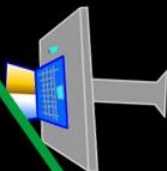
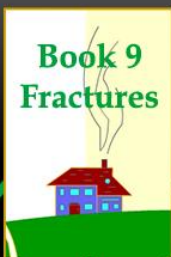


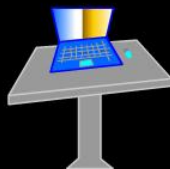
# EPIC FAIL

The Journal of a Homeless Gamer

## Book 9 Fractures



by rabb1t  
aka  
Eric Stryker



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**Epic Fail**  
**The Journal of a Homeless Gamer**

Book 9  
Fractures

By rabb1t  
aka Eric Stryker

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## Table of Contents

### *Week 418*

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Day 3000 – 9/17 – Still swollen

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Day 3128 – 1/23 – Mostly better

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#### *Week 451*

Day 3151 – 2/15 – Regrets  
Day 3152 – 2/16 – Self disappointment  
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#### *Week 452*

Day 3158 – 2/22 – Strangers care  
Day 3159 – 2/23 – Strange at night  
Day 3160 – 2/24 – Worried about specs  
Day 3161 – 2/25 – A little better  
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Day 3164 – 2/28 – Forgetful

#### *Week 453*

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Day 3166 – 3/2 – Sad again  
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Day 3168 – 3/4 – The road taken  
Day 3169 – 3/5 – Slightly better  
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Day 3174 – 3/10 – Bank scare  
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Day 3182 – 3/18 – Sonner than expected

Day 3183 – 3/19 – Sneezing  
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Day 3185 – 3/21 – Finally out

*Week 456*

Day 3186 – 3/22 – Smells like death  
Day 3187 – 3/23 – Maybe the apple  
Day 3188 – 3/24 – Rain and pinching  
Day 3189 – 3/25 – The book, and the threat  
Day 3190 – 3/26 – Feeling sad  
Day 3191 – 3/27 – Power scare  
Day 3192 – 3/28 – Very worried, almost out

*Week 457*

Day 3193 – 3/29 – Unexpected nice  
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Day 3195 – 3/31 – Surprise gas  
Day 3196 – 4/1 – So sick  
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Day 3199 – 4/4 – Still sick, still stressed

*Week 458*

Day 3200 – 4/5 – Finally returned  
Day 3201 – 4/6 – Sphagetti for breakfast  
Day 3202 – 4/7 – Ears  
Day 3203 – 4/8 – Quiet time  
Day 3204 – 4/9 – Itchy  
Day 3205 – 4/10 – Smell mystery  
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*Week 459*

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*Week 460*

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Day 3215 – 4/20 – So very tired  
Day 3216 – 4/21 – In my head  
Day 3217 – 4/22 – Would have been nice  
Day 3218 – 4/23 – Empty phone  
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Day 3220 – 4/25 – Ok, but worried

*Week 461*

Day 3221 – 4/26 – Helper  
Day 3222 – 4/27 – Sad gaming  
Day 3223 – 4/28 – Sad day, quick day  
Day 3224 – 4/29 – Not Tabletop Day  
Day 3225 – 4/30 – Acceptance  
Day 3226 – 5/1 – Fun day  
Day 3227 – 5/2 – Guiding spirit

*Week 462*

- Day 3228 – 5/3 – Lack of sleep
- Day 3229 – 5/4 – Not Monday
- Day 3230 – 5/5 – Feeling sad
- Day 3231 – 5/6 – Feeling loss
- Day 3232 – 5/7 – Upset tummy
- Day 3233 – 5/8 – Flip it
- Day 3234 – 5/9 – Maybe not itchy

*Week 463*

- Day 3235 – 5/10 – Sick in the morning
- Day 3236 – 5/11 – The little things
- Day 3237 – 5/12 – Neck breaking
- Day 3238 – 5/13 – Movie
- Day 3239 – 5/14 – Sad, and tired
- Day 3240 – 5/15 – Sick, sore, stink
- Day 3241 – 5/16 – Trying to stay hopeful

*Week 464*

- Day 3242 – 5/17 – Stinks
- Day 3243 – 5/18 – Surprise donation
- Day 3244 – 5/19 – Felt odd
- Day 3245 – 5/20 – Laundry and gas at last
- Day 3246 – 5/21 – Pretty good
- Day 3247 – 5/22 – Hoping
- Day 3248 – 5/23 – Feeling distressed

*Week 465*

- Day 3249 – 5/24 – Out of place
- Day 3250 – 5/25 – Cold again
- Day 3251 – 5/26 – So very tired
- Day 3252 – 5/27 – Warming up again
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*Week 466*

- Day 3256 – 5/31 – Cupcakes
- Day 3257 – 6/1 – Barely open
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- Day 3264 – 6/8 – The cute nurse
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- Day 3267 – 6/11 – A new world
- Day 3268 – 6/12 – That guy
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*Week 468*

- Day 3270 – 6/14 – Tears in the morning
- Day 3271 – 6/15 – Hopeful for tomorrow

Day 3272 – 6/16 – Passed, phew  
Day 3273 – 6/17 – Truly hot  
Day 3274 – 6/18 – Way too hot  
Day 3275 – 6/19 – Hopeful, yet homesick  
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*Week 469*

Day 3277 – 6/21 – Last regular day  
Day 3278 – 6/22 – Most of the day  
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*Index*

*Where did I see it?*

## Glossary and Links

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

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

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

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

**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 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.

## **Year 9**

## **Day 2922 - 7/1**

### **Huge boost**

Late yesterday I got a boost of good news. It seems my aunt says she wants to honor the award amount, which is strange. You'd think she would have mentioned that right from the very start. However, since it's a big amount I wondered if that could harm my food award amount. If I lost that, that would be devastating, as that is about \$2300 in food per year. She replied that she would check with the lawyers and see, and I haven't heard back since.

But, in theory that means I'd have enough to go back to my previous homeless life for a couple of years. And, if the car or laptop did die, while either would be devastating, I would have enough monies to try and do something to replace the item.

The short-term immediate improvements would pay the rest of the car insurance, oil change, contacts, gas money, and even things like new boots and new headphones. (Which in addition to their broken spine and general not holding their shape, have started crackling on the right speaker. Which is ridiculous that their electronics are as cheap as the plastic. I doubt these have been used for more than six months.

Today was a good day. In a bit of a surprise I got to shower, and be inside at my regular spot (no classes are going on during the summer on Fridays in my department.) And the cafeteria are was open, so I could make a soup for lunch.

I got to play and watch shows in effectively a comfy empty and peaceful space. And, with the news of the aunt wanting to give me the money, that is a huge morale boost.

I am so very tired though. I haven't slept well lately. But knowing the bills will soon not be an issue it seems I can have better days again, and at least go back to homeless normal. At least for a while.

## **Day 2923 - 7/2**

### **Pass on recycle**

Today went a bit differently than I had thought it would yesterday. Last night and this morning I thought if I really wanted to do recycling or hold off. What I'd forgotten before then was this weekend is flea market weekend. Which will be extra terrible for about a year because where I normally park is blocked off for remodeling. About 1/3 of all the school spots are unusable. So I decided to pass this weekend and do it next.

Plus, I have the donation boost. So I have just enough to pay the critical things, do some laundry, have one fancy meal, enough to not worry about food until the next food cycle in a few days, and enough gas to last until next weekend when I do go do recycle.

Things were quieter than expected for a flea market day. Likely due to it being 4th of July weekend, even though it's not the fourth for a few days. I had a strong and stable connection and played my game and watched shows as I would any other weekend.

Today was pretty good. Though all my homeless things did not change and I did worry about them, as I could in the old days I put away thoughts of 'what if' and just

focused on what is. And I tried to do the best I could with that, hoping better days will remain. And that maybe even better days are yet ahead.

## **Day 2924 - 7/3**

### **Approaching homeless normal**

Today was a pretty good day. The pool showers were closed, but that wasn't a surprise since they have been closed on Sundays since the end of last quarter. But the church group was there, so at least I got to go in and have a microwaved lunch.

Mostly the day was a pretty normal Sunday. It was quiet and calm. I played my game, but being summer I've run out of shows for the moment. A laundry load is running, so I'll finally have clean cloths again. I can't remember when I last did a wash; probably months ago. 😞

But with the donations I have the big things covered again. I have gas. I have a laundry. And with the promise of the trust from my grandma, I have the hope of returning to my previous homeless normal soon. Hopefully these fair days can continue until better days come.

## **Day 2925 - 7/4**

### **Surprisingly busy**

Today went ok. It passed a lot quicker than I expected it would. That most likely had to do with all the people on campus. There was some kind of summer camp going on, so there were a bunch of teens and pre-teens around. Which is odd. You'd think they'd have the 4th off. And then too overall there were quite a few on campus.

Today for me is somewhat ending. I'll be off to hide for the night soon. Yet for just about everyone else the night may be just about to start.

I had a pretty good day playing my game. And it was warm, but not hot. And again, it passed pretty quickly, so things didn't feel too sad. But I'll be very glad to be back at school again tomorrow in my regular spot, able to maybe help students who need

help. And hopefully with the long weekend behind me things can start to go back to homeless normal.

## **Day 2926 - 7/5**

### **Feeling normal-ish**

Today I am feeling normal-ish. I got to shower and shave my parts, finally. I am in my regular spot; quiet, comfy, and warm. And today, while it maybe a bit slow due to the class I TA for not being today and them not needing lab help yet, should be an ok day.

My hair is actually getting to a weird spot. The fauxhawk, in places, is getting long enough to consider getting a comb and some kind of spray or gel to keep it up, or flatten it back with style. My hair is normally super thin, and so it just flops flat when longer than a few inches, so that's mostly what it does in places now. So now it isn't so much of an issue of feeling bad because it's bad and sad as much as it is feeling sad that it is a flopped chaotic unflattering look. 😊

Today should be ok though, and so far, though I feel tired, I feel pretty good and hopeful. 😊

## **Week 419**

### **Day 2927 - 7/6** **Feeling better**

Today I am feeling a bit better emotionally. There was the class I TA for, so I got to be helpful, if not at the very least entertaining to some people.

I played my game a bit too, but again I still don't really have any shows to watch since they are all on break. But I did get plenty of food, as my money flipped today. There is still a tiny bit of money left too, which I can use for gas if needed.

I poked at my aunt later in the morning since I still hadn't heard anything back and she is assuming the lawyers have been on Holliday. But she said her son, who I guess is a cousin I've never met, is going to the college just a bit south of me on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and she would feel more comfortable giving him the money to hand to me instead of sending it through the mail. So, in theory it's possible something will be set up next week. She has typically taken a few days per email to get back to me, so we'll see how that goes.

Overall I feel a bit better emotionally, but I still worry about the bigger things since they still loom over my head. And, as always, greater questions remain; Will I ever make it back into a home? Will I ever find love again? Will I ever find real life friends to hang out with and play games who I have a real connection to?

### **Day 2928 - 7/7** **Ok day**

Today was an ok day. It started feeling pretty good, but in the afternoon I had to help someone, a lot. Which I really don't mind, but there really is a basic level of computer understanding and (digital) organizational skills required to use the software. So when someone doesn't have that... foووو. Like he probably spent two six hour days, or more, on something that normally takes most people 1-2 hours to finish, maybe 3 if they are very new to using this kind of software. So that was frustrating and brought my mood



down quite a bit because for several hours both days he was needing help like every 15 minutes.

On a good note there was some progress contacting my aunt about the monies. Though it looks like for my food money I have to keep my bank account below a certain point. Not that they can check it as far as I know, nor have they asked to since I first signed up, but that will make things very difficult. I'll have to maybe see if I can get a bunch in cash and just hide it with my bunnies in the ex-garage so I can have it on hand if needed, but also keep it off the record.

In good things I got to play my game quite a bit (though interrupted) and watch a show (also interrupted). And the cute girl I mentioned last quarter visited me during a break in her class. She watched me play for a bit and sat super close, almost touching me, as she has done a few times before. And when looking at certain things, leaned against me a bit and peeked up close to the monitor. So, for a short while, in what's been forever, I had a nice smiley cute girl leaned sort of against me for a bit. Normally I would consider that flirting, but she has like seven people interested in her, and she's not looking to date anyone. Plus, I'm very beyond her range of people she's looking at. Which is fine. While she is super cute and attractive she is a bit too young emotionally for me.

But today was a pretty good day. Though a bit sad, as the happy things need to be done conditionally due to my sad life. Which does little more than remind me that my sad life is so sad and not normal. 😞

## **Day 2929 - 7/8**

### **Different Friday**

Today was shifted a few times. As I feared the building was supposed to be closed. It was open in the morning, so I went and set up in my usual spot. But in the early afternoon a staff person came and told me technically today the building would be closing super early and not open for the rest of summer. Which I kind of expected, so it was fine. And, because of the camp thing that is going on the cafeteria area was open probably later than it otherwise would be. So I just went there.

But that will start to make Fridays a bit different. But I expected that. As the later into summer we get the more my time will shift away from normal. I actually wouldn't be surprised if I were forced to the library in about a month and a half. Things seem to be closing faster and faster, so the usual extra bit it's open in summer may or may not happen. I guess we'll see.

I heard from my aunt again, so we are one step closer to a tentative meet and starting to get me some of the monies. In theory we are set for next Thursday. Which is just about right as the gas I have, and likely the gas I'll be able to get, will only last about that long.

Once I do though all these day to day worries that have pressed on me for so long will instantly go away. The bigger issues, however, will remain unchanged. It won't get me into a home. It's not regular income; just a one shot thing then done. It is unlikely enough to consider making any steps towards looking towards regular gaming groups and possibly finding new friends. Even though each trip would only be \$7 a week, at four times a month that would add up very quickly. It is unlikely to put me in a position to find love, as I can't fix my teeth, or afford me the smallest of dates. Though having clean cloths and a bit more items to fancy myself up in or after showering may help.

So today, though chaotic, seemed pretty good. Things are still in flux and likely will be for a few weeks to a month. But when it does, I will hopefully be able to remain more hopeful and much less stressed than I have in past years.

## **Day 2930 - 7/9**

### **Sad thoughts**

Today I had a lot of sad thoughts. I suppose it started because of needing to take over the recycling. Though I found a slightly faster way, it still took nearly an hour, and with most of the trunk full (without resorting to random garbage bags) it was only about a \$10 gain.

So there as a huge loss of time, wear and tear on the car, stressful traffic, hot and uncomfortable weather on the way, all to barely gain one week's worth of gas. Again, I will seriously question if this is worth it due to how far of a drive it is next time I go. I'll

keep it even longer and really push the limit, which will create stress and sadness of a different kind. Before when it was just going to the food store before work it wasn't a big deal at all. But since all the local ones have closed down, and this one like 10 miles away is now the closest, it's no longer anything remotely convenient.

I suppose that messed up my whole day. I had a super fun day playing my game and watching a show, but because of being put off my normal mood, when the wind started up and dust was getting in my face and all over my laptop it again made me sad and question if things will ever change.

And too I thought about beyond the change. What will it take to repair my teeth? Both financially and emotionally. Will I be in a position to repair my physical health to at least not be out of shape? Will I be in a place emotionally and physically to find friends? To find love?

I suppose it was just a single bad day in a way. That which I can't control must be forgotten and pushed away until I can. And with all days, I will hope tomorrow starts fresh, and is its own day. And that it can be a better day.

## **Day 2931 - 7/10**

### **The bigger sads**

Today I don't have much to talk about. It feels like the end of a very very long weekend. Nothing was bad or unusual today. In fact it was a pretty good day. But I find myself occupied with the bigger sads in my life.

While my little issues will almost all go away, most likely within a few weeks of getting the first batch of the grandma money, the larger issues seem even greater. My mind wanders to those things often. What remains out of reach that I can't fix with the upcoming money seems even more unattainable because of it. The issues that exist because they are things I can't control seem even more uncertain and cloud my future, as I feel less and less in control of my life and my future; be it short or long term.

All I can do is what I have been doing; continue to focus on the positive things, the things I can control, the things which are within my grasp. And I will try again to put

what I can't control out of my mind, and hope when I wake tomorrow it will be a new and better day.

## **Day 2932 - 7/11**

### **Feeling helpful**

Today I feel pretty helpful in the class I TA for. It was the first day of doing group projects, so I walked around and helped a few of the groups focus and hopefully better manage their time and efforts.

Overall I felt a bit behind the world, as so many are playing this new free mobile game. I don't really care about it. I don't have any real interest in it. But what I am jealous of is the groups of friends going around together, talking, pointing at each other's devices, and running here and there. I miss having friends in real life to share stuff with. And this is just another reminder of that I'm missing out on... well... life.

It's not like I can just have friends just like that. Ones who I would truly feel bonded and attached to are extremely rare. Of all those I've met over the past few years only maybe four or six would even qualify as someone I felt remotely close enough to that I would even consider it.

But today was a pretty good day overall. And hopefully tomorrow will be too.

## **Day 2933 - 7/12**

### **Looking forward**

Today I feel like I have things to look forward to. There hopefully will be money soon, so all the little things can change. I have enough food today, so I have that. I should be able to play my games and watch shows most of the day. And there is stuff coming due in the class I TA for, so there may be people to help for that.

I am wearing shorts, so hopefully it won't be cold. The weather has been bouncing back and forth lately. But so far it is medium, with a very slight breeze. So it seems like

today could be a good day. And with as few opportunities as I have for change that's the most I can hope for.

## **Week 420**

### **Day 2934 - 7/13** **Feeling anxious**

Today was pretty decent. It was the class I TA for's first really big day in that we watched their first project. Everyone did surprisingly well overall. I'd say it seems a better start than the normal quarter's students even. We'll see if that strength stays with them.

I sent a message in the morning to double check we are still on to meet for monies tomorrow with my aunt. Things still seem set for her son / my cousin to meet me where I normally am at around 4 PM. So I'm feeling anxious about that. Odd because it is sort of a reconnecting. I don't know if or how much my cousins would be interested in meeting and hanging out. Will he just drop the check and immediately leave? Will he stay and talk? I don't know. He's not known me or reached out his entire life as far as I know, so I expect he'll just say a quick hi and go.

And I'm also anxious excited to be looking at having money again. I have already set up boots and headphones in my wish list and will likely order those just a few hours after getting my monies. Which both are really critical. The headphones regularly crackle and distort on one side now, and my left boot's ankle part has almost completely detached. I was literally looking at it and able to poke my sock from outside earlier.

On Friday I'll get my oil change, and maybe have them look at and fix the heat issues. With no appointment it will depend on what the shop I go to has going on. And on Friday or Saturday I'll tend to little things, whenever the money actually shows cleared. Things like the last \$15 of insurance, setting up an appointment with my eye doc, re-subbing for my pay-as-I-go phone, and spending just a little bit on my game I play all the time.

So tonight I will hopefully rest easy. Though oddly, right now, and for a few days, the stress of having money has actually made my back stress and ankle more than normal. But hopefully I can let the stress go and sleep easy.

## Day 2935 - 7/14

### Hanging on

Today was different than expected. It felt about three times longer than it was. The morning went normal, but the meeting with my cousin was kind of odd, as I thought it would be. I may have met him during my last visit with the family like 13 years ago, which would have put it at about half his lifetime ago. It was odd to hear him talking about his life and my other cousins as if they were complete strangers to me. But in a way they are. I would only see them about three times a year when I did see them, and once my mom died we rapidly started seeing them less and less. It quickly became once a year. And by the time I was about 16 dad had pretty much pulled us out of seeing them at all. And after I moved away from my dad, and pretty much ever since, I've not had the money to drive over or call. Though in the last 15+ years we could have stayed in contact online. But as I think I've said before, they really didn't seem to be reaching out to me since I'd become an adult.

The trip to the bank to drop the money was weird. I got a cashier's check, which is supposed to be like cash, but when the guy put it in the system it oked the cash back but locked the rest on hold for some reason. Which it was not supposed to do. So, because tomorrow is Friday, that means it will be unusable until Monday. I have enough cash to do things like get gas, wash cloths, eat some nicer medium fast food kind of meals, but nothing for bigger plans like replacing my destroyed boots, dying headphones, fixing the car, etc. So all the plans are forced on hold by half a week.

Which, I guess, isn't the end of the world. A few days shouldn't really matter, particularly long-term. But it's a bit disappointing to still have to wait.

So today became kind of surreal in the afternoon. So many things have potentially changed and shifted. Yet nothing has really changed at all. I am still me at my core. A few opportunities will open up when the monies unlock, but overall nothing will really change. But for sure, in the meantime much of the sadness and stress will go away. At least I continue to hope that will be the result. And I will have some better days ahead.

## Day 2936 - 7/15

### Unexpected

Today several unexpected things happened. It started in the morning. I figured I'd check my money deposit to see if it really was being held. It was not. It showed as totally available. So I made several of the purchases I'd expected to make. Basically just the very important ones; boots, headphones, reactivated my phone, and got a bit of gas. The rest will either take more time, like the oil change and other car stuff, or can simply wait a bit before they happen.

The next unexpected thing happened at school. Just after lunch a school security student came by to tell me they were closing to students. Which seemed very odd since there is a camp here. But they bumped me and the other dozen or so students that were in the cafeteria area out. So if I continue being there on Fridays it seems, at least for the moment, I will have to be in a bad spot, as my shaded usual spot is right on the other side of a window from the kid's 'camp'. So it seems improper to be in that spot, even being out in the open area seems wrong since campus is only open for them. I may have to consider being at the library or something on Fridays, as being out in the food court area is less than ideal due to how sunny it is out there. It's extremely difficult to see anything I'm doing on my laptop.

And the evening too was different. I'd stopped by the ex-house to grab my laundry and the ex-roomie was there. We chatted a bit and it turns out the other roomie would be out for the evening. So instead of going to do laundry I did it there. And we watched a movie, which was the next in a series. Which is kind of funny because the last visit I had we watched the previous one in that series.

Though we talked and hung out like nothing was really wrong, at one point when I was alone and petting a nice kitty and he was purring I nearly started crying. It was nice, peaceful, and in a way like the old days when I was there. But too, it reminded me in general about being in a home. It reminded me of all the details about a home life I'd forgotten and had become accustom to not having. In a way I almost started crying not because of my sad life and what it's become, but because of all the things there were that I've now forgotten and become used to not having at all. It was as if I came from a



different world and have been living in the foreign land for so long I had forgotten myself.

Overall it was a pretty good day. But it felt strange due to the changes. It felt strange to have options open up just a bit due to the money. And it felt strange to be reminded of just how much of me has been lost and forgotten.

## **Day 2937 - 7/16**

### **Little options**

Today was good. It actually passed very quickly. And in a way it felt surreal and odd.

I played my game most of the day, so that was homeless normal. But because of my money I had some small options. I started my month long 'summer of movies', which more accurately my 'x of y' have become more TV series catching up that I don't otherwise have access to than catching up on movies. But I also got a movie from the movie rental box, which I haven't been able to afford in forever.

I also considered making a few other small purchases. Things like maybe getting a new T-shirt or two to replace old ones which are both getting old and messed up, and things I no longer do. But I held off on those. Mostly because I don't really need them right away, so I figured I'd spread out my purchases. But also because it still feels weird to have enough to not really worry about those smaller purchases. But too, I do know if too many of those go unchecked the money will get burnt through extra quickly. Even small things like smaller fancy meals of \$5, done twice a week, every week, would burn nearly \$50 in a single month. So I do need to be very extra careful of everything, even if it seems small.

But today was good. I felt a touch more normal. At last, I suppose, as much as I can without having a bed, being in a home, and having my stuff out around me.

## Day 2938 - 7/17

### Looking forward

Today was pretty good. It seemed very slow as it was passing, but now that it is over it seemed like it went by very quickly.

I got my shipment of boots, headphones, and a single plug surge protector. (So I don't have to lug the 11 plug around with me.) I tried on the boots very briefly. They seemed to fit well, but they felt almost as stiff and rigid as some hard plastic ski boots I once wore when I was young. I don't even know if those are still like that. They are very grippy though, which is good. I did a few fencing poses and light lunges and there was no slip at all.

I didn't try on the headphones, just packed them up in the nice carrying case. I am excited to get them set up in the morning and not only have headphones that sound and feel good, but which aren't broken so they are solid and stable.

Overall these are two small and temporary things in my life. But for today at least I have a few small things to look forward to.

## Day 2939 - 7/18

### New

Today I got to experience the new. The new boots seem very solid, but at the end of the day it seemed a bit too pinchy on the big toe bone which connects to the foot. That's the biggest unusual size area. Hopefully though that will stretch out and not bother me soon enough, as it really is the only issue other than a slight tightness overall.

Though I didn't test much due to having the class I TA for, I got to play my game for a bit and watch a few shows with the new headphones. It seems like the high notes are muted a bit, but then not knowing what speakers sound like for these things I no longer know how my games would otherwise sound. Maybe the highs are a bit off, or maybe the previous headphones were too high. I may never know the answer.

What I do know of the headphones is that they are super loud. I was listening to most things at 50-60% volume compared to the previous headphones being at 85-90%.

And, they hold sound really well in the sense of if they are over my ears other people can't hear them. And, they muffle outside sounds quite a bit. With them on all the way I almost can't hear outside sounds at all, which I guess is really a good thing. But it will take getting used to as I've never had headphones that did that.

Overall today was a pretty good day. I started to feel a bit closer to normal. Though again, in an odd way, the more I can do the more I am reminded of what I can't do, and how my life is so very different than it was, and even how different from any kind of normal it still is.

## **Day 2940 - 7/19**

### **Pinched, but feeling ok**

Today I am feeling ok. My right paw is still a bit pinched by the boot in that one spot, I'm sneezing a bit, have been since like Sunday, but otherwise I feel pretty good.

I feel like I am settled in where I belong (in life), at least for the moment. And though it seems unlikely there will be any students that need my help today, I am ready and hoping to help those who need it.

I still feel and hope that Destiny and Fate move me towards a happier and better life, and that for the moment I am where, and how, I need to be to get there - physically and emotionally. And though there are still many things not physically ideal, or far more not emotionally ideal, I feel happy and positive about the day to come and my future.

## **Week 421**

### **Day 2941 - 7/20** **Wrong address**

Today was pretty good. Though last night had a bit of a funny story. On Monday night I finally had the money to ship my microphone to be checked, so I did that. I checked for my mail at the ex-house Tuesday night and noticed the box had come back. Apparently the person who made the label put my name on both the return address and the delivery address. So I had to go re-ship it tonight. It's good it wasn't really time sensitive, as that may have been very bad. But since it wasn't it was just an odd kind of story.

Overall my day was pretty good. It was a bit slow, as the class I TA for had another shoot. And they'd all done the planning during last class, so for most of the class there wasn't a class for me to help in. So it was good in that I could do whatever, but sad as I didn't get to help as much.

I've been feeling pretty sick lately. There has been a lot of congestion and sneezing. Upon reflection it's probably why I've been so extra tired lately. But too I've felt bad around my heart, and when breathing. I hope it's just my cold and extra bad junk foods lately and nothing more, but I always worry about my health, and not being in a good place physically and emotionally to be able to try changing certain things.

But for now I continue to try and stabilize as best as I can to hang on just a little bit of flexibility. And I try not to spend too much, just enough to balance need versus want, and continue to hang on until my forever better days come along.

### **Day 2942 - 7/21** **Too sick, too hungry**

Today I feel kind of sick. Well, more sick. My eyes hurt. My ears are ringing a bit. I'm so very extremely tired. And I think, because of fighting off my cold, I am extremely tired. I feel like I can barely keep my eyes open.

I still feel very sad. I have money to buy some things, but again I think about the bigger things, the things I can't change, the things that even if and when I do get enough money to make everything better there will still be a few things I may never be able to fix.

But today was peaceful. It was about as good as could be. I'm still sad and worried about my long-term future, but again I am happy the short-term can be much better. I hope, at least, once I'm over my cold it can be.

## **Day 2943 - 7/22**

### **The fan**

Today was very different. Though even if I hadn't gone to do the car stuff it would have been different due to the camp thing they have going on.

I spent half the day at the car shop. They did the oil change but had a hard time figuring out the problem with the heat. I needed to pay them for extra diagnostic time beyond the free time they tried, but it was ok. They narrowed it down to indeed being an issue with the fan. They aren't entirely sure why, but sometimes it comes on when it is supposed to, sometimes not. So they are saying we should replace the fan motor. Which the part is kind of pricy at \$150, but it apparently will only be half an hour of labor to change. Which, even when added to the oil change will total out around \$400. Which is super good. I was planning on it being \$500 or more before I would consider not doing it (due to the car blue book value only being around \$1200 from what I recall.) I was hoping for \$250 or less, but I guess that was not to be.

The rest of the day was odd as well. I went to see a movie I've been looking forward to forever. And after that I killed some time at the food store until it was time to hide for the night.

The movie was super good, but several characters were referenced whose actors had passed. And even one of those in the movie had been killed in a freak car accident earlier this year. So it seemed a sad reminder that time moves on. Those we know may go unexpectedly or quicker than we think. And it made me sad to think that there are now so few in my life.

## **Day 2944 - 7/23**

### **So fast**

Today passed incredibly quickly. It had felt like only a few hours had passed when the sun was setting and it was getting to the blinding time.

Nothing special happened. Though nothing bad happened either. My mind wandered to other games I may want to get due to my emptiness I feel inside from not having any friends and a regular gaming group. So I searched for both video games, and also live games to join. While I may still consider the group I found before, I don't know that I want a place that would just be a random group. Random is random, there are not always connections formed, and that is what I'm missing. Plus, there is no guarantee I'd find a group, nor one with people I'd get along with well if I did.

So I was sad for things I miss. Which I suppose is nothing new. And too, I continue to hold on to hope that may eventually change for the better.

## **Day 2945 - 7/24**

### **Sore feets**

Today again passed very quickly. It only felt about 1/3 as long as it was. I don't know why it felt so fast. Nothing different or new happened. I did nothing special or unusual. Well, I did make a budget of sorts, to predict where my plan might be thrown off and so I have some kind of idea of where I should be at what time.

But it felt like I've beaten up my feets. As if I'd maybe walked 10 miles or something. Which, I don't know about others, but would be 5-7 hours for me.

I guess it was an ok day. I really have no reason to feel extra sad. But although I am trying to hang on to hope, my greater fears and sad feelings have been difficult to set aside lately.

## Day 2946 - 7/25

**Sooooo tired**

Today I am so very tired. I'm not really sure why. It was a pretty good day. The morning had a bit of time to play and watch a show. Most of the day I helped in the class I TA for.

But all day I was just so exhausted. I still felt like I've been doing heavy workouts or something. I actually even closed my eyes and dozed off for a few minutes during part of the lecture in class.

Maybe it's because of the stress I still have for the sad things I can't change. Maybe stress from knowing there isn't much more than a year more of classes I could take to delay my financial aid payments. (As well as having a steady strong place to connect online.) Maybe it's because I again feel beaten down by all the sad things in life and feel like I need a break - which I know I can never truly get until I'm back in a home and not worrying about money.

But I hope it's not that. I hope it's just a cold which is still causing me to sneeze and feel congested. And I hope that things will sort themselves out before I run out of time.

## Day 2947 - 7/26

**Waiting**

Today will likely start pretty slow. I slept in just a touch longer than normal and have headed over to the fix-it shop to do the car work. I guess maybe I should have actually gotten up early as there are now a couple of people here and I'll have to wait a few hours before they start the work. 😞 I guess it's ok. I can play offline games, and there are a few I'd like to get through, but still. 😞

I had sad dreams last night. Ones where I was trying to make friends, but people weren't friendly. Ones where I was stressed for some reason, but I don't remember why. I think I was just sad and upset over my life not going forward in the dream, despite having

opportunity and being in a new place and home. But now I've woken up sad, tired, and already feeling a bit worn out.

Hopefully when I get to school I can have a sort of second start and be happy and positive in the rest of my day. But that can't be for a few hours, so we'll see.



**Day 2948 - 7/27**  
**Old fashion feels wrong**

Today I dressed a bit different. Last night at the ex-garage I went through some stuff in storage to make room for new shirts which are on the way. Plus, with the new pants I've gotten over the years, it's been getting very stuffed in the 'drawers' I have access to for cloths. I started with some stuff I won't ever wear anymore and grabbed a long sleeve button shirt to wear as an over-shirt instead of the house shirts I've been wearing for the past nine years.

It felt wrong. It felt out of place, like with the shirts I no longer want to wear due to their logo or message, it felt weird to have this fashion that I haven't worn in nearly 10 years. It was old me, yet not.

In a way I feel, in the same way I feel about the shirts, that part of me is gone. Much like my interests and what I favor has changed, so have the shirts I have worn which are from them. Getting rid of the shirts seems appropriate, even though I know I can never get rid of the part of me that they are associated with.

But it's a current fashion. Many dress this way. It's not unusual or out of place. It just feels weird and unfamiliar to me. Like so many things I used to do all the time before being homeless, it now feels forgotten and out of place.

So I am left pondering. Do I continue to wear my house shirts out of the house as an outer shirt - something I never did while in a home - or do I go back to my button shirts as an over shirt; something I've not yet done since becoming homeless?

Both ways seem foreign and wrong to some degree. Both seem unfamiliar. And while it seems this is the way the current me must be, hybrid out of necessity, instead of dressing to the occasion or time, it seems sad. And in a way it makes me feel more lost than ever to no longer have these clear paths forward, especially when it is such a simple thing. Even more so when such a simple thing feels like it plays such a big part of defining who I am to those around me.

Today I went to a different local store to check for some long sleeve casual-ish shirts. The store had one brand, which is the brand of my house shirt. But there was only one long sleeve shirt style. As I guessed, there really wasn't much there due to it being summer. It was ok looking, but it was also \$25, a touch higher than I'd really like to pay. So I'll check online to see if it's cheaper. Plus, I'd really need at least three shirts, and only having really one that means I'd need two or three more. I'm not sure I'd want to spend that much, nor if I really truly have that much spare room to store them. Clothing size adds up quickly.

I also found a donation bin and dropped off the half dozen items I had there. It made me kind of sad. It's not that I wanted those shirts. I haven't worn them in 15, maybe even 20 years for some. It was really about a loss of identity. I get t-shirts with designs of things I love, or in the case of game shirts stuff I am playing at the time. So being so far off from who I am now, it wasn't really about losing that part of me, nor really the identity of me. I think the sadness came from it being tied to my identity in a 'look at me, this is who I am' way. No one knows what those shirts mean in my life. No one in my life would care. No one knows the change and loss of love of that thing in my life.

So my sad wasn't really about the shirts. Nor considering the \$20-25 each was new for the ones which weren't free. It was that part of me is over. No one was there to celebrate those things with me back then, nor now, nor would I care about those things now.

And it was about my future. The new shirts, the new long sleeve style if I were to get those. Would anyone notice? Would anyone care in the future? Or will it always be as it has been, relatively or completely unnoticed? And will my shirts, and I, continue to go unnoticed by others and left unapproached and alone with what I enjoy with no one to share my happy things with.

## Day 2950 - 7/29

### Two shirt change

Today I spent most of the day in the library. It was shaded, so that was good. Most times they have the blinds open and there are bad reflections. But I would guess that the 90F and near 90F temperatures lately have made them decide to keep them closed. It felt way too cold though. Maybe it's because I'm more comfortable near 80F than 70F. But I wonder too if I've been homeless so long that all outside temperatures and unusual eating habits have altered my ability to normally regulate my body's heat.

I thought about change - how due to the camp at college I'm forced to change my Friday routine, at least for the moment. And I pondered if I want change in my life. We certainly need some change as people. Changes cause us to think differently. Experiencing new things like different food or different people expands what we know of ourselves and what we enjoy.

But for years I've been forced to change. Not out of being in situations I want, but by being in situations I have little to no control in. Forced change, change which is adaptation in order to maintain balance; that I think is bad. That, I think, has as much of a chance of causing imbalance.

As I was in the library thinking about my house shirt, that was not a change I chose or wanted. So I thought about chosen change. Those times we take a risk. And though it likely will basically never really be noticed or understood, I decided to go ahead and get the long sleeve button shirts. And as pricy as it was, I am glad I decided to. I tried them on to be sure and both colors I was unsure of actually looked pretty good on me. 😊 I said it out loud to myself, and although it doesn't really qualify, it was nice to hear a compliment like that. It was something small and really inconsequential, yet right now such small things really do have a lot of meaning and significance.

Hopefully in the future I can continue to make changes that are by choice, for things I think I want and will move some aspect of me forward. Thinking back I can't really remember the last choice I made before this (where it wasn't by force or necessity.)

## **Day 2951 - 7/30**

### **Net shade**

Today was a pretty good Saturday. It mostly was normal, but I got quite a bit of extra shade on what was supposed to still be a very warm day. There has been some scaffolding up to the roof of the building where I sit on weekends. I'd guess they are finally being serious about the machine that has been wubble wubble fub fub lately. Though it may be more, as it seems the scaffolding is all the way around the building now.

Regardless, today there was a light web-like mesh all around the outside, but pulled open where the entrances are. So my area I sit in had a big screen curtain all around it. It kept me extra cool, and when the blinding time came there was only a small bit of overly bright light. In general it stayed shaded like it would be in the morning all through the day, and did not have the three hours of otherwise direct sun and extreme heat.

I decided to try and reach out to some local gaming groups again. I had to get added to the groups to post, so I'll make a post when that happens. I still question if I can afford it because even with money the cost will likely be high enough to be a concern. So we'll see. With regular income the cost would be nothing. Maybe half an hour of work or less per week. But with no income, even at just \$7 a week it would add up very quickly, so we'll see.

I am very super tired lately, but I feel hopeful for the attempts to change. I don't know if I will get a gaming group, or if my new cloths will make a difference to anyone but me, but at least for the moment they feel like hopeful steps forward.

## **Day 2952 - 7/31**

### **Excited, yet sad**

Today was the same, but also different. The morning was almost the same as normal. But for some reason the church group was not here. I hope that doesn't become normal, as it's nice to get in and micro a soup on the weekend.

The afternoon brought some hopeful news. I reached out to a few gaming pages on the social media and one replied back that a new campaign set would be starting at the end of August, so that looks like a good opening to get into a new group at a local shop.

I'm still unsure though. Any open place with strangers would be a bit weird. Though several 'liked' my post, so that made me feel very welcome. I'm most worried about the long-term costs. Even the closest location, which likely wouldn't be the one I'd be going to, would be about \$15 a month in gas and other costs. Not really a big cost at all, but with no income that cost will add up very quickly. So I will have to very carefully consider it, and if I do decide to do it that cost would certainly have to go in the budget. Without checking numbers, even something that small could throw off the timetable by months.

With the good news came some sadness though. I am not leaving a house freshly showered and fluffed to go to such a place. So I worry about how I will look. I worry about how I will feel and transition emotionally into that frame of mind. I worry about how comfortable and safe I will feel. Will there be judgment? Will I be self conscious about how I look? Even simple things like not being able to tend my faux-hawk easily now that parts are nearly probably four inches long makes me feel self-conscious.

Again I suppose I will see how things are when and if it happens. It is still three or four weeks away, so who knows what would happen during that time. I can wait. It's been closer to 25 years since I've had people I regularly gamed with. So another few weeks before seeing if a thing will pan out or not is fine.

I feel positive about the upcoming possible change with both my new cloths and possibly going to the gaming place. But I also feel worried and saddened. As with all things in my life lately, this is something that can quickly change or go away again as the money runs out. And though it shouldn't be a source of sadness and pain, as with all things I can't control lately, I can never know how it will turn out until it happens.

## **Day 2953 - 8/1**

### **The between spaces**

Today I feel very out of it. I remember the day, I know what I did, but in a way I feel like not me. Almost like those times where I feel like someone else watching the story of my life.

It might just be a bit of a cold and lack of sleep. I've been getting kept up lately, and it only takes a few nights of that to knock me almost completely out of whack and not feel like my usual self. It could be too because I'm coming off of what are now all long weekends. There are almost as many days I am my homeless me as there are the me that feels normal and has purpose. More not so if you count that only two days out of the week are days I TA.

I guess it was a good enough day. But my mind still wanders to what ifs. It thinks about having a bit of money and what I can do, and the me a month ago had none, and the me a few years from now when I again will have none.

I am the current homeless me, the me that is changing, and still have fragments of the me that was. I guess lately I've been feeling very between spaces and off balance.

## **Day 2954 - 8/2**

### **The shirt exchange**

Today started a bit different. Yesterday I wore one of my new long sleeve button shirts. Mostly it felt ok, but I guess what I didn't check for was the underarms on the sleeves were a bit pinchy, and when sitting forward my back curves and it pinches a bit more, as well as causing the cuff to get pulled about 2" short of my wrist. So this morning I went to swap for a bigger size.

It's weird though because I have to go to XXL for the sleeves to not pinch at all, but at that size my tummy is swimming in extra shirt. It's like they expect everyone to have a beer belly or something. 🙄 So the XL is what I got, which only has a tiny bit of pinch and only a little extra in the tummy area. Which I guess is ok, as it will mostly be half or all the way unbuttoned when I wear them.

Other than that my day has just started. I am super sleepy and saddened by the imperfections of my shirts. But thinking about that, I suppose it is our imperfections, our weaknesses and flaws as people, that make us unique and interesting.

## Week 423

### Day 2955 - 8/3 Preparing to game

Today I am mentally preparing to game. In more than one way. There have been a few games on really crazy sales this past week, so I've got two new ones that have been on my list forever, including one I think I mentioned already that arrived last weekend.

I am also mentally preparing for probably doing the game shop thing I've talked about. I printed some blank character sheets while I still had the chance at school. I'm starting to think up characters. But more planning would require the rule book and dice. I'm giving serious thought about getting those in advance of playing, sort of as part of an early b-day celebration. But I worry about doing that. Last time I did that roughly 16 years ago I was homeless then too. And while that was back after selling my apartment and I had a bit of money, that eventually wound up being a source of sadness for which I still feel pain for to this day. I never did anything but read that rulebook alone and wonder. When I did get into a home, it did nothing but sit on a shelf for something like five years before I finally sold it.

I am thinking too if I do get back into gaming I may do some tiny art. I used to do it for games I played back in the day. I'd take 3x5 cards and draw items; weapons, armor, potions, whatever equipment I had that would be helpful to be reminded of. Or more often the case, since I GMed, to pass out to players with an item description.

I wonder if I can draw at all well. I remember thinking I was decent at some things, but when I last did that I was a teenager, so my expectations were much lower.

So I have games waiting now, as I have games I've not finished with new ones not yet played. And I have the potential for being in a pen and paper game with people. Though I'm unsure if I should get my supplies for that now, to potentially prepare, or wait until it is at least closer to being a reality than something that may or may not happen.

There is some chat on the social game sites that I've joined, so that is something. I don't know if that alone would lead to change, but it is a first step. And there seems some positivity there, which is something I don't see all that often.



## **Day 2956 - 8/4**

### **Forgotten**

Today was apparently forgotten. I seem to have not written, so I am writing Friday.

I had my eye appointment. It went fine. Everything is as expected. I bought contacts for the year, so that's good. In theory I should still basically be on track to have money for the next two years.

It was the last day of classes as far as I know. There were some around, but not many. I'm not sure if I will go to school over the summer break or not. While the library has limits due to the firewall blocking some things, it is more civilized. And being there isn't as out of place as being on a closed campus. The days I've visited so far it's only about 1/3 or 1/4 as full as the other months. Perhaps because all the kids that would otherwise be around are off doing summer things.

It was sad that things ended. Again I thought how strange it was to be there when everyone else was gone or moving on. But it must continue. It is the best option in an otherwise few to no option situation.

## **Day 2957 - 8/5**

### **A game**

Today I went to the library. It was pretty dead there, so no one was too close to me, and there really wasn't any annoying noise. I still don't know if I'll be there or at school while it's closed. I guess I'll see what's still open and how many are around at school when there are no classes.

I have officially agreed to an every other week game at a game store. It's not super close, but it's every other week, so that will balance out. The first one is this Sunday, so we'll see how it goes then. It's always weird to play with people you've never met, and who's style you don't really know if you'll match. But like all things, the best way to find out is to try.

## Day 2958 - 8/6

### Excited

Today was pretty exciting. After spending the last day or two seeing if I could find the game book I decided to see what extra cost there would be to just rush ship it, and would it make it before tomorrow's game. To my surprise it was only \$5 in shipping to rush since someone has me under their shipping plan, so it arrived the same day as my new dice.

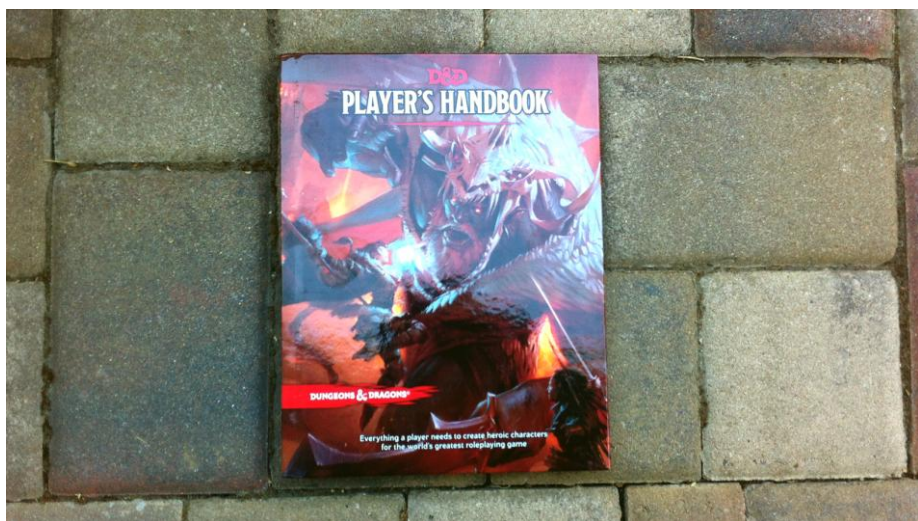
I spent much of today thinking and planning my character for the game. It's really all up front stuff. After this I likely won't do more with the character until probably a few weeks, maybe months. Though I may sort of work on a few other characters for other play.

It's exciting to possibly be in a game with people. I won't know what it will be until it happens, but hopefully it will be good. And, if not, well I'm ready to try again with others. So far the people seem nice as we've talked on the social network.

Hopefully I can sleep ok tonight. Last night I had a lot of trouble sleeping. 🙄



New dice. Super good price for such nice colors!



