

WORTHOG

wort-unfermented beer; hog-me

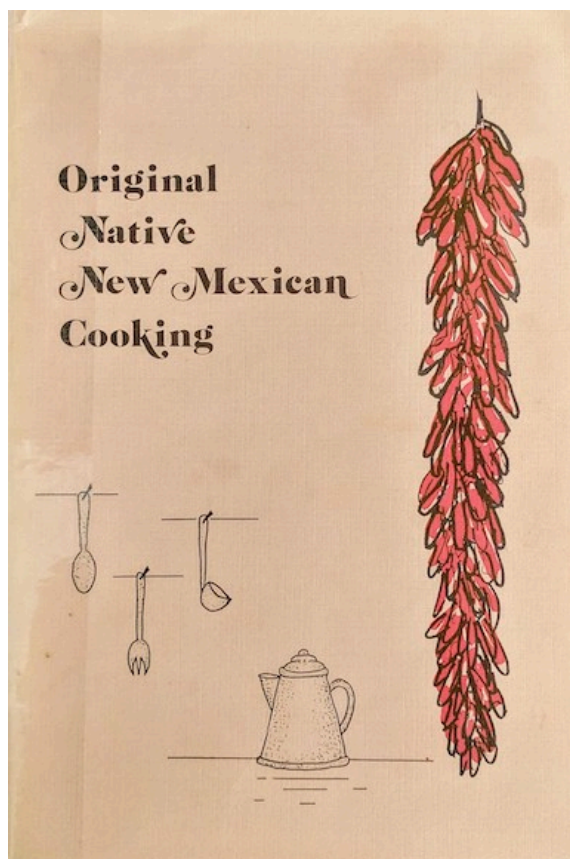
Posts from worthog.org. Printed on December 13, 2021

CAPIROTADA (REMEMBERING DAD & GRANDMA P)

May 12, 2021

Categories: Recipes

Tags: Mexican



My father sent me this recipe from his AOL email account way back in September of 2012. My abuela used sliced white bread and cheddar cheese, I think. And my mama probably did the same; why screw with perfection?

My *hermanos* might recognize the book cover—the one dad mentions in his email. There's a new edition of that same book which you can order from ~~Amazon~~ [Barnes & Noble](#). Get it.

Querido Kiko

Te mando una receta para preparar budin de pan. La mayoría de la gente le llaman “capirotada”.

CAPIROTADA

(bread pudding)

10 slices of bread	4 c water	1/2 c sugar	1 t cinnamom
1/2 t nutmeg (optional)	1/2 t (optional)	1/2 t cloves (optional)	1/4 t salt
2 tbs butter	1 c cheese, sliced	1 c raisins	1/2 c red wine (optional)
1/2 c walnuts (chopped)			

Toast bread and break into pieces. Boil water,sugar,spices and salt for 10 minutes. Coat baking pan with butter. Place bread, cheese, raisins, butter, and wine on pan.Pour liquid over bread mixture. Bake at 320 degrees for 20 minutes or longer until liquid is absorbed.

This recipe is basically what your mother uses. This is recipe that granny Pena used. Your mom does not use items (optional). Your mom uses cinnamon sticks (1to 2) when water is boiling instead of ground cinnamon. Remove and discard sticks from water after boiling.

This recipe is in the cook book we gave you (Original Native New Mexican Cooking). ENJOY!!!

Un abrazo muy fuerte,

Tu padre

NO COMMENTS

MOTHER'S DAY POEM

May 4, 2021

Categories: Poetry



Happy Mother's Day, mom
you should know
how much we love you so
how much you're missed each day

how we treasure words you say
how we want to see you smile
and happy, all the while.

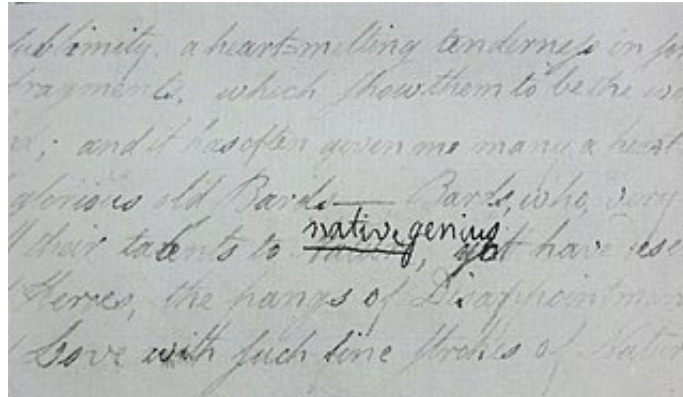
NO COMMENTS

WHERE DO THE DEAD GO IN OUR IMAGINATIONS?

