking. And even gas is down to 1/8th of a tank, as well as laundry being overdue and only \$5. Any number of things may not happen tomorrow, leaving me very little to look forward to.

When I was young I couldn't wait to fall asleep and wake up to all the things I looked forward to seeing and doing the next day. In my teens and 20s I knew what awaited me and what I could afford to look forward to. There were plans and regular events. But now... now I am alone in life. I have lost so much. I don't know if what little I have left will still be there in the morning.

People do watch out for me. Maybe yet again I will be spared and able to hang on a bit longer. But tonight, for the moment, I wonder if there is a tomorrow for me. 😞

Day 2695 - 11/17

The day so far

Today so far feels about three hours later than it is. It feels like I've done so much, yet I've really done nothing. I didn't even need to stop at the store because I have canned food. I just took a shower. While it was a bit longer / later than usual I feel like so much more has gone on.

Maybe it's because I couldn't sleep 'in bed' for about three hours and I'm running on maybe six hours of sleep. Maybe it's because I have two moderately big project things I should focus on. I'm not sure.

I wish I didn't have the stresses of my life. I'm happy with my TA thing. I'm happy with the classes I have. I'm happy I can play my games. I guess just the struggle with money, the homelessness, the feeling of not belonging or truly having a place people want me, need me, and miss me when I'm gone, all leave me feeling ok with myself, but lost in the world. 😞

Week 386

Day 2696 - 11/18 Feling low and tired

Today I have felt pretty low. In the morning I felt tired, cranky, upset about... something. I'm not even entirely sure what. Maybe it is just all the stress in my life. Or maybe because I also feel a bit congested and my throat is a bit off and I have a cold and my symptoms are just imperceptible.

I also feel very tired. Today really felt two days long. Again I don't know why, particularly since I just wrote a paper and the rest of my day was basically a totally regular Wednesday. Again, maybe it's just all my sadness and worry getting to me and wearing me down, particularly with the holidays coming up. The Thanksgiving weekend that will be empty and alone, the December Xmas and New Year time reminding me of things coming to a close and with my current life not knowing if I'll be able to continue due to not having money... I guess I just feel extra sad, very tired, very defeated, and as always, very alone. 😞

Day 2697 - 11/19 Horrible chips

Today went pretty good. Things actually felt normally paced, or even a bit fast. Though for some unknown reason during lunch I thought it was Tuesday for a brief time.

I've been missing my favorite sea salt chips a lot lately. Since I usually eat sandwich stuff on the weekend I thought I'd get some. But there weren't any. In fact, I recall them not being there the past couple of times I've looked. There was a different brand of 'sea salt and vinegar' on sale, so I thought I'd try those. It turns out they are horrible tasting. They tasted really disgusting. 😞 They should be called 'a bottle of vinegar poured over chips', it had that much vinegar taste. 😞 I'll wind up finding people

to give it away too, but it is terrible that my life is so on the edge that I am now worried that \$2 will throw off my budget.

Day 2698 - 11/20

Failing car heart

Today has suddenly gone from what was an otherwise pretty good day so far to one of terrible fear and worry. When I got in my car to leave school it didn't start. 😞 The vvv... vvvrom pause issue has been getting persistent the last week, maybe two, but just now it went vvvv.... pth... tick tick... peh... tick. It's sounding like a battery issue, and when I did my smog the person did say it seemed like an old battery, so maybe it's just not retaining a charge or something. Recently the clock had jumped forward 15 minutes though, so I'm worried that it's a deeper electrical or computer issue since that's the second electronic issue after my turn signal becoming intermittent.

But there have been no other issues. No smells or sounds or odd behavior. Once the car gets going it's been going fine, so hopefully it's something 'easy' like a battery. But when I last looked that was nearly \$200, and with so few donations lately it seems very unlikely I would get help if it even were a 'simple' issue, yet pricy like that.

I have been waiting 15 minutes for the tow guy to come now, so I don't have a diagnostic yet. I am very very worried it will be something bad, something I can't afford, and with the car dead on the street that help will not come before it's towed. 😞 Hopefully there will be some sort of good news to report soon. But for now all I can do is wait... and worry. 😞

Later

Well, I suppose the news is as good as it could be. The car guy came by and hooked up a jump battery thing and while the car didn't start right away, after leaving it connected for a few minutes it then did start right up with zero pausing. So, yay!

He said it absolutely was a failing battery and couldn't be anything else because if it were there would be x, or y, or z indicating issues, and none of those were happening.

The bad news is he said that even if I did drive it for at least 30 minutes to charge it (which I did) there was no guarantee it would actually start again. Or if it did, how many more times. So now I just have to pray I can get enough donations for a new battery very very soon. The issue there is that it is \$125-150. 🙄 While I have gotten some very large donations recently, that is still an incredibly large number to achieve.

But for now the car will rest. And I at least can rest knowing it's an issue that I can take care of myself, not something I need a mechanic or shop for. But in the meantime I will suffer, a lot. I will have to walk all the places I normally drive because I have no money for the bus. (That's like \$5 a day last I took one years ago.) And even if I did there would still be 15% as much walking because I'd have to get to the bus stops. You get a free bus pass with part of the student fees, which I can look into when I get back online, but I'm pretty sure that has to be requested at the start of the quarter, and nearly at the end it seems very unlikely.

So I will walk far too much. I don't have a choice. And likely be in far too much pain. But it does seem fixable, which I am extremely thankful for.

Day 2699 - 11/21

Stinky, looking down

Today was very very sad. 🙄 It started earlier than usual. I had a tough time sleeping, and because of my hours of light and warmth are doubly limited now I got up a bit early.

As soon as I got on campus I put out my call for help. Not surprisingly, no one came to my aid. I hoped some would, but being the weekend, and near a bigger holiday for many, I expect my need to go unnoticed and unmet. At least for a while.

Walking to school my head was down, held low. Mostly because I thought if I looked at the ground the hour or so it would take to get to my spot would pass quicker. On the way back it was because I was just so very sad, and so very tired from walking.

I used to walk like that quite a lot when I was young. I guess in part because emotionally I literally had nothing to look forward to. Days like this I wonder if I always have been looked at like 'the sickly pet', the one no one wants to adopt. I wonder if that is

why I've never been able to get anywhere in life. They say all you need is determination. But that isn't really true. You need emotional support. You need resources; either money or marketing. Alone... I just don't think it's possible for anyone to make it without those things. Which is more than determination alone.

Here I sit at the end of my day. Cold, tummy a bit upset from diner and physical exhaustion, and very stinky parts that even if washed would just be stinky again quickly due to needing to walk everywhere.

I hope tomorrow will be better, but it seems like I may be alone, and if help doesn't come this could be the beginning of the end. 😞

Day 2700 - 11/22

Stinky from three feet away

Today I am still so very sad and worried. No help for a new battery has come yet, but I still hang on to hope that it will. Things typically move pretty slow on the weekend, so I would have actually been surprised if help had come already. Though I was very hopeful it would have. 😞

My socks and underwear are extremely stinky though. I took them off and put them in the dirty cloths and I could still smell them from nearly three feet away. 😞 That is very bad news as all my socks are dirty and I only have one more pair left. In two more days these will be as stinky as those. 😞 I guess the slinkiness wouldn't matter much through the holiday weekend, but if I get no help to get a new battery, or at least a little help to do laundry, I don't know what I'll do. Things will get more and more stinky and I won't be able to fix anything. 😞

This holiday season is starting to seem very very doom filled instead of cheer filled. 😞

Day 2701 - 11/23

New car heart

Today I am very hopeful. I got word during the later morning that someone sent a new car battery and it should be there tomorrow. So that is super awesome. That means I should have one walk in the morning, hopefully catch a ride with someone back to the ex-house at night to pick it up, then install it.

I am just a little concerned as to the fit though. Checking the measurements, if they are correct on the website, it's going to be an extremely tight fit. But the site did have a checking thing and it says it will fit my model, so if it doesn't fit their checker would have to be off, which I'd think if it were someone would have discovered that already. So I am hopeful that outside of something being difficult to get loose that it will be an easy operation.

Today I am hopeful things will be ok. I have yet again been spared in what seems a darkest hour. And I yet again have hope and know there are people out there who do care. Hopefully the transfer will go smooth, hopefully I can continue on with what seemingly little of my life is left, and hopefully this will indeed alleviate the troubles with that car that had me most fearful and worried and kept me up at night.

As always I hope I can sleep tonight and tomorrow will be a better day. But today is one of the few days I genuinely have something hopeful to look forward to. 🤔


Day 2702 - 11/24

Take a chance on red

Today I decided to take a chance on my car. My feet and legs have taken all day to recover from my morning walk and all night from the evening walk, so with a battery on the way today I thought I'd see if it started up ok. If it did, I figure it should also be fine to get back to the ex-house in the evening. And if not, worst case scenario I get campus security to jump me.

I feel much better with a battery on the way and a fresh shower. Though even with an unburdened walk of about three minutes I'd gotten hot, a touch sweaty, and had a bit of

a smell. All the recent strain has taken all of my normal ability to resist walking strain.

 But I am hopeful things will go ok and be normal today. And more hopeful still the battery will arrive as it should and installation will go quickly and easily.

As always I worry about the unpaid things and the costs I need to cover, but try to hang on to hope for the future.

Week 387

Day 2703 - 11/25 Thankful

Today I had an ok day. I am very thankful the car battery came and is starting super good, and doubly thankful that someone cares about me enough to have sent it. I don't know how I would have managed without it, particularly with it pouring rain as much as it has been these past few days. 🙄 (I was very lucky to catch a dry window to install it.)

Today was a normal day, though due to how quiet school was it felt very slow. It felt two or three days long. The weekend will hopefully go ok, but we will see how it goes as it goes. I have a feeling it will again grow very cold very quickly. It was warmer last weekend, but now it's grown very cold and rainy lately.

For the moment I am very grateful things are back to normal, but with the holiday this weekend things may be a bit tossed around the next few days. 🙄

Day 2704 - 11/26 +5% Turkey day

Today was extremely cold. I managed to make it through as planned though without the need to go inside somewhere. The weather for the next week is supposed to get warmer, so hopefully things will get at least a little better.

I felt very nervous about my gas. It was down to 1/8th of a tank or less, so I went to get gas with what little cash I had left. I spent a few minutes counting out the change, gave it to the guy, and it was \$2.85. He put it in as \$3 and wished me happy Thanksgiving. That was a super nice surprise. Though, I suppose technically even though it's only an additional 5% more than I paid, it may make a big difference. I don't have much more gas than I did, as that was just a little more than a single gallon, but hopefully it will last until more help comes.

This Turkey day I don't have much left. 😞 But I am very thankful I do still have a few things left that help me feel like I am still me. 😞

Day 2705 - 11/27

Fear for food

Today was very sad and very cold. It was a touch warmer than yesterday, so for about 1/3 of the day my parts were half numb. Hopefully it will warm up a bit soon, as the days have been about 50F, which is way below what it normally would be for this time of year.

I tried to relax today and played my game quite a bit. As I was cold and my legs were needing to change position I remembered Turkey weekends of many years ago. Times I'd watch the Twilight Zone marathon. Times I'd have my Turkey dinner and pie for a few days after. Times I could just switch my legs around in my chair when I wanted. All days long past which lately seem like they may never come again.

I am very worried for my food lately. I recently got notices about needing to renew my application thing and so that worries me that they may deny more. The thing runs out at the end of December and if that happened I would have no idea how I would eat. Lately while I have been getting some donations they have been slowing, and even getting \$60 to cover the monthly car insurance and gas costs has become increasingly more rare to be covered. I am very worried I won't be able to make the next payment due in a week, so the thought of that on top of no money for food anymore terrifies me. 😞

All I can do is continue to hang on and hope things work out until better days come. 😞

Day 2706 - 11/28

There and back again

Today was kind of crazy. It started out actually like a pretty good Saturday. Though the cafeteria area wasn't open for students, there was the swim team, so in the morning I got a shower. I was finally able to get clean and shower for the first time since Tuesday.

The afternoon was fairly normal-ish. It was slightly warmer than it has been, but I still had to have my gloves on most of the day, and the cold was somehow biting and the day felt colder. By the early afternoon I decided I was going to go somewhere warm and inside. However, I remembered I had recycling to do which I'd planned on doing in the morning. But since I was out and moving already I did it today instead. By the time it was done I actually felt 'warmed up enough', so I decided to just go back to my spot at school since it's private, I don't have to worry about anyone kicking me out for not buying something, and I know the connection is strong and stable.

I've been thinking a lot about winters past. I guess for the past few years I've been going to the coffee shop so often on weekends I have started to forget those early homeless winters. I have been remembering lately days of nothing where I'd sit in my car outside of a store and have nothing to do but sit and watch the shoppers.

I am very glad these days are behind me, yet very worried about the days ahead. Not worried for warmth really, as long as I have at last some gas I can get to an inside somewhere, but worried emotionally. I may not always have an online connection. I may not always be somewhere private or quiet. I may not be able to focus or do things I enjoy. Without the income I had, my options for places to be and things to do this winter (when school is closed) become very limited, even more so emotionally compared to what I could be doing.

Once again I am on the edge of a forced change. And although I'm sure it will not be too extreme and challenge what is left of me, I am worried it will cause great stress on what is left. 🙄

Day 2707 - 11/29

Familiar faces

Today was actually pretty unusual. In the morning my prayers were answered and the church group that is normally in the cafeteria area was indeed there, so I got to go inside for much of my day, and got to eat a lunch that had been microed. But it felt like the building hadn't been heated all weekend. In fact, when I sat outside it almost felt warmer outside than it had inside. But for my time inside I didn't wear my gloves at all, which was something.

After only a few hours outside though it was rapidly growing colder as sundown approached. I decided to try a coffee shop near the food store since they wouldn't know me there and being there for a few hours should go unnoticed. To my surprise it was completely packed. I waited for a bit and nothing really opened up. On my way out I noticed not one, but two fellow student people who were there. One I chatted with for a bit and the other just kind of nodded and waved. He seemed to be on a date with someone I didn't recognize.

I decided to just walk to the food store and try there. For a bit the connection was garbage and unusable, so I did offline things. But later it came up a bit, so I played for a little more before leaving for hiding for the night.

I suppose for a homeless day today was actually pretty good. I was some level of cold all day, which led to some level of sad all day. And no help or change came to lessen my worries about all the things. 😞 But still, I hold on to hope. Tomorrow is another day, and with any day things can change for the better.

Day 2708 - 11/30

The long day

Today felt like a very long day. For me the holidays, or any day not at school, feels overly long. One day away feels like a week, and a week a month. Even though there were only two days off extra it felt like I had been off for weeks. Yet at the same time I was not, as I was in a place too cold physically, and too off emotionally, to either

enjoy the time off or to be productive. While people returned refreshed and happy I return feeling out of sync and bewildered.

I guess today was ok, but it was more of a reset than anything else. Though I helped many people, in my own doings it felt like it took a great deal of effort to try and re-balance to what was before the vacation.

Things are settling from my sad time with the battery failure, and so I am slowly regaining balance from that. But with no other donations or help my fears grow for everything else. I am again nearly out of gas. As of tomorrow the next car insurance payment is due. I could have signed up for classes a week ago, and I am no closer to having the money to do that today than I was then. Even simple things like laundry are getting greatly overdue. And with my appointment coming up for the food stamps it seem I have far more to worry and fear at the end of this fail week than ever before. 😞

But I try to hang on. 😞 It's all I can do. 😞

Day 2709 - 12/1

Sad and bad

Today I feel very sad and things seem very bad. I am worried about all the things and don't know how or if I'll be able to continue without as much help as I've been receiving, and more. 😞 Things have started seeming extra sad. It wasn't anything terrible. I just whanged myself into the automatic door at the food store because the stupid thing keeps stopping half open. And when I came in to the school building I whanged my arm because it too didn't open as far as it should have.

I continue to hope everything will turn out ok for me but with winter closing in and things so dire hope is difficult to hang on to as the year comes to an end. 😞

Day 2710 - 12/2

The big donation

Today started with quite a surprise. The person who has been so extremely supportive lately has *again* sent a big donation. Plus, I got a second donation from someone else. I can sign up for classes, pay the overdue car insurance, and have a little left to hopefully catch up on laundry and get a bit of gas. Again I am humbled with help from people who believe in me and want to help and see me back on my feet. I hope things will continue ok and I eventually can. I do believe in myself, but after so many years of trouble I no longer know what to think about what surrounds me and what may help or hinder my path that I can't control.

I got up over an hour early and couldn't get back to sleep. I have been too stressed about the interview for the food stamps. It turns out it wasn't actually an interview. There was a like slide show thing and then paper signing. Really? Like more than an hour driving because of traffic, fifteen minutes waiting because I was early, all just so I could spend five minutes filling out a form? They couldn't just mail it? Well, I guess it's done. In theory I am covered for another six months. But, I won't count on things being the same. I'll see what is what on January 6th then I get the new award cycle. All I can do is hope things are still about the same because they are already far too tight as they are.

I also got my replacement headphones, finally. I wonder if these will last longer than a few months. My fancy headphone case can do nothing to protect a weak cheaply made headphone spine. If these break I absolutely won't ever go back to this brand. And, the \$10 it would take to RMA a second time will just be saved for something of the two brands I've used before that I know are superior brands.

But with all these things and more, things are mostly out of my hands. I can control what I can control and nothing more. The rest is in the hands of Fate. It seems I only have so much influence in my path. 😞

Day 2711 - 12/3

Another cycle

Today is kind of the last day of classes. There is still tomorrow, and I have a class, but for most people the quarter is almost over. There is just finals week and then that's it.

It seems odd that we are at the end of another cycle. It seems like it's only been half that much time. I guess maybe it's just because so much has happened to me lately. So many scary and tragic things. So many things coming up that are due and need attention, and yet more just around the corner.

Maybe too it's because I did have a fun game to keep my attention through the quarter. There was something happy to escape to. And maybe too it was because there are people watching out who do care and hope I make it through these terrible times.

I no longer know what tomorrow may bring. There is so much bad in my life, and yet too there is hope from those who do care. All I know is I have very little control anymore. Things seem able to go either way these days - for bad, or for good.

Day 2712 - 12/4

One pair of pants

Today was actually good, but sad in a few ways. It was a pretty regular morning. It wasn't too cold, but I was inside. I had class and it was good and actually got out a touch early. But it was still strange that things are basically over outside of finals. So that was a bit sad.

It was also very sad because more than an hour earlier than usual someone came through the building and said they were closing up and shooing people out. So I lost more than an hour's time.

Another sad thing was I got to do a lot less laundry than I'd hoped. I only took about half of what needed to be done, but of the three pairs of pants I brought, if I were to do everything else, there would only be enough room for one pair of pants. Technically speaking one pair is all I really need what with finals week next week and then school closed the next three weeks. There won't be anyone around me to really notice if they

smell kinda bad, or if I wear them two weeks or whatever. But more than that would risk being stinky. The inner layers will get stinky quicker, while the pants layer is kind of protected, but that can only go so far.

Hopefully I get more donations to cover another laundry soon. And too, I hope I get more donations as classes are covered but not parking, and not regular gas use. I guess we will see in time. I have a few more weeks and for the moment I am ok, so hopefully things will continue to be ok. 😞

Day 2713 - 12/5

Sad winter

Today is a very sad winter day. I expected to be inside and finally warm most of the day, but that didn't happen. For some unknown reason campus didn't open the part that should be open. 😞 I was stuck outside all day. 😞 I hope tomorrow I get my inside time, but it seems possible all weekend open times have stopped until next year. So while I hope for inside time, I will dress and 'equip' for being outside all day.

This winter will be especially hard. Though I will only be out for three weeks before school starts again (after next week ends) things were very cold and sad today. Being inside like previous years would be much better. I actually checked the connection at the coffee shop where no one would recognize me and it was garbage. I'd be lucky to be able to check email on it. 😞 So the food store is the only real inside option, and being right next to the door that spot isn't a whole lot warmer than outside. 😞

As always I try to hang on to hope, as every day is a new day. And I continue to hope change for the better will come soon.

Day 2714 - 12/6

Lost time

Today was actually pretty good. It started kind of odd in that there was a warm breeze and overall things were a bit warmer. It stayed that way throughout the day. Most of the day I was inside. Thankfully the church group was there, and though they left earlier than normal I got to be inside until about 1. Things weren't too cold after that, and again it kind of actually felt warmer outside than inside in the cafeteria.

The warm breeze was odd though. It is very unusual for here and even more odd for this time of year. That is pretty much a spring or summer thing. It felt like it is an omen, maybe some kind of doom, or at least a crazy rain storm is going to follow in a few days.

I am in hiding early. It's about three hours earlier than my usual time, which is two hours earlier than I would be ending my evening in a home. I suppose part of that is offset by getting up earlier, but losing 4-6 hours when I really can't do anything during that time is... very sad and disappointing. I suppose though in a way that would happen if I were in a home. Back in the day that would have been a typical Sunday work shift. (Though with only 2-3 days a week that wasn't enough to get in to a place.) But still, I can't help but feel as if my life is draining away, lost to nothing. Sure, in a home I may just play and waste it, but it would be a choice. I would at least have the opportunity to not, to be productive, or at least to think about or prepare for times to be. With it forced, with options so few, and places physically or emotionally uncomfortable preventing it... it feels as if I am paying life just to exist another day longer. 😞

Day 2715 - 12/7

Approaching winter

Today was actually pretty good. I didn't do a thing for my site that I should have done, but I did the school stuff I hoped to do, and I got a lot of time to play and try and relax, as well as micro foods to try and recover from the bleh foods of the weekend. Plus, I was inside and warm all day and the night until I left, so that was good.

I am still worried about the coming weeks after this week. Hopefully the weather will hold and it won't get too cold. It will be weird being at school most of that time but honestly I'd be surprised if I saw any maintenance or security at all. The past few weeks I've not seen anyone around on weekends. Plus, they all know me by now, so I think most days it should be fine. The weather will be real tough, but that will continue and be an issue for the next three months, and probably even upwards of six months before I can consider taking my hoodie off again.

As always, all I can do is hope for help to hang on until an opportunity for real change comes along. 😞

Day 2716 - 12/8

Feeling ok

Today is again slightly warmer, more the proper temperature for this part of the year than the freezing of the previous week. There is evidence of rain and clouds above, but I didn't hear it last night and today it doesn't look like too much of a chance of rain.

Things seem like they will be ok today, and I feel pretty ok. But with the school year and the calendar year coming to a close I worry about me. I worry about emotional me, as loss of being inside at school those three weeks could be very rough emotionally. And I worry about physical me because I'll be out in the cold more than in recent years, as well as costs coming up that I don't have money for.

I have been getting an incredible amount of help in donations and things to save me lately, so I feel better that there are people out there worried who do care. But this year it seems I have more to worry about than ever before at the end of the year, and the upcoming new year seems more uncertain than ever. 😞

Day 2717 - 12/9

Feeling sad

Today I am feeling pretty sad. With the holidays coming up I am hearing about what people are excited for, even if it is just to take a break. I get no break. In fact, holidays are the exact opposite of a break for me with no money. I will be out in more cold, with less options on what I have access to and where I can be. I have fewer options for food, and few to no options for showers. For me, in these homeless times, the times which used to be for celebrating and relaxing have been things I dread, and sources of more stress than normal.

I suppose today was ok though. With so few school things to worry about I got to spend most of my day trying to relax. Job searching takes little time normally, and near the end of the year like this almost none at all due to how little is posted. So, much of my day is free. And with fewer students around things are calmer and quieter.

But again that odd silence, those times I am pretty much the only one, or one of only a few around, does little more than make me feel out of place and remind me just how not normal my life has become. 😞 And day by day it becomes harder to remember, and now harder to even imagine, what my life used to be like in a home. 😞

Day 2718 - 12/10

Not a pizza party

Today started out good, but then became very bad and scary, and ended very sad.

In the morning I checked for jobs and got to play a bit. A few hours later though I rapidly started to feel bad. I felt as if I was very hungry and at the same time like I'd been punched very hard in the stomach (at the bottom of my rib cage.) I decided to try and eat, so I went to heat up my food. By the time it was ready just five minutes later I felt worse. I went into the bathroom and rapidly started to feel more and more worse. I started

sweating, breathing so fast I was panting, and got pretty dizzy and almost threw up. 😞 I was sweating so much I took off my shirt layers and laid down there on the bathroom floor. (I was in the bigger stall for handicapped, so it was like three times the normal space.) After what felt like 10 minutes I had calmed down again, the dizziness was subsiding, and I could get up and go back out to the hall to lay down on a small couch like chair they have. Instead of eating I just stayed there and rested for the next hour. Though my symptoms faded over the next three hours, even now at about 10 hours after the first symptoms, I still kind of feel a bit like I was punched in the tummy. I ate lunch at almost 3, well after the normal 11, and very slowly ate what I had for dinner over the space of an hour (something that would normally take 10 minutes.)

In the evening it was the last class for the fun class I TA for. One of the friendly people said she was thinking of getting pizza delivered during the test, but didn't. After class the three who have been most friendly were together and still talking about it and said they were going. They sort of half invited me, but since all were not paying attention to inviting me and made it very clear they wanted me to go, I just left it at that and stayed.

I actually really kind of wanted to go. But even then as it happened it wasn't going to eat pizza that I was really missing and sad about by not saying 'wait for me', it was that I miss having real life friends. I miss events like that which aren't just a onetime thing, but a repeated thing. I miss having fun people like that in my life and getting to know each other and having fun times.

Part of me says it was the right thing not to go. Going and having no money at all I feel very uncomfortable. I feel like I have nothing to offer. I feel like an extra, and secretly unwanted, wheel. Plus, there is my being the TA. In terms of friendship level since I'm not in the class, I'm an outsider as the TA.

I guess though, as always, if I am meant to be long term friends with them there will be more. And in many ways if I'm not, then not having a single night of fun is probably for the best, as that would just remind me of what I miss in life. But still, I can't help but be sad. Both because of what was missed, and about everything I miss because of my sad life and how I feel about me. 😞

Day 2719 - 12/11

Sad leaving

Today started with some potentially good news. On my way out of the showers I noticed a sign to a sport room that showed hours during the holiday break. At least Monday and Tuesday each week it showed someone would be there for at least a few hours. So that is potentially very good news in that I may have access to school showers at least once a week. While far from ideal, once a week is really enough to prevent smooth bits from getting extremely scruffy and enough to wash off most of the slinkiness. I guess I'll know more Monday.

I saw one of the people from last night again. I made a few implied statements of being longer friends with things like 'will I see you around again?' He seemed to shy away from it. Which is really sad because he seems like he's in a similar spot. He's moved from where he's been living and it seems like he is very sad because he misses his friends he had. But he didn't seem like he felt able to reach out. It kind of seemed like he was a similar lost soul and afraid to make that connection, both because he maybe felt he didn't have anything to offer, but also maybe too because reaching out in a way admits what he lost may be something he can't return to.

Mostly today just felt like a very sad goodbye. I think I figured out why these times feel so devastatingly sad to me. Because I have no home, nowhere I belong, nowhere I have freedom to be, my spot at school is my safe place. In a way it is a place I feel I belong. It is a place I feel safe. In essence it kind of is my home for the moment. Each time I must go and can't come back, or there are times my coming back is uncertain, all feel that same sense of loss and pain as when I was kicked out of my home. In essence I am repeatedly feeling that each time. And even in times like this when I know I can come back, and I feel fairly confident that being outside will be ok, I still lose my known spot. I still lose that warmth and peace and quiet there is. I still lose the shower, the bathroom, and connectivity. I still lose what little in me is left that feels like there is a home. 😞

Day 2720 - 12/12

Feeling more sad

Today both bodes well for the future and felt very cold and sad. In the morning there were cars in various places on campus. It seemed they were some events near the pool, and I'm not sure why there were other cars, but all day there were extra people around doing regular weekend things. And in the evening when I was on my way out, at the building next to where I park there were valet people setting up for an event. I actually wouldn't be surprised if there were events quite regularly up until Xmas time.

But still, today was extremely sad. It was very cold, though I managed ok. I still very much would have loved to be in a home. Nothing super fancy, even just a shared place with people who are friendly where I had a small room with my bed, system to play on, my stuff, and enough heat to be warm with a fairly minimal number of layers on. To be able to eat different food instead of a single food for several meals, to be able to cook, to shower, to put my contacts in a cleaned case each night. Just simple wishes, but ones it seems are nothing more than that. 😞

Day 2721 - 12/13

Library

Today felt pretty terrible. In the morning I was hopeful and very grateful that it looked like school had been opened and set up for the church group. But my heart quickly sank as I got close enough to see that there was not actually anyone in the cafeteria area. I suppose I could have gone in. There was no sign of security all day, and the only maintenance people I saw didn't show until nearly 2. But it would have felt weird, and impolite, to be in there alone. I did go in to use the bathroom, but I regret not using the micro to have a warm lunch. That likely was my last real chance for a warm meal for weeks. 😞

As the day went on and the rain poured down and it grew more and more cold I felt more and more sad about my life and how terrible things have gone lately. I felt even

more sad that it seems for a long time now there has been less and less emotionally going well.

I thought a lot about how people wished me a happy holiday break. And I thought too how everyone wishes a happy holiday with no real second thought to it. Saying that reminds people of the happy times past and yet to come. But for me it seems each year there has been less and less to be happy about and celebrate. There is less for me each year.

Seeing more and more decorations go up makes me wish more and more I were in a home, that I was able to put up my decorations, that I still had friends who would come over to exchange gifts with. But I don't, and as such even if I could there would be little I would do, as it would just be me.