All the important rules.

## **Day 2959 - 8/7**

### **Roll the dice**

Today was quite different. I spent the morning kind of fixating more on preparing for the game. Unlike most I like to have knickknacks and counters and notes to remind me of all the things. Sadly my mini art is actually really bad. It's great for someone who's 12, but since I'm not 12 anymore for the more important things I may just want to find some art online I can use and pay to get a nice print out for the things I'd repeatedly use. But I got to the place super early around 12:30. I prepared for the drive to be half an hour or more, but it actually only took 15 to 20 minutes. Again, it's further than I'd like to go, but at every other week that would be about \$15 a month, which while bad, isn't completely intolerable right now.

I was glad everyone seemed to get along fine and our characters seemed to work together ok. I played a class I don't normally play, but it worked out great because he's a helper, and one time when he helped it actually completely reversed a situation and was super helpful. The next game isn't set until two weeks from now on the weekend of my birthday, so that is a bit sad since it was super fun.

Being in a group playing with people again was strange, particularly since I did not know them before hand. But they seemed like good people so everyone got along and we had a good time. I'm still concerned about the distance in terms of wear and tear on the car, as well as the gas with no income, but for now it seems to be left to Fate and a roll of the dice if it works out.

## **Day 2960 - 8/8**

### **Constant annoyance**

Today for some reason the library was super crowded. Also for some reason people around me were super annoying most of the day. It started with the lady on the other side of my table. For some reason instead of actually stepping out to eat lunch like a normal person she would take a single bite, then be crunch crunch crunch for a full minute. She repeated this every five minutes. After about an hour I couldn't take it anymore and said, 'If you don't stop incessantly crunching it's going to drive me insane.' Maybe rude, but after her sneaking food constantly for over an hour in a place she isn't supposed to be eating I felt it was fair compared to telling the library and possibly getting her kicked out. She moved a few minutes later. I guess for whatever reason she felt it was impossible to just go downstairs and eat all at once.

After that several people again had munching crunching pop slurp slurp sounds with those drinks with the balls. It was almost non-stop for about five hours because of all those various people. Not to mention a couple who set up what was like a full dinner setup on a foot stool seat cushion behind me.

I guess it was ok after that. I am sad because my bank sent a low account balance warning. I've already blown through the first portion of the monies. 😞 I guess it's not too surprising, as I estimated with everything I would probably not make it much past September before running out. So I've maybe over spent by a couple hundred. But that is for everything; all the extra video games, all the pen and paper games I've gotten, all the extra food, etc.

But now I worry. I feel like I'm already going to have to crack down on myself and start overly fixating on the budget and keeping very close and being very strict. 😞 Which I didn't really want to do, but with a finite amount of money I kind of have to.

## Day 2961 - 8/9

### Chaotic

Today things still feel chaotic. I could have been at school for a bit, I'm sure, as Monday through Thursday they are theoretically a little bit open during the day, but after my shower it just didn't seem worth it. I had less than an hour, so I'd have to cross campus, unpack, go in, set up, and then take it all down again and go back out. So by the time it was all done there would have probably only been about half an hour left.

So I'm killing time outside of the library until it opens. While I am grateful for my car still (so very much) doing this seems to do little more than remind me of the chaos of my life. I think of things I'd want and like to do today, how I could have otherwise already been doing some of them in a home. I think of how I would still prefer to have actual friends to game with (instead of the other way around where by gaming with strangers I may eventually make friends.)

I think of the freedoms I do have without a job, the freedoms I'd have with a job, what would be different if I did, where would I live, if somewhere not in this area where would I live, what would that be like. And I wonder; if my life were 'normal', if I had a job, if I had a home, maybe a sweetie and friends, would they all be different in a better way? Or would they be as before; where I felt unappreciated, my skills wasted at my job, and in spite of what I did, no one seemed to care.

## **Week 424**

### **Day 2962 - 8/10** **Chaotic feelings**

Today was better in the library. There were only a few people who bothered me. It's still weird to be there, though it is a much more normal and comfortable lifestyle.

But I am excited to have an opportunity for a few pen and paper games going on. I have a different potential one starting Saturday, which is a 'seasonal' thing, so it is only a commitment for something like four months if I stick with it, then I can continue or stop. We'll see how that goes, as it's a different kind of game.

But I feel weird about it. I am just starting and I am already worrying I'll run out of money and lose the chance to do it, and what then? Which is odd to think about because that is likely two years off. Anything can happen in that time. But I've felt such pain and so much loss for so long, finally finding something again... I can't help but worry about the loss of it as so much around me is still unstable.

### **Day 2963 - 8/11** **Library book**

Today was not as different as I'd thought it would be. I showered at school and originally thought I'd stay to micro food, but my tummy just wasn't ready for an early lunch, nor did I want to micro something only to leave it in the car for a few more hours before eating it. So in terms of food, it was just another day at the library.

I decided to check out a book for the game I'm getting into. They have three main books. I don't at all regret getting the player's book, as I've used it every day since I've gotten it, sometimes for several hours, and I've probably only really read about half of it.

Sadly the important other book I'm considering getting has been checked out, and it's overdue, so I can only check that out if I request it from a different library. I may do that eventually. I'd only need it if I were to make my own campaign, which if I were to do that I'd probably need to buy it to have constant access, which is fine.

But the new hobby, which is actually the oldest hobby, has kept me quite distracted. And in addition to that, there has been chat on the social group for that, so I may eventually make more connections and find more groups and other things. Like someone is considering a painting figures day. Which would be really great when I get my gnome bard mini that I special ordered, as I'd not otherwise have any way to paint him without a very high investment.

One odd thing I'm sort of worrying about is that it seems when I'm not sitting in a chair the side of my left leg, from about just past my pelvis to just above my knee feels like odd tendrils of ice somewhat commonly. It's as if the circulation is being pinched off somewhere. I guess if it keeps happening after a month or so I'll see a doctor maybe. So far it's only been happening for a week, so who knows what may be currently going on that is causing it.

Being in the library is super odd. I'm surrounded by people, yet talk to no one. And I wouldn't really want to. It just seems weird to be in a place where I really expect no interaction. But, as always, I am thankful I have such places to be.

## **Day 2964 - 8/12**

### **More to the hip**

Today I am so very sleepy. It was one of those days where I had maybe one or two hours of fun and the rest was like a blur, a shadow of a memory of what was going on.

I did notice there is much more going on than just my odd hip pain. It's actually there all the time, just more subtle. Additionally, my lower back, all across my shoulders, and at the base of my left shoulder blade specifically, I feel similarly stiff, hurting, and pulled, like on the side of my leg. So it is likely just my lack of sleeping lately, or stress related to burning an extra 15% or so than I expected and running out a few months earlier than this batch would have otherwise. I still have two more checks, basically each should last a year (after counting a bit more for tax returns.) It's just the initial amount running out quickly has stressed me out and caused me to have a bit of an extreme pain reaction. Hopefully soon things will even out. Plus I'll try to maybe do some stretches.

Not being able to stretch or work out like I used to, plus an extreme lack of regular vegetables, is likely just again taking a toll on me.

I suppose today was ok, though again the eight hours at the library felt more like maybe two. Tomorrow I have the first of what may be a weekly game (for a few months) so we'll see how that goes. For now I'll just try to relax, hope for enough sleep, hope I can decompress some of this stress, and try to make tomorrow a better day.

## **Day 2965 - 8/13**

### **Not my type**

Today was very different. I spent just a tiny bit of time at school. The roof shade is even more shaded. The construction has now not only got the light mesh, but a second fence with a screen on it. So the area is extremely shaded. I do think on weekends too I'll still go to the library when I don't have games. There is enough for me to do since it only blocks a little of my gaming.

In the early afternoon I did my second pen and paper game type. It, as I was kind of afraid of, was not really my kind of thing. It wasn't really the fault of the game master or other players. It's just the way the event is designed. It's a contained thing that everyone can do within a certain time period. So it is kind of like a speed run with random people in an online game. There wasn't a connection between the players and each other's characters for a number of reasons. There really can't be. And because of needing to do x during a specific time window everything was really rushed and there really wasn't any reason for personal flavor, which is really the opposite of my preferred style.

So on the one hand that's good news, as I know what events to avoid. In the bad news that means I'm back to trying to find a special type of game people do if I want more than the every other Sunday one I already have. I may not find one because of how rare they are.

It was super hot today. I was overly warm and when I got to my car in the late afternoon / early evening after the game, my car was super hot. There were lots of really cute girls out though. 😊 There were even a few at the gaming place. So it may be the



weather, but I take it as a reminder there may still be a someone out there for me and try to hang on to hope.

## **Day 2966 - 8/14**

### **Surprises**

Today was kind of slow, but also kind of fast. My first surprise was in the morning. Sadly the shower area was closed, but the church group was here. So for the first time in I think a couple of weeks I got a microwaved food instead of having sandwiches all day. (Though I have had about two smaller fancy meals per week lately.)

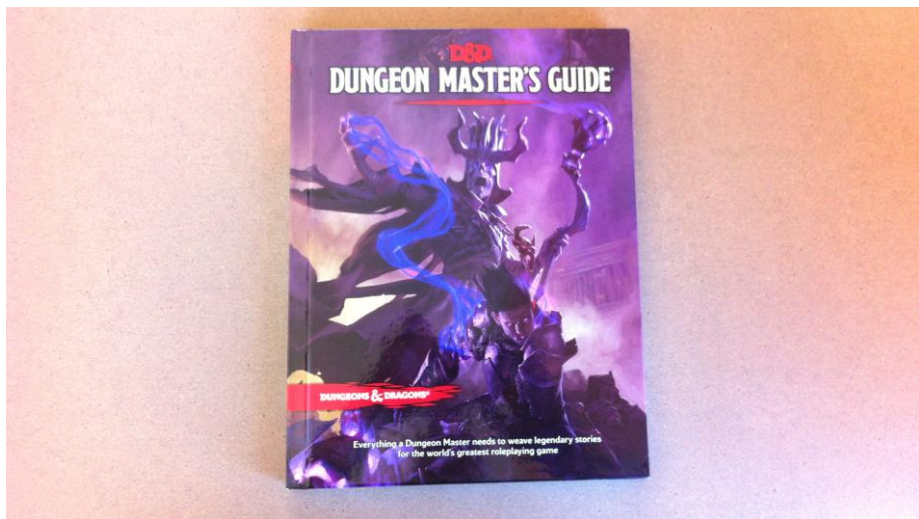
The second surprise came later in the morning when I got word someone has sent me birthday somethings. 😊 It's the person who for the past few years has repeatedly saved me in times of need. If it weren't for his saving me several times, and sending help most months, and the emotional boost that came from that, I don't know how I'd have made it through the past few years.

Again I was more preoccupied with my new pen and paper gaming stuff than not. I can still read and learn lots of things from the book I have. As well as it being a game reference book, which I'll always use when I am doing game things.

While the day seemed slow as it passed, overall now as the sun is going down it felt fast. I am still very stressed in my back. Yesterday morning I was coughing so much I felt like I was going to throw up. I am hoping it was just additional stress and that will go away soon after my putting more of the benefit money in my bank in the morning. But it could be other things. I am so extremely tired. I've not slept well lately and I am barely keeping my eyes open. But hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.



So nice an early b-day surprise!



Eeeeeee for the rules to DM.

## Day 2967 - 8/15

### Long day

Today felt like a long day, but in a good way. It started with presents, as the ones the person sent were waiting for me at the ex-house when I stopped by to check last night.

So today I got some very nice things. 😊

I dropped the next batch of monies into my account, so that is nice and safe now. With it I spent just a tiny bit more on stuff for my new pen and paper game. I got a binder, a few clear pages to put character stuff in, and a zipper pouch to put my counters in. When I got to the library I printed some stuff I've been needing to print, made a few more counters, and put it all away. I like to have the counter things out in front of me when doing pen and paper games as it reminds me of things I can do I'd otherwise forget.

After that I played my online game just for a very short while. The people I used to play with are basically never on anymore. It's been a month since I've seen one of them, and maybe two or more since I've seen the other. So more and more being there is becoming a source of sadness. I'll have to decide to continue without them, continue as I am just peeking in for dailies, or take a break myself and show up less often. I haven't decided yet.

After, there was a game I kind of really wanted to play, but for some reason it said it needed to go online to update. Which seemed just insane to me, as that is a connection that's firewalled at the library, so if it can't get through the firewall how does it know it needs an update? It seemed very confusing. Since I couldn't do what I wanted, I just spent the rest of the night watching a show I'd normally watch over 3-4 days all at once. (It's 3-4 hours per show once a week.)

So all in all it was a pretty good day. It still seemed sad as I was not in a home. I could not control the blinds, the temperature, or the chair (since it's a rigid wooden one), the games I did or did not have access to, and the printing I did was not on my own printer. (So I had to make counters by taping things to other things instead of printing directly on card stock.) But for what my life is, it was actually a pretty good day.

## Day 2968 - 8/16

### School visit

Today I am visiting school. It will be much easier to update my site since the firewall at the library blocks it, otherwise I'd have to do a pain in the butt roundabout way.

Though some things are open until about five it would seem weird to be here until then. Ever since that 'Officer Dong' was an ass to me it's felt weird being here on days they are only partly open. (His actual, and seemingly appropriate, name.) Did I tell the people the story? It was one of the flea market Saturday mornings; a time when they are always partly open in the area I'm in. So I was chilling as usual, either playing a game or watching a show, I forget which, and he comes up to me and he's all, 'Hey. Are you supposed to be here?' Not a friendly hello, not checking in with others about my being there, just a flat out direct challenge. I replied, 'Uhhh... what?' And he said, 'It's Saturday. We're closed.' And I was like, 'Um... no. School is always partly open on Saturdays, particularly flea market days, as they partly open for people to use the ATM, and the coffee shop around the corner is open.' And the coffee shop is literally about 40-50 feet away around the corner, probably about 20 feet away from the entrance to the police area. So it just blew my mind that this guy was so oblivious to what is going on normally, not to mention the other half dozen in the building around me. Of all the police and student security that one guy was the only one who's ever been mean to me.

But I'll stay for maybe just about an hour. Just long enough for this, to update the game, then micro a lunch on my way out. It won't be the best to leave it for like an hour before eating, but I picked one up that should be ok, so hopefully it will be a pretty good day.

Edit: It's now about 4.5 hours after the initial writing. Nearly all of that time was lost attempting to do a windows update. For some reason it got stuck at 22% and stayed there for several hours. I saw somewhere online that said to leave it, as many got stuck for hours then continued, but after 3 hours stuck at that point I gave up and restarted the system. It has reverted to the previous windows version and I'll try updating again later, but I am now very worried it's going to have issues updating like it did with the initial Windows 10 update. I guess I will only know the answer to that in time, but for now

things have reverted and are fine, and I continue to hope the rest of my day will be a good day.

## Week 425

### Day 2969 - 8/17 Even more surprises

Today there were even more surprises. Last night there was a something waiting at the ex-house, and tonight again as well. So many presents! 😊

I'm very super thankful for everything right now. I think; what if? If I hadn't gotten the money my life would still be a disaster. I wouldn't have the gas for visiting both school and the library (though I'm actually mostly just at the library.) And I may have presents, but what came from the recent gaming would not have come to be. I would probably be horribly sad and crying all the time about yet another sad birthday passing.

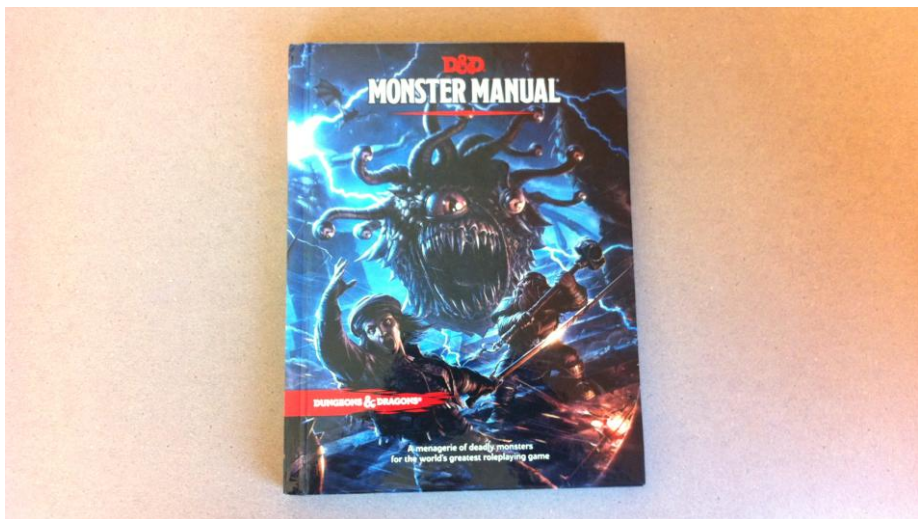


But this year that may not be. It may not be filled with real life friends, still just ones I know online, but this time I have options. I have the gaming groups I am trying. I have fixed the car, so I don't have to worry about that. And because of the nice presents lately, and trying the game stuff, this year feels a bit better so far. Hopefully that can continue.



Moar pressies?!

[1600x900](#)



Rar, a monster!

[1600x900](#)



So nice an adventure style bag b-day surprise!

[1600x900](#)

## Day 2970 - 8/18

### Long day

Today was pretty good. Though mostly I think it seemed good because I slept pretty well last night. The day itself really wasn't any better or worse than normal.

I did find myself mostly pondering running a game though. Not just a game, but a full campaign in a setting I designed. It would be in the rules of the new system I've picked up lately.

But I haven't run anything in probably more than 20 years. So I am quite nervous about doing that, even though I have all the books that tell me how. (Though I still have a lot of reading to do in them.) And too I'd be pulling players from the social forums of gamers in the local area. So I could wind up with good people, like my every other week game, or I could wind up with ones... of questionable talents or hygiene. (Like in the last game I played one person seemed completely oblivious to several social things, while another didn't seem to know the rules, his character, and said only a few sentences during the entire 4.5 hours we played.)

But I am deciding and thinking about it. I figure if I do it, it should start before school starts at the end of September. While that won't take up a lot of my time I think a lot of the harder work for the game would be up front. I think once there is some momentum it wouldn't be so bad.

Plus my depression about everything still weighs me down. There is still so much more I could, and in some cases should, do in a day that I just feel less inclined to start doing new things.

But I remain hopeful I can get out of my haze someday. I hope my thoughts and everything will feel like it is moving normally again. For so long I've felt confused, dazed, and in a general haze, I've begun to forget what it was like to live without this feeling.



## **Day 2971 - 8/19**

### **Disappointing early results**

Today was ok I suppose. I was extremely tired and could barely keep my eyes open. Again I felt like I was in a haze all day. I checked for jobs, checked forums, did a bit of show watching and playing, and worked on my potential campaign for the pen and paper game for a bit.

While I am not really surprised, I am disappointed in the early results of my announcing it. I said for anyone to reply who might be interested and of the about 300 in the two social groups, about 85 had seen it by the time I logged and there were zero replies of any kind. So I am a bit disappointed.

I guess maybe it's because they don't know me as a DM. Or maybe people are hesitant to join a homemade campaign. Or maybe everyone is just all busy. But with the setting I picked I expected people would jump at the chance.

I will not give up. If it doesn't work out I will wait. I will consider. I will see if maybe I find friends and something comes of it with these new friends later. But much like my day-to-day life, it seems disappointing. 😞

## **Day 2972 - 8/20**

### **Another homeless birthday**

Today is another homeless birthday. It's starting to feel like I have had more homeless and alone ones than not. 😞

I suppose, all things considered, it was actually pretty good. I slept fair last night. The library was quiet, yet crowded, but not in a way that bugged me. I had more games to play than in most years. And although there were no shows to watch or movies to see, I didn't really feel like I wanted either.

But it is different for a homeless birthday. I have a bit of money, so many of the homeless worries are much less worrisome. Without it I may have spent most of these past few days in tears because I was so on the verge of nothing just a few months ago. I

have an online friend/supporter who has sent me presents. And tomorrow I have a fun game to play with some people, and that may eventually lead to something.

So it is sad for all the ongoing things I can't change or control, but it is not completely terrible. And some things this year look better than they have for a while.

## **Day 2973 - 8/21**

### **Fun time**

Today was pretty fun. It was one of the every other week games in the afternoon, so that was super fun. I guess I got lucky finding those people, as we get along well and have fun. With so many random groups it's easy to not find something good.

I didn't do much with the other parts of my day. I did get a shower in the morning, so that was good. Church was there, so I got to micro lunch. And a cute shirt I ordered showed up, but it's suuuppper stinky due to how they made it, so since I have a touch extra money I washed it. Normally I wouldn't have, but with enough for washing, and how stinky it was, I felt it was worth the unscheduled wash cost.

But that was really my day. An otherwise very basic day other than that. Not much to write home about. Hopefully tomorrow will be a good day too.



So cute the displacer kitten!

[1600x900](#)

## **Day 2974 - 8/22**

### **Feeling very sick**

Today I took a turn for the worse quite quickly. In the morning I was fine, everything started slowly, but actually fairly well. By about 11:30 the early lunch I had (I'm guessing?) was causing me to feel very sick. I started to feel more and more cold in the library, as if I were in a fridge. My skin and insides started to get shivers and felt queasy. By the early afternoon it was so bad I almost felt like I was going to throw up, so I went out to the car. I soaked in what I could of the warmth, and as the cold started to be pushed away I grew more and more sleepy. I pretty rapidly feel asleep.

I slept for what felt like an hour or more. The shadows had moved a good two feet or so. Yet when I checked my phone, only about 20 minutes had passed.

I threw out the rest of the food I would have otherwise eaten on the assumption it was the food that made me sick. I got a little bit of fast food, freshly cooked stuff, and now I am trying to rest as much as I can and hopefully sleep soon.

I feel a bit better, but not as much as I'd had hoped at nearly 11 hours past the initial symptoms. Hopefully I can rest well and recover, and after a good night's sleep I will feel a bit better.

## **Day 2975 - 8/23**

### **Feels like death's door**

Today I still feel like I'm at death's door. Last night I kept getting worse and worse. I had extreme fever and chills by about 9, with my skin hot to the touch and when not touched or when getting the slightest breeze, it felt ice cold. By about 11 I had a massive headache and my head was spinning. I almost felt like I was going to throw up several times. Thankfully I didn't, though I wonder if it would have been better if I did.

I wondered as I was feeling very sick if this was it. Have I done something that I can't fix? Is my body shutting down? Will this be the end of me? So often I wonder what long-term effects my terrible diet and sleeping will have on me. 😞

Now I am still a bit hot, yet still feel like parts of me are ice cold. My eyes feel like they are being pushed up, out and in, all at the same time. My ears are ringing, and I still have a headache. I'm starving, yet too sick to eat. I eat a few grapes, then my tummy doesn't want any more. I probably will eat very little over the course of the day.

Hopefully I can get back to feeling better very soon. I feel terrible. 😞

## Week 426

### Day 2976 - 8/24 Still feel terrible

Today I feel only slightly better. I still feel really terrible. My eyes are still hurting quite a bit. My tummy, while it did eat somewhat more normally still feels bad, as if I may throw anything up. My heart is racing nearly all the time. And while my fever and chills come and go they are more constant than not. 😞

I still hope for good rest and that I'll truly start to feel better in the morning. 😞

### Day 2977 - 8/25 Mostly normal

Today I am starting to feel mostly normal again. By the late morning my extreme tiredness was wearing off. By the late afternoon much of my stamina had returned and my appetite was starting to feel normal. It's evening now and the only illness symptoms that remain aren't very serious issues; minorly sore eyes, and for some reason a very bad throat. I think maybe in my sleep I was talking from the pain. 😞

Today was pretty normal. Nothing really special happened. Though several print jobs were failing, as well as other print issues, which I discovered was an issue with my oldest USB drive. Not a big deal to replace it though. I can get one that is about five times bigger than it was for \$15.

Hopefully I can sleep well tonight and tomorrow can truly be a normal day where I can rest and recover. I have a game thing set up for all day to play my pen and paper game, so I'll absolutely need to be feeling good for that, as well as needing to be able to use my voice. So hopefully everything will go ok over the rest of tonight, and tomorrow will be a better day.

## Day 2978 - 8/26

### Cricket in the dark

Today was a bit odd, but mostly normal. I started with trying to take a shower at school, as it looks like there may be some race thing going on Saturday which could block access I would otherwise have in the morning. The things were unlocked but everything was dark. Not like they had shut down the building dark, but like there was no power dark, as the automatic doors and magnetic door holders were not working.

I decided to continue through the dark and check if the water was warm. It was, so I continued with my shower. I kept hearing a cricket chirp. I knew someone else was in there, so I thought that was the most annoying phone alert noise ever. But after my shower I heard the guy leave, but the cricket continued. I searched and it sounded like an actual cricket. I was going to help them escape the pitch black locker room, but it seemed they were probably up through the very fine grate for the vent, so I don't even know how they could have gotten up there. So that was very sad that I couldn't help. 😞

The rest of the day was a still pretty sick normal. I watched some shows. I played some games. But I don't really remember it. I still have a headache, a bit of an eye ache, ear ache, and almost no stamina. I am getting hungry, but the tummy just doesn't care to eat. I did eat most of a normal sized sandwich but I did so at less than half speed.

I am slowly continuing to get better and I still hope to be better enough for my day of gaming that I'm doing tomorrow. If I'm still very sick, the noise and business could easily overwhelm me. 😞

## Day 2979 - 8/27

### Big game day

Today was the big game day. I was still feeling a bit icky in the morning, so I was a bit worried. But once I started playing the sensory overload was where I expected, so if I felt fine or not I couldn't tell because I was overwhelmed feeling. Sadly, as I feared, it was too loud and I had a hard time hearing, so I didn't enjoy it anywhere near as much as I

thought I could have. And due to that I almost died because I'd said a thing and they didn't actually do the thing.

But, despite the downsides it was actually a pretty good time. I did have fun with the people, and I even played with someone I'd played with before, so that was good.

I'm glad I have the choice, at least for now, to have a bit more of a normal life.

## **Day 2980 - 8/28**

### **Fast day**

Today seemed to pass extremely quickly. The morning started normal enough and I spent some time at school. Though I'd barely done anything and my time was up in the blink of an eye. At least the church was there, so I got to micro my lunch for the first time in a while.

In the library I spent most of the time carefully going over some stuff I'd done extremely quickly yesterday. In yesterday's game we leveled extremely fast, which I wasn't prepared for. It took quite a while, but now I've slowly and carefully gone over all the things and made sure everything was all right.

It's nearing night now. I feel super tired. Though I am almost completely better, for some reason I hardly slept last night. I hope tonight I can sleep ok. Either way, I had a good time yesterday, and a good time today though it may not seem like it, and there seems to be hope for the future.

## **Day 2981 - 8/29**

### **Nearly all better**

Today I am feeling nearly all better. But for some reason the more better I get, the seemingly less sleep I get. I've not slept the past few nights until hours after I've 'gotten in bed'.

Again today my mind has been preoccupied with a possible new character to play. Though this likely will be the last I consider for a while. With now three to pick from I

have one at each end of the spectrum and one in the middle. I think going forward I'll get back to reading the book for how to run and create games. But it's a happy thing, since the books were pretty pricy in my current non-job having lifestyle.

But today was a pretty good day. Things were quiet, and warm enough, and I felt mostly better. And for a sad homeless life, that's pretty good.

## **Day 2982 - 8/30**

### **Hot**

Today I am visiting school just for a tiny bit. I took a shower, and now I will enter this and micro a lunch really quick before scooting off to the library.

I'm actually hot after walking just a little bit. I'm down to just a single t-shirt and pants now, which is a good sign that my body is running at, or very near to, normal temperature.

I'm not sure what today will bring, as it's just barely started, but hopefully it will be pretty good.



## **Week 427**

### **Day 2983 - 8/31** **Unexpected**

Today felt unexpected. When I got to the library I was so early, and so tired, I took a nap for about an hour. I'm surprised I did. Outside of being super sick my body usually doesn't want to nap.

I don't think I played any video games today. I don't really remember. I do remember I did some writing for my other character. I remember the two movies I watched. But besides that the day just felt weird. It felt like I'd actually done something completely different and these were memories someone had implanted.

I guess it was an ok day. Nothing bad happened. But I was cold, it felt weird, and it kind of felt lonely.

### **Day 2984 - 9/1** **Breakfast and lunch for breakfast**

Today I went to school. Like on Tuesday I microed my lunch early and ate it for a late breakfast / early lunch. I should have saved my doughnut for a snack, but apparently I put it straight in the bag instead of putting it in a plastic bag first.

I still feel weird today. I think I still feel off due to all my schedule changes and things being different. But too it may be because I am always in my head. That happens sometimes when I'm lonely. My brain thinks stuff and talks to itself, and it's like the words and thoughts get trapped, and more and more it fills space in my head until everything feels much too cramped.

Hopefully someday this nightmare will be over and I can have a somewhat normal life. 😞

## **Day 2985 - 9/2**

### **Feling tired again**

Today I feel tired again. I didn't do much. I played for a bit. I checked forums and checked for jobs. Mostly I guess I just passed the time.

I don't really remember the day. It's not totally over, there are a few hours left to do stuff. But I am tired. I feel as if my brain never really woke up. When trying to read my book I couldn't remember if I'd read what I was reading before or not.

Maybe tonight I will sleep better and be in less of a haze tomorrow.

## **Day 2986 - 9/3**

### **Sleepy**

Today was a pretty normal day. My mind was a bit clearer, but I was very sleepy. I didn't really do much. I did a bit of stuff for my pen and paper game. I played a few games for a short while. I watched a show. But nothing special happened.

I suppose though, besides still being too chilly in the library all day, since nothing bad happened it was a pretty good day.

## **Day 2987 - 9/4**

### **New adventures**

Today was pretty good, though a touch sad. The weather was quite warm, almost hot. But most of that may have been just me not being used to it due to being in the overly air conditioned library all the time.

Today was another every other week game. It was pretty good, but in the end I still felt a bit sad. They are good people, and while they may still eventually be people I know better and call friends, there are still things with the group that bug me. Partly it's the volume of the public space, but twice (during the three hours played) I was not heard or paid attention to when I said 'I do a thing' leading to people in the group being hurt

because people were not being respectful and listening to what I said. And two other times things came up that someone said 'it's like this', and it clearly is not what the book says, which I did not butt heads with them on, but it is not how things should be done.

So again I am a bit sad these are not people who are already my friends. I am again sad it is on a fixed amount of time, sometimes leading to pressing things faster and faster. And again I wish it were in a quiet calm home environment where people would pay attention to one another better.

I don't really blame them. All my gaming groups with this new/old pen and paper gaming adventure are just that, groups of strangers. They are strangers who come together very briefly, and I wonder if anyone will actually truly be friendly and be more. Few to none seem to care about my character or learn about them, so why should they care or learn about the player behind them?

In time I guess I will see where this new journey leads. While I do laugh and interact with people and my creativity is encouraged and sparked, I worry long-term that it may wind up no different from my online games, where people see each other for such small amounts of time noone really cares about anyone they meet.

## **Day 2988 - 9/5**

### **School, not school, school, not school**

Today was a disappointing pain in the butt. I had planned to chill outside of school all day, as I did in summers and holidays past, but for some insane reason the roof workers were there working on the roof. Really? On Labor Day? Are they not union? Isn't that like triple pay or something? Why would the school approve that?

So, less than about 15 minutes after I'd settled in I decided I should be safe and not be there. I headed over to the food store. But the internet was completely horrible there. I could barely do anything. I stayed and played and killed as much time as I could tolerate there, then went back over to school as I had very few options or choice on where to be. I stayed a school for a bit since the workers had left, so that was good. But I didn't stay too long as it still felt weird since it was a holiday.

So I left again and spent a bit more in the food store parking lot just chilling before it got dark. It's dusk now and I barely accomplished anything today. Even just messing around and gaming was barely done because I had to keep moving and was limited on options.

I suppose all in all it's just one day, and it will likely soon be forgotten. I did accomplish a sort of small thing I will do over the rest of the night, or tomorrow, so that is something. But I still feel sad at nearly an entire day lost compared to what I would have or could have done in a home. 😞

## **Day 2989 - 9/6**

### **Hopefully back to normal**

Today things will hopefully be back to normal. The library will be open in a bit. I got a micro food and shower at school. I do have my new role playing game thing tonight, so that will be different. But overall hopefully today will be more homeless normal than not. I still feel very imbalanced from the long weekend and only getting about five hours of sleep last night. 😞

## **Week 428**

### **Day 2990 - 9/7** **Bolstered, but worried**

Today is a mix of many feelings. I am again recovering from the long weekend. I am trying to stay focused, as the past two nights I've lost about 4 hours of sleep for seemingly no reason. And I'm fighting off being hot and cold, as it is hot outside today, but, as usual, the library was overly cold.

The one person who was super excited for the campaign I wanted to run about a month ago has found a few more people. At first I shied away, feeling sad, rejected, and worried I would fail them in some way if we did play.

But then I considered why. Why was I worried about the player number? Why did I think I'd let them down? Basically the answers were I didn't know them as people, so I couldn't predict what they would like, and I don't know their characters, so I again can't predict how I should build things. So I've agreed to try and run, with the first meeting as a sort of get to know the players game.

Hopefully it will be ok. I haven't run anything in forever, let alone a something for strangers. Hopefully I won't let them down either with the game or in some way because of just who or how I am.

I suppose time will tell. But I think the most important thing is I am willing to try. And in spite of all my tremendous depression all the time about everything in my life being willing to try doing something different to interact with people is kind of a big deal.

### **Day 2991 - 9/8** **Mysterious**

Today was pretty good. I got 'in bed' early last night and actually fell asleep quickly and slept well. Today was pretty good. Again I didn't play much. My online game I play the most has become sad since my friend I played with have seemingly stopped playing. It's been a month, possibly two, since I last saw either of them. And because my

life is still generally sad I have not picked up my new games even though I have two waiting for me.

The person who was so excited for me to DM the campaign I was working on still seems excited, but none of the three other people she got have replied to my asking what day they were looking at to play or if they had a place. It's been two days now since I got asked, and so I've been stuck in basically a holding pattern waiting to see when they want to do it, and not knowing what kind of people they are or what characters they would play I'm unable to work on it.

So it seems mysterious and confusing to me. It makes me wonder if she was, in fact, so excited to play she kind of coerced these people into playing and that's why they are slow to react. I hope that's not the case, as playing a thing with people who don't really want to play will just become really depressing.

In good news though a series I've been trying to find to watch has been found. I couldn't get access to a streaming online source, but noticed it in the library one day. So, after apparently four years since the first series came out I can now watch it and get caught up.

The summer continues. I guess now I am a little over half way through. There are just under three weeks left before school starts again, but it feels like it's been a year. And I fear the remaining weeks may seem just as long.

I guess all I can do now is continue to try to keep myself distracted and strive to find as much peace and balance as I can in these hard times.

## **Day 2992 - 9/9**

### **Headache and dizziness**

Today I think I am indeed catching a cold. Over the course of the day I've felt more and more dizzy (though just a bit), congested, and a touch of sneezing. I'm very tired too, though I've done little to nothing all day.

Mostly I spent all day catching up on a TV series I've found at the library. I felt too tired and sick to play online games. Maybe part of it too is that I know no one is online waiting for me.

Again I'm a touch irked at the people for my game. Yet another day has passed where nothing was said on the page I made for it. There is still no chosen place or day to play. The numbers still show people haven't even looked at the post. I don't know if I'm more upset by finding people and they seem disinterested in actually starting, or back in the day when I was disappointed at there seeming to be a complete lack of interest.

There are still some hours in the day left, yet I am so very tired, and my mind and spirit feel worn out. 😞

## **Day 2993 - 9/10**

### **Puss filled**

Today I feel very 'low born' as fantasy things would say. I don't know why, but I am very scarred, and the scars in several places are because of blisters. And the blisters hurt and make icky puss when pinched. I also have half a dozen spots on my chin which are like pimples. I expect they are more likely something caused by a dull razor or cuts that got infected than they are actual pimples. It makes me wonder if I am allergic to something on the current razors, and that's why they are all in one place. Or maybe there is a spider where I sleep and it is biting me and causing itching and reactions in the night.

Days like this when I look at myself and see nothing but scars, or even when they are covered and I still feel the pain, I feel extra sad. In the manner of fantasy shows I think about high born, who are all smooth and unblemished, and I remember how once upon a time I was like that. And I think now I am almost always scarred, and often when there are no scars I am still in pain.

I wonder too, even if I recover from my terrible journey how many scars will remain? How many will remain inside where they can never heal?

## **Day 2994 - 9/11**

### **Recovery**

Today I am trying to recover. I still feel full of puss and poison, yet I know the very tiny areas can't possibly be causing me to feel sick. Yet I do. I have earaches, headaches, congestion, fever, and a bit of sneezing.

I'm in my quiet place early to get extra rest, so hopefully that will help. I also wiped my wounds with just a touch of diluted rubbing alcohol. So maybe that will help things heal. If not, I don't know what would. People often take off their shoes and socks in the library, but I am not like that. Though I may start taking off my boots to help alleviate pressure if it's not better soon.

I guess today was really ok, but I'm sad that I was too sick to really enjoy the good things.

## **Day 2995 - 9/12**

### **Sick, but better**

Today I'm still feeling sick, but I'm starting to feel a bit better. In the morning at the library I still felt feverish, way too cold, not very hungry, and my throat was messed up. Now at night I don't feel quite as feverish, but my throat is still messed up feeling.

I still feel somewhat like a leper. I'm still having trouble walking due to the mysterious blisters and wounds on my legs. There are half a dozen to a dozen bad blemishes on my chin. I would guess from a razor that was bad or something I'm allergic to getting into cuts. They are cut and puss like similar to blisters. So I still feel bad and wound covered.

I suppose overall the day was pretty good though. I did play a game group thing with a new group tonight. Some were a few I'd played with before, but one was a person... I don't know how to describe him. It's not that we don't get along, or I don't like him, but after the game he was saying how he'll probably take x levels of this and y levels of that specifically to get specific things, and I am having a really hard time justifying that from a character standpoint. The choices aren't necessarily opposite to one another, they just



seem like they are bending the rules to min/max his choices, which I don't really agree with.

I suppose the day was pretty good overall. Though I still feel more sick than I'd like.

## **Day 2996 - 9/13**

### **More sick again**

Today I am feeling more sick again. I don't really feel super terrible in terms of symptoms, but those I do have are far worse today than yesterday. My throat is super messed up feeling. I'm a bit tired and congested, and my ears want everything to be quiet.

In a home I'd likely recover quickly. I could be at rest, have soup, or chicken broth to warm and soothe my throat, and even occasionally put a warm towel on my face to feel better (and more importantly soothe my leper like wounds on my chin.) But without, being in the library, I will likely only recover a fraction as much. So far barely anyone is here. It is windy and a bit gray outside, so hopefully the mood here won't change much and I can recover better.

But for now I am sick, feel wounded and broken, and am sad at how limited things seem for me, particularly in terms of recovery. 😞

## **Week 429**

### **Day 2997 - 9/14**

#### **Probably not an allergic reaction**

Today I feel sick. I am going in cycles of feeling better in the evening then bad again in the morning. Hopefully that cycle will stop and I will start to feel better soon.

I am fairly certain my chin cuts and all the scrapes on me, as well as possibly the blisters are an allergic reaction. I previously had issues with Axe body lotion before and it has probably been so long that happened that I forgot. I got some hair gel a few weeks ago and so on gaming Sundays and Tuesdays I've used it. So what likely happened is I had some on my hands and scratching got it below my skin. Also, a while ago I gelled my hair and then cut it while sticking up, then shaved, so on that day is likely when it was probably on my hands and got in my razor cuts and caused these leper like cuts on my face. So I'll definitely have to throw that away and try and remember to never ever use any Axe products ever again. Probably something used in their fragrances is what I'm allergic to.

I suppose today was ok after that. I felt pretty sick and was half asleep most of the day, but my feet were ok with being out of my boots and just in socks all day at the library, so hopefully that helps allow the blisters to heal. But with my face after bleeding or having a little puss when I wipe now and then I still feel very bad overall. 😞

### **Day 2998 - 9/15**

#### **All the nurses say yikes**

Today I decided to check in at the school health center. I don't know why I don't remember that I can do that more often. I could even go to the regular hospital if I wanted. (With my free plan from the government by being poor I think a regular visit is about \$20.) I asked for bandaids and if there was anything to help heal the wounds. They saw my chin wounds and said yikes. One asked to see another area, so I showed her my worst shin area and they again said yikes. She gave me a couple of fistfuls of ointments to

clean things, but there was no real medicine. If anything it would have to be an antibacterial of some kind. So they made me promise to come back and wait for a time when the doc could see me on Monday.

I'm sure I'm ok though, well will be eventually. These are the exact same kind of scratches turned extreme wounds as when the doc first discovered that I had bad eczema and I had a terrible reaction to something. Considering I accidentally have been using a different product from that same company a couple of times a week I still would guess it was a reaction to that. It likely got under my nails and on the razor, and so my scratched areas got infected.

I still feel pretty sick. Lots of mild fever and sleepiness. Though the pain from the sores and my feet and legs are worst, the cold has me very tired and icky feeling. Hopefully I can sleep well the next few nights and I can feel better. But lately I've been having a hard time sleeping. 😞

## Day 2999 - 9/16

### Swollen

Today was ok other than the pain of my various bad blisters. I still feel a touch sick, but really the pains have overtaken any illness. The weird thing is the antibacterial stuff has done some amazing recovery. But today, both of my feet are swollen to the point that there was no way I could wear my boots. Even my tennis shoes had to be let out as wide as they could go. And later in the afternoon I noticed my right foot was very swollen where I'd put the antibacterial stuff and bandaged it. It was swollen to the point that comparing it to the other foot it was easily 1/4" bigger, maybe even 1/2" bigger, probably 15% overall bigger if were to measure around the foot with a measuring tape.

It would be very weird if I were allergic to the antibacterial stuff. My right paw is the only spot that is really like that. It is below my right shin, which is the most affected area, so if that is some kind of poison or local reaction to something that could explain it.

I'm not really sure what is going on, just that it is. 😞 And all I can do is hope it gets better, and maybe Monday if it's not that the doc can give me some antibacterial meds that I can take to help.

## **Day 3000 - 9/17**

### **Still swollen**

Today was ok I suppose, but I am still very worried about my wounds. My skin stuff is still about the same. Only really my face seems to be really improving. Which, I suppose, is the most important as that makes me feel the most self conscious. Though my shin ones, and more recently my right paw swelling, has me the most worried. This seems very beyond a general skin irritation type thing and again makes me wonder about some kind of poison running through my system. I will hopefully find out more on Monday when they sneak me in to see the doc.

Other than that I suppose I tried to enjoy the day as much as I could. I thought a bit about a new character for the pen and paper game. I thought about game stuff in general. But overall I was still extremely tired for a few reasons. And as such, the day seemed to pass slowly with nothing to look forward to.

I am hoping tonight I can sneak in to my usual spot early to hopefully recover my wounds and get some extra rest and tomorrow I will feel better. Only time will tell.

## **Day 3001 - 9/18**

### **Feeling sick from toxins**

Today was mostly good. I had a restful time at school for a few hours in the morning. I took off my shoes and socks so my wounds could breathe. The church group was there as well, so I got to micro my lunch.

In the afternoon I had my pen and paper game. It was super fun. Unlike last time I didn't get hyper and interrupty. In fact, I was kind of the opposite being super quiet. It was a mix of listening to the story, giving space to others since we lost one and the group dynamic changed, and being in a bit of pain and feeling sick from toxins.

My wounds aren't healing well. My chin ones are getting markedly better and may be gone in a few days, but the rest are about the same. And in a bit of worse news, the first few toes on my right paw are getting so jammed up from swelling and toxins that it is becoming difficult to bend the toes. It's not painful; I simply can't bend them very far.

So I am very worried about my wounds. 😞 Is it some kind of terrible toxin? Will it get better soon? Can the doc give me something tomorrow to help? At least with the swelling? And what of my feeling queasy and slightly faint? Is that a cold? Or is it stress and worry about my wounds? Or side effects of whatever toxin is wreaking havoc on things like my kidney or other parts? Hopefully I can get seen tomorrow and find some answers. 😞

## **Day 3002 - 9/19**

### **Allergic and infected**

Today I spent the day at school mostly waiting for my appointment to see the doc, hoping I could get in early. I suppose the waiting didn't matter, as the day basically passed the same as it would have elsewhere. The doc confirmed my suspicion that it started as an allergic reaction which triggered my eczema. But, perhaps due to the hair gel wearing me down slowly before that, apparently when it flared up some bacteria probably got in the affected areas, and that took hold in my skin and then my body had no way to fight it off. So now I am on two anti-biotic pill medications to help fight it off.

So far the medicines seem very promising. Within a few hours some of the scabbed areas were loosening their grip and a few peeled off with no effort at all. (Much like sun burnt skin when it's starting to flake.) Also, the blistering heat coming off the infected areas stopped and the skin in those areas have returned to normal temperatures (though they are still red around the wounds.)

She wants me to go back Wednesday to be sure things are clearing up, but already the swelling is down slightly, and areas that were some of the worst affected already seem to be calming down and clearing up quite quickly. So things may be much better very soon.

In the evening I played one of my pen and paper games. I like the group except for one guy. He was the one that was talking about min/maxing by taking a couple of levels of this and that for specific abilities so he could do everything himself. But more so I don't like him because he presents things in a very 'I need it so we are doing it and I don't care about others' way which railroads the group. Also, he railroaded me on several turns

by starting his turn before I'd finished. And because he ignores others there was no stopping him to say there were other things I could have done. If he continues like that I'll bring it up with the DM, as that is not only incredibly rude, but it greatly hinders my learning my character, as well as hurting the entire group as the things I could have done may have had great impacts.

I'm still deciding if I like playing with strangers in open environments like this or not. Some people seem good, but others are like this guy and not people I'd choose to associate with, and others just don't seem to care about you at all. I think by the end of the year when these current sets are over I will carefully consider what I do and don't continue doing.

But for now I continue, one day at a time. There is my infection to worry about most of all, and tomorrow night is another game. But for now, hopefully I can get some sleep and recover well.

## **Day 3003 - 9/20**

### **A lot better**

Today my paws are a lot better. They aren't nearly as swollen and I can walk almost normally. I'll still leave my boots off and use my tennis shoes through the weekend for maximum healing time, but I should be fine pretty quickly.