April 24, 2021

Categories: Commonplaces

Tags: death



“So this is where the dead go in our imaginations: They continue to live with us in the moments when we are sad and terrified. They cheer for us. They give us unbelievable strength and the courage we lack to carry on in situations. They coax us through. They lead us where we need to be, to experience the joy and capability that was them. They who have been with us in life manage to teach us how and where in death we can listen for them and find their voices and essence again.”

- [Where Do the Dead Go in Our Imaginations?](#), Anakana Schofield, NY Times

NO COMMENTS

CROCK POT PINTO BEANS (FRIJOLES)

April 12, 2021

Categories: Food, Recipes

Tags: Mexican



To 2 cups of well rinsed, good beans from the Colorado highlands (or lesser beans from somewhere else), add 7 cups of cold water, half an onion (or a couple of crushed garlic cloves), a small dried chili, and some epazote or a few cilantro stems. Cook on low setting for about 5 hours. When the beans are cooked to your taste, turn off the crock pot and add a couple of teaspoons of ketchup, a teaspoon of cider vinegar, and salt to your taste. Like any soup or stew, they are better a day later.

If you want to cook more or less beans, the ratio of beans to water is 1:3.5, *exactly and approximately*.

Soaking your beans, adding epazote, or any other methods proposed to prevent you from farting are all fiction, lies and wishful thinking. You will have gas. Enjoy it.

NO COMMENTS

SABA (サバ, MACKEREL)

April 10, 2021

Categories: Food, Recipes

Tags: Japanese



Take a whole, gutted mackerel, salt the hell out of it (inside and out) with some good sea salt or kosher salt, then broil it until nicely colored, or—better—cook it outside on a grill or your house will smell a little gamey for a day or two! Serve with some good kimchi and rice.

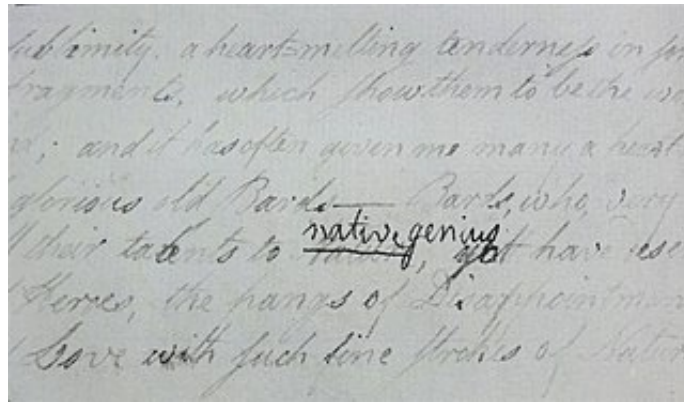


NO COMMENTS

COMMONPLACES

November 16, 2020

Categories: Commonplaces



“Uniformity of thought is the death of thought. It paves the road to hell”

Roger Cohen, NY Times Sunday Review, 15 November 2020

NO COMMENTS

VOLUNTEER POPPIES

June 14, 2020
Categories: Plants



Blooming!

NO COMMENTS

CAMELLIA

May 6, 2020

Categories: Plants, Uncategorized



Fallen Camellia flowers are as pretty on the ground as they are on the tree. #garden

NO COMMENTS

RHODIES PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ

May 6, 2020

Categories: Plants, Uncategorized



Rhododendrons are in bloom. What's prettier? Nothing!