Each year I have lost more and more. These past few years have been especially hard. And now, with 1/4 tank of gas, less than \$0.50 in my bank account, several things coming due, and recent letters saying I will be getting nothing for a food stamp award starting in February, I wonder how I will make it through this next year. I have so little left, and with as few who are watching out for me and able to help lately as there have been, I don't know how I'll continue to make it. 😞

Day 2722 - 12/14

The gifts

Today turned out to have gifts a few times. I arrived at school and got a shower in the morning. After, I went around to my spot. I settled in, checked for jobs, and played for a bit. During lunch there was an email saying that someone had sent me an early Xmas gift. I was so surprised and happy that someone cared that I nearly shed a few tears, particularly since this is the same someone who has been so very generous the past few months, including sending the new car battery.

For the first few hours I was here I noticed an unusually high number of students and what looked like student/parent people walking around. I decided to get up and look in to the cafeteria area just when the chef happened to be coming by. We chatted a bit as I wondered if they were open like they were during summer. He basically said he didn't

know, but he was very concerned about me out in the cold. He went in to do his thing, but came out a few minutes later and gave me a soup. I thanked him and thought that was a nice surprise.

Not too long after I had to go to the bathroom, so I thought I'd check the other side of the cafeteria and see if it was open. Much to my surprise it was, and will be all of this week. Much like summer that little area is open, meaning I can be inside and have access to a micro most of the day through the week.

In the evening I checked the ex-house. Much to my surprise again the gift I was told about was waiting for me. It was a huge box as big as my chest. Due to its size and weight I guessed it was the backpack from my list. Which is actually really super great. The old one had worn through in several spots, and the laptop was at risk of exposure to the rain and other elements. Plus, the straps were tearing, so I felt like every time I was picking it up it was at risk of ripping in half. So the new backpack is super great. I feel secure again using it, and it is even more padded than the previous one.

What I did not expect was the way it was wrapped. It was in this big blue bag type gift bag which was still about as big as my chest. It made me super smiley and laugh. 😊 I still smile thinking about how ridiculously fun it was. I kept the bag and put it away in a safe place. Hopefully I can use it for something fun again someday when my life is not sad.

So today ends on a pretty good note. I have a new very safe backpack for all my things. I can rest with the knowledge I can now be inside at school, and when it closes in the early evening, I can go over to the library. And at least two people out there worry and care that I'm ok. Which, combined with a shower and being inside, help me a lot towards feeling normal. My troubles and worries are still there, but with these things I feel renewed hope and they don't seem as much of an impending doom as they did yesterday.

Day 2723 - 12/15

One day at a time

Today has just started. I have a new backpack and things feel very secure. I'm not super warm, but I'm inside and I will be all day.

There are many bad things still. It still seems I won't be getting food money next year. My phone may be out of money to look into that. I don't have any money to add more if it is. I'm down to 1/4 tank of gas. I still haven't paid for car insurance or next quarter's parking permit. So things still look very bad for me. But I have to try and hang on. And I have to try and live my life one day at a time to get by and keep going. If there is little to look forward to, maybe by just looking at today I'll be ok.

Day 2724 - 12/16
Fun Xmas game

Last night I got a second present from the very generous person. It's a super fun game off my wish list. 🤗 I was trying to think last night when I last had a game to play on Xmas that was new and I really couldn't think of a time. It would have to have been probably 10 or more years ago at least I think.

Today when I got to school I did a job search, but then I got to spend the rest of the day in my game I would normally play, and my super fun new game. The new one is single player, so I can play offline not connected to anything. It's very different to have an offline game again after playing online so long with my main game. It is peaceful and relaxing. And it kind of makes me feel I'm in my own world, my own space that is just me and my game.

Back in the day I used to do single player games like this all the time in my private times, usually in the few quiet hours to cool down before bed. I guess that is part of why it feels so singularly mine. It is kind of like a piece of home that I've been missing lately. It's been quite a while since I've had a single player game like this.

I was at school most of the day but sadly not all like I'd planned. For some reason they closed at 6 instead of the 8:30 or later that the health center in that area closes at. I guess they changed their mind because they had nothing to do. It was kind of funny that during lunch the doc walked up to me and asked me to come in for a checkup totally out of the blue. I guess that's good though to check all the things. And she worries about me. They all do there. (Though there are only really three or four people there.) So that's nice to know I am worried about.

I still have all the terribly sad and worrisome things to worry about, but for today at least I just looked at today and did the best I could to try to stay hopeful about things and pass the time trying not to be sad.



Xmas presents 2015.

[1920x1080](#)

Day 2725 - 12/17

The hunger

Today had quite a bad start. I'd just gotten to school and settled in when some guy I've never seen before told me the area was closed for the painters. That meant my whole day's plans for being at school were shot, and my plans for being there tomorrow were also probably shot. I quickly cooked lunch before going, as it was a micro food, then decided to kill some time with a shower. After my shower I ate a very early lunch at like 10:30 and it was nearing the cold side of room temperature. If I didn't know it was cooked I'd have maybe thought it wasn't.

I'm not sure what I'll do tomorrow. I originally planned to be at school half the day, which I may still do, but being outside is sad now. I wasn't planning to change to an 'always at the library' schedule until next week.

I guess the rest of the day went ok tough. I went to the library and stayed in a fairly warm spot. I had to move my car mid-day, but any weekday I'll need to do that due to the parking time limits. (Though I still think it's not enforced.)

The weird thing is that since maybe Monday I've been almost constantly hungry. I had regular meals through Wednesday, so I don't know what's going on exactly. Looking online people say it might be diet related, which would make sense.

Since the scare of losing my food money started I've heavily cut back on the 'better' micro food in favor of cheaper soups, which would greatly reduce my already extremely small vegetable intake. And, with fruit as expensive as it is I haven't had any fruit in I don't know how long. I guess I may look and see if any is on sale, or consider a big juice since the weather is so cold and it could survive a few days in the car. But with things so incredibly dangerous in terms of 'extra' food costs, things will likely just continue to get worse even if I do get past this current hurdle.

With no donations today, and no (good) news about my food stamps, things feel very bleak in times like this when I can't play my games and do things to distract me from the sad things. With all the cold times and school closed, it will be harder and harder to remain distracted from the sad things. All I can do is continue to hope and try and hang on until change or opportunity comes my way. 😞

Day 2726 - 12/18

Day at the library

Today was ok, but could have been better. I checked at school and as I guessed there were still painting things everywhere. There was plastic covering all the floors and things. I didn't bother to go in. It would only have been access until 11:45 anyways.

I stayed outside as long as I could, which was until the library would open. I rushed over right away. The day there was ok. Until about noon there was a big ray of sun in the spot I picked that was heating up the back of my monitor. I should have picked a different spot sooner. The next closest spot not in the sun was taken by the time I decided to move. But by 2 the sun was gone and glare was leaving and I started to have a better time.

My tummy is still feeling very funny. I got some juice which will hopefully lessen the odd near constant hunger feeling. But it hasn't had much effect so far. If I had money I could do buy a number of different medium fast food options that were vastly more healthy. Even just about \$5 would get me a bit of herb chicken and a tiny bit of salad at

the healthy food store. But I have none. My car is down to 1/8th of a tank of gas. 😞 I don't have \$5 for laundry. 😞 And there are other unpaid things that need attention. 😞 When I am not distracted, things continue to look very bad indeed for my immediate future. 😞

Day 2727 - 12/19

All my day

Today was the first day I planned to be at the library all day. I passed by school to see if it was open to shower, but things were closed. It's ok. It has hours on Monday and Tuesday for the next weeks, and once a week for showering and shaving is fine because I don't really generate much smell and my hair grows pretty slow. I am getting very worried about my cloths though, as it seems like it's been more than two weeks since I've last done a wash. Only the one pair of pants and a few shirts were done the last time too.



I suppose it was a pretty good day. I was mostly warm all the time and got to play for much of the day. And I guess that is all I can hope for these days.

I am getting extremely worried though as I'm nearing 1/8th of a tank of gas and less, meaning there are likely only a few days of gas left. If no help comes by Tuesday it wouldn't be very likely to make it to me before the Xmas break. 😞 So I worry very much about getting around to the warmer places and staying dry on rainy days like this.



But all I can do is continue to hang on to hope, and that help does come. 😞

Day 2728 - 12/20

Nearly empty

Today was pretty fun when I was at the library. I played my games and was able to be in a different world and forget about my worries in this one for a bit.

But now that it's closed, now that it's night, I am growing very very worried. My gas is now less than 1/16th of a tank. I've got gas for tomorrow probably. If it were pushed, maybe one more day, but I doubt more. And I fear that even driving Tuesday would be risky.

Without donations tomorrow it is unlikely I would get them transferred to my bank before I ran out of gas. With all the rain and the extreme cold lately I fear what that means for me. Getting to the library on foot would likely be a one and a half to two hour walk, each way. (Compared to a 5-6 minute drive from where my car stays at night.) Which just isn't feasible for my poor feet. Plus, in the recent rain and cold that's a terrible idea for me as well as the stuff I would be carrying.

So I am getting very worried. 😞 I fear Xmas my come and I may be alone and crying in the worst position in my life yet, having no gas to get around, leaving me few ways to stay warm and do my daily things. And at night it would be very difficult to avoid suspicion as being out and about is extremely out of place during the holidays. 😞

I continue to hope and pray help will come, but with all of this season's distractions it seems fewer eyes than ever are looking out for me. 😞

Day 2729 - 12/21

Red line and crying

Today started well, but ended with very bad news and a lot of crying. 😞

I went and got food for today and tomorrow at the start of the day. I checked school and it was open, so I took my shower and shaved off nearly a week of hairiness and got clean smelling. After, I went to the library, found what seemed an all day parking spot half a block away, and went to spend my day in the library.

In the evening when I left the fuel gauge was at less than 1/16th. The check gauges light came on immediately when I started up to leave the library. I don't know what that means in terms of how much gas is left. 😞 All I can do is hope it is enough. It lasted the few miles to get close to the ex-house. So, if we assume I had maybe 1 gallon that should hopefully leave enough to get the 1 mile back to the closest gas station. But so

far there is only one small donation. And as such I can't risk moving the car until it is absolutely necessary. 😞

I went in to the ex-garage and hugged my stuffed bunnies and cried for quite a bit. It seems very few are watching out for me and sending help. And it seems that no more may be on the way. It feels more and more like the end of this year will be my end. 😞

And that I will lose what is left one piece at a time. 😞

Tomorrow I will try to hang on. I will try and hold on to hope that help will come. But I have probably a 1.5 hour walk, each way, and more the next day as I'll not have enough food to last two days. Maybe I will try to stretch it, but it seems unlikely two small sandwiches and some gram crackers and chips would last two days. 😞

But for a while tonight I will probably cry some more, as it seems my future is very bleak and there will be very little holiday cheer for me. 😞

Day 2730 - 12/22

Walking and wet

Today started as it had to. Grabbing what food I needed from the car, I left it where it was and walked to the library. It was sprinkling, as it often does in California, so I was not only hot and a bit sweaty, but my backpack had apparently gotten more wet than I would have liked. The umbrella only covered about half of it I guess. No water penetrated, so it was fine, but I worry about all the things.

I worry. Even though it is early and I haven't checked online yet, I worry about all the things. The one donation I got yesterday is enough for emergency gas. Just enough for a few days, so I have to leave the car where it is as long as I can and prey more help comes. I guess what I can do next quarter, provided I get enough help to do it, is get a bus pass and then split the time between driving and taking the bus. That way I can still drive to get food and take a shower at school, but save gas by not driving every day. It will not be very good, as I really shouldn't be walking at all, but in order to try and extend my donations I may have little other choice.

If I don't get more help... things will rapidly come to an end. The car would be lost or need to be sold, stuff I have would be lost or break down extremely quick now that they, and I, would be much more exposed to the elements as well as much higher wear and tear. And how would I get to a job? Yes, busses, but with my last job, just a 10 minute drive by car, was a 1.5-2 hour bus trip depending on the time and day.

As it has been for the past while, things do not look very good for me. 😞 I try to escape into my games when I can to try and stay happy. I try to hang on to hope that help and opportunity will come. But it seems in recent years I have grown very unlucky, and things seem to be growing more and more sad and more and more terrible. 😞

Week 391

Day 2731 - 12/23 Cold walk

Today was both good and bad. In the morning I still only had the \$5 donation in my bank, so I left the car where it was to be sure. The walk to the library was ok. It wasn't too cold and unlike yesterday the rain seems gone. The walk back in the evening was dry, but freezing cold. I don't know how much colder it was, but I had to put on layers I wouldn't normally have on when doing a long walk.

Besides the cold walk though today was actually pretty good. I played my games in peace at the library. The day passed slowly, so my time there seemed extra long. And, probably more importantly, I got a few donations. So more help is on the way and today was the last day I'll be walking. At least for now. Through the holidays I would rather not walk. It is much too long and cold a walk to be good for me, particularly with how much I am exposed to the elements already. Next quarter I'll see how things stand. With the critical costs the money is basically already spent, with only a little bit going to gas. I'll have to carefully plan things out before spending any, but it seems likely I'll have no choice but to do my conservative drive some bus some plan when school does start. There just aren't enough donations to continue as things have been.

And I still have no idea if I'll have food starting in February or not. There has been no follow up mail about my food stamps amount since the last one saying my 'award' is zero.

But for the moment hope is renewed. I am again spared from extreme tragedy for the moment. And, as always, it seems lately I must try to focus on the good things I have today, and not worry about tomorrow, and hang on to hope that good change will come.



Day 2732 - 12/24

Not Xmas Eve

Today is Xmas Eve, but for many reasons it doesn't feel like it. There is no tree. There are no decorations up, nor anywhere to put them. There are no presents waiting to be unwrapped. There is no family, nor friends to visit, and no one who will be visiting me. It has been more years than I can count since I felt the proper excitement and uncertainty of what will happen on Xmas.

In these recent years it has become just about opposite. It is not a time for visiting. It is not a time of joy and wonder. It is a time of hiding. It is a time of crying. It is a time taking inventory of what was lost, what will soon be lost, or what little is left.

In a way I suppose it has always been two sides of the same coin. One looking forward and celebrating what was and will be, and the other looking back and mourning what was passed. But for someone who now has little to no future it is very difficult to look forward. It is tough to hold up my chin and continue to look ahead when so much by my side has been lost. 😞

Day 2733 - 12/25

Felt normal for a time

Today was much better than I thought it would turn out to be. In the morning and early afternoon I was at the food store. There was really no connection to speak of, so I played my new game offline and did not try to connect.

In the early afternoon I went to see if I could see a movie I've been waiting forever for. I got there about 2 hours before it started and it was already sold out. I had to wait for the next show for the fancy 3D format I wanted to see it in, which meant an additional 3.5 hour wait. Not wanting to waste gas I waited with nothing to do. (I'd put my backpack in the ex-storage not wanting to have it in the car on Xmas. Which was fine, as there were no plugs anywhere around where I was in line anyways.) The wait was very long and very boring.

But for a brief time I felt normal. I had played my new Xmas game. I went to see a movie I'd really been wanting to see. And for a brief moment I felt balanced. I felt like the me I used to be in such conditions.

But now.... the cold is returning. My body is slowly calming from the excitement of the night. As things close in so does the sadness and fear of what my life has become.



Day 2734 - 12/26

Ok-ish

Today was actually pretty ok. It was a pretty normal day at the library. I played my games, watched a show, and tried to not be sad. Mostly I felt ok, but for some reason the library was freezing cold. It felt like the heat wasn't on at all and I don't know if it was genuinely cold, or if my body just doesn't know regular temperatures anymore because it's been so rare at the places I've been for so many years. I can say for sure over the past three or maybe four years I've been more and more cold feeling in general, and taken layers of even inside at school less and less often.

As always all I can really do is to try to hang on until change comes and my life gets better again. 😞 With gas and the library open again things are better, but the sadness of my life continues to creep in to almost everything I do. 😞

Day 2735 - 12/27

Cold everywhere

Today I was pretty much cold everywhere. In the morning I went to a coffee shop because the store would have been freezing. It was one I don't usually go to, so I pretty easily hid and avoided being noticed for the few hours I was there. But in all my winter bundling I was barely on the almost warm side of things.

Later I discovered why the library has been so cold. Apparently the heater has broken and won't be fixed until sometime tomorrow. (I wonder now if last week the AC

wasn't actually on, it was just the thing blowing air and the air was not being heated as it should.) So again today I was freezing in the library.

Currently the car is still warm from moving, but that will likely pass quickly with the weather site saying it will get down to 35F at night. Though it's currently raining and that tends to hold the heat in a bit, so maybe it won't be that cold.

But, as always, all I can do is try to get by as best I can and hope that change comes soon. Though it seems unlikely during the holidays. 😞

Day 2736 - 12/28

Almost normal

Today I felt almost normal. In the morning I finally had a chance to do the blood test the doc wanted, so that was super important to get done. Then this was one of the last days school would be open in the pool area, so I got a super long shower and finally shaved and washed my parts after a week of not being able to. 😞 Then I played at the library and watched shows. Unlike previous days it was on the slightly chilly side of warm as the heater was working again.

It was almost a true day off. If it hadn't been for the cold and being out in a public place, and being unable to cook and eat properly, it would have probably been almost identical to what my day would have been in a home.

But there were differences. I was cold. I did feel sadness in the back of my mind. And when I left for the night, even the one minute walk to my car was enough to make my parts half numb. 😞

Day 2737 - 12/29

Super cold

Today is super cold so far. Last night and this morning so far my breath made poofs. My hands and toes are a little numb, so I hope when the library opens in about half

an hour it is pretty warm. Yesterday it was only kind of warm, and certainly not what I'd call toasty or even warm enough for single layers. 😞

Things are still riding the edge and too uncertain to not be scared and worried all the time. At least when I had the part time job things were sad, but balanced. Now everything is off balance and uncertain. And while I am a bit excited to see what is new I have yet to discover, I am still very sad about the loss of me that was, as there is no guarantee that if I recover I will be happier or it will be a better life than now. Especially since the current direction seems to not be much of a life at all. 😞

Week 392

Day 2738 - 12/30 Counting down

Today seemed pretty good. I got an unexpected shower in the morning, so that was nice. Someone took my spot in the library for most of the day, but it was ok. I got to play my games and watch shows undisturbed, which is the most important these days. It was almost even warm enough to consider taking off a layer (though I didn't.)

But things are still sad. Last night / this morning I was plagued by horrible nightmarish dreams. Not about being homeless, but terrible horrific things that were super gross. I don't know if it's because of that or just my sad life in general, but all ay I've felt this profound sadness; a sort of defeated feeling that feels like I accept that things are happy-ish and ok 'today', but as time goes on all will be lost.

Maybe it is just because when I have a good morning I seem to reflect more on what has been lost, both permanently in things like my teeth and possibly my health in general, the things spiritually in how this dark time will forever hurt me emotionally if I do recover, and outside things, the things I seem to still be unable to attain or control.

It feels like now I am ok with myself physically and in terms of my personality. I love me. And this is a place most people reach 25 years earlier in life. But because I didn't have that love and support around me growing up, it's taken forever to get here. And now that I am, I no longer have the resources to take care of things moving forward. And without an Xmas miracle, or outside help and opportunity, things seem unlikely to change. 😞

Day 2739 - 12/31 Not an Eve of change

Today is New Year's Eve, the biggest thing people celebrate all year regardless of who or where they are. It is a celebration of what has passed and what may be. It is an eve of change where one feels things will be new and different just on the other side.

But not for me. I suppose in a way it hasn't really felt that way for me for many years, even before I was homeless. But in these recent years, this year in particular, it feels like next year will not be better. It feels like things will continue to get worse beyond my control.

I try to hang on to hope. I try to distract myself with my games. I try to hang on to the fact that in half a week things will be regular for me again - at least the current homeless regular, until at least that sharply changes in February (when it seems I won't be getting food money anymore.) I try to hang on to the knowledge that people are out there who do worry and care for me. And most of all I try to hang on to hope for me, because I love me and I am a good person deserving of a regular home and regular job like everyone else.

I suppose, as the calendar year comes to a close, that is all I can ask of myself. 😞

Day 2740 - 1/1/16

Rearranging

Today has been a day of rearranging things. I spent the morning and a bit of the afternoon at the food store. I was going to go to a coffee shop after, but I kind of felt like not when the time came. So, I decided to do laundry today instead of Sunday morning. What of it I could anyways. I only had enough for one wash and I still have that extra wash that has been waiting forever which is mostly shorts and extra pants. (And it seems I may not have soap for that when I finally do get money.) I hope nothing will go wrong with them, like unexpected mold and such, before I get a chance to wash them. Dad said he sent money for Xmas, but I haven't gotten it. He likely sent it to the wrong address again. I was hoping to have extra to do the laundry with it, but by the time it gets here I may be so low on gas again that's all I'd be able to do with it.

So I moved laundry from Sunday to today. I guess it doesn't really matter. The temperature would likely be about the same either way, and I am really just a touch more awake now.

But mostly today I feel sad, even though I played my game quite a bit. I think it's that without at least being in school I feel extra homeless. School is not a home, for sure.

But it is warmer, it is predictable, it is where I have a place and I sort of feel I belong. So until I get an actual home, without school being open and me there, I think the sad feelings will just close in more and more.

I don't know what the rest of the day will hold after laundry. Probably nothing. The sun is just starting to set so there are still several hours before I am 'safe'. But, as with all things, I'm sure I'll make it through to the other side. It's all I really can do. 😞

Day 2741 - 1/2

Unremarkable day

Today was fairly unremarkable. It was the last of two days at the library before school is open again and things are sort of back to homeless normal.

I still worry about all the things. I had barely enough to eat this past year, and much of it was not what I would have normally eaten in homeless times. If I don't continue to get money, as has been implied so far, then things will be even worse. And I don't know how I'd manage to eat at all. 😞 Plus, now the car insurance is late. I don't think they will care much until the end of the month, but if Dad's Xmas money doesn't come soon, and it isn't an unusually high amount, I just don't know how I'd be able to pay it. 😞

All the things continue to get worse, and it seems all these years later I am seemingly less close to becoming not homeless than when I started. 😞

Day 2742 - 1/3

Anxious

Today I am anxious for tomorrow. I am looking forward to 'cooked' food again, even though it will just be microwaved. I am looking forward to my spot on the floor. I am looking forward to a regular schedule with mostly known and predictable results.

As always, I don't know what the new quarter will bring, or what job searches may start to reveal in the coming months when people start looking for help again. But I try to remain hopeful. I try to remain open minded about positive change. And hopefully the semi-regular life of being at school tomorrow will finally help shoo away the constant sad thoughts and worry I feel and it subsides down to the quiet whisper of a thing I can't control or change, and it fades into the background of my mind.

Day 2743 - 1/4 Hopeful

Today I am hopeful. Things went ok at school. There was not quite the normal balance, but the quarter will take a week or two to get to that point for me. But it was a lot better to be back in my spot. It was nice to see friendly people again and actually talk to a few like a normal/regular person again.

And I did get Dad's Xmas money finally. He did send it to the wrong address again. I'm glad it eventually found its way to me. It was quite a bit more than he's been sending lately. (A lot for him and me. Not much to a normal working person.) So I *can* pay the overdue car insurance for this month. I can get gas for a few weeks. I can *maybe* get caught up finally on laundry this weekend. I can probably re-up my phone for the next few months. (You have to spend \$10 minimum, which is 3 basic month's cost.) And there is even enough to consider getting a regular meal. Which would be extremely helpful, as I've been getting hungry to the point of it waking me up at night lately. This extreme rationing is going to hurt and be extremely difficult to get through and adapt to.

Today was pretty good overall. Though for some reason I got up 2 hours earlier than I needed to. I woke up before the sun and just couldn't go back to sleep. At that point I'd barely gotten 6.5 hours sleep. Hopefully with the niceness of the day, and the good news from the Xmas money, I can sleep a bit easier. At least for a few nights, maybe a week. And that would be something.

Day 2744 - 1/5

Start of a cold

Today I think I'm starting to get a cold. A few days ago my throat started feeling a bit raspy. And today my voice definitely sounds off. I have congestion in my nose and throat, but the weirdest thing is my lungs feel dry, as if I've been breathing desert air.

Today is just starting, but I think it will be ok. It was super super rainy all last night and that is finally trailing off. Tonight I have a class I TA for, which is not the super fun one, that's Thursday, but it should be fun. And after trying all during Xmas break, I finally have a decent idea for what to do for the writing class. So I can work on what I assume that will need today and tomorrow and get quite a bit ahead (in theory.)

Besides the bleh in my nose and lungs I feel pretty good today. I will try to hang on to hope and hopefully things will not beat me down and I can hang on.

Week 393

Day 2745 - 1/6 Start of a cold

Today was pretty good. I started to feel balanced again. I talked with some people I knew. But I had a pretty bad cold yesterday, and today my voice is basically gone. I kind of sound like when I was 12 because part of my tonal range is completely gone. The congestion and cough are getting better pretty quickly, but I've been starving. 🙄 I'm having to eat way more than I should (which still isn't as much as normal), but I'm ok with spending a bit more to do that if it means I get my voice back and get over my cold.

I spoke to the doc today and I was a bit sad. She was all super excited about my numbers being so much better. But I couldn't get excited because I have basically no control of my diet in what I can afford to eat. I can't attribute any potential changes to eating or being better. So, it was sad to remind her of my sad life and that until my life is normal and I have the opportunity to change such things, I can't celebrate a good change as something I am doing better. Still, it was good to hear things were not getting worse.

Despite things being better-ish lately I've had an oddly difficult time both getting to sleep and not waking up earlier than I should. I don't know if it's excitement for school, the cold, or just the continuing cold weather and everything that comes with it. But again I hope to get to sleep quickly and well, and that I get rested and am better from my cold tomorrow.

Day 2746 - 1/7 New bunny

Today had some nice surprises so it was pretty good. I am still pretty sick, and my voice is super messed up, so I sound like I'm 12, but my class I'm in was good. It seemed like it will be a lot of work stuff, but I should be ok. And the class I'm TAing that is the fun one seems like it will be extra fun, so that is good.

The other TA in the class gave me a surprise Xmas gift of a totally cute stuffed bunny. 🐰 I don't know what to name the bun, but he spent most of the day with me and is now safely tucked away with the bun family.

In the evening I checked the ex-house because I got word of a thing from dad there. It was a surprise extra check for a little bit more, which is super helpful. I'd like to use it for something fun, but sadly I really should get next month's car insurance paid now while I probably have it. There is enough gas for two weeks or so, so I should be ok. I may or may not have enough for the laundry after. There may not be enough to keep more gas in reserve too, so we'll see. It's still winter, so I can get away with changing cloths a bit less often. My top is covered by my hoodie 90% of the time, so people don't see what is under that, so it should be ok.

But today turned out pretty good for a change.

Day 2747 - 1/8

So hungry

Lately I've been extremely hungry. Like maybe double what I'd eat when not homeless kind of really hungry. I'm not entirely sure if it's because I've been rationing so much lately, or if it's because I'm getting over my cold and the tummy needs food to fight it off. I'm trying to feed it as much extra as I can afford within reason, but I can only go so far. But it's an odd dilemma. If I need it to get fully better, but don't get enough, how much longer will it take?

Today was pretty good but went very quickly. I have a Friday class again this quarter, so that took most of the day. I had time for barely 45 minutes of play in the morning before watching a quick show with lunch, then there was class, then I had time for basically two shows after and that was my day.

I guess all in all today was ok, despite not having a lot of time for me, having a headache, and being super hungry.

Day 2748 - 1/9

Not quite

Today I am not quite better from my cold. I'm almost better though. My voice isn't totally lost and scratchy, but now the congestion is down lower in my lungs a bit.

I checked my monies and I don't quite have enough to pay the next car insurance. Not safely at any rate. I'd have been left with something like \$3, which would be a terrible idea. I will go as slow as I can on spending and save as much as I can though, as it is likely any donation would put me over since I'm ok on gas for the moment.

Today seemed a bit weird. I went to school to shower. Though there were swim and track classes there was no one at all in the locker rooms. Which is better for showering, but a bit odd feeling. Then when I got to the library, not only was being back there a bit odd feeling, but I had to start my day with a class assignment. So that kind of threw things off a bit. Not in a bad way, just put them in a weird direction.

Again my cold has me starving. If I could afford to again I think I'd eat 50-75% more than my normal amount. At least I hope it's because of my cold that I'm so hungry. I really can't think of what else it could be.

Hopefully soon I'll be back to normal feeling again in all things.

Day 2749 - 1/10

Almost all clean

Today I finally did my old laundry. Nothing stood out as being off in an unusual way. And since it was just shorts and pants, nothing smelled horrible. Though just to be sure I did find a dryer sheet that had just a bit of fragrance left and used it just in case. So almost all of my clothes are clean. It's only almost because I didn't wash what I was wearing, and there were only a few things left out to be sure all the old stuff was done. Sadly I'll need to spend an extra \$5-7 when I do the next load as I am completely out of soap.

The weekend at the library is over and I'm glad of it. For some reason it seemed extra sad being there, even though the other regular gamer there waved hi to me both

days. Maybe it's just that the longer I've been homeless each time I put things away is just another reminder that I have to put things away. I am not in a home where things can be left out. And in addition to that, there isn't anywhere I am going when I do put things away. It is just I am pushed out of where I am and can't be there any longer. 😞

I guess today was ok though. While I am still very hungry much of the time, I am mostly over my cold. I am still congested and coughing a bit, but my voice is nearly normal again. And my old cloths are finally clean again, which is a great relief. But I am looking forward to being back at school. I actually have people meeting to do a project for one class tomorrow, which should both be fun and greatly help to distract me from the sad things.