It's early morning and I've stopped by school because the library isn't open yet. It's pretty warm already. It's been super hot the past few days, to the point of worrying about what food is left in the car. But I would rather have things a bit too warm than too cold. I don't like cold at all. 😞

But the day has just started, so hopefully I can rest and heal, have an ok time with my game in the evening, and today will be a good day.

## **Week 430**

### **Day 3004 - 9/21** **Getting better**

Today I am getting better. Some of my wounds are much smaller, and the swelling in my foot has gone down to the point that I can walk with almost no pain at all. Hopefully by the weekend the swelling will be fully gone and I can go back to my boots and have my ankle support again.

A couple of minor sad things did happen today though. First, I messaged the person about my campaign and was like we need to start basically this weekend or I'll have to close the group and consider it not happening. I just wouldn't have time to start a campaign once school started. She said the people were busy for a while and that was probably best. Closing the group seemed very sad. 😞

The other sad thing was entering a voice over contest. I thought I did pretty well recording and submitted the entry. But listening to others I got sad. There is a huge gap between untrained people, like me, and those who have had proper training. I have a very long way to go before I could likely ever get any job, however short term, doing voice work. 😞

Other than that it was a pretty ok day. I'm feeling better and excited for school next week, as my life can return to a more predictable normal.

### **Day 3005 - 9/22** **Preserved by not experiencing**

Today was good I suppose. Nothing bad happened. And in the morning when I visited school things were open and I peeked in to my building and went to my spot. With no one around it felt kind of dangerous to be there, so I didn't stay, even though I would only be there for 30 minutes. It was warm and quiet and welcoming, something I've missed for quite a while.

But the time at the library was fine. Now that school is going it's almost entirely empty until the early afternoon. And even then most days it's still pretty quiet. I played games a tiny bit, but mostly I watched shows.

I did look around at some people 'my age' online who I used to know. They look like grandparents in some pictures. Many are gray, some have very noticeable wrinkles, few look happy. I wonder, with looking at least 15 years younger than I actually am; has my lack of life experience preserved me in some way? Has the lack of interaction with people, laughing, talking, crying, sharing, spared me from what would otherwise form wrinkles and other signs of age?

I suppose it's a good thing, as I relate to people about 15-20 years younger far better than many 'grown-ups around my age'.

But I can't help but wonder how much longer will it continue? What good is looking, and in some cases even feeling, younger if it is only because I am missing out experiencing living? 😞

## **Day 3006 - 9/23**

### **Ok for boots**

Today was ok I suppose. I'm feeling mostly better from my injuries. There are still some bad spots, but overall they are healing well. Some spots are a bit itchy, but I think in maybe a week the worst spots should be healed. I suppose the best news is good in a test now they are fine in the boots. In fact, they feel a bit safer in boots as they wiggle less (so theoretically less irritation would occur.) But, as I said before, I'll continue to wear the tennis shoes through the weekend as I can just pop those off easily in the library and then let them heal better.

I guess it was an ok day overall. Though I should still last 1.5 years until my money runs out I am still worried about it. Things, good or bad, remind me all the time. Like for the past few months I've been looking at cheaper tablets to replace my dying iPhone 4. It occurred to me today it would be great to do that for school as my tablet would be much easier to take notes on since my laptop doesn't fit on the 'desk' and is always at risk of someone knocking it off as they pass by. (It's about twice as big as 'the



desk', so students walking by can easily bump it.) But seeing that it would take about 16% of what I have left for the one I want most it's just way too expensive. 😞 Now I'd feel even worse if my laptop died due to use I otherwise could have used a tablet for.

But I try to hang on. I am recovering my wounds. The boots should be fine to wear, though I won't for extra healing. So for now that is something. And these days it seems best to only focus on right now.

## **Day 3007 - 9/24**

### **Expensive day**

Today is a disappointing and expensive day. 😞 I finally remembered to make an appointment and get my tire that has a leak fixed and do tire rotation. But when I got there and the guy looked at my tires he said the first two were super bad and dangerous. I guess when I last did them three years ago I only did the back one. So I was forced into getting two tires, which was nearly \$200. 😞

That will throw off my plans quite a bit if donations don't come between now and a little over a year from now. That pushes things to just about the end of 2017, reducing my expected time by about 3 months. 😞

I suppose it's for the best. It's better they be replaced than they fail in some way and I die in a crash or something. But still, it makes me again feel like even when things look ok and I should be safe for a while that I am not really safe. 😞 I still feel like I'm barely hanging on and can never get to a truly safe spot. 😞

## **Day 3008 - 9/25**

### **Warm outside, cold inside**

Today it was apparently very warm outside with the weather showing 85F, yet inside the library was chilly and air conditioned, as it always is.

I was extremely tired all day. I've had a hard time getting to sleep the past few nights. Even now six hours after getting to the library it only feels one or two hours later to my brain.

I didn't really play today. I sort of don't feel like playing, but more so I was simply too tired feeling. I've felt more than half asleep all day.

Hopefully I can sleep well tonight. Tomorrow is the start of the new school quarter and this will be extra rough as a major parking area will be shut down. I'll have to get up at least an hour earlier than I previously have been, maybe sooner, to be sure I can get there and get parked.

But I'm excited to go back to school. I'm excited to be helping in the classes doing my TA thing again. I'm happy I can have my regular spots to be again. I'm happy to go back to regular eating again. And with every quarter there is always the hope maybe this one will be the one I find friends, or maybe even a sweetie. It seems unlikely, as all opportunities seem unlikely to me these days, but I try to hang on to hope.

## **Day 3009 - 9/26**

### **A better game day**

Today was pretty good at school. Though I barely got any sleep what with falling asleep late and getting up early, overall it was an ok day. It was a decent class, and after there were many who stopped by my spot and said hi. A few said it was good to see me, and it felt genuine. Though most don't know the extent of my sad life, a few did, so that was nice to hear.

In the evening the guy who had been kind of an ass with the gaming group the past few sessions was slightly less of an ass. Maybe he realized he was railroading and trampling on people and will ease back in the future. I guess time will tell.

I also basically was set to be out of meds today, so I checked in with the doc to see if I should be ok or if we should continue. My worst spots are still about 1/2 or so inch big, so I'm not fully healed. The doc said I was right and agreed with my assessment to keep going on meds. She gave me a lower amount of one, and it should last another week.

I guess despite all my worries about the recent extra loss of money today was a pretty good day. Hopefully I can sleep quickly and well and have another good day tomorrow.

## **Day 3010 - 9/27**

### **Defeated shower**

Today I am still very sleepy. I again got up extra early. I tried the new routine of parking then walking to the shower, but I feel defeated because even that short walk tired me out and I have a touch of sweat. I'll have to get up even earlier on shower days to continue my old pattern of park near the shower then drive the quarter mile back to my regular spot.

It is quite and calm here in my spot and I should cool back down pretty quickly. I am just TAing for the next few days with my next class on Friday, so it should be a pretty relaxing and fun time.

I am still very sad. My life seems sad and stuck and there is seemingly little to nothing moving forward. But I am still very happy I can be around to help others along their path and maybe avoid falling into a sad position like I have. 😞

## **Week 431**

### **Day 3011 - 9/28**

#### **Tired**

Today my lack of sleep from getting up early and not getting to sleep for several hours a night is catching up with me. IN the evening during a show I was watching I was nodding off. Hopefully tonight will be different and I can maybe catch up a bit.

My boo boos are getting much better. The shin area is still very visible but most of the rest are almost entirely gone.

I guess today was pretty ok. I didn't do much, just was available to TA. But since it's early in the quarter that mostly means be in class but play my games most of the time.

Hopefully I'll sleep easier tonight, and tomorrow will also be a good day.

### **Day 3012 - 9/29**

#### **Ok day**

Today was an ok day. I had a decent time in the class I TA for, though I didn't help really. And after, I just kind of chilled, watched one show, and played just a little bit.

Again my mind wandered with thoughts of pen and paper game things. What potential there is for character or campaign things. I wonder if that's a good or bad thing though. It's good that it is a nice distraction for my current sad life. But it is bad in that most of the thoughts, even if I make characters or make notes, are simply daydreams and likely will never actually be things I do.

I suppose it was a good day though. I was in my spot. I was warm. I talked and laughed with a few people. So I felt a bit normal and a bit safe. At least for a brief while.

## Day 3013 - 9/30

### Very very tired

Today I am very very tired. It wasn't so bad in the morning and afternoon. In fact it really wasn't until late morning and even evening that I really started to feel tired. Up until that point I could focus and remember my day. But as it went on it got harder and harder to focus, my memory became shorter, and at this point I really don't remember much past about 3:30.

I guess that was ok. I had class which had the most boring movie, but besides that it was an ok day. I got to play a bit and watch shows a bit, and overall it was a fairly relaxed day.

I did do some things that made me really sad I was not in a home, as they would have been more enjoyable, or easier to take out and put away in a home. But as always, that is not something I can control, and have seems little more than a distant memory I may never know again. 😞

## Day 3014 - 10/1

### Felt weird

Today was weird feeling. One of my class professors said there was a two Saturday class that would pair well with the course, so I went ahead and did that since it wouldn't be a big deal. So in the morning and afternoon I was in class.

It didn't really leave much time to be productive or even to play, as the library closed a few hours later. I did have time to do just a bit of a fun thing, so that was ok.

I'm doing laundry now, but after that the night is basically over. It will be quite hiding time where I can't do much. Hopefully someday soon my life can be back to something more normal in a home.

## Day 3015 - 10/2

### Gray clouds

Today was pretty good. It started out very sleepy, and I suppose it stayed that way since I was pretty quiet all day. In the morning I was at school for a bit. I worked on something for the pen and paper game, but it felt kind of pointless as it may or may not ever be something I'd use. In my brief time in the library I printed it out.

I went to my every other week game and had a pretty good time. We didn't do much fighting. We actually didn't seem to progress in the story much at all, which is fine. It actually turned out to be an important part for my character, as it touched on his back-story quite a bit. It had been so long since I wrote that part of his story that when the DM was describing things it took me a bit to go oooh and remember. 😊 What was cool though was another player needed a thing and I said 'oh I just printed some things, you can borrow this.' So that stuff I had which felt pointless actually was immediately useful. 😊 I may or may not ever use it for my character, as it's one that is for if my main character dies, so we'll see how much use I get out of it. But it's nice to know it did get some use already.

I feel good about the game, but I still feel sad overall. Lately I have been missing a home an extra lot, very likely because this pen and paper stuff used to be very easy. I'd go to my shelf of only a few things, get the book, do the thing, put the book back, forgot something so go get it and put it back again, then print as I like on my printer, adjust, print again. Now it is a much more difficult process. Though I'm very thankful I can do it at all.

Hopefully soon I will sleep. Hopefully I will not lay unsleeping until like 2 AM, as I have done so many nights lately. And hopefully tomorrow will also be a good, or better, day.

## Day 3016 - 10/3

### Sprinkled

Today was a bit of odd weather. Just about a week ago it was 80F and up. And the week before that it was chilly. Now it's again getting a bit chilly and it even sprinkled a bit.

My weekly premade campaign was pretty fun. Though I still would prefer that one guy not be in the group. Just his base personality really doesn't mesh with my style. Because he's an experienced DM he always has this attitude of 'I know everything you could do, all the monsters, and know how this campaign goes and what we need to do,' etc. etc. And he typically wants to rush things as quickly as possible unless things are revolving around his character. But at least three different times during tonight's game he was like 'me me me' about what he's going to level as and how cool his character will be by min/maxing different classes.

And the thing I really don't get is he has almost no interest in getting to know the other character's stories, interacting outside of the campaign requirements, or letting others take the spotlight, yet he's making a journal of his character adventures and posting it on an open social network group. I guess that does make a fair amount of sense upon reflection, as that still all revolve around him and 'how cool his character is' and that everyone should be impressed by it.

I think this really solidifies that I need to find a home made campaign in someone's home who are all people I either get along with, or am at least neutral towards. With guys like this in the group, particularly in games that happen one time a week and you may never see those characters and players ever again, just isn't my style. It's why I don't do a lot of dungeoning in online games. Why be with people who don't care about you and are just there to consume the content as fast as possible and not care to be involved in the story the players interaction creates.

Well, I suppose today wasn't a bad day, and that is something. Hopefully I can sleep early and quickly and tomorrow will be a better day.

## Day 3017 - 10/4

### A late start

Today had a bit of a late start. Apparently I set my alarm an hour later than I have been this quarter. I got to school late enough that I passed on a shower and instead have just wiped myself off. I'm not stinky and half my clothes are fresh today, so I really will be fine to just take one in the evening or in the morning tomorrow. I guess it worked out fine. I parked just a bit further away, maybe 50' from my usual spot. And I saw the most beautiful and attractive strawberry blonde. 🧐 Of course I was too shy to say anything to her; as usual she was likely less than half my age. I did leave a note on her car saying that though. 😊

Today I have my TA class and that's it. If I'm not too sleepy later I may work on an assignment. But since I'm so very sleepy what with only getting 5-6 hours of sleep a night lately, hopefully today will be calm and restful.



## **Week 432**

### **Day 3018 - 10/5**

#### **Maybe sick again**

Today was pretty good. It had a bit of a slow start. The few hours before the class I TA for seemed to drag on forever, though I didn't really do anything. The class was pretty good. I only helped a little teeny bit, as it's still in the very early stages of class.

After class I was very extremely tired. And, as I was yesterday, really extremely hungry. I'm also ridiculously tired, and I get winded on even very short walks, as short as to the bathroom. It's possible it's just overly high stress levels. But tired, hungry, winded, it typically adds up to a cold. Though I really have no symptoms other than that. There were maybe one or two sneezes all day, but that was it.

I put the last of the money in my bank today. I still had a few hundred left, so it was more than I wanted it in the bank instead of hiding in my cloths. I suppose I feel extra stressed now because of it though. I'm again at a point where I have what I have. I am still on track for the end of 2017, or a bit less if I get a tablet, so I still have at least a year before I'd be out. But still, it's not much. Enough for my small sad life, yes. But nowhere near enough to consider moving in somewhere, even if I did have a job with regular income. And even losing my car or laptop would swallow it in an instant.

But still I try to hang on to hope. While historically nothing has changed in years, on any given day there is another chance. Everything could change, or things could be set in motion which eventually lead to change. As long as there is life and mobility I hold on to hope. Though some days that seems easier than others.

### **Day 3019 - 10/6**

#### **Purchased and canceled**

Today was different. Mostly I was just distracted all day. More and more thoughts of getting a tablet consumed me. For hours I debated a purchase. And later in the afternoon when I checked my banking stuff more closely I discovered I actually have a

touch more than I thought. I guess I've been more careful than I thought and doing my bills in Word, instead of on a spreadsheet program, revealed more money. So I pondered some more, put the things in the cart, left them there and watched a short show, then decided to go ahead and make the purchase I've been pondering many hours for weeks now.

Within 15 minutes though it felt wrong. That kind of 'something is wrong' feeling I get in my gut sometimes. I had too many feelings of 'what if' come over me. I started to spiral into a panic and canceled the order. It felt sad. I've not canceled an order in probably more than 20 years. It felt like I let the companies down who would have fulfilled the purchase. It felt like I let myself down by not having the freedom to make such a purchase without so much worry.

I think I will be tormented either way. Either I am sad I don't have it, or I spend more than I'd like and do. I'm still uncertain if I'll get it, as it is more than I'd like to spend and I do worry about 'what if' I get it and wind up hardly using it. But I did think about a conservative figure of about 100 hours used before the end of the year. And if I don't use it for any classes at all next year, probably 250 or so more hours used. But since it is likely I would use it in classes, probably 500 or so hours used next year conservatively. Plus there is all the pen and paper gaming stuff I could then convert and leave digital from then on, playing casual games again, having a something when I would not be able to otherwise plug my laptop in somewhere, a something 'just in case' the laptop died, etc. So I most certainly would use it a lot.

Logically it makes a great deal of sense to get the tablet. So I don't know if my hesitation was real, or if it is just my growing incredible fear of change to my routine. If it were a new laptop or car that wouldn't really be a change, as those would be replacing an existing item, those would be something familiar done slightly differently. But a tablet... it would both not be used in the way I use my old phone now, nor for all the things I do on my laptop, so it would lie somewhere between, somewhere new.

But thoughts of what if will likely consume me either way. I am often more passionate than anything else and once those passions ignite it is very difficult to quiet them. I don't know if I can resist both the passion and the logic of the hundreds of hours I'd use the tablet in the next few months alone.

I suppose it is the unknown which holds me back the most. Because it is different I don't know. It will lead new places, new ways, and I don't know those things. And then there is the path not taken. While it would be tragic to have really nothing to show for the money from my grandmas death, if I do get a physical thing for a short while (5+ years), what thing may happen that does not happen because of that change?

I feel greatly torn both ways. 😞 And that is not a good thing to feel because of the way it tears me. 😞 Hopefully someday I will again be in a normal life, and such things will be happy decisions and possibilities.

## Day 3020 - 10/7 Forgot

Today was pretty good, but I was tired and a bit sad. Again I pondered if I should get the tablet I want for several hours. I looked at more reviews and again checked news. I'd remembered there were rumors they may announce the new one in a few weeks, but also found news that reminded me other rumors say it won't happen until March of next year. I again opened the store page, and again looked and looked at my bill plan. It was then I very sadly realized I'd forgotten a critical fact. I apparently didn't remember when I made this bill plan that since I am not working I won't get a tax return. And that was marked for the end of this year and the next. So sadly, without another boost of cash I really really need to save it as much as I can to last as long as it can. Hopefully it will still last to about a year from now, but with that tax money now removed, making the money last that long will require some bill juggling near the end.

So that was some very sad news. I'd still love the tablet. It is on my wish list, but it is quite beyond the price of previous gifts and donations, so it seems very unlikely to be gifted. 😞 But I will always hold on to hope a nice person will come along, either by helping in general, gifting, or passing down an old device I may be interested in. Gods know I was such a person myself for the majority of my life. Even now in my darkest days I still do it when I can. It is likely longer ago than I think, but I passed down my old desktop and later my laptop to my friend in need.

But with that knowledge perhaps my mind will rest, all-be-it a bit sadly. I did sleep after getting 'in bed' without trouble last night for the first time in I can't remember how many weeks. Maybe tonight I can again. And in the morning it will be a new day. And hopefully I can focus on what I do have, hang on to hope for the future, and it will be a good day.

## **Day 3021 - 10/8**

### **Fast day**

Today passed very quickly. I had class in the morning until the afternoon. Then, since I'm ok on gas, I went to the library for a few hours. My day passed super fast and now it is early evening and I am doing laundry.

I definitely have a cold or the start of one. Yesterday and today I've been extremely tired, super hungry, and sneezy. I can't focus very much on things, which I guess is ok because I don't really need to since it's the weekend and I don't really have anything I need to do in terms assignments until just under a week from now.

I still feel torn. Parts of me still feel like getting the tablet would help make a step forward. Maybe it's that because it is one of the few steps I can choose and make at my own pace instead of one I am forced to make. Yet at the same time there is no way I could afford it. The literal cost is too high. And still part of me feels scared, particularly if I spent my own money. Scared that the change now would really be inconsequential without other opportunity for change. Changes that would be largely undoable due to the other remaining restrictions in my life.

Without an extremely generous person buying it for me off of my wish list (or sending me a slightly older version) I may never know the answer. I may never know what would or would not come to pass because of such a change. Like great gears of life, as time passes the gears turn and shift. Such a line of events brought about by change may only last a moment. Since I cannot both have it and not have it I will never know which path reveals what differences, only that in this case I again feel I can not cause the change myself.

## Day 3022 - 10/9

### Short but long

Today was odd. It was old school style, where I started outside of school then was at the library. But it actually felt incredibly short. By the time it was 2:30 I felt like it was nearing 6 and I was very tired. I suppose I didn't do much today, but I did do some homework and reading that I needed to do. Maybe that's why things felt different.

It was a super warm day. I wore my shorts, but the warm day held nothing for me. I was in the library during the warm, so I missed it. I have no (local) friends, so there was no warm day hang out gaming and BBQ that could have happened. There was no trip to the beach or amusement place (which I'm about 45 minutes from two different ones.) Nor did I just relax by a pool.

Still, I suppose it was a good day. I played a bit, watched a show, and I suppose most importantly did some homework stuff. So I guess there was some forward progression, though likely nothing will come of it. Hopefully I can rest well tonight and tomorrow will be a good day.

## Day 3023 - 10/10

### Ok day

Today was an ok day. It seemed pretty busy. In the morning I had class. Then there were a few short hours before my Monday game. There is still the guy who irks me in the group, but I don't think he will change ever. Again he said something that bugged me. He said, 'Oh, I think I'll do this to prove you don't need to optimize your character,' when he's already split his class to get an extra fancy ability. And less than 10 minutes later he said, 'Oh I may do this and this to get this special thing.' It's like OMG just stop telling everyone how you are going to optimize and make choices that make no rational sense already. Every choice you make flexes the rules so you can maximize.

But there was one vindicating moment. At one point I said I do a thing and he said, 'nope, that has to be y only.' And I'm like uhhh, no I'm pretty sure it's on x or y'. He looked in the book, said I was right and then conveniently got up to go get a drink at that

moment, saying nothing more. Three others at the table giggled likely because they know he has that 'I'm right and know everything' air about him all the time. And they have probably known him for quite some time.

But I suppose today was good. I was helpful in class, and helpful to some in the Tuesday/Thursday class who visited me. And then I had an ok time with my game.

Still, it would be nice to be flopping into a bed. It would be nice to not need to set my alarm extra early to be sure I had time to make the extra distance to shower in the public spot. It would be nice to not have to consider picking what to eat tomorrow. And it would be nice to not have any of this extra stress from sad things. 😞

## **Day 3024 - 10/11**

### **Upset tummy**

Today my cold is a bit worse. I've had a fair bit of sneezing the past few days (a few an hour). I'm still very tired, extra hungry and thirsty, and as of last night my tummy feels icky. It's an odd icky though, as if there is a little bit of a lump in there. I don't know if it is a cold or if it maybe was something I ate. 😞

But today is a TAing day, and they are starting to get to the fun projects, so today should be fun. And tonight I've got an extra (single) pen and paper game, so hopefully that will be fun too.

I'm still sad about all the things I can't have, all the things I'd like to have to help my life and by extension help me help others or at least entertain them more. And I try to focus on what I do have and hope for the future.

## Week 433

### Day 3025 - 10/12

#### Big fluffy doggy

Today had a surprise. There was someone who I've taken classes before visiting the class and he had an 'emotional support' doggy with him. He was a big huge fluffy doggy. 😊 He was super friendly towards everyone. I said hi and pet him and he was big enough that I didn't have to bend over to pet his head or back. After a few pets he did the doggy poosh into me thing they do when they like the pets and he bumped me over a few inches to the side because he was so big. 😊 He stayed through class and a bit after, so a few times during the day I couldn't resist going over and petting him some more, and even laid down next to him and gave him a little hug when he was being sleepy and laying down. 😊

The rest of the day was ok I guess. I didn't really accomplish anything. I barely played games. I just haven't felt too much in the mood to play the ones I have been lately.

But mostly today I just felt... I'm not sure. I'd say maybe detached? Separate from everyone? Unconnected? In some ways maybe I felt free? As if I were on vacation and nothing around me was my normal surroundings that I was attached to. It was very odd. I still kind of feel that way. I don't know if it's good or bad.

There are still things I miss. Ways I miss. Things I'd like to be in my life or back in my life. But I have to continue to try and accept that which I can't change and look at what I do have. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

### Day 3026 - 10/13

#### Shared lunch

Today was ok, kind of extra helpful, and kind of very slow. In the morning I had the class I TA for. They are still mostly lecture days, so it's still pretty slow. But after I was very helpful to people working on projects, so that was good.

During lunch and for a few hours after the nice doggy was visiting again. 🐶 He was super cute and saying near me a lot. When I came back with my lunch he peeked up at me from below the desk. A few minutes later he startled me a bit by peeking his nose and face under my arm towards my food bowl. I pet and hugged his head and made a deal that I'd share some at the end. But he was too cute! I could not resist sharing a few pieces during. 😊 Not a whole lot, it was about a single piece of food that I'd pulled apart. I wonder how much he eats though. It must be as much as a person or more. He is just about as big as one. 😊

The evening was kind of slow. I had some studying to do, so I had to do super boring reading for a few hours. And that only left a few hours to play or watch shows. I rarely play the main online one now, as I haven't seen the people I used to play with in several months, so that's sad.

I suppose today was ok, but I think my cold is still winning. I'm still extremely tired and very extra hungry and thirsty. Hopefully tomorrow will be a more even and normal day.





So cute the Skyler doggy wanting my lunch!

For size reference that is a regular table top people sit at next to his head.

## **Day 3027 - 10/14**

### **Raining**

Today was pretty good. I feel ok about a 'quiz' I had in class. And most of the rest of the day I just played a bit and watched a show. Though I did spent a bit of the day on an assignment I would have otherwise done tomorrow, so that was good to get out of the way.

Today it rained in the afternoon. It was a little sprinkle. Now in the evening I suppose some would say it's not really raining but just a heavy sprinkle. But for here it is raining, the first of this winter. It has been getting chilly lately and it certainly hasn't been shorts weather for a few weeks since the last heat wave, so winter is probably coming.

I feel pretty good I suppose. Nothing bad happened, and despite feeling like so much is missing in my life I'm kind of ok with it today. But still, I always hope tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3028 - 10/15**

### **Slow day**

Today was a pretty slow day. I didn't really do much. The game I planned on playing from the library was firewalled. I guess it's been so long since I tried to play that game I'd forgotten that.

Most of the day passed very slowly, though I suppose it was nice and restful. I had nothing I needed to do and nowhere I needed to be.

I did have some memories surface the other day. I was researching something for a just for fun project and I came across some footage of a hand-held tablet-like device from 20 years ago. I actually had one of those. I'd completely forgotten about it. I think that might be where my fear from paying a lot of monies and not using it as much as I thought may stem from. But again, my time with my old iPhone proves I would use such a device quite a lot. I really just stopped using my old iPhone as it is outdated to the point stuff won't run on it. And even without being able to do most things I still use it for notes and media.

So I guess today, as slow as it was, was a good day. Though I am extremely tired, extremely hungry, and still sneezing, so I must still have a lingering cold.

## **Day 3029 - 10/16**

### **New socks, sudden headache**

Today was a touch different. Since I have a little bit of monies and my socks often get stinky I decided to get some more socks this morning so that I could change them every 1-2 days instead of every 2-3. I was worried the new ones were too small since they looked tiny after taking them apart, but they are actually suuuper comfy.

Today was a game day, so I had a good shower at school, a few hours to spend there, then played a game with the peoples. It was a good time. Though for some reason now, after it's ended, I've started to get a bit of, I guess, a migraine. That kind of headache that hurts behind your eyes and pushes forwards. I'm not sure why. Maybe it's just my cold and because we were in a different spot in the shop and so it got kind of loud near the end.

It was rainy and chilly today, but the day passed at an even pace and everything went well enough. It was a pretty good day.

## **Day 3030 - 10/17**

### **Lost cookies**

Today I think I lost some cookies. I got a fancy cookie pack for gaming yesterday, which has three packs of six cookies. I thought I only ate one and had two more for tonight and tomorrow, but there was only one pack. I wonder if I lost a pack. It's not much, just \$1 if I don't find it, but it would be sad.

Today I had a gaming night which was super fun. The annoying guy was still all me me me player was still kind of angry, but maybe I've gotten used to him now. After everyone left I stayed and chatted with a couple of people or a bit. Game chat, but still,

they may turn into hanging out friends, they may not, time will tell. But I am a step closer than I was not too long ago.

I am still overly tired, overly hungry, and have a bit of a headache. I'm sneezing too, so the cold is still lingering. It's not too bad though. I just have to be mindful of the headaches and careful what I decide to feed my tummy that's extra.

But hopefully I can get some extra rest, have a good day tomorrow, and will feel a bit better.

## **Day 3031 - 10/18**

### **Sleepy start**

Today is a sleepy start. I slept in just a few minutes and skipped my shower. I took an extra one yesterday, so it's fine. I'm still a bit sleepy. I think my cold is beating me up lately, as I'm extra congested and sneezy the past few days.

But things are calm and quiet, and it's a TAing day, so things should be fun and I should have things to help with, so today should be a good day.

## Week 434

### Day 3032 - 10/19

#### Sneezing guy

Today I was super sneezy. I don't know if my cold is just worse or made worse because I got sprinkled on a bit over the weekend.

The day was pretty good. The morning and most of the day passed moderately quickly as I had a bigger class to TA. But after hat things seemed to pass incredibly quickly. I think it was because I was very into a for fun project I was editing. In the blink of an eye three hours flew by and I finished.

Not sure what to say about today. I still have my cold, so I'm still extra hungry, though my tummy is upset by most micro food I feed it. 🙄 And I'm still extra tired because of my cold. I'm still worried about my monies running out. And still preoccupied with thoughts of getting the tablet. (Even dreamt about it last night.) And, as always, I miss all the things in a home I would have, do, and even just the simple peace that 'being home' brings.

### Day 3033 - 10/20

#### Sick and cold

Today I'm feeling sick and cold. I don't feel bad really. I'm just super winded, very hungry, and sleepy. If I could I'd already be in bed asleep.

I guess today was pretty good despite not being in a home and having all the things I wish I could still have. A few people did appreciate my help, which I would not have been able to give if I had not been around to help out, so I am grateful for that. Though I do still hope someday to find a job that I enjoy and I feel appreciated for doing.

Until then I hope I can stay as healthy as I am able, am able to help out all the people, can watch shows and play my games, and hope tomorrow is a better day.

## Day 3034 - 10/21

### Alone

Today was good, but I kind of feel alone. There are more people interacting with me now than in all my time homeless, but I still have no local friends I am doing stuff with. I sometimes chat and sort of hang out with people at various times during the day, but it really just makes me miss real local friends.

I miss being excited for the weekend knowing that I can relax at home and leave worries of weekly life behind. I miss thinking about who may come over for the weekend to play games, or watch movies, or hang out. And while I am a fairly solitary individual and have usually preferred most weekends alone than not, I do miss it. And with interacting with some again through the gaming group and not yet finding any such close friends I do wonder if such a thing will ever happen for me again. And more so, will I find love again. 😞

As always, all I can do is try my best, focus on what I do have, and hope for better days.

## Day 3035 - 10/22

### Making the purchase

Today I am very bad at homework. I spent just a teeny bit of time working on it that I'd planned. But I just didn't feel like it today. I was sleepy, spaced out, and all around out of it. The homework isn't hard, so I'm sure I'll do what I need to before my Monday class.

I decided to order my tablet now instead of waiting. I have the money I have to last nearly a year, so borrowing some now and putting it back when my friend has me do her editing job is fine. Over the past few days I confirmed she is committed to my doing it, so it's fine.

Plus this should help prolong the life of the laptop, at least indirectly in that I won't need it for classes when I could instead use the much smaller and easier to use at school tablet. Plus when I'm TAing on big days and just want to pop out the laptop for an

hour I again can instead use the tablet. Any physical hardware things will fair much better being turned off and on less. Plus there is all the risk of the big laptop being in the way that I now don't have to worry about.

I did feel a sudden nervous panic when placing the order, and for the following few hours after. But I searched my feelings and found it to be more of an uncertainty about what changes will come, and an excitement for a step that I can control, which I chose. Hopefully it will be a step forward. Hopefully it will bring hope and some joy and allow me to hang on. Maybe even in a way it will help me feel more connected to current times and others. And, worst case scenario I can always return it within a few weeks of purchase if things don't work out.

But for the moment I am hopeful this will be something good, something helpful, and I will not dwell too much on the sad reality that it is mostly replacing a device that I got while homeless which is dying before I'm recovered in a home. I hope with getting yet another device in that chain it is not simply another chain link in what are becoming further and further steps from what things I would have in a home.

## **Day 3036 - 10/23**

### **Set it up**

Today was quite different than normal. Although I got my tablet yesterday it needed to connect online to set up. So today I spent several hours setting it up, updating all the things, making sure things from my old device copied over, or with the things that didn't copy manually enter them, etc.

It wasn't too bad. While it took longer than expected it didn't take too much time. There was still time to do the homework I needed to do, to try out a few games, and even watch a show.

I feel pretty good about the tablet. 😊 Some things will take getting used to, as some change is required, at least a little. But the fun things are fun, and the tests for what I will use it for with classes seems promising. It's not too small and not too big, which is why I got the smaller tablet. (For those curious it's about 1" taller than a Blu-ray case, about as thick, but feels oddly heavy for its size.) While it was a ton of monies I am glad I

got the one that could just move over the stuff I had on the old iPhone. While I may still someday switch to the other side, changing how I do all my media and games on mobile would be... uncomfortable.

So tonight I will hopefully sleep well, and hopefully it will help bring better days in the future. 😊

## Day 3037 - 10/24

### Getting used to it

Today was ok I guess. The game in the evening was ok. The guy I don't like to play with again steamrolled stuff. He made a joking comment towards my abilities I could use to help him not being used. So I made a joking comment in reply towards his steamrolling rushed style of play. He didn't get the reference, so as long as he steamrolls things I have no reservations about not doing everything I can to help him be better. If he wants to play rushed and go for more content and prolonged battles I'm not going to be able to, or bother trying to, stop that. His personality just doesn't let off when he's going full speed. I am not necessarily rushing to stop playing with the group, as there were a couple of chances for me to die tonight, but I will not miss playing with him when the group does stop.

The rest of the day was one of adjustment. I was getting used to my new tablet in class. I was getting used to thinking about how to change it and what extra care I'll need to take with it, how and where to put it near me in my daily things, how it works in general and specific. It may take a while to fully get used to, even more to settle in and be happy with how all the things will change around it. But so far I like it very much and am happy with how the changes are going. Sadly the games I wanted to play are mostly turning out to be things I would not be interested in long-term, but there are sooooo many more to try, old ones I liked and haven't played in forever, and always more down the road.

Things are changing, and though I still feel alone I try to hang on to hope, and hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.



## **Day 3038 - 10/25**

### **Feeling hopeful**

Today I am early. I had a very hard time getting to sleep and then woke up about 45 minutes before my first alarm, but I feel awake and hopeful.

Not much going on today. I have my fun class that I TA for which should be super fun, then 2/3 of the rest of the day to do for fun projects, relax, play, watch shows, or do homework/studying things. Hopefully today will be a good day.

**Day 3039 - 10/26**  
**Put the old away**

Today was very different. I can't say that anything truly outstanding happened. But I was pretty helpful with TAing, and there were quite a lot of interactions with other student people.

Today I put my old iPhone 4 into the ex-garage storage. It will be the first day I've not carried it since so long ago, I guess about six years, since I first got it to help with my sad homeless times when I think I had nothing, or I just had my netbook if I did have something. I still very vividly remember one or two of those days taking the bus to the mall to camp the device.

It's odd to think of it as a big change. I've been using my phone that a rabbit friend/supporter sent a couple of years ago now I think as a phone to make calls on. And the i4 stopped being able to play games around that time, or maybe even three years ago. So really I've just used it for podcasts, music, and as an alarm clock these past few years.

But again it feels odd. It was gotten as a safety line between my old life in a home and what would come next. Now I've had this sad life so long I'm having to let go of that line, and grab yet another line hopefully linking the two points.

In a way it feels like with letting go I am letting go of the hope and between points that device represented. Which is odd because it is just a device, a thing, of use and convenience, and not in fact a point between two places in time and being. Yet we do link such things. We attach places and things to people and times, and by association the feelings and experiences that go along with those.

With this putting away I know it is still there. I can still go back. And at the same time I know I don't need to. With or without it, willing or unwilling, I must go on. I must continue forward in time. But, at least for right now, all I have is hope that someday things will get better.

## **Day 3040 - 10/27**

### **Little play**

Today was pretty good. I had fun in the class I TA for and I was pretty helpful to a lot of the people.

Lately I've not been playing my laptop games much. I guess partly it's because I'm busy and partly because I can play my tablet games. I've mostly been using it to play maybe 1-2 hours a day. And surprisingly it's super helpful with TAing, as I can just take pictures of urgent directions and such, so when I walk around to help people with questions about assignments I can just show them the picture. I think for most, connecting to the thing they've already seen, instead of my describing the thing, will create a better connection to the memory.

I feel sad about all my limitations, but overall fairly content. And accepting that, while limited, I'm in an ok spot.

## **Day 3041 - 10/28**

### **Ok test**

Today seemed ok. I had a test and I was pretty worried about it, but I think it went ok.

I didn't get a chance to do much else. The morning time was distracted by people worried about the test, and then there are only a few hours to do stuff. Plus I left a touch early to do laundry, which was overdue.

I guess I feel ok about all the things, though I still worry about money. Even though I have realistically just under a year before it runs out, I am starting to again get constantly worried about that ticking clock.

For the moment though I feel at peace about things and I try to continue to hope for positive change around the corner.

## **Day 3042 - 10/29**

### **Nothing**

Today I feel I accomplished nothing. In the morning I had just a bit of time until the library opened, where I really just showered. In the afternoon I only had a few hours at the library before a thing, and I felt much too sleepy to focus and do any of the school stuff I was supposed to.

In the afternoon I was set to spend a few hours with some others doing a creative type workshop related to gaming. But only the organizer showed up. After waiting more than half an hour after the start time we called it off. So really the time there, waiting, coming back, did nothing but waste 1.5 hours in the middle of my day. That did nothing to wake me up and improve my mood. After getting back and settling in at the library again I only had a couple of hours, where I again felt too tired to do anything.

I suppose it wasn't a bad day really. And while accomplishing nothing one day isn't an entire loss. It is disappointing, as I know in a home everything would have been around me, settled, ready, and I almost certainly would have turned my tiredness around and accomplished at least some things I needed to do. But that is not my life. I have what I have. All I can do is hope things turn out fine tomorrow. I get more rest, feel more awake, and return to my regular homeless life.

## **Day 3043 - 10/30**

### **Rain**

Today was ok, but it felt pretty sad. I think it is a combination of my regular sad things and the upcoming Halloween time fun I can't participate in. Possibly too focusing too much on what will be lost in 3/4 of a year when the money runs out. As well as other clocks running out, such as running out of classes to take, which will lose my student loan repayment postponement, as well as losing a proper place to be where I can connect, use a microwave, and do all my daily things.

I had a fun time at my every other week game, but nothing really happened the rest of the day. It's getting late and I still have a bit of time to try and do all the homeworks I haven't felt like doing yet, but mostly my day is over.

It's raining. It's cold. I am alone. And while I try to hang on to hope for the future I feel sad about the present.

## **Day 3044 - 10/31**

### **No ghosts**

Today was kind of sad for me. I felt meh in my Monday class and in the evening there was no fun time with little ones trick-or-treating, nor any Halloween time fun with friends.

I suppose things aren't completely terrible and sad. I have my laptop, and now my tablet. My car is working. Outside of my teeth and being out of shape overall, I am not physically dealing with any kind of great discomfort.

But as the holidays begin in earnest I again feel the sadness of the loss of all the things a normal life with family and friends would bring. And I still don't know if I will ever have what I have hoped for and dreamt about.

## **Day 3045 - 11/1**

### **Pass**

Today started differently. I was super getting up, like 45 minutes. Then when I got to school there was a sign that there was no hot water in the showers, so I had to change my whole routine for that.

It's raining, but today should be a good day. I have my TAing and then can rest, but should do homework, but I'll probably do it tomorrow and today will be a good day.

**Day 3046 - 11/2**  
**Some are stinky**

Today was a slow start, but overall a pretty good day in the end. I still didn't play any PC games, again mostly because I felt too busy. But at the end of the day I helped several people in the intro class I TA for.

There was a cute girl there I'm sort of flirting with too, which always makes me a bit happy. And there was the cute girl I've mentioned before, though lately she's not been very close or flirty. Both are much too young for me, but it's nice to feel something because it reminds me that maybe there is someone out there for me.

I have been noting I'm extremely sensitive to smells now. It's like the longer my sad life continues, and the more I am in fairly sterile environments, my car, or outside, I am becoming more and more sensitive to the 'everyday' smells people get used to. In particular lately certain people, mostly their breath, has been extremely noticeable to me. And some just stink, not of bad stuff or poo, just foreign kind of smells or unpleasant to smell things.

I've been getting very sad about things in general lately. The money, being finite, is ticking away. And while I can try and control as much as I can, I know it will run out. Similarly my time at school is ticking away. There are only a finite number of classes I can take. And after that, what then? I won't be able to stay at school, connect, and it would seem improper to continue being an unpaid TA if I am no longer a student. Everything will change within the next few years at most, within one if things go badly. And thinking about it last night I cried a little. 😞

But, as always, today I tried to focus on now, what I still have today, where I am today, and how I feel with what I do have. For as much as I fear what will come a year from now, or maybe two, in all honesty tomorrow may not even come. So I should focus on just today. And today I was helpful. I made people laugh. I laughed a little. And that is something.

## Day 3047 - 11/3

### Good, but sad

Today was pretty good. I was super helpful TA guy and overall very helpful with stuff. But pretty much from one on I was mostly done, and felt a bit lonely and sad. I was mostly in the lab just chilling; relaxing and playing some stuff casually and watching a few shows. I heard people in the halls laughing, saw a few flirting, and felt sad about my life.

I again thought of where will I be in a year or two? Will I progress on, or will I lose what few happy things I have? I won't have gas or money to do pen and paper gaming really. And I will run out of classes to take sooner at this point rather than later. And seemingly no jobs or my volunteering have put me closer to stable employment. Not counting I have made no lasting friends that I do stuff with, nor found a sweetie.

So while I felt wanted and needed for my experience and helpfulness, at the same time I felt very sad that doesn't feel more permanent. Nor does it feel like there are any permanent bonds forming with those around me. 😞

## Day 3048 - 11/4

### Canceled, surprise TAing

Today was actually quite different. It started with some sad or nice news, depending on how you look at it, that class was canceled. Since I am most happy and comfortable at school I simply moved over to my usual hanging out spot outside of the lab. About an hour later my professor that I TA for came by to sub for another teacher's intro to film production class and asked if I wanted to hang out and help. Since my normal class was canceled I could. (Had it not been I'd have been in class during that time.)

So today I spent most of the day TAing and helping for a bunch of students I wouldn't normally see. It was pretty fun. And although I don't recall my professor telling them who I was, they seemed pretty eager and appreciative of my input as the class progressed.

I am still sad about things overall, particularly during times like now when I do not leave campus and go home and relax for the evening, as I have no home. But I feel pretty ok today, and maybe more importantly like I genuinely may have helped, and maybe even changed some people's lives with that help.

## **Day 3049 - 11/5**

### **Feeling constrained**

Today I am feeling constrained. It's likely just more a physical thing than emotional, as I have on a new tanktop, which is a touch small, and older pants that are pinchy in the waist.

I suppose today was pretty good. I got through most of the homeworks I thought I would; less than I'd hoped, but the directions for one basically don't exist. So I wasn't sure about the direction to take that.

Though nothing new which was positive happened, nothing negative happened either. And I got to do homework stuff, watch some stuff, and play some games. So I suppose, all in all, today was not completely terrible.

## **Day 3050 - 11/6**

### **Feeling at peace**

Today was pretty good. It seems like it passed slowly, in a good way. I started unfocused and lost my time before the library to basically nothing and then watching a show. At the library I again lost an hour and a half to nothing, as I couldn't focus. But then I did, and in about 1.5 hours of research and writing finally finished the two page paper that is due in the morning. Though it is closer to 3.5 pages, it doesn't feel as good as it could. It feels more like quantity over quality. But it is done, and while classes are not a competition with other students, I do doubt that more than 75% of the class will be done on time. Only about 25% are keeping up with everything they should.



After the library time I took a gift card I've had for a while and went to see a super fancy movie in the theater. It was super nice. I can't really remember when the last one I went to was. I'd have to look at a list, but the last one I recall was in February.

So today turned out pretty good. Nothing new that will create lasting change happened, but it was a good day.

## **Day 3051 - 11/7**

### **Fan wierdness**

Today seemed sad in the evening for several reasons. First, on my way to the game the car fan was weird. I noticed during the rush hour traffic it was unusually hot again, like before the fan was fixed. Being stuck in traffic I couldn't pull over. Then I heard what sounded like a loud blowing noise, like I'd turned the inside fans on max, then silence (like normal.) I had my music up, so I wasn't entirely sure what I heard. When I stopped a few minutes later the fan was most definitely not running. So I got depressed and worried that my fan job may have failed.

Then during the game, the guy I don't like wouldn't shut up the entire time. Literally from before I was there (I heard him from 10' outside through the window) he was bla bla bla me me me, and for the entire night there probably wasn't more than a 30 second span of time where he wasn't talking. It was really incredibly annoying. Even more so when he rambles about 'what would my character do', which he always claims is supposed to be a knight, yet he not only doesn't follow any knightly honor code, but does the complete opposite, like suggest people rob and loot tombs of ancestral burial grounds. (Which has happened twice now.)

I think though really solidified things for me though. Again the entire night was random junk. Again when the story even vaguely touched on one of our back stories or our character's origins we were quickly turned away for time reasons. When the players started actually doing reasonable role playing they were shot down in less than a minute. It's not the DMs fault. It's just a pre-made campaign is about completion and players scrambling for loot drops. It doesn't focus on story progression of the character, depth of experience, places, things; even flavor descriptions aren't considered desirable in most

cases due to time constraints. It really is pretty opposite of my style, even with the best of groups. I really think I need to find a group that's not league play focused. (Which I have the every other Sunday one, but that's a small number of hours every other week.)

After the game when I drove back to my home area I watched the temperature. They seemed normal, and there were no noises or smells. And the work order does say it covers parts and labor for 12,000 miles or a year, so whatever needs to be done should be covered.

But is it covered? Will it cost me? Is it something not the fan that's causing issues? I don't know. For now I am worried. And I am sad for several reasons. And all I can do is try to sleep and hope tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3052 - 11/8**

### **Should be good**

Today should be a pretty good day. I'm already helping do TA stuff so things are good.

Hopefully my worries can be behind me and I can focus on the few things I do have in my life.