#garden

NO COMMENTS

INDIAN FOOD, HECHO DE MANO

April 27, 2020

Categories: Food

Tags: Indian



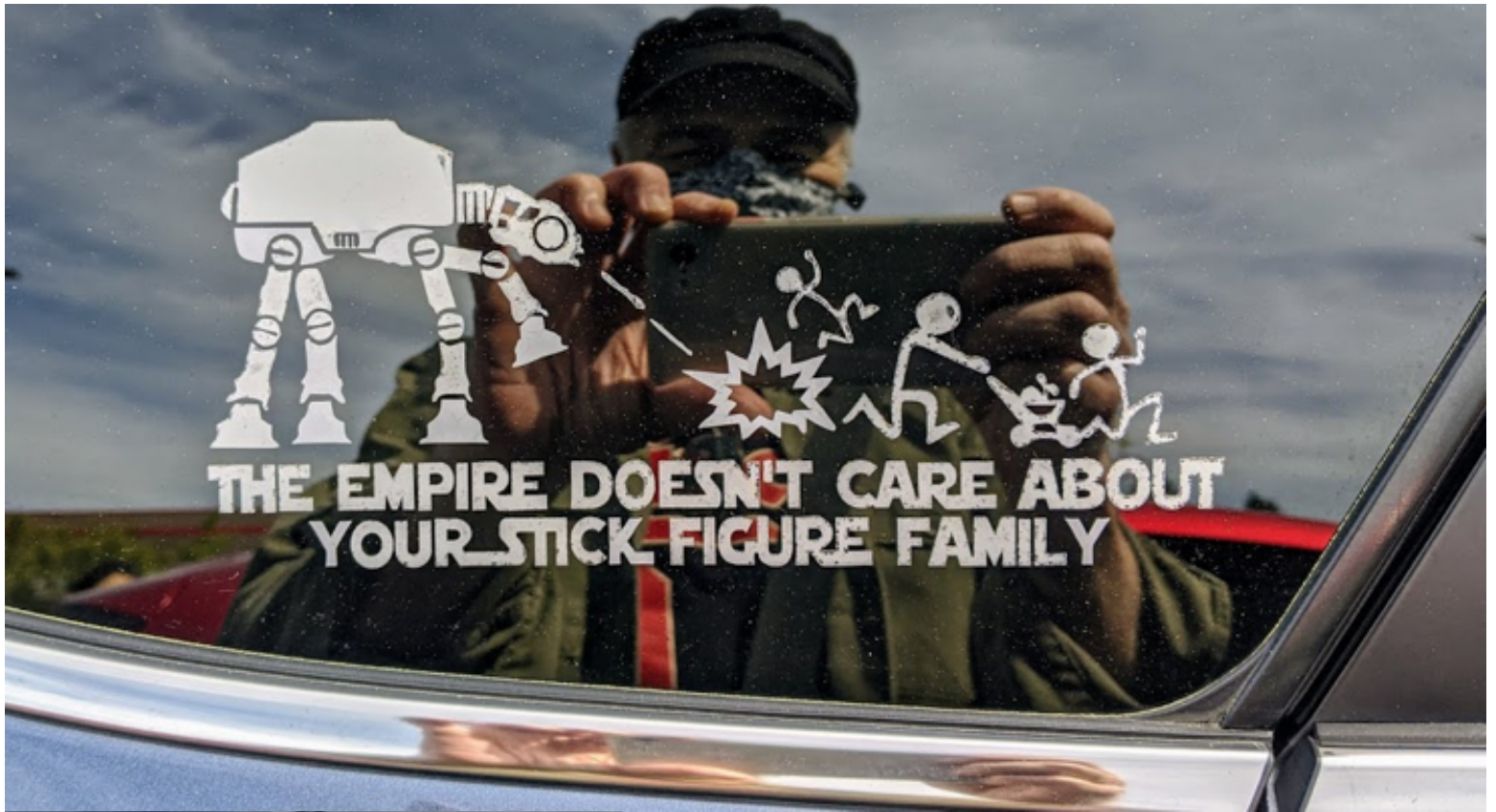
Homemade Indian food is so...fucking... good. #vegetarian (Today, anyway.)

NO COMMENTS

BUMPER STICKER OF THE DAY

April 26, 2020

Categories: Commonplaces



NO COMMENTS

INDOOR MINI ORCHIDS

April 25, 2020

Categories: Uncategorized



Good things come in pairs (think couples, shoes, underwear... 🤔). Like these orchids, which usually give only one flower each year.

NO COMMENTS

FIGS FORMING!

April 18, 2020

Categories: Plants



The Desert King figs are forming! Who will get them first, us or those fucking starlings?

NO COMMENTS

BOULE WITH CARAWAY SEED

April 8, 2020

Categories: food



Made with my starter, "Libby" or "Pan" (still undecided about the name) and caraway seeds carried here by relatives from The Levant. #food #hechocasero

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR MAMA

September 15, 2019

Categories: Poetry



You've raised us all, these 50 years and more
We've be coddled, and loved, and never ignored
You taught us that life should be embraced and adored
And prepared us for all that life had in store

But your family still needs your loving rapport
Your children, our children, their children and more
They all need to learn about life's great rewards
Those same lessons you gave, all those years passed before.

NO COMMENTS

MORE NUTTY TEXTS FROM JOE

December 30, 2017

Categories: IFTTT, shitjoesays

"All the closer to the border to deport you, my little pretty."
This from a Mexican version of The Wizard of Oz I made up.
And the evil witch in this one by default becomes the
Wicked Spic of the South 😨 Don't tell your male relatives
this or they'll have to kill me for what borders on a su Madre
you know what! If you and Colleen both get deported, can I
have your house? 😇

Oct 21, 2:22 PM

NO COMMENTS

MORE NUTTY TEXTS FROM JOE

December 30, 2017

Categories: IFTTT, shitjoesays

Hey cockroach colon cornhole bacterial. What up?