Day 2750 - 1/11

Project not project

Today was busy busy with school stuff. In the morning I spent probably as much time as a project would have taken sending emails back and forth with someone changing plans from this morning to tomorrow morning. So that seemed really wasteful.

In the afternoon I did what I could of another project I have. I kind of did what I could of another project I have. I kind of did that backwards, as I am missing the primary bit, so I did all the secondary bit. I guess it was ok, but had I known the project wouldn't happen this morning I could have set things up in the proper order of primary first. So that was... annoying. I'll likely forget what happened in a week, but still.

I didn't have much of the day left after that. I got to spend a couple hours on show watching, and barely an hour playing, but that was it.

My cold is mostly better. I'm still a bit off, as I'm congested, but I guess that's good in that it means it is loosening up. Hopefully in a few days I'll finally be completely over it.

I guess today wasn't that bad. It probably was closer to what a regular day would be than not. But still, there are so very many things off balance from what is missing in my life, both big and small.

Day 2751 - 1/12

Movie star bun

Today is just starting out. In many ways it will hopefully go how I planned yesterday. In theory I have my class group shoot, then in the afternoon I'll edit it and do my solo project shoot. I have my bun who is going to be the star here with me, so I can shoot his stuff either way. (Though I seem to have forgotten my tripod, so I'll have to go back to the car for that at some point.)

It's chilly outside, but overall it's been getting warmer lately. I'm still not completely over my cold. There is a lot of congestion, some coughing, and some sneezing. But hopefully with class projects to do today should go quickly and be pretty fun.

Week 394

Day 2752 - 1/13 Feeling broken hearted

Today went fairly normally. It was nice to have a sort of calm break from all the school work for a bit and have a slower morning.

In the afternoon I finished the school projects I've had come up lately. Neither needed as much done as I thought, so again things slowed down more than expected.

Today was pretty slow, but in a good way. In an odd way this week has felt very slow so far. Maybe it's my cold altering my perception. Maybe it's just so much going on and calming down again that it feels like a lot has happened. I'm not sure.

I've had an odd feeling lately. Maybe that is part of the slow feelings. I feel sad. I feel like nice and fun things just around the corner will be out of reach for me. I feel like the food situation will remain bad. I feel like I won't get as much support in the coming days. And in addition to all of this external sadness, I feel an odd feeling in and around my heart. My heart feels off, as if part is inactive or being poked. And overall I just feel tired and weak. Maybe it is just the eternal sadness weighing on me physically making me feel heartbroken lately. I'm not sure. 😞

All I can do is hope the rest of tonight remains ok, and tomorrow is a better day.



Day 2753 - 1/14 Destabilized

Today I feel a bit destabilized. My schedule has been thrown off lately and I've been doing things in a different order. Some things are safe, but others seem a bit at risk of bad things happening. It makes me worried that the trend of bad signs (that are outside of my control) will continue.

I suppose since many things are not mine I should not relax. Because in such a situation I really can't. Since I have no place, I am always at risk.

But living in constant fear, always worrying, always looking over my shoulder, fearing where I am and having an even greater fear of change... is all a terrifying place to be even when you have a place. But when you don't, when it is everything you are, it is far worse. 😞

Day 2754 - 1/15

Homesick and heartbroken

Today I feel homesick and heartbroken. Though I actually had a good day. A project I did that I was not happy about wasn't as bad as I thought it might be. And in class I laughed and had a very good time.

But I think in a way that contributed to my feeling sad. At the end of it everyone went their separate ways. They said their goodbyes and wished each other a happy weekend. They were going home, happy the week is over and ready for a long weekend. But not me. I couldn't. There was nowhere for me to go.

I feel like when I was about eight on my first sleepover. I remember feeling sad. I remember missing the comforts of my bed, my stuffies, my things. I remember feeling extremely sad and putting my jacket over my head when we were at a movie and I got cried. I wanted nothing more than to go home. The friend's parents comforted me as much as they could, but I couldn't go home. I cried and cried. My parents had gone out of town. I couldn't be picked up. There was no home to go back to.

That's how I've been feeling a lot lately. I am on the verge of tears thinking about it. All I want is to go home. To stop feeling overwhelmed by all the things. To be able to feel the comforts of home. To be in the familiar place, surrounded by my things, my stuffies, and the things I find comfort in.

But no matter how much I wish it could be, it can't. 😞

Day 2755 - 1/16

Long weekend

Today went very quickly. Though I remember having lunch, and I mostly remember the day, it only feels like half as much time has passed. I suppose it was a fine day all things considered. I got to sleep in a bit. I got to be in the library which was pretty warm. I got to play whatever games I had that I wanted.

But things seemed very sad. I still feel very heartbroken. I don't know if it is all the people I've met who are moving on lately while I kind of need to stay still, or if it's people I've met lately who are doing fun job stuff and have lives I would like for myself. But lately I've been very extra sad about what has become of my life, my situation, and how sad my future outlook seems.

Maybe it's just the long weekend. I didn't even know it was one until Friday. It wouldn't be so bad, but so many things will be closed. School is closed. The library is closed. And so, my options of where I can be inside are very limited.

I don't know how quickly my broken heart can heal. From recent visits inside there are still signs it might in just a few months or maybe a year. But I wonder... with everything being different... with probably still so much change when it does come... will I ever fully recover? Or will there always be scars from my broken heart? 😞

Day 2756 - 1/17

Morphing cold

Today started pretty well. I checked school for a shower, and it was open and no one was around. And then I went in to the lower cafeteria area because I figured the church group would be there, and they were. Which meant I also got to micro some lunch. My time at the library after that went pretty good as well.

But today I have been plagued by a cold. It just won't go away. 😞 It's like each week it's morphed into something different. At first it was in my nose. Then it moved down to my throat. Now it is heavy congestion in my lungs and a flakiness in my throat that makes me cough a lot.

I worry because it's not going away quickly. 😞 I don't have much money left for medicine type cough drops. And getting even slightly fancy cooked food at \$5 is out of the question because I don't have enough.

And tomorrow almost everything will be closed. I will likely be outside. Which won't be completely terrible if it's not colder than it has been lately, but it will be far colder than what I should be in to recover.

As always, things are out of my control, and all I can do is hope for the best. 😞

Day 2757 - 1/18

Sundown freeze

Today passed I guess better than expected. The morning was spent at the food store. I passed quickly enough and I actually had a reasonable connection and could watch shows. In the afternoon I went over to school to sit outside. I wasn't about to spend more than 12 hours in one spot. To my surprise it was pretty warm. Though looking at the weather online, today is unusually warm at about 5F higher than the rest of the week. I played for a bit on a new game I am testing, and watched a show.

In the evening after the sun went down the temperature plummeted and I had no choice but to go back to the food store for a bit.

Thankfully the day, and the weekend, passed quickly. In a home with the peace and comforts of being in a home I likely would have been able to do more, especially school projects. But I am ok with how things went, and thankful things can hopefully return to homeless normal tomorrow.

Day 2758 - 1/19

Starting on a Tuesday

Today feels a bit strange since the week is starting on a Tuesday. I'm sure I'll be thrown off for the rest of the week.

I still have some gas and some food money, but as that dwindles down I worry. I haven't gotten any donations/support since Xmas, which isn't terribly surprising. But still, with things running out I begin to worry again.

I am back in my usual spot and can o all my normal things. Plus, there are some projects I should do that can help distract me, so hopefully today should be pretty good.

Day 2759 - 1/20

Still sad

Today I am still very sad. It's not quite the melancholy heartbreak sad I've felt lately, though that's still there. I think it's more of a lonely abandoned kind of sad feeling.

More and more lately I'm seeing people work in groups for class stuff, but more and more I am reminded when they do that I am left out. No one comes to me as a first pick, or even a second pick. I am left alone. 😞

Though there was one class friend that did ask for my opinion on something he was working on. So that was nice and made me feel appreciated. And as I went to get some micro food from my car I passed by some people I don't see often and they said hi and asked how I was.

But still, today passed very slowly. I felt very sad in the 'real world'. I worry about all my sad things, if I can get enough donations and support to continue. I worry how my tummy is almost always hungry lately, or it is upset at the type of food I am forced to pick from.

So today was about retreat. I played my games. I tried to hide and find comfort in worlds and lives that are not this one. And for a while it worked. But at the end of the night I do have to shut things down. I can't avoid that. At some point the game must be off and I must spend the night hiding in fear hoping I go undiscovered. 😞

Day 2760 - 1/21

Tired and hungry

Today was ok. But most of the day I was super tired and hungry. Likely the two are directly linked. Because if I don't get enough food obviously I'd not have enough energy to run on. It mostly feels like my early days of being homeless when I was only

working one day a week. I am always hungry, lately I've started feeling tired, and very recently the confusion and feeling like I'm in a haze is returning.

I guess besides that though today was ok. I did not have the class I'm in, as it was canceled. So I just had the class I TA in, which went better than it has been as we are starting to get into the fun stuff.

I am still worried about all the things as stuff runs out and there still have been no donations since Xmas. I am still humbled and overwhelmed by the gifts and donations I did get, but the reality of time ticking on and using them up is rapidly catching up to me.



Day 2761 - 1/22

The dinner

Today started very sad. In the morning all through class I was very sad. I guess just because of all my life things weighing down on me. And maybe too feeling like everyone else is doing well and prospering in life, yet I am being left behind.

Things got a bit better in the evening. I got a donation to help me out, and I finally did the dinner with the professor. The odd thing was that I picked the place to eat because it smelled good, but most things on the menu were scary to me. 🙈 Thankfully there were a few things I could eat and people had a good time. (Though it was very loud and difficult to talk and hear.)

For the moment my spirit is bolstered, but I fear as things slow down again in the night the sadness will return. 😞

Day 2762 - 1/23

So quick

Today went by super quick. I played my game a bit in the morning and there were people I used to group with all the time that I haven't seen in forever. But I wasn't super happy to see them. I have been so sad and broken hearted lately.

But with my games and being able to use my laptop and car I can at least be somewhat elevated to 'sad'.

I guess it was less than six months ago that things weren't so bad, but it seems these days it is getting tougher, and more and more I struggle with all the sad things because it seems all I see around me are things I've lost or things that seem like they will be lost soon.

I am trying to stay positive. I think of those who do worry and care about me. And it is something to know there are those out there who do care. So even though my life is limited, even though it seems everything I gain can't really be acted upon just yet, I try to hang on. I try to stay ok until the day comes my sad things are less sad, or gone, and maybe then I can remember what it is to be happy and live without constant fear and worry.

Day 2763 - 1/24

Just today

Today I felt heartbreakingly sad for most of the day again. It is tough to not these days. But in the later evening I started to feel less sad. I am again trying to re-focus on what I do have. What there is for me just today.

While the odds are good that I have almost as many years left as I've already had, as both my grandparents lived to 87, and my dad is still around at about 76, the reality is that most people don't get all their years. I have already known someone who died at somewhere around 30, and my mom died at 30 as well. So, not everyone gets all their time.

Money and opportunity would certainly make such an outlook and lifestyle much easier. It's what I had much of my life. In recent years it has been very hard to do because everyone wants, and needs, things to look forward to; things just around the corner that are happy.

When I was young my dad would tell me to stop looking at my feet when walking. Most of my life I've not had anything to look forward to. And now it seems if I

want to or not I must avert my eyes and look to my feet, for if I look ahead I see much more darkness and void than I see light and hope. 😞

So I look at my feet. I look at only today. I try to hang on. And hopefully life ahead still has some good surprises in store for me. I have to continue to trust Fate.

Day 2764 - 1/25

The shoot

Today had quite the unexpected shift. The morning was slow and I had just settled in to the lab in the afternoon when some people showed up for a shoot project. We hopped in a car and left campus to do the shoot in a person's house they were renting that was basically completely empty at the moment. The shoot went pretty good. And unlike other group shoot projects, I didn't get mad or impatient. Which likely had to do with the people being easy to get along with. I went pretty good, but took more than two hours per shoot. (There were two groups there.) And, right when we were about to finish a third group finally showed up and so we had to stick around and help them.

My entire day was shifted and not normal. But it was different and interesting. It was very cold there, so that was uncomfortable. But other than that it was actually a pretty ok day.

Things are winding down pretty quick now, but today passed quickly enough that just looking at today was ok. With needing to do the editing that should help the next few days pass easier as well.

At least for the moment I should be quite distracted from my sad things.

Day 2765 - 1/26

Busy mind

Today I nearly forgot to post all the sad story things. It was almost lunch before I remembered. I've got a lot on my mind to do for the school stuff later, so my mind is busy thinking of all the things.

I feel ok. There are things distracting me from my sad life. It doesn't change the fact that the sad things are there. Like last night I didn't have the like \$5 for gas to get where we were filming (I had to carpool), nor the \$5 to pay for my fair share of dinner. And then there are other things like my car insurance, laundry, and other regular costs always over my head.

But I am trying to not think about things. I need support and donations to take care of things, so I try to avoid thinking about them since all I can do is hope and hang on until help comes. But today I should be pretty distracted. Hopefully I won't be too brought down by my sad things today.

Week 396

Day 2766 - 1/27 Feeling better

Today I am feeling a bit better. I spent the morning relaxing after a quick job check. The time until lunch passed very quickly. After lunch I spent a few hours working on a project. The program basically had seizures because of all the effects I was adding, so I decided I would leave it where it was, as I assumed it couldn't handle all the effects I was trying to do. I also helped a few people do their project stuff, so I felt good about being helpful.

Things are still sad. Nothing in my sad things has changed. But at least for the moment there is enough going on it is easier to be distracted from dwelling on the sad things. 😞

Day 2767 - 1/28 A bit better

Today was pretty busy. In the morning I had just enough time to shower and do my podcast editing. I'm still sad it's down to every other week, but with so little in my life there isn't a lot going on to talk about.

In the afternoon and evening I had class, so that kept me busy. It was pretty fun and I talked to people and I felt almost normal.

But the weekend is coming. Things will quiet down. I will have less to do. And I will be alone. It will be much more difficult to fight off my sad thoughts once class is over tomorrow. 😞

Day 2768 - 1/29

One of the few

Today was weird. The morning went quick as most Fridays do. When it was time for class I turned in a thing that's due and noticed only maybe 1/2 of the class turned in things. The teacher also pointed out that an online thing was due and only about 1/3 of the people turned it in. So, I was one of a few who actually did both assignments on time. Which is an odd feeling. I'm both happy I did all the things, and actually went above and beyond with one assignment; but I also feel a bit weird in that I am an outsider for doing what I was supposed to. Granted it wouldn't be that way if the others were on time. But still, it felt weird for being one of only a few. It served to remind me that I'm different than most. I suppose this time I'm different in a good way, but I can't help but wonder if I would have done what I did if I had a job and had a home. My time would be spent very differently.

Today I get nearer to running out of everything. Food money may last two weeks if I start extreme rationing (with the possibility of nothing after without making an appeal), gas is below 1/8th of a tank, cloths coming up on a month unwashed, and I approach yet another cycle of car insurance coming due. I am fearful of all the things.

But I try to fight on. I try to remember the laughs I had in class, that my laptop still seems fine, that I do have a car, I still have enough contacts to last a while, and for the moment I have food. And I try to survive and focus on just today.

Day 2769 - 1/30

Future me

Today I feel very different. I did go to the library as usual, but in the later afternoon I felt odd. I may be getting sick, but I felt like I needed to be outside. I felt like I had to be out and about. I had a recycling chore to do, which I otherwise would have done tomorrow, so I did that. After, I returned to my old outside of school spot.

I don't know if it's because I've watched a lot of extra (pen and paper) gaming shows lately, but today I kind of feel like future me. A me living down in L.A. who is

involved in these kinds of shows. I feel like maybe I'm helping people do behind the scenes stuff. And today, I just happen to be out on a weekend doing regular errand things.

As with voice acting I don't know if I'll ever get there. Particularly if I did get into producing, since that takes a ton of monies. But, in addition to just looking at what I have, today felt like I was just a regular person out and about on the weekend.

I don't know if I'll ever see a happy future. I may not see one at all. But at least for today it felt like there may be something out there for me... somewhere.

Day 2770 - 1/31

Winter's bite

Today it's very cold outside. It's not particularly cold overall, but there is a pretty strong wind that makes things extra cold. In fact, it was blowing so strong when I was walking at school between some buildings I thought I might not get past it.

I had fun with a beta today and watching shows, but the sadness and the cold of winter's bite reminded me of how sad my life is. I was both distracted from my sad life and reminded of it.

I feel like there is nothing more to say, but here is little to say new. I smelled someone doing barbeque the other night. I nearly shed a tear because I can no longer remember the last time I did that with friends. I had a few bites of someone's strawberries and pineapple and it was super yummy. But I can't afford fresh healthy fruit like that, as much as I've been wanting to eat better like that for more than 10 years.

I could say that I'm cold and because of all the unusual sounds that the wind is creating I am jumping from fright every 5 minutes. But my missing normal life, being unable to progress beyond what I would consider normal for me since I've lost that, and being sad and frightful, is nothing new. 😞

Day 2771 - 2/1

Quiet cold

Today was a mix. The morning and early afternoon passed pretty normally. I checked for jobs, helped on forums, and played for a short while. While my sad life was all around me I managed to keep the thoughts at bay.

In the early to mid afternoon I did a bit of work on a school project and I helped a few people with some of their projects. It was pretty fun since I like helping.

But in the evening as the people started going home and the lab had fewer people, I eventually found myself alone. While I still had my games and shows to distract me, I felt sad. Lately as my future becomes less certain the sadness has been getting more and more difficult to keep at bay. I again feel like I did in my early days of being homeless. I feel like I am in a war, constantly in fear, constantly uncertain of my surroundings, and though help comes now and then bringing hope with it, because that help is also unpredictable and uncertain, I ultimately feel alone. 😞

Day 2772 - 2/2

Crying kitty

Today I feel pretty good, though I just got done showering and I'm super hungry. I'm hopeful today will go ok and I can be distracted from my sad things. With car insurance now overdue and all the other things I am getting more and more sad and worried all the time.

Last night was very sad. Around maybe midnight it started raining pretty heavily. At I'd guess around 2 I heard a kitty doing a help/crying meow. 😞 They'd quieted down a bit, but started again and totally woke me up around 5:30. 😞 I wanted to go looking around to try and find the kitty. They sounded like they weren't more than 25 feet away under a car. I would guess the poor kitty was probably lost, tired, wet, and scared. 😞 I wanted to go find the kitty, dry them off, and tuck them under the covers with me. But I couldn't. 😞 They would have been scared of me too. And it's not like I had a home for

them to feel safe in. The space I had would have been just as scary and felt like a trap to a scared kitty who didn't know me. I did a brief glance around some cars when I left, but I saw no kitty. So hopefully during a drier, maybe more lit time, they found their way home to be safe, warm, and dry again.

Hopefully someday I can too.

Week 397

Day 2773 - 2/3 **Must be a cold**

Today I am really extremely tired. I was yesterday too. I also noticed my voice is a bit off in my recording. I must conclude that I have a cold and that is causing my exhaustion, hunger, and messed up my voice.

I suppose I am not surprised. While not a snowy winter, because that doesn't happen here, I am sleeping in some very cold weather. And school isn't a whole lot warmer, leading me to being cold nearly all the time.

But I suppose today was a decent day. I did some recording in the morning, then did my regular stuff at lunch. After lunch I did a bit of homework, talked to some people, and tried to relax.

Overall the day felt long, but passed surprisingly very quickly. I think I am partly out of it due to my cold. Thoughts are difficult and slow to come. And again, there is an extreme level of tiredness and a pretty high sense of hunger.

Hopefully though I can stay distracted long enough for help to come and to get better. And that, in time, the help will hold me until I am back to at least a somewhat normal life.

Day 2774 - 2/4 **Snapped**

Today seemed like a cascade of sadness for me. It started in the shower. The drain wasn't draining completely, not a big issue in itself, but during my shower my towel somehow fell off the shower side where I always keep it and went sploosh into the pool at my feet. While it was dry enough to dry myself, it was soaked in most parts of it, meaning I couldn't just leave it in the car to dry. While it would dry fine like that during the summer time, in the winter more than just a little moist and the towel won't dry during the day. So I had to carry that around all day.

Also, in the shower an old gentleman who showers there often came in. Also not an issue in itself, but he uses this oil that stinks up the entire shower. Not just the one side, but both sides (about a 35 foot long area.) It got so bad I felt like I was going to throw up and started coughing and gagging. I was forced to rush out of my shower early, causing an electric razor to slip through my wet hands and upon landing snapped it's face plate in two. It's glued now, but I won't know until the morning or later if it will hold and be useable like it was. It served both as a reminder that I can't afford to replace things that break and that my life is out of my control and I'm forced to be in public with everything I do.

Lunch and dinner were further reminders, both in that I had to micro my food, and that people who are oblivious can open up the door and interrupt such a simple thing and disrupt even the simple act of preparing food because I'm out in public space.

And tonight we are on the eve of a launch of a game I've been waiting years for. One of only about two that will launch in this entire year that I really want. While I am about \$20-25 away from having enough to get it, donations and help have become so rare and far between that being able to get it seems impossibly far.

Today seems filled with what would otherwise be trivial sad events. Events that, with a normal life, would not even be given second thought to, as each are small enough costs that they would be a non-issue to regular people. They might even be so trivial they are used as an excuse to toss the old and get something better. But with all of my sad life constantly weighing on me, with all the constant bombardment of sad feelings, memories of better days still lingering, constantly seeing things I miss or don't have around me, everything has a far far greater weight on my soul that feels almost impossible to bear these days.

These days I live in constant fear of losing what little I have left. And each happy thing that comes along that I can't take part in reminds me just how much of life it feels like I am missing. Yet another thing everyone I see on a weekly basis will be talking about and doing that I cannot, reminding me just how much of an outsider I've become to what my life would otherwise be.

Day 2775 - 2/5

Triple day

Today felt like it was actually three days long. I didn't do anything either. I had my usual morning job and forum check, then a teeny bit of play before lunch. After lunch there was class, which felt like an entire day on its own. Probably because there was a midterm then a lot of in studio time. After that I just hung out in the almost completely empty building until I got late and started feeling super weird being absolutely the only one there.

Things continue to slowly decline. Overall things likely didn't get much more than a tiny bit worse in terms of wear and tear on most things, but it is difficult to not focus on sad things lately.

I do have lots of fun nice things to distract me, and I am very thankful for that, but with recent new sad things there is a renewed spotlight on the old sad things.

It may be extra difficult to do with the weekend coming, but all I can try and do is try my best to re-focus and lose myself in the now and look to things that I can do to keep busy or that I can play to keep happy. I don't know what the future will hold. I can't really count on it, so my best bet still seems to be to focus on now. 🙄

Day 2776 - 2/6

Some good, but mostly bad

Today started off actually very well. I got to the food store and bought some food, and then checked my remaining balance worried that I'd only see about \$5 in food stamp money left. But to my happy surprise, I saw what should be there. I was right in that the 'award of \$0' was just some kind of reporting glitch. It most definitely looks like I'll get my same amount, so that should safe for at least 6 months. I'll still have to extremely ration to be sure I can keep as much as possible, but that was quite the positive note to start my day.

Today is flea market day at school, so instead of just being open partly for classes the cafeteria area will be open most of the day. I settled in and got a regular lunch and

spent most of the day there. I checked for jobs, checked forums, and expected to see some online friends I rarely see, but they weren't there. I was alone, but things weren't too sad. Particularly since I was up from the good news.

That seemingly rapidly turned around in the afternoon. I went out to my usual spot and plugged my system in. I noticed I was not getting any power. I unplugged my system and tried the other plug spot. I feared with recent construction changes in the area that maybe this plug was no longer active. So I checked with my phone. It immediately started charging. I unplugged the plug from both the wall and my system, then plugged it just back into the wall. There was a tiny pop and the smallest puff of smoke. The laptop power brick had definitely died. And I just got this back in September to replace the original one that was being on the fritz.

So all the rest of the day I had to conserve power, not game, and write to the manufacturer. Hopefully I won't have to mail it to them first and wait for them to receive it, as that could take more cash than I have and several weeks to happen. And most of all, hopefully the old one that was failing continues to hold on as long as I need to replace it. I kept it just in case, but I'm still worried about its having power not having power issue.

So literally in the same day that I get even the smallest good news, I get bad. Along with all the other constant bad things weighing on me, this makes things seem much worse.

I try to just look at things one day at a time and look at what I still have that is god, but with so little what would normally be only small struggles seem gargantuan. 🙄

Day 2777 - 2/7

Finding the angle

Today was actually pretty good. I got a shower in the morning, which I wasn't sure I'd be able to do. And then to my surprise the church group was at school. I thought for sure they wouldn't be there due to the super bowl happening just 25 or so miles away. So I got to go in and eat lunch. I found the angle for the plug to work almost right away, and it held strong for the entire time I was inside.

In the late afternoon I moved outside. I had quite the difficulty finding the angle for the plug. It took about 3 attempts at trying for 5 minutes each, pausing for stress and sadness, and re-attempting. I've again moved, and so far with three similar attempts I have not found the right angle.

I don't have my system on yet. I fear the power brick has fully died. It is getting slowly more and more finicky with each attempt to plug it in and get power. And with really only 2.5 hours of non-gaming time I am very concerned about using my system when it is not getting power. If the original brick also dies, if a reply doesn't come soon about the new one, or doesn't come at all, that's it. That time would be all the system has left.

I am getting very concerned for what the future holds. Supporters are still extremely few and far between that basic costs can't be safely covered, so if anything critical like this comes up or is permanent there is no way for me to recover. 😞

Day 2778 - 2/8

Seems fine?

Today went pretty well. There were a few unexpected surprises.

First, last night after spending over an hour trying to get the old power supply to work and it not working I decided to try swapping a part. Every computer power supply has a standard 3-prong plug port. I figured, well why not try swapping those. And to my shock and surprise the new power supply lights immediately came on. I plugged it in to the laptop and it immediately showed a charge. Today too it ran fine all day, no sign of anything bad.

I'm not sure why it worked. What popped doesn't seem like it could have been just the cable. My only guess is it was some kind of surge protection layer in the power supply and so that charge of protection was used. The manufacturer hasn't replied back, so all I have is a guess.

The second surprise was it was a super nice day. It was like 75F and just a hint of a breeze. It was so nice that I took a small break and walked around outside for a little bit.

And when I got back there was another surprise. I found \$5 in my food bag. I suspected someone (I knew) swiped a soda and that was payment, but none were missing. So it seems someone just decided to give me some monies. I have a feeling I know who did it. It was probably one of two people, so that was nice.

Today was pretty good overall. There were those surprises, I helped some people with projects, and I did my regular routine to try and keep away the sad feelings. It was a pretty decent day for a change.

Day 2779 - 2/9

Good start

Today has had a good start. I got a shower, though it was later than usual, so some class people started coming in. But mister stinky had already finished his shower and the stink was mostly gone, so that was a good trade.

It's warming already and I finally have my winter layer of cloths off. I brought the long underwear just in case, and I don't know if this will last a few days or if it will continue to spring, but things always seem brighter and more hopeful to me when it's warm.

I haven't turned on my system yet, but the plug and system show they are receiving power, so that seems normal. So today has seemingly gone about as well as expected. Hopefully the things I have which constantly make me sad won't bother me too much and the rest of my day will continue to go about as well as can be. That would be a nice end to what was otherwise an extra stressful (Fail) week.

Week 398

Day 2780 - 2/10 **Feeling super sad again**

Today I am feeling super sad again. I'm not actually sure why. It could be I have a bit of a cold still. I have felt extremely tired, cold, and have been sneezing. It could be because a few game things have happened lately that I can't do, so I again feel like I am behind and missing out on life and what everyone else I know is doing. Or it may just be things continue to be bad for me, so as time goes on as more and more time passes where I miss who I was, I miss out on things I want to do, and I feel my time may run out for doing the things.

So today I feel very sad, and I have for a few days now. But I continue to try to hang on. I continue to hope that better days come, because I must. And in time, hopefully they will.

Day 2781 - 2/11 **Feeling exhausted**

Today I am feeling pretty exhausted. I don't just feel tired and sad, I feel completely worn out.

I think I am examining my life too much lately. There are too many things I miss. There are too many things I feel I am missing out on. There are too many things I had planned for me when I was young that feel like they won't, or can't, happen.

I see so many young people around me in classes doing ok, or doing well, and I can see they will be fine. And in many cases I can see they have happy lives, or are moving towards them. They may not know it yet, they may feel there is too much stress and sadness in their life, but I know when they can take a step back they will see it.

And I think of me, how sad I am, the things I miss or don't have, and I think of all the things they will have, that I have had or won't have, and it makes me sad.

But I do have some things. And I know I do make a difference in their lives by helping. Or at the very least by being entertaining. And I know there is a place for me out in the world, even now at what is probably the worst most stressful days of my life.

But I do still have life. There are pieces I can hold on to. There are dreams and hopes still, and all is not lost yet. So I try to hang on. I try to remember that. And I try to remember something I had forgotten; today is today, and tomorrow may be a better day.