## **Week 437**

### **Day 3053 - 11/9**

#### **Feeling weird**

Today I felt weird. I'm extremely tired and actually fell asleep while watching a show for a few minutes. I'm extremely hungry, as well as extremely thirsty. It's almost as if I've been exercising and doing heavy energy use type activities. But I'm not. Maybe I'm sick again and my body is fighting off a cold. I have sneezed a few times today and my ears do seem extra waxy inside. I'm not sure.

I am feeling off today. Maybe it's just these odd cravings and extreme exhaustion, I don't know. But I feel like I'm out of place, like I'm missing something I should be doing or something I should have.

I suppose it's just the incredible constant stress of a sad homeless life getting to me again. Maybe I just need another break. Worrying about what I have gained being lost again when the money runs out, and what if my fan is broken again and I lose the car, or what if this is the last school year there are enough classes, or even if it's not will there be enough for another after that, or is that the absolute end. And of course all the other feelings about being alone for the holidays and the end of yet another calendar year.

I may never know. All I can do is try to seek out my feelings, try to let go of what I can, try to hang on to what I can, and stay hopeful for tomorrow.

### **Day 3054 - 11/10**

#### **Felt odd**

Today felt odd. I remember most of it, but the time passed unevenly, and the feel of it was off. In the morning when I was TAing I found a creative way to get the class assignments printed since the printer was out of paper (using some recycled paper they have in a bin) as well as doing a creative pathway blocking for someone working on a door where students kept going in and out of it. And I was helpful to people who were doing a class film assignment.

But after, even though I continued to help, I felt weird. Time passed at a slow, then fast, pace. I was clear headed, yet when I wasn't helping I felt like I was in my own world, and out of touch with everyone.

Maybe I am fighting off a cold. Weird dissociative times like this sometimes feel that way. Plus I am still extra hungry, and so exhausted I again almost fell asleep at a few points during the day.

But I feel helpful, I feel alive though still disconnected from people, and I feel hopeful for the future. (Not specifically tomorrow, as it's a holiday and it will be difficult with everything closed.)

## **Day 3055 - 11/11**

### **Another \$25**

Today worked out well enough I suppose. It was difficult to pass the time, as I expected.

First, I passed the morning messing around a bit and then doing laundry. I decided to check the car to be safe, which wound up taking most of the day. Sadly nothing was wrong with the fan, but they did the checks free and replaced the fan sensor seemed to clear up the issue. It was \$25 for that, which seems more than fair for an hour of testing and a few minutes to swap it out. However, if that isn't it, then it likely will require changing the car's computer, which is about \$500. 😞 And while I do have that for the moment, it is a large majority of what I do have left. So I am hoping that the sensor will be the last repair and I can keep what's left for the future, as planned.

After that I spent the hours that were left at school. It seems not everyone got the message that there weren't classes, and there were several cars and people on campus. It didn't feel weird to hang out there at all, which was my big worry.

Tomorrow things will be back to homeless weekend normal, or so I hope. And though my back feels like it will snap from all the stress at this moment, I am hoping I can let it go, and return to my normal levels and retain hope for the future.

## **Day 3056 - 11/12**

### **Good faith monies**

Today was pretty good. It actually passed quickly. Mostly I did stuff with my pen and paper gaming stuff I'm doing to make my digital stuff easier and quicker to reference.

The person I'm doing the editing job for met me today, but again forgot her footage. She felt bad and gave me some 'good faith' monies. I always feel weird about her paying me in advance. I'm not used to people thinking me worthy to do a job and appreciating me and paying me in advance as some kind of retainer.

I didn't really do much with my day after that. I watched a few shows and played games for a bit. But mostly my mind wandered here and there. Partly in the now. Partly to the what if of now. And partly to the future which may or may not ever come to pass. But I felt ok with things. For a sad homeless life there is still more good than bad. And in some way the things I lack create freedom and flexibility, things I may not otherwise have. And for that I am grateful.

## **Day 3057 - 11/13**

### **They might be cheating**

Today was pretty good. It was actually pretty warm in the early afternoon. I took off a layer of cloths after I got to the every other week game.

There is someone that might be cheating, as crazy as that sounds. He rolls with a slight wall of books to the DM's side, which is on the opposite side of me, and a few times a game I've seen him casually roll the die with his thumb after the roll. This time after that the DM said he saw it, nothing more than that. I have been watching and wondering if he's just adjusting to add modifiers and do further math in his head, or if he's actually cheating rolls. I haven't noticed a pattern to the end result of the roll though. It seems equally uneven.

Other than that I guess the day was ok. It seemed to pass very quickly and I didn't do as much as I'd planned. But since there isn't anything important I did today I guess it's ok.

I am still very hungry and very tired. I'm sniffing and have a touch of sneezing. So it's possible I'm fighting off a low level cold. For now I will try and get extra sleep later, and hope tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3058 - 11/14**

### **Felt meh**

Today felt very meh. I had a very hard time sleeping last night, losing half the night's sleep for seemingly no reason. Maybe that's why I felt off. But the morning class seemed terribly dull and uninteresting. I helped some people with projects, but I just felt bleh.

Maybe it has to do with this minor cold. Maybe it's because I miss a sweetie, friends, and a life. That could be too. Maybe it's something else. Maybe it's nothing, I may never know. All I can do is to sleep and hope tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3059 - 11/15**

### **Now and later**

Today I still feel odd. It's strange to be visiting a home on Monday night for a few hours and then back to my regular homeless life. Things like a shower are so very different. I suppose I am just sad and missing the things I don't have in my life. I suppose too I am feeling hopeful about the future and what I may have again later.

Today there should be lots of fun in the class I TA for since a big project is due, which means I likely won't be needed for much helping later. But hopefully today will be a good day.

## **Week 438**

### **Day 3060 - 11/16**

#### **Too cold, too hot**

Today was ok, I think. I'm not actually sure as I don't really remember it. I was so completely exhausted I couldn't think or focus at all. Which is ok because I didn't need to.

The computer lab where I hang out, and I'm in all day on Wednesdays, has been freezing lately. Like 65F when everyone is in there. One student brought a light blanket due to being so cold in recent classes, and the professor brought extra cloths as she's right under a vent at the front desk. I brought an undershirt and thermalish underpants to put on. I put on the undershirt, but the temperature was reverse. It was actually too hot, at upwards of 77F when we opened both doors to try and cool things off. I wonder if the freezing cold was an early stage of something dying and with that now broken it's too hot.

Really that was my day though. Lack of focus and crazy room temperature. I guess it wasn't bad, but I hope tomorrow is a better day.

### **Day 3061 - 11/17**

#### **Big crash**

Today was possibly the very sad start of something. Due to getting very little sleep lately and having a hard time getting up today I was more than half an hour behind schedule. I thought about skipping my shower, but decided to do it and just be late. Looking back now had I stuck with my instinct to not my day would have been fine. But I was rush rush, which is very unlike me. And going into the pool parking lot I went around a turn I've done hundreds of times and suddenly saw a car much too close to me. There was a loud thump as our bumpers hit. After parking and inspecting things his car actually had no real damage. And on my car the only damage is the turn light and parking light are maybe 1/8th cracked on the corner and there is maybe a 1.5 foot long by 7" wide black rubber strip where our bumpers hit, with my bumper only being slightly darkened in a similar way (from its deep bumper black color.)

So now I am worried what will come of it. He seemed totally understanding and calm, like I was, but I was a bit freaked out due to how it sounded. With no actual damage I'm hoping he will just ask for cleaning money, or nothing at all, as there are videos online about how to fix that kind of stuff. If he's not though it looks like professionally repainting a bumper could be \$100-300. 😞

The rest of my day didn't go well. I suppose I am still just sad in general seeing everyone happy and getting ready for the holidays with family and friends, and I have none of that.

I suppose, as usual, all I can really do is hope tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3062- 11/18**

### **Quiet and calm**

Today was sort of different. I had class in the morning to the afternoon which was pretty good, I suppose. It's mostly a movie watching class, so there was a decent one today.

After, things seemed pretty quiet and clam. It's very windy out, and it's growing quite chilly, so there weren't as many people on campus. I played for a bit, and then watched some shows.

I still feel weird. Now from worry about the guy I suppose, but as always worry about the money running out, what about the future, people have family and friends and stuff going on, but not me.

I suppose all I can try to do is to hang on to the good moments, hang on to hope, and hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.



## Day 3063 - 11/19

### Pie

Today was ok. Most of the day my mind was shut off and I had a lot of trouble focusing. I feared I would just fall asleep and not be able to stop the sleepiness. But I actually turned it around a bit and did quite a bit of studying.

There was pie on sale at the store. I suppose in preparation for next week. I decided to get some. All they had were big ones though. Half a pie was \$1 less, otherwise 15% less, but 50% of the pie. I saw no point in having them cut one to do that. So I have too much pie. But I think it's been a year since I had any. Which is a very sad thought indeed.

Tomorrow I have an every other week game in the middle of the day, so I likely won't have time for much else. But hopefully it will be a better day.

## Day 3064 - 11/20

### Stinky

Today as pretty good. I got a shower in the morning, which is a bit of a surprise as the locker rooms have been locked the past few weeks. But the water has been on the fritz and it was wavering between the colder and warmer side of warm.

The morning passed quickly with the afternoon being one of the every other week games. One of the guys, who is probably like 350lbs, he's a really big guy, was super stinky. A couple of times I had to hold my breath and scoot further away from him because I felt like gagging. 🤢 I don't get how people can be stinky like that and not notice. Maybe I'm just overly sensitive due to all the neutral environments I'm in lately, but yuck.

I suppose it was ok other than that. I tried to do some school stuff, but I just don't really have the time. I am still saddened by the probably 4-6 hours of productivity I lose on any given day due to my sad life, but there isn't anything I can do about that until it changes. 😞 As always, all it seems I can do is hope I sleep well, and hope that tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3065 - 11/21**

### **Headaches and pinching**

Today I am very tired. I don't remember much of the day, just that I felt totally completely bored with my morning class. (And that 75% of the people cut, which isn't a surprise since like half aren't doing the work.)

All I remember of today really was the pinching of my underwear and underpants. In hindsight I probably should have returned the slightly pinchy underwear for not pinchy ones. I'm not getting fatter, if anything the contrary, particularly in the past month since I've had them, but they just feel way too pinchy and uncomfortable.

And too I remember headaches. Lately I've had quite a few headaches and had to take pills. I don't know if that's extra stress, extra sadness, both, something else like a cold, or what, but it's very sad and puts me in a grumpy mood that I would otherwise prefer to not be in.

All I can do is try to do my best emotionally, try to make good choices physically, and keep hoping for better days.

## **Day 3066 - 11/22**

### **Forgot it's tuesday**

Today started pretty good. I got a long shower and had a fun time in the class I TA for. I had actually completely forgotten I needed to post today.

The day has taken an odd turn though. I heard back from the accident guy and he sent a shot of half of a receipt for nearly \$700, which looks completely shady. I replied back that was BS, as the damage is only paint discoloration, and only on the bumper. It looks like he's trying to hide the estimate details, which is not going to fly with me if he's doing that on purpose. He's going to have to send the full receipt and I'm going to have to research it, as quick research on the internet showed painting would be \$100-300, and completely replacing the bumper would be \$250-350.

So now I'm in a bad and odd mood. I don't know if he's genuinely trying to rip me off, or if he's oblivious that he took a picture of only half the receipt, accidentally making it

look shady, or if the place he went to is trying to rip him off. I'm hoping he's actually an honest and nice guy, as he appears to be looking at his social page. There are a few shots of cars, so that would be sad if something he loves got messed up. But again, hiding half of the receipt seems super shady, like he's trying to get me to pay for upgrades and unnecessary work. If that's the case this will potentially turn into a vicious and long battle, which I don't want to fight, but I absolutely won't tolerate people trying to take advantage of me. Especially since reflecting back on things I can't with absolute certainty say it was all my fault. Maybe he was rushing too. Maybe he was out of his lane on that turn. I honestly can't answer those with certainty.

So now I am irked, upset, and unsure of the future.

**Day 3067 - 11/23**  
**Feeling better about it**

Today I am feeling better about the accident settlement money. We agreed on a figure that seemed reasonable. It was at the high end of what my research found, so that is sad, but it was less than half of the ridiculously high estimate he got.

I feel better about where it is going. Granted I do still hope he can fix his car and be happy with it, but I feel better after hearing his words. I said to him after signing the paper, 'Don't forget to sign up for classes for next quarter.' And he replied, 'That's actually where this is going. I don't even care about the car anymore.'

So I feel glad for those words. And I feel relieved. Relieved that he is getting some benefit other than just fixing a thing. But also glad because it is part of my grandma's death benefit money. It's always bugged me to think that because of how terrible my life is right now I would spend it on regular life and it would be gone. Yes, day-to-day life is important. Yes, I have my tablet and that should last half a dozen years. But in time those things would fade.

But hearing a young guy say he would put it towards classes and education, and I'm sure what's a first degree for him, makes me glad. Maybe it will help him finish his degree. And with that degree he can start his life on good footing. Maybe he will not have the rocky start I had that possibly led to the crumbling disaster that has come

Thinking something bad happened, and maybe something good came out of that, that's something worthy of the money. That gives me hope for someone. And at least that is something to be glad of in my sad days.

## Day 3068 - 11/24

### Turkey not

Today started off sad and worried. This morning and yesterday morning the car had trouble starting. I would turn the key and nothing happened. The dash pre-start lights were all on and ok, but turning the key produced no sound (outside of a brief and quiet buzz, which I'm not sure what that was.) Yesterday after three or four tries it worked, and it started just fine after school. Today it took about 10 tries for the first start in the morning, but seemed fine after that.

When I settled in to have lunch I looked at the fuses. I popped a few out and swapped them. I noticed, while not exploded on the inside, they were quite rusty on the contact points. The car immediately started after swapping. And, after more than a year of not working the turn signals worked 100% of the time and were strong and stable. Previously if they worked at all they would tick tock off after slowing timing for a short while.

So I have a feeling the issue may be the fuses, which is very good news if so, as fuses are only a few dollars each compared to I think \$150 for a starter or the \$600 for the computer. I figure if it starts fine the next few days that will be an answer. Also, after swapping some fuses I got another indication that may be an issue as the clock was 45 minutes off when I made my final move for the night. (After being still correct immediately after the fuse swap.)

But my Turkey day, so far, has passed much easier than expected. I spent the morning at the food store. I expected it to be empty, but it was packed solid. Then I went to school for the rest of the day. In the few hours I was there, there were almost always a couple of people walking around. It wasn't completely empty as I thought it would be.

But tomorrow the library will be open, so my weekend should return to homeless normal at the library in the morning. And as always, I hope for better days.

## Day 3069 - 11/25

### Not as planned

Today really in no way went as planned. The car started just fine in the morning, so I am still leaning towards the issue being fuse related. Checking online I can get a kit with 120 of them for \$7.50, so that's no biggie. But when I got to the library I found out they were actually not open today. So that threw me off quite a lot. I figured I would just go be outside of school, as cold as that would be, but after being there only about 30 minutes I heard workers on the roof. And after about 1.5 hours there they came down on my side and started putting up tape in my area. I had no idea they hadn't finished (since the scaffolding has been down since the start of the quarter months ago), let alone that they would be working today.

One of my seemingly last best options was the coffee shop I haven't been to in years, which is just across the street from school. I was surprised to see a worker there who left (before I stopped going), and is apparently now back working there again. He said hi and actually remembered my drink better than I did, which made me feel special and remembered.

But even though I haven't been there in years, it seems like the owners still really don't care. The connection was the same garbage it was before. I'd completely forgotten about that. I probably lost 20% of my time there just waiting for it to respond, which prevented me from doing anything 'real' with my time there, and even super casual show watching was extremely difficult due to nearly constant pausing. The couch I saw them looking at reupholstering in those last days before I left *still* hasn't been done. The other benches are in the worst shape ever, with the spot I was sitting at having a spot as big as my butt damaged and tearing. And the wobbly and literally broken in half tables and chairs have not been replaced at all. In years no upkeep has been done, and even the toilet trigger was broken, which I know you can replace that entire assembly for like \$6-10, which just seems shameful to have something that easy and not fix it.

I'm glad to have had the option to go there, but it seems very sad (for the shop) that they don't take pride in owning it. Yes, it's a bother to spend hours cleaning and maintaining a place, but how can you run a business and just not take pride in it? How can you, for years, not dust the edges of things, or take the time to mop the floors? How can

you be ok with things getting bad to the point where lesser mold discoloration appears in the corners of things and not care? I just don't get it.

But the day is mostly over, and the worst is behind me. Things should settle and be calm and safe now that the sun is going down. And hopefully tomorrow can be a normal and better day.

## **Day 3070 - 11/26**

### **Raining**

Today it was cold and rainy. I was in the library most of the day, so I suppose it was ok. My brain kind of just shut off once I got to the library though. So I didn't do much but watch shows, which I suppose is ok. A day of rest now and then is important.

But still, there was more I wanted to do, and it was chilly, and sad for many reasons. As always, I hope to one day be back in a home, and hope tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3071 - 11/27**

### **Disappointment**

Today is a disappointment. The morning was slow, because it has been cold and rainy lately I stayed at the food store. Even though I knew I could be with the church group at school, it felt weird to think about being in a corner with their group there.

In the afternoon until evening I was at the library. It seemed warm, and in fact the day was warm, as the rain has left for the moment, though it was super windy. But I didn't get to play or relax much. I spent a few hours doing boring school work that I find uninteresting. And part of it involved making a spreadsheet and doing a big make believe budget. Which not only was not interesting, but it gave me a huge headache.

The biggest disappointment was in the evening. I was settled in the dark for the night and I'd gotten a movie to watch and about 1/3 of the way in it started to corrupt and

fail to play. I tried cleaning it and it still failed. I tried again and again and again, each time with a different method, and it continued to fail.

For some reason the failures felt like my failures. I know it's not my fault, and there likely will be more copies to try at the library, but it felt like my fault. It felt like my failure. I suppose it was just the link to feelings of other things lately; things falling apart and starting to fade in time, things I get as nice treats for myself which don't work out, or can't live up to their potential. Maybe it was just the simple reminder of how my life is different from others; that I can't just delete it and re-download it, or I can't just stream it, or just immediately go back and try a different copy.

Whatever reason it made me personally feel like a failure, broken, outside of the norm. And because of that what should have been a nice treat for the evening has turned to all of my sad feelings about life coming to the front of my mind, leaving me in the quiet, cold, and feeling helpless and alone.

## **Day 3072 - 11/28**

### **A circle**

Today seemed better. The morning class was good. There were a lot of presentations, so there was stuff about movies and it wasn't the usual boring bla bla lecture.

The evening seemed better too. The guy who is always 'me me me' and extremely loud wasn't there. I don't know if the others noticed, but there was a much more calm air about everyone and we were only talking about 3/4 as loud. Also, we had all of our turns in the spotlight and some interactions happened that I'm sure otherwise would not have happened with him there. There was also a very different feel overall, which was much nicer. I think again it has to do with that we were playing and being sure of who we are as characters, as opposed to 'me me me, I'm going to take bla levels of bla for y special ability, and then split to bla and bla for z ability'. Tonight just confirmed I'd like it much more without him. With him there I can take it or leave it. Which is sad that one person makes me feel that way about a group activity.



But today I feel ok. I am still very cold, though the rain is still gone for the moment. I am still very sad, and I had a lot of trouble sleeping last night, but I still try to hang on to hope. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## Day 3073 - 11/29

### Cold

Today people are sleepy at school. I got my regular good parking spot, despite showing up at a time when I shouldn't have (gotten that close).

It's getting very cold. It seems this year things will be cold sooner than normal, which is sad for me. But school is warm, and outside of something like a three week break there is that.

I'm sleepy; haven't been sleeping well lately. My eyes have that puffy kind of messed up feeling. The bottoms of my feet have been unusually itchy too lately, which is funny because scratching tickles. 😊

I think the class I TA for has an in class shoot today, so things should be super fun, as it's the funniest shoot they do. So hopefully today will be a good day.

## Week 440

### Day 3074 - 11/30

#### Generous to a fault

Today I am feeling very very depressed. I'm not entirely sure why. It may be a combination of things. Yesterday someone talked to me about my sad life, which reminded me of how long it's been, as well as asking questions that looked forward and reminded me that I am not in control of things.

Maybe too it's because I feel unappreciated. I spent more than two hours yesterday and today on the forums I help on. And on the average I help between one and two hours basically every day. Yet this year when the yearly convention came up the company gave me nothing. Every year so far they have at least sent a virtual ticket so I could see it online and get a few virtual goodies in a few games. But this year nothing. And the game itself... I played today and I just do so badly at it. It's the game I play the most lately too. I have really been so depressed lately I haven't played my online game in probably months, and even my new single player game I like a lot I haven't played in probably a week.

So I guess there I just felt unappreciated since people who I help almost never say thanks. The devs who I'm helping never say things. Only once ever has that happened. And people in the forums even give me poop at times for trying to help.

Maybe it's just everything. All the things I don't have, all the things I miss, all the things everyone is doing for the holidays I'll miss out on. I'm out in the cold, alone, and I don't know when I can come back. 🙄

### Day 3075 - 12/1

#### Canceled

Today was weird. The class I TA for was canceled. So all the cool fun stuff I was expecting to do today didn't happen. In a normal life I may have just gone back home, or certainly have left earlier than normal. But I do not have such a life. The best place for me with my current sad life is on campus.

But today was not a great day for that. The school network was having a terrible time. So shows I tried to watch crawled. I tried plying the game I play most, but I'm bad at it, so I lost a lot.

I suppose the day wasn't really bad, but it left me with sad thoughts and feelings. Simple things like getting lunch, or seeing a delivery truck, remind me of what I'm missing in life, particularly now during the holidays.

And too I think I'm sick. I've been extremely tired today, jumping at the slightest things, congested, sneezing, extra hungry and thirsty, and a bit cold no matter what the temperature is.

But I tried to have a good day. I tried to relax. I tried to help on the forums. I tried to focus on what I do have. And I tried to keep my mind off of sad things.

And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3076 - 12/2**

### **Cycle**

Today as ok, but once classes were over it rapidly became sad. I thought about how yesterday should have been an early start on the weekend. And I remembered a time when there was a happy me in a home on such a weekend. How the happy me would be making a nice dinner, sleeping in, probably doing a Saturday movie after a day of relaxing.

And I thought about how limited my life feels lately. Yes, there are the small victories, a game here and there, a new pen and paper game meeting now and then. But I thought of how it seems like just a cycle of limitations. I must be a school, as it's the best option. I must eat micro foods. If it's night, I must be offline and hide quietly. If it's the weekend I must be at the library.

Though there are small victories and good times, overall it feels like an unending cycle. And while the cycle isn't completely intolerable, it can't end without a forever change coming along.

So I must continue to endure. I must try and hang on to my small victories and think them big. And I continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3077 - 12/3**

### **A day off**

Today I decided to take the day off in a way. I only had one assignment to do, which likely would only take about 10 minutes, so I decided to just do it Monday morning.

I played my games for a bit and watched some shows. But I tried to watch some different shows. And I tried to look around for news of different games. So today was a bit different from normal, while still retaining the forced core of normal.

Of course I was still sad. It was still very cold outside. I am still sick. There are still many things I am missing in life and sad about, but I can't change that.

But I did my best to control and focus on what I could. And I suppose it was enough for today. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3078 - 12/4**

### **Crash the butt**

Today was pretty good, I suppose. The morning started a bit weird though. Something was happening at school when I went to try and get a shower, so a bunch of people were leaving the pool area. And they were being stupid and turning across the straight part (where I was driving) without stopping. While I was trying to go between cars, in a go a foot and pause and go and pause in a 'hey, you guys don't have the right of way stop going', kind of way, when I paused someone hit me in the butt. He must have been riding right on my ass, as I hadn't been moving for more than a second, and stopped several times before he hit me. And with a big line of cars to the side not stopping, it was obvious they weren't letting us through. I guess it was ok though, because as loud as it sounded there was no visible damage to me, and just a 6" circle on his bumper where he hit my bumper.

Besides that I guess it was an ok day. I'm doing laundry now, had my every other week game earlier, and feel reasonably ok.

I'm chilly though. It's surprising how quickly it gets cold and dark now. But I suppose all I can do is wait for warm weather, and hope for better days.

## **Day 3079 - 12/5**

### **Not feeling it**

Today was good, I suppose. It started with a phone check-in with my food stamp monies. I was worried it would take a while since the things warn you it could take an hour, but it only took 15 minutes, so that was good. I was also worried they would ask questions about costs I had, or how I paid for them, etc. But they only asked how much income I had, which is still zero, and how much rent I paid, which is also still zero. I guess with all the years of doing this with people they probably came to the conclusion that asking those details just isn't worth their time since they already spend so much time on the basics.

Class was ok. Again it was all lecture, which is bleh, but I guess it was the last one. I guess next week is already finals, which is kind of crazy. I guess it makes sense, as we are rapidly approaching mid December when the quarter is over.

I had my cammo pants on today, but I think I'll go back to jeans. Lately I just haven't been feeling my cammo pants, mostly putting them in storage or simply not wearing them. Once upon a time I wore them to give myself a fashion identity, but now I just don't feel like it lately. Maybe it's the cold weather. Maybe it's because I've now started to associate them with being homeless since they stand out in my memory as something I'm wearing because they are easiest, not because they are what I'm choosing to wear above others. Maybe too it's because of my sadness and I don't want to stand apart as I would rather be a part.

But today wasn't too sad, despite feeling very on the edge lately and thinking about certain things that rapidly trigger tears. It is somewhat easy to avoid those things, or simply be sad and let a few fall. But today I was hanging on ok, and hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3080 - 12/6**

### **Sleepy world**

Today is ok so far. I got a shower and it was warm, but last night I had a rough time. I didn't get to sleep for a while, and when I did in the middle of the night I woke up and couldn't get back to sleep for probably 45 minutes.

But I'm here at school and I'm settled and warm. I'm still sniffly and sneezy, but there should be a lot of fun things in the class I TA for. And I'm set to meet the person I'm editing for, so hopefully today will be a good day.

## **Week 441**

### **Day 3081 - 12/7**

#### **Rain returns**

Today was okish. The morning went pretty quickly. I don't even really remember it. I know I was not doing my homework type assignments that I was supposed to do because I just wasn't feeling it. I continued to mess around with shows until the early afternoon.

In the afternoon I did do my assignments. They weren't as bad as I expected, and only took about an hour. Which I was expecting 2-3 hours or more, so that's good.

It was the last Wednesday class I TA for and I helped, but not very much. It was ok, I guess.

The rain is back, and with that the cold seems to bite. Hopefully the rain will help keep some warmth in, but it looks like it might get extra cold and sad very quickly. But still, I hope tomorrow is a better day.

### **Day 3082 - 12/8**

#### **Free pizza**

Today was ok I suppose. The morning was the final regular day for the main class I TA for, so while it was somewhat stressful indirectly it was also super fun.

The afternoon was pretty slow and a bit sad feeling. I didn't really play games, instead preferring to just watch shows or futz around looking at news stuff.

In the evening there was the first meeting for a new film club. I wasn't going to go, as I'd passed on the film club in previous years, but the professor I TA for was the one who invited me, and there was free pizza, so I decided to go. It was ok though they really didn't accomplish anything.

After the meeting though it seemed like I made a difference. Someone was there asking about what classes to take and general questions about professors and some other stuff, so I think I helped her a lot and she seemed to get excited about things. So hopefully

I made a difference by being there. I always hope to make a difference and be helpful with things I do, but I seem to repeatedly pick things where I don't seem to get recognition, pay, or in most cases even any kind of acknowledgement. But I hope what I do makes a difference.

As always I try to watch for opportunities for change, and hope for a better tomorrow.

## **Day 3083 - 12/9**

### **Peeing and farting**

Today was passable. In my movie watching class we watched a pretty slow and boring kung-fu movie, which was more talking than anything else.

One odd thing is that, for a few days now, I suppose as long as I've been sneezing with this cold, I've been peeing about double normal and farting a lot. I haven't been drinking much more than normal, certainly not a 1-1 ratio with the pee increase, so it seems very curious. I don't suppose it is anything to worry about, but it is an oddity.

It seems strange that another quarter is coming to a close and yet I am basically required to stand still. I suppose I am changing where I can though, and with what I have, and my positions of helping I am actually happier with these aspects of my life now than much of my life before. It's just that there are many things still missing in my life which makes me sad, and I wonder if I'll ever have them back in my life again. Until they are, I continue to try and hang on, and hope for a better tomorrow.

## **Day 3084 - 12/10**

### **Missed lunch**

Today really wasn't special. The only really noteworthy thing was I was supposed to meet someone for lunch - the person I'm editing for - and since I hadn't heard from them by 12:15 - our last contact was 2 days ago - I assumed she wasn't going to make it. I'm not a spur of the moment guy these days. I need to make plans in advance, and no



such plans were made. She asked to meet tomorrow, but again no time was set, so I don't know when we'll meet.

I suppose I never was a big fan of unstructured or vague plans. If I'm going to do a thing I do the thing. I guess I just kind of expect people to respect and follow that rule. It seems I don't know if I'd say disrespectful to say hey let's maybe do this thing and then not set a specific day and time, but it doesn't seem right to not commit.

I suppose the day wasn't really all bad. But again it was tough to fight the sadness of the things I don't have and can't do. I tried to focus on what I do have, but...

All I can do is hope things get better, and tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3085 - 12/11**

### **Lost 3 hours; banana peel**

Today started off kind of crazy, then turned lame. The friend person got back to me about meeting for lunch. At first I was excited, as she said a time that within a reasonable eating time I should have been back at the library before they opened, leaving the rest of my day to be productive.

But that didn't happen, and it doesn't surprise me. First, she was a full hour late. An hour I was basically unable to do anything but wait for her. So right off the bat I'm behind. But I tried to stay calm. I tried to be ok with it. But then she spent less than five minutes talking about the project. I don't mind talking and catching up, but she eats way too slow, and the place she wants to go to takes way too long to serve you. So by 45 minutes after we got there I was done eating and more than ready to go. But she kept eating, kept being slow, and just dragging and dragging. So I lost another 45 minutes waiting.

By the time we were leaving she picked up that I was being very quiet and upset. She asked what was wrong and I was like, 'I'd really like to get back. I've lost 2.5 hours now.'

I don't know if I'll do another meeting like that. Even just the 1.5 hours to eat and talk is way too much, not even counting the hour lost waiting for her.

By the time I got in and settled at the library it was about 3.5 hours lost in total from when I left school and started doing nothing but lose time waiting. And once I was settled in it was in a bad spot in the library, somewhere tons of people were around me, tons could see my screen, meaning I had to be extremely selective of what shows I watched or games I played.

Not counting that, I was thrown off kilter so much I was put in a bad mood and unable to even consider doing the school work or studying I expected to do. And I had basically half the time to do it due to the short library hours and losing those hours to lunch.

I suppose it did get me some monies, but even if we say I would be worth \$15 an hour I lost most of what I made during that non-productive time.

My only redeeming quality of today, besides getting a little bit of money to put in the bank, is someone was eating in the library. When he was done he put the banana peel half under the desk on a swing arm. I don't understand how the librarian about 10 feet from him didn't see, or the returning book librarian who was going back and forth didn't see it. On any other day I'd have called him out while eating, but today I let it slide. Today I left it as an inside joke to see how long it would take them to notice and clean the trash. About 2.5 hours later, when the library closed, they still hadn't seen it. And I suppose it helped amuse me and bring a little joy to an otherwise wasted and stressful day.

As always, I hope tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3086 - 12/12**

### **Keeping it**

Today was worse, and better, than expected. It was worse in that I did really badly on my final. I for sure missed three questions out of 20, so I probably won't get higher than a C or B- on the final. I don't know how much of the grade it is, but hopefully it won't hurt me too much.

The surprise is that our binder we work on for the quarter, which I've talked a bit about before, it was the thing the budget gave me a massive headache; was one she wanted to keep as a future example. I guess, even though I don't feel overwhelmingly

great about it shows actual thought and planning in the work that is there. It's a weird thing. It's not an exact science. And without having actual people, locations, etc., where I'd get actual factual data to base things on it's very difficult to predict or feel validated with what estimates you are doing. But I feel good, and proud, to be among the like 8% or so of class that was picked. (I saw her leaving the building with only three binders total. The rest were given back.)

Outside of that the day was ok. But in the evening when most had left it started to feel odd. There was a wind whistling in the building through the doors, and a chill air following. It felt like I was alone somewhere, a place with ghosts, or monsters that would manifest. And briefly I felt comforted, as in such a world I would feel like I would have clear goals and direction. But here in the regular world I don't. I am lost and I feel like I have no place and little to offer. And it feels so often like I'm doing everything wrong, or am simply undesirable, and that is why I don't have friends or a sweetie. But I hope she is out there... somewhere. And that I do someday have friends to do and play stuff with once more who I truly respect and like the company of.

But until then all I can do is try and hang on and hope for better days.

## **Day 3087 - 12/13**

### **Helping early**

Today should be fun. It's the final for the main class I TA for, but there is still some stuff to watch, so that should be super fun.

It's earlyish, about 20 minutes until the test, but I've already helped a few people. So I feel super helpful and positive and I'm looking forward to helping all the people next quarter. (Though that's still three weeks away.)

Hopefully today should be a good day. But I always hope to someday return to a normal and truly happy life.

## **Week 442**

### **Day 3088 - 12/14** **Empty**

Yesterday and today had a bit of an odd turn. My brain was normal in the morning both days, but around 11 AM on both days it's like my brain just completely shut down. I don't know if it's relief from stress, or a side effect of the sneezy cold I have, or what. But it's like my memory stopped recording. I have tiny bits and pieces for both days. And memory retrieval stopped working. If you would ask me anything there was a chance I simply wouldn't remember.

I guess it's fine. I zombied my way through most of a paper that I'll finish tomorrow, but outside of that there really was no reason for my brain to work. I was doing nothing new. I was taking in no new information or instructions.

I guess maybe my brain has just started as much of a vacation as it can get, since lack of money means lack of opportunity for a physical vacation. And that will continue through the like 3.5 weeks of break.

For me it will just be 3.5 weeks mostly at the library. I expect no crackling fire. No Xmas cards. No tree. No gifts under the tree. No visits from friends or relatives. Just the day to day events in a public location which remains the same year 'round.

Without sudden unexpected large change this will be another year's end and winter festival time I miss by seeing little to no evidence of its being. There may be a few well wishers. There may be a few cards. There may even be a few presents. But mostly I will try and hang on to my few happy memories of years past, and hope those times return in the future.

### **Day 3089 - 12/15** **Slightly more focused**

Today I was slightly more focused than the past few days. I fine tuned the paper for my final and tried to study, but it's just a jumble of facts and stuff that doesn't stick.

I suppose the day was ok. I didn't play much. I played for probably less than an hour. I do have a few games I really do enjoy playing, but I am still sad from all the things and don't feel much like playing. I suppose lately in the back of my mind I am remembering previous Xmas times when I could play my new games over Xmas break and have happy times; times which are now sad memories because I have lost the ability to do that. And while I may still be gifted a few games at Xmas time, the way and amount I can play them will be limited.

But while things are sad, they are not all bad. And I continue to try and focus on what I do have, hold my head up as much as I can, and hope for better days.

## **Day 3090 - 12/16**

### **Emptied**

Today felt sad. School emptied out pretty quickly. Most everyone was gone by 3, and after it was a bit odd feeling to still be around. It felt sad leaving. Though most of the people actually aren't going anywhere. In fact, most who I actually talk to regularly will be in classes that I am in or classes I'm TAing for.

I guess I feel sad because I don't really talk to anyone outside of school. But I suppose in a way it's better to have no one in real life that I talk to outside of school than people I'm not really interested in being friends with glomming on to me. There are a few who would if given the chance, so I'm grateful that doesn't happen.

I suppose too it's because I miss helping. That's my biggest fear finding a job (besides my simply not liking it.) That it would be where I'm not in a position to genuinely help people doing something I, and maybe they, would enjoy doing.

But I must keep going forward. Even if I don't know what it is I'm heading for, I do know what feels right, and what feels wrong. And I trust that Fate will guide these feelings towards where I need, and want, to be. And until I arrive, I will try to hang on to happy thoughts and hope for better days.

## Day 3091 - 12/17

### Starting sad

Today seemed extra sad. I suppose it was in great part due to it being the first day of 3.5 weeks I'll be at the library. I will be able to watch shows and movies, and play some games (save for some which are firewalled). But without TAing, without the people I know at least around me, it seems like it will be sad times.

Plus it is extremely cold. I hope it is just some kind of cold front since the rain stopped. But it's cold, like it's late January. It's a bad sign if it's going to get colder. 😞

As always, I try to hang on and hope for better days.

## Day 3092 - 12/18

### Fun game; 20 years

Today was a bit of an odd surprise and a fun every other week game. The morning was difficult though, as my outside time is extremely cold now. But the game was super fun. Before the game though there was something very odd. Someone came in to the shop with two little ones, probably younger than 10; someone I haven't seen in about 20 years. At first I didn't recognize him. He simply looked oddly familiar. As he talked more it made sense. His height, his build, the voice. It was a person I've not seen in 20 years. And it's really been closer to about... wow... like 30 years since we were friends and last hung out. There was a bit of bad blood, a falling out. He blamed me for several bad things in his life. And in years after we'd parted, hearing that I was sad. I don't know if those are things I can ever really forgive myself for. Not that they were terribly bad, but they were bad enough; yet they were mistakes of youth, things I wouldn't have chosen to do now. So I said nothing. I just watched what he did and listened. He seemed happy. He seemed like a good father. But everyone else who was not interacting with him seemed invisible to him. He certainly didn't see or recognize me. Maybe I'm glad of it. I may never know.

But the game was super fun. We were put in the back room though, which was a bit stinky from miniature work, and loud due to other games around us. But we had a visitor; the roomie of the DM. She is suuuper cute and attractive. 😍 And she smiled and

giggled at a few things my character said and did. But she has a boyfriend, so that's sad for me. 😞 But it gives me hope that maybe out there somewhere is a sweetie for me.

Not really much else to say about the day. Besides being super cold and the odd old friend passing by it was a pretty regular every other Sunday game day. I got a shower at school, then killed a few hours outside of school before heading over to the afternoon game.

Tomorrow will be my first weekday at the library. It will be difficult to remember I can't choose micro food for lunch and dinner. But it should be warm, and I can connect to almost all my regular things without issue.

And while I hope tomorrow will go well, I will always hope for better days.

## Day 3093 - 12/19

### Surprise presents

Today was more tolerable than I thought it would have been. It started with a shower at school. I looked around and there were quite a few cars in the lot. Double checking online it looks like school administration will be open through Thursday, which may mean the cafeteria is partly open. At least enough that probably tomorrow and Thursday I'll go ahead and micro an early lunch before the library opens.

Time passed moderately quickly as I watched shows and played a little bit of a game, maybe an hour of gaming. I still am pretty sad about all the things.

I was right about it probably being some kind of odd cold front thing. Checking the temperature online it shows the rest of the week's coldest point would be about 5 degrees warmer. So hopefully it will stay that way, as 40F is already way too cold for me.

The biggest surprise was three packages waiting for me at the ex-house. I opened them, figuring they were surprise Xmas things and I was right. They are all from the person who's been watching out for me, which is not a surprise. He hasn't sent a donation since I said I would be ok on money. I kind of figured if anyone were to send Xmas things it would be him. And without letting me know in advance that he did, it was a big surprise. 😊

Even though I guess it's only a few days now until official Xmas time, I've decided to keep things wrapped until then. (There were five things! 📦 One was unwrapped, which is maybe better, as it's small headphones for my mobile device. My old ones are pretty beaten up.) Even though they won't be under a tree, and I'll really only be able to visit them a few times before opening, they can be with my bunnies. And they are still nice presents. So that is something.

Today was good, but there are still so many sad things, so I continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3094 - 12/20**

### **Not school**

Today I was going to spend some time at school. It was indeed in its partially open state. But I got a chance to sleep in a bit. And there was a detour for picture taking and food buying, so by the time I got there if I had stayed until the library opened I would have only been there for about 30 minutes, 45 tops. So I figured with the time to unpack and repack it just wasn't worth it. I did micro my food and survey what seemed open on the way. It does seem viable for morning time before the library opens if I want that option.

I am very tired. I was pretty tired last night after about 5. I think my body is still beaten up by my sneezy cold and trying to rest as much as it can.

I am super stressed though. Last night I twisted wrong and it felt like someone punched me in the side / kidney, and my shoulder cramped, and I instantly lost possibly 50% of my strength in my arm on that side. Things recovered quickly though, maybe after 5 or so minutes of sitting and resting I was back to normalish. But I always worry about the frailty of my poor health. Without having a work to at least stretch and do mild exercise during my shifts, it has become very difficult to stay in some kind of shape. Maybe when it starts to warm up again I can consider some options.

It's chilly. It's still early before the library is open. Things are quiet and calm. There isn't a lot for me to look forward to today, just shows and games. But that is something. And it is more than I had at the start of this terrible journey. Yet I still worry



that it will be lost again before the time is over. For now I try to hang on to hope, and wait for better days.



So nice the Xmas surprise presents!

## Week 443

### Day 3095 - 12/21 Brain asleep

Today was pretty good. It was calm and quiet and not too cold. I was actually able to take off my hoodie most of the day.

Again though around 4 my brain started to get very sleepy and felt like it was shutting down. I remember what I did pretty clearly, but my vision was blurry and all I really wanted to do was fall asleep.

I suppose it's a combination of the temperature and being at the library. I know I wasn't needed or wanted to interact with anyone. I know everything there is for me right there is within reach. So unlike being in a home where even on days you do nothing there is lots of little activity moving around doing things, I do nothing.

I suppose it's ok though. It could be worse. And I could always just choose to get up and walk around for a bit every few hours if it starts to get worse. But for now it seems ok. It almost feels like I need to let everything shut off to try and relax a bit. Yet at the same time I have constant reminders that the slightest wrong move and I could snap from stress.

As always, I try my best to relax and not let stress get to me. And in these holiday times I hope everyone has better days.

### Day 3096 - 12/22 Bump from not bump

Today was ok. I was still sleepy. In fact, around 3 I zonked out while watching a show for about five minutes. 😞 It might be from a cold I have, or just too much cold overall. But it's probably stress too.

I have a bump on my head. I don't remember bumping it. I wonder if it's from scratching. I have a bunch of scratch scabs here and there, and I'm quite itchy in a lot of

places. I think maybe something is on me that's causing a reaction. Possibly from nearby people in the library what with the scents and such that I'm allergic to. 🙄

Hopefully I will catch up on sleep or whatever it is my body needs soon, and the coming days are warm and better days.

## **Day 3097 - 12/23**

### **No lights**

Today passed quickly. I watched shows and that was about it. There was limited time at the library due to it being Friday.

I was extra sad though. I think it's because I see lights everywhere and now I have none. And though being in a home would solve my issues, even then if I did have lights I would not have everything they represent to me. Maybe that's why I've never been one to do lights in the past. I have half a dozen ornaments which are important to me, but besides that I really don't have any decorations.

Today is extra cold, and the rain has returned. But a few wished me well, and I do have a few presents, so I try to hang on to hope. And in time, hopefully better days will come.

## **Day 3098 - 12/24**

### **Magic**

Today seems sad. It's Xmas Eve, but there is little for me to celebrate. There are some presents in the morning, but very likely they will almost immediately go into storage, or other safe places. It seems unlikely they will be things I play with in the coming days, and certainly won't be things like I've played with on Xmas in years past since I'm not in a home.

But I hope, even though I am in the dark and things are uncertain, that I am a magic bunny. And someday I will be helped out of the special hat to cheers, applause, and laughter. And when that calms back down I will be safe and sound back in my home.

## Day 3099 - 12/25

### Warm inside, cold outside

Today was quite a mix of things. I got to sleep in just a touch, so that was good. I finally got a reasonable amount of sleep. When I got up there were some nice presents waiting. 😊

After that though the day didn't go as planned. I was going to stay at the food store most of the day, but much like for Thanksgiving the front sitting area was set up for a special employee party. I don't get that. They have a break room in back, I'm sure of it. When I worked there back in the day when it was at the other location, workers were forbidden from anyone seeing them during break or eating, so I don't get how they can now openly do both. My only real option with the cold was to detour to the old coffee shop. Which wasn't as bad as it could have been, but did cost \$3.25 that I wasn't planning on spending.

In the early evening I went to see a movie. It was super good, but somewhat surprisingly crowded. I made a somewhat critical error though. I figured I'd just get fast food after, but all four of the places I would normally consider were closed. And I knew the food store had closed earlier. So now I am left with one of the saddest Xmas dinners of crackers and a small piece of pie.

I suppose it's not the worse ever. I recall in the early day I had less to eat on Xmas. And now though I am cold and have little to eat, I am warm inside from nice presents and well wishing. And that is more than some, so I continue to hold on to hope for me and for them.



So nice the Xmas surprise presents, opened!

## Day 3100 - 12/26 After

Today was ok I guess. It started very excited, as it looked like the pool area was open for showering. But sadly only the girl's areas were open. Hopefully tomorrow the guy's area will be open, or there will at least be an outside bathroom open to shave. My parts are getting very annoyed with the hairiness.

I suppose the day was ok. I had to be at the coffee shop due to the cold, which again was \$3.25. 😞 But it was an ok connection and none of the workers gave me poop for staying.

It was weird because all of the homeless who spend half a day there or more are all still there. It's been more than two years since I've been there and they are still there. I'm not really surprised about that save for one cute younger woman. I'd guess she can't be much older than her early 30s. And she's super attractive, so it seems confusing she's still here. She claimed, once upon a time, that she was a contractor here in the area for work, but she had to have said that five years ago now or more. If she were so she'd have been paid well and not needed to be at the coffee shop then, and especially not now. She did

not look so good. 😞 Her hair was scraggly and unkempt. She seemed twitchy. Even though she was probably already light at 5'10 and probably 150 pounds back in the day, she looks like she's lost 15-20 pounds. And when she walked she didn't have her calm grace, but more of a hunch and twitch like a hunted animal. 😞

But I guess it was an ok day. I watched shows and played for a bit. I even peeked in my online game that I haven't played in forever and one of the people I haven't seen in months was there, which was nice.

But all the sad things were always on my mind, as everything about being out and about places constantly reminds me of what I've lost and how I'm an outsider. 😞 Yet I still try to hang on to hope.

## **Day 3101 - 12/27**

### **At least a shave**

Today is just starting, but it's a bit disappointing so far. Again the same school girls were practicing and the same areas were open/closed, meaning it is unlikely to change this week.