Nov 12, 4:56 PM

NO COMMENTS

MORE NUTTY TEXTS FROM JOE

December 30, 2017

Categories: IFTTT, shitjoesays

I just heard Tom Jones sing Black Betty. It made me moist!



Dec 2, 6:33 PM

NO COMMENTS

MORE NUTTY TEXTS FROM JOE

December 30, 2017

Categories: IFTTT, shitjoesays

Dec 24, 2017 at 3:34 PM

Phallus Navidad Mexican Turd Burgler!

Sun 3:34 PM

NO COMMENTS

I'M NOT A CHURCHGOER, BUT I DO LIKE TO SING. THIS SAGE ADVICE WAS IN THE CHURCH HYMNAL. ONE ALWAYS LEARNS SOMETHING IN SACRED PLACES. #SING #SINGING #HOWTOSING

December 11, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Bci5G4YFPHX/>

NO COMMENTS

PHỞ TÁI AND CÀ PHÊ SỮA ĐÁ. THE PERFECT BREAKFAST
OR LUNCH. IMMIGRANT FOODS MAKE AMERICA GREAT.
(WITH APOLOGIES TO MY VEGETARIAN FRIENDS.)
#IMMIGRANTSMAKEAMERICAGREAT #PHO

December 1, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2izg2V4>

NO COMMENTS

HAUNTING JAPANESE DOLL DISPLAY IN THE “I-D”. BEST VIEWED LATE AND LONELY. #JAPANESEDOLL #NINGYO #HINAMATSURI

October 30, 2017

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2yYF320>

NO COMMENTS

A POEM ABOUT GOOD DRINK AND OLD AGE

September 19, 2017

Categories: Poetry, ramblings

It's OK to become an old crotch

Life is better, each year, by a notch

One reason, we feel

We've moved on from cheap swill

And now we sip drams of good scotch

NO COMMENTS

TWO HALF GALLON JARS OF JALAPEÑOS EN ESCABECHE,
HECHO CASERO. WHO KNEW THAT WA CHILES COULD BE
SO GOOD? WE KNEW. #MASONTOPS #FERMENTEDFOODS
#BALLARDFARMERSMARKET

September 8, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2gR5PIk>

NO COMMENTS

THE CREATURES INHABITING SOME OF OUR ABANDONED HOMES ARE NOT SO SCARY AFTER ALL. #ARTISEVERYWHERE

August 31, 2017

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2xzWQJu>

NO COMMENTS

FLYING SORT OF SUCKS, BUT OCCASIONALLY YOU'RE
TREATED TO IMAGES LIKE THIS (APPROACH TO SEA).
#FLYING #AIRTRAVEL #CLOUDS #CLOUDPORN

August 15, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2uFWZgH>

NO COMMENTS

BACKYARD SUNFLOWER, DUSTY WITH POLLEN.
#SUNFLOWER #SEATTLEGARDEN #SEATTLESUMMER

August 12, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2vwxADa>

NO COMMENTS

#CITYLIFE #BUMPERSTICKERWISDOM #BUMPERSTICKER

August 9, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2uoh5rk>

NO COMMENTS

NIKKA YOICHI, NEAT. A FINE WAY TO FINISH AN EVENING
AND STAY IN LOVELY BUFFALO. #BUFFALOVE #WHISKY
#JAPANESEWHISKY

July 14, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2tlh5XU>

NO COMMENTS

I LOVE THIS MASSIVE TREE. IT SHOULD HAVE A NAME. BUFFALO IS A CITY WITH A LONG HISTORY (BY AMERICAN STANDARDS). I'LL BET THIS TREE HAS SOME INTERESTING STORIES TO TELL. #BUFFALOLOVE #TREES #CITYLIFE

July 11, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2sYAC5b>

NO COMMENTS

ON THE TRAIL TO OYSTER DONE, THE SUN PEEKING OVER
A VERY LARGE BOULDER. #FINDYOURPARK #WAHIKES
#BELLINGHAM

July 7, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2u0CgDo>

NO COMMENTS

TRANSFORMATION OF RHUBARB AND STRAWBERRY INTO
LOVELY PRESERVES – THE STRAWBERRIES ARE FROM MY
LOCAL FARMERS MARKET AND THE RHUBARB FROM MY
BACKYARD. THE RECIPE FROM @FOODINJARS.