Day 2782 - 2/12

Unable to focus

Today was sad. I was at the library, so that was ok. I could do all my regular things. Though I was again deeply sad. I was tired and exhausted, so that likely made me vulnerable to sads. But because of all of that I really couldn't focus on anything. I know I checked forums, checked for jobs, played games, watched a few shows, and even did a few extra things. But I couldn't focus. I could have done much more if I could have. And now that the day is over, I don't really remember it.

I will try to hang on to hope. Tomorrow I will again try to just focus on a single day. But tonight, whenever it is I finally sleep, I will hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 2783 - 2/13

Sad holliday

Today was somewhat of a sad holiday. It's valentines weekend, and I have a homeless life and am alone. During the day it didn't really bother me. In fact, I'd kind of forgotten about it. But when I went to see a movie in the evening I was kind of reminded.

The movie was super good, but it was sad to not have someone to share it with, especially a sweetie. 😞

But all in all I guess it was just a day. And like all others it has come and gone, and I hope tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 2784 - 2/14

Strange day

Today felt like a strange day. I did a few things different, sure, but mostly it was a pretty regular Sunday. Except for all the places, physical or virtual, were fairly quiet. I assume from people being out and busy with stuff.

I guess today went ok. Nothing bad happened. But also nothing good happened. I maintained my level of where I am. I suppose in many ways when nothing bad happens what little is left in my life that is good, is good. But I constantly fear I will lose what little is left with so few donations and help. There were some pretty regular ones at the end of last year, but since Xmas I have only gotten one donation, not counting the two people through Patreon, and there has been no sign of any of the three who were being so regularly helpful. So I worry. I can't see beyond today. I only have what I have. And I worry with less help the few things that are left may soon be gone.

Day 2785 - 2/15

Too short

Today started out a bit odd. I decided to trim my fauxhawk because it had gotten super long. Well, it probably wasn't even 1 inch, but still. I had not before because of the razor thing getting broken. Last night I repaired it a second time so it could move. Bu, it turns out I trimmed it way shorter than intended. I guess because of it not moving quite right it was set much shorter than the number previously indicated. I guess it's fine. It will be back to that length in a couple of weeks, but that seemed very odd.

I guess today was pretty good. I spent the morning at the food store, which turned out to really be unnecessary. When I got to school there was a surprising number of people out and about. I expected it to be deserted. But there were lots around doing regular weekend type stuff. So, I didn't feel at all out of place there.

So today was pretty good. I didn't feel out of place at school while it was closed. I got to trim my hair that was bugging me (well, most of it, I still can't shave), I did a bunch of homework project stuff. And I got to watch some shows and play some games. While

several hours were still lost because of my sad life that I otherwise could have done stuff with, I feel pretty ok, and actually feel a bit happy with what there was.

Day 2786 - 2/16

Getting back to (homeless) normal

Today things feel like they are getting back to (homeless) normal. I finally got a shower, so I got to shave off these past 5 days of hairiness. So I am no longer itchy in all the places, my fauxhawk is a fauxhawk again instead of an uneven mess of hair, and I smell a bit cleaner.

It isn't super warm like it was the past few days, but winter is on its way out and it is almost warm enough to consider shorts. So that feels promising.

I guess I am feeling a bit better again. Though nothing has changed, things seem not as bad and I feel helpful at what may come. Hopefully the rest of the day will continue this way.

Day 2787 - 2/17
Broken headphones, again

Today was actually pretty good, besides my headphones being broken, again. The replacement once, which I only just got about 3 months ago, is broken in the same way. I don't have a really big head. I'm not abusing them. I guess they are just cheap plastic. I'm very glad I didn't pay anything save for the like \$12 to get the replacement ones exchanged. My two name brand ones easily lasted 1-2 years each. I don't know why a different brand, priced in the same retail range, breaks in 3 months. I let the company know their product is crap and I will accept a replacement one, but I will not be spending my money to send that garbage back to get it.

Besides that I did my regular stuff, did a bunch of stuff for one assignment, played a new beta for a few hours; and the person I did the editing for took me to get dinner again. So, I had a decent dinner. It wasn't amazing, that restaurant is ok, but I am still full, which is rare these days.

I'm completely exhausted though. The past three or four nights I've gotten 'in bed' and then not been able to sleep. It's lightly raining now, so I am extra hidden, so hopefully I can relax and sleep easy tonight. It is likely stress due to not getting any support or donations save for that one time since Xmas, so hopefully I can just accept it is what it is and rest and just keep hoping some come. 😞

And even though today was a pretty good day, hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 2788 - 2/18
Getting late

Today I feel pretty good. I had a project due that I did pretty good on. It's not a thing that needed to be perfect, so it was solid for this stage of things.

And then in the evening there was the fun class that I TA for, so that was fun and laughs were had.

But at the back of my mind things were still very sad. It is already getting late in the month and costs are starting to come up with no signs of coming support or donations. I know people are out there who care and worry about me, so I continue to hang on to hope donations will come, but I can't help but feel fearful of the 'what if they don't' scenario. 😞

Day 2789 - 2/19

Feeling alone

Today was actually pretty good. It went by very quickly. Since I have the class that starts a bit after lunch time flew by, then class went pretty quickly. After, I played and watched a show.

But today I was incredibly exhausted. I'm still losing several hours sleep each night. I can only guess from stress and sadness that continues to weigh on me. I'm becoming so sleep deprived that many times today I just couldn't focus at all and almost feel like there are blank spots in my memory.

I did have fun with my two betas though. One will be going for months, but the other is only happening this weekend. I feel unusually alone though. I guess because I was in an online space with people, but I didn't have anyone I knew playing with me. That always makes things feel sadder I think, particularly with all of my other sad life things.

I think in the comfort of my own home, with a happy life around me, I would probably not be as impacted by it. But alone physically, and online, as well as emotionally, it all weighs on me that much more. 😞

Day 2790 - 2/20

Cheese sandwich

Today went by super fast. I don't know why my day felt so fast, but it feels like it is only just past noon when it is actually nearing 6 and getting dark.

I didn't do much today. I did one assignment for school, but the rest of the day was regular. I played most of the day, watched a show, and did my usual job and forum check.

Maybe it's because I'm still so very tired from all the things and so I feel all of it.

I had a cheese sandwich for lunch, and I was going to get a hot soup, but I forgot that I basically used the last of my money, so I had another cheese sandwich for dinner. I guess it was warmer than I thought it would get today, as the cheese was kind of sweaty when I got it from the trunk in the evening. Hopefully it's still good, as there are still enough pieces for 2-3 sandwiches there. It seems weird I have to be ok eating like this, but with things closed I don't have the option to do micro foods. At least hopefully school will be open half the day tomorrow and I can do a micro lunch. I guess that is something.

Day 2791 - 2/21

Hanging on

Today I had stuff I wanted to do, but didn't really feel comfortable enough to do it. I was chilly. I was uncomfortable in the library chair. My long sleeve shirt or hoodie sleeve has a something that caused my left wrist to be very itchy.

But I hang on. I tried to have fun with my games. I helped on forums. I did do a little bit of writing. Though things were not how I wanted, though I didn't get emotionally or physically comfortable enough to do what I wanted, I hang on.

My mind wandered today. Maybe it's because I wasn't comfortable enough. Maybe it is in part because I'm still sleep deprived. Maybe it's because I know if I looked at the future just around the corner things look very bleak. But my mind wandered. I thought of a life after I'd won enough money to be a producer. I thought of a smaller life, maybe one just on an alternate Earth where I am where I am now, but I am still in a home. I thought of being relaxed enough to do the things I wanted. I thought of feeling a carpet

under my feet, of being warm enough to not need all the layers I had on, and what it would feel and sound like when I cooked dinner.

I don't have those lives. I have only my very small life I have today and nothing more. But maybe Fate and Destiny sent a sign. In the library was a ridiculously beautiful and attractive girl. Too much younger than me to ask out, but to see someone that makes my heart flutter, well, it's been years since I've seen such a person. And knowing there are still some out there that make me feel that way gives me hope. Not just that I may someday find love again, but that there may still yet be the right path out there for me somewhere. And that someday I'll find it.

Day 2792 - 2/22

Feeling better

Today I feel a bit better. I put out a call for help yesterday, and though none came yesterday I got some help this morning. It's a decent amount, enough to finally do laundry, pay the upcoming insurance for a month, and have just a touch left for gas. I will still need more help for more gas and other things very very soon, but the extreme needs for 'today' will be ok for a bit.

So I feel a bit better today. The stress of all the things is slightly alleviated, and I got to play my games, watch a few shows, and in doing so felt better enough to do some work on the assignments I didn't quite feel balanced enough to work on yesterday. And as usual, I helped on forums and checked for jobs. Though the jobs my searches sent me were all basically a minimum of 50 miles away, and some hundreds. Which I don't understand why the search gives that when I told it not to.

But today I feel better. And I hope I can continue to do so, and that more help continues to come to help me hang on until I am back on my feet.

Day 2793 - 2/23

Feeling hopeful

Today was the first morning in a very long time there wasn't frost on the windows when I got up and started moving.

The monies for the donation came in, so I was able to get monies to do a wash, which I was going to do Friday, but because it's been so long I may take extra time and do it tomorrow. But just doing that and paying car insurance will sap almost all of the monies. Barely any will be left for gas. So hopefully more donations will come soon so that I don't have to start walking, as that would make me stinky super fast. 🙄

But today I feel hopeful. Two worries are gone, at least for the moment. The sun is shining and things seem to be warming towards better days.

Week 400

Day 2794 - 2/24

Plan on Friday

Today was ok I suppose. But I felt weird. Yesterday and today I did stuff, but felt more like I was observing my life than participating in it. I think because I feel less and less like I have any control. And probably too because I am losing more and more of my routines as I have less and less money and need to constantly cut things out of my life.

I did get laundry soap today. And if I could afford to do laundry every other week it would last a year. And with doing it less often because I can't afford that, it will last longer still. But I think I'll do laundry Friday. I am not tremendously stinky. And think an extra two days won't really make a difference. Fridays I have to leave school around 7 or things start to get very super weird feeling, so I need to be out and about several hours earlier than I would on other days, so it makes it more sense to 'not waste time' and do it when I can't be at school anyways.

I guess today was pretty good. I had a decent connection. I checked for jobs, helped on forums, watched shows, and played games. For as small as my life is these days it doesn't get much better. Though I am completely and totally exhausted. The stress and sadness still cause lost sleep. So that is very sad still. 🙄

Day 2795 - 2/25

Fast day

Today went by pretty quickly. In the morning I had a bit of time to play after job checking before lunch. I saw my online friends that I almost never see anymore, so that was nice. Lunch was meh, but I watched a funny show, so that was good.

After lunch I had my writing class, which was ok. I got put with some different people when talking about all the things, and they didn't vibe well with my style. Which can happen, so that's sad. But I guess it's ok because it's good to get different perspectives.

In the evening there was the class I TA for, so that was super fun.

So today was pretty good. There were no donations. Nothing new that was good or bad happened, my foods were meh. And I am still worried about all the things and losing sleep at night. But today wasn't that bad. It passed quickly and I had a pretty good time with all the things. And, I even found a pen to use. It's sad such a simple thing seems like a highlight for a day these days, but I suppose some happiness is better than none.

Day 2796 - 2/26

Free food, stinky laundry

Today was actually pretty good. It passed very quickly. I did my usual job check, played for just a very short while, then had class.

I got some free foods today. Someone went to get some food during class and asked if I wanted anything. I said I would always eat fries, but had no money. But they brought me one. 😊 So even though I had lunch earlier I got free food. Which is good, because I'm almost always hungry these days. And in the evening after class someone was doing a shoot basically right outside of class around the corner. They had gotten too much food for the cast and crew and offered people from class some. So I got some free spaghetti for dinner. 😊

But shortly after that, and even just a bit all day, I felt like crying. I think it's because I am so short on money, how I have none and can't afford to pay for even the crucial things, that I am always so sad. I feel like I have no future to look forward to. I have no nice things I can look forward to getting myself, however rare they are to come along. I can't even afford \$5 for laundry every few weeks to keep clean smelling. So instead of having enough in my pocket to look forward to positive things, all I know is that I have none, and as such can only look forward to more sadness, pain, sorrow, and regret. 😞

I was further discouraged when doing laundry. I barely had enough for one load, but easily have two or three that I need to do. My socks and underwear in the dirty clothes were so bad I gagged a bit when I put them into the wash. 🤢 But even just doing my socks, underwear, shirts, hoodie, and just two small towels and two pairs of pants, it was

already overfull and I worry even these few essentials may not properly wash and smell clean. I found two partly used dryer sheets with some smell, and they are washing now, so hopefully that will help.

But today it feels like even with the positives, all I have to look forward to is more pain, sadness, and loss. I have a bit of renewed hope today, but as always it seems everything is out of my hands and all I can do is hope. 😞

Day 2797 - 2/27

Super chilly outside

Today I decided to be at school in the morning to have a regular micro meal and just hang out outside. The morning time as pretty good in that it wasn't too cold inside, but once I went outside I started to get chilly. By mid afternoon I was kind of shivering a little. It was nice to be on campus where it was quiet and calm, but I am debating if it is worth it for tomorrow since I'm so chilly. I really don't have much choice though. I am getting so short on gas I can't really afford a change of locations in a day, even though that location is likely less than \$0.50 in gas.

Outside of being cold today was pretty good. I have clean cloths, finally. And I grabbed a shower in the morning to be extra sure I smelt as nice as possible. Hopefully things will remain ok smelling for a bit.

But I can't help but worry about the future. As I said yesterday, since I have no money it feels like I have no future. And being down to just under a week of gas again, even though other costs are taken care of for a month, things seem to look bad again.

I am realizing it is also difficult for me to look outside of me. Growing up basically emotionally abused, I was always looking in. I was always trying to retreat inwardly to find a safe place. As I grew up, not having enough money to take care of all the things I never was allowed to break out of that. So I stopped looking outside of me. And so now I worry. Now that I have finally learned to be ok on my own and to take care of me I have been looking in so long the outer layers have become wounded, some in ways that can't be fixed. And without money, without a job to feel things will be ok eventually, I can't even begin to try. 😞

Day 2798 - 2/28

Fate's carrot

Today was pretty good. Though with only a few days of gas left and no money for any of the things, I am getting very very sad about my life. Sad I may never recover, and worried about the future.

Some things are going ok though. With my extreme rationing I've managed to save about one quarter of the food monies I've gotten so far. So building up a 'food storage' will help buffer me from whenever it is that it does finally stop. And it wasn't quite as cold as it was yesterday when I was outside of school. Though it was gray and threatening rain. I probably would have gone to the library at noon if I had more gas, or just gone there from the food store in the morning. But I felt having one cooked meal today was worth more than being a little chilly. Plus it's a faster connection without restrictions, so I can do more in the time I'm there.

And Fate seems to have sent me a sign to help cheer me up. Walking on campus I saw a small plastic carrot. It was near a trash, but it wasn't icky. I was probably from some child's meal thing and they tossed it to the trash, but missed. I picked it up and cleaned it off and took it with me. I will take it as a sign to remember what there is in my life that helps comfort me and brings balance and keeps me going. I'll drop it off with my bunnies in the ex-garage so it can be safe. But for now I am reminded to hang on to hope, and to remember the things that keep me going until more help comes or I do get back on my feet.

Day 2799 - 2/29

Worried and itchy

Today I am very worried. I was very hopeful help would come for gas and to pay for the things, but only one donation has come. Granted it was big enough to cover the car insurance and enough to get clan laundry to cover me for several weeks, but gas is nearly out. And it seems still neither of the two others who were regularly donating before Xmas have sent anything since. And it seems unlikely they will since they haven't. Which leaves

me in a very sad and worried space. I know people will fade in and out of my story, even more so with helping and donations. But with nearly no gas I again feel on the edge of the end. 😞

I am also very itchy. Not everything got washed. Most notably it's been forever since 'bed things' were washed. I think it's partly why my bits, most of which are my calves and feet, are so scratched up and itchy. I'm almost always itchy there. 😞 And if I scratch it seems like I can't scratch enough. 😞

Today was pretty good though I suppose, other than those things. I checked for jobs and was extra helpful for forum people and students with projects. Besides that I mostly just watched shows. I have been feeling too heartbroken lately to do much game playing. 😞 All the sadness and worry has made it very difficult to enjoy things. 😞

But still, I try to hang on to hope. I close my eyes at night and try to remember what my true life is like. And wish to be whole again, and even better than I was before. And until that day comes, I continue to hang on to hope that there are people out there who hope and watch out for me, and that enough help and support comes along so I can hang on to what is left.

Day 2800 - 3/1

Late because of a box

Today I am starting a bit over an hour later than normal because I had to wait for a place to open up to drop off my replacement headphones. So in a few weeks, hopefully less, I'll have replacement replacement headphones. It's lame they are made from such cheap plastic, but I guess it's ok they exchanged them totally free this time. Still, if they send back the same cheap ones (instead of different/better ones) I'll just throw them away if they break and be done with them. Which would be ridiculous if they do since they supposedly retail for \$70. So far I like the company's customer support, but the actual product seems like cheaply made crap they don't care about.

For a few days my mind has been preoccupied, mostly with school things I have to do, but also about a game or two I'd like to make. I don't know if I'd ever be in such a

position to make either, let alone a position to pitch it to someone who could, but it gives me something to feel hopeful about. Though I should probably find something for my mind to be preoccupied by that I can act upon in some way instead.

I haven't started up my system yet, so I don't know if any help has come yet today, but I remain hopeful some will. I am again on the edge, and that is not a good place to be.

😞 Again I hope someone will step forward to hug me with hope and help until I can safely stand on my own again.

Week 401

Day 2801 - 3/2

Itchy and tired

Today I am again super itchy and totally exhausted. It's odd though, because today started feeling somewhat energized and hopeful. Yet by the time it got to the end I felt sad and exhausted. All I want to do is sleep quickly, safely, and well, and not wake up until I absolutely need to get up and move. 🥱

I felt a bit better today and did a bit more game playing. But still, so many days I feel so depressed about having no perceptible future I don't feel in the mood to play. I suppose it has more to do with how much time I've spent in my games now. In my MMO I've played probably more than 15 played days. In my single player game since getting it at Xmas I've played more than 150 hours. In my game I supported on kickstarter years ago I've played tons since it released a few months ago, not counting the pre-release time played. So, I think because the main games I play are no longer 'new', they feel 'old'. And all my 'old things' feel like they will be lost with so much else in my life that I've lost.

But I continue. I try o hang on to hope. I try to hang on and believe there are those who care and worry and that help will come. And though I feel adrift and lost in life, I continue to hope things will be ok again someday, and I'll find my way back to solid ground once more.

Day 2802 - 3/3

Exhausted

Today I still feel very exhausted. I started the day feeling ok, but as it went on I just rapidly got more and more tired. It could be I have a cold. I have been congested in my lungs and a touch sneezy. I have been extra hungry and had some pretty big cravings. But being so far out from where I could afford to eat 'fancy' even just once a week that doesn't really surprise me.

I guess today was ok. It seemed to pass very quickly. I didn't get to do much with my morning. I played for less than an hour and watched one show. Then it was time for class. After, there was a bit of a break before the class I TA, but it was barely an hour.

I suppose today was ok though overall. My things I have left stayed ok. Nothing new that was bad happened. So, for my life, days like that often should be counted as good days.

Day 2803 - 3/4

Another wash

Today I am again super sad. I think I have been all day, though I didn't really realize it until late in class. The morning went pretty neutral, though upon reflection I was kind of 'snippy' to someone who was talking to me in the morning. Most of class I was kind of miffed because we were supposed to be doing a thing, but it looked like almost everyone was doing the thing in a different way. And then late in class when the professor told me she was basically expecting me to act in front of the camera next week, while also in front of everyone else, in the main role for that scene, after I've repeatedly mentioned to everyone I'm not comfortable in front of the camera... well, I was very aware of how sad I am about that and how I look and feel at this stage of my life right now.

I'm doing a wash, again. I got another super nice donation. It's not enough to do much other than give a small cushion. It can't pay for a bigger thing, but it is enough for gas and to do something like consider another wash. So I did that. I considered and pondered, and decided since I can't even remember the last time I washed the 'bed stuff' I'd do that. It's probably been a year or more. 😞 Back when I had an actual bed I'd change the sheets at least once a week, and the covers never went longer than a month. Hopefully them not being stinky will help me sleep better and easier.

Though with all the other big bills being due I have a feeling without a big donation to cover at least some, they will continue to weigh on my soul no matter how much my mood about cloths improves. 😞

Day 2804 - 3/5

Pouring

Today I seem very sad. I don't know if it's just regular life stuff, or if it's because it's gray, pouring rain, and super windy. What would otherwise be a bright warm spring day has turned into something everyone runs and hides inside from.

I was inside. At least up until a few minutes ago. It's a flea market day at school, so they have part of the cafeteria open from the morning until about 4. So now the day is mostly over, but the night hasn't even begun yet.

I know what I'd do in a home on such a day. I know how I'd feel. I know what I may or may not do different from other weekend days. But since I cannot do those things, since I am an outsider to those things quite literally, it feels like all I can do is try to hang on.

Day 2805 - 3/6

Mister stinky

Today was actually pretty good. I started at school and got to micro a soup for lunch. After, since it was pouring rain all yesterday and most of last night, I went to the library. That way I wouldn't have to worry about being outside of school in the rain. I don't think it rained much all day though. Even now there is only a little sprinkle.

When I got to the library for some reason I became extremely tired. As if I'd not slept well. Which is odd since the 'bed stuff' washing I've slept super well. (Though I still have difficulty actually getting to sleep from all the stress.)

And I became really profoundly sad as well when mister stinky came to my side of the library. Even at nearly 20 feet away, when the AC blew around me I could smell his stench and felt sick. I don't know how anyone can sit closer to him. I remember if I get within 10 feet of him I feel like throwing up.

I probably got sad because I can see myself winding up like him someday. Though I'd like to think I would never get bad because I could always go to shower at school even in the worst conditions. I was probably extremely sad because if I do lose my

car, if I do not have enough spare to wash cloths every now and then, I can see how my stink would pile up.

But today was actually pretty ok. I played some games and watched some shows. I even played a game I've had for probably about six months that I got for free and it was super fun. It's a side scrolling, shooting, find secret rooms kind of thing. I'm not sure how long it will last, but it's been super fun so far.

Hopefully tomorrow will be better. Being as sad as I have been lately is not only tough overall for motivation, but it affects my mood overall as well, in addition to it making it even tougher to sleep. 😞 Hopefully tomorrow bunny will not be as sad as today bunny. 😞

Day 2806 - 3/7

86%

Today was a bit different. Not in a good or bad way, in kind of an evenly both way. The morning was pretty regular. I got settled in, checked for jobs, played for just a bit, helped on forums a bit, then had lunch.

After lunch it was different. I had a project to edit, so most of my time and afternoon was spent on that. But I figure it's been long enough since Windows 10 launched, and I'd set up an appointment thing for my system to update, that I'd just do the thing early since I knew I'd be busy editing. It estimated 90 minutes, and yoinking a landline seemed to not be firewall blocked to do that, so I was hopeful it would go quickly. I started editing and monitored progress. At 25% it was moving quickly. I checked again a bit later and it was 45%. And later 65%. It seemed very on track for the 90 minute estimate. But then, at about two hours past it seemed to be hanging at 86% for quite some time. I thought it odd, but was still editing. At three hours past the start time it was still stopped at 86%. I looked around and noticed some posts of others getting stuck at 86% and a few said restarting sort of jump started it again. I tried that and 30 minutes later it was still at 86%. So I shut down again, removed the battery, and waited 30 seconds. After booting again it said 'restoring to the previous version'. And about 45 minutes later it did indeed seem to be restored to where it was with Windows 8.1. Phew!

So it seems no Windows 10 for my laptop. At least not right now. I don't want to risk trying again until maybe near the end of my free upgrade window. With no physical disk for Windows 10 or a previous version, if my system were 'bricked' mid-upgrade I'd have no way to reinstall. 😞 So it seems too risky to try since I can't afford a total failure.

After that I let my system download a free game I've not played in years. It seemed significantly updated and different. According to the thing I've already played more than 70 hours. No clue how long I'll play this time. I recall it started to feel super grindy and that's why I stopped. (Plus it's playable as a group, so playing solo felt meh.) But for the one hour I played it was pretty fun. It may fill a desire to play a genera of a game I don't otherwise have, so we'll see if I stick with it or go back to just missing that type of game.

I guess it's a good thing that today was different. Though it is not in weather. It is still pouring rain quite a bit like yesterday. Most of today I was cold because they open a door in the hall I sit in for people to come in, so cold air was pouring in and it never got warm there. 😞 So hopefully it will stop raining soon and go back to warm spring time.

As always it seems things are out of my control, and all I can do is hope they get better.

Day 2807 - 3/8

Second fork in the spine

Today I feel pretty good. I started a touch later than I'd hoped, but it worked out fine. The class that showers looks like it was out about 30 minutes early, as two I know who shower were leaving right as I came in. So I basically got a nice private time in the shower, which is super important for feeling better about all the things.

Yesterday when I was using my old console headphones they were getting super floppy on the side. Since the spine is basically broken in three places and needs reinforcement, this morning I reinforced that side of the spine with a plastic fork head as I'd previously done to the other side. If I had a spine from a different headset I could use I'd try replacing this one entirely. The other spines I've had have been an outer spine, and would be too short and the wrong shape.

Later I'll do more editing, which is almost always super fun. I have some writing junk to do, so I may not get much time to play later. But I normally reserve most of Wednesday for that, so I'll probably just do it then. We'll see how my afternoon goes.

It's sunny and getting warmer, so the rain seems to be going away. And with the clear skies and shower, hope seems to be returning to me. It is getting very hard to hang on though. Feeling hopeful is rare these days, as more and more things are coming up and I'm seemingly getting less and less help. I just have to keep believing that Fate and Destiny have me on the proper path I need to be on to find my way to a happier life. Or at least that I will cross paths and help put someone else's life on the track it needs to be.

Week 402

Day 2808 - 3/9 Exhausted again

Today I feel exhausted again. I am also noticing that I'm extremely tight in my lower back. So I can only conclude I am super incredibly stressed about the upcoming bills at the end of the month that I have absolutely no money for. 😞 I'm always hopeful donations and help will come, but as we near the middle and later part of the year that's when more things come up. So I grow increasingly worried help will not come in time, or that because more bills are coming it won't be enough. 😞 I still struggle in my searches to find anything and even when my job searches do find stuff that I'm even partly qualified for more and more often they are for cities either 50 miles away, and sometimes even hundreds.

I would say outside of my stress and extreme exhaustion today was a good day, but it kind of wasn't. I did play and watch shows after my usual job and forum checks, so that was good. But I was extremely unmotivated in doing my writing that I need to do for my class. I did it, so that's ready for tomorrow, but it's kind of garbage. I didn't really put the time, effort, or creativity in that I normally would have if I weren't so stressed and exhausted.

Today, nearly all day, I felt beat up, worn out, and from the afternoon on like I was half asleep and would completely pass out from exhaustion at any second. As always, I hope tomorrow is a better day. 😞

Day 2809 - 3/10 Unexpected fun

Today was pretty different. The morning was quick because I did my shower then had class. But it turns out I did not have class. After packing up my stuff from and going

to the other corner of the building I discovered a note on the door that said class was canceled.

So today turned out to mostly be a play day. I did my usual job and forum check in the morning, but after the discovery of class being canceled I played for four hours until it was time for the class I TA for. A lot of it wound up being lecture, so I wound up playing through about 1/3 of that as well.

It was nice to get a sort of day off to play. I've been so extremely stressed lately and lost so much sleep. 😞 And, it is rare these days that I feel in a playful mood due to all the stress and sadness, so that was good.

Hopefully I'll sleep ok tonight. Last night I barely got four hours sleep due to all the stress and sad things. 😞 And, as always, hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 2810 - 3/11

Unexpected boredom

Today was actually disappointing and boring. My class was three groups setting up and taking things down to start a scene. They spent practically 75% of the class not directing. Since the class is supposed to be about directing I neither learned anything new and was incredibly bored most of the time just watching them set up and take down.

It was pretty cold and pouring rain as well, so that just made me super sad. With my mind constantly on my life collapsing in on itself, and all the bills and such that need to be paid that I have no money for, the sad things of today made everything else seem extra depressing and sad.

I always hope change will come though. And tomorrow will be a new day. So I try to hang on.

Day 2811 - 3/12

Rain returns

Today was ok, but seemed extra sad. All day on and off it was raining. I think that put me in a sadder mood, as I ran from cover to cover the few times I was out. Doing that always makes me think how nice that last run is. The one you do to get in your safe and warm home after you are done being out. But there is no finishing being out for me. I am not just out doing chores. I always must be out.

So today served as one of those days that reminded me that I do not have a normal life. My time outside does not end as it should. I can't be restful, calm, and warmed in a home. And that made me extra sad. 😞

Day 2812 - 3/13

Happy day, sad day

Today is both a happy day and a sad day. Happy because I was in a good enough mood to feel like having fun playing a game. I didn't so much feel like playing to kill time as I actually wanted to genuinely have fun. But sad because I was out in the world. I was cold. I was unwashed and dirty. I'm getting scruffy. I have dirty clothes on. I can not cook. But most of all, because I was out and about I saw Easter candies at the store. And it makes me think that not only do I not know when Easter is this year, but that it doesn't matter if I do. I cannot really get candies to celebrate. I can't afford toys or games to celebrate. I have no friends to play things with or to watch a movie with. While it may be my most important holiday, there really isn't any aspect of it that I can celebrate in a way that I'm used to.