I was so scary and hairy that I had to at least shave my parts somewhere. (And thanks to the nice Xmas presents it was a super good shave.) So I went all the way across campus to a bathroom I know is almost always kept open for the bus drivers that stop there. The water was all cold. The place was a disaster, not tended for days likely, and there was no toilet paper. But it was vacant enough to shave my face, and quickly shave other parts, and very super quickly wipe with a tiny bit of soap.

The lead construction guy came in; the one I'd talked with before. He commented on my faux-hawk and we talked about music for a few minutes, though I don't think I'm familiar with punk music. It seems he is a bay area native and asked if I'd gone to this or that club back in the day. I was never a big clubber either in music appreciation or in having enough money.

The chat was a nice surprise on an otherwise cold and disappointing start of a day. The library will be open soon, so I expect the rest of my day to be a normal show

watching game playing day inside. And as the holidays continue and we move through the cold months I hope for an opportunity for change, and continue to hope for better days for all.

## **Week 444**

### **Day 3102 - 12/28** **Arctic event**

Today was pretty good. Things were mostly closed at school again, but this time the smaller side showers were open. So for the first time in forever I got a proper shower.

My time at the library passed ok. But my brain is still shutting down and failing to stay functional. I don't know if it's because it knows it can take a break or if it's a side effect of my changing my food and the sneezy congested cold I have.

There is an odd thing with my heart lately too. Again I don't know if it's related to my health, cold, or the weather. But near the end of my nights it's felt quivery. A kind of shortness of breath, weirdness, fluttery feeling. It's probably just extra stress and nothing long-term to worry about. But I do worry. Though I should still have as much life ahead of me as behind, there is no guarantee. And I've known others, like my mom, who didn't even have that long.

I was right about the cold. I guess before and the recent return of the extra cold is due to some arctic event. I didn't read too much about it, but it's something that's adversely affected all of the west coast for I guess the past few months.

But we are nearly half way through the break. So soon I'll be returning to my regular at school homeless life. And that will hopefully help balance things. As always, I continue to hope for better days.

### **Day 3103 - 12/29** **Still fading**

Today was pretty good I suppose. It was a normal homeless day at the library for the most part. I've been playing my online MMO again lately. There is a holiday thing going on, so I've been there a few hours a day. I guess I'm not used to the movement though, as I get headaches and dizzy after a few hours.



I even found someone new that needed help and was helpful for a bit. It was nice to be of help. Yeah, I help tons on the forums every day, but I never hear back on if a person was helped or not.

I found a new show to watch too, so I'm getting current on that. Which is good, as it seems all my regular shows are on break and have stopped, leaving me little to watch.

My brain is still fading by the late afternoon. No doubt due to low activity and doing effectively the same thing with no interaction with people. The fact that I'm not in a home doesn't help either. Here I am almost completely still; wanting as little movement as possible because there is nowhere to go and no reason to adjust my seat, get up for drinks, snacks, etc. I sit and little changes during my day. In fact, if you were to review the surveillance I probably only get up four or six times for all the time I'm there, and likely only shift positions every 30 minutes or less. It's very sad and I wish it didn't have to be like that, but not in a home things just aren't the same.

Still, I try to hang on to hope. I try to remember even though the outer layers of me may crumble or shift, the core of me is still there. And once back in a home, hopefully I will heal quickly and return to normal.

## **Day 3104 - 12/30**

### **Feeling sad**

Today I am feeling sad. Though I have nice things in my life, I am still constantly reminded how my life is different from everyone else's. Now more than ever during the holidays I am constantly reminded of the 'little things' you have in a home that I am missing.

I am sad too because this Xmas is extra nice with the presents I have. But because of how I need to live differently, because I must experience them differently because I'm not in a home, they seem to bring up sad feelings along with the good.

I try to hang on. I try to remember in just about a week and a few days school will be back on. I will have a few classes, not just one class to TA for, but in theory three. There will be people who need or want my help, some who don't, some who are just entertained by me or what I do, and at least an easier routine for a sad homeless life.

I am not who I was or could be. I suppose day by day we are continuously changing who we are in minor ways. But I still can't help but feel no matter how long my story continues in the future that I am mourning the loss of me. 😞

## **Day 3105 - 12/31**

### **Eve**

Today was ok, but a quick day. The library again closed early, so I lost a bit of time for that. They will be completely closed the next two days, so sadly the coffee shop will be the 'best' option for staying warm and having a connection. I guess the like \$7.50 that will cost will be tolerable, but it's a question of personal comfort, as it feels weird to stay there all day now. And I don't know who will be working there, so there may or may not be weird feelings based on that.

Again I just try to stay warm. And I try to focus on the fact that there is just over a week until school is back on and things are normalish again. And, as always, I hope for better days.

## **Day 3106 - 1/1/17**

### **Extreme fear of death**

Last night was pretty terrible. I was cold and worrying about permanent damage I may be suffering from by being out in the cold, and even when I'm not cold I've still taken a ton of damage, and am very out of shape. I was thinking about how I should have 40 years left, but that's only if I'm lucky. Many pass in what would be 20 years from now for me. Or in my dad's case he's probably only got about 10 years left.

My heart started to race. I became a very scared bunny. 😞 I started breathing fast. I felt chilled on my skin. With no external cause I became one of the most afraid in my life over the thought of death. How will I die? Will I know that I'm dying? What if I have undetected cancer or another disease and I am already on my way to death? What if there is only blackness when I die, and nothing more?

I started to spiral out of control. I had to calm myself down. I had to remind myself that for the moment I am safe. There is nothing threatening me. If I am to die of natural causes, it is not happening now. I may have my 40 years left. Maybe more, maybe less. But I am safe for the moment.

When I calmed down I wasn't a lot better. Now almost 24 hours later I am still shaky. But I have to remember if I am always worrying about death there will be no room left to worry about life. There will be no feelings left to live.

It is inevitable. It will happen. And I must accept that. I am not ready now; far from it. And the thought terrifies me. I hope when my time comes. I will be ready. And hopefully in the meantime I can accept that there is little I can control about it, particularly right now in my sad homeless life. And by accepting it is out of my control I can keep my focus on being alive, and experiencing what I can while I am still here.

## **Day 3107 - 1/2**

### **Oh, that guy**

Today was ok. There was a shopkeep at the coffee shop who was one I used to talk to and was friendly towards me there today. I wondered if he was still there, as it's been two years since I'd stopped going and I hadn't seen him in my recent trips. We caught up a bit and it seems like he's ok. But, still being there I can assume he's not doing great, as that job is likely part time and pays poop.

The day passed well enough, but it was short. I left early to do laundry, which was needed, as apparently my last batch was stinkier than I remembered. Last visit to the ex-garage the other night when I was near it I was like foood that's stinky. Normally it's not an issue. It's just worse than normal as I haven't changed as frequently due to not needing to since it doesn't matter when I'm just going to the library.

In the evening I had my weekly game. That guy that irks me irked me. I was saying how I was the only healer not counting his special heal since two group mates weren't there, but he was like 'I'm not paladin'. And I felt like saying 'but you've been going on and on for like 12 weeks about how you were going to split specifically for this and that ability. He said I was probably thinking of his other character because he was just

talking about it. OMG no, he's been me me me this this this every week several times for months. I think I know what he's been on about. And he irked me in another way too. No less than three times during the night did he say 'oh it's in the book'. Or, 'I know what that is, we don't want to do that.' Which is the most frustrating things about him. He's the kind of guy who's right even when he's wrong.

It did kind of make me again very much want to have my own game that I run again. Maybe someday. For now I can't. I tried to get one going back in August, and again in November, and it fell through both times. I'll have to wait until I know more people or something.

There was some news though. The very beautiful girl who was at the every other week game is for sure joining. 😎 Though it's a bit sad for me because she has a boyfriend already. 😞 But it will be nice to see a cute attractive girl every now and then. At least that's something. And it reminds me that there are such girls who make me feel that way still. And even more so, ones who game. So that is maybe more important, so I continue to hold on to hope.

But it is late. It is cold. It is raining. So hopefully I'll be asleep soon and the library will be open in the morning. Oh, school was open-ish today, so the morning started positively with being able to shower and shave all my parts, so that was good too. And with less than a week until school starts, with the library open all those days, I continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3108 - 1/3**

### **Back to normal for others**

Today others are back to their normal lives. I heard younglings going to class in the morning, and many cars are out and about going to work.

It is not back to normal for me quite yet. I still have a week off. While homeless with no real life friends I hang out with it is a bit of a curse. I am still eating differently. And my daily routine is off; both in a good and bad way.

In a home I'd have a great time. I could be on my computer playing. I could go over to my TV and watch stuff, or I could grab my gaming stuff off the shelf and do that.

Showering or eating whatever at any time would not be an issue. While I can do many of these things, how I do them, the experience of it, is quite different. I hope it will pass in time, and I too will be back to normal.

Until then, I try to hang on and hold on to hope.

## **Week 445**

### **Day 3109 – 1/4** **Not joining**

Today was ok. It seemed to pass very quickly. I guess because I had some different stuff going on. The day started with a shower and trimming my fauxhawk in the regular locker room. So, that was a very nice start to the day. After, I played games for a bit and watched a few shows. In the evening I watched part of a tech show to see some new game footage.

Two days ago sadly my eyes saw incorrectly. I was so excited to see the cute girl mentioned on the every other week's game social page I misread "will not be joining us" as "will be". I guess though my eyes saw one thing my heart saw another. That's very sad, though really nothing would have come of it. I have to continue to trust that Fate is sending reminders.

But we are again one day closer to a regular homeless life, and that is something. As always I try to hang on and continue to hope for better days ahead.

### **Day 3110 - 1/5** **Awake brain**

Today my brain stayed awake. I did my recording and editing in the morning, so I think that gave it the difference in routine it needed to stay awake.

Nothing was really different in the rest of my day. I played games. I watched some shows. But that was really it.

I guess all in all it was an ok day, save for my everyday sads about my life and what I am missing. But I continue to hope for the future.

## **Day 3111 - 1/6**

### **Reunion dream**

Today was pretty good. It started with a shower, which surprised me. I was expecting the pool area to be locked up, since it usually is on Fridays during breaks. But it was open, which is really good as I saw stuff set up in the parking lot and was reminded there is the big flea market on Saturday.

The rest of the day was pretty normal. A bit slower in general on forums and in my online game, as most are back at school and work.

Last night, or maybe early this morning, was weird. I had a dream about being at a high school 50 year reunion. When I woke up and thought about it, it is probably a bigger reunion year than most, but not as big as 50. I again think I'll pass on going. (Though I have yet to be invited.) I am basically in the worst spot in my life physically, and probably emotionally as well. I have no one to reconnect with. Anyone who really cared to try would find me online pretty easily.

I'm not sure if it's a good thing or bad. Back in high school the world was a very different place. And I'm sure all are very different people now. Even though physically I have no achievements or opportunities, I am still quite different emotionally.

I guess overall today was an ok day. My brain stayed awake. Partly due to things being different, I think, but probably too due to the growing excitement about school starting back up in a few days. At least some things will be better for me when it does. As for the rest, I will continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3112 - 1/7**

### **One more**

Today was pretty good I guess. Things are winding down. I've got caught up on all the shows I wanted to, which is good as vacation is nearly over. I played for a bit today too.

In a way I'm sad it's over already. I had hoped to do all of the writing for one class I expect we'll do over the quarter before it began, during this break. But I never got an

idea to work from, so hopefully that won't slow me down. I'm sure in a home I'd have had more freedom, a lot more time, and been a lot more creative in all things. When I need to spend so much time and energy just staying afloat it's very hard to feel free enough to fly.



But there is one more day. Just one left and then things are back to nice in school homeless normal. Hopefully I can hang on. Hopefully I can continue to get donations to keep things normal after this quarter is over. Hopefully I can hold on to hope and sanity long enough to finally see better days.

## **Day 3113 - 1/8**

### **Storm**

Today, starting last night really, has been one of the craziest storms in quite a while. It's pouring rain. I thought I'd just walk with no umbrella for a minute and be fine, but it actually took hours at the library to fully dry out my hoodie. I had no idea it had gotten so wet or took so long to dry. I'll use my umbrella and keep an eye on that in the future. It's super windy too. A few people in the area posted on the social page they've lost power.

Outside of that today was ok. My brain was mostly awake though I did nothing special really. I just played a bit and watched a few shows.

But now it's evening. The last before school finally starts up again. It feels like it's been about twice as long, maybe three times. I can barely remember the days just four weeks ago. Hopefully I will have a good time this quarter. Hopefully there will be lots of people I help. And hopefully opportunity comes and I can make it to better days.

## **Day 3114 - 1/9**

### **Failure to start**

Today worked out quite differently than planned. Apparently because of this crazy storm we have been having my professor, and apparently several others as well as many



students, were trapped on the other side of the hills due to a mudslide. In the bay area there is a coastal area which basically only has about three crossing parts through the hills to the rest of the area, and each part is about one hour up or down the coast from the others. So even trying to get around one blocked area is about a three hour detour for most.

So there was no starting class today for the primary class that I TA for. But, I was actually super helpful. There were about four students who had questions or concerns, so for about I'd guess 15 minutes I was talking to them and answering the relatively basic questions that the professor would have otherwise addressed. So I was already pretty helpful. 🤔

The evening game was ok, though the person who annoys me again really annoyed me. At one point I made a bit of a fuss that I wanted to do a thing, as I have to with him there, and he put up his hands and said, 'Anyone else who wants to lead is free to do so. If you want to do a thing just speak up and be my guest.' And I called B.S. in my mind. I didn't say it out loud, but anyone else is not 'free to do so'. He either railroads things until he gets what he wants or he just rolls his eyes at what you say and moves on as if you said nothing.

Something else odd happened. I noticed there was a lot of smoke in the kitchen during the game. And when I left I noticed all of my cloths smelt like burnt fish. Thankfully my hoody seems to have not gotten that smell, but the rest of my outfit, which today was the first day wearing it, has the smoky fish smell and is unusable until washed. I suppose it's not a huge deal, as it would have only been one or two days more of use depending on how I combined them with other cloths, but still.

I suppose today was pretty good. It was nice to be back at school helping, even though I'm unpaid and only helped maybe half a dozen people all day. But I continue to hang on, and hope for better days.

## Day 3115 - 1/10

### Hopeful day

Today I am hopeful that things will be off to a good start. It's still raining, which is good, but I have to be careful not to get too wet. And it helps to keep things a bit warmer.

I saw some cute girls on campus already, which always makes me extra hopeful. 😊

The day is just starting, but hopefully my professor will be here and I can TA for a higher level class and things should be fun and different.

As always I try to hang on to hope, and hope for better days.

## **Week 446**

### **Day 3116 - 1/11**

#### **Feeling helpful**

Yesterday and today while doing my TA things I felt pretty helpful. I'm glad I decided to see if the higher level classes could use my help. While I haven't done much, I have reinforced some good habits and reminded students of important things that sometimes the professor forgets to mention.

The next few days I'll likely just be student guy. I've got a class both days, and it isn't too likely any of the people from the classes that I TA would need my help. It's still a bit too early for helping with projects outside of class time.

I didn't play or watch shows at all today. I only had a few hours free. I guess I am ok emotionally, but more sad things are going on with my teeth, so that is always a concern. 😞 And, as always, there is the concern that my money is always running out, and the number of classes left I can take to keep financial aid loans at bay continue to dwindle with each new quarter.

But still, I try to keep my head up and hold on to hope for better days.

### **Day 3117 - 1/12**

#### **Sad and tired**

Today I feel very sad and tired. I've felt that way all day. It might be because of all my sad things lately and it feels more out of control than usual. It might too be because of my dreams last night.

I don't really remember them now, thank the Gods, because I do remember that they were very depressing and on the verge of nightmare-like in subject matter. All I remember was it was something about being lost, or dying, or out of control. I think I was in a fixed location or place, maybe a convention or a specific building.

But today I felt very sad and tired. I had a class but I didn't contribute much. I do have longer to do work I was expecting to do that I thought I did because there is new and different stuff before it, so that's great.

Hopefully tonight I can be warm enough, as it feels super cold. And hopefully I can sleep well, and not have bad dreams. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3118 - 1/13**

### **Very alone**

Today seemed extra sad when it got late in the evening. Class was pretty good, and even after class some people said hi in passing, so that was ok. But I think all classes in the department were done by about 4:30, which is unusual. So my time from then until the evening I was alone. When I left the parking lot was only about 5% full; barely anyone was there.

I haven't played much lately and I watched an extra show of people playing a fun game. So maybe that is part of it too. Seeing people who were at least partially friends having a good time made me again sad I have no such friends to do stuff with, and no home with which to try and make such friends by hosting an event.

I suppose the day wasn't all bad though. I got a shower. I got warm. And though it wasn't great food, I did have enough food. And I suppose nothing new that was bad happened. So I try to hang on. I try to hold on to hope for better days.

## **Day 3119 - 1/14**

### **Cold, but ok**

Today was cold, but ok. I did some pen and paper stuff in the morning to get ready for Monday and other character stuff for if I do an alt character in the future, so that was a bit different.

I played my online game for a bit, but no one was around. That isn't a surprise though. After, I watched a few shows.

The day was cold and I worry about all the things. I know that I and all my things should be ok in the cold, but still I worry. I, and maybe my things too, are likely much more fragile than I think. So I continue to hope, for without change or promise of such it is all I have. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3120 - 1/15**

### **Possibly sick**

Today was good, but I may be super sick. My professor on Friday said some people were out and a cold was going around campus. I have been feeling congested in my throat and lungs lately, and for about an hour my eyes have been hurting. Being sick seems logical with those symptoms.

I suppose though overall it was a pretty good day. I got a shower in the morning, as the pool locker rooms were open. I had a quick lunch at school, as the church group was there and things were openish. And then for a few hours in the afternoon I had my every other week game.

In this cold weather though, what with possibly having a cold, I very much miss the comforts of a home. I miss the quiet. I miss playing whatever I want when I want. I miss being on a comfy chair or couch and lounging while watching shows. I miss cooking a simple dinner. 😞

While I try to stay warm in the biting cold I continue to try and hang on to hope, and hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3121 - 1/16**

### **Not that**

Today was pretty different in terms of schedule. School was closed, so I couldn't do normal stuff. The library was closed too, so I couldn't go there. So I had to go to the coffee shop, which wasn't super terrible. But it was pretty cold, and I had my hoodie on

all day. And the Internet, as is common there, was pretty poor. Some people bailed on the evening game, so they canceled and I didn't do that.

Now I am in my car, and I've blasted the heater, so that should last a bit. I'm doing laundry, so that's good, as it's past due.

Hopefully it will be warmer tonight, as it's been super cold lately. And hopefully I can sleep well tonight, and tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3122 - 1/17**

### **Warming**

Today started super cold. The car parts were frozen when I got up and once I was out of the covers my hands and feet started to get numb pretty quickly. 😞

But now I'm at school and warming up and getting ready for one of the advanced classes I TA for. They shot a something last week, so we will probably be watching and talking about that. So that is good fun and good practice for me.

While it may be a bit for me to get fully warmed, things should be good today. With school back on hope is returned, and I try to hang on until better days.

## Week 447

### Day 3123 - 1/18

#### Good decision

Today I feel pretty good emotionally. I had my beginning class I TA for, which I don't do much right now because they are in the beginning lecture portion of class. And in the afternoon my intermediate class I TA for, during which I was pretty helpful to the professor.

I am still sad I'm not paid. I'm still sad nothing is really coming up in job searches. I always worry that the money is dwindling away and in some ways it will be gone in a few months. (Even more sadly that the things cost so much more than estimated and the money will last a year less than I hoped.)

As always I am sad about not having a home, especially in times like now when I am cold, and my clothes are wet, and there really isn't a way for me to change to dry cloths and warm up in the night. As always I fear my poor health will be the end of me, and I still feel shaken in recent days thinking of how close I may be to death and I may not get a real chance ever to recover. 😞

But emotionally today was a good day. I smiled and laughed a bit and I felt helpful, and these are rarer things for me these days.

### Day 3124 - 1/19

#### Extremely sad

Today I am feeling very tired and extremely sad. Maybe it's because I've been sick lately, as well as feeling in very poor health and worried about dying. But I've not been playing games hardly at all the past few weeks. And often times just feel very sad, alone, and like things won't change. 😞

I wonder if it's just the way I've been playing games. Now, for so many years, I've been on my laptop, playing at school because I have no home. When I had a home it would be a fun thing to do when I'm happy, or as a break from stuff, or between other fun

things. But now, especially lately, it feels almost a requirement; something I need to do in order to feel like I'm still hanging on to my life. Not something I go to when I'm in a good space emotionally, but something I need to retreat to in order to escape from a very sad and bad feeling place.

I am still very thankful I have my games. And hopefully this will pass and they are fun again, adding to my fun instead of feeling like they are required to hang on to the last bit of normalcy.

But everything feels very sad to me now. And it seems more sad that something which should make me feel better is the thing I turn to that feels like it's the last thing I have from my old life. Yet it helps me hang on. And these days I suppose it is one of the few ways to feel like I can hang on.

And still I try to continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3125 - 1/20**

### **Feeling bad**

Today I felt ok, but overall when I was alone I felt bad. More and more lately I've felt sick. My heart feels weak, and I still get chills and jump at thoughts of death. I am still greatly shaken from the event about a week ago.

I feel bad about what food I'm eating. I feel unhealthy. I can't exercise, and while I still couldn't exercise if I did have money (while still homeless), if I did have more I could at least have cooked food at school, and even consider vegetarian options. But without, with being limited to store bought food, the only way I can really think of doing that is fruit, which is too expensive, or something someone suggested like microwaving potatoes. (Which from what I recall of my not homeless days is only cheap if you buy the huge bags, which I can't really do.)

So lately I feel extra sad about not being in a home than other days. I feel depressed because all of my options are limited. I feel unhealthy and sad because of it because there is likely little to nothing I can do to change it. And, as always, there are the physical pains in my life.



But I try to hold on through the cold sad times. I try to remember there are other people who appreciate my help. There are those who know they can count on my advice. And I try to focus on what I do have which is positive to try and hold on until better days come.

## **Day 3126 - 1/21**

### **Feeling playful**

Today I feel a bit better. While my sadness and worries are not less, and I did have some feelings of being shaken still, I am feeling more playful. I played quite a bit today compared to other days recently. Still not as much as I used to, but wanting to play at all lately is a big improvement.

Nothing was really super good today. But I suppose nothing was extra bad. It was still super cold, and I'm still sneezing and have a cold.

But I try to hang on. I continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3127 - 1/22**

### **Better still**

Today I feel even better. Though I barely did any of the homework I thought I would. For some reason I was incredibly tired. But I felt good enough to play things, and almost even a little happy and a little like my old (homeless) self.

But it was very cold. And it was pouring rain. Which is sad because I really like the rain. It feels very calming to me. But out in the cold, even when at school or the library, I am still too cold to really enjoy it. It is best with limited or no exposure to its potentially bad effects.

Yet still my mind wandered to being in a home; what a day like today would have been like with at least a modest life instead of the sad life I have. And I was sad.

But I try to focus on what I have, and the happy things, and hopefully soon I will have better days.

## **Day 3128 - 1/23**

### **Mostly better**

Today I feel mostly better. I suppose I am still shaken from my fear of death, but I TAed in the morning and was helpful, and then played for a few hours before heading off to the evening's pre-made campaign game. I also got some info from one of the people's books I don't have that has information for a character I'm thinking of, so that's good.

I suppose it was a good day, but now in the night and hiding I miss the comforts and ease of being in a home. I'd still have an hour to do fun stuff, but while homeless, and in winter, all I can do is try to hide and maybe do very small things on my tablet. But I try to hold on. I try to keep hope for better days ahead.

## **Day 3129 - 1/24**

### **The girl in the dreams**

Today I feel ok. It's super cold, but the rain is clearing up. I slept pretty deeply last night, and the night before. Both times there was a girl in the dream. Both times my mind made new people for her, or at least people I don't consciously see in my awake life. So it's good to see my dreams finally being about new things, and not terribly sad things, even more so with a sweetie or love interest.

My mind is preoccupied with a new character I'm thinking of, so that is a nice distraction. And I have an advanced class to TA most of the day, so that should keep me busy with happier or interesting things.

As always I try to hold on to hope in what are my darkest days, until things are happy again.

## **Week 448**

### **Day 3130 - 1/25** **F that guy**

Today was ok I suppose. Someone was pretty disrespectful to me in the advanced class, in a muttering under his breath kind of way. And he's always late, which is somewhat disruptive, so F that guy. It's easy enough for me to not give him advice or comments if he doesn't ask.

The day was super busy so I don't have much time to do anything else. I had a few hours to eat and watch shows. I wanted to play, but there just wasn't time.

It was cold, but it wasn't raining. The temperature in the building is messed up, so I was pretty cold even with extra cloths. But I try to hold on. And I hope better days come.

### **Day 3131 - 1/26** **Sleepy**

Today I was very sleepy and not feeling it overall. I was glad I didn't need to help, as I was in the mood to take a break. In class I really just didn't care, which is very unlike me. And I fell asleep for a few minutes a few times. It was stuff I've had in previous classes, and I actually did the homework we were supposed to go over, so it was fine to be like that.

I got to play a fair amount, but I hardly watched anything. Before class the connection was really slow and terrible, but after it was ok. But since my class is an afternoon class I didn't have time to watch much after.

Lately my mind has been pondering my story for my kobold character. I may or may not actually ever play him, but I think it's up there in what I'd want to play. His spells and abilities must be different from normal, as well as his tactics, due to some racial restrictions which will make things interesting and different.

I suppose I've been motivated to write his story lately because, in many ways, he's like me. (I have two other characters I came up with before him I haven't really been motivated to write about.) The people of his race are considered thieves, pests, and vermin, and as such are often enslaved, killed, or shunned from society. And even if they are tolerated, they are often on the fringe of society, living a fearful life often with no permanent home.

I guess I'm just rambling now, but I suppose in a way I've always made character's motivation and background similar to what I'm going through, or relatable in some way. I've never been the type of guy to make one opposite of me.

Though it's getting cold now, so hopefully I'll be able to sleep ok, and hope tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3132 - 1/27**

### **Warming**

Today was ok, though I may have a new cold. That or the one I had has morphed into something else. I'm pretty congested and coughing. And I've been drinking a ton extra. And fooooo have I been sleepy.

I guess it was ok. It was a pretty regular Friday, though I didn't help anyone. It's still pretty early in the quarter for that, especially on a Friday.

It's slightly warmer than it has been though now it's super cold. But according to the weather thing I check online, things should continue to warm up a couple of degrees every day for the next week, which is where its forecast ends. So I hope my super cold days are soon coming to an end and I may be warm again. I guess we'll see. But until then I have to try to hang on and hope for better days.

## Day 3133 - 1/28

### Pretty sick

Today I am really sick. My throat is messed up and I'm having difficulty breathing. It would be better if it were not my every other week game this week so I could feel better when playing. Hopefully I can get a good rest and feel better in the morning. But what with ice on the car in the mornings I may be getting too cold at night and this cold may be very difficult to beat. 😞

This was an ok day I suppose. There was kind of some stuff for school that I wanted to do, but with feeling bad I was just distracted enough to not feel like doing it. Nothing is really due until Thursday afternoon though, so I'm not really worried.

But times like this I am extra sad I am not in a home. Being in a warm home cuddled up in blankets with medicine to get better would be so much better. 😞 Until that can happen I have to try to hang on, and hope for better days.

## Day 3134 - 1/29

### Super sick

Today I was super sick. Even now I am having trouble breathing, wheezing and struggling with each breath. I'm still coughing a lot and when I do I often feel congestion in my lungs and throat. But, because I've been sick for days, and because I didn't want to miss it, I went to my every other week game. It was super fun. But some of the choices the party made were... not the best. But, like rolling a natural one, sometimes the failures make the best stories.

I do think I'll pass on my once a week game though. I do still feel a bit feverish, and I have such a bad headache now it's hurting my eyes and ears.

Things were much warmer today though. In fact I was somewhat tempted to put on shorts after doing laundry because it was so nice and warm out. Now in the night it's getting chilly and cooling down. Hopefully the warmth will stick around.

As always I hope I get better, and get lots of rest to recover tonight, and that there are better days ahead.

## Day 3135 - 1/30

### More sick

Today I was still super sick. I wish I were in a home and could have just stayed home, rested, and taken super good care of myself. 😞

I guess it wasn't too terrible though. I do feel a little better now, and will hopefully be better soon. There were lots of others sick at school to. It must have spread last week and this week people are sick.

Last night around 4:30 I got super cold and was woken up by my coughing and probably didn't get back to sleep for an hour or more. 😞

Hopefully tonight things won't be too cold. I try to hold on and continue to hope for better days.

## Day 3136 - 1/31

### Still so many symptoms

Today I still feel pretty sick. I got lots of deep good sleep last night, so hopefully that helped a lot. I did wake up too cold and shivering around 3, but I don't know if that was from fever and chills (my skin was very warm to the touch for the most part), or if it was due to the super cold weather. The car was still a touch iced when I got up and moved to school, so it could have been either.

I have so many symptoms. I am sniffly; super congested in my nose, throat, and lungs. If I do anything I'm pretty much gasping for breath and wheezing almost immediately. And my eyes still hurt, and my ears are ringing. But I feel mostly better if I sit still and stay calm. Which is what I expect I'll basically do the rest of the day. So hopefully I can recover quickly.

As always, I hope for a return to the warm comforts of a home soon, and then I can be back to better days.

### Day 3137 - 2/1 F that guy forever

Today was busy busy. I have two classes that I TA for in a row, not really leaving time for anything else. When I get out I have about two hours for eating dinner and watching or playing stuff. In previous quarters when there were more evening classes that would have been about two hours more, so things seem pretty cramped these days.

In a home I'd still have plenty of time. I'd probably be just now eating and watching my first show of the night, instead of closing things up and getting ready to hide and try and sleep. The rain is back too, just a sprinkle, and it is much easier to hide. But it worries me, as it puts me at higher risk of colds.

Tonight that guy who is always late for the advanced class, and who has been disrespectful to me before, has done it again. It derailed things so much when he was, so I interrupted his disrespectful comment and said, 'No, you know what? F you. We are done.' And stopped what I was previously in the middle of saying. I don't really know if anyone in the class noticed which kind of makes it worse.

In a very small way he is right in that maybe I do comment too much and should let people fail on their own more. But I want people to feel confident and do well, not fail for reasons that could have been easily avoided.

But being disrespectful of my thoughts and opinions is not ok. Not agreeing, or not choosing to take the advice, that's fine. As that is how I offer things; people can heed it, or adopt my ideas, or not. But I do expect people actually listen to it first, not just blow me off, as if I'm nothing, let alone go all the way to being disrespectful by cutting me off with a smart ass comment. I will now not help him at all. His things will get no constructive criticism from me, and in pre-production phases I will not give him tips or reminders of potential pitfalls, be those pitfalls by his own doing or by how people will interpret, or misinterpret, what he is doing.

So that put me in a bad and angry mood, which is extra sad because I know that there was good elsewhere in the day. There were four students in the beginning class I

know that I for sure helped, and there were a few others in the intermediate class I know appreciated the things I said. But because that guy was an ass, it's difficult for me to see the positive. So F that guy from now for sure. Everyone gets a few strikes, and that was his last.

But now, as the night begins to chill, and the rain gently sprinkles, I will hopefully be able to settle in and sleep. Hopefully tomorrow I will be better, as I'm still recovering, now sneezing a lot. And hopefully tomorrow will be a better day.

## **Day 3138 - 2/2**

### **Pranked professor**

Today was pretty good, though I'm still much more sick than I originally thought. The morning started with some due assignments. But my brain was so messed up from my cold, much of the day I felt whacked out. I suppose kind of like I was drunk, though I've never been drunk, so I can't really compare.

Yesterday some people in the intermediate class set up a prank in the writing professor's office. They had set up two blow-up dolls having sex on his chair and scattered probably about two dozen red balloons on the floor. When he came in this morning I heard his surprise, and then he thought it was so hilarious that he was telling everyone he knew to come look at it. hehehe 😏

My class was ok, though at this point I don't remember much more than five minutes of it in total. I don't really need to though, so it's ok.

After class I watched a few shows in the lab, and helped some of the basic class students who were there who needed help.

I'm still really horribly sick though. I sound terrible and even getting up and moving 10 feet causes me to become out of breath and pant. I'm eating maybe 25% more than normal. But I am eating, so that's good. In past days I'd feel extremely hungry, but after taking a few bites my tummy wouldn't care anymore. So having an appetite again is good. I'm drinking probably 250% of normal though, which seems bad. It seems like I shouldn't be drinking anywhere near that much. I almost always feel fat, and like my tummy area is about to burst with so much in there.



I suppose I am getting better, but if I had a home I may have stayed home today and just slept most of the day. It was very difficult to keep my eyes open. 😞

Hopefully I'll get good sleep tonight and feel better in the morning. And, as always, I hope for better days.

## **Day 3139 - 2/3**

### **Almost completely out**

Today was pretty good. The class I have is just watching movies, so we mostly just watched a movie. After, there was time to have a bit of a fun watching shows, and there was still some people around who needed my help, so I helped with that.

Though below the surface I felt terrible due to a cold, I am incredibly worried about death, and I am worried about how little money is left.

My cold still has me sneezy, coughing, congested, drinking and eating a lot, and probably because of that feeling fat, unattractive, and very out of shape. I can still barely walk anywhere without running out of breath and panting. I think even more are sick today, as it seemed only 2/3 of the normal amount of people were around. And of those who were, a lot were sniffing, sneezing, and coughing.

And my thoughts and worries about how I may not recover and may not get my remaining 40 years nearly consume me. In a home I would eat a lot better, try to exercise, sleep better, and overall emotionally feel much better. Without, all I have really is my physical form, which is bad. I can't help but focus on how rapidly my money is running out and I'm basically down to under \$100, which will barely last two months before it's gone. And even though I have that, it feels as if I am losing my life as it draws closer and closer to having nothing at all.

I try to escape my trouble and worries, but ever since I got shaken everywhere I look seems to be only death and doom. My laptop can still play games, but it's more than 6 years old now. How much longer will it last? I just spent way too much on my car, but at 115k miles how much longer before it dies? And with so little in the bank that will be gone before next school quarter. And if I can't take classes and be on campus to microwave food, shower, help people, access the Internet, and keep student loans off my

back, what will become of me? It seems everywhere I look things are closing in around me.

I should have been much more careful with the money. 😞 But so much was required to get back on track. So many things were behind. So much was required to just keep going. And even for just a brief while I wanted a little more than what I should have been spending, just so I could feel somewhat normal again. Now it seems like what could have been another year's meager barely hanging on life has been cut short. 😞 And I am terrified again, and constantly afraid and sad. 😞

But I still try to hope. I try to play games, watch my shows, help the people, and hope that with all of that I can be distracted from my sad times. And that while I am distracted time will pass and I can have better days once more. 😞

## **Day 3140 - 2/4**

### **Last cooked food**

Today was ok I suppose, though I am still quite shaken. I am still terribly sad about all the things. And still very sick.

I did finally do some school stuff that I've been trying to do forever. I had a few windows of clarity during my day and I powered through it. So, one of my two classes are current in work.

Tonight was the last of the cooked food. 😞 While I still have a small bit of money left, I have to keep it for gas and a few other things. I am still very sad it went so quickly. The stupid car costs were so expensive, and I guess just a little extra food now and then put me off budget enough to mess things up. The money lasted just under half as long as I'd hoped it would. 😞

So now I will have to go back to micro foods all of the time. That and ready to eat foods. Which aren't great, as I can't afford expensive things like fruit very often.

I will try to hang on, both mentally and physically, but with my recent scare and now frequent thoughts of death, and almost being completely out of money again, it is difficult to hang on to hope. And even more so to think better days will come soon. 😞

## **Day 3141 - 2/5**

### **Still pretty sick**

Today I am still pretty sick. I'm a lot better in that I stopped sneezing and my mind is mostly clear. I actually wrote for about an hour and am nearly done with one of my character backgrounds for a character I may someday play. (Though with not being able to afford the group play, nor wanting to do public group play for a few reasons, I may actually not play the character for a very long time.) But I'm still pretty congested, I still have periods of bad coughing, and an almost constant tickle in the back of my throat. I still have a lot of headaches, and pain pushing behind my eyes.

But today was better, at least a little bit. And I tried to not let my sad things bother me too much.

As always though I hope for better days, and try to hang onto hope until they come.

## **Day 3142 - 2/6**

### **Obviously still sick**

Today I discovered that I am obviously still much more sick than I thought. My mind is mostly clear, but there are still some hiccups of confusion here and there. And while I felt ok during the school day, when walking out during the evening I started panting, coughing, and nearly threw up. A lot of the time when I'm coughing lately it starts to feel like I'm being strangled.

So, obviously I am still very sick. Which is good and bad that I discovered it. Good in that I'm getting better and mostly ok if I have low to no activity. So that means I should be recovering. But bad in that I can be exhausted and horrible feeling again by

even the slightest stress and strain on my system. I'll have to be extremely careful to minimize or eliminate stress, which during these sad homeless times is very difficult to do.

Other than that today was pretty good. I helped a little in the basic class that I TA for, and there was time to play and watch shows. Time passed oddly though, likely a symptom of my cold. Moment-to-moment seemed very slow, but overall the day seemed to pass extremely quickly. Not really a point that matters, but it is an important sign I am still sick and to keep an eye on it.

Hopefully I can get lots of good sleep tonight. Hopefully tomorrow I will continue to get better. And hopefully better days will come.

## **Day 3143 - 2/7**

### **So much congestion**

Today I am very congested. I feel a bit better overall, and my cough and wheeze is lessened. But, I am still super congested in my lungs and throat. Hopefully this means the cold is almost over, as this is how I remember it starting.

Today I have an intermediate class to TA. This is not the one with the ass hat, that's tomorrow, so today should be pretty good. We will just be doing scene stuff, so I'll likely just sit and watch. Since it's directing I don't have a whole lot to say. It's more I'm around to help set up things, or help with exercises when they are in groups.

But hopefully I can continue to get better. I continue to try and focus on the positive things in life and remain hopeful until better days come.

**Day 3144 - 2/8**  
**Weird feeling disconnect**

Today I have been feeling a weird soft of disconnect. I can only think to describe it like I feel like your arm or leg does when it's on that edge of being asleep. I feel normal-ish; the people around me seem like they should be there, I feel like I'm doing what I'm supposed to do. But it all feels hollow, or unnatural in some way. As if maybe I'm in the future and dreaming, and I realize this is a dream, but I can't wake myself up.

In a way I've felt this way for a few days now. I don't know if it's an effect of the cold, or some odd effect or change in the future that I'm feeling ripples of now, or what.

Something odd happened today. A super cute redhead (who is much too young for me, and has no interest anyways) walked by somewhat close. She had on a different perfume than she normally does - one that smelt like flowers. It's strange how I'd forgotten that's my favorite smell on girls. (Which is kind of odd since real flowers make me sneeze.) That or vanilla. I suppose there are many things about a sweetie I've forgotten since I've been single for so long. But it struck me as sad, as it felt like a reminder that there are so many things I'm starting to forget about the me that was. And I wonder how much remains in this shell of my former self. 🙄

But I don't know if I feel better, or if it's a change in the weather (to warmer and drier times), or something yet to be discovered, but my path doesn't seem as bleak. Or at the very least, regardless of how lost I feel at times, it feels like it was recently clarified. So I try to hang on to hope. And hopefully better days are coming.

## Day 3145 - 2/9

### Throwing up

Today was a pretty terrible day physically. It started fine, but in the early afternoon I started feeling really bad in my tummy. 😞 It felt like someone punched me really hard. As time went on it got worse and worse. Eventually I started to feel hot, sweaty, and all I could feel in my whole body was the pain in my tummy. 😞 Then, I threw up. Several times. 😞 I had to close my eyes because I knew if I saw it things would be 100 times worse. I had run to the bathroom in time, but it was in the middle of a class group project, so when I came back to the group I told them I'd thrown up and had to go lie down.

People in groups were here and there all across the floor, so I walked through the rain to go out to my car. I laid back and closed my eyes. Surprisingly I passed right out to sleep for about 1.5 hours.

When I woke up, the pain wasn't so bad, so I continued my day as normal. When it came time to eat dinner, I ate an hour later than I otherwise would have, and only ate about half.

Now I feel ok overall, but the punched in my tummy feeling persists. It isn't anywhere near as bad as before I threw up, but things are still upset in there.

I guess either I'm still much more sick than I thought or my lunch didn't agree with me. Either way, I try to hold on to hope for a good rest tonight, and better days in the future.

## Day 3146 - 2/10

### Still feeling punched

Today was bad physically. I still feel punched in the gut, no doubt the muscles hurt from throwing up, in addition to my chemical balance being thrown off. I still have my cold too. My eyes hurt a lot, I'm congested, and my ears are ringing. I suppose maybe

soon I should see the school doctor if I don't get better, but I have a feeling it's just a cold that's going around and they can't give me anything that would help.

And I had a bad day emotionally. I still feel bad, sad, and very mad at myself for somehow burning through my money so fast. Yeah, some things are still taken care of as I paid a once a year price for them, but other things will be coming up very soon that there won't be any money left for. I should have kept more careful track. Where it was going and how quickly. Of course it didn't help that car stuff was triple or more what I'd hoped it would have been, as well as other basic costs like getting caught up on clothing being a few hundred. It's been so long since I've had money I didn't feel like I needed to go all the way to a weekly budget (beyond the quarterly estimates I had), but I guess I should have. Now I am worrying all the time again, and I barely have any.

So today was very sad. I felt bad physically, feel sad and worried again emotionally, and with all the cold weather it seems all I can focus on are the bad things right now. 😞

But I try to hang on. I try to keep hoping better days will come soon.

## **Day 3147 - 2/11**

### **Appetite returning**

Today was a bit better. I changed a bed thing last night and actually slept a lot deeper than I otherwise have been. I think due to the weather some of the bed items haven't been able to properly fully dry out each day. And what with not being able to wash them as often as I should I think maybe a bit too much yuck is on them that I might be allergic too. I'll wash and dry them super well tomorrow. Hopefully that will hold through the rest of the cold days until I have extra money to wash them again.

I wasn't very hungry for lunch. I ate hours after I normally would have, and when I did I barely ate. I had about 10 crackers and that was it. For dinner I ate my normal amount, so I think my tummy is finally recovering from throwing up. Hopefully too I'm recovering from my cold and I'll be better soon.

I was supposed to do a bit of homework today, but I really wasn't in the mood. I was actually in the mood to play, which is rare these days, so I played my MMO for a few hours.

I guess both physically and emotionally I feel a bit better today, despite my money or general worries getting any better. I continue to try to hang on, and hopefully better days will come soon.

## **Day 3148 - 2/12**

### **Almost homeless normal**

Today I felt almost homeless normal. The day started with a chance to do some extra laundry, so I did all the bad bed stuff. I also got a chance to shower, so I trimmed my hair and got an extra long shower. (Though I think I cut it too short, but I suppose it will grow back in a few months. It's tough to do on your own with only a single angle distorted locker room mirror.)

I did my homework... mostly. I again just wasn't feeling it, so I did about 2/3 what I should have. It's fine. I have several hours Thursday morning to finish before class, plus any time that may be free before that.

I had a few hours to play and watch shows, so that was good. I am starting to feel more homeless normal since the rain has gone and it's a warmer day.

I do still worry about money. And I worry if I will ever truly be appreciated for the things I do and if I'll ever get paid to do something I am decent at and appreciated for. But today I feel at least a little hopeful for the future and hopefully better days will come.

## **Day 3149 - 2/13**

### **Short game**

Today was pretty good. I was helpful in the class I TA for, and extra helpful after since things are coming due. I didn't have a lot of time on my own as there were only a few hours free after class before my game.



The game was ok, but again the guy who bugs me bugged me. It's really just how he interacts at a game mechanic level that bugs me most. That and how his role playing is 100% limited to what he's read. It's like a historian's knowledge. There is no soul, no spark, nothing new created, only fact and regurgitation of what came before.

But the game was fun. And what limited time I had to play and watch shows was fun. I think too I'm starting to feel better. I ate normal amounts of food and was clear of mind. Though I am still tiring easily, and still pretty congested, so I am certainly still sick. But I try to hang on to hope. And I hope better days come.

## **Day 3150 - 2/14**

### **Game things**

Today I am super congested and sneezy. I am still a bit low on endurance, so I am obviously still sick.

My mind is preoccupied with my game things this morning; various characters and story things. So that is good, as I have been too depressed to want to be playful or creative lately. It's a good sign that things are returning to normalish. And indirectly, of course, that affects my schoolwork and ability to TA well, as more creative thought is helpful.

It is sweetie's day, but I have been single forever and don't have anyone in my life that I hang out with, so I expect nothing unusual in that regard. But I try to hang on to hope and focus on what few good things I do have, as there are so many sad things and worries. And I continue to hope better days will come.

## Week 451

### Day 3151 - 2/15 Regrets

Today was ok. Though I didn't help much in either class that I TA for, so I was left on my own mentally, which meant my mind focused on its recent worries and regrets. Again I couldn't help but think what should have been 1.5 years of money turned out to be only half that much.

While I maybe shouldn't have made some purchases, like my tablet, it has been incredibly useful for school things. And, it's great for doing quiet mobile things like playing when I'm hiding at night, taking notes for writing stories, or listening to a podcast or music. So, I don't really regret that.

But some things I do. I didn't really need to get new shirts. The ones I had were fine. I got more games than I should have, and I greatly regret the ones I got which I wound up not hardly playing then setting aside. And probably my biggest regret of all is not watching my food costs. While my system is rapidly going to crap again now that I'm not eating fresh cooked food, the two extra meals per week completely wrecked me. I did have one per week budgeted, but even at only \$3.5-8 on average, twice a week, for these past 7 months, has rapidly added up to a figure far greater than I would have thought. If I'd have known how much of a toll that would have taken I absolutely wouldn't have had those extra meals.