#PRESERVES #RHUBARB #BALLARDFARMERSMARKET
#SIDHUFARMS

July 1, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2uaYtvc>

NO COMMENTS

AN (ALMOST) PERFECT DAY IN SEATTLE. THE ONLY THING MISSING WAS A LITTLE WIND TO FLY A KITE.
#SEATTLELOVE #HOTFUNINTHESUMMERTIME

May 30, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2rzyPT9>

NO COMMENTS

A LOVELY MACCHIATTO AT ONE OF SEVERAL FINE COFFEE BARS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD. VITA HAS THE COOLEST ESPRESSO MACHINES IN THE FREMONT BARRIO, IMHO.
#ESPRESSO #COFFEE #COFFEECULTURE #SEATTLELOVE #COFFEEART

May 22, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2rJXNvC>

NO COMMENTS

THIS LOVELY #LEVAIN LOAF FROM
@THREEFLIESONAKNIFE WAS A DELICIOUS REVELATION. I
LOVE THAT THEY'RE DOING THIS MAGIC IN LOMPOC, BUT
I'D LOVE IT MORE IF THEY WERE DOING THE SAME IN
SEATTLE. MAYBE THE TRICK IS TO NOT GIVE THE MOTHER A
NAME! #SOURDOUGH #LOMPOCFARMERSMARKET
#ARTISANBREAD #LOMPOCLIFE

May 16, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



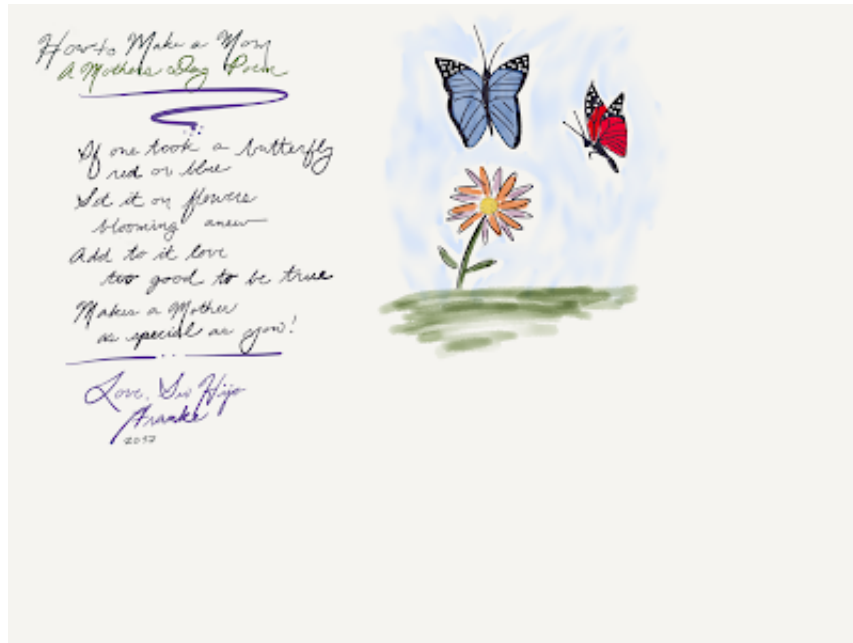
via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2qmbRNi>

NO COMMENTS

MOTHER'S DAY POEM

May 14, 2017

Categories: Poetry, ramblings



How to Make a Mom

A Mother's Day Poem

NO COMMENTS

PUSCH NORWAY SPRUCE CONES ARE SUCH SHOWOFFS IN
THE SPRING. #SEATTLEGARDEN #GARDEN
#SPRINGHASSPRUNG

May 11, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2qVzXQ2>

NO COMMENTS

MORE #RAMEN, PLEASE! COLLEEN SAYS IT'S THE NOODLES, I SAY IT'S THE BROTH. WE BOTH AGREE THAT #SANTOUKARAMEN IS AWESOME. LOCATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA AND ASIA. WITH APOLOGIES TO MY VEGETARIAN, MUSLIM AND JEWISH FRIENDS.

May 9, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2qMke5J>

NO COMMENTS

IFC AT DUSK. 真棒! 再見香港 . #SKYSCRAPER

May 4, 2017

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2q3opKp>

NO COMMENTS

REPPIN' @BLEACHBEARBAND IN HONG KONG.
UBIQUITOUS TAXIS AND BAMBOO SCAFFOLDING IN
BACKGROUND. #SEATTLEMUSIC

May 1, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2qnsean>

NO COMMENTS

THE FISH MONGER, #HONGKONG. #FRESHFISH #MOMENTS

April 30, 2017

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2piMcEI>

NO COMMENTS

HONG KONG IS SPECTACULAR AT ALL HOURS. #CITYLIGHTS

April 23, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2pRSQTr>

NO COMMENTS

ARTIST POINT, 5,100 FEET. ABSOLUTELY BURIED UNDER MANY FEET OF SNOW. A PEEK OF BAKER LAKE IN THE DISTANCE. #FINDYOURPARK #SNOWSHOE #SNOW #CASCADES #KULSHAN