It makes me sad I am unable to do my traditions. Basically at this point they are all lost to me. I can't think of any that I can still celebrate in the way I used to, even just in the small ways I used to on my own.

Maybe next year I can. But it seems this year it will likely again be lost to me. Even if it is still weeks away, it seems unlikely it will be anything more than a regular homeless Sunday. 😞

Day 2813 - 3/14

Early start

Today I had an early start. Probably due to all the stress, I couldn't sleep until midnight and then woke up half an hour earlier than my alarm would have gone off, getting me up and moving about 45 minutes earlier than normal. I decided to use that to my advantage and not only get all the bits shaved that have been bugging me, but carry over the time today into tomorrow, as I moved my shower ahead by a day.

The rest of my day was actually fairly good. I had time to play after my daily things, and in the early evening I was busy helping people with projects, as this week is the last regular week. I guess next week is finals.

I guess overall I feel ok. Though with the end of the quarter rapidly coming up I again worry. I have no money for a parking permit to continue parking on campus. That's only like \$20 for the quarter, and the current one will run out in just a few weeks. Plus there is gas, as small as it is around \$8 a week. So even if I don't get money to take classes I still need a place to be. And that best place is school, as I can sleep in my car during the day if need be, cook foods, connect to the Internet, and continue to volunteer and be helpful for the fun class. But at the end of the month I need \$85 for car insurance costs, up nearly triple normal because of an extra yearly thing.

So I am very sad, and very worried. 😞 Though my costs to continue are small, with no money save for what people send to help I can't cover those things. 😞 As always I hope tomorrow is a better day and that change comes, and that there are some out there who care enough to send help until enough change comes that I am no longer in this position. 😞

Day 2814 - 3/15

Scarey dream

Today is starting off a bit rough. Last night I didn't fall asleep until probably around one, so I lost almost three hours of sleep compared to normal. Then, near the end I

had a bad dream. In the dream I was going to be filling in for a character in a sort of ongoing series. But it was a real person, so it was mostly living their life. They were an action star driver in a hybrid 50s style and modern style world. But what made it terrible was that they were a ghost. They could be physical and interact with the world, or become intangible and recover wounds. But in order to become that I had to suffer the same wounds and death that caused them to be like that. I was shot four times, and then to numb the pain of my dying they drilled into my skull. So that was extremely stressful and scary. 🤪

But the dream is fading now. And I am in my spot at school, so I am starting to warm up a bit. As I do, my mind and body calm down.

I am still very grateful to have my car. Still very grateful to have school to hang out at and do all the things, and to have my laptop to continue to try and get back a life as well as play and have fun and distract me from my sads while I do not.

Week 403

Day 2815 - 3/16

Power outage

Today was actually pretty good despite some setbacks. The morning was pretty regular. I checked for jobs then had a bit of play time. I did a quick lunch to have a tiny bit more time to play before my afternoon editing. Since I was going to spend a few hours editing I decided to again try and update to Windows 10. But right when I finished my edit, the entire school mysteriously lost power. Two hours later we got word that a few city blocks are down and no one knows why. So, not only do I not know if my project is ok, I lost power and internet mid-upgrade. The system, however, seemed to get stuck at the exact same spot again. So I guess it didn't matter.

After getting news that school was closing and would not re-open until the morning, I went to the food store. I again recovered windows to where it was before (which took about 10 minutes, so that wasn't bad.) And then I spent a few more hours playing my game.

Today did not go as planned. I didn't do the studying I expected to because the rest of the day was thrown so out of whack when the power went out. But, despite not knowing if my project is ok and needing to throw away my \$3 dinner, and spending another \$1.50 getting another dinner, today was actually pretty good. I played and had fun, and I talked and laughed a bit with other students. So I guess things turned out ok.

Day 2816 - 3/17

Nearly last regular school day

Today was nearly the last regular school day. It was both good and a bit frantic, as I had to finish things for my class I'm in, then the class I TA for had their final project stuff all class time. So things were very busy after my normal morning time stuff.

Overall I guess I feel ok today. I got to play a little and then I had fun class times. I barely slept last night due to stress. I got somewhere between five and six hours. And

I'm still very stressed in my lower back much of the time. But as far as my sad life goes, today seemed pretty ok.

Day 2817 - 3/18

No connection

Today was pretty good. I had fun in the morning, then had fun during class. People had fun watching all the things.

After class I stayed, had dinner, and played for a bit more. Since it was the last regular day of the quarter I decided to leave a bit earlier than usual. At the food store there was no connection. 😞 I lost several hours I could have done stuff and couldn't do stuff I planned to do, so things became very sad. I was quickly reminded how not in control of my environment I am. I was reminded how I'm not in a home. 😞

I guess things turned out ok because I forgot the library closes early on Friday and mister stinky showed up after I'd given up trying to connect. Within about a minute of his showing up I was having to hold my breath from fear of throwing up. But since I had no connection, there wasn't much point in sticking around when there were other places that didn't have stinky people I could go.

All in all today was pretty ok. I laughed and had fun. But as it was the last day of the quarter (outside of finals week) I again felt that I'm missing out. People are moving on. Some, I'm sure, went out to celebrate. I know if I were in a home I'd be celebrating with unwinding with games, a nice cooked dinner, maybe a movie, and staying up late to play, while knowing I'd get up early and stay up late for a few weeks until next quarter.

I still miss my old life. I miss what it could be if it were not this and not my old life. I wonder how many ways it could be better. But, as sad as it is, I am still grateful it is not worse.

Day 2818 - 3/19

Outside again

Today I was outside all day. It was unexpected, as I figured the Saturday classes would still be happening and I'd be able to go in for a few hours. It was ok though, as I'd already planned to be outside from now on. It was overcast and chilly most of the day. I really didn't get warm until 4:30 when the sun started being in my area. It went away by 6 and things rapidly started to get cold by 8 just after the sun had gone down.

I had fun playing my game and trying to relax. I felt kind of super sick though. I felt a bit sick back on Wednesday. And starting yesterday I've been sneezing. Today my ears are ringing. I feel a bit dizzy, and it feels icky between my heart and stomach. Hopefully I'll be ok quickly enough though. Hopefully some of my stress will go away and I can fight off whatever this is.

Day 2819 - 3/20

Nice kitty

Today was quite different. The morning started fairly normally, though I only got about five hours of sleep. 😞 But at 11:30 I left to help a few people with a project, and one paid me to do it. 😊 So, I got quite a boost of monies. I'll pay for the car insurance stuff soon. Hopefully there is enough for all the things due. It may be a touch short for one of the things though. But that puts me a lot closer to not worrying about those and freeing up future donations to go towards paying for classes. Though even with a few weeks left until next quarter it may be too late for the important classes as those will fill quickly if they haven't already. I may have to choose a less desirable one, should I get the donations to sign up at all.

One thing I had forgotten to check though was if she had pets at her house. Immediately upon walking in I smelt the kitties and the rug that has probably been peed on 500 times. The kitty was a big sweetie and she kept coming over to me for petting and

purring. 😊 It was nice to have a friendly kitty to pet and kiss, but even now four hours after leaving my eyes are still a bit itchy and feel like there is fur in them.

Another thing I'd forgotten is how kind of high standard I am. There was dust in places, piles of things here and there, and dirt and yuck in all the corners and in most edges. And the TV had the wrong aspect ratio. It bothered me so much I had to fix it after a while. Most live in similar environments, and I suppose it's not a bad thing. I had just forgotten how I prefer things clean, clutter free, and I suppose some would say sterile. I think some may think my place more a model or library than a home with everything neatly placed, lined up, and clean.

But today was pretty different. Things were shaken up. I still smell like kitty and her place, and I hope those smells fade soon. Though I did get to do laundry there, so it may be a while for those scents to fade and my regular ones to return.

Day 2820 - 3/21

Accidental upgrade attempt

Today was peaceful. After checking for jobs and a very quick helping on the forums I played or watched shows most of the rest of the day. It was calm and nice. Mostly I tried to not let myself get out of my game mentally because that would mean I would have to acknowledge yet another quarter passing and I was unable to move on because my life is not yet better enough to do so.

In the early evening there was a strange turn of events. I had intended to make a USB to upgrade to Windows 10 from, as the previous two attempts ran into a sticking point when setting drivers, but I guess I selected the wrong option and it wound up attempting to install a third time right then. Since it looked different from the previous attempts I let it go ahead and finish trying. Basically I wound up losing three hours to a third failed attempt. For the third time it got stuck at 86% overall and 46% on the third of the three phases. Hopefully I can get set up with the USB correctly tomorrow and it will install fine when I try again. If it doesn't there is only one other thing I can try before needing to do a full clean install, which would mean I'd have to wipe the drive completely. It wouldn't be the end of the world, as everything important is on my SSD,

not the boot drive that the laptop came with. But being a laptop and not having any installation disks, I'd rather avoid that. If anything went wrong I don't know how I'd recover. (I suppose if it were an option I could connect the laptop drive externally to a school system and use the USB again. Though with the permissions settings on the school systems I don't know if that would be an option.) Plus I'd like to avoid that, as you never know what you may have forgotten to put on a backup disk and lose in the transfer.

Despite the disappointment of the accidental upgrade not working, today was a pretty good day. I will try to hang onto my good mood in the coming days, as the rain is returning and I still have unpaid things I have no money for. That will get me very sad if I don't hang on.

Day 2821 - 3/22

Hoping

Today is starting out gray and cold. It rained a lot last night. I recall at one point it was pouring so heavily I was worried. But the clouds are parting and it looks like the rain is going away now. And with that it will hopefully get warm and sunny again.

I again didn't get much sleep last night. Three nights ago I only got five hours of sleep, and the last two only between six and seven hours. Yesterday I got up early, so I showered then. And I was up early today too, so that extra has carried forward to today. All the stress and worry of the unpaid things are getting to me. The thing I did over the weekend paid for one bill, but the other due on the first I only have half the money for. And I have none at all for the \$15 for parking next quarter, and \$50 for signing up. Which is extra sad because they are such small bills.

I am hopeful things will go smoothly today. I am hopeful I can play and forget my troubles by losing myself in other worlds. And with bunny day coming up this weekend I am hopeful people think of me and the other bunnies in their lives and send some help and good tidings and I can continue to hang on until better days.

Day 2822 - 3/23
Failed attempt #5

Today I am exhausted. I didn't do much, so I'm not sure why I'm so out of it. It might be because of my cold. I'm sneezing once or twice an hour. It might be my continuous stress which makes me both have trouble sleeping and get up early. I again barely got seven hours sleep when I could have gotten around nine. It might be because I spent a bit more time than usual looking for jobs, a bit less helping on forums, and a bunch of time trying again to install Windows 10.

I tried installing in safe mode. It wouldn't let me install in safe mode. I tried setting it to boot from the USB. It said it needed to boot normally. So all I did different was make sure a few security files and other programs I wasn't using were deleted.

Still, it got stuck at the exact same place. At this point I have surrendered and contacted the laptop manufacturer to see if they have any suggestions. Again, I'd rather not do a clean install and wipe the drive. Most everything could just be re-loaded from backup, and all my games on the system and web stuff are all on a different disk and wouldn't be wiped either way, but I always worry with a reformat about what if I forget something important? And what if it doesn't work for some reason? How would I recover?

So, we'll see what they say. Maybe it will be something strange but simple, like boot while disabling this or that, or try removing the SSD and DVD drive while installing. (That was a suggestion I saw on a forum.)

But for now I'm giving up and putting it on hold again. I'd rather not try again until after Spring break. If I don't I'll have to sit with absolutely nothing to do for about three hours (or more) that it would take. But with school open I could go into a lab, and at least with that I could watch shows on a lab system while my system updates.

Despite yet another disappointing install failure (and safe recovery to where it was before, thank the Gods), today was a pretty good day. I found no jobs to apply for, but that's nothing new. I got no thanks on the forums, also not new. Sadly I got no donations, which I'm very much hoping for to sign up for classes as soon as I can before it's too late.

But I was warm-ish. I got micro food. I got to play my games and watch my shows. And for my very sad life, that is something.

Day 2823 - 3/24

Barely remember

Today I am exhausted. Basically just from my life. Again last night I couldn't sleep for a few hours after 'going to bed', and I woke up about 45 minutes before my alarm. So again I was happy to have the extra day time to do stuff, but sad about the cost.

Due to being so low on sleep lately my brain never really woke up or functioned correctly. I barely remember the day. It is mainly flashes and bits and pieces. All total I remember maybe half an hour clearly. There are pieces of job searching, glimpses of helping on forums, and a few bits and pieces of playing or shows I watched.

I am still so sad no donations have come yet. It would take very little from just a few to make a big difference. Even just as little as \$5-10 a month from a few people would make a big difference. I am humbled by the generosity of those who are mostly strangers helping me. And puzzled by the lack of help from those I do know. I continue to hope help comes until I am back on my feet. And extra hopeful since bunny day is coming up on Sunday.

Today was the last day of one of the classes I am taking, and the class I TA for. There were no goodbyes in either. It kind of makes me sad and feel unappreciated in the class I TA for. But I do know I make a difference. And I do get thanks during class. So I guess it's ok.

I also got word back from the manufacturer. Their suggestion, as I feared, was to try a clean install. They did give me a link to download a tool that will set up a recovery 'disk' (though I'll use USB) just in case it doesn't work and I need to re-install the old OS. But still, I worry. Particularly in my current state. There is always the chance something will be forgotten in the transfer. Some piece of information less used, or not backed up, and when I need it that information will not be there. Well, all I can do is hope for the best.

I'll likely leave that until after the school break is over. That way I can at least set up in the lab and watch shows while it does that. If I did it during break I'd have nothing to do but stare at the updating window for three or more hours.

Well... whatever my future holds it holds. As always it seems I have little to talk about save for what is outside of my control, or how I feel like an outsider. 😞

Day 2824 - 3/25

Preparing

Today was kind of good. There were no donations, no job applications, and nothing changed, but it still felt ok.

Spring is coming back. Things were warming up, and other students are excited for break, and in a week to return for next quarter. I am still worried I will be there only in spirit. I still only have half the money I need for the bills at the end of the month, and then there is at least \$50 beyond that to sign up for classes. (With \$15 more for parking.) So far things seem very bleak. 😞

Last night I again couldn't sleep until after midnight, and again got up about half an hour early. And there were some pretty terrible dreams when I was sleeping. 😞

But again today still felt pretty good. Though everything seems bad in my life and is on a downward spiral, I am preparing. Preparing to be outside of school on the weekend to have a good connection. Preparing to hopefully be inside part of the day during next week since some things will be open. Preparing for help and support to come so I can sign up for at least one class and get my parking sticker. Preparing for not getting any help and not being able to sign up for classes. And hopefully preparing to sleep tonight at a reasonable time.

Today was pretty good. Campus was super quiet. For some reason there didn't seem to be any of the regular joggers or bikers. All day I probably saw fewer than half a dozen. Well, save for what looked like an odd tour group of maybe 25, and a few going to the performance theater.

I was in my new main game most of the day. It's been my new main because my old main had some serious frame rate issues. I don't know why, but something changed in a patch about three weeks ago and now if I'm there for more than five minutes I feel like throwing up. The frame rate is all jerky and at a bad speed. At first I was worried my graphics chip was damaged, but others have the same issue as of that patch. And, none of my other games are affected.

I hope they fix the issue, but after three weeks of it being around it seems unlikely. So I'm hoping changing to Windows 10 will tweak a thing and it will be fine again. But then again, I was kind of not playing very often any more anyways. There were really only a couple of people I'd play with regularly, and since Xmas one is almost never on, and the other shifted times and I almost never see them.

So today I was in my new game. (Which is actually one that's three years old.) Which being a shooter, and groups being set to 'friends only', means I was basically in my own world all day.

So I was in a virtual world alone, and seemingly in the real world alone as well. In many ways it felt like my life is wasting away. The clock is ticking down and so many things I would like to do are not getting done. But then, the reality is most of the things can't be done. At least not in my current homeless life. 😞

So I worry and wait. And I continue to hope. And hopefully I'll get help to continue hanging on until better days.

Day 2826 - 3/27

Too late for candies

Today was good, but sad. In the morning I went to the store to be sure I had a soup to micro and to check for candies. I've been so very sad about things I didn't think it would probably be ok to spend \$1-2 and get my favorite bunny day candy and celebrate small. But I was too late. There were very few candies left at the food store, most of which were \$6 and up, and were things I didn't like.

As expected school was super busy with a few different groups. The regular church group which often maybe has a dozen people were packed with probably more than 100. I had plenty of room to be in my spot and not in the way, it's not even in the same section of the cafeteria, but I thought that would feel weird. So I stayed outside and just snuck in to micro lunch and use the bathroom.

In the later afternoon I got a big donation! Phew! So, soon I'll have money to cover a class, get a parking sticker, and cover my car insurance. There won't really be any left for gas money or fun stuff, but maybe I'll get more bunny day donations in the coming days and be able to do more.

Despite all the celebrations going on around me that I was not a part of, today was a pretty good day. I played quite a bit. It wasn't too cold, though it got quite chilly after sundown. And after the groups left by mid-afternoon I was basically alone in my spot. So campus was calm and quiet and I was in my own world again.

For being homeless on my favorite holiday yet again, things weren't too bad.

Day 2827 - 3/28

Not forgotten

Today it seems there was a reminder from Fate that I am not forgotten. After showering I went to my usual weekend parking spot. In the spot was a single plastic Easter egg. The kind you put stuff in. It was popped open and empty, but the fact that it was the only one in the whole lot that I drove, and in my spot, felt like a reminder from Fate.

My day was pretty good. The showers were open. Campus in the cafeteria area I expected to be open was open. I played and had fun. And though it was much colder than expected during my outside time, the first portion of getting ready to wipe when upgrading to Windows 10 is done. And after I'm done writing I'll make sure everything on the drive that needs to be backed up is, as well as noting what will need to be re-installed, and what is on the SSD that just needs a new shortcut.

I'm actually thinking of doing the upgrade attempt tomorrow evening. From about 4:30-6:30 outside the sun shines pretty brightly on the outside spot and it can get very hard to see anything on the screen (despite it being at a 90 degree angle to the sun and shaded by my backpack). And I thought I should be able to watch stuff on my phone. It would be pretty bad, but if the upgrade goes as it should it shouldn't be much more than 1.5 hours. After that, since all my games would be intact, I could go right back to playing and set up non-game stuff slowly during that 'blind window' over the rest of the week.

I haven't decided yet for sure though. Waiting until school is open and being in the lab is the safer bet. But it should be fine. I'm already one of the infinitely small number with this issue. There were literally no posts about it at the manufacturer's forums. So what are the odds upgrading the other way will have issues?

Well, tomorrow holds what it holds. I'll decide then based on how the rest of my day goes. But so far today I feel pretty good for as many sad things as there are in my life.

Day 2828 - 3/29

So many squirrels

Today there were a bunch of squirrels out and about when I got on campus. So much cute! It's chilly though, so I don't know why there are more than usual. When the sun was going down last night it started to look like it would rain. And the gray has lasted until today. You'd think there wouldn't be extra squirrels unless it was warmer.

I think I will hold off on the update until when school is fully open. It will still depend on how today goes, but last night I remembered there is this 'preparing to install' phase. Last attempt was about 4.5 hours in total, so that's an extra 1-1.5 hours beyond the normal 1.5 hours to install. (With extra last time waiting and hoping it'd get unstuck, or

recovering to the old setup.) Who knows though. If it's super warm and nice outside when I go out I may go ahead and do it today. If it's cold that would make my evening outside terrible and be a bad time to do something time consuming. Particularly since I have to leave it until it's done.

I have a cold. I'm sneezing, have been for a few days, and I'm pretty congested. But I feel ok emotionally. I'm on campus now and have decent food to micro and today feels like it will be ok, despite all my sad things.

Week 405

Day 2829 - 3/30 Saying hello

Today was pretty good. It started a touch later than expected, but in a good way. Since the big donation I've actually been able to sleep. Twice since then I almost slept all through the night until my alarm, which I rarely do more than once or twice in an entire year. And, I haven't stayed awake too long when trying to sleep, nor gotten up earlier than I was supposed to.

I was mostly alone today. I played my games and had fun. The friendly student security guard came by and said hi and we chatted for a bit. And in the evening the cleaner people waved to me through the window I was near. So it was nice to get a few hellos.

Nothing really new that was good happened. In fact, it seems a hole in my upper pointy tooth is bigger. I'm not sure if it actually is, or if it's just my imagination. But it would be super tragically sad if I lost that one too due to not having the money to tend them. 😞 I already lost the other upper one. 😞

But overall I feel ok today. I still feel like I am able to hold on emotionally. And I continue to feel better about me and who I am as a person as time goes on. I just hope I can hang on long enough to recover physically to hopefully someday match how I feel emotionally, to be even better overall.

Day 2830 - 3/31 Cold

Today went pretty well. I got a shower in the morning, so that was nice. Things were still openish, so I got to be inside and micro lunch. Though it's still super cold in the cafeteria area. It's like they never heat it. I checked for jobs, quickly helped on forums, and spent most of my day playing.

I have a cold though. I was fairly sneezy, congested, and my throat is messed up. It doesn't help that if I want an un-firewalled connection I have to be inside and cold or outside and a touch colder. I guess it's an ok trade off though. I'd rather that than be warm and several of my games be blocked. The spring will warm up again soon, and on Monday I'll be back inside at my spot and be a bit warmer.

I don't know if I'll get to be inside tomorrow though. The bookstore and inside places are closed I think, so I expect I'll need to be outside all day. Which will be strange, as Saturday it's a flea market day and the area I've been in should be open for about the same time it has been this week.

I guess, as always, all I can do is see what tomorrow will bring when it comes and hope for the best.

Day 2831 - 4/1

Hapliy open

Today I was happy to discover the cafeteria area was open the same amount as it has been. It was still nearly as cold inside as outside, but being inside and being able to sit on a chair and table proper as well as micro a lunch was good.

I had fun playing my game most of the day. I've been feeling more sick though. There has been a ringing in my ears, congestion, sneezing, and mild eye ache and headache for a few days now. Hopefully it will get better soon. I'm trying to get more rest and stay warm, but there really are few options on that. Maybe tomorrow I'll get a juice. Since the car will be in the covered garage the next few days that will probably be fine since it's chillier lately.

Since the afternoon I've felt like I've been forgetting something. I mean, sure, there are things I kind of wanted to do during the break I haven't due to stress and depression, but this is something forgetful feeling. Like I had something specific for today that I was supposed to do that I forgot. I have no idea what it could be though. Hopefully it's nothing and my brain is just being a bit crazy.

As always, I try to forget my troubles and worries and hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 2832 - 4/2

Quiet

Today was unusually quiet for a flea market day. Things were openish as they have been, but almost noone came in during the flea market. Usually there are quite a few people, but I think there were only six all day. I would guess because it is cloudy and cold outside, a trend that has more often been the case than not lately. It wasn't too cold though, and when it got to the blind hour it was warm enough for a brief period I could take off my hoodie.

I had a pretty good day. There were no jobs to apply to, but being the weekend that isn't a surprise. I played and watched shows most of the day, then tried to rest and be calm to get over my cold. I did get juice in the morning, and there is enough to last a few more days. It should be cold enough in the car to not go bad. But I always worry about that.

I guess today wasn't terrible. But I couldn't help but worry about all the things I can't pay for. And my heart felt sad missing Saturdays past, where on similar days of playing and watching stuff I'd have been comfy at a desk, warm, able to stop or start whenever I wanted, cooked foods, and paused in the evening for my Saturday night movie. While I can't do my traditions anymore, my heart holds on and hopes I can do them again someday.

Day 2833 - 4/3

Sniffly congestion

Today I am super congested. My cold doesn't seem all that worse, but I guess it is. My nose is almost so stuffed up I can't breathe through it. It's been a struggle. I've been sneezing quite a bit, and I'm super sniffly. I don't really feel all that worse in general. My eyes ache, I have headaches, and my ear ringing all seem about the same as before.

I had a very tough time sleeping last night too. I couldn't get to sleep for hours. And when I did I had bad dreams. I was again dreaming of being in my childhood home and being forced to move out because dad was selling the place and I had nowhere to go.

And there were other dreams about now when I was homeless, but I don't remember them. I do remember that there was one so stressful and sad in the dream that I started crying, and as such that panic pulled me up out of the sleep and I woke up and my heart stated racing. 😞

I guess today was reasonably ok other than that. I had fun playing, but I was outside, I was sick, and I was cold all day. 😞

Day 2834 - 4/4

Phoenix

Today was chaotic, but pretty good. In the morning I was moving a bit slower than expected, but I got to the food store and got to school in time to have a good parking spot. I showered after parking, so all my bits are back on track.

The morning went pretty normally. I had a few stop by and say hi and chat for a bit, but there was really nothing unusual.

The afternoon was quite different. I got in to the lab as soon as I could and started updating to Windows 10. I did it in the scary way of doing a clean install, so everything on the main drive was being wiped and set to default settings. I'd removed my SSD just to be sure. To my surprise, the preparing to install only took 45 minutes, and after the windows install took 30, instead of getting stuck at 86% after 50 minutes (and then waiting 30 or more to be sure it was actually stuck).

I did have quite a panic though after updating. I shut down and reinstalled my SSD, but upon turning the system back on it didn't see it. I checked the drive scanner and it still didn't see it. I was starting to panic emotionally, though not showing it physically, and after 30 minutes of freaking out I found some updates for the laptop, tried installing them, and after restarting after that the SSD showed up as normal again.

So now I'm nearly completely recovered. I'm sure there will be personal settings and things I need to set up that I forgot about, but it seems everything is finally updated to the current windows and ready for the future.

It seems strange to purge a system and have it reborn from the ash. I guess it just seems to be much more emotionally to me than it otherwise would be because of my current life situation and my laptop being critical to my emotional balance these days. But it's good to be set and back on track.

At least with some things. There are more yet to come in the next few days as the new quarter starts.

Day 2835 - 4/5

An hour early

Today everything is starting an hour early. I woke up about 45 minutes before my alarm was set to go off, then rested for a bit, then since I was unable to get back to sleep I 'got out of bed' about an hour earlier than usual.

I guess it's ok to have an early start today. I got about seven hours of sleep, which is more usual than not for me. I'm still pretty sick, but not quite as bad. I'm still sniffing, sneezing, and congested, but my nose isn't completely stuck like it was yesterday.

I feel pretty good I guess. School was pretty busy with lots of people bopping around yesterday. I expect it will be today too, and I have my class, which is the bulk of the day. There were quite a few cute girls around yesterday, and it's warming up a bit again, so that's always nice.

As always, I try to stay hopeful for today, and that I can hang and enough help comes until I'm back on my feet.

Day 2836 - 4/6
Wardrobe malfunction, twice

Today was super good emotionally. In the morning I decided to wear shorts since it's been warm lately. It was nice since it's probably been nine months since I could. I even had my hoodie off most of the day.

In the mid morning the super cutie I used to see when I'd play on my console at food store walked by me. She has a class in the building I'm in. I can't remember the last time I saw her. It's been more than a year since I stopped being there regularly at the times she was there.

In the later morning the class I TA for was starting. But, just before it started, when I went to the bathroom, I noticed my shorts had a wardrobe malfunction. I saw the zipper head was in the middle of the path and it was unzipped completely. And the head was only attached to one side. I had two options. One was to hike them up to where my belly button was so no one could see the open fly, or go to my car and switch to my pants. On any other day I would not have the second option, as I keep all cloths in the ex-garage (ever since the pulling over incident.) But I had brought some just in case I got too cold. So that worked out ok.

The class went well and people seemed to be laughing at stuff and seemingly had a good time and were being very social. So that is always good as it means they are more likely to produce more interesting stuff.

The evening was ok. I played a bit, but after the fun class I TA for things seemed kind of sad. I was not one of the students making new friends and being excited about a class and going home after to enjoy what's left of the warm spring day. That is not my life anymore. 😞 At least not right now.

But I played and had fun as best I could and left a bit later than usual just because of how the timing of things worked out. But when I got back to the ex-garage to pick something up and change into my night cloths, my pants top button pooped off. I had to laugh. All these homeless years and I've lost maybe two pieces of clothing due to rips or other things. But now, twice in one day. This time though I could immediately fix it, as I

have needle and thread in the ex-garage. I could fix the shorts too if I got a new zipper. But last time I recall checking zippers were kind of pricy at \$5-10. I can check again for sure (if I remember), but even at \$3, well, I have other shorts I can use until money isn't so tight.

But now I am exhausted. It is night time. I again had a bit of trouble getting to sleep, odd dreams, and woke up about half an hour early. I am still in a mix of losing sleep and being ok on sleep. With the cold though, things have gotten tough the past few nights. 😞

Day 2837 - 4/7

So tired, so sick

Today was good, but I'm still pretty sick. I was a little better, but today I am super sniffly again. I've still been congested, with my eyes and ears hurting.

I had an odd memory surface today. It was of when I was at a concert. I've only been to a few in my life. I think it's because I had short on and it was getting chilly at night. This concert was at an amusement park, so me and the friends at the time had gone and been there most of the day dressed for hot weather. But when the concert started at night it was getting very chilly.

Maybe too it came up because my brain was half asleep. I'm so exhausted. Both from losing sleep and from stress, as well as the cold beating me down in general. I'm so very tired.

But today was pretty good. Though I felt like I was missing out on fun. There are many people in the advanced film class having fun today. But I took it a year ago, so I can't participate.