But these past almost full 9 years have been so terrible and taken such a toll. 😞 It is so hard physically to eat garbage or micro food and constantly feel bad about it and know there is little to nothing that can be done to change it. It is so hard emotionally to not have my nice games and fun things like movies when they are new and to have to wait until they are cheap, or miss them entirely. Both of those constantly make me feel like an outsider. 😞 Like a total freak who doesn't belong. 😞 In a home, with those balanced, I can accept my quirks and weird things that make me different and unique. But with all the limitations and sadness on top of that, for so long, it is too much to bear. 😞

But now, because of all that, the money is almost entirely gone. And what was an ever so brief glimpse of something that was a fraction of my old normal life is now gone. And what remains will be a rapid descent into the sadness and constant worry that I have been in for so long. 😞

I try to hold on to hope those out there who were watching out for me are still out there and will send help soon. But I do not see them, and things are so quiet, I don't know if they are. All I can do is continue to hope. And hopefully it will be enough until a boon comes again. And, hopefully when they do I will have the strength to be like a squirrel and hide it away and struggle to hold on to it as long as I can.

## **Day 3152 - 2/16**

### **Self disappointment**

Today I am still feeling a bit sick. I have little to no energy and I feel unwanted. Though that may be in great part due to my disappointment in myself lately.

The money being gone so quickly feels like a strange dream. It feels like I never really had it and I just imagined it. I have a vague memory of wanting to live, to feel whole again, and so that's why I spent a lot of it like I did. But now being out and scared of everything again, let alone all the things I should have had covered for the next year, I wish I wouldn't have done that.

I wish I would have lived as I had been living – in survival mode. I would not have used it for anything but the most essential of things. I'd have about 1/4 of it left still. I wouldn't have to worry about money for school next quarter. I wouldn't have to worry about upcoming car registration costs in July. Or other upcoming costs.

I again am back to feeling defeated. Feeling like I failed myself. Feeling like I am on my own. And left to wonder if help will come in time to continue to save me until I can permanently get back on my feet. 😞

## Day 3153 - 2/17

### Day off

Today was spent at the library. School was closed, so that was my best choice. I'm glad it was an option. I was afraid that, like school, it would be closed today, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. It seems the library will just be closed Monday, so that will be my tough day.

It almost felt like a day off. Yes, I still feel terrible about my money being lost in half the time I expected, along with all my other sad things about being homeless in general. But things weren't terrible for a homeless day. I played some games, watched some shows, and tried to be as stress free as I could.

I asked my Monday game group how many more sessions they think it would be. (There isn't one this week.) There was no reply, but I'm ready to drop it since money is so critical. If it's more than three I will just back out. I'd love to keep playing, but there is the annoying guy, and it is costing a lot in terms of gas money. (The one day adds about 2/3 of a week's gas cost.) Plus, since it's a run from a book, not 'home brewed', there just isn't a connection between the characters and their past. Every time I see the slightest hint of it the game is 10 times more fun, but those quickly fade away because the books don't incorporate background at all.

It's cold. It's pouring rain. My mind wanders back to similar days in a home and how much better it was. 🙄 But I try to hang on. I know I can't go back, and whatever is forward will be different and require change. But I try to hang on until those days come. And hopefully they will be better days when they do.

## Day 3154 - 2/18

### Soft cloth

Today was good, I suppose. There was a something going on at school when I checked in in the morning, so there was an area open for me to shower, which was a happy discovery. I expected to not be able to get to shower until Tuesday morning.

My time at the library was ok. I was basically alone in life, and even in-game I was alone most of the time. But I had an ok time, and I had a few hours to watch some shows as well.

A few days ago I misplaced my soft cloth I keep inside my laptop cover. It came with the system and was just this thing between the keyboard and monitor that came with it, I guess to protect it. I've kept it ever since. Mostly because it was soft, but also because maybe it does protect the keys from scratching things. But I've been very sad since I misplaced it. Tonight when I found it again I was very happy.

I suppose with a non-homeless life I wouldn't have cared. It wouldn't have mattered if it were lost or found. But I think because I am homeless, because there are so many traditions, that are missing from my life such a small thing being lost seemed like a big deal. I suppose in a way it feels like putting a blanket over me and saying good night when I put my laptop away. I suppose too in a way it feels like one of the few times in life I could put something away and know it will be (at least a little) safe and sound. And I think losing it, as trivial as it likely is, made all of my worries seem far worse and bigger than they are.

So I am very happy to have found it again. Though I know it changes very little in my life, maybe because I have so little it is actually a very big part of it.

But I continue to try to hang on to hope, for it is all I can do. And maybe someday my better days will come.

## **Day 3155 - 2/19**

### **Ice wind**

Today's weather has been very strange. In the early morning there was a warm breeze and it seemed like it would turn to a bright warm day. But then it started raining, and the breeze turned into something that felt like it was blowing off of ice, or from snow. It wasn't just cold. It was that kind of biting cold that tears through cloths.

I suppose things were ok besides that. I got another day off because what I have due coming up later in the week is something that shouldn't take really any time, so I

expect I can easily do it in about an hour tomorrow. So I spent the day playing and watching shows.

Oh, I suppose the morning started extra well because the showers were open and the church group was there. So I got super clean and had soup for lunch. Soft and clean are my two favorite... conditions(?) or states(?). Though it is an extremely distant memory one of my favorite things was to take a quick night shower and get super clean and then hop into clean (and maybe still warm) bed sheets with the covers still fluffed.

But I tried to not think about too many sad things and tried to focus on happy or neutral things. (One of which was checking and discovering my laptop is only 3.5 years old, not the 6 I thought it was.) Tomorrow will be far more difficult since it's a holiday and it isn't warm enough to be outside. The coffee shop with the terrible connection will be one of my only choices. Hopefully it won't be too bad. But for tonight I try to hang onto hope, and hopefully there will still be better days ahead of me.

## **Day 3156 - 2/20**

### **Peering into the void**

It happened again last night; that extreme fear of death and what if I don't make it much longer. It's hard to describe but it is an extreme panic fear, along with a feeling of being hollow, and like there are waves of cold energy crashing all the way through my body.

I wrote something about it last night afterwards. I'll put that at the end of today. And still today I felt feelings of being shaken. In some ways it feels like the more it happens lately the more I want everyone else to experience it. If I had opportunity for change it would almost certainly grant me the resolve to be fit, to eat better, to try and sleep better, and in general not to take anything for granted.

I suppose though, even if I do make a spoken version of it and post the video of it on my page, along with this written version, it won't really have an effect on anyone. Everyone lives not thinking about their end. I suppose since it can't be prevented people don't want to think about it. Or for the most the prospect is so far off they simply don't worry about it.

I suppose too I only feel that way now because of how far I've fallen. If I did have all of my regular life distractions I would never have likely thought and felt such things. And if I did have a truly happy life with good friends, a sweetie, maybe younglings, I most certainly wouldn't have thought of it or glimpsed the void.

As always all I can do is talk about it and hope it touches the lives of others and helps them to also gain some perspective. And hopefully my end is still very far off, and I do see better days once more.

***I am alive... for now***

*Recently I have begun to greatly fear death.*

*A few times in recent nights I think "what if I don't wake up?"*

*I've been homeless for nearly 9 years, so I often wonder if I will actually get the remaining 40 years I should have.*

*So I also wonder "what if I don't make it through to being in a home again?"*

*When I have become afraid I feel hollow, and like an icy wind is blowing through me.*

*I wish I could pass this feeling on to everyone so they might experience it.*

*But it is difficult to recover.*

*It is a panic that consumes you.*

*I think of the void of death.*

*I think how much I would miss out on, how much I won't get to do.*

*I believe in magic, I believe in monsters, in aliens, in superheroes, in unexplained things.*

*Yet I know if I were to die now, none of these could save me, at this time they are all just stories.*

*And so I wonder; is life just a string of stories and entertainment to distract ourselves from the fear of the void of death?*

*When I calm down that is certainly all I have.*

*It is certainly what I try to focus on to be happy.*

*Even more so in these homeless times.*

*And I suppose if I were to die, if I were in that void, my thoughts, desires, feelings must also fade to nothing, and in doing so and in joining the void I would no longer know what I am missing .*

*For now I am alive.*

*I don't know how much longer that will be.*

*It may be the 40 years I should have, or it may be 40 days, there are too many unknowns that could alter my course.*

*But in glimpsing the void I know it is inevitable, not just for me, but everyone.*

*And though I can't unsee it I can choose to look away, to find comfort where I can while I am still alive.*

## **Day 3157 - 2/21**

### **Hopefully back to normal**

Today will hopefully be back to homeless normal. While I have my games and shows to try and distract myself, now I will also have the other students and helping them. Hopefully that will help me feel connected to a greater part of things again. And since the advanced class are doing scenes today hopefully there will be some laughs.

The day has just begun, and I still have so many worries and sads in my life. Even more so now that my money is almost completely out and even the small things are starting to suffer; like needing to wear items of clothing that aren't terribly clean because I can't afford washing every week.

But I try to hold on to hope. And I try to distract myself with the few small nice things I have until I get the chance to change the bigger things. And hopefully that day will come and I will have better days ahead.



## Week 452

### Day 3158 - 2/22

#### Strangers care

Today was an odd one. My professor was out, so I unofficially ran most of the basic class as I watched over the students while they took a test. And in the intermediate class I don't know if the sub would want me there or not (since I'm unofficial and unpaid, he doesn't really know me) so I skipped TAing that class and did some homework instead. As a result, I got a bit more time for whatever, but mostly got caught up on a few shows.

But today was good in that I got two donations from people who haven't sent donations before. 🥰 So it was very nice to know there are strangers out there who care about others who are hurting physically and/or emotionally. I see so many in my daily life that don't help, or don't even seem to care to really look at me and notice. So it's glad to know there are caring people out there who take the time to notice those hurting around them.

I do feel a bit odd though. I had something I rarely have at lunch and I think it didn't settle well. The only way to describe it is below my heart, sort of where the edge of my ribs cover, in the middle of me, feels kind of hurt. It's like it's pinched or sprained, and feels as if a piece of wood about six inches long and half an inch wide has been stuck inside me. It's a big area, under my muscles. I think it's where my tummy is. I'm not overly clear on the biology of the stomach and intestine parts of me.

But today feels a bit better emotionally. I feel appreciated and wanted by my professor, and my other favorite professor (who subbed for the not test portion.) And I feel cared for by those around me who have heard my sad story. So I try to continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3159 - 2/23**

### **Strange at night**

Today was a bit better. I was feeling better about the donation, and this morning there was another from the Gray Ghost, which I think it's been a few years since I've heard from him. So that may have been what I needed to pay a bill and have enough for next quarter's class and parking fees. (In addition to securing my pre-order for my beloved game.) I'll have to see what is what when monies actually settle into my account to determine what can be covered when.

So today was pretty good. I got class stuff done in time for class, and after played a bit and watched some shows. But I started to feel strange after about 7. It may be due to my cold (it's morphed now and I'm coughing up yuck, but mostly feel ok besides getting physically winded.) But it felt kind of like I was in a home and the world tuned out around me save for the show I was watching. It may be because I'm super tired. I feel like I could fall asleep at any second.

But I am a bit better emotionally, so that's good. And I continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3160 - 2/24**

### **Worried about specs**

Today was reasonably ok. I am still feeling a bit sad. And I am still coughing up yuck every now and then.

In the late afternoon things became even more sad though. Specs for the one game I've been wanting were released. Technically my graphics is below minimum specs, so I'm pretty worried. The minimum graphics card gets about 5,000 benchmarks, while my system only gets 3,500. And the recommended graphics card gets 11,000. And what is even more sad is I've had a new version of my laptop on my wish list for a while at only \$1300, which gets a reported 10-11,000 benchmarks. Had I known my system was so far behind in power maybe back when I first got the money I would have upgraded and worked all the other stuff around it. I probably could have scarified what wound up being

all the extra stuff if I'd have done that. I suppose, looking back the new laptop certainly would have been a much better investment long-term compared to things like extra cooked meals and new cloths and such.

I suppose I did what I did out of hope. Hope that a better today would open the way to opportunity for a better tomorrow. But that better tomorrow has not come, and now I am left with only a tablet (which I do love very much), a few items of new cloths, and regrets over the rest that are now only memories. 😞

But I hold on to hope that because the other two newer games I got were playable at lower to medium settings the same will be true of my most beloved game set to launch in just under a month. I should be able to get into a multiplayer beta test and try. That's my hope. And still, I hold on to hope for better days in the future.

## **Day 3161 - 2/25**

### **A little better**

Today I feel a little better. I got good sleep, and I am finally regularly dreaming with people from my everyday life playing the parts in the dream, instead of evil bosses from either the job 3-9 years ago, or my job before that from 21-26 years ago.

I played some games and watched some shows. And I thought to look up the system requirements for the two most recent games my system struggled with. Happily they have very similar minimal specs. So I feel very hopeful I'll be able to play at lower to medium settings at least. If not, I'll be very very sad.

But for now I feel a bit more hopeful about things. And while nothing noticeable changed in my life, I hope there was change that can't be seen which will lead to better days ahead.

## **Day 3162 - 2/26**

### **The emergency**

Today was pretty good. Due to generous donations lately I was able to start the morning with an (overdue) wash. So that was good. Hopefully this will last a while. The weather was warm through the bulk of the day, almost worth considering shorts. Though checking my weather app I discovered my sense of temperature is all out of whack, as it said the day was only in the high 50s. Back before I was homeless it would have had to have been in the high 70s before I'd feel like considering shorts.

Most of the day was uneventful and I played for a bit and watched some shows. An odd thing did happen in the later afternoon though. Two officers went patrolling through the library, for what I don't know. I went to the bathroom a bit later and peeked around. It seemed there was some kind of 'emergency' with some people cleaning up one of the computer stations and a few other officers standing nearby. And shortly after, a fire truck, and an ambulance, showed up outside. I'd guess maybe someone had a seizure, or an elderly person collapsed. It wouldn't be the first time an elderly person was taken out on a stretcher. I never found out what the commotion was, so I remain curious.

I suppose though nothing changed. It was an ok day. I was very sad and worried, but really no more or less than usual, so I suppose the day was average overall. And as always, I continue to try and hope for better days ahead.

## **Day 3163 - 2/27**

### **Almost no more**

Today was basically pretty good. The class I TA for passed surprisingly quickly, and I had a decent time with the few hours I had after.

The evening game was ok. I will miss everyone but the annoying guy as it's almost over. I won't say much more, other than I was happy and excited to hear he wasn't going to show up, then disappointed when that changed and he did. As usual, at about four different points I said a thing and he blew me off, said I was wrong, or flat out

ignored me, only minutes later to say or do the exact same thing himself. I won't say more, as he's not worth my time.

It's pretty cold today. The weather seems confused, as it seems like it wants to get warmer, but there is a cold front and still occasionally raining.

But I hope it will stay warmer soon. And, as always, I try to hold on to hope until better days come.

## **Day 3164 - 2/28**

### **Forgetful**

Today I have been super forgetful. I forgot to write and post in the morning, and then when I got a chance, almost forgot in the afternoon. Hopefully it's because I feel a bit more normal, but I'm not sure.

Today has been pretty good besides that, but there were still so many things I worry about and am sad about. I'm not sure if I'll do homework that I should do, or just relax and play games and watch shows. Whatever I do, hopefully I'll continue to feel ok and feel better in days ahead.

## Week 453

### Day 3165 - 3/1 Extra helping

Today was pretty good. I had a good time TAing the basic class. After I was still very hungry. I debated and debated and debated to spend the extra too much monies (\$7) to have extra food (my lunch and dinner were on the smaller side). And although it was money I shouldn't have spent, I got a really good deal. For whatever reason the person gave me probably three times as many fries as he should have, and maybe 50% extra nuggets. So I saved more than enough in a container for lunch tomorrow. And, I even shared some with a few people.

Sharing was odd. I rarely to never have 'extra' food to share. I can't even remember the last time I did. Sure, every now and then I'll give someone a drink or snack cookies, but I expect to share those. This being 'real' food, and people being so happy to get it, was quite different than normal. It was super nice to see the happy people and being able to share. 😊

For some odd reason though after eating the food I crashed pretty hard. I felt like I could certainly use a nap, and stayed that tired for the rest of the day. Hopefully it didn't affect a take-home mid-term too much, because it felt like it was garbage as I was writing it.

But it was a decent day. I am still sad about all the things, still worried if my laptop can play my beloved game, and still disappointed I didn't know that would be an issue at the start of having my money. While I suppose I learned a lot about how I did spend the money, if I would have bought a big thing the rest would have been held for emergencies and regular life only, and the waste would not have happened at all.

But I suppose there are many such what-ifs in my life. And if I'd have known how things would turn out I'd have done them differently. So, for now, I try to focus on the positive things, try to let go of what I can't control, and hope tomorrow is a better day.

## **Day 3166 - 3/2**

### **Sad again**

Today was ok-ish. I had an ok morning, but in class my assignment stuff isn't working as it should, so I feel sad about that.

In the afternoon I got some bad news. The multiplayer beta test for the game I'm worried about is canceled. There is still a way to test the game, but it would cost a bit of money. I may need to do that to be safe. I'm tempted to still get the game either way (and not spend that extra checking in advance), so that way it's waiting for when I can play it. But the thought of that outcome made me more sad. I don't know when I can upgrade. That is clear to me now that I know how far I've gotten behind.

So today I am sad. I try to hold on to hope for the future, but as usual so much is out of my hands. I am again so very very tired too. But I try to hang on, and hope for a better tomorrow.

## **Day 3167 - 3/3**

### **Maybe more sick**

Today I may be more sick. I have been sneezing again lately, and the past few days I've been extra hungry, extremely tired, my brain just doesn't work or doesn't care, and I get winded very easily. Of course some of those could be the constant depression I have over my sad things. It's very difficult to tell the difference these days.

I suppose today wasn't really bad. It certainly wasn't more or less bad than any other in terms of external stuff. But still I am fighting the extra sad internal thoughts of 'what if' with how the money went. I guess looking back trying to live a bit more normally to increase feelings of normalcy may not have been the best course for me. Since things seem to change so slowly with my life it seems buying a bigger thing, like the new laptop, and living small as if nothing would change probably would have been the better bet.

But, as they say, life is life. We make what we perceive as mistakes, pick ourselves up, and move on. It's just extremely difficult to pick myself up on my own, with no resources and often no second chances.

Yet I continue to hope for an opportunity for change. I continue to hope those around me who I can help or influence do not make the same mistakes. And I continue to hope tomorrow and the days ahead are better days.

## Day 3168 - 3/4

### The road taken

Today I have been feeling very sad. The more I've thought about how the money was spent, the more sad I become. But I realized today what I am most sad about, and it caused a few tears.

What has seemed the most limiting in my days lately is the lack of connection to people, places, or groups. And with the lack of connection comes lack of opportunity. So that failure is what has been greatest. I took my money and spent the bulk of it trying to find a new path. I tried to form connections. I tried to create opportunity. I suppose my failure was not in taking that path, but in that it failed me. The attempts led to dead ends. And now what was spent has nothing to show for it.

Had I taken the opposite path; one of fear, belief that nothing would change, I likely would have my awesome new laptop. I'd still be living small, as I have been, but I should still have a lot more money to keep living that small lifestyle for quite a while.

No new opportunities could have happened, but in a way I'd have more life. Not a life in body, but in mind. I would have years of gaming to look forward to. New worlds beautify rendered to live in. Less fear of all the little costs that come up. I suppose, in a way, I traded an opportunity for a better future, for what was known to be a small and difficult life physically, but more free emotionally.

In short, it was stepping off my previous path to try and create change for myself that failed. And I don't know what to feel about that, as what could have been is gone.

And my small simple life will now be worse because of it. 😞

But I still try to hang on to hope. I still wait for opportunity to come to me along my path, now more than ever. And I hope tomorrow will be a better day.



## **Day 3169 - 3/5**

### **Slightly better**

Today I feel slightly better about my sad things. I had my every other week game (which I guess the last time we met was in mid-January) and it was pretty fun. I like the four people I play with, though I'm still not entirely sure how I feel about the guy hiding his rolls and trying to cheat. It's like really? It's just a thing for fun. Why are they trying to cheat? Particularly when this is a team based thing?

I am still sad about how everything turned out about the money, but again I'm really just sad that living a more normal life didn't lead to change. And, of course, more sad I didn't have a new laptop to show for it. I recall at the time I first got it I felt it would take too much long-term security to get it, as it was a projected half year's worth of money, but with running out in only seven months I still can't help but wonder if getting it and the extra pressure of having little left would have helped me hang on longer than I did.

But I guess things were ok today. It was rainy and cold, so that was terribly sad. But nothing new which was bad happened, and I had the fun time at the game, so overall I suppose it was a better day. Times do seem extra sad though, so I continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3170 - 3/6**

### **Snow**

Today was pretty good. I was somewhat helpful in the basic class that I TA for, and the Monday game was canceled, so I had extra time to do stuff. I tried to do some homework stuff, but my brain was just not feeling it. So I just watched shows instead.

It has become ridiculously super cold again. It was raining most of yesterday and all last night. My professor showed me some footage she shot of her drive in and there was snow on the hills and the trees. Which is totally crazy, as I've only seen it snow here like three times in my entire life, and normally the snow melts within an hour or so of happening.

I tried to be not sad about things, particularly the laptop and how my game will perform on my current one in comparison. But it is very difficult not to think about it. I think, again, it's just because all my life I've known who I am, and my path, and what felt safe, and I took a risk and veered off when I had money to try and create new opportunities off of that path, and they basically failed me. And in doing so, cost security on my safe path. It is very hard to not feel sad about the road not traveled when you know that had you stayed the course and taken the road you were already on, not the road not traveled, that you'd be in a better place.

So I try to hold on to hope. I hope warm weather returns. I hope I get another boon to be back on track. I hope until I do help continues to come and I can get by. And I hope, someday soon, I make it to my forever better days.

## **Day 3171 - 3/7**

### **Too cold to start**

Today and the past few days I've woken up around 5:30; I think from being too cold. Back a while ago I used to regularly have a brief awake period around 4:30 for no apparent reason. These days I've put extra cloths on and attempted to get back to sleep. Usually I can stay asleep until the alarm. But not this morning. It was too cold and I woke up about an hour later and just couldn't get back to sleep after.

Thankfully now on campus at about 8 it seems the cold may finally be going away and it looks like it will be a bright warmish day.

Today I have the intermediate class to TA which is directing, which I think is often the most fun in terms of balance of discovery and skill. As always, I feel sad about all the things, but try to hang on to hope. And hopefully soon my forever better days will come.

**Day 3172 - 3/8**  
**Slightly better**

Today was slightly warmer, and slightly better feeling in terms of losing my money so quickly. Though I again found a video that makes me feel like my laptop won't be able to run my beloved game at playable settings. Which if that happens, I will be in a terrible position of spending the money as intended, retaining all the pre-order stuff I get and having it downloaded and ready to go, but not being able to play. (Though I would just be able to swap the SSD it's installed on to the new laptop whenever I get it and instantly be ready to play.) But not knowing how many months, or years, it could be before I get money again to upgrade, will be terrible. If I were to cancel the pre-order I'd lose all the special things, as well as know that the money would undoubtedly just slip through my fingers on everyday things, much like all the rest of the money has seemingly done, and there would be nothing left but regret.

The fear and pain I feel all the time is starting to consume me again. 😞 I was watching a show which happened to passingly mention mortality and felt a twinge of the chill of the void, not as deeply, but very similar to my recent panic attacks. In the most recent video of my beloved game they talk about being adrift in space and the colony ships reaching a new galaxy, and that it's your job to help them find a new forever home for all the people. And that brought tears.

At any other time in my life I would not be so sensitive. Yes, I'm always more caring and sensitive about things, but I'm getting to the point where I'm so afraid all the time, and see so many things that point towards not having what I have now even in the near future, that I am getting very worried about me again.

I try to hold on to hope. I try to stay positive outside help or opportunity will come. But it is getting more and more difficult to see the positive things. And even more difficult to see a future for myself. 😞 But I suppose terrified and blind to the future there is still hope in me. I suppose that was always my strongest attribute. And likely why people see me as able to survive so many bad things.

## **Day 3173 - 3/9**

### **Anxious**

Today was ok I suppose. Nothing bad happened, but nothing good happened either. Again I was super extremely tired. I feel very out of shape lately too; feeling fat and like I have no energy or ability to move without getting winded.

I'm anxious about tomorrow. There should be lots of coverage about my beloved game, and I think it's the start of being able to get a preview if I get the membership. Which, if I recall correctly, I could do for \$5. I'm still torn if I should or not. Again I feel like I don't want to know and I will just hope things are playable in some form. And again too, I feel like if I cancel the pre-order the money would be lost to nothing, just like everything else.

I suppose I should look for people posting videos with low specs. There are always those out there with low specs trying to see how much they can get from a game, so maybe someone with similar specs will post something that gives me hope. I guess we'll see tomorrow.

But I hope things work out. Especially with my beloved game because not being able to play after waiting five years for it would be terrible. But also with everything in general; being in a home again, being able to eat better, having freedom to try and get healthier, and all the things. Not just for me, but for everyone who is hurting. And in the meantime I continue to hope I can hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3174 - 3/10**

### **Bank scare**

Today as pretty good I suppose. I didn't get to peek at my beloved game though. I was wrong about the preview date. That happens a week from now. So it will really just be early access by a few days. There was quite a scare though. It seems they charged me for the pre-purchase already, so no going back on that now, which I don't necessarily mind. But the scare was that it has potentially overdrawn my bank account since my insurance somehow double charged me earlier in the week. I asked the bank if the

pending charge goes through and does actually overdraw me if I'd be ok since the insurance double billing is already being reversed. They confirmed that overdraw fees that happen because of that double billing would be reversed when the double charge is reversed. So phew, I just have to keep an eye on that.

Other than that it was a fairly normal day. Things are starting to warm up. Even now at night with an extra layer on I actually feel almost nicely warmed. The rain seems to be gone for good. At least for the moment. And the sky is clear and there is a beautiful full moon.

I am still worried about all the things. And I am still horribly out of shape and worried about the future, or more accurately my seeming lack of much of one. But I try to hold on to hope. And with spring, bunny day, and summer coming, hopefully better days are still ahead.

## **Day 3175 - 3/11**

### **Feeling sad and worried again**

Today I am still feeling very sad about where the money went. I looked back and searched for 'laptop' to see if I could find my thoughts n why I wasn't considering upgrading, but found very little. It seems I was indeed focused on spending all my efforts I could on forming new bonds and finding new paths. And with the bulk of my money it seems I was trying to tuck it away in fear of what-ifs and my uncertain future, putting myself in an emergency use only mindset.

It seems focusing on the unfamiliar path has sunk me. I became so fixated and so afraid of what might be I couldn't clearly see when I was losing my old path. And more importantly, when I was losing me.

Yes, being a pen and paper gamer is also me, a me I've not been able to be in quite a long time. But someone who was able to join a club or group of strangers and come out with new friends who I bond strongly with has never been me. For whatever reason, people haven't seen me as that kind of guy.

As I talked about in the early days there seems to be an indefinable aura about me. It seems to make me very likeable for the moment, yet not someone people want to form

long-term or close bonds with. Perhaps I seem too strong and confident in what I do. Maybe that is why people don't seem interested in me. Studies have shown people are attracted to those they feel they have something to offer, or who they can help in some way. Maybe I don't seem like such a person.

But then too I wonder; is it that those who know I need help and that I am in pain consider me too far gone? That what they can offer won't help me? And if so, am I avoided for both reasons?

I suppose understanding it doesn't matter. It is lost and I can't go back. At least I do have my tablet, come what may in the future of my current laptop, car, or other things, at least there is that.

But in every footage I found today of my beloved game I again felt very worried my laptop won't be able to run it. The level they showed is extremely complex in terms of rendering. It was very definitely a high spec game of this new generation coming along.

And my laptop, while high-end when new, is now three generations old. 😞

I suppose things weren't completely terrible. The day was mostly warm. I even took off a winter layer for a bit. I finished one of three homework assignments due next week. And I got to play my online game and watch shows for a bit.

I try to hold on to the good things and stay hopeful for the future. I try to focus on who I know myself to be, what I have, and that my differences make me special, rare, and interesting. But I can't help but worry my future may continue to crumble before me. 😞

## **Day 3176 - 3/12**

### **Accepting the sads**

Today was kind of busy. I needed to do laundry pretty badly, so I did that this morning. After, I finished just in time to head over to the library and spend the day there. I wasn't in a mood to do the homework I wanted to. I was still too sad. The money is gone. I feared what I feared about the future, and so it was spent how it was spent. And I may regret it for years to come. 😞

But I have to accept my sad things. I have to accept what I can't change. I have to accept the attempt I made to find new friends will likely not progress further than it already has. And I have to accept that attempt at change is likely what drained the most money.

So I try again to focus on what I do have. I continue to hope for donations and other help and I can keep going until opportunity comes and things get better. And I keep hoping soon I will return to my forever better days and I find my forever home.

## **Day 3177 - 3/13**

### **Stupid savings time**

Today was ok I suppose, but overall I felt jumpy and grumpy. I got my usual amount of sleep, but I'd guess due to the change my homeostasis is thrown off. Things that normally wouldn't bother me either bothered me or made me extra sad.

The day was nice and warm though, actually almost summer-like. I had just a single layer on for about half of the day, but needed to transition to full winter layers when in the lab because it's still not regulating it's temperature correctly and it was between 65F-68F, which is way too cold.

Even though I was on edge and grumpy I did manage to get another homework writing done, so now there is only one left that I need to do by Thursday around noonish. I didn't get a chance to play, as Mondays are pretty busy what with the evening pen and paper game, but I did watch some shows and tried to relax.

It is still difficult to not feel sad about the money. It still feels like one of the checks didn't actually get deposited. So much seems unaccounted for. Yet I know from checking before it was a bunch of small things, compounded by the fact that I never had my full amount in the bank, as I had to keep the total low just in case the food stamp people surveyed it. (Though they haven't requested records since starting the account.)

But I try to focus on what I do have. I try to stay positive. And I continue to hope better days will come.

## Day 3178 - 3/14

### Brain in space

Today I am pretty tired. I had a lot of trouble getting to sleep, probably again still from the time change. My day is just starting really. I just settled in at school and haven't even turned on my laptop yet.

Hopefully today will be ok. There are a couple of big groups doing stuff in the directing class I TA for, so seeing some stuff is cool because different groups direct and plan the same scene differently.

I am still sad about all the things. But it continues to get warmer, so that is something. When it is nice and warm and I'm not cold all the time it seems easier to forget the sad things. For now I try to hang on as best as I can until better days come.



**Day 3179 - 3/15**  
**Anxious**

Today I am anxious for a number of reasons. First, tomorrow right when I get to school I can start downloading the preview for my beloved game. Once that's downloaded I'll have 10 hours of play time to find out if, and at what level, my system can run the game. I am still hopeful, as the other two games I got just a few months ago with similar requirements ran at low settings. But I won't know for sure until tomorrow.

Second, I am anxious because I have so little money. It still seems like a crazy dream that I had some because it seems like it happened and was gone so quickly. So I am again so very worried as all the things start coming up that I need to pay for.

And lastly, I once again had a scare and minor panic thinking about and fearing death. I thought about my poem I wrote and spoke, but haven't yet set to video. I thought back to years ago at the start of my sad story where I talk about a lack of connection to others. And I thought how now it seems more like a safety net than chains. The more connections there are, and the more connections there are to others, the more the net changes from a loose weave to a thick rug.

I thought how one can become a safety net, and if tight enough, one can stand up and walk. And much like walking through life, one can walk on such a surface without fear of falling into the darkness below.

But I only have a few thin strands left to hold onto. And calling out to the darkness around me I can hear very few replies. I am surrounded by the void. All I know is darkness. And I have not enough net to lay on without fear, barely having enough to cling to a few threads.

But I try to think how long my life seems so far, and how the time will grow once I return to a normal life and can do normal things once again. I try to focus on what I have. I try to allow myself to enjoy the happy distractions I can still do. And I try to continue to hang on until better days come.

## Day 3180 - 3/16

### Happy as can be

Today I am a very happy bunny. I have confirmed my current laptop appears to be fine for my beloved game in both single and multiplayer play. 😊 Unfortunately it is forced to such low settings it looks pretty bad. Surprisingly it doesn't look as bad as I expected, but it's running at 1280x720, which I haven't run at in about 18 or more years. That's about 60% of the size of my 1920x1080 screen, so scaling up looks pretty blurry and bad. Not to mention the textures and polygon count being so low.

But it's a very happy day with that confirmation. I can now rest easy that my pre-order items are secure, and the money will not be wasted. Of course I would still love the full experience, as low graphics really kind of discourage me from playing, but at least for today there is nothing I can do about that. But I do get to still play, so that is super happy.

There really isn't anything else for today. It was cold again, only being warm mid-day. The rest was gray and threatened rain.

So tonight hopefully I can rest easy knowing my future with my beloved game is secure. Even though everything else in my life may be in question and sad, at least there is that. And hopefully I can continue to hang on until better days come.

## Day 3181 - 3/17

### Hurting bank

Today was pretty good. There was a good movie in my movie watching class, so that was fun. I also got a shower in the morning and spent a bit of extra time carefully showering all my parts, so I always feel happier after that.

I played a bit more of my beloved game. I tried turning it up to medium and it looks way better than the auto-detected low settings. But it's a lot slower. I may not be able to keep it there. I'll likely have to find somewhere between the two. I'll probably not pick at it too much until official launch Monday night / Tuesday morning. I only have a few play hours left.

My bank is still hurting very badly from those pooheads double charging me. Not only am I down the \$50 for that, but an additional \$35 for the temporary overdraft fee. If that doesn't reverse soon I'll be hurting even worse. I can recycle in the morning, which might get me enough to carry me to the end of the week, but if things don't reverse by then I don't know how I'll get around after that. 😞

So things, as usual it seems, are extra sad and stressful again. I'm still incredibly sad that trying to make change for myself just drained my money and got me nowhere. Even more so that it seeming did it so quickly that I didn't even get a full year without worry. But I guess I should be proud I stepped out of my fears enough to try. And I suppose I shouldn't blame myself for it going so quick with things like the unexpected \$750+ over budget that car things cost. That was a huge uncontrollable and unpredicted chunk.

And I suppose, above all else, I should try and focus on what I do have, and try to hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3182 - 3/18**

### **Sooner than expected**

Today was pretty good, though it started poorly. As usual I had a hard time remembering where exactly the recycle place was. It's always ridiculous that I have to go like twenty or more minutes away to do that. But I got back just in time to get in to the library right when it opened.

I spent much of the day playing my beloved game at medium settings. Sadly it seems the library firewall blocks the multiplayer connection, so I'll only be able to do that from school. But it was way better and way more enjoyable than the previous lowest settings. It's a touch slow, but not so slow as to be unplayable. At least for the moment. I expect the deeper I get the more demanding it will get on specs. I hit the quest line gate, which was a bit surprising. There is still stuff I can try and do in single player, but with less than two hours left I'll probably just spend it in multiplayer since there would be more to gain there.

After, I watched a show and the library closed quickly after that. For some reason when I started the show I thought I had time for two shows. I guess my brain forgot the closing time for some reason.

So things seemed to move quicker than expected today. I am still sad about all the things, but happy enough my sad things were at the back of my mind. Hopefully I can continue to hold on until better days come.

## **Day 3183 - 3/19**

### **Sneezing**

Today was pretty good. I slept in a touch, which is a rare thing. Then I went over to the every other week game early to try and do some work for a final. Sadly I wasn't really feeling it and didn't really get much work done. I have until Tuesday, so hopefully I can easily finish in time.

The every other week game was super fun. We didn't accomplish a whole lot, just kind of made plans most of the time, but that happens some games. We laughed a lot, and that's the important thing.

I don't know if I have a cold, or if it's just allergies from flowers starting to bloom, but all day I've been sneezy. Not a lot, maybe once every half hour, but it seems a something is up.

Things felt sad as I spent time alone in my car after the game while I ate dinner, but I try to hang on, and continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3184 - 3/20**

### **Goodnight, good cleric**

Today was ok. I actually got a chance while TAing to finish my big writing assignment that is due Thursday. So I'm glad that is out of the way and I don't have to worry about it.

When I walked across campus it looked like it had rained. There was an odd yellow pollen everywhere. It seemed strange, as if there was pollen in the rain, and as the rain dried and the water evaporated, the pollen remained. In the night, after my game, the rain returned and it was actually heavily storming. Hopefully it clears up, as this was dangerous levels of rain. (Cars were blinded and slipping around.)

It was the last game for my weekly game. Which was good and bad. My cleric will rest now. I doubt I'd do any more group play. Certainly not now in these extra hard times. Maybe in the distant future, when I've got income again and things are settled.

I'm still sad the path led nowhere. Yes, I had some fun, but I clung to that path so strongly. I had such high hopes to find lasting friends and form strong bonds, yet it has not. At least not so far. And so now I still feel like all that money was lost for nothing. And while the items I have didn't cost too much, all the surrounding costs like gas, extra foods, and other expenses, probably added up to hundreds I could have avoided spending these past seven months.

Ignoring the lost money, ignoring that I am in such a bad position and had hoped for opportunities from these encounters, I'm not sure what Fate intended for me with this. I don't know if there is a take away lesson. I suppose I should have known the result. In online games I only extremely rarely meet people again, and in all these years only a small few have stayed in contact. So I suppose had I thought of it, I should have assumed this would be no different.

But now I am very sad. I should have held onto the money better. I should not have become so single minded and lost sight of the bigger picture. With almost no money, currently none at all with the double charge still putting me overdrawn, I look at my 1/4 tank of gas remaining and can't help but feel like it measures my life.

I try to look forward to playing my beloved game in the morning when it officially releases. I try to focus on the fact I at least have that, and most of my health, and some kind of food. And most of all, I try to hold on until help comes or better still, opportunity for my forever better days.

## Day 3185 - 3/21

### Finally out

Today should be pretty happy. There should be fun things to watch and talk about in the directing class I TA for. And the beloved game I've been waiting years for is finally out, so I can play and play and play. 😊

I am still very worried about gas. And it seems like now there is an overdraft fee for the overdraft from them double charging me, so that is even worse now. They better reverse that and fix all the damages because that's ridiculous.

But I try to hold on to hope. I try to stay positive. And I hope for better days through my sad times. 😞

### Day 3186 - 3/22

#### Smells like death

Today was pretty good. This was basically the last day of the basic class I TA for, so we watched all the things. And then I just stayed for a tiny bit in the intermediate class, as they spent most of the time doing an in class shooting assignment.

So, much of the day I got to play my new game. Which I'm super happy with. 🥰 I have been playing at the proper 1920x1080 resolution of my laptop at medium settings, but it is starting to get slow in some points to the point of needing to consider lowering some settings. But it's super happy, as I was worried that being so below minimum specs I wouldn't be able to play at all.

There are still many reasons and benefits to getting the new version of my laptop, which is still a high priority. But without enough money to make it through the end of the year (on bills), let alone the \$1300 beyond that for the laptop, that it might be years before I can upgrade. 😞

My car has smelt strangely lately. For a few days now there is this very light smell of death, like some kind of rotting leftover food, or like spilt paint thinner. I'm not sure what it is, or where it's coming from. And it's very faint, so I'm not sure if the source of the smell is actually something in the car, or maybe something that is stuck in the undercarriage and the smell is just coming up inside during the day. It's been too cold to leave the windows open to air out, so I don't know.

The rain has been coming and going. And with it the cold has returned. I'd love to take off my winter layers, but I'm actually going to put my lower layer back on after having it off for about one and a half weeks. I wish it would finally warm up and I could at least sometimes not be cold. 😞

But my laptop can still run my games. I have my beloved game now. I can watch my shows. So despite the cold weather, despite my sad life things, with the additional trouble of the overcharged amount, and overdraft fees that have followed; I try to hang

on. I try to remain positive. I hope help will continue to come, and I try to hang on and look forward to better days ahead.

## **Day 3187 - 3/23**

### **Maybe the apple**

Today was ok. I had a lot of play and TV time since I'd already done the stuff for my Thursday class.

I wonder if the funny smell in the car is an apple someone gave me last Tuesday. It was fine, I ate it yesterday, but the smell is starting to lessen. It would be strange that a fresh fruit would be making a smell like that, but I can't think of what else it might be. I peeked under the passenger's seat and there was no food. And the smell is definitely not in the trunk, so I have no idea what it is.

I suppose I feel ok, just very sad about all the things. Particularly with the bank mishap still over my head some two weeks later. So I'm very worried about all the things. But I try to hang on. I try to focus on the happy things. And I try to keep hoping for better days.

## **Day 3188 - 3/24**

### **Rain and pinching**

Today I feel pretty good. The movie in class was pretty good, though not something I'd have watched on my own. I suppose that is the point of a lot of the class.

During lunch I got caught in the rain, so I got pretty wet running to the other building to make lunch. Hopefully my sneezy cold doesn't get worse because of it. It's been pouring for a few days now, and what was warming temperatures have turned back to cold weather.

As part of that I'm back to underwear with long underwear over that. Which is good as it keeps my legs warm, but bad in that both have elastic around the waist, so I feel



very pinched a lot of the time. Hopefully someday soon I'll be back to a warm home and no longer cold, and I can go back to comfortable house cloths when I am home at rest.

But for now all I can try to do is focus on the positive and hang on until those days come.

## **Day 3189 - 3/25**

### **The book, and the threat**

Today was very sad and stressful. The people still have not returned my money. I sent a not very nice email to the person saying if she hasn't escalated it already to do so, because 2.5 weeks is ridiculous. I said if it's not cleared by Monday, and I don't hear back positive news, I'll be complaining to the better business bureau and telling my bank to reverse the charge. I don't want to need to do that, but it's wrong of them to not say something or offer compensation other than reimbursing it. Especially if it's not reimbursed immediately. It's not ok. I've had reversals of charges before and it's never been more than five business days.

Yesterday I took a book out of the front seat and moved it to the back. The funny smell is almost gone now. It must be something very faint with the book. Either from the water damage it sustained a few weeks ago, or the pages warming in a way when sitting on the seat, I don't know. Hopefully this will clear the odd smell.

I played my game a ton and had a super fun time. So much so that I almost didn't leave any time to watch a show before I left. I only watched one short show.

Even though I had a super good time I am still left feeling like I am going to cry or throw up, or both, due to all this extra stress. Living on the edge as I have been is no way to live. Even when I had the buffer of the death benefits it wasn't a whole lot better. I suppose that is in part why I tried so desperately to change my situation and get free.

So today my life continues to be sad and terrible and some of the worst days in my life. But I try to hold on. I try to focus on the wonder, beauty, and laughs I can have in the other world I play in. And I try to hope that someday maybe I can have those experiences in real life too.

## Day 3190 - 3/26

### Feeling sad

Today I am feeling pretty sad. I am still overly stressed and worried about all the things. And I still wonder if I hadn't tried to change my life, if I'd continued to just live small, would I still have enough money to not have to worry about things for a little while. It still feels so fast that I can't help but feel like it didn't actually deposit it all. But I did. I've checked and rechecked several times.

I suppose there is still a chance those who I thought fun might pan out to be real friends, and I may be invited here or there. But with it already seven full months with nothing happening yet, it seems very unlikely. Even more so since the Monday group's last meeting was last week.

So, for now at least, I continue on my own, still wondering after all these years why it seems I don't have friends like everyone else seems to have. I wonder why I am not in a comfortable home with strong connections. I wonder why I do not have a sweetie who has organized a surprise cheering up pizza and gaming night after she noticed I have been quiet and sad all day.

For now I retreat to other worlds. Worlds I can explore, solve mysteries, and learn about new and interesting people and places. Maybe someday when Fate feels it is right for me, I will have these things in this world too.

## Day 3191 - 3/27

### Power scare

Today was pretty good. It was a bit odd being the last day of the quarter for the basic class I TA. It passed weirdly, feeling like it was the end of the middle of the quarter, and now at the end it feels like the middle, or at least not the end.

There was a big power scare in the early afternoon. At first I thought something bad was happening to my system. It got al super slow and weird in the game and then crashed. But then I noticed the lights were out in the building. Apparently the building lost power and it was on a backup generator. I tried to play again since the room I was in

seemed to have power, but again I got scared as the system plugged in light blinked on and off. I thought that even though it was on the tiny surge protector it was somehow damaged. But it wasn't. It's fine, so it was probably just not getting enough power during the partial downtime state.

I was doing homework final stuff for a bit waiting for official word that the power was back on when things went completely black. Thankfully it was less than five minutes before the power was fully restored and things were fine again.

I suppose it was an ok day though, as I played or watched shows most of the time. But I am still very worried about all the things, particularly money, since again the person ignored my email requesting a status update on the refund. I'm beginning to think they lied to me that it happened. It's been nearly 20 regular days and more than 12 business days.

But I try not to be too sad about all the things. I try to hold on to hope. And I try to focus on looking ahead to better days.

## **Day 3192 - 3/28**

### **Very worried, almost out**

Today I am very worried. The money is still being held and hasn't reversed. I'm down to barely any gas. I have a day, maybe two at most, before I need to leave my car and not drive. I don't know what to do. 😞 All I can do is hope a few people send help and it's enough to cover the temporary overdraft fees and get me some to continue hanging on until the reversal goes through and I have the money back.

As a believer in Fate I wonder what lesson I am supposed to be learning. I have suffered for so long. 😞 I've been alone for so long. 😞 And the help with things I do enjoy doing goes almost entirely unacknowledged, and never has gotten me income, and hardly any thanks. 😞

So I worry so very much. And I fear and jump and have tears over every little thing. And all I can do is hope that help will come and I will someday, somehow, find better days.

### Day 3193 - 3/29

#### Unexpected nice

Today was pretty good, but pretty weird. The intermediate class had a 'final', which was just people showing their movies they'd supposedly been working on all quarter. In not much of a surprise, really only two out of about six groups had their stuff really ready. The rest was either garbage that could have been started and finished in a single day, or they didn't shoot what they'd said they were working on at all. Several projects were poor quality work for even the basic level class.

But the day was ok overall. After that, and before class really, I did some stuff for my final tomorrow. And then I got to spend a few hours playing and watching shows. Though things felt really odd after about 2:30. It was like noone was really around and the floor was empty.

Because my professor wanted a drink she let me keep the nearly \$1 change after. So I went to put that into gas after school. I said to the guy 'so here is the saddest thing you'll see all week... \$1 annnd 5, on number 9 over there'. It was about three seconds of filling up that I noticed it had flown past that and kept going to stop at \$2. So nice. 😊 I waved a thank you to the guy before I left. That attendant has actually helped me like that before. I think around Thanksgiving he did something similar. I don't usually go to that one. It is closest to school, but it's about 8% more expensive than one just one mile down the road. So it's not really worth the added cost unless I'm just getting a couple of dollars in an emergency.