April 14, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2oHy343>

NO COMMENTS

ON THE MYSTIC BEACH TRAIL IN BC. IT WAS A MUDDY
SLOG TO THE BEACH, BUT WELL WORTH IT.
#VANCOUVERISLAND #FOREST #TREES

April 4, 2017

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2o7hXR4>

NO COMMENTS

NO FILTER, NO EMBELLISHMENT. IT REALLY WAS THIS
BEAUTIFUL. #VANCOUVERISLAND #SUNSET
#SUNSETTRAVELSTARS

March 29, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2o9xjVz>

NO COMMENTS

A WHIMSICAL, CREEPY, SILLY, SICK, FUNNY GARDEN
DECORATION. (NOT MINE.) #SEATTLELOVE
#SEATTLEGARDEN

March 22, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2n66TAT>

NO COMMENTS

THIS WAS TAKEN ON A HIKE IN JULY, 2016. THE PHOTO WAS “ENHANCED” BY GOOGLE PHOTOS, BUT EVEN WITHOUT THE TRICKERY IT WAS A MAGICAL SCENE. #FINDYOURPARK

March 12, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2njBbjj>

NO COMMENTS

I SAW THIS WRETCHED, BENT OVER SNOW CREATURE.
ANOTHER SEES A LOVELY SWAN. I THINK SHE'S RIGHT.
#SNOWSHOE #SNOW #FINDYOURPARK

March 3, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2mOWA3Q>

NO COMMENTS

SURREAL LIGHT ON MT RAINIER. THAT'S THE TATOOSH RANGE IN THE BACKGROUND. #SNOWSHOE

February 26, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2mqPlyK>

NO COMMENTS

非常好吃! IMMIGRANTS HAVE ENRICHED MY COUNTRY IN EVERY WAY. #IMMIGRANTSMAKEAMERICAGREAT #IMMIGRANTFOOD #SEATTLELOVE

February 17, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2IRAkSH>

NO COMMENTS

CLOUD COVER OVER THE LA BASIN. ES ENCANTADOR, ¿SÍ?

February 12, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2kyjdrA>

NO COMMENTS

CRIME SCENE, BUTCHERY OR #CANNING #BEETS? HINT:
THERE WAS VINEGAR, SALT, SUGAR AND SPICES INVOLVED.

February 3, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2l6zvYx>

NO COMMENTS

#SEATTLELOVE #HOMESWEETHOME #AIRTRAVEL

January 30, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2kJu4P>

NO COMMENTS

BUDDHA WITH OFFERINGS. I DON'T KNOW IF THE
#RAINIERBEER IS AN OFFERING OR JUST WHAT HAPPENS
ON #CITYSTREETS.

January 28, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2keB75X>

NO COMMENTS

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR A PROTEST. WITH 120 THOUSAND OTHERS AT #WOMENSMARCH IN SEATTLE.

January 22, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2j0TYgg>

NO COMMENTS

@BLEACHBEARBAND PERFORMING AT THE BIG ASS BOOMBOX MUSIC FESTIVAL.

January 7, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2jmpdGW>

NO COMMENTS

ANOTHER #HOMECOMING, DESCENDING INTO THE CLOUDS. #AIRTRAVEL #MOMENTS

January 6, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2hWTprS>

NO COMMENTS

A CHRISTMAS POEM / PRAYER

December 29, 2016

Categories: Poetry

Mom and Dad...

You bring us together
Each Christmas Day
With friends and family all welcome
From near and away

Pam and Larry bring 2
Always here come what may
My brother brings 5
With their jovial ways

The Trotters bring 6
But late, not today
The Tabor's also bring 6
When you count fiancées

Ryan brings 5
They give life to the fray
Evie brings 4
But Art has a workday

I bring only myself
With good wishes from K
And the usual poem
Which makes dinner delayed

Those not able to come
Are missed sorely this day
Safe trips home for us all
For that we all pray

NO COMMENTS

A BRISK WINTER HIKE IN THE DESERT. #FINDYOURPARK

December 27, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2iALCvJ>

NO COMMENTS

WINTER WONDERLAND. 6F, OR -14C, ...BABY IT'S COLD
OUTSIDE! #SNOWSHOE #FINDYOURPARK

December 18, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2h08UiB>

NO COMMENTS

“AIKO” #STREETART #URBANART

December 12, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2hnUWUA>

NO COMMENTS

HANNEGAN PASS TRAIL, HIKED IN JULY 2016. #FINDYOURPARK #NORTHCASCADES

December 2, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2gPemUq>

NO COMMENTS

YEE SHUN MILK COMPANY, NATHAN ROAD. A FAVORITE.