The lights in the lab where I hang out have timers. At one point when I was playing they went out. It was dark. For a very brief period I left it dark. I remembered what it was like to be in a home and able to play in more ideal gaming conditions. I let myself remember, just for a minute. Then I moved so they would turn on again.

It seems today I remembered several times in my past. And while I have no desire to go to any live concerts anymore, I do hope someday I'm able to be back in a home playing like I used to.

Day 2838 - 4/8

Rainy days return

Today was pretty good emotionally, but odd. It felt strange to be hanging out in my usual spot just to have a place to be. I mean I have to be somewhere, but it felt odd. Not quite as odd as back in the early days when I had no laptop and would just sit outside a shopping area and watch shoppers all day. But it felt odd to be there when everyone else was only there because they had a class. There were a few who said hi and were killing time though, but they were definitely the exception.

My cold is a bit worse, or was. I was sneezing and sniffing a ton in the early part of the day. In the afternoon I remembered to stop by the health center for decongestants. And now my nose is mostly clear and just the congestion, occasional sneeze, and head/eye/ear ache remain.

The rain seems to have returned. April showers and all I suppose. Which is nice, but disappointing after a couple of warm and nice short wearing weather days. I don't know how long the rain will last, but it started with sprinkling last night and now in the evening it's steadily lightly raining.

Tomorrow I'll drive to the 'nearest' recycling center. I really hope it is open and I find it ok. It will take 2/3 of a week's gas to get there. I have a feeling it really won't be worth it to recycle anymore. With that cost I'm guessing it will take a full trunk to only get a bit returned. It will probably take two months to get what will probably wind up being one week's worth of gas money. That's a full trunk for a long time, as well as constantly keeping and carrying around the empty cans during the day, all making me feel like a super desperate junk collector. If that really is all the full trunk is worth, I don't know if it's worth it anymore emotionally. I guess I'll see what it's worth tomorrow. Back in the early days when there was a recycle outside the food store I'd just go 30 minutes earlier than normal every few weeks and it was no big deal. That'd be one, maybe 2,

empty 20 pack containers worth. It was easy, both physically and emotionally. But as I've had to save more and more cans due to the places closing down, it's weighed more and more on me emotionally (and physically in stress.)

I guess that's just part of who I am. I've always been a minimalist. My (living) space is always very Spartan in look. I've never been one to collect a lot of, well, anything. Usually I don't feel like I need much around me. I suppose with a home and fairly unlimited money, maybe then I may start collecting more.

But then I may never know if I would change like that or not. It seems unlikely at this point such a life will be an option for me. 🙄

Day 2839 - 4/9

Medium rain

Today it rained all day. It was a light to medium rain. I actually didn't really notice much of the day because it was light enough I had to squint to actually see if it really was raining. In bad news, that meant it was chilly and gray and sad all day. In good news that meant from about 5-6:30 I was not blinded by the sun and had that time to continue playing, or watch shows, or whatever, since the screen was able to be viewed normally.

I guess it was a good day. I played and things were quiet all day. That's really all I can hope for in my homeless life.

But in another time I probably would have invited people over for games and having pizza. I don't know why, but rainy times feel like that to me. Maybe because when I was young it's just what you did in those days. Not that I wanted to go outside when it was not raining, but still.

I went to the not so close recycling this morning. I got a bit lost, so it took about 45 minutes instead of 30. But I got more than I expected, so I suppose it is worth it to continue doing it. Though I will see how long it takes to get that much, if I remember to. If it's more than two months I don't know if that is really safe to be keeping former food stuff in my car that long. I guess I'll have to see how it goes and how I feel about it. It's becoming very stressful.

I still have my cold. It was bad last night and this morning, but it's eased off some since then. Hopefully that means I can sleep better tonight.

Day 2840 - 4/10

No more Blu... for now

Today was a bit extra sad. Lately I've been working on getting my movie player software back on my system. For the past few days I've gone back and forth with the software people. They say my version isn't compatible with Windows 10. They kept repeatedly replying to me with a link to "upgrade". Which I guess is my fault for thinking that would be free. I guess free would be "update". So I told them no thanks, I'm not paying \$60 for something I originally got free. I did find a way to get some free DVD software though. But still, that blocks about 75% of my entire collection from being watched on my laptop, if not more.

The bigger loss is for things I'd rent. I'd have to get it on DVD, which isn't anywhere near as good quality. But then it's probably been years since I could afford to do that, so I suppose it's not a loss.

I guess the people are right though in that people don't really watch physical media on their laptops anymore. In fact, more and more aren't even coming with a physical media device anymore. Most people will just stream videos or get a digital copy to watch.

But I guess it's only an issue while I'm homeless, and only if I want to rent something. I'd be more likely to pay the \$8 for an entire month of the streaming rental service I use and get all kinds of stuff I couldn't from the local rental box.

Plus today was sad because I'm still pretty sick, and being out in the cold rain times doesn't help. But while the library would be warm, I'd also be blocked from my current favorite game, and be exposed to everyone else around me who may also have colds or wearing things I'm allergic to. Even just the stress of the noise, the lights, and constant milling around me might be an equally bad trade as the weather outside of school.

But school will be back on tomorrow. I can be inside, warmish, micro soups or other foods to try and get healthier, and hope for the best.

Day 2841 - 4/11

Resting

Today was pretty good. I was still super sick. I think a lot of people must be because there was hardly anyone on campus today. In the evening when I made dinner the cafeteria area had barely 15% of the tables occupied when normally at that time it's closer to 40-50% full. It might be the rain too. While it probably didn't do more than sprinkle it was wet outside most of the day.

I tried to rest most of the day since I was super sick. I checked for jobs and forums quickly in the morning, then basically just played my game. Since I'm sick my brain isn't really working, so I can't really concentrate or focus on anything. I suppose though I didn't really do anything more or less than a normal day, so I didn't really get 'extra' rest in any way. But hopefully just taking my decongestants and headache pills will be enough to help me get over the cold.

I suppose in an odd way it was a pretty good day. I am still glad I am available to help people, maybe even inspire students I help. But, as always, I hope tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 2842 - 4/12

Same sad dream

Today I am still pretty sick. I wish there were something I could do to get better quicker. Hopefully I'll get better soon. I always worry about my health these days. 😞

I had the same sad dream last night that I've had before. In the dream I was a time traveler and I had to save my girlfriend. But by starting the quest line to do so I could not time travel, and was vulnerable to being killed. I'm not sure why I had the dream again. It doesn't seem to symbolize much, so it doesn't seem to be something my subconscious is

trying to say. And it was odd it was the exact same set up and pattern as it's come before. But it was stressful and sad. And I think in the dream I was crying some, because the corners of my eyes feel as if I've been crying. 😞 It could just be the cold messing with my tear ducts though, I'm not sure.

But class is today, so that should be good and something to hope and look forward to. I have plenty that is stressful in my life without extra stressful dreams on top of that.

😞 But I try to hang on to hope where I can.

Week 407

Day 2843 - 4/13 **Tastes funny**

Today was ok I suppose. It is kind of a blur because I'm still pretty sick. I checked for jobs. Someone even gave me a lead on someone who is like a headhunter, so we'll see if they reply. I helped on forums super quick. And then I played for a bit until the class I TA for started. I almost forgot it was at the early time. I'm so used to it being in the late afternoon.

It was warmer, but all day there was still evidence of at least sprinkles, so I don't think the rain has entirely gone away quite yet.

My throat tastes funny. When I swallow there is an odd taste. Sort of like dry dirt, sort of like maybe saffron rice? I'm not sure. I haven't had any decongestants since like Saturday afternoon until dinner time today, so I'm not sure what that's about. Maybe my nose is finally sort of clearing, and so it smells things differently?

I'm still super sick. My mind is very scattered and has trouble focusing. Songs keep haunting my mind. Repeating, fading in and out of my conscious thoughts. And I'm very hungry; with all kinds of cravings for foods I can't afford and haven't had in a very long time. Hamburger with fries, chicken nuggets, tater tots, a burrito from the place just outside the cafeteria, roast game hen with herbs, potatoes, and stuffing, and steak with sautéed mushrooms and little red potatoes. So many things my tummy wants, but can't have. Yet they are all so simple to make or cheap to get. 🙄

Day 2844 - 4/14 **Still so sick**

Today I'm still super sick. I'm still so out of it. I remember doing a bit more job searching than usual today and even putting out a resume for a very part time thing. But the rest of the day is a blur. I remember I played a lot. But I don't remember any specifics about my day, or any details of the conversations I know I had with people.

As always I long for the foods I haven't had in forever, the peace and quiet of being in an environment alone that I can control. The freedom to play my games without headphones, at an actual desk with comfy chair set just right. And maybe even a bath, to rinse off the outer layer that has been beaten up for years and is covered with bites and scratches. 😞 Above all I try to hang on to hope for my future and that tomorrow will be a better day. 😞

Day 2845 - 4/15

Feeling sad again

Today I am feeling pretty sad again. I'm not getting better and I'm still super sneezy and congested. I think I only got about six hours of sleep last night. 😞

I tried to play and have fun, and again the day was a blur that I don't remember. I suppose I was distracted from my sad things for a bit, but wasn't entirely. This year I have several costs coming up that I have no money for. Last year I scraped by, and was saved at the last second. But this year that seems unlikely. Donations are fewer than ever these days, and while I know that the person who saved me last year is still out there watching, I have a lot of other costs coming that were already covered at this time last year. So this year things will be extra tough and I don't know if I'll make it. 😞

I will keep trying to hang on, and keep hoping help will come until I'm in a better position, but it is getting tougher to stay positive and not completely freak out from stress. 😞

Day 2846 - 4/16

Warm again

Today it was finally warm again. The rain looks like it's finally gone away for good and the sun was out and shining. In fact, the blinding hour came early and was fully burning my face by 4:30 when just a few weeks before it wouldn't do that until 5:30 or

later. Which seems a bit disappointing in that it didn't really get low enough to play again until nearly 7:30. I could watch shows perfectly fine, so that's good, as I've been getting behind. But it's still sad to be forced to set my schedule to things I can't control. 😞

Nothing was really different in my day save for that. I was inside for a bit, as things were openish, and then I was outside for the rest of the day.

My cold may be on the verge of going away. The world seems clearer, and less like it's through a hazy lens, and my memory of the day is stronger than it has been for a while. I am still very congested, sneezing, and more hungry and thirsty than usual, as well as being very sleepy all the time, but hopefully I'm on the mend.

Day 2847 - 4/17

I don't remember

I don't remember what it was like to live without stress. I don't remember what it was like to live without constant fear, and jumping at nearly everything. I don't remember what it felt like to have a place to invite people over for stuff, and to be nervous about meeting new people to have to invite over. I don't remember what it was like to think how unusual it was to watch the sun go down, or rise. I don't remember how it felt to get in bed and fall asleep knowing there was no alarm set that needed to wake me up.

I remember times when being itchy or having a blemish or scratch was extremely unusual, instead of constantly having them. I remember a time I could mess with my hair and try and make it do a thing, instead of how completely uneven and chaotic what I still have looks. I remember how my gamer chair felt under my butt, how the wood of the desk felt, and how my feet would sometimes squeeze my toes into the carpet because it felt funny. I remember not worrying about the weather outside because I was inside. I remember being able to play or watch my shows whatever time or day it was without restriction.

The me now is not the me who was. The me now is a shell, shadow, or skeleton, and has lost all substance. The essence of what was once is there, but without form, without substance to the memories, I wonder if that form is doomed to forever be lost. 😞

Day 2848 - 4/18

Warm, then cold

Today was pretty warm. Since it had been so warm Saturday and Sunday I checked the weather online and it was indeed supposed to be super warm today and sort of tomorrow, cooling off back to the mid to low 70s as the week goes on. I wore shorts, so I was actually a touch chilly at times, but outside it was nice and warm most of the day. When I left campus in the evening it smelt like rain, and I even felt a drop of rain on my head. I'm going to assume this means it will cool off quicker than expected and wear pants again tomorrow.

My soups were even a bit warm to the touch when I got back to the car. I hope they are ok and didn't get spoiled in some way. It's been so long since we had truly hot weather I'd forgotten to consider that. It should be fine though I'd think. I'm sure the canned soup goes through many climate changes on its way to the store.

Today was pretty good. I checked for jobs and checked forums. I studied less than I should have for a quiz tomorrow, but I think I'll be ok. Mostly I tried to play and relax. I'm still so very worried and stressed out over all the upcoming bills. 😞 But I continue to hang on and hope an opportunity will eventually come, and until then hope there are those out there who care enough to lend a hand in the meantime.

Day 2849 - 4/19

Feeling hopeful, but sad

Today I feel hopeful, but sad. The weather is nice and looks like it will get warm again later today. Though I do have class, and no reason or place to be outside, so whatever it will be I will likely just remain inside. But I feel a bit sad because between alarms this morning I had some sad dreams about being homeless. 😞

I'm again more stuffy and sneezy. I don't know if this is a cold or maybe allergies. Allergies might explain the odd taste that is going along with it.

I have a few hours until lunch, then my class, and after I look forward to playing and watching my shows. Things have just started, but I remain hopeful that today will be a better day.

Day 2850 - 4/20
Skinny jeans

Today I didn't want to wear the last pair of clean pants I had, so I'd gotten some old blue jeans from the ex-storage. They had been put there because they were too small and pinchy on my tummy. While they are still a touch too small, they are just about right for wearing without a belt. I guess with all this weight loss I 'fit in my skinny jeans' again. But not in a good way, because I still worry about how I've lost the weight.

Overall it was actually a good day. A school friend visited me during lunch, as he does a few times a week. I shared one of my shows with him and it was pretty funny, so we laughed a bit. He headed out and then I had the class that I TA for, so that was pretty fun. After that I played and watched shows for a bit.

But I was very sad much of the day. I had to micro food I've eaten so many times before instead of eating freshly cooked food. While probably not a whole lot better or worse than cafeteria food overall, it is much more sad emotionally, as well as being extra weight I have since I'm carrying food around. That alone makes me feel like an outsider. And then in the evening it was worse because this quarter campus is extremely empty in the evenings. It's like only 1/3 as many people are taking evening classes, and many classes that normally happen don't seem to be happening. So again I feel like an outsider being one of the few still on campus.

So much of my evening these days feels like it's being spent trying not to be sad. So much lost because just being who I am right now makes me an outsider where I am physically, and emotionally, where I am in life, and where I am in life compared to others around me. So much of me feels off, like a failure, like I'm getting behind, or already behind so much I could not catch up. And while I know it wouldn't take much to be back on track and feel not so sad, until that happens things seem very difficult, very oppressive, and even when I am happy I still can't help that part of me feels worried and sad about all the things. 😞

Day 2851 - 4/21

Feeling small

Today was pretty ok. The morning was not special, but it went quickly. I checked for jobs, did some quick helping on forums, then played games and watched a show at lunch.

In the afternoon I was in the lab and helped a few people for a bit. And in the evening I peeked in to the intermediate class where there were a lot from the beginning class I TA for in previous quarters. They were showing in class shoots they'd done, which was super fun.

The day was cloudy and gray, not quite as warm as earlier in the week. When I left for the evening I looked up to see if it had cleared and it hadn't. It was still cloudy, and the only light was the moon. There were no stars. For some reason that made me feel very small and alone. 😞

Day 2852 - 4/22

Self bruised

Today I again feel like I'm forgetting something, but I know I'm not. I'm doing my laundry now, and I again have waited too long. Not even doing everything I needed to do the things are all packed in so tight they won't be able to tumble during the wash. I can only hope they wash ok because I could barely afford the one wash. I can't afford more.



I was sad when I took off my boots to get the socks I have been wearing to wash them too. It seems today my pants have been folded and pressing against my ankle in such a way that I kind of bruised myself. 😞

It was raining last night and again this morning. It's somewhat cleared now in the evening, but it's still cold and seems like it won't warm up again until after the weekend. Which, in a way is good because it means it will be cloudy and I won't have to worry about the blind hour. But it's sad because I rarely get truly warm enough on weekends even when I do.

I guess today went well. I played, watched shows, and talked to a few people. But still I feel sad. I suppose it's because the weekend isn't a weekend for me. I don't even get that break to be in my safe place and relax and not worry about the stress of the week. For me weekends don't matter, not really. The stress is always there, constant and unending. And, if anything, weekends are actually more stressful because of that. 😞

Day 2853 - 4/23

Good day while feeling sad

Today was actually a good day even though my sad feelings were always in the back of my mind. I was sad for being in public, sad for being cold, sad for wearing dirty cloths, though a few were just washed yesterday, sad for being outside half the day, and above all sad for not having friends to have a special Saturday dinner and game night.

But despite all that, today I managed to be pretty happy. I watched a show that made me laugh and smile a lot. I played my new current favorite online game, and even peeked in on my old favorite one. (The one I was playing all the time until the frame rate went to poop.)

All my worries are still there, more than ever. There are still things fading away that I may never get back, and other things that have bills coming up that looks like I might not get money for. Without help I am again looking at being unable to pay for car insurance, gas, web costs, and the car registration. My back is currently stressed and in pain constantly. I am getting very worried I'm on my way to another seizure like I had years ago.

But I try to hang on. I remember what was good about today, and try to hold it like candlelight to keep the dark shadows of sadness at bay. I try to hang on and hope that help will continue to come until my dark days are gone for good.

Day 2854 - 4/24

Sniffle sniffle

Today went very similar to yesterday, but with a lot more sniffles. I think because of all of the stuff blooming in the air it's creating my cold-like symptoms. My eyes hurt behind them, my ears are ringing, my nose is completely stuffed up again, and I can hardly breathe. And again when I smell or swallow I'm often getting that sawdust type smell.

I suppose today was good. I played and watched shows and tried not to be stressed out about things. Though I continue to worry as I'm now down to \$0.50 in my bank and the last money I had on hand is now in the gas tank and will last maybe a week.

As always, I will try to stay as warm and rest as much as I can, physically and emotionally. But with my limitations there is little I can do but hope for help from others to help me hang on, and hope that tomorrow is a better day.

Day 2855 - 4/25

Difficulty sleeping

Today I feel pretty good emotionally, but I had difficulty sleeping. I probably tried to sleep for almost three hours last night before falling asleep. Then around two hours before my alarm I was awake for half an hour or so for no reason. Songs have been repeating in my mind ever since. Then I wound up getting up and about maybe half an hour earlier than usual.

I did my usual stuff for the day, so I feel pretty good emotionally. But physically I'm beat. I'm tired from lost sleep and fighting off allergies. And I'm exhausted from constantly fighting of sadness and stress. So I guess overall things feel a bit wonky from the good and the bad.

As always, I try to hang on to the good things. I try to remember good times past and hopes for similar good times in the future. And I hope help comes and I can get by until I'm in a better place.

Day 2856 - 4/26

Struggle to hang on

Today I feel like I'm struggling to hang on. It has been a very long time since any messages of well wishing or donations. It seems few are watching out for me these days, and of those who I know I am in a bad spot it seems very few or none are passing the message on that I need help.

I am again concerned that we, as a people, seem to have so few that care to help a stranger. And how it would only take a few sending a small amount now and then to keep going, yet so little help comes, even from those I've met who know I would be ok once I'm back on my feet.

I feel good and try to hang on to hope, but with upcoming bills and so much physical distress from my cold, or allergies, or whatever this is that is beating me up, it is extra tough to hang on. 😞

Day 2857 - 4/27

Almost broke down

Today I almost broke down into tears. I got a donation yesterday, so that was super happy. As dinner approached the more I thought about my 'plain' soup I had to eat for dinner the more I felt like crying. My tummy so very much wanted a hamburger and fries. In a way I could have afforded it. It would have been a small part of what was donated, leaving plenty to take care of a few things. But I couldn't. It's needed too much for the bills I have coming. 😞 I barely held myself together in the following hours thinking about how sad I felt that I couldn't have a simple hamburger and fries from the cafeteria, and that it's been longer than I could remember since I last had one.

I wonder if the extra sadness came from the increasing homeless that are showing up during the morning showers. Back even just a month ago it was only two, which even just that is depressing to see every time. But recently it's been four, sometimes as many as six. I only know some, but they talk to the others, so I can tell the others are too.

It wasn't bad when it was just students in there. Or even when I was alone. I may go back to showering at night, or maybe start making special trips mid-day so I don't see the other homeless. Maybe it is getting too emotional for me to be reminded of how sad things are, and how things could continue to get worse and I wind up like them.

I wonder to if it's because someone sometimes has lunch with me now. Maybe that half hour a few times a week of regular interaction is bringing back fresh reminders of what a normal life is and how I don't have it.

The donation yesterday will cover some of the bills coming up. And for that I am extremely grateful and relieved. But emotionally it continues to be difficult to hang on. There are still big bills around the corner. And until they are covered I still can't really relax. And things like a simple meal that isn't a microwaved food remains out of reach.



Day 2859 - 4/28

A super cute director

Today was actually very different in the evening. IN the morning and afternoon it was pretty regular. It was even kind of a bit slow. My nose was running, sniffly, and I have a jaw and headache from congestion and sniffing. 😞

But in the late afternoon and early evening I helped some people do a short for a project. The director was a super cute girl I have been sort of seeing for a quarter or two. She had previously had part of the right side of her head shaved, which I find extra attractive, probably because it means they aren't afraid to be different and show it.

We ran around and had a silly fun time with the shoot. I smiled and laughed a lot and made the people laugh quite a bit. 😞 She mentioned she hadn't had food all day, which made me super sad, so I gave her some chips and a soda and a tiny bit of cake. 😊 It was the most unhealthy snack ever, but with what I have to choose from to buy it is really one of my only snack food options. Anything healthy tends to be literally four or five times more expensive. (The last time I got about half a serving of grapes it was more than \$1. And that wasn't even one breakfast worth of grapes.)

It was pretty fun and silly and a nice change. I hope they do ok on the project, but I have a feeling the lack of storyboarding or script will leave a lot of missing shots they would really need.

At least for a brief while my sad life was held at bay. Now settling in for the night it seems very likely the sadness will return even before I fall asleep. 😞 But I will try to hang on to the memories of fun as long as I can, and find comfort in the fact that there are still cute girls out there to be found who I have chemistry with, even if it's only one way.

Day 2859 - 4/29

Woken up too early

Today I was woken up too early, nearly two hours earlier than I normally would wake up. My runny nose and birds chirping woke me up and I couldn't get back to sleep.

😞 I started my day an hour early, so the time wasn't wasted. But I am currently exhausted. Save for half a dozen flashes, the day was a complete blur and I remember almost none of it.

One thing I do remember was seeing some old pictures on my social page for games I don't play anymore. Not my rabbit me, but my person me, where I barely ever post because my life is too sad. I went through and deleted them all. As I was doing so I started to feel sad. I was remembering how my life was better then. Even though I was homeless at the time, things weren't as bad as they are now, and in a way I was balanced, and even a bit happy. I think because playing that game then, being on my console, was more similar to playing on y console at home.

As I was deleting the pictures they would fade on deletion. It felt like my past was fading out. My memories of being happy somehow fading with them. It made me think about how those times made me feel closer to being in a home, and how the fading seemed like my memories of being in a home now... fading.

I thought how it seemed like my social me was fading away. Which made me think about how I feel like I am fading away. How I still feel like I am fading away. How I still feel like day by day instead of having a stronger presence in this world and growing stronger, I am continuing to become more and more a shadow, losing more and more of the me that was. 😞

Day 2860 - 4/30

Deep sleep, good dream, sad dream

Today was a mixed bag. Last night and this morning I slept very deeply. I had both good dreams and sad dreams. Good because I dreamt of being somewhere new and joining a gaming group and finding someone who was interested in being my sweetie. So I dreamt of new friends, good times, and new love. But I also had other dreams, of again being out of time and being forced to move out, and not having somewhere to go. So the good dreams were somewhat quickly overshadowed by the bad. 😞

This morning the building I'm normally in was open all day. Since I was going to a guest speaker thing in the afternoon I decided to be in there instead of the cafeteria. The morning was good and passed normally.

In the afternoon I was in the room and listened to the speaker while playing one of my games. It was an ok talk. It was more entertaining than I'd expected. She talked about being a writer for a TV show, which I don't really have any interest in. But she also talked about being a writer in general, and how you need an agent, a manager, and others, who basically make up a team of people who believe in you who help you find opportunities.

While I don't have much interest in being a writer in the industry, that made me sad. A big reason why I'm having so much trouble and struggle lately is because I don't really have those kinds of people in such positions interested in helping. I am very grateful and thankful I do have some watching out for my well being and helping me get by. But in terms of career people, cheerleaders, and helpers in positions to create opportunities for me... no. I have no one like that. And never really have in my life.

When the event was over and everyone was leaving I again felt sad. It was still somewhat early in the day, just late afternoon or early evening. People were leaving to go have fun with their friends, or do things they needed to do. But I was alone. I was going nowhere. I had nothing to look forward to. And, as always, as much as I try and hang on, I couldn't help but feel sad thinking about that. 😞

Day 2861 - 5/1

Big headache

Today was pretty good, but for as long as I can remember I've had a pretty big headache. I suppose it's part of the allergies, as I've been sniffing and sneezing all day. I'm beginning to think whatever it is comes from the trees near school. It seems most intense when I'm outside at school.

Yesterday was International Table Top day. Again I looked for places locally that were celebrating. But no one was close enough. At least not close enough with no income.

I feel so helpless overall though. So much is beyond my control. And even when something is, I lack the resources to give it a chance. 😞

Day 2862 - 5/2

The missing person

Today was pretty much the same as always. I did have a bit of a sad lunch though. Pretty much this quarter more days than not a school friend has visited me during lunch and lately I've been sharing my shows with him. He didn't show up today, which is unusual. So that was kind of sad because I was looking forward to a show sharing.

Most of the rest of the day was about the same, though I did help a few people with projects.

The end of my night was different though. When I went back to my car to leave school for the night I noticed a car a few spots over was running for quite a while. I looked over and it looked empty. I slowly put my stuff away, then waited around a few minutes. I investigated further and checked the car. It was absolutely empty, with no one around in sight (save for the dancer group close by). The car was running, empty, and unlocked. I decided to leave it as is and report it to the campus security since there didn't seem to be an owner and it wasn't one of the dancer's car. By the time I'd reported it and the officer got back to it, it had been there for at least 30 minutes that I knew of, and the officer asked the dancers how long they'd been there, which left the car as possibly unattended in that state for as long as 1.5 hours.

I am now left with the mystery of it. There was no student parking sticker, so that seemed odd, particularly since it seemed there were snacks in back, and sporting gear and clothing in the trunk, pointing towards a student lifestyle. But if it had been stolen and abandoned, why put it here? The lot is checked for parking stickers every day. With no sticker it would be ticketed the next day. And why leave it running, and unlocked? That calls an extreme amount of attention to it. If one were to steal then abandon a car, one would want it as normally parked and inconspicuous as possible. But if it wasn't, which it didn't seem to be, who would leave a car running, lights on, unlocked, and forget that they did that?

I still have all my sad things, and so many worries about upcoming bills, but for tonight at least maybe the mystery of the missing person will distract me enough to get to sleep quickly, and I can sleep well.

Day 2863 - 5/3

Unknown

Today I'm not sure what to expect. Yesterday it got pretty warm, but today it's a bit cloudy and chilly so far. And this afternoon I have class, which should be fun, but leaves only a little bit of day before and after where stuff may happen.

The mystery car was gone this morning, so hopefully the owner eventually came back. I'm sniffly and still a bit out of it. Yesterday and today I've felt very confused and disoriented. But I don't feel overly worried about things, at least not yet because I'm still sleepy. And though little has changed lately I still hope positive change continues to come.

Week 410

Day 2864 - 5/4

Sore feets

Today my feets are super sore. I can barely walk. I don't know what is up with that. I've barely walked any extra lately, certainly not enough to warrant hurting like I've walked a couple of miles.

I'm worried about my lunch friend. Last time I saw him was Friday. I know his class he's been visiting me after is Monday and Wednesday, but I haven't seen him all week so far, which is highly unusual. I'm worried he's sick, or worse. 😞

Today was the class I TA for. They are starting to shoot and show stuff, so that is where it starts to get super fun.

But I'm very stressed lately. And there have been many sad dreams and stressful nights leading to a lot of lost sleep. I'm exhausted. Yesterday I nearly nodded off a few times in class. 😞 Hopefully soon things will be better, and tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 2865 - 5/5

Getting colder

Today things are getting colder again. The sky is turning more and more gray, and when I left school last night and tonight there was evidence of light rain.

I saw the lunch friend today. So, phew. I can stop worrying something bad has happened. He showed up with some students in the later afternoon (he's a TA for the writing teacher). He reminded me he was helping his grandma who'd hurt her hip lately. And I felt very sad because he'd mentioned that and I should have remembered. But I've been so completely exhausted and out of it lately I totally forgot.

And I am very out of it feeling again today. I am again feeling like I'm in a haze. I feel like no new information will have really stuck from today, or that I would be able to recall events clearly. I know it was an ok day. I know there were times I helped people. I

was sad. I remember smelling super yummy burger smells walking outside to go to micro dinner. And I laughed some talking with people. But details are gone. All that remains are feelings of exhaustion, feelings I look unique but don't feel attractive, and that I continue to feel lost and like there is no place I belong in the world. 😞

Day 2866 - 5/6

Sad on the outside

Today I feel like I am not just sad on the inside, but sad on the outside. Maybe it's because I've been losing a lot of sleep lately. Possibly more likely a combination of that and no longer being able to afford food that isn't microwaved (or pre-cooked) anymore, even if the past few years that's only been once or twice a week. But I feel exhausted. I feel upset, grumpy, like there is a rage inside me and I'm right on the edge of snapping and unleashing on someone.