It's sad to think how much a difference a few dollars can make in my life, particularly with my recently having money and it flowing through my account like crazy with several hundred needed just to catch up on things. And so I suppose even when I win my millions and I have tons of money I will still always remain humble and compassionate to those in need. I do still hope when it happens that eventually these scars will fade. But I don't know that they will ever completely heal. 😞

But until that day comes, until I am in such a position, all I can do is try to focus on what is good, try to hang on, and hopefully help will continue to come until I find better days.

## **Day 3194 - 3/30**

### **Maybe stress sick**

Today was fine I guess. It was my writing final, which was really just people going over stuff we'd turned in a week ago.

I'm feeling pretty sick, hungry, super thirsty, and tired. I've been sneezing a lot. And starting yesterday I have a bit of throat congestion and a wheeze. I would guess this is a stress sick from all the worry about all the things, even more so because of the overcharge which still has yet to be reversed. I haven't called them out on it to the better business bureau yet, but the minute I have to stop driving and walk every day I will. Or if it exceeds 30 days.

I guess today was ok, but it was extra sad feeling as many others are done and going somewhere special. There are also lots of people like me who are unpaid 'helpers' in class who are being told they aren't allowed to help their professor anymore. Mine said she will ignore that until confronted with it, so I guess I can continue to help. I don't know what I'd do if I couldn't. I suppose not helping officially wouldn't prevent me from being on campus. It would be like the early days before I did. But it would be horribly sad. I guess though that things will come crashing down pretty quickly either way. I don't know how I'll have enough classes, even skipping quarters, to last all the way through the 2017-2018 school year. There are only a few classes left I could take unless I did random classes outside of film.

But I guess all that is in the future. And the future is not now. There are too many unknowns to try and predict, and I try to hold on to hope and not assume things will continue getting worse and worse.

For now I try to hold on to hope that help will come and I can hang on until better days.

## Day 3195 - 3/31

### Surprise gas

Today was good. I had my test for my movie watching class. I think I did good on it. After, I basically just hung out in my spot until I figured security would be coming by and then left.

While I was there someone who doesn't take classes there anymore came to visit. He gave me some monies and some movie tickets. Which is super helpful. So when I left I got some gas, which will be enough to last maybe two weeks if I'm careful, and have a tiny bit left over for food. So I will be tight on food, but should have enough.

I'm super sick though. I'm congested, extremely tired, and I ate and drank so much extra I felt fat most of the day. 😞 But it was warm and Spring timey, and hopefully I can hang on until better days come.

## Day 3196 - 4/1

### So sick

Today I am very sick. I'm super congested, very sleepy, and can't really walk anywhere or I get winded and dizzy. And I'm drinking triple what I normally would. Oddly I don't feel overly hungry. I almost seem less hungry than normal.

I was plagued by bad fever dreams too. I woke myself with coughing and wheezing several times, and when I slept my dreams crossed with the fever and cold symptoms.

I suppose it was an ok day other than that. Someone brought me help. So I have a bit more for gas and food until my money is released and my food money cycles on the sixth.

So I continue to hold on to hope that I will recover from this terrible cold soon, and that better days will come.

## Day 3197 - 4/2

### Somewhat better

Today I am feeling somewhat better. I can still feel the congestion in my lungs, particularly if I cough. But I'm not wheezing or winded. I am tired, but outside of that and the junk in my lungs I feel pretty normal.

It was springtimey and warm today. Hopefully that will hold and get even warmer and maybe I can wear shorts soon.

I guess today was pretty good. I spent some time at the food store in the morning since the library doesn't open until noon, and from then on I watched shows and played my games. The day was good because of that, and things did not get worse overall, so I suppose that is something these days.

But still I try to hang on and hope better days will come.

## Day 3198 - 4/3

### Stress throwing up

Today was extremely quiet. I would guess everyone is on vacation for break. There were only about 60% of the spots taken at the library during the peak time, and probably closer to 40% on average. There were some teens there, but only a few, nowhere near the normal numbers.

I was extremely quiet all day, both physically and mentally. My mind did not have any classes to worry about, nor any students who may need my help. I just played and tried to get caught up on shows.

When I was leaving I got stress sick. 🤢 The cold, or cold-like symptoms of stress, combined with continued aggravation of not having my money returned, made me throw up a little. 🤢 It was most definitely stress, as I've had that before years ago when I was basically forced into a position at work that I was not trained for, nor correctly paid for. (I was a general clerk making around 12k, and when they re-classified that job after I'd left I'd been doing what required a C.P.A. degree and was rated at 28k a year.) This kind of throwing up is somewhat easy to recover from physically, as one just needs to

calm down and it's ok again. But emotionally it's much tougher because stress can flair things up again.

But tomorrow is a new day. Maybe things will finally reverse. Maybe things will get better. I don't know what will come or what to expect, but I try to hope, until better days come.

## **Day 3199 - 4/4**

### **Still sick, still stressed**

Today started busy. I slept in a touch since it is vacation time, and after grabbed a little food at the store, and then went for a quick shower at school. It was warm water, still not always the best on that side for some reason. I didn't have time to play musical showers to try and see if others were warmer.

I'm still pretty sick. Lots of coughing up yuck from my lungs, still some sneezing. And I'm extremely tired, as the cough is causing me to lose about three hours of sleep a night. I had bad dreams too. But they were weird bad, not like the old days where they were days of my horrible job years ago, or breaking up with any of my exes. I'm also scratching quite a bit. Maybe from things not being washed in a while, I'm not sure. But there are little bite like marks, and when I scratch areas get red and swollen, like my eczema reactions to things. Not sure if it's related to the cold or stress, but that seems more likely than reactions to unwashed cloths.

The money still hasn't reversed back to me, and they have two more days before I unleash a world of hurt on them. At that point it will have not only crippled my gas and food money, but it will then not allow me to get a parking sticker for school, or pay other necessary bills I might want or need to related to school, which will force me to park blocks away, possibly as far as a mile off campus.

But I try to hang on. I try to focus on the free day ahead and shows I could watch, or games I could play, or other things I might decide to do. I continue to hope that help will come and I can hang on for opportunity and better days ahead.



### Day 3200 - 4/5 Finally returned

Today was pretty good. The morning started with trying to research in order to update my system build page. I'd forgotten how much of a total pain in the butt that site can be. I don't know why, but opening windows and tabbing causes really long delays for no reason. It must be something in the code that doesn't affect when you are on landline, but is very noticeable when wireless. I suppose it could be the browser I open it on, but I don't want to bother with loading another just to check since I only use that site once every 3-4 months.

In the late morning I remembered to check if they had gotten my money back to me yet. It was *finally* there. Basically exactly 30 days later. Which to me sounds like B.S. Like they didn't actually tell the bank to reverse it until their next normal monthly billing cycle. But I put in a request for my bank to reverse the overages and those got flipped almost immediately. So I finally have all my proper money again. Which I suppose after all is said and done isn't much at all. It will cover a bill that's due, parking for next quarter, maybe fill the tank, and then really that's about it. Maybe a few more weeks of gas after that and it's gone.

But things are basically back to what it should be. I suppose what the days should have been for sad homeless times.

It's still hard to believe taking a chance with my money destroyed me. For so long I'd hoped and hoped I'd get a big boost like that. And it came. But so much scaled out of control unexpectedly. So much was lost trying to change my life than predicted. I can't help but feel sad that had I kept things very small, as they are now, that I'd still have a bunch left and not have to worry about regular life costs for a while.

But what happened happened. I am where I am now because of the paths Fate offered me and the ones I chose. I can only hope it is leading where I need to be; either physically or emotionally.

But I played and watched shows much of the day. And although things seem to be turning towards cold and rain, and I still have this terrible cold, today was a good day. And I continue to try to hang on for better days.

## Day 3201 - 4/6

### Spaghetti for breakfast

Today was weird. I started with a shower at school. I had plenty of time, so I made sure to get all my parts super clean. Unfortunately the water didn't get very hot, so I wasn't able to clear my lungs like I'd hoped.

After, I went to the cafeteria to micro some food. I forgot they close off the main section, but there is a micro on that side of that gate that I could use. So I had a micro spaghetti for later breakfast/early lunch. I suppose thinking back it wasn't super early for lunch, about an hour earlier than usual, but it seemed very early since lunch is normally 10:30-11.

The day was fine. I half watched someone's stream as I updated the system requirements page. It was pretty old, as the last update was in November. And still I have yet to do a very thorough check of the site. The store site I use for research is not at all kind to wireless bandwidth, so that takes forever. Hopefully someday my life will be back to normal and my passion for doing that will keep up as much as I used to. I mean, I still feel passionate about it, but with no ability to build systems or upgrade my system outside of a full replacement it's difficult to remain passionate about all the individual parts.

In the afternoon it started pouring rain. And by the evening when I went to my car the cold ripped through me during the short walk. I threw up from stress. 😞 So needless to say that seemed extremely stressful. Unless the Easter bunny or others are very generous things seem like they will get bad quickly again. 😞

But I had a ton of fun today. At least as defined by my sad life lately. 😞 And I try to hold on to hope, and hopefully better days will come.

## **Day 3202 - 4/7**

### **Ears**

My ears have been somewhat plugged for days now. I can't seem to pop them. It's not terrible; really it just alters the tonal range a bit and I feel pressure, but it's unusual.

Today was a quiet day again. I suppose about the best it could be for a homeless day. I was mostly warm, dry, had food, and able to watch my shows and play my games. Which is about the best I can hope for during a homeless vacation time.

Still, my mind worries about the sad things over my head. Particularly since the bill I paid and school parking was more than expected, and I have one gas filling and nothing more. These are the worst days of my life; certainly the most trying. And if I can get through them I have to think things will get better. So I try to hang on. And I continue to hope for better times ahead.

## **Day 3203 - 4/8**

### **Quiet time**

Today was a very quiet time. It started raining, but cleared up by late morning. Everyone was somber and quiet because of that I think.

I really just watched shows and played my games. Which is good, as I deserve nice times. I am still pretty sick though. It is still difficult to get to sleep. But that is probably more stress than illness, though I am congested in my lungs and coughing quite a bit during the night.

Still, I try to keep hoping for better days. And I try to hang on to my health and hope until they come.

## Day 3204 - 4/9

### Itchy

Today I was itchy at the library. I was not before that, so I wonder if I am sensitive to something they are using when they clean the tables. I will have to try and remember in the future if I start to feel even a little itchy to put a paper towel down where my arms rest on the desk.

Other than that things were ok. I did laundry, which may be one of the few for a while. I'll have to try and be extra careful with cloths. But other than that it was a pretty regular day at the library. Things cleared up and it was a touch warmer, so that was nice, but checking a weather app it looks like rain will come back by Wednesday.

As I settle in and have a few pieces of lunchmeat and crackers for dinner I try not to despair. I try to think of what is still happy in my life. I try to focus on tomorrow being back to regular homeless normal at school. And I try to continue to try and hang on until better days come.

## Day 3205 - 4/10

### Smell mystery

Today was pretty good. Things were back to homeless normal. The basic class I TA for seemed to have a fun time with things. They even laughed when I did a few funny voices, so that was super fun. 😊

Class isn't until the late afternoon, so Mondays and Wednesdays will be flipped from previous normal. Before I played a bit, and tried to watch shows, but as per usual lately the bandwidth became garbage by about 11.

I may have discovered the source of the strange smell in my car as well. I have this sample size thing I got that I've been trying in the shower. It might be putting a smell on the towel when I dry off, and thus on the car seat I put it on to dry during the day. I will throw it away and see if it goes away for good.

But today was a good day. Of course it could have been better starting in a bed, in a shower in a home (instead of the public one), but overall things were good. I talked to

people, and even laughed a bit, so that is a rare thing these days. So I try to stay hopeful. And I try to hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3206 - 4/11**

### **Cute girls**

Today should be pretty good. There is a class I'll TA for editing, which can be fun to see the things people make. Yesterday there were a lot of cute girls around. 🧐 Maybe someday I'll find one for me. I probably won't see many on Tuesdays, as I'll be in the lab all day.

The day is just starting and it's sprinkling a bit, so that is kind of sad. But I have the class I help in, and then I can just play and watch shows and relax. So I try to focus on the happy things and hope for better days.

**Day 3207 - 4/12**  
**Extremely depressed and sad**

Today I felt very extremely depressed most of the day. It was extra tough, as the basic class I TA isn't until 3:30, and all morning and afternoon I had a profound sadness. I'm not entirely sure why. I think part of it is, even if I could afford classes this quarter, there weren't really any to take. Which makes me very worried how close that timer is becoming. I think part of it too is just sadness and worry about money. I had some, now it's gone so much sooner than expected, and no matter how much I want to I can't have a normal life and even do simple things like buying freshly cooked food from the cafeteria or one of the outside run shops in that area.

During the class I TA for things picked up a bit and I had a good time and laughed a little bit. Throughout the day people were saying hi, and a few chatted with me, so I still felt a part of things, even though without change I felt apart from things.

I suppose overall though maybe the thing which makes me feel the saddest are my physical ailments. I am still sick. I am not sleeping well. And above all I'm having a lot of difficulty breathing and a tightness in my chest. No doubt stress from no money. And that all adds up to continued concerns about mortality, not really being able to do much to fix my health, and the concern that I won't be able to turn things around before it's too late. And when I think that I have survived another day and there is still hope, while positive, it is just surviving. It is not better or worse than the sad day that came before it.

But I try to hang on to the good thoughts. I try to focus on what I do have. I try to focus on what I do have. I try to focus on what is sad in my life. And I try to hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3208 - 4/13**

### **More sads**

Today I am more depressed. I think, in addition to my cold physically beating me down, and the stress adding on top of that, I am sad about bunny day. It's this Sunday, and while I wouldn't have any way to really celebrate if I don't have any money, the fact that I have no opportunity at all is extra depressing. At least if I had those things if I could think of something to do I could do it. Without and no resources at all, I can do nothing.

At least my thinking of the free health center samples seems correct. I am not itchy today, and the smell is almost entirely gone from the car. So at least there is that. I'm sure a few more days of not using it will further verify things.

I suppose there are some comforts today. One professor chatted with me for a bit (who teaches near where I sit). And one of my favorite professors said hi and she was glad to see me, as she finds my presence there (when I'm not in her class) comforting. So that was nice to hear.

But I am very sad lately. And it seems little will change that. But I try to hang on. I try to keep hoping. And hopefully better days will come.

## **Day 3209 - 4/14**

### **Sore butt and back**

Today was super sad, because of all of the same sads. But I suppose overall it was ok. I didn't have much to do, but I find ways to pass the time.

Because of the lab not really being open this week I've spent a lot of time on the floor in my spot outside of the lab. Today that has started to take a toll on my lower back and butt. I'm starting to be sore, stiff, and my legs are falling asleep a lot.

But I suppose things could still be worse. There are still a few good things in my life. I can still hang on to hope, as difficult as that is becoming. More and more it feels like I am looking at other lives, as if they were other worlds, and feel like I may never be able to return to a normal world again. But I try to hang on. And I continue to hope for better days.

## **Day 3210 - 4/15**

### **A day**

Today was ok. There was noone at the library. It was super empty. I didn't play as much, as I'll likely be offline most of tomorrow, so I left play until then. I watched a lot of shows and did a bit of looking around at news.

I suppose for what it was it wasn't a terrible day. I was dry and warm and that's about as good as it gets these days. I tried to not let my sad things get me down and tried to focus on what happy things I do have. And I tried to hold on to hope until better days come.

## **Day 3211 - 4/16**

### **Bun day**

Today was pretty bad. It was cold. It rained for a bit. And because the library was closed I basically had to be in places without a connection. But I kind of expected that would happen. And until my sad homeless life is no more, I will not have regular things.

But I suppose it wasn't as terrible as I expected. I decided to get a movie from storage to watch (which was one someone gifted to me), so that was nice. And the day passed quickly enough. So, while it was one of the more difficult days, I suppose its memory will fade and rest with the others quickly enough.

And I try to continue to hang on. And hopefully someday, when these days are no more, and I am living in better days, the memory of all of these sad days will fade... in time.



## Day 3212 - 4/17

### New cute girl

Today was better. In the morning I got to watch shows and play my game. Most importantly I re-balanced from being on what felt like a very long weekend break. It was very good to be back in my usual spot.

A bit before class I was in my spot in the lab and the very cute and attractive girl from the class came in to look around. She asked some stuff and was wondering about the program we use (for editing). I was explaining it was super easy and gave her a quick show of basically what it is and the top couple of things to remember that are really all the basic tools to get into the program and start figuring things out. Later during class when the professor got to the parts in the lecture that covered those points I glanced over at her and she smiled at me. 😊

There is a new 'helper' in the class too. So there was some extra joking around with him and the professor during the break and a bit after class.

After though the place emptied out quickly. Noone stuck around and it seemed like everyone else had pretty much already left. But I had an ok time watching a show for a bit.

Though nothing new really happened, well, aside from helping the newest cute girl around my life 😊, today was a pretty good day. I laughed a bit, got to play my game, got to watch some shows, and I was dry and warm. (It rained today.) And I suppose for my life these days, that is kind of a big deal.

## Day 3213 - 4/18

### Rain and sad

Today it is sprinkling a bit and I am pretty sad. I am worried about my monies. And I am worried too about this sniffly cold that doesn't seem to be going away. I can't remember when I could last breath without wheezing or coughing up congestion.

I hope today will be ok though. I am warm(ish) and dry. I have access to a micro. I have a bathroom. I should be able to watch shows and play my game. And though I

don't expect people to need my help today I have a class I TA for, so that should be fun.  
So I try to focus on what I do have. And I try to hang on to hope for better days.

## Week 460

### Day 3214 - 4/19 Helped

Today was pretty good. Again though, because of class not being until the afternoon the morning passed very slowly. But things are starting to ramp up, so after class, and even during class a bit, I helped people. 😊

Once class was going things picked up quite a bit. There were some laughs in class in general, as well as a bit with the other TA and professor. So things overall were pretty good.

Things will slow down a lot though over the next couple of days and the weekend, so it will be tough to keep my sad things at bay. There are so many sad things, and with money running out it feels like more are closing in on all sides all the time.

All I can do is keep trying to focus on what I do have, and hope help comes and I can continue to hold on until there are better days.

### Day 3215 - 4/20 So very tired

Today I am so very tired. Because of all my sad things and all the recent additional stress I've been losing 2-3 hours of sleep every night for so long I can't even remember how long. It must be several weeks now. I'm starting to get so tired and out of it I'm stumbling and losing balance or focus for really no reason.

I guess the day was basically ok though. Mostly I just watched stuff to kill time. I played for a little bit. And a couple of people from the basic class came in, so I did a little bit of TA helping.

But things are very sad. I am very worried about all the things. And as people become happier and love is easier to see as things warm up, I feel more alone.

But I try to stay positive. I try to hang on. And I continue to hope for better days.

## Day 3216 - 4/21

### In my head

Today I was in my head. Though I killed time on the surface, as it was all I could do, below the surface my mind day dreamed about what I might do if I were free. I thought of what I would play or watch in a home with enough money to have regular purchases and subscriptions to things. I thought beyond that to what if I were rich and living down south in L.A. and able to be a producer. Who would I help? What people would I back? And would I try and come up with a story and script to put together a team to produce my own thing.

Despite my mind wandering I couldn't help but come back to my sad life. Things like my body wanting healthy food, like salad, and that costing about double the money I have in a day to spend on a meal. Things like my stress losing me hours of sleep each night and feeling like I could pass out at any moment. And even more pressing issues just around the corner like needing to do laundry soon and not even having the small money for that.

So today was very sad. While day dreams are a nice escape, with no opportunity they are no better than dreams at night. And both may remain dreams and never be more without opportunity.

But I try to hang on. I try to stay hopeful for the future. And I try to continue to hope better days will come.

## Day 3217 - 4/22

### Would have been nice

Today was ok, but I had terrible sad dreams last night; ones where I was crying in them. 😞 So all day I was extra tired and sad. 😞

I suppose the day passed well enough. I played some games, messed around looking at some news, and found a new game in the works to keep an eye on.

Someone who watches over me came by my spot yesterday. He said he would have bought me some dinner, but didn't have the time, so he gave me \$10. I was thinking

tonight it would be nice to go get a smaller fresh dinner at the fancy food store and spend most of that. (It's about \$6-8 for those dinners.) I would have got some salad and freshly cooked chicken. I decided to double check just how low my bank account was, as I knew it was very low. I have maybe one week's worth of gas in there. 😞 So there went that idea. Even putting the money I would have spent on food into my tank I think I've got enough for two or maybe three weeks left before I'm completely out of money.

I worry about my health. It's rare that I get specific food cravings. And I'm extra worried, as I'm still sore all over, and just a touch to the front of my left hip bone I have had a very mild pain for a few days now. I'm hoping it's just something I pinched or sprained and not something serious. But I've had a super upset tummy lately. Both from such bad food, and also from this extra stress over the missing money, and now after its return having so little.

And of course I worry about me. The me overall. The me who's hopes and dreams are seemingly not only not going to come true, but are dying, as more and more opportunities seem impossible. And even the survivor me, who just wants to be ok day to day, it seems the more and more things I enjoy doing, the things I'm good at, are under appreciated and not something people are willing to pay for.

But for the moment I still do dream. And that has become a rare thing in these years. And I do still have a mind which wanders and wonders about the future. Which again is a rare thing these days. And today I found a movie to watch in the library, which is free. And some cookies on sale at the store which are super yummy. So that is at least something. And my laptop and tablet still seem fine, so I can still at least try to do all the things.

So I try to stay hopeful. I try to hang on. I continue to hope that help will come and I can make it through to better days.

## **Day 3218 - 4/23**

### **Empty phone**

Today seems a bit extra sad. This morning I decided to check my phone (usually there isn't a reason to keep it on since I don't usually get a signal at school) and it showed

zero time left. It's not a ton to get more, I think it's a minimum of \$10 or \$15, but I don't have anything for that. So it will have to remain at no time for a while.

Someone had also insulted a Critical Role member on the gaming group social page. It was that guy in my weekly Monday game who I didn't like. I posted a reply about why he was wrong and the good that the show has done, and that the show fans have created one of the most tolerant and accepting communities, not just for gamers, but overall, including giving tens of thousands to charity on their behalf. Not one person 'liked' my comment or showed support. Again I find myself regretting the money I spent reaching out to that group and trying to find local friends. Sure, a few have added me to their social page 'friends' and I enjoy gaming with them, but it breaks my heart to know no one voiced support of my position. Even more so that (again) no one reached out to me about my comment about this being the most difficult time of my life.

I tried some salad today. I used to get it pretty often with chicken when I was working and money wasn't really an issue for food. It took all of my food budget for the day, but hopefully it will work out ok. I had enough for both meals and some left for tomorrow, provided it survives the night. My tummy isn't complaining as much as it normally would, so that is something.

Today seems sad. I still feel very alone. I still wonder if I will ever have real friends again who I hang out with, respect the opinions of, and who respect mine. I feel sad my choices on, well, everything, are so limited. And I worry about my lack of money more than ever. I continue to hope there are those who watch out for me out there, and that help will come and I can hang on. And I try to hang on to hope that I will make it to better days.

## **Day 3219 - 4/24**

### **Big helping**

Today was pretty busy. Things were slow in the morning until about lunch. Then things rapidly picked up as I was checking in with a professor who will be subbing today and tomorrow. My regular professor is out at a convention this week, so all her classes

will be done by other people. Since I've been with her for almost the last three years I'm super familiar with all the projects and things.

So during class I was super helpful setting up assignment stuff, and then there was a brief period where they were out shooting, and then for the rest of the night I was helping them get the editing stuff together.

I almost admitted my crush to the cute girl. 😊 We were putting their names on a list for stuff they were borrowing and she was super happy that I knew her name. She was like 'It's probably because you helped me that time that you remember'. I was going to respond with something like, 'Yes, it's totally not at all because I think you are super cute and really attractive.' 😊 But I didn't say it because there were other people nearby and my attention needed to be divided by people checking out things. By the time things settled down enough I could have, she was gone.

But that's probably for the best. She is young enough that would be kind of inappropriate for me. And from her perspective it would probably be uncomfortable to hear that. 😊 So I guess it's better left unsaid. I mean, sure, big age difference relationships can work fine, but the odds of her being interested are astronomical. Plus I have no idea if she's a gamer at all, what she's into, what she likes or doesn't like, or much of anything. All I know is she is super polite and friendly, and from what I can tell she has the kind of personality who would prefer a quiet night with a few friends at home as opposed to going out to a loud club... so, anyways...

I guess today was pretty good. Most of the day I was distracted from my sad thoughts. I didn't get to play because the bandwidth was really bad. And by the time it was clearing up there were people I was helping. But as I replied to someone who said thanks and that he really appreciated my help, 'It's no problem. If I didn't want to be there helping I wouldn't be there.'

So I guess today was pretty happy. I am still a bit smiley. As the night closes in and gets colder and settles down my thoughts will turn towards the sad things. But I will try to hang on to happy things. I will try to hold on to hope for opportunity to find a place I belong; in a job, in love, and with friends. And I will keep hoping for better days ahead.

## Day 3220 - 4/25

### Ok, but worried

Today I feel ok, but worried. I feel positive about the day ahead. I don't know exactly what it will hold, but hopefully it will be fun and I will help people in class.

But with so little money left in my account, and big bills coming up in a little over two months I worry. And without even just \$5 for laundry this weekend or money for phone time, even the immediate future does not look hopeful. 😞

But I try to go on. I try to remain positive. And I hope opportunity or better days come soon.



## **Week 461**

### **Day 3221 - 4/26**

#### **Helper**

Today I was a helper again. It's cool to see the professors know and trust me as both an authority as a helper for my professor, but in general on many topics of their program we use, or things around the department in general.

I played a bit in the morning. In the late morning and afternoon the bandwidth was basically garbage, so I could barely do anything. Even the landline based systems had slowed to a crawl. I really hope they fix that because the wireless is about 10% of what it used to be most of the day, and landlines being much faster are maybe only 2% of what they should be.

But today was a pretty good day. I played, watched shows, got a shower in the morning, and most of all helped and was distracted. While I feel better, I suppose the reality of it, for me, didn't change. Good or bad it seems very unlikely the events of today will alter my course. But still I try to hang on to the good things. I try to stay positive and hope that maybe change will come, though it is not visible to me now. And I hope better days continue in the future.

### **Day 3222 - 4/27**

#### **Sad gaming**

Today was pretty sad. Again the bandwidth dropped to almost zero. It's getting more and more difficult to watch a lunchtime show, as more and more often during the day the bandwidth is coming to a crawl and stays that way until about 4. If it clears.

At many points today when I was trying to play online and things were unstable I thought about my sad life. I thought how nice it would be to gaming and be in house cloths and be nice and warm in a home. How nice it would be to not have to have my ears pinched by headphones. And how nice it would be to play my games on a solid and stable connection.

It occurred to me today that I have several games I've never played at their fullest because I have never truly had enough bandwidth to have an uninterrupted time with them. And that made me sad, as it reminded me just how many of my games I play now which I've only ever played while homeless. Thinking about it more now I don't think there is a single game I have that I played previously in a home anymore. 😞

And of course such sad thoughts made me think about all my other things I don't have now. The most pressing of which right now are clean cloths, clean 'bed' things, and a clean me (even though I can shower), as I am almost constantly itchy to some degree and am now covered with bites and scratches almost everywhere. 😞

But I try to hold on. I try to think of what I can still do, even though it may be limited. And I try to continue to hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3223 - 4/28**

### **Sad day, quick day**

Today passed pretty quickly. Every time I checked what time it was it was later than I thought. But it was pretty sad. The bandwidth was still incredibly bad, so I could barely do anything. Which is odd, since I'd think with as little as I could do it would feel like an eternity.

The person who watches over me checked in again and gave me some monies, so with that I can get a bit of gas and actually do laundry. I was planning to do the air dry thing and see if that worked, but with the money I now have enough leeway to actually do a wash. And, according to the weather reports, it should get near 80F as we get through the weekend and into next week. So maybe after the wash I can start to wear less cloths and switch to shorts. That will help keep laundry costs down a lot.

So again today seemed sad, as my very difficult life did not change. And again I had an extremely tough time as I couldn't freely play, and shows were barely watchable. But I got through the day and survived the emotional pain yet again. So I try to keep hoping. I try to hang on. And I hope soon my forever better days will come.

## Day 3224 - 4/29

### Not Tabletop Day

Today was ok, but there was an underlying sad. It was International Tabletop Day, and again I missed out on participating. There were some close places I knew of, one I would have actually liked to go to, but I just don't have the spare gas and snack money.



I did join a new social group online, and it's very big with about 16,000 people, so there is a lot of talking going on. So maybe that will help me be at least a little connected and feel a bit less lonely. I imagine there might even be enough local people in there to find a good pen and paper group, but again with so many pressing issues even if there were I wouldn't be able to afford the extra in gas to get there. 😞 In fact, if things continue as they have been lately I'll be grounded for good in a few weeks. 😞

I did actually get to do a bit of laundry, though not everything I'd hoped. (And basically never everything I need in entirety.) I did have to laugh at some people who were putting a quarter in the dryer, pressing the coin return thinking it was start, and being confused at nothing happening. They did this about four times before I walked over and pressed the very differently colored, clearly marked 'start' button.

But today I tried to stay positive. The library connection was strong enough that I had enough bandwidth to play a game I've gotten back into recently. In the morning I had no problems at all, but in the afternoon it started slowing down. But it was nice to play for at least a little while without worry.

So I guess even though I had all the sad things before, and missed yet another yearly event I'd have liked to go to, today wasn't too bad. And, it's finally warming up enough to consider wearing shorts.

So I try to stay positive. And I try to hang on.

## **Day 3225 - 4/30**

### **Acceptance**

Today was actually pretty fun. I spent the morning at the food store, which I expected to have a terrible, or no, connection. But it was actually really good for that location, so I got to do some social stuff and even watch a short video.

The new social group is super nice and friendly. I posted a few hopefully helpful comments / suggestions and people 'liked' them and responded well. So that was really nice to see.

I finally had an every other week(ish) game. I guess it's been 1.5 months since the last, so it's been a while. But we had fun and people laughed and had a super good time. I hope I can continue in the future. Gas is becoming a huge concern, but it's only about \$3-4 every other week, so overall it's not too much extra drain. But with so little left I worry all the time about having money to do anything.

But today was super warm. I don't know if it was the 80F the weather predicted, but I was plenty warm for a change. And I Had a good time with the new social group, as well as at my game. So today was mostly good.

Things are still terrible overall and the worst struggle in my life, so I try to hang on and focus on what's positive. And I try to keep hoping I make it to my forever better days.

## **Day 3226 - 5/1**

### **Fun day**

Today was pretty fun. One professor opened the lab early because someone in the class I TA for said he would be there early. So I settled in to the lab pretty early in the day. The bandwidth was garbage though. By 10 I couldn't even load my social page, so any gaming was out of the question. But it was ok though, as people were showing up and needing my help by the early afternoon. So I kept pretty busy helping.

In the afternoon my professor was back from her trip, so it was class as usual for the class I TA for. People had a good time and we had some laughs.

The evening passed super quick. It was over before I knew it. I settled back into the lab after, but outside of a bit of time during dinner people needed help, so I mostly wound up helping then too.

So today was a pretty fun day. I tried to keep sad thoughts at bay. And I suppose I did, but I still worried about many things. Lately too I feel and look fatter around my waist and chest, so I don't know if I'm retaining extra weight, or am fatter due to some minor diet change lately, or if it's my age, or what. But now I'm extra worried about that, as my declining health isn't something I can change in terms of food options.

But I was pretty busy today, and I continue to try to hang on and hope for better days.

## **Day 3227 - 5/2**

### **Guiding spirit**

Today I feel pretty good. I saw someone I haven't seen in a few years. He's here to do a talk for one of the professors; One of those success story kind of things. It was bittersweet as he asked me what I was still doing here, which really just reminded me how I'm stuck and not a success story.

In a way I guess I've become a guiding spirit, lingering, stuck between one world and the next. Much like a ghostly spirit I help people understand, and by understanding they have an easier transition.

At least I hope that is what is happening. Because if I'm just failing and nothing is coming of it for me, or for others, then my life is just ticking away for nothing. I hope those who know me will at least have someone to remember if I am not someone who helped create change for the better.

But I try to stay hopeful. I try to hang on. And I hope someday I will have forever better days and again look up from the ground without fear, and feel the warmth of life in my bones again.

## **Week 462**

### **Day 3228 - 5/3** **Lack of sleep**

Today I am totally exhausted. For weeks I've lost some sleep due to worry, and for the past couple of nights I've only gotten 4-6 hours of sleep each night. In writing posts I've written the wrong word, the wrong tense, or just made little sense.

The day seemed very slow. Bandwidth was terrible, so that was likely a big part of it. I played a couple of games in the morning, but for the rest of the day I couldn't do hardly anything. I tried to watch shows, but had to wait until after class because there wasn't enough bandwidth, and even after I could barely get enough for a show.

But the class I TA for was pretty fun. And before and after I helped with stuff quite a bit, so that was good.

I still worry about all the things. I still hope there are those out there watching out for me. Money is almost gone again, and help these days is extremely rare. 😞

But I try to continue. I try to hang on. And I hope someday my better days will come.

### **Day 3229 - 5/4** **Not Monday**

Yesterday I was so exhausted, when talking to the other TA person in class he asked what they did Monday and I replied 'today is Monday'. And he laughed and said it was Wednesday. And I was like what the crap. I only got about 7 hours of sleep, which is more than the 4-5 of before, but I still feel I needed several days of sleeping in to catch up.

I suppose today is ok though, but I barely got to play anything or watch anything. Again the bandwidth was garbage; both wireless and landline. So mostly I did a lot of nothing, as my brain was really too tired to focus.

But I try to hang on. I continue to hope that help will come soon and I can continue to hang on until better days.

## **Day 3230 - 5/5**

### **Feeling sad**

Today I am feeling very sad and tired. I got a low balance warning from my bank, which wasn't unexpected, but just reminded me how low I am. There is maybe a week of gas left, two if I'm lucky. Things are getting very bad and I've not gotten help since the insurance overdraw. (Which feels like a month ago now.) After that I may be forced into walking. Which is bad enough on its own, but what about in two months when the car registration is due? 😞

While bandwidth was terrible today, I did get a chance to play a few games and watch a few shows. But with things as bad as they are I couldn't not think about how terrible things feel right now, and how much more terrible they may become in just the next few weeks.

But I try to not break down and lose it. I try to keep the tears back and seem like I am ok. And I try to hold on to hope that better days will come.

## **Day 3231 - 5/6**

### **Feeling loss**

Today I still feel very sad. But more so I am feeling a lot of loss. Joining the new social groups has been mostly positive, as I can help some, and I see others finding new friends to play with. But that also reminds me that my own game, which I have again tomorrow, may be the last one I can afford to go to. I've put the last of my money into gas, and if I'm lucky it will last about two weeks. Which really means I only have a week before I need to consider walking and conserving what is left. 😞

It will be sad if I were unable to play again after. Sure, I haven't for about 20 years prior to this group so I'm used to what that's like, but that doesn't make it less sad. I would still miss that kind of gaming if I had to stop again.

And while bandwidth was good and I got to play and watch a couple of shows, I felt hollow, empty, as if I have already lost the ability to do these things. It's as if all the hope and beginnings I see in the new social group reflect the opposite in myself. I look for those future paths and I have none, because everything is slowly crashing around me. And it feels like I am finally truly isolated and alone in my struggle.

I am worried about me. I need my car. My bones and health are no good for more walking than very short distances. And what with my being homeless my car needs to keep moving. And I need to be able to carry only a small amount of stuff, or I become more exposed and a whole lot more vulnerable.

So I continue to hope there are those out there who worry about me and see that I need crisis level help again. I continue to hope that help comes. And I continue to hang on until I hopefully make it to my forever better days.

## **Day 3232 - 5/7**

### **Upset tummy**

Today was a mix. In the morning things were ok. The food store still had a decent connection, so I did my regular morning things. There wasn't much time before I headed out to my every other week game.

The game in the afternoon was super fun. All the people had a good time. At the end they asked if three weeks was a good time for the next game. People weren't really paying attention to me, so I didn't say anything. Thinking I may have to not only say no, but say I might need to permanently say no, felt too sad. I continue to hope things change, or that enough help comes (since each visit is only \$4 extra in gas). It seems too sad if I have to drop it.

Little things bugged me throughout the day. The fact I couldn't shower. In addition to not showering, even if I had money for gas to go to school to shower, it would not have been a private in a home shower. I am still itching, I would guess from 'bed



things' not being washed in forever. Worry about the car registration. Worry about gas. And because I can't make very good food choices, my tummy was upset with what I got for lunch and dinner.

It's early evening now. I've come back to the food store and I'd hoped to connect and do some more things. But, as usual, it seems there is no connection again.

So I again end my evening feeling sad, feeling isolated, and feeling like what little I have left could soon be lost. But I continue to try to hang on. I continue to survive. And I try to stay hopeful for better days.

## Day 3233 - 5/8

### Flip it

Today started very slow. There wasn't much bandwidth, so doing anything was difficult. And there were only a few from classes I TA for that came into the lab. Noone asked for help, so my day up until the class I TA was passing very slowly. Which left me alone with my sad feelings and thoughts. 😞

The class was pretty fun, though I and the other TA didn't have much to do, as it was just a lecture day. Only a couple stuck around to do stuff after, and only one of those needed help for a bit. So mostly I just had my dinner and watched a show.

I was pretty itchy again today. Some of my spots got pretty bad as I scratched. But, as is the nature of the itchiness, after several hours of not scratching it subsided and looked normal again. I did have a thought though, and I hope it works out. I thought to flip the 'bed sheets'. I always fold my bed things the same way, so the thought behind that is if it's getting something on me as I sleep, and if that something hasn't penetrated the front layer, I should be less itchy. Or hopefully not at all.

I don't clearly remember when I last washed the 'sheets'. I think it must have been around August when I first got my money boost. Back when I had at least some income (years ago) I'd wash that stuff about every other month or so. But now, those extra items are too much (cost) to wash. And at this point I don't have money for even a regular wash, let alone extra items. 😞

So those thoughts make me sad. Thoughts of not having \$5 for a wash, or \$10 extra to wash my 'bed things', let alone \$7-10 for gas a week. And the thoughts of how totally outside of normal that is. Never mind not knowing how I'll ever make it to the nearly \$200 I need for car stuff in just over two months.

But all of that is outside of my control. I seem unable to help myself change the things that would generate opportunity. I just have to keep hanging on. I have to hope opportunity will find me, and I will be ready when it comes. And I have to keep hoping Fate will send help and that I can eek by until it does. And I hope I can hang on to my dreams of a regular life, with regular things. And days when I don't constantly feel like an outsider, different and unwanted by those around me. 😞

## **Day 3234 - 5/9**

### **Maybe not itchy**

Today I am feeling less itchy. Hopefully flipping the things fixed it. I always worry that something will get on my cloths during a wash. I am allergic to so many things now. It seems I very easily react. I don't know if it's because it's just part of getting older, which it seems to be, or if it's because my health is so poor, I have so much extra stress, and things are so out of control in general.

No donations today, or in weeks, so it seems there is no change today yet. Which makes me very sad and stressed. But I have to try and relax. I have to try to not focus on what I can't control, or it will break me. Hopefully I'll have a good time in the class I TA for, and have enough bandwidth to watch shows and play, and I can focus on the few happy things I do have. I have to continue to hold on that help will come and that I can someday have my forever better days and forever home. It's all I can do. 😞

## Week 463

### Day 3235 - 5/10

#### Sick in the morning

Today I got sick in the morning. 🤒 I don't know if it's stress, worry, lack of sleep, or this sneezing congestion cold I have, or a combination of things. But when I got on campus and was going to park at the pool shower area I started coughing. I coughed and coughed and then sort of threw up a bit. 🤒 Thankfully it was just that one time, and not more than a lot of congestion yuck. But I felt very icky for a while after. 🤒

My day was going pretty sad and slow after that. Again, there was almost no bandwidth at school. It even got so bad that even the landline didn't have enough to watch my show during lunch.

During the class I TA for things picked up a bit, as there was a lot of stuff to watch. There were some laughs, but mostly they were just meh. But it was an important first step into real projects for this quarter.

After, there wasn't much time left in the night. I watched what was left of the shows I tried to watch earlier, and had dinner, and that was it.

Now as it moves into night I try to settle. I try to focus on what I have left that is good. And I try to stay hopeful for the future.

### Day 3236 - 5/11

#### The little things

Today seemed like the little things have brought tears. At lunch and dinner I thought how nice it would be to buy regular food. I can't even remember when I last got a hamburger and fries at school. And when I played online, I was forced to be on the landline if I was even going to try. And by the time lunch came and I wanted to watch a show, even the landline bandwidth was so bad I couldn't.

At night after I left campus I was fairly sad in general. I thought how if I had a best friend or sweetie surely they would notice. And for a surprise they would get me yummy pizza to try and cheer me up. And they would know my favorite is Round Table pepperoni with thicker crust.

But I have no such friend. No such sweetie. I can't just watch shows uninterrupted. I can't play games as stable as they should be. My life is damaged. It is broken. And days like today it is so hard that the thoughts of missing such simple and basic things bring tears. 😞

## Day 3237 - 5/12

### Neck breaking

Today I have neck breaking levels of stress. Some time yesterday my shoulder and neck muscles started seizing up. Today I am completely stiff. I can still turn my head about 45 degrees, but that's it. And it feels like there is a neck brace around the back of my neck and shoulders preventing movement. 😞

There still has been no recent help and I am still down to hopefully a week of gas. But then I'll be forced to recycle to get more. And if I do, I can't really spend it, as I need to save it to move the car at least one day a week. Things will become almost impossible if I don't get help soon. 😞 I don't have a clue how I'll survive bigger things like registration coming up. And even more pressing matters like laundry will become sources of constant and extreme stress. 😞

But I try to hang on. I try to stay hopeful. It wouldn't take much help, and not a lot of people helping, to be in ok shape again. At least for the immediate emergencies. So I try to remain hopeful help will come.

## Day 3238 - 5/13

### Movie

Today was different. It's like there were two halves of the day. The beginning was very sad. There was nothing new that was sad, just an overall sadness about all my limitations and how I have to try and be the happiest I can. Bandwidth was decent most of the day though, so I got to play some games and watch a show.

In the evening things were different. I took the other movie pass I had and watched a movie. Not counting that I didn't get to have a fast food meal (as I would have done if things weren't as they are) for a few brief hours I felt almost my normal self.

But now it is over. The night is cold. My tummy would be empty, but it was too hungry to sleep, so I got extra food. Which I am hoping does not throw off future meals.

So I try to push sad thoughts away. I try to focus on the good in the day, the happy memories. And I try to continue to hope help will come soon.

## Day 3239 - 5/14

### Sad, and tired

Today was very sad and I was extremely tired. I debated going out to rest in my car for a bit because I was so tired. Because of how sad I am about all the things, and being so stressed about things, it is becoming more and more difficult to sleep.

Plus, I think I was extra sad today because of the holiday. Not for what you'd think. My mom died so long ago holidays don't alter my mood about that. It reminded me I could not get clean, let alone extra clean and spruced up many are doing today. It reminded me I have nowhere special to go. It reminded me not only can I not afford a special breakfast or brunch, but that I am not having one at all. It reminded me of the watchful gaze of a mother I do not currently have in my life in any form. While there are those who watch out for me, I have not received comforting words of support, nor donations to help me keep going in a while. And more than that, how that is always missing in my life. And maybe it always has been ever since my mom's death when I was 13.

But I try to keep my head up. I try to help others or guide them where I can so they do not wind up in a similar spot. I continue to hope Fate has a place for me and my sadness and suffering are to guide me, or others, where I, or they, need to be. And I try to stay hopeful that help will come. And maybe someday my life will be back to... well... a life.

## Day 3240 - 5/15

### Sick, sore, stink

Today was pretty sad. I'm very depressed and sad lately. 😞 Today did start pretty good though. I got settled in at school and got a good shower. I got into the lab early. I got solid bandwidth and played more games than I normally would have. The class I TA for had a test and we watched some stuff. But the day was basically a blur. I didn't clearly remember anything. And beyond a few hours ago my short term memories of today seems no more clear than long term memories of last week.

Maybe it's because I have a cold. I am still sneezing and congested. But it is probably more stress, which is causing my parts to become stiff and sore, and I'm regularly losing sleep or having bad dreams.

Or maybe it's because I'm not eating well. Being back to now just microwaved or preprepared food my tummy always feels bad, or like now, there is a led weight or a feeling like someone punched me. 😞

And even though I got to shower in the morning it was only a few hours before I could no longer smell the nice soap. I didn't smell bad after, more like nothing. But it leaves things around me open to being smelled. Like the trash on the department's level which apparently hasn't been emptied out since Thursday. Or now that I am in my night cloths, the stink of the night cloths (which I don't get to wash often as I don't often have enough space for regular cloths, let alone extra like night stuff.)

But mostly I worry. It feels like I am alone again. It would only take a little bit of help from a few people to be ok on gas for a while. With a few more; ok on cloths and a bit safer on gas. Yet no help seems to be coming. So I worry. I grow more stressed and

sick feeling each day. And while I try to hang on to hope until better days come, I can't help but feel like I am alone in a corner, lost and forgotten by others. 😞

## **Day 3241 - 5/16**

### **Trying to stay hopeful**

Today is gray and cold. I don't know what happened to the warm near 80F weather. It's like it's winter again. But the blue skies are trying to peek through, so maybe it will get warm later.

Today should be ok in the class I TA for. They have a quick test then we are watching a bunch of stuff. And, there is a super cute attractive gamer girl I get to see, so I always am reminded to be hopeful maybe someday I'll find a sweetie again. I'm sure she's not interested, but at least seeing someone like that reminds me they are out there.

And too my professor was recently contacted by someone who was sad I (and other helpers) are unpaid. She was thinking about it more, and she has found a way to try and get me some monies. I am trying to stay hopeful for help too. Today is another day of posting my sad story. And it would only take a few people helping with what is the cost of a cup of coffee for me to have gas for a week. So I try to stay hopeful there are some out there reading 'live' that I can get enough help. And I try to stay hopeful that continues until opportunity for change comes and I am back on my feet.