October 29, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2fptibo>

NO COMMENTS

“CAT TIME B I A T C H” IN HONG KONG. #STREETART

October 23, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2e0CSNI>

NO COMMENTS

COSMOS ALL OVER THE GARDEN, BUT ONLY ONE WITH A SINGLE, MULTICOLORED FLOWER. #GARDENING

September 24, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2cZCZJY>

NO COMMENTS

HEN AND CHICKS, AND THE COMING OF FALL. #GARDENING

September 18, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2cAifci>

NO COMMENTS

PICKLED JALAPEÑOS EN ESCABECHE, INSPIRED BY A RECIPE FROM @OZUKEPICKLEDTHINGS, INGREDIENTS FROM BALLARD FARMERS MARKET, AND MY FERMENTING CROCK FROM @IN_FERMENT .

#BALLARDFARMERSMARKET #PRESERVING
#FERMENTATION

September 16, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2cx0OJP>

NO COMMENTS

THE MAKINGS FOR JALAPEÑOS EN ESCABECHE. #CANNING #PRESERVING #SEATTLEFARMERSMARKET

September 12, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2c8PEuW>

NO COMMENTS

ART IS EVERYWHERE, EVEN IN DIRTY WINDOWS. #STREETART

September 9, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2bZYoVQ>

NO COMMENTS

ENCHILADAS FOR BREAKFAST? ¡SÍ POR FAVOR! #LANDOFENCHANTMENT #COMIDAMEXICANA

September 8, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2cmc0df>

NO COMMENTS

IT'S A LOVELY THING TO WITNESS SUCH PROFOUND DEVOTION.

September 5, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2bYaavm>

NO COMMENTS

THE HOP HARVEST. #GARDENING #HOMEBREW

September 2, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2c5veUB>

NO COMMENTS

WESTERN PASQUE FLOWER, SURELY AN INSPIRATION FOR DR SEUSS. THE NATIONAL PARKS, "AMERICA'S BEST IDEA" JUST TURNED 100 YEARS OLD. #FINDYOURPARK

August 27, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2c359WG>

NO COMMENTS

GARLIC AND CHILE FROM HATCH, NEW MEXICO. THIS IS WHERE IT ALL STARTS. #HATCHCHILE

August 23, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2bcV9Wi>

NO COMMENTS

#FINDYOURPARK

August 10, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2aLezTB>

NO COMMENTS

REPPIN' @BLEACHBEARBAND IN HONG KONG.

July 30, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/2aEihl9>

NO COMMENTS

BEES DO IT...THEY LOVE THE BACKYARD MARJORAM.
#BEES #GARDEN

July 16, 2016

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/29XR7Wi>

NO COMMENTS

MORE MAGIC FROM @VIFSEATTLE. THE RUBY COLORED GEMS ARE PICKLED TURNIPS, A REVELATION. THE SCHMEAR ON THE PLATE IS LABNEH. MMMMMMMMM...

July 10, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/29x5qhP>

NO COMMENTS

AWESOME #FIFTIES #SIXTIES FASHION PHOTO COLLAGE IN THE CLOSET OF A \$1.25 MILLION SEATTLE “FIXER”.