I was really looking forward to seeing my lunch friend, but he didn't show up. I guess that's not extremely unusual as I don't usually see him Fridays, and it was raining for a bit today, but it was disappointing. 😞

All day I've felt off about my games too. I don't know if it's that I have really been wanting to play a particular game since it launched three months ago, or if it's just that my depression overall has me feeling sad about everything and if I just want something to be different.

A movie I am hoping to see opens today. I have my gift card thing with me already so I don't forget to take it. But more importantly I am going to check how much is left on it, to be sure there's enough. I didn't see any way to check it though and forgot to look. I would probably want to go Sunday anyways. Saturday it would likely be completely packed since a lot would want to see it. Sunday may not be a lot better, but I figure with it being Mom's day it might.

I suppose overall today could have been worse, but I feel exhausted, grumpy, sad, and mad. And the saddest thing is if I had friends I hung out with in my life all it would take to feel a lot better is some game playing and a no stress dinner; something like pizza, or Chinese food, burgers and fries, or maybe new school wings.

I thought of going down to the gaming shop today. They have 'open gaming' scheduled. But not knowing anyone there, and it being probably three or four days of gas, it's not something I could afford right now.

Day 2867 - 5/7

Hurting heart

Today was sort of good. I had fun playing my games and watching shows. But it was cold and gray outside. The day came and went and it never felt like time passed because the day was the same color and temperature all day.

All day there was a hurting around my heart. Not a lot. And maybe it's just congestion, that happens sometimes. But it seems more like deep sadness. As it has often felt these days, broken. 😞

There is so much I want to change in me. But I either lack the safe space to do it, or lack the money to change. Things I want to have or do must be left undone. And the absence of that change, the absence of those things, makes me feel more and more is lost or missing. While many of these things have not been for a very long time, in my current life it seems they may never be.

But for now all I can do is continue to hang on. All I can do is try to hold on to hope. And maybe if I focus on the few happy things I can still have, maybe I can set aside the things I don't have long enough to make it to a time and place I can.

Day 2868 - 5/8

Almost forgot

Today was actually a better day. The morning seemed pretty average, the afternoon too. I played my games, watched some shows, and helped on the forums for just a little bit.

When it got into late afternoon and early evening I remembered I wanted to go see if I could see my movie. I got there later than I normally would have, but in plenty of time. The gift card paid for most of it, but I had to pay a few dollars from real monies, which thankfully I had.

For a few hours, and maybe a bit in the coming days, I feel like a regular person again. Sure maybe small, out of shape, and not how I want to be comparing myself to people in the movie, but that's to be expected after an action superhero movie. But in terms of doing normal things, things which were also how the older normal me would do them, I feel happy. And for the moment, at peace.

But that was it. The gift card is gone. This will be the last movie I could see as I normally would. And the two more I'd like to see coming out in the coming months I likely won't be able to see. For the moment my happy things keep me hanging on, and on days like this calm my nerves, rage, and sadness. But as the ability to do the things run out there will no longer be that escape. 😞

Day 2869 - 5/9

Need a vacation

Today was good and bad. It actually started out feeling very good and happy. But as the day went on I think each step of my 'normal' routine brought me more and more down.

I feel like I need a vacation. Like need time to rest in a safe space and not worry about a time for windows. Every day I watch for this window, and when I'm in it it's counting down to the next window. Every day I count small windows for a few hours for this, then a few hours for that; a never ending stream of stressing out over which small window is when.

I suppose back when I had a 'nine to five job' it wasn't much different. The windows were a bit longer, and once a week the timer was reset to a few days away instead of a few hours. But even that small break, in a safe and calm space, was something far greater than what I have now.

I know I had a pretty good day, but the enjoyment isn't as great. The memory feels flat and barren, like looking at a desert. Yet I know, just like the desert, if you know what to look for it is not as barren as it seems. But with my sadness and exhaustion beating me so far down lately I lack the strength to properly look.

I only have a tiny bit of money left. Yet gas is nearly gone again, another insurance payment in just under three weeks, and a big cost to renew the registration in about two months. Though these are not overwhelming costs, with no income and needing help from others to get by, things feel very bleak. And it is tougher and tougher to hang on.

But in spite of how much I feel I am losing, how much I have already lost, memories of what a regular life is growing more and more distant every day, I must continue on. As long as I can hold the faintest light of hope the shadows cannot completely consume me.

Day 2870 - 5/10

Test

Today I have a test in my class. I'm always ready-ish, but I don't really know what will be on it since we had one just a few weeks ago.

I suppose the day will be ok. I feel congested, and due to sad dreams last night, sad. The day is confused, pretty warm, but also overcast like it will rain.

I don't know what today will bring. I always hope something good, maybe something new. But it's been so long since I've had control of anything I can't remember the last time I had plans for a day. In a way I suppose that's a good thing, for without plans and expectations it is difficult to be truly disappointed.

Week 411

Day 2871 - 5/11 Third strike for them

Today was good, but also kind of bad. In the later morning I was surprised by my lunch friend. His class was canceled so he showed up early and we watched a few shows. My class I TA for went well and was fun, but after it was over I rapidly felt sad and quickly felt like my less than ordinary depressed self. 😞

The other day the replacement replacement headphones cracked on the side. Which is unsurprising since two, or is it three, others broke in the exact same fashion. Today I put them back in the box, as they are still functional with that side pushed all the way in. They are uncomfortable like that, and the other side shows signs of cracks, so they won't last long. But I won't get rid of them yet, just in case. They are headed straight to the trash though when they are done. That company's product is garbage and I will no longer use it even if they offer to replace it again for free once these are gone completely.

So again tomorrow I will be back on my console headset, which has a broken spine in two places. While it is heavy and broken, it is the most functional one I have. (Not counting the very low power phone in the ear type ones I have.)

I suppose losing nice headphones isn't the end of the world. And honestly I would prefer a nice game as a gift instead of a medium fancy replacement headphones right now, as I do still have mostly functional ones. But it is sad to have a thing that frustrates me every day.

I sort of cut myself shaving in the morning. It was nice to have a few people comment on it and show concern. Usually I feel I am unremarkable and largely ignored and people don't care at all about my looks or health.

I am again exhausted today. I think due to lost sleep I am extremely hungry. I ate double the amount of chip snacks, and probably 50% more drink, and I still feel like I had no dinner at all. I think it's because of everything I've not eaten for so long. Once upon a time I could get a fancy meal once a week. Then it had to be reduced to every other week. At this point it must be nearly two years since I had any kind of money to have any kind

of scheduled fancy meal. It's probably been three or four months since the last, and as long to the one before that.

My lack of freedom of money has caused so many things to flat line and become the same that my life is turning into one big long blurred cycle of a week, over and over. And even days which should be different are so limited they are effectively still the same. It's not that I want to change or break my routine, it's just the choices within it are not really choices anymore. 😞

Day 2872 - 5/12

Another spinal reinforcement

Today was mostly a blur. I am still so very exhausted, and so very hungry. Last night I actually fell right to sleep, a first in probably more than six months. I slept well too, but again had sad dreams about packing and moving out of somewhere. 😞

I don't remember much of today. I did my regular things. I do remember a few brief conversations in game though. One was a person who rapidly seemed crazy, and the other was mostly just me offering to help someone with checking why their system seemed to not quite be working right.

Though I was again in a haze, confused, not speaking clearly or able to communicate my ideas well. But my brain did clear for a very brief while. I was doing stuff with the old console headphones and being frustrated with its limitations. As it flopped loosely as I put it back on I thought how the replacement headphones actually aren't that differently stressed. In fact, the parts it would need reinforcement on might actually be easier to reinforce because they are less stressed. So, tonight after I'm done writing I'll try that out. It would be much better than the console ones for several reasons.

Outside of that my day was regular. I still worry all the time about all the things I don't have money for. With nothing new to look forward to my days all blur together. And as always I try and hang on to what good things I do have, and keep hope alive. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 2873 - 5/13

Feeling betterish

Today I am feeling a bit better. I got a bit more sleep than normal, though not by much. I am still in a haze, but it is not as bad as it has been lately.

Mostly I was alone today, as usual. But not alone, as I am always surrounded by people. A few said hi and a few other passing words as they passed by me in the hall, but otherwise I didn't really interact with anyone. I honestly don't know if I can ever really feel alone and like I am getting space as long as I'm in public places. Even when I'm out on campus on the weekend and hardly anyone is around I still can't relax and feel like I'm getting space because it's still in public. I don't control it. I can't alter the volume or the temperature of things. And, as always, there is the ticking clock.

Today really wasn't bad. More than usual was done in a way. And yet since I don't have any privacy, since I couldn't unwind, less than what could have been done was done. My games continue to offer some distraction. But without new things it is getting harder and harder to be pulled into other worlds away from my sad things in this one.

As always, I continue to try to hold on to hope and try to remember that tomorrow could be a better day.

Day 2874 - 5/14

Add line

Today was pretty good. It started worried and sad. I discovered my oil is below the add line, so that is probably yet another \$10 I need to worry about along with gas and all the other things I can't pay for. 😞

But my time at school was ok. It wasn't too cold outside. And most of the day it was quiet and there were very few people around. And, for once, in a great while, I actually had a lot of fun playing my games and was distracted from my sad life. I watched a few shows too, and as usual helped on forums.

All in all it wasn't a really unusual Saturday. In fact there really wasn't anything different about it in terms of what I did. But I felt ok. Maybe it was because it was a bit

warm in the sun, so for the briefest moments I passed through the sunny areas it was nice after so much cold and cloudy weather lately.

Today was a better day. But only in how I felt, maybe how I perceived things. In actuality there are still so many worries and fears and nothing really changed. But I felt better, so maybe, if even for today, maybe I changed. Just a bit.

Day 2875 - 5/15

Feeling better, feeling sad

Today was actually pretty good. It started much later than usual as I decided to take a shower today instead of tomorrow. And, since the discovery of almost no oil in the car I decided to start just walking to the shower instead of parking near the pool then moving the car over to my regular spot across campus to reduce wear on the engine until I get more oil. Though with how rare donations and other help is lately I don't know how I'll be able to hang on. 😞

Mostly today I feel better. I had fun in my game and watching shows. It was warmish again today. Though there was an unusual breeze that kicked up stuff I was allergic to into the air, so I started sneezing as it got later in the afternoon.

As it got into the evening things started to feel weird as night approached. I got more and more sad. I am getting very worried about all the things I need to pay for to keep my car and keep moving and I don't know how I'll make it. While it seems my social page is getting more visits lately, there are no new followers. And while one new donator has appeared, that was the first new donator in probably over a year.

It seems support is becoming less and less likely, and with it I wonder why I don't have help. Is it something that makes me seem unworthy of helping? Does everyone just assume I can get a job anytime I want? Is it that those who know me, or find my site, are also in a bad position in life and can't help? Or is it that people just don't consider me special enough to allow themselves to feel something or worry about me?

With being isolated and an outsider for so long I can't help but feel something must be 'wrong' with me. Either as an invisible force or feeling people get about me, or in the way I go about things, or how I present myself. I have been alone most of my life,

with few around me. I'm used to it. I'm mostly ok with it. But I would at least like to have the basics everyone else seems to have. At least if I could get back to that I could try different things. I could be in a place emotionally and physically to consider change.

Until then I will continue to feel like the hurt, lost, scared bunny, and continue to hang on to hope that help will come, or that I can hang on long enough to find my way back. 😞

Day 2876 - 5/16

The cutest surprise

Today started a bit sad. I guess there was an allergic reaction in my eyes from all the dust yesterday, as the bottoms are a bit poofy and sensitive to touch. Also, there were no donations or well wishing, so I was sad about all the things.

But there was some good news in the mail. As I thought, I do not need to do a smog check this year. Which is a huge relief since the problem that existed before has not been checked or fixed, so without some kind of illegal cheat it seems unlikely I'd pass. So that is a huge relief in that I have a bit over a year to worry about it. But equally as important is that the registration is just under \$100 (if paid on time), quite a bit lower than the \$150 I'd been remembering. I guess that figure stuck in my head and was higher due to smog. Still, I have \$0 towards it, but it is very good to have the not smog confirmed and the news of the lower price.

Today was actually pretty good emotionally. Maybe, in a way, the best in a long time. I had quite a bit of fun with my games and shows. I chatted with some people, so though I was not directly included in stuff I was indirectly a part of other things for a brief while.

But the best part of my day was near the end of my lab time in the evening. There were a few people in there, but they weren't people I was expecting to help. So I was playing my game and not paying attention to them. I noticed out of the corner of my eye something slowly moving along the floor which was moderately sized. I glance down to see what it was and it there was the cutest baby kitten. 😺 Not so small as to need to always be with his mother still, but maybe between 6-8 weeks old I'd guess. He was just

curiously walking around, and I gasped a happy surprise hello and asked him who he was and how he got here. He looked up at me. I paused my game and went over to slowly and carefully scoop him up with one hand. As I gently picked him up and set up a huggy cradling spot to talk to him a bit more his person said 'oh, he must have got out.' While they came around the tables to get him he purred and snuggled in to my spot I was holding him in near my heart. He was so very soft, so very warm, and had the happiest purr. 😊

It's been a very long time since I held a tiny baby critter like that. The last time I was near a critter at all was probably when I went to the person's house to help with their project about two months ago. But even then that was a full grown kitty. The tiny baby kitten was quite different. He was full of curiosity, so much life, and so very soft and warm. And it was nice he instantly trusted me and was snuggling up and happily purring in my arms.

I only held him for a brief moment before kissing his head and giving him back to his person, but it was the cutest surprise in as long as I can remember. 😊

Day 2877 - 5/17

Sad and weird

Today has started out feeling sad and weird because of sad dreams again. It's warmish though and it feels like the day will get super warm again like it did yesterday. But I have class through the bulk of the day, so I'll likely miss it. It's ok though because class is pretty fun since we just watch old movies.

The day is just starting, so I don't know what it will bring. But as usual, I try to hang on to hope it will be better than the last.

Week 412

Day 2878 - 5/18 **Nice surprises**

Today was a day of nice surprises. Pretty early in the morning I got a big donation from the person who keeps saving me. While not enough for insurance and registration, it will cover most of it. So that reduces my worry quite a bit because I'll just need a bit more and both will be covered.

Then, a bit later in the morning I was sent a gift of a game that's been on my wish list for a while that people have been saying is good. So I get to check out a newish game in a world I haven't yet played. (It's the third in the series, and the gift actually was a combo pack that has all three.)

And then in the early afternoon I got into a beta for something I have some interest in. It will be a free to play game in the same genre as another I sometimes play, so it will be cool to check out the differences and see if I like it.

So today was quite different. Though due to my TAing a class for the bulk of the day I didn't actually have much time to do stuff, so tomorrow will be the really relaxing day I have to start checking out all the things.

But it was nice for things to be different. It was nice to know people out there do watch out for me. It was nice to know people do want me to feel better and hang on. And tonight I will hopefully sleep a bit better because of it.

Day 2879 - 5/19 **Good day, but feel sad**

Today was mostly a pretty good day. It started off poorly though with a chore that at the best of times will take 30-45 minutes, but today took a lot longer due to traffic, eating up more than an hour. My ex-roomie left some recycle, which filled what spare room there was in the trunk, plus all of my back seat area. So my car smelled like garbage recycle and it couldn't wait until Saturday when there wouldn't be traffic. It worked out ok

though, as it was quite a bit of monies. But it left me bitter and upset until the afternoon, as I lost a ton of otherwise relaxing fun time.

Overall the day was pretty good though. I settled in and played my main online game, plus a new game, plus a different game I don't play much, and the beta I just got in for just a brief while. The shifting helped me clear some of the monotony and routine away, so that helped a bit.

The day was pretty quiet, so that was relaxing. And my lunch friend visited me during my break, so he got to share at least part of a show.

But around dinner I started feeling sad again. Maybe it's because even though I'm on my way to being saved yet again I'm still not safe. It's like I'm in a running lava flow and a safe stone spot opens, I jump to it, then it starts to sink. Though safe for the moment, the danger continues. It is all around me and I am not in the clear.

All I can do is what I have been doing; try to stay positive and hang on until better days.

Day 2880 - 5/20

Evidence of rain

Today was a strange day. Nothing really unusual happened. I saw basically the same Friday people as I always do, and did much of the same things, but I felt odd. It was like I was there and not there at the same time. I suppose it was because I had a good time with my games and shows, and the sand things in my life didn't bother me too much. But it felt like part of me was where I was, and like another part was outside of that, looking on from... I don't know where. As if today was a memory, and I was actually in the future in a better place, somehow replaying this day.

Monday it was warm and nice; shorts weather. Today it was cold, cloudy, and super windy. When I left school there were gray clouds and here and there was evidence of rain.

Things feel as if they are changing, and in a way already have. And yet I see no evidence of it. To me, things look the same.

Day 2881 - 5/21

Sprinkles

Today was ok, I guess. It was pretty cold, and rained for about an hour. It made things feel extra sad. Which is strange because once upon a time rain made me feel at peace, balanced, like a soothing force.

There was a special speaker event today, so for a couple of hours I saw people I'd see most any other day. There weren't too many hellos because of how brief a time the event was, but it was nice and unexpected to see people.

Other than that my day was a fairly normal Saturday. I was inside in the morning and outside in the afternoon and evening. I played my games and watched some shows and had a pretty good time.

But I was still sad and missed my old life. I miss the very basic things I don't have, and the average not basic things which I may never have again. Today too again I didn't feel quite right, again like I'm partly outside my body looking in. In a way it feels as if part of me, maybe my soul, is lost, or separated from the rest of me. Maybe there is too much sad. Maybe there has been so much sad for so long a part of me, maybe hopes and dreams, have passed on.

I hope someday I can be whole again; that I can be back in a home, maybe even have real life friends I hang out with. And that when I am, the old me can return. But I fear that parts of me may never be able to recover. 🙄

Day 2882 - 5/22

The missing day

Today seems to have been missed. I'm adding this at the end of the week. I remember Sunday was a pretty usual day, though it started out very unusual. While showering on Sunday is a newish thing, there was some huge event going on there, which blocked off everything around it. Parking was a huge pain, and when I got to the locker rooms I discovered they were closed and locked.

I remember there was some kind of graduation event going on, and the chef and some of the cooking staff were around. In the later afternoon the chef offered me some left over sandwiches. Unfortunately they had mayonnaise on them, which at first I didn't notice, so it's good I didn't dive in. But after the package sitting near me for a while I definitely could smell it and had to cover it to prevent the smell from getting to me. It was nice to be thought of, but sad to be reminded my life is not normal and people treat it as such. 😞

Day 2883 - 5/23

The spill

Today was a bad day. 😞 It had already been a bad day most of the day due to feeling tired, grumpy, cold then hot, then feeling fat, then depressed about what my life has become. But in the later afternoon it got worse. 😞 I had been drinking water and playing. I normally use plastic bottles, as they can be re-capped. I will pour in a drink, toss the can into the paper bag if it's soda, but then seal the drink. Today was one of the few days I figured I wouldn't, as I was having a snack and frequently drinking. Somehow the water (with a slight bit of lemonade mix flavor) tipped over and spilled on about 1/4 of the laptop keyboard. 😞 I froze for what felt like forever, likely waiting for sparks and flames, but it was probably only really about five seconds. Nothing seemed to be happening. I quit my game, shut off the system, then padded up the spill as best as I could. After I padded off the keys in the area to dry out each spot. I left the keys off for about five minutes before putting them back on and turning it on. Since nothing had immediately happened on the spill I figured on would be better, particularly if I could get it to gaming temperatures, as that would help dry it out. Laptop keyboards are different from desktop and fairly spill resistant these days, so it seemed a decent bet.

It turned on and seemed fine. I played for a bit, but things started to seem a bit funny. It turns out several keys in the area were misfiring when pressed, registering multiple keys instead of the one. Unable to game I watched a show. Four and a half hours passed and while the effect lessened it kept happening.

I'm in the ex-garage now and after I'm done writing I'll clean the entire keyboard out using cleaning alcohol and q-tips. Hopefully in the morning it will be fine. If not... if it's not better... or if it's worse... I don't know what I'll do. 😞 If it's the same then at least in theory I could get a cheap USB keyboard and just use that. I thought I had one here, but it looks like I probably gave that to my friend when I gave him my desktop. (Which now would probably be 11 years old, so nothing in it would be useable to pull into a new gaming system today.)

All I can do is hope for the best. 😞 And it's kind of a miracle the laptop is already like five years old and still going strong. I don't know what I'd do without it. 😞

I shed some tears a few minutes ago thinking what if it's worse, what if it doesn't work? And if it does, how much longer does it have? While I can only live one day at a time and try to focus on the best that each day offers, it is extremely difficult to do. 😞

Day 2884 - 5/24

Phew

Phew, today, as hoped (and somewhat expected) the keyboard seems fine again. And, I did learn a little something. I learned how the plastic 'springs' work for each key, as one popped out and came apart, and I spent probably as much as 10 minutes trying to figure out how to put it back together and in place. And I discovered that my spacebar has only a single button in the center, not a couple near the edges like I thought, which would explain why it hasn't always easily registered clicks.

So what had started as a slow and potentially depressing morning will hopefully turn into a more normal one as the day goes on. There is no news yet for donations or job searches as the day has just started. Nor are there any unexpected changes such as a sweetie and flirting. But since the day has just started I will try and stay positive and hope for the best, and change, as I always try to.

Week 413

Day 2885 - 5/25 **So tired**

Today I am so tired. Maybe soon I should seriously consider napping in my car during the morning or daytime like I used to back in the day. I don't know though, it seems weird to sleep-in in the mornings after I get to school now. Hopefully I'll just start sleeping more, and deeper, at night and not need to consider that. Things have settled into a safe enough routine I should be able to get enough sleep without needing extra after I've done my first move of the car to school.

But I was super sleepy today. It wasn't necessarily a bad day, nor a super good one. It was an average homeless one of late, but extra sleepy.

I suppose it was good not being bad or something getting worse. There are so many bad and sad things that could easily get far worse lately. So I guess I am thankful for that.

Maybe though I can sleep quickly, deeply, and not be startled in fear in the night by some unexpected scary thing. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 2886 - 5/26 **Lunch**

Today was different. In the morning I had some grapes. I've had them a few times recently. My brain has just been suffering too much lately from lack of sleep and lack of non-microwaved food that I figured I had to do at least a little something even though I can't really afford it.

I also had a real lunch. Someone who I haven't seen in a few years came by with a donation and feeding me lunch. It wasn't anything super fancy, just a medium fast food place across the street from school, but being not microwaved it helped a lot. Though I'm still exhausted, I don't quite feel like I'm in as much of a haze.

The evening was a bit disappointing though. The advanced film class was showing some stuff, but no one came over to the lab to get me to join them. I guess it's not a huge deal, as I only know about 1/3 of them, but it was sad to not be thought of or invited. I mean, sure, if my life were normal I wouldn't be doing TA help. I wouldn't likely know any of them. Or if I did, either they, or I, would be passing on in a year or two, so there wouldn't be that connection.

But today seemed sad. It seemed like I had no impact on other lives, or that how I'd helped or what I'd said didn't matter. I'm sure that's not the case. I know I am helpful and probably have had some input. But still, it felt sad.

Maybe it's just in part that I'm getting older. And I'm in a very sad place in life. And maybe I just want to feel like something I've done really matters and will last beyond me, if even just indirectly through helping someone else.

So I suppose today was good, but also sad; As my sad things continue and I continue to ponder all the sad things that have come, and those yet to come which will be a result of them.

Day 2887 - 5/27

Cheap

Today I felt sad, but actually had some good news. I finally was able to lift my head out of sadness long enough to look up how much zippers would cost at a local sewing/hobby store next to the food store. It looks like a replacement zipper for my shorts will be about. \$1. 🤪 Whuuutt? So cheap. I was figuring it would be \$5 or more. So that is super good news and I'll go measure the zipper tonight and probably get that tomorrow. It was super warm again lately, with the online weather showing today at 80F, so it will definitely be shorts weather for a bit.

Also, since I got a few donations lately and because I think it's been a month, I grabbed all my cloths to wash them. It only took two loads, which are going now as I write this, which surprised me as I figured it would be too much cloths for that and some would have to wait.

So despite my feeling pretty low all day being at school not doing any school things, only trying to live a normal life as if I were in a home, I guess there are a few small things to celebrate. I will try to focus on the good things, but I feel so sleepy I've been feeling like I'm going to pass out any second, and because of that the confusion and haze return.

Day 2888 - 5/28

So warm

Today was super warm in the shade, so it was likely hot in the sunny areas. I was a bit concerned about the laptop because warm going in means it will have a harder time keeping cool. It wasn't hot, but half of the keyboard got pretty warm. (The side with the physical hard disk and graphics chip.)

I got my zipper for fixing my favorite shorts. It was pricier than online at \$2.15 after tax, but that is still a very fair price to get my favorite shorts back, particularly since there are only two other pair.

Today was ok I guess. Despite it being a long weekend it was really just a regular Saturday for me (other than the nearly hot temperature.) I am still very sad, very worried, and unbelievably sleepy.

Day 2889 - 5/29

The event

Today was actually pretty good. The morning had extra surprises as it was both open at the pool area, so I could shower, and the church group was there, so I microed a soup.

The day itself was fairly slow and uneventful. Most of the day it was just a regular Sunday of a brief job check, playing a few games, and watching a few shows.

The evening was different. I went to a local event where people were meeting to play an online card game; the one I'm an MVP on the forums for. It was a small place,

and only a half dozen people showed up, but it was pretty fun. I'm bad at the game, so that part was meh. I'm always on the fence about if I should continue playing or not. But meeting and chatting with the people was pretty fun. The guy said he may do another in a month, so we'll see if it happens again.

I suppose overall today was pretty good. The day was warm, though the evening started to get a bit too chilly for shorts. I got my usual shower and had my usual Sunday outside of school. And the event in the evening was pretty fun. Though I still hope tomorrow will be a better day.

Day 2890 - 5/30

Mister stinky feet

Today was pretty good. It was peaceful and quiet on campus. There were a few small groups of students passing through in the later afternoon, or doing what looked like thinking about a group project, but that was basically it.

My morning started off with a surprise doughnut. I'd gotten one for Sunday, but I wasn't quite hungry enough for it. I guess I completely forgot I had it as it went undiscovered until this morning. The rest of my day went pretty normally with games and shows.

At least until I was disturbed by mister stinky feet. There has been a guy literally sitting right behind me for a few weeks now. I may have to see about moving that bench next weekend. It's not supposed to be there. But out of like probably 30 tables, the closest of which is about 20 feet from where I sit, this guy has been coming to the one which is probably less than two feet from me. Not only does it put him behind me, where there is this cone behind me I don't like people being and making noises, but today he took off his shoes (he had no socks), so his stinky feet were literally two feet away from just about my head. I was nice and didn't say anything, but at the start it was almost so bad I was nearly gagging. Thankfully the day was pretty hot, so they dried and the breeze aired out most of the stink in about 15 minutes.

My back is killing me. Likely not just from today, but the weekend sitting overall. But I suppose a sore lower back and a brief time of stinky feet isn't too bad of a day. It actually could have been worse in any number of ways.

Yet, as always, I continue to hope there are better days ahead of me.

Day 2891 - 5/31

Looong weekend over

The long weekend is finally over. Like the last one, it feels more like a week than a weekend with a single extra day. It has been getting warm again, and it is actually almost hot and it's still the morning time.

I don't know what today will bring. I didn't see people yesterday, so today is a total unknown. I have class, which is the bulk of the day. But then after that I will likely just be hanging out in the lab and helping people with projects that are due tomorrow. This quarter seems to have a higher than average number of 'last minute people'.

As always, I hope today will be good, and so far I already feel pretty good. And I hope tomorrow is even better.

Week 414

Day 2892 - 6/1 **Cheese sandwich rations**

Today I am pretty sad. I've actually been very depressed for a while now and as part of that I've been getting a lot of bad food snacks. Tasty dessert snacks make me feel less sad, but they are also horribly expensive. Which leads to things like the last few weeks of my taking minor hits to regular meals, which leads to me feeling hungry more often, which leads to my being more depressed and sad, which just generates a bad cycle.

So now I have gotten so low on food monies I'm basically going to have to heavily ration. I'll likely have cheese sandwiches more than not for the next five days.

Someone promised me a dinner tomorrow, so in theory I have real food to look forward to tomorrow. But outside of that I'll have to be really ridiculously careful. 😞

I suppose today was ok other than that. I was free in the morning, then the class I TA for was split half doing shooting and the other half showing projects they'd done. So the day was pretty fun, plus there was the usual game playing and show watching, so that was ok.

I will nom some cheese sandwich to calm my tummy, hopefully sleep ok through the night, and hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 2893 - 6/2 **Farewell to the lunch friend**

Today brought a bit of sad news. I saw the lunch friend in the evening, who I haven't seen in what feels like weeks. He said he hasn't been around because he dropped his classes and is going to go back to a 3d art focus at a college he used to go to. He's super happy about it, so it's nice to see him super happy and positive about the direction his life is going.

But I'll miss our lunch sharing. It was nice to have a friend to talk to and laugh with, and to share shows with. I do expect everyone I meet will move on and have lives

without me, but I guess it just seems extra sad as he's one for the few who have been close to becoming a real friend.