## Week 464

### Day 3242 - 5/17 Stinks

Today was pretty good. Though the department floor stinks again. Like Monday it's been several days since the trash has been taken out. Shortly after lunch through much of the floor it started to smell like a wet dog. It was so bad a student in class said he took out the trash, which is not at all something that should need to be done.

But I had time to play today. And I watched a few shows. And a few times in the basic class that I TA for I made people laugh, so that was good. 😊

But the car had a bit of trouble starting in the morning. And before leaving school I checked the oil and it's just below the low mark. So that's yet another \$4-5 cost that I don't really have money for. 😞 And still no help has come. 😞 Which makes me worried, but it also makes me very sad to think I am in so much pain and so scared, yet it seems no one around me seems to notice. Sure, I hide it so there is no reason to look below the surface. But just following a few link clicks would take someone to my sad story. And then just a little from their life could greatly help in my times of darkness, pain, and struggle. 😞

But even though nothing came today, and nothing changed for the better, I continue to try to hope for tomorrow. And the days beyond. And hopefully I can continue to hang on until change comes.

### Day 3243 - 5/18 Surprise donation

Today had some nice surprises. The morning started kind of sad. I played a few games, which was nice, but in the early afternoon I started putting together my character sheets and info to send to the people who play my every other week game with me. Just before sending it I got a donation. 😊 It wasn't enough to say that I had extra to continue



playing, but I went to move it to my bank before sending the things anyways. To my surprise there was a big donation there waiting for me from a week ago. 😊 Somehow the system did not send me the automatic notice that it normally does. But it is enough that I should have gas and laundry money for a few weeks. Maybe more if I am super careful.

Also, as part of the donation today someone sent a code for a game. It's been one I considered picking up for mobile, but never had enough money for. (It was a pricier one at like \$5-10) So I have that to play and check out 😞

There was also news about a game that is a sequel to one I spent a bunch of money on back a few years ago. I'm still unsure how I feel about it. On the one hand I can get it for PC, but I don't know if my laptop is strong enough to handle it. But on the other hand I have kind of sad memories attached to the first game. While I did have a job at the time, since it was on console, those first few months I played I dropped a couple hundred playing at an internet cafe because it was safer than carrying the console around. (Not to mention the collector edition cost of \$80, plus some console headphones I got, which was another \$100.) But over the year that I played the two friends I started playing with basically abandoned me. So there was a lot of sadness and disappointment that now I was alone, and all that extra money was spent for nothing.

I suppose if I did get this new one (supposedly after September) that wouldn't happen. Being on PC no extra money would need to be spent to play. I wouldn't have to have extra security precautions or extra hardware. And, there is a lot being done to help connect players to other players. So I theoretically wouldn't feel as alone. But I still worry those sad feelings might be there. But, if I do have money, or it is gifted to me, and my system can handle it, maybe the fresh start could also be an emotional fresh start. And may even lead to new friends.

But whatever I decide it is out of my hands at the moment. And even if things weren't, it's still four months or more away. So today ends with extra hope. Hope for maybe a game to look forward to and the change it could bring being in a new but somewhat familiar world. And hope that there are still those out there who do care and look out for me. And hopefully this is enough, and I can continue to hang on.

## Day 3244 - 5/19

### Felt odd

Today felt... odd is the best way I can think to put it. On the one hand it felt like it went as it should. On the other I felt like I was living in a different time and as if I should be in a different place. I felt like I am remembering or re-visiting somewhere from my past.

Maybe it's because of the game sequel and the feelings it's brought back up. Or seeing footage so similar to the first game that I'd spent so much time in (now two to three years ago.) (Apparently 18 played days worth of time, nearly 500 hours.) So maybe part of it was feelings from a time years ago.

Maybe it's because I have no class today and there are so few on campus on Fridays that I just feel out of place in general. Though that isn't much different than other days.

Maybe it's because I am still not eating well, and with all the lost sleep lately things feel and seem odd and kind of surreal in general.

I may never know the reason, but today seemed ok. I continue to have enough to hang on for the moment, thanks to the most recent donations. And so I continue to hang on and hope for better days ahead.

## Day 3245 - 5/20

### Laundry and gas at last

Today was pretty good for a number of reasons. First, the cold has finally gone and it's super warm. It's even hot for me, so it was probably over 85F today easily. Also, because of recent donations I have enough gas to last at least a few weeks, and to do laundry at least today. I spent a touch extra and got caught up on cloths again. (Though towels and bed things are still behind.)

I spent the day at the library, so I was inside and cool all day. And the connection was strong and stable. I think because of the heat there were a lot fewer than normal. It only got about 75% full.

And I got a bit of good news in the mail. My car registration came and it's only \$110, not the \$150 I thought. So that's good to hear. Though I still need to do SMOG, which is probably \$50-60. And if the fan fails to work, it will fail and I won't pass. 😞

I'm extremely exhausted though. I am still having a lot of trouble sleeping. And yesterday something in lunch didn't agree with me. I still have an aching sick feeling spot in my tummy. 😞

But for today hope is renewed. There is a slight bit of leeway on gas, at least for the moment. So I continue to try to stay hopeful. And I continue to try and hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3246 - 5/21**

### **Pretty good**

Today was pretty good. I still have many worries about all the things, but it was extremely warm, I had a fun time with the every other week group of people, and I even saw a suuuper beautiful girl come in to the gaming shop. Even though she came in with someone, assuming that was a boyfriend, it still does give me hope for finding such a nice gamer girlfriend for myself someday.

I've been thinking more about the sequel game, and listening to bits of the soundtrack, and I do think I would enjoy it. But there are a lot of ifs. I'm still at the worst point in my life, so for the moment if I were to get any game it would have to be a gift. And then there is the question of if my aging laptop can handle it. As I think I mentioned, the new generation of this laptop gets 11,000 benchmarks whereas my system only gets 3,500. So I am a lot less powerful than new systems. But the game won't release for at least four months. And if the PC delay rumors are true, even longer. Who knows what would become of my life over that time.

But today I feel pretty good. I don't feel really safe, in any sense, and I can't look to the future beyond about a week. But I feel ok. I feel hopeful. And I try to hang on.

## Day 3247 - 5/22

### Hoping

Today was ok. It wasn't as warm as the weekend though. On the weekend I was hot for me. Oddly the temperature said it was 85F online today, but when I was walking around it only felt like 75F. So I think the online temperature was wrong.

I was looking at some news on the sequel game. I am remembering fonder times playing. And with nearly 500 hours played with the first game, regardless of my falling out with the people who I played with, it certainly was worth the money I paid. So getting the sequel would almost certainly be of equal value, if not more since it would be on PC and no additional costs or hardware would need to be carried around to play. So I continue to hold on to hope that I can get it. And also try to hold on to hope I find a something to gather the monies to also upgrade the laptop.

So I try to hold on to hope for the future. There is an expansion for my MMO coming in a few weeks. There is the nice sequel coming sometime in September (or after if the PC version is behind the console version). And so I hope that even if my experience in this world doesn't improve, at least there are other worlds coming I can maybe escape to. And hopefully I can continue to hang on.

## Day 3248 - 5/23

### Feeling distressed

Today I am very tired and feeling physically and a bit distressed. Last night I got a decent amount of sleep for the first time in weeks, probably 8 hours (compared to the around 6 I've been getting). But I had some bad dreams. In them I was in unfamiliar locations and struggling, and in one I was only around 10 years old, and being held captive by people, along with others, who they were killing and eating.

So while I feel rested, I also feel kind of beaten up. And my areas around my eyes feel puffy, as if I was maybe crying in my sleep. 😞

Today is just starting, and I have one of the classes I TA in. Though just being an introduction to the program today I likely won't do much beyond sit in the back just in case. Which is ok, as I can pretty much do whatever.

While I feel somewhat distressed physically and emotionally on the surface, I think it should warm up later and people will probably come by who need my help, as a big project is due in the basic class tomorrow. So I try to feel good that I have a place in the world, though unpaid, and I am helpful and appreciated by others. And I try to hang on to hope I will continue to make it until better days come.

## **Week 465**

### **Day 3249 - 5/24** **Out of place**

Today was very strange. During my shower, and again later in the day, I closed my eyes and for a few brief moments I felt like I was in a different time and place. Maybe it's because I haven't been sleeping lately, or just one of those times my mind wandered, I don't know. It was both nice to not be in my sad life, and confusing as to why it happened.

I saved a tiny baby ant. It was near my food bag before class on the table, just walking around. I came back three hours later and it was still there. It must have been just a baby. I could barely see him because it was only about half the size of a normal ant. I carefully gathered him into a napkin and took him out to a bush. I hope he finds a colony and forever home. 😞

I feel very sad today overall. Time is still ticking away and I grow more and more worried that I don't have money for things. While I have about 1.5 months before the registration stuff is due, regular things like gas are going to run out very soon. A week, maybe two at most.

But I try to stay hopeful. And I try to hang on.

### **Day 3250 - 5/25** **Cold again**

Today was cold again. While it was nice and turning towards 85F less than a week ago, today was probably 75F. There were several very attractive girls in shorts out and about in the morning, but I didn't see any later in the day. It seems we will be heading back towards cold weather and maybe even rain showers again soon.

I was feeling pretty sad again today, which kind of in a weird way inspired me to do the spoken word version of the poem I did a while ago. (I think about four months ago now?) I don't know if anyone will watch or care about it, but there it is.

Today I try to hang on. I played games for a little bit. I tried to watch shows, but as usual at school connection was garbage most of the day, so I didn't watch as much as I otherwise could have. The stress is starting to kill me. My lower and mid back and shoulders are starting to get very sore and locked up feeling. And I'm still rarely getting more than six hours of sleep. But I try to hang on. And I try to focus on what I do still have. And I try to continue to look forward to better days.

## **Day 3251 - 5/26**

### **So very tired**

Today I am so very tired. Again last night I lost two or three hours of sleep I otherwise should have gotten. I would guess due to sadness, stress, and worry.

Nothing much happened today. The bandwidth was pretty bad at school so I hardly got to watch things and I didn't try to play things. But I suppose it was a fairly neutral day. And I guess in a way it passed without getting worse.

So again I try to hang on. And I keep hoping for better days ahead.

## **Day 3252 - 5/27**

### **Warming up again**

Today was ok I guess. It started with a trip to the recycle place. Even though my trunk and back seat area were pretty full the recycling was barely worth it. I got maybe 1.5 more weeks of gas. And of the money I did get, 15-20% was lost in the gas to get there and back since I now have to go so far to get to a recycling place.

I guess, despite all my worries and barely getting enough sleep lately I did have an ok time today. I felt like playing a game for a bit, so I did that. And when the bandwidth started to go bad I watched a few shows.

While it was rainy looking in the morning, it cleared up by late morning. And when the library was closing it was actually starting to warm up again. It may soon be back to proper Spring/Summer weather.

But today I felt physically exhausted; both from stress, but also a lot from lack of sleep lately. While I am very depressed about all the things, and fighting to not have tears over what I miss as I write this, I try to remain hopeful. There are still things I have, though they are few. There is still enough of a small light of hope within my to try and light my way through the darkness. So I try to continue, and I try to hang on.

## **Day 3253 - 5/28**

### **Wondering**

Today was ok for a homeless day, I suppose. Surprisingly in the morning the food store had a fairly stable connection. I got what was an unexpected three additional hours online that I otherwise wouldn't have gotten. Bandwidth at the library was mostly as expected, allowing me to play a few games. But quickly after that I was basically restricted to watching stuff.

The day was still somewhat colder with the evening now being a touch chilly. And I am still very physically exhausted. My eyes were half closed nearly all day.

I wonder when, or if, I will catch up on sleep again. I wonder when the weather will turn warm again. I wonder if I will be ok in the future. And more immediately, I wonder what I will do tomorrow, since basically everywhere but the food store and coffee shop will be closed, and I really shouldn't spend the money to go to the coffee shop.

But, I feel alright. And all I can do is try to stay afloat and hope the tide takes me to safety. So for now I try to hold on to hope, and try to look forward to better days.

## **Day 3254 - 5/29**

### **Crying day**

Last night was very rough for me. 🙄 I went to the ex-garage for a bit and while I was there the ex-roomie came in. She was putting back some towels I use for bedding that she'd washed for me, which was super nice. But she said she washed them because they'd



gotten so stinky the whole ex-garage was stinky. 😞 I said I was sorry and told her how rough things have gotten now. 😞

After she left I cried. I didn't want to be stinky. 😞 I don't want my items to be stinky. 😞 And I thought about how I don't have extra money for laundry. I thought about the homeless at the food store. I thought how they are stinky and I feel like throwing up around them. And even the chair they sit on is so bad now I can't sit near it. And I thought about how I'd become accustomed to the stink of the towels, and wondered if the same was happening with my cloths. 😞

And so I cried and cried. 😞 For like half an hour I cried and thought how I am rapidly approaching the bad side of the line. How I don't know when I can get back to the neutral side of homeless again. Nor if I will ever return to a normal life again. 😞

The more sad fact is just how little would be needed. About six paid hours a week would cover what I need to balance again. More, even 12 hours a week paid and I could upgrade to a new laptop in about six months, or have enough to cover a car emergency should one come up. And I again felt disappointed that, on average, I am in class TAing 12 hours a week, not counting time I'm just around to help, and I'm helping on forums roughly 7-10 hours on an average week.

Today is a new day. And I tried spending a quarter to test my 'dry cleaning' idea. I put in one of my bed items, and my used towels. I found three used dryer sheets and turned on the dryer for the five minutes that quarter got me. It actually sort of worked. The towels no longer stink. The bed item smells much less bad. Of course, neither have been actually cleaned. Each of the towels have dirty discolored marks, even though they are faint and difficult to notice. But the dry cleaning can be done. So, for emergencies at least, that could help prolong my shirt and pants washings.

But today is difficult too. I am reminded every minute that my life is not normal. There is no escaping or pretending today. I spent a few hours at the food store, where there was no signal. After, I parked in a mall lot across from school, then spent the bulk of my day outside of school. It was fairly quiet. Only maybe a dozen were there all day, usually just passing by on bikes or walking through. I suppose I could have stayed longer than I did, but it was cold all day, and as it was nearing dusk it was actually reaching

winter-like coldness. Plus there were little tree pollen bits everywhere. And when the wind kicked up, the few times it did, the bits would swirl around me and I was at risk of having an asthma attack.

But as rough as last night and today were, and as deep as these scars go, even though it may take years to recover, if they ever actually do heal, I try to stay hopeful. I try to remember today was just today. And I try to remain hopeful for better days ahead.

## **Day 3255 - 5/30**

### **Back in place**

Today I am back in my spot at school, with a class to TA if they need help, and things seem ok. I am not back to homeless normal, as I am too close to the bad things to feel balanced in any way. But hopefully today will pass as it should, and hopefully in doing so I can feel more my current self and have the few good things I can have these days. I don't know what my future holds anymore, or if I even still have one waiting. But I try to hang on. I try to look at just today. And I try to continue to hope tomorrow will be a better day.

## Week 466

### Day 3256 - 5/31 Cupcakes

Today had a slight surprise. Most of the day went basically as normal. I didn't really help before class, as no one really needed it, but I did help on the forums I help on.

In class someone brought fancy cupcakes. I can't remember the last time I had cupcakes. I've often thought of them. They are a go-to joke reply when someone asks a question. But it's sad I can't remember the last time I had them, nor proper restaurant pizza.

I guess I held on ok today though. I was exhausted. I felt like I was going to fall asleep at times. I felt like I would cry at times. But I managed to play a few games, watch a few shows, and made it through the day.

And with so much out of control, many days it feels like that is all I can do. That and try to hang on to hope, until better days come.

### Day 3257 - 6/1 Barely open

Today I could barely keep my eyes open. I'm losing a lot of sleep lately due to sadness and worry. 😞 It's starting to get so bad people asked me some questions today and I couldn't follow my own answers. I know things came out ok, but the sentences were forgotten as quickly as I said them. 😞

I went to visit my MMO for a bit today. I've been too sad to play for a few weeks now, maybe a month. I almost cried when I was there. 😞 I think more because of how exhausted and tired I am. But I thought of everyone doing the new content while I can't. I thought of the new places I can't go, the new class I can't play, how I'm left behind, how others are having fun, probably grouped with friends. I almost started crying. 😞

But I suppose it was bittersweet. My friend I used to group with was there doing the new content, so I got to say hi.

But I suppose I survived another day. Not well. Things were sad and extremely difficult, but I made it through. All I can do is continue to hang on and hope tomorrow is a better day.

## Day 3258 - 6/2

### #onset

Today was very different. It started the same as any other. But at 10 I started helping someone on a film shoot they were doing. He had almost no people. There were the two actors, two others, him, and me. And it was barely enough to move the heavy stuff and get all the shots. He also kind of blew it by not having a script, storyboard, or shot list. So a lot of time was lost figuring out where to go and what to shoot. But it was pretty good. There were some laughs and people had fun. It went until 8 at night, but between 1 and 4 I had a break. He got me a hamburger with fries for payment, so I got a real meal. 😊 I can't remember the last time I had that. 😞 It's probably been six months or so. 😞

So I got to do very little online today. I barely watched shows and didn't get to play at all, but that's ok. (Particularly for it being just a once in a very great while thing.)

But now it grows dark. And I am getting very tired again. And all I can do is hang on to hope. And hopefully someday I will have forever better days.

## Day 3259 - 6/3

### Grippers

Today was kind of sad. There was an update in the game I help on the forums for and a few dozen people (out of 70 million) can't play anymore, and some of them are complaining and griping at me a lot after saying they should post a dxdiag file. When they do finally post one, in most cases they are way behind on spec. Most of the affected

people have eight or more year old hardware. When I tell them 'sorry, but you are below minimum specs' they seem shocked and surprised. Sure, I hate saying that to people, but if you are below minimum specs on eight year old or older hardware you shouldn't expect to be able to play the thing. It's an unrealistic expectation.

There was a nice thing streaming online so I tried to relax and watch that. But with all the griping, and sad things in my life, it was difficult to enjoy things.

I am still very exhausted. I can barely keep my eyes open. I want very much to go to sleep and feel like I might lash out at anyone who comes near. 😞 I hate feeling like this, but with so much stress and worry about how I'll get around since gas is running out, and more so how I'll pay for registration and smog coming in a little over a month, there seems to be nothing I can do about it. 😞

But I try to keep hoping help will come. And I try to keep looking for opportunity for change. And I try to hang on until better days come. 😞

## **Day 3260 - 6/4**

### **Sad but happy**

Today was sad but also happy. The morning started at the food store. And by some miracle it seems like they have fixed the connection there, so I actually had a pretty good time.

In the afternoon I started to get very sad. I went over to my every other week game early, settled in to eat, and got sad thinking this might be the last time. I have little gas left, and while I keep hoping change and help comes, things are too close to be guaranteed to have that extra \$5 to do it again. (Lately I haven't even had an extra \$5 for laundry. 😞) But about half way through the game I was able to pull myself up again and have a fun time.

Now it is getting into night. I again am left with thoughts of laundry, more accurately what is unclean, worry about gas, and the nearing smog and registration. And with that I worry about my future in general. 😞

But I try to hang on. I try to focus on the positive and what I do have. I try to continue to hope that help will come, and that someday I can find my way to my forever home and better days.

## **Day 3261 - 6/5**

### **Sad, quick**

Today I feel pretty sad, but for once in a great while I felt almost balanced. Though nothing has become balanced. Things are still the most stressful and sad days in my life so far. But I played a bit, I watched a show, and I watched part of my favorite recorded game stream. (Which is actually my favorite thing of all the things I watch.)

But the day passed quickly. It was warm and there were a lot of cute girls around, though all were too young for me. But it reminds me they are out there, and maybe someday I'll find someone. And so the day seemed to pass quickly. Which is a very good thing in these very sad and terrible times.

But I try to hang on to hope. I try to continue to hope that help will come. And I try to keep hoping for better days ahead.

## **Day 3262 - 6/6**

### **Five or six**

Today I am very tired and my mind is wandering. I probably got five or six hours of sleep the past few nights. There was likely too much sadness and stress to sleep properly. I might be getting sick from that as well, as I've been sneezing lately and extremely congested.

I got a big donation today, so that is a big help towards what I'll need for smog and registration. But I still feel like it's a very long way to go until I have enough, and so I am still very concerned.

But each day is a new day. As long as I live, and I can do my regular things, there is still a chance for change, and eventually recovery. So I try to hang on to hope and I continue to try to hope I make it to better days.

## Week 467

### Day 3263 - 6/7 The gathering storm

Today the weather and my emotions seemed the same. In the morning it was clear-ish and I felt reasonably ok. There were again beautiful girls around, a bit older than the college average, but still too young to be interested in lil old me. 😞

By the afternoon things were turning gray, and I started to feel lonely and sad. As we near the last few weeks of the quarter more and more are talking about graduation, acceptance to four-year schools, cities they are moving to, and in some cases other states they are moving to. Again I feel stuck. I feel that even though I too may have accomplishments worth celebrating, I can't collect on it, as I'd then need to start paying off the huge student loan debt. And because I have nothing, I couldn't move on to other things.

As things turned to evening the skies grew ever darker, and black clouds started to appear along with the gray and the few remaining white. Even though the weather is supposed to be clear and in the low 70s for the rest of the week, it seems like it will get darker and rain will come.

But I try to stay positive. I try to look at things others are accomplishing and feel good that they seem to have a future. And that is something. I continue to hope I too will someday have a future, and in the meantime my presence in the places I help genuinely do help, and that I make a difference to some.

But I may never see a future. And I may never know the impact of my presence. But I try to hang on. I continue to hope that I do matter. And I hope someday my change will come too, and I can again look forward to my future.



Today I was completely out of it. Again my brain is so exhausted it could barely function. Again I felt like I'd pass out at pretty much any point in the day.

The morning was a little different. When I was at the food store and trying to explain something to the store person I felt a friendly flirty touch between my shoulder blades and looked over. There as a very attractive girl who said hi to me as she passed by. I managed a confused hi back because I recognized her, but couldn't place her. Due to my exhaustion it completely derailed what I was saying and it probably took me 10 seconds to recover enough to continue what I was saying.

For hours it bugged me. I knew I thought she was attractive when I'd seen her before, but I couldn't remember if she knew that. I knew it'd been years since I'd seen her, but I couldn't remember what class she'd passed through. And I knew it couldn't have been more than three years, as I think my hair has only been like it is for about two years, so more than that and she wouldn't have recognized me as easily.

It was about three hours of it being in the back of my mind that I finally remembered that it was the cute nurse who used to be at school. I only saw her a few times a year, and the staff almost completely changed a couple of years ago, and I've not seen her since. So that matches the timeline. I don't specifically recall flirting at her directly, but I think I had subtly done so a few times. She's one of only about four in my entire life I've met where I felt a strong chemical attraction to. That type where if I know she's near all I want to do is be right next to her and snuggle, or at least be close enough to. But, remembering who it was, I know she's married and has a little one. I saw them at the library once. But I suppose it reminds me there are still people who do that, and maybe someday I'll find a girl who does and she will be single and feel the same.

But the rest of my day was a mix of pain and sheer exhaustion. My side and back hurt a lot. Again it feels like soon my lower back and hip might squeeze me so bad I'll snap in two. And it feels like at any moment I'll just fall over and pass out from exhaustion. I still can't get much more than six hours of sleep these days, and I'm losing between one and three more hours I could be sleeping.

But again I hope I can continue on. I hope I can pass through this trial. And I hold on to hope that better days will come.

## **Day 3265 - 6/9**

### **Exhausted and sad**

Today I feel exhausted. Again I barely kept my eyes open and could barely focus on anything. I may be forced to try and get extra rest at school during the day if this keeps up. But I hate doing that as it messes up my sleep cycle. But then, if I'm not falling asleep when I can then the cycle is already messed up.

Today I am extremely sad. Another day has passed. Normally one day is not a big deal. But now, in this time, so many extra sad reminders are happening with the passing of a day. It's one more day my clothes are stinky. It's one closer to the smog and registration being due which I don't have enough for. It is one day closer to the end of the month; the anniversary both of the end of the ninth fail year, and the third year of unemployment.

I posted in sort of a social support group .And it's strange, others have posted about medicine or struggles they have and get an outpouring of support and 'me too' type posts. And though I didn't specifically mention my issues, no one asked what was going on, or if there was anything they could do. One person said 'as long as you make it out of bed there is hope', to which I replied, 'not having a bed is part of the issue.' I think people don't know what to do with that. I think, in general, people don't know what to do with the 'middle homeless' I have, where I'm not a completely destitute person (who are often lacking medication or have a physical disability which makes it impossible for them to work), and I am not a recently hopeless, who just needs a couch for a bit. I think people don't know how to help a person in such a situation.

Yet I think the answer is pretty simple - balance. Paying the things to keep moving, physically and emotionally. And beyond that, just having a teeny bit more to continue a hobby or two, to at least some degree, in order to keep spirits up. Then, it's just a matter of hanging on.

So I continue to hope help comes. I continue to hope I can once again achieve at least some homeless balance. And with that, I hope I can hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3266 - 6/10**

### **The mystery of the medicine**

Today had a weird start. I was out of my cholesterol medicine, so I went to refill it. The guy was confused as it appeared it was refilled a month ago, but said it had a 90 day supply. I was then confused, as there is no way I took three times what I should have. A five or ten percent variance, sure, but three times? No. We couldn't figure out what was off, but he went ahead and gave me 60 more even though he technically shouldn't. (It's not like there's a black market for cholesterol pills, so I don't see why someone would lie about such a thing.) The guy I got them from that time was not the usual person, he's like a once every few months guy, so my guess is he put only 30 in and didn't notice it said 90.

The rest of my day was pretty sad, particularly with news of Adam West's passing. Since I don't really get along with my dad, it was his Batman and the classic series Captain Kirk and Spock who I considered my dads as I grew up, and whose lessons I've followed.

My day was also sad because I was extremely tired. I again could barely keep my eyes open. And, stress in my lower back and hips are hitting an all time high and it's actually becoming difficult to move normally. 😞 Hopefully this passes soon as it really does feel like it's going to become seriously impairing soon. 😞

But with the recent big donation I at least have enough to do some laundry, so I am getting current on cloths, as well as critical 'bedding' items. Hopefully that will help clear up whatever is causing me to be so itchy. Which hopefully will let me sleep better, hopefully leading to not being so exhausted and maybe even relax my back muscles.

I got a movie from the library to (hopefully) watch tonight. And with my big donation I'll go ahead and get a smaller cooked meal tonight too. So at least for one night things should be ok and as close to homeless normal as I get these days.

And hopefully with that I can get a little happiness. And I will try to remain hopeful for more help, and hopefully I can hang on until better days come.

## Day 3267 - 6/11

### A new world

Today I am still very sad, not really in the mood for much game playing or show watching. I slept slightly better last night, though still only got about six hours of sleep.

There was a bit of super exciting news though. A new game was announced by one of my favorite companies and it looks like it may be perfect for me. More than any game before. With how beautiful it looks though there is really no way my current laptop could handle it, but it's set to launch in Fall of 2018. So I guess that is good news, as that gives me a year and a few months to get ready. Hopefully I can be back to a normal life and in a home by then, but with how my life has been going all I hope is I have a new laptop by then and can still be somewhere to connect to play.

Life continues to be a struggle and challenge to stay positive. But I try to stay hopeful. I try to look at what I do have, and look forward to things I may have. And hopefully I can hang on until better days come.

## Day 3268 - 6/12

### That guy

Today was pretty sad. Thankfully I got a reasonable amount of sleep last night, so my back isn't as bad as it has been lately. But emotionally I still feel very sad. Though no one would be able to guess, as on the surface I seem fine or maybe even a bit happier than normal lately. But at a deeper level, where people cannot see, I am still very sad, wounded, and worried; more than I have ever been in my life.

Today after class I was going to prepare my micro food and the lab smelt like fries. Besides the ones I got recently, last week maybe(?), I can't remember when I last had them. When things were closing a touch later I checked the sealed container I saw in the trash. 😞 I've become that guy. 😞 Things are so bad and sad for me emotionally I'm seeing if foods I can't afford and miss have been put in sealed containers in the trash. 😞

I don't want to be that guy. I don't want to glance into the trash, let alone check 'safe' food containers. 😞 I don't want to be stinky. 😞 I don't want to have to wear cloths several times a week because I can't afford laundry. 😞 I don't want my day filled with thoughts of what I don't have or what I miss in life every minute of every day. 😞

I try to mentally hug myself. I try to pick myself up. I try to focus on the things I do have which hold that line between being ok and being that guy. I hope that help comes. And I try to hold on to hope long enough to make it through to better days.

## **Day 3269 - 6/13**

### **Sun is shining**

Today seems pretty ok so far. I actually was able to get some sleep last night, maybe seven or eight hours, which is unusual these days.

My back pain is finally going away. It started months ago with feeling like the side of my leg was kind of asleep. A few weeks ago that cleared up and it started feeling like it was waking up again. Now it's just a strange sprain type pain near the top of the back of my hip bone at its highest point. I have a vague memory of moving wrong one day a long time ago and my leg kind of getting weak under me. Maybe that was it. As it starts to get better maybe I'll find time during the day to stretch (as that's the only time I have room).

The stress in my back isn't quite so bad, but it's still pretty bad, as the worry and fear causing it is still there.

The gray rain clouds are gone and it's still pretty chilly. But the sun is shining, and with that comes the promise of warmth returning and it being a bright happy day. So I try to hang on. I continue to hope help comes and that I can make it another day. And hopefully I can hang on long enough to make it to better days.

**Day 3270 - 6/14**  
**Tears in the morning**

Today was ok in the morning, but then turned sad in the evening. The morning probably planted the seeds of sadness that came later. After my shower I parked and decided to rest, just a few minutes, as often if I shower then head right in I get tired and start heating up quite a bit for some reason. There was one ridiculously beautiful girl walking around. And that made me feel sad because it made me wonder if I've missed my chance for love. For going to college when I should have and getting into a career. For getting a house when I should have. And for so many other things. Is it too late now? And so I shed a few tears. 😞

After that I was relatively ok. I was somewhat alert and didn't feel too sad. I even got a big donation. And with that I will probably do the smog on Friday. Hopefully I'll be ok and pass because I've long since run out of money for repairs if not. I'll still have just under half left of what I need for the registration as well. (Provided that isn't used up over time by little costs before I get the rest. 😞) If I can pass that then a huge weight will be lifted, as registration then is just a matter of money, not a matter of 'what if I don't pass.'

It's evening now though. And for several hours I've been extremely tired again, and with that a lack of focus, and even an extreme crankiness because people in the lab spent nearly two hours talking loudly non-stop. It was just their group in there, so I couldn't tell them to shut up or leave (as I otherwise would have if there were others there.) Even leaving the lab after the first hour and sitting outside at my hall spot I could still hear them.

But I try to let things go. I try to focus on the help I got today and being closer to being safe for car registration. I try to remember tomorrow is another new day, another chance. And I try to hang on. 😞

## Day 3271 - 6/15

### Hopeful for tomorrow

Today was ok, I guess. I was really extremely tired again today from the afternoon on. I had a bit of a hard time sleeping last night, so I didn't get as much sleep as I'd have liked. 😞

I am hopeful tomorrow morning will go ok. In researching the smog cost I'm seeing references as high as double or more the cost as I remember which is dumb. In the morning I'll go get it at hopefully a very close place, but I have two other places ready if they quote me some stupid price. Clearing smog would be a huge weight off my shoulders, as that is the greatest fear. With no extra money I can't fix anything else if something were required. (And there is still the question on if the computer is bad or not. So that's more than the car is worth.)

But I try to rest easy now. I try to stay calm and be as restful as I can. And hopefully I can get more sleep tonight. And in the morning hopefully all will be well and I'll have good news and finally a lot of my sadness will go away. For now I try to stay hopeful.

## Day 3272 - 6/16

### Passed, phew

Today passed a bit oddly. I started by going to get my smog done. The first place couldn't do it because they are phasing out the machine. The next place said they could, but their guy was on vacation for another week. But the third place was great. (It's one of those places run by mechanics that have been there forever.) Even though it seemed like forever it was probably only about 20 minutes before they were done. And, while some places I'd seen online had high prices, it was very reasonably priced. The guy said I passed and everything was fine. I asked if it got hot, and he did mention it got a bit warm, so he put a house fan on it. He said the readout being off and it running a bit hot isn't unusual for older cars, nor surprising since I said the computer may not be totally working right.

It's evening time now, but the day isn't over. Today is the student film show, so there are things to see that students made. So that should be fun.

But today, at long last, the huge worry of if I'd pass smog or not has passed, and that isn't a worry anymore. Now I just have to worry about if I can get the \$50 more I need for registration before it's due in a month.

Tonight hopefully I can rest easy for the first time in a long while. Hopefully I can get more sleep. Things seem more hopeful for the future. And I try to hang on until better days.

## **Day 3273 - 6/17**

### **Truly hot**

Today was truly hot. But since I have to be out in public places I was in air conditioned places. Which I guess is a blessing. It certainly is to have a laptop that can play the games I want, watch shows (though TV shows are all off season), and have a normal homeless life.

I guess the day was pretty good for a homeless day. I had enough food. I was inside. I had comforts. Nothing bad happened that was new. But I suppose nothing good that was new happened either.

I had a coupon for a free soup at the place I haven't gone in probably more than three years since I can't afford it. The chef who had taken over just before I stopped going (from being an assistant) was there. And as I passed by I did the eyebrow up and nod 'hey what's up, how's it going' gesture. He smiled and nodded. It was strange that he was still there. I didn't expect that. But I suppose it was nice to be recognized and acknowledged. And, I suppose in a way it felt comforting to see he was still there, maybe he's happy. Maybe things are going ok for him.

But things seem ok, so I try to hang on to hope. I try to stay positive and see what I still have that is happy. And I try to hang on to better days.

## **Day 3274 - 6/18**



## **Way too hot**

Today it was way too hot. If I were to guess I'd say it was between 95-100F. I guess that would be good for those doing things like dad's day BBQs or other gathering type activities, but foooo it was hot even for me. Thankfully much of the day I was inside in air conditioned places, but being an every other week game day I did have to drive through the super hot weather both ways for about 30 minutes.

I guess really there isn't much to say about the day other than that. For the brief time I was at the food store I saw a few beautiful girls in shorts and super warm weather cloths, so that was nice. The food store actually had a connection, so I could do basic online things. But other than that there really wasn't much to my day. I would have been happier in a home, where I could relax and watch movies, and cook fresh food, but overall things didn't seem overly sad.

I suppose, as always, I was thankful to get through the day, have the nice things I do still have, however few those are. And I try to remain hopeful and hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3275 - 6/19** **Hopeful, yet homesick**

Today I feel mixed feelings. Most of the morning and the day I felt hopeful. With the worry of smog behind me my body begins to relax and try and let go of the worry and stress. (Though with still needing about \$50 for registration which is due in a month, as that date gets closer stress may return.) There were also lots of beautiful girls around who were happy because it was super warm out, so that was nice.

But as the day went on into evening I felt more homesick. I wanted to eat things for lunch or dinner I couldn't. I wanted to sit in a nice chair. I was really itchy, so it would have been nice to stay naked, wash my cloths extra times, and put anti-itch cream on whenever I needed without worry cloths would wipe it away. And above all it would have been nice to have peace and quiet to do whatever I wanted, and to go to sleep in a bed as early as I felt I needed to get past this exhaustion I feel.

So today I feel hopeful, yet sad about the basic things I am missing. But today was ok, so I try to hang on to hope. I hope help continues to come. And I hope I can hang on until I make it to better days.

## Day 3276 - 6/20

### Dreams

Today is super hot, and it's only the morning. It's hot to the point that I'm genuinely hot feeling, and if I were outside I might even feel slightly sweaty.

Last night I again had trouble sleeping, but I had some very vivid dreams closer to the morning. I dreamt I was down in L.A. and was starting to be a producer. There were two big named stars we were trying to get to the set and sending out drivers who knew where they lived to go get them. I had to pee (for real) but there were no bathrooms on the set, so I had to go find a corner and pee in a bucket with rags. 🙄 I was still struggling in the dream, not just because I had to pee and there wasn't a proper place, but because no one really paid attention to me. I was just the guy with the money and no one cared about me as a person.

I do hope someday I will win enough money to follow such a non-traditional path in life, but I do hope that part doesn't turn out to be true. Since I would be necessary for the creation of a project, not playing a creative part by nature of the position, it's entirely possible no one would care about me, want me, or respect my thoughts or opinions. And that would be sad if true.

But today seems like it will be ok, so I try to hang on to hope. I try to hang on until help comes. And I try to stay as happy as I can until better days come.

**Day 3277 - 6/21**  
**Last regular day**

Today was the last regular day of the quarter for the last class I help in. The next two days I'll be on my own really and there won't be anyone who would need help with stuff, as all the stuff is already due. They had fun watching their final projects, and this quarter was actually quite a bit better than previous ones, so that was fun.

I'm so very exhausted again. I'm not sure why other than I'd guess an extreme amount of stress and lack of sleep. Of course there is some worry about not yet having enough for car registration due in just under a month. And, of course, all my regular sad things, but things are mostly ok.

I played extra today. And I tried to relax and have fun and not worry about what I can't control. I was still sad about all the things, but I try to hold on to hope. And I try to hang on until better days come.

**Day 3278 - 6/22**  
**Most of the day**

Today was super ridiculously hot. Even just starting the morning it was ridiculously hot. It was so hot in the afternoon that walking out to do food I could feel the hot sun and heat waves when I walked where there wasn't shadow.

I guess I felt ok today. I spent most of my day playing a game. I think in great part it was because I had nothing else to do, but I think too due to all my sad limitations I had no real options. I may try and think up some kind of project to maybe to, but honestly everything would take at least a little bit of money, which would be too much.

But as I played my game, over and over (as it's a quick match thing that takes 15-30 minutes per match), I wondered; why that game? It's not one I expect to play long-term. When a game I hope to get comes out in late October I'd play that one all the time and probably never go back to this one. But when I was younger all the games were

basically arcade games. There was no greater scope to a game. I suppose, in a way, this was similar. But these days I do want a bigger goal with playing. I want something to last. I want to progress my character in some way. So it struck me as odd as to why play this one, which basically has no such progression.

Thinking about it I suppose that is exactly why. There is no commitment. And if there is failure, it's only temporary, for that one game. It occupies my time, and it's fun enough. But I think, above all, it helps to forget troubles and worries of the day. While I never forgot where I was or that I am homeless with a sad life, on some level playing games like that does connect current me to a greater me; a me that transcends time. The me that is just a gamer playing a game and having some fun. And, I suppose, right now, that can be the most important feeling I need to keep me hanging on.

## **Day 3279 - 6/23**

### **Don't remember**

Today I was extremely tired. I really don't remember the day. I would guess I clearly remember about half an hour if you added up all the bits and pieces. I'm almost certainly going to have to try to get some extra sleep soon or the exhaustion will possibly cause bad side-effects. 😞

I remembered I played some. I watched some shows. But I didn't do any of what I wanted or needed to do. (Though the only thing I even kind of need to do is get my site ready for new system recommendations with the new hardware coming next week.)

But I suppose I hung on for another day. I wasn't overly sad, though the sadness is always in the back of my mind. But I try to stay hopeful. And I try to hang on until better days.

## Day 3280 - 6/24

### Feeling meh

Today didn't go as planned. The morning did, I suppose. I played a few games of what I've been playing lately, but overall I just felt meh about it. I want to do different things, and play different games. But without monies (or in some cases, the game being out) I can't.

I did remember there was a free to play game and saw notice that it's releasing soon and some can get in already. It's a game I played about five years ago, so I'm not sure how interested I'll be. If it's just the same thing recycled again I'll probably feel meh about it and stop playing very quickly. But it is free to play, so there is nothing lost but time by trying. I downloaded about half the game, so I'll probably have to wait until sometime Monday to finish getting it all. I guess we'll see.

It wasn't hot in the morning. It eventually did get hot later in the day, but the morning was actually gray, windy, and chilly. It stayed that way until later morning.

But I guess today was ok. I felt sad, but not overly so. I try to hang on to hope. And I hope tomorrow is a better day.

## Day 3281 - 6/25

### Feeling weird

Today I feel weird. I don't really know why. I suppose it's a combination of things. I've been eating chicken that I got Friday night and some of it seems as hard as jerky. (I've been taking it in to the air conditioned library with me, so it hasn't been extra cooked in the hot sun.) Maybe it's because I've worn the same cloths for four days since I don't have a lot of money for laundry and I wouldn't see the same people each day so it doesn't matter. (But I don't generate much smell, so it's ok.) Or maybe it's just feeling like an outsider wherever I go. So many I know are moving on to bigger schools and continuing their school career, yet I need to stay behind.

There have been a lot of weird memory triggers lately too (even smells or feelings making me think back to different times or places.) Certain things I see or hear reminding

me of other things. It makes me feel out of place, both in physical person and emotionally.

I suppose though I held on today. I did stuff and kept myself busy. I was sad, but not overly so. And so I suppose that is something. I try to stay hopeful, and I try to hang on until better days come.

## **Day 3282 - 6/26**

### **New is old**

Today was a bit different for a few reasons. I suppose it started the same with buying food and then a shower at school, but the day was different after that.

I finished downloading a game. I don't recall if I mentioned this. This game is a re-tuning of something I played five years ago, which is now free-to-play. Well, for starters, it seems this is the only game on the planet which is firewall blocked by the school wireless. So if I did want to play it, I have to yank the landline cable in the lab. Which, while doable sometimes, isn't ideal. And anytime I'm not in the lab, is not possible. I spent maybe four to five hours playing, and it didn't feel any different from before. Yeah, a few details have changed, but in terms of pacing and what is happening overall, it feels the same. And, while I couldn't recite them from memory ahead of time, outside of the brand new tutorial mission, I 100% recognized every single voiced dialogue and quest that I did. So, for all of those reasons, I don't know how much longer I'll continue playing.

Also, it was the final test day for the first class I help with. So that was just basically finishing out that test, and then they were done.

And I feel tired. I feel sad. I feel things are ending, yet I need to remain. And I feel disappointed in that what I thought would possibly be a new way for escape is probably not, making the soon upcoming summer days stretch on to infinity.

But I try to hold on to hope. And I try to remember that each day is a chance for better days.

## Day 3283 - 6/27

### Gray again

Today things are gray again, physically and emotionally. I'm sure it won't rain because it's summer, but if it were any other season it certainly seems like it would.

Campus is super quiet so far. There was barely anyone in the parking lot. I think most have had their test already and are done. I suppose today should be easy. I expect the class I help for will be done and gone by about 10:30, and I'll be left to play or do whatever I like in the lab after that with few to no visitors.

I am still very sore, extremely tired, and hopeful yet worried about getting the little bit left I need to pay registration. But I try to focus on the good things I have, and try to hang on until better days.

Edit

As I was uploading the week I got notice that someone has sent a donation and I will have enough to pay for registration when it gets to my bank. (The same one who always seems to send help when I need it.) So phew, that too is covered now and the biggest worries are gone, at least for the moment. Hopefully things will look up sooner than I previously expected.

## **Week 470**

### **Day 3284 - 6/28**

#### **Chilly**

Today it continues to grow colder than the forecast predicted. It was actually what I'd consider a bit chilly, particularly in the lab where I was all day.

Mostly I didn't do anything important. Though I suppose I should finish my system recommendations and I have been forgetting to do that since the weekend. I did play a game for a few hours. And I watched some stuff. But overall I really don't remember the day. It passed quickly, yet I have almost no memory of it. If I were in a home I may have been disappointed that I basically lost a full day. (Though I'm sure I'd have had reminder notes for me to do stuff.)

My donation money was in my bank this morning, so I did pay the registration finally. So that is now fully complete and no longer a worry. And, I believe y next big worry isn't until several months from now in October. So hopefully I can finally start to relax now that I don't have to worry about that.

But I suppose today was ok. I had fun-ish. Nothing bad happened. I don't feel too sad, though I did feel sad. And I made it through the day, and continue to hope there are better days ahead.

### **Day 3285 - 6/29**

#### **Quiet**

Today was pretty quiet. Almost everyone is already done with their tests and off campus. I spent the morning finishing the things I'd been needing to do. Then most of the afternoon I played a game. I'm still torn about it. It's the old one which was resurrected, so I'm still in areas that I know. And I know it's very likely I won't continue to play past October when I hopefully can get a game I'm very much looking forward to. But part of me wants to keep playing. Part of me wants to get where I left off so many years ago and hear the stories I'd not heard and do the things I'd not done. But I'm torn too because now



it's a 'very single player friendly' game. And I already have a game like that, one that is filled with people all of the time instead of empty. Yet part of me wants to keep going, despite its flaws. But a bigger issue for some reason is it's firewalled at school. Nothing else is. So I have to pull land line in the lab in order to play, which is not ideal. I'm curious if it will be blocked at the library.

But I guess it was an ok day. I still wanted to be in a home all day. To have the comforts of other things like cooking food, doing laundry, showering and trying to get my hair under control, playing other games and dividing my time between different ones.

But I have what I have. And while my emotions are calm and my sadness kept at bay, I do those things that do so and don't question them too much. So I try to focus on now, and I try to stay hopeful for tomorrow, and for better days ahead.

## **Day 3286 - 6/30**

### **Half cooked**

Today I maybe escaped a bad mistake. I went to cook my lunch, and what I figured would be dinner. I expected the food area to close early, and I was right. What I didn't realize until I was eating was that I'd only cooked my lunch half way. The timer only goes to 3:30, and it needs 4 minutes, so I usually do it in two 2s. I did notice after the first bite, as it was a touch cold. But after a few test bites it seemed like it was ok. I guess it was pre-cooked and the micro time is mostly to cook the crust. My tummy was just a little upset, but I didn't want to throw it away since I seemed ok after a few bites and couldn't really afford to throw it out.

Today was ok I suppose. Things were very quiet all day. I snuck in to the lab even though there was a class, as I knew they wouldn't have a normal final and they'd just be turning stuff in. It let out about 2:30 and from then on it was just me and a couple of other people there until it closed for the evening.

I guess I'll be ok emotionally with the quarter's end. Next starts right up again on Monday (with Tuesday off), so there won't really be any time for sad feelings.

But I still hope for change. I do hope things get better. I try to keep an eye out for opportunity and keep hoping for the future and looking forward to better days.

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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.