July 3, 2016

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/29pKZD8>

NO COMMENTS

SNAPDRAGONS LOOKING PRETTY...SNAPPY! #GARDENING

June 29, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/295h9nA>

NO COMMENTS

MAGICAL COSMOS, ARE THEY REAL? A NEW FAVORITE. #SEATTLE #GARDEN

June 21, 2016

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/28MYhbe>

NO COMMENTS

#HYDRANGEA, HER MAJESTY. #SEATTLE

June 15, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1UzFhfB>

NO COMMENTS

HOMECOMINGS. #SEATTLE

June 11, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1UIFiNS>

NO COMMENTS

TULIPS IN ALL THEIR GLORY! #SPRINGHASSPRUNG #GARDEN

April 1, 2016

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1RCJM88>

NO COMMENTS

FEARSOME MANEKI-NEKO ARMY. #MANEKI

March 15, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1Ri2nM8>

NO COMMENTS

PHYLLIS THE AMARYLLIS, IN ALL HER GLORY AT TOP AND NEARING THE END AT BOTTOM. #AMARYLLIS

March 13, 2016

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1RYy6yM>

NO COMMENTS

A BIRTHDAY POEM FOR TIGERLILY

March 11, 2016
Categories: Poetry

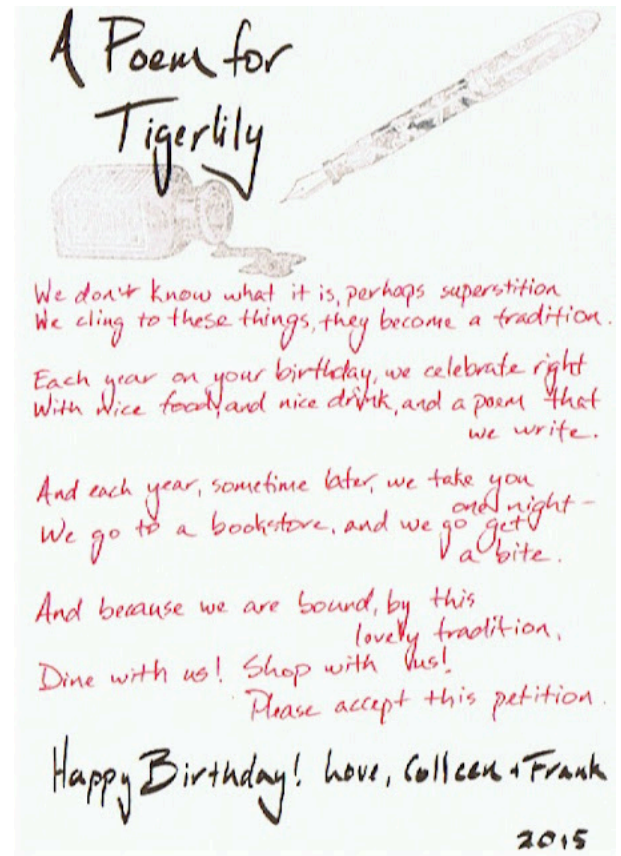
A Poem for Tigerlily

We don't know what it is, perhaps superstition
We cling to these things, they become a tradition.

Each year on your birthday, we celebrate right
With nice food, and nice drink, and a poem that we write.

And each year, sometime later, we take you one night-
We go to a bookstore, and we go get a bite.

And because we are bound by this lovely tradition
Dine with us! Shop with us!
Please accept this petition.



NO COMMENTS

DAPHNE, THE SMELL OF SPRING, IS NEARLY DONE.
#GARDEN #SPRINGHASSPRUNG

March 9, 2016

Categories: *Uncategorized*



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1R7U67d>

NO COMMENTS

OUR MONSTER RHUBARB-JUST EMERGING FROM HER WINTER SLEEP-HAS ME THINKING OF RHUBARB CRISP AND PRESERVES. #SPRINGHASSPRUNG #GARDEN

March 9, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1Rz8pSP>

NO COMMENTS

SPRATS, ONIONS, CAPERS, AND DILL ON RYE WITH A SCHMEAR OF LABNEH. PERFECTION FROM #VIFSEATTLE .

February 28, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1OEsx3I>

NO COMMENTS

SNOWDROPS, GIVING WAY TO THE TULIPS. #GARDEN #SPRINGHASSPRUNG

February 26, 2016

Categories: Uncategorized



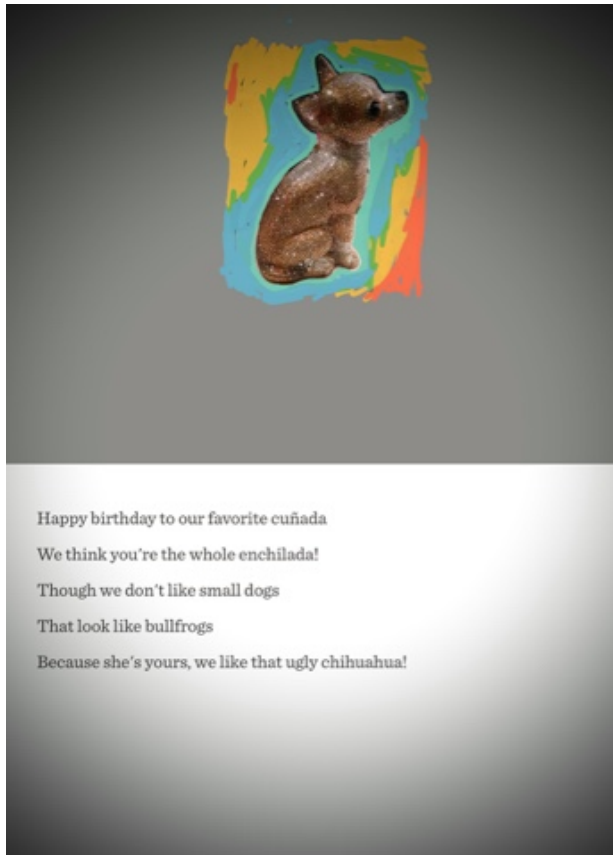
via Instagram <http://ift.tt/1Qmg2Mn>

NO COMMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ROXANNE!

December 14, 2015

Categories: Poetry



Love, Franke y Colleen