Maybe it feels extra sad because he's not on social media, and being a console player he's not on a system I can add him there either.

I suppose it's always possible I could win the lottery before the quarter is over and offer an open invitation to put him up where I land if he needs a place to stay for continuing college. But with our age difference and not being able to offer much, it doesn't feel right to reach out without that stable normal-ish life in place.

I am sad and not really sure what to feel about it. I suppose, as always, I will try and look at the good things I do still have, and hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 2894 - 6/3

A Friday

Today was just a regular Friday. Besides what may have been record breaking heat, it was no different than any other Friday.

I suppose today was neither good nor bad. I was able to play my games and have fun, but there were no donations, nor anything that changed my future path.

I suppose it's a good thing nothing got worse. Though, I'm exhausted. I'm hungry. I'm worried if I will have enough to pay for the car registration (I still have enough for half from the previous donation rounds.) And I still worry and wonder if anything will really change for the better since I've fallen so far. 😞

Day 2895 - 6/4

Hot, and a cold

Today was pretty hot. Though it didn't actually get hot until late afternoon. The morning was oddly cloudy, and it even looked like there was some evidence of rain when I was inside school.

It was a pretty regular day, but I think I'm developing a cold. For a few days my throat has been messed up. Yesterday I started to get sniffly. And today I'm pretty sniffly, my throat is super scratchy, and I'm sneezing.

Though I was actually sad today. I think it was from leftover thoughts of the lunch friend, combined with the event last weekend. It makes me miss actual friends more. So today I felt like I wanted to be doing pen and paper gaming, or maybe board games, with friends. But I have no real life friends to do that with, and haven't in years. With each quarter that comes and goes where people seem friendly, then not becoming long lasting friends, I wonder if I will ever have such friends again.

And so I feel sad. As I am not gaining new friends like that, and I don't have new virtual worlds to play with and possibly find new ones there either. I feel alone, sad about days long past, which may never come again. And I try to hang on until better days come.

Day 2896 - 6/5

A better day

Today was actually a better day. 😊 All the positive things I expected and hoped to have were there, and there were unexpected surprises.

In the morning I got my shower, though it wasn't quite as private as normal due to a swim meet. And after, the church group was at school, so I could pop in to micro my soup for lunch.

When I'd gotten set up and checked my email there was a donation gift card from the person who keeps helping. 🧑‍💻 It was so that I could catch a game I've been wanting on sale. So I got that, and with the Xmas monies I have been holding on to I got the add on stuff for it. I immediately started downloading it, but sadly the school hasn't been as fast as it used to be. A year ago you could pull about 5 or so gig per hour, but for a while now it's been slower, or capped, I'm not sure which. But it seemed that it peaked at about 1.5 gig per hour. So I didn't get all of the game, even spending all day and evening downloading. It's about 65%. Worst case scenario is that tomorrow after the lab opens I can yonk a landline and it will probably get the rest in about five minutes.

There was no stinky feet person this week either, so I was left in my quiet corner alone. I had everything I'd hoped and expected for today, and more. 😊

For the moment my spirits are bolstered. I know there are people out there who care and worry about me. And with the recent games gifted my spirits are lifted and I can escape to something that is not my sad life. And at the same time, feel more connected to others playing these games around me, and as such feel like I'm part of a greater whole.

Today I feel like I have little lights along my dark path to help me going. And much like street lights, hopefully they will help me along until I find my way back home.

Day 2897 - 6/6

Growing cold

Today was pretty much another better day. Though it was a bit saddened, as I pretty rapidly started feeling more and more sick as the day went on. In the morning I finished downloading my new game. I tried playing my regular shooting game for about 15 minutes, and even in that short of a time I felt a bit dizzy. I stopped and noticed I was feeling feverish and my heart rate was pretty elevated even just sitting still. I had lunch, then most of the rest of the day I played my new game (which is a turn based strategy game, so no fear of getting dizzy.)

Most of the day I was pretty sick, so things seemed to pass quickly. I may have had thoughts about various things, but they quickly were forgotten due to the confusion from the cold. It wasn't until after dinner that things started to clear, and even now I'm still having difficulty breathing and I feel like my heart rate is still unusually high.

But it was a pretty good day. I helped some people. I played my games. I watched some shows. And for a bit I forgot my sad life. While it will be harder to forget my sad life tomorrow if the cold lessens and my mind clears, hopefully the good feelings from recent events will last and I will have a few more better days before sadness starts to consume me again.

Day 2898 - 6/7

Coughing up yuck

Today I feel pretty good emotionally, but my cold is beating me up. I am super tired, super thirsty, congested in my nose, and when I cough yuck comes out. 😞

Hopefully I'll be better very soon. I feel mostly better, but my body is having a tough fight.

Emotionally I feel pretty good though. The day is cool and threatening rain, but I'm sure that will clear. I have my class, so that will be very restful, as it's just a bit of lecture then watching old movies.

Hopefully everyone out there will have a good day, and an easier time in life than me. And hopefully today and my other days will be better days.

Week 415

Day 2899 - 6/8 **Feeling forgetful**

Today I am feeling like I've forgotten something important. I know nothing is due because my class is not only on Tuesday, but there is just the final coming up. I think it's just because I'm getting over the cold, so my confusion is clearing. Yet I'm still congested, yuck is in my lungs, and I'm so very exhausted, and super hungry from trying to fight it off.

Today was a pretty good day. I played my games and watched shows before and after the class I TA for. And a few people asked for my help, thanked me for previous help, and so I feel helpful and appreciated today.

Though I am still very concerned about getting the remaining monies needed to pay for registration in a few weeks, insurance at the start of the month, and next quarter's parking and gas, I still feel pretty good emotionally. And for what my life has become, lately I am having at least a few better days.

Day 2900 - 6/9 **Feeling lonely**

Today more than anything I felt lonely. This quarter and last quarter there haven't been as many people on campus, particularly in the evening. Thursday evening there are only two classes in the department, so it's very quiet. And the lab is basically empty. So most of today, particularly in the evening I was almost completely alone in the lab.

I felt sad, but was pretty happy to have my games and shows. I know I was more sad than usual though because I really wasn't excited for any of my shows, and I didn't really care all that much about watching anything.

I'm still very sick, very tired, and very hungry. And, as of last night, my left side has been hurting a bit. I guess the muscle on that side is getting a touch fatigued from all the coughing. I'm also still coughing yuck, so that doesn't feel good.

Emotionally I am more ok than usual, but physically I'm still very beaten up, and I'm still very sad and worried about if I'll have enough money for all the things coming up very soon. 😞

Day 2901 - 6/10

Another show

Tonight was another student film show at school. It doesn't feel like it's been a year since the last, but it has. When at the event, seeing many of the same people as before, it felt like there had been no time at all since the last. Yet now that I am away, it feels so very long between them. Maybe it's because I saw a lot of the work for many of the projects, and so I saw them slowly coming together.

But now I feel even smaller than before. The really good ones are such big undertakings with so many behind it, all behind the vision of one, or a few, people.

I don't know if I could ever be one of those people. I don't know if I would have enough who saw my vision to be a creator, or if enough see my worth to call upon me for help with such a project as crew. Those alongside me are half my age, and all forming bonds and connections with each other. And while I know some see and acknowledge what I can offer, to most I am invisible, and not a part of things.

I still feel lost and adrift in life. I still hope to someday find my place in life. But as I so often do these days, I wonder if that place will always be as an outsider.

Day 2902 - 6/11

A and B

Today was some of this and some of that in so many ways. It started chilly, but by the early afternoon it was getting almost hot. I started the day feeling sad, like an outsider, and very out of place. By the afternoon I was feeling my regular weekend at school self. In the morning I wasn't too worried about monies, but as the day went on and I needed

gas I became increasingly worried as I now only have 1/3 of what I need for registration in two weeks.

Overall I went from feeling very sad about my place and position to having a pretty good day eventually. But I still can't help feeling like things are slipping through my grasp. I continue to hope for donations and that help will come. And I try to stay positive and hang on until it does.

Day 2903 - 6/12

Feeling outside

Today was pretty different. In the morning the pool area was closed, and there was no church group. Campus was empty save for a few people all day. It felt like an apocalyptic future where I was one of only a few left.

I think, due to my cold beating me down physically, still being congested, coughing up yuck, and getting dizzy playing my games, I am being easily beaten down emotionally. I worry if I will have money for all the things. I feel sad and lonely because I don't have any friends I like in person to do things with. And it seems more and more when I do see or hear news lately it is filled more and more with tragedy and things that cause me to lose faith in humanity as a whole. 🙄

The odd thing is that today wasn't really a bad day for me. It was warm. I had shorts on, and took off my outer shirt layer most of the day, my connection was strong and stable so I played games and watched shows, and I felt about as good as I can feel for my current life.

I hope it is enough. I am very thankful I have my car, my laptop, and enough things to help keep me going and happy emotionally. And hopefully, someday, that better day will come that makes all days after better days.

Day 2904 - 6/13

Felt like home

Today was pretty good. My cold is still beating me up though. I am still very congested, rarely sneezing, but the congestion in my lungs persists with the phlegmy yuck. And along with the slight dizziness is a slight ringing in my ears. And I am so very tired.

But today was pretty good. I helped a few people with their projects. Sadly I found no job stuff, and as always I am sad about that and worry about bills. But in spite of that, when I was in the lab for a handful of hours I felt like I was in a home. I was fully engaged with my game, and later my online show. And so for a brief time I felt at home, able to be immersed completely in those different worlds. And, as brief as those few hours seem now, that is something.

Day 2905 - 6/14

So very tired

Today I am soooooo very tired. I'm still very beaten up by my cold. I don't have many symptoms, just mostly the sniffing and yuck in my lungs, but I'm so tired. I think it's because it takes my body so much more to fight colds since I have bleh microwave food. The chicken soups are good, I'd probably have some of those when sick either way, but I always wonder how much less capable my body is overall due to not very healthy foods.

I feel ok emotionally, but I just got settled and I'm still half asleep and completely exhausted. I actually nearly slept straight through last night, which rarely happens.

It's extremely quiet. It's the last regular week of the quarter, with next week being finals, so things are winding down.

But, as always, with the day ahead of me I hope positive things happen and I have a better day.

Week 416

Day 2906 - 6/15

Feeling happy, but also very sad

Today I feel both happy and very very sad. I feel happy because it was a pretty good day. There was the class I TA for's final projects, so we watched all the things. And I had a decent amount of time to watch a few shows and play a bit too.

But I felt very sad because, as the last class, this is yet another end. Another reminder of a period without change for me. And more still, a reminder that in a few weeks it will be the end of another year of fail.

Also I was very sad because I'm now down to about \$20 of what was almost enough to pay the registration. Back when the last batch of donations added up it was something like six weeks ago and I almost had enough. But I knew I had to be careful because of the regular costs of insurance, gas, and any emergencies that came up. And as each thing nibbled a bit away I have felt more and more sad, as I knew each bit nibbled put me that much further from making that big once a year fee. There is still about 1.5 weeks left until it's due, but I grow more and more worried I'll have nothing for it. And with each passing day I grow more and more sad that it's unpaid, as that puts me closer and closer to not being able to keep the car.

I continue to hope that help comes, and that new kind souls find it in their hearts to help, and together with those already watching out for me, that I will get enough and make it. But with things so close to the date it is becoming more and more difficult to not be constantly consumed with worry. 😞

Day 2907 - 6/16

Odd day

Today was an odd day emotionally. Though much of it I felt very sad and as very depressed about what I'm missing in life in terms of friendship and love. In particular, not having a sweetie and the possibility for kids someday. Though at this point it is unlikely

I'd have my own little ones, as it seems very unlikely I'd meet someone of an age interested in having kids if I were to ever find someone again.

So much of my day was puttering around not playing or watching shows, and juts looking at videos of stuff at a gaming convention going on right now.

When I'd feel up enough to watch a show it turns out the one I watched was a fairly abrupt ending to a series that's been going on for eight seasons that I had no idea was ending. Which also made me feel odd because I wasn't expecting it to end, let alone to be wrapped up so quickly like that.

In the evening the intermediate film class was showing their final projects they, in theory, have worked all quarter on. I knew nearly everyone in class, so it was cool to see them improving. Mostly my comments, while maybe helpful, felt more like a third wheel. But for one group I was very important, as no one in class understood their film, yet my interpretation was apparently dead on. So much so one of them laughed out loud at how exact I'd gotten the interpretation, and after the class the director of the project said he was happy because he could always count on me to get his stuff. So that felt nice to be appreciated.

I did get a donation from a friend, which helps, but I am still so very far now from having enough for the registration, and I am still very worried and constantly saddened by it. There is still about a week and a half, so I still hold on to hope more will help and I will make it. But I can't help but feel profoundly sad that it looks like I won't. And that my sad has continued for so long that each year that has gotten tougher and tougher. 🙄

Day 2908 - 6/17

Sads return

Today my sads return. I had a super good fun time with my games and a few shows, but again my sads are persistent throughout the day and I have a difficult time feeling anything but sad. Though I do feel very extremely tired as well. I have been sleeping deeper, and actually been waking up less during the night, but I feel like I am getting less sleep. Again my mind feels confused, easily distracted or swayed, and more than anything I wish I could just sleep in for several days in a row.

Nothing really changed in what I did today. It was more of the same, but with less playing and more meandering online looking at news. My thoughts were different though. With the end of the quarter my mind again thinks on friendship and love I don't have, bonds I'm not forming, jobs I might enjoy that I have not been offered, and other 'what if's that can't be.

Hopefully I'll get more, or better, sleep tonight, whichever it is my body needs. Hopefully I can go back to having fun with what I do have and enjoy today. But until then, as always, I hope tomorrow is a better day.

Day 2909 - 6/18

Rested, but tired

Today I feel rested, but also still so very tired. I think I slept well last night. I'm not sure, as I don't really remember much other than odd dreams. I think I fell asleep quickly after putting my head down, which is rare. And being the weekend I got to sleep in a tiny bit, so I do feel rested. But I still feel so very tired, and very sad.

My sads again made my fun things less fun. And my online game I used to play all the time has sort of become a source of sadness when I do visit. Being two expansions behind now, everyone has moved on, and where I am or can be is pretty empty. Plus there are only the two who I really see anymore, and even they aren't always on when I check in.

But I try to hang on. I try to have as much fun as I can, and let myself be as distracted as possible from sad things, and to focus on what I still have. I still hold on. I still hold on to the knowledge that all I was is at the ex-house, and as soon as I can, it can be set out around me again in a home and I can be whole again. I know some scars may remain forever, but I hope many of the holes can be healed. And so I continue to hang on.

Day 2910 - 6/19

Tears for momma kitty

Today was extra sad, but not from a sad thing for me. Someone posted the cutest picture of four kittens, maybe 3-4 weeks old. There were apparently found in the attic. They looked healthy, but I cried at what a bad and tough life they must have had to this point. Attics are always really warm, and while that is good in the winter they must have been very hot and I wondered how they got enough water, and if four were all there were, or if there were maybe some who didn't make it. 😞 I wondered if the mom would come back soon and they could get her to take her with the little ones to the pound together, or if she would come back after a time and suddenly find them gone, not knowing what happened or being able to say goodbye. 😞

I suppose the sad story just struck me extra hard since I've not had a loving home myself for so many years, and maybe too because I lost my mom when I was just a little one.

Though filled with extra sadness I suppose my day was ok other than that. Campus was pretty empty, though more than that it seemed still. I am still constantly sad and worried about my unpaid registration, but with a hair over a week until it's due I still hold on to hope that help will come in time.

Day 2911 - 6/20

More tears for kitties

Today I felt very sad. There was news a dead kitty was found who has all the colors of the kittens. It must have been their mom. I cried for all the kitties. 😞 I cried for mom, who probably died fighting to protect her little ones. I cried because I don't know if she knew they were safe, or if she thought they'd all been taken and that's why she died in a fight with another critter. And I cried for the little ones, who will never know where their mom went or why she is no longer with them. 😞

I suppose it's not much different from any kitty. The little ones are with them for a while, then taken away. And again maybe this has just been extra sad to me because I have been on the street without a safe loving home for so long. And again too maybe it's in part because I lost my mom.

But it made me very sad all day, and very depressed knowing how much sadness there will be in the kitten's lives now.

But I hope they will be ok. Yesterday the person posted the pound will take the kittens and find them loving homes when they are old enough, and I'm sure that will still be the case. So I try to focus on their future and hold on to hope they will always have a loving forever home and their start of homelessness and loss of their mom will be forgotten in time, and that they will remember the good, yet brief, time they shared.

And too I hope for me. I hope that I too can have a happy end to my homeless times, and not lay dying alone in the street like the kitten's mom. 😞

Day 2912 - 6/21

Quiet, and worried

Today I am still very sad about the tragedy of mommy kitty. Hopefully in time I can hear about the little ones finding happy loving homes and that will be something.

Today I am worried about all the money things. It is now one week until the registration is due, and if I subtract for things like a parking sticker and gas I basically have nothing to put towards it. If I just subtract a tiny bit for gas, and ignore a parking sticker, I still only have about 20 of the nearly 100 I'd need. So I am very worried about that. 😞

Campus is quiet and still. Hardly anyone is around. Why would they be? I am basically the only one with nowhere to go when tests are done. At least they will supposedly have a regular schedule and it will be normal right up until next quarter starts.

While I try to focus on the happy things I have there seem to be many sad reminders lately; mom kitty dying on the street, the coming registration, the end of the

quarter, and the end of the Fall year. As always I try to hang on and stay positive, but lately it has been extra tough. 😞

Day 2913 - 6/22 Spared again

Today I feel a bit better, but sadness and worry hangs over me. Hopefully very soon I will be feeling more normal though, as I have yet again been spared by the nice person who sends big donations. I'll have enough to pay the registration, and a bit more they said to spend getting a fun thing. The summer sales are supposed to start tomorrow, so I'm hoping I can get things extra cheap and get more fun things than the monies otherwise would get.

I still can't help but worry if I should though. I should most certainly honor their wishes that the money was for fun things, while the other was for registration. I certainly don't want to let them down or insult them. But I worry. There are still other bills, some coming in just a week. The fun money would cover it, but then it would be gone, forever lost. And if other help does come, there would be no reason to worry. My plan so far is to honor their wishes, but to be very extra careful how I spend the fun money. I am spending lots of time researching and pondering if I really want and need a thing. And if not, maybe save it, or reserve some, maybe hold off and see if a sale happens next week.

I hate to agonize and struggle on spending monies on something that should be fun and would otherwise be such a small cost I wouldn't even think about it at all if I had regular income. If I were even still at a 15 hour a week job this purchase wouldn't be an issue. I'd have gotten it with little to no hesitation back when they were new. But my life has become so uncertain and so desperate I'm having to second guess and completely question every single decision I ever start to make. 😞

Maybe there is something on the horizon though. I got a message from an uncle I haven't seen in probably 15 years. He told me to contact my aunt by email, which I sent an email a bit ago. I don't know what that will result in though. There are somewhat close, well some of them were, probably 40-50 miles away. Most have scattered, and these aunts and uncles would all be in their 70s or 80s now, so I don't know how much help, if any, would be offered. Most of my cousins are probably in their mid 20s to early 30s by now. But maybe there will be something there. It seems doubtful though. That is the side of my

family I felt weird seeing because for many of them I was the first nephew who was the son of their sibling who died. Some still saw me as me growing to who I was to become, but it always felt weird, and then as the years passed they never stayed in contact.

Though we weren't ever really in much contact to begin with as I only saw them a few times a year. Back in those days there wasn't constant contact through social media like there is today.

And I still feel weird about the end of the quarter and the end of the fall year. So today I feel weird. But I am spared again for the moment, and so I think over the next week or two as things begin anew I will hopefully start to feel better again. And I can start to feel revived and heal a bit as the pressure and change subsides. And hopefully I can have some better days ahead of me.

Day 2914 - 6/23

Passing

Today I am still sad for the endings. It may take until next month to really be feeling better; when things have started anew and I have feelings of hope for the coming things rather than being at the end of the passing thing.

Speaking of that, apparently my aunt was looking for my email contact to pass some lawyers about my grandma passing? Which is odd because I have been assuming she probably passed like 10 or so years ago. I thought she was the same age as my other grandma, being born around 1901. But I guess not, as my aunt said when she went she wasn't quite 100 yet. But it seems odd lawyers would want to contact me through email. It would seem if there were any kind of passing of a thing it would have to require document signing and legal documents and such, which I'd think couldn't be signed through email. Whatever it is hopefully it will happen soon, as it's already been a couple of days and I'm overly fixated on watching for whatever email that will be and what it will entail.

I guess today was a pretty good day, though it doesn't much feel like it. With all the loss of things ending and again being reminded of failures in life, my heart feels

broken. It aches, feels like I should have things checked, and continues to feel different since nothing seems to change.

But there is hope. My lunch friend found me the other day and asked if we could exchange emails. I did get the donations to pay for the registration, as well as another specifically for fun things. I did get an unexpected fun thing on sale during the summer games sale today. And as sad as my life is in what little I have left, that is all ok. It is still there. So I try to hug myself better, physically and emotionally, and I try to focus on what is ahead, and hope for better days.

Day 2915 - 6/24

Almost completely freaked out

Today I almost had a panic type attack and felt like I was going to freak out and break into tears. I got the donation to save me a few days ago. I'd remembered the due date as the 28th, so I was expecting to hold the money just a few extra days. I so often have nothing these days I try to hold things as long as I can. I went to find the payment notice to set it out to remind me to do it in the morning and that's when I saw the day was the 22nd. I knew it could be late, but there would be a late fee if it were. So I started to panic. I wondered how I failed myself in remembering the date incorrectly. I felt like I'd failed those who sent help in time by not paying in time. I felt like I extra failed my biggest supporter, whose support financially and emotionally has been one of the few things keeping me going.

But I held on. I continued in to school and settled in to my usual spot without tears and without losing it. I was going to pay the due now, before it was even later. When I entered the things on the site it showed the base fee due. I thought late fees might be added separately. But the confirmation page showed the same, as is the payment verification page.

As I continued to wonder and looked at the paper again that's when I noticed I wasn't remembering the date wrong once, but twice. I saw it's not due in June, but July. Somewhere along the way in the past few months with all of my worry and pain I'd set the date off in my memory by almost an entire month in my head.

I suppose it worked out for the best. It's now paid for. I can now finally set that worry, stress, and pain aside. But I wonder if I will be ok again. I have so little these days I question everything. Repeatedly. Decisions, thoughts, and plans that were once so easy, clear, and certain, are now constantly questioned and second guessed. I have enough for one thing, but what if the other thing, or the other, or the other, or a terrible new thing comes along? Constantly echoing in my mind whenever I have the slightest bit of freedom to take care of a thing.

If and when I do ever get back settled into a safe home this memory will fade quickly, as if waking from a bad dream and I can hopefully return to at least a somewhat normal life.

But for the moment I am left wondering; have I become so hurt, so fractured, so shattered emotionally that such thoughts and feelings can be avoided? Or is my near constant state of fear and panic going to remain and fee like my one and only option for reactions to everything? 😞

Day 2916 - 6/25

New place

Today was different than I'd expected. Originally, once upon a time, I'd expected maybe I would be up in the city checking out what events and festivities there were this weekend. I've never been. So I've always wondered. But being unemployed these past two years, extra spending on something I've only had a passing curiosity for, something best done with friends, is completely out of the question. Which I suppose is fine since I don't have anyone to share it with and don't know what is being missed.

It was also different today because I expected to be alone on campus. And while I mostly was, I did see a few passing by for graduation. I wondered if I should go over, maybe say bye to people. But then I thought if anyone cared to say bye to me who was leaving, they would know where to find me and already done so.

And today too I stopped waiting to see if my old online game in game monies would go on sale and spent the gift monies someone said to use to get the expansions. It's sad I didn't catch a sale and get extra, but it only goes on sale a few times a year. So I

spent a bunch of time in a new place in my old online game doing new and different things. One of my online friends I play with was there too, so we did some stuff together for a while.

I'm kind of rapidly losing interest in my online shooting game I've been playing so much lately. I don't expect I'll have anyone to play with anytime soon, so the repeated content over and over is becoming bleh. I think maybe my old favorite online game will probably go back to being the favorite again, and I'll slow down, or completely stop playing, the shooter that I've been doing solo. (Which isn't entirely a loss, as I've played somewhere around 675 hours.)

I had a super good time today, and thankfully the day passed quickly and there didn't seem to be much time to dwell on my sad things. Though I am ridiculously tired so the sad things did have an easier time taking over my thoughts. I can barely keep my eyes open, so hopefully I will rest well tonight and tomorrow can again be a better day.

Day 2917 - 6/26

Too hot

Today it was too hot. Though it was much cooler today at 85F instead of the 95F of yesterday. But for some reason once the sun started getting to my area I was rapidly getting super hot and even a bit sweaty. Which worries me because it's been forever since I washed my cloths and it could still be a while before I have spare to do so. I'm not as stinky as most, and during school I can shower whenever I want, but that will only counter slinkiness so much.

I suppose today was a pretty good day. Showers were closed, but the church group was there, so at least I got to have a micro soup for lunch.

It was strangely quiet on campus. There were almost no people compared to normal, and I didn't see any workers or security at all, which is very unusual. So things were unusually quiet.

Hopefully things will cool off quickly tonight and I can sleep well and tomorrow will also be a better day.

Day 2918 - 6/27

A good start

Today seemed like a good start. Things passed quickly in the morning, and had a peaceful fun time. In the afternoon and evening I had the class I TA for. It seemed off to a good start. The teaching side seemed to flow quickly and the students seemed engaged and interested. It will be weird since it's twice a week instead of once because of the summer quarter, so it will be interesting to see how that turns out.

I had a super fun time with class, and too with my game and a show for the small it of time I had. But I am still very worried for the next bills. The next insurance is due in three days, and there is the parking sticker I should get just a few days after that. Though I could likely park a few blocks from school if I have to, it would be very bad since with my poor feet as they are even walking just from the parking lot can be painful some days.

But today was a better day. And hopefully the once ahead will continue to be good as well.

Day 2919 - 6/28

Maybe too hot

Today I am feeling positive about things and hoping things continue to go well. I have no class this quarter, so I have today free, but I'm always ready and happy to help people that need helping.

I don't think the contact from my relatives will result in anything. It looks like she just sent some legal papers which said, once upon a time about 25 years ago, my grandma had set up a trust for me. It was specifically for going to college, which I didn't go to until much later, so it says I don't qualify. But there were some hand written notes on the side I couldn't read that may have been a reference to it being given to me when I bought an apartment with my now ex-wife back about 18 years ago. Just about 16 years ago I had to sell that, and with what was left I did get through part of college on.

But that was it. It just seemed like a formal document saying I had monies, but don't get it, so it seems weird to give that to me roughly four months after my grandma's passing.

An though I am still lacking money for the insurance at the end of the week, gas money, and a parking sticker to keep parking on campus until next quarter in late August, not counting bigger costs coming later, I am still hopeful help will continue to come and I continue to squeak by. And while nothing may change today, I still feel positive, hopeful, and there is a small spark deep inside that I'll be ok again someday.

Week 418

Day 2920 - 6/29

Nine

Today was a mix of good and bad. The day started with bad news in that I only have \$9 left in my food account. 😞 I don't know how I'll get by with that little. That's like \$1.50 a day. 😞 Even just getting lunch and dinner and nothing else, which would be enough that I could hang on but be a bit hungry a lot of the time, even for just that I'd need at least \$6 more than I have. And those meals average closer to \$4-5 per day. I did find some foods recently that might be cheaper at \$3-4 for those, but even with those I'd still be short. 😞

I had a super fun time with the class I TA for and with the few hours I had to play my games and watch shows. I am still incredibly grateful I have my laptop and a non-firewalled connection to play through. Though I have a few offline games I could play if there were a firewall, I would probably start to have a difficult time dealing with things if I were blocked at school like I was a few years ago.

So I am still very worried about money things. I have nothing to pay the car insurance at the end of the week, nor the parking sticker to allow me to park at school until next quarter starts in late August. And the sad part is that \$75 would not only cover those costs, but also gas for a month. Such a small amount when I had a normal life, yet an amount that seems next to impossible these days. 😞

As always I hope that help will come. I hope others out there are not feeling the pain and stress that I suffer from all my worries. And I hope that someday all this will be nearly completely forgotten and I will be ok again.

Day 2921 - 6/30

End again

Today is again the end of another year of fail. I suppose this end is a bit different in that I am now so used to them that it doesn't seem quite as much of an end as others.

But then too maybe it's because nothing is really ending. This time it is really only an end in calendar only. The quarter has already ended and the new one started. And it is actually quite positive feeling.

Though I feel positive emotionally, I am still very concerned about not having any money for car insurance which is due tomorrow, a parking sticker for school, money for food, and other things. I do have a near full load of recycling to take in on the weekend, so hopefully that will get me enough gas for a week and maybe a few dollars for food, which hopefully is enough to hang on.

So as the fail year comes to a close I am very worried, but also hopeful I will continue to get help and hang on, because for this change it is really just a change in name only. And as such, it is just a day, like any other.

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Where did I see it?

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

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

Day 2686 - Poem; "Do not go gentle into that good night", Dylan Thomas, 1947.

Day 2702 - Song; "Take a Chance on Me", Abba, 1978.

Day 2706 - Book; Alternate title for "The Hobbit", Tolkien, 1937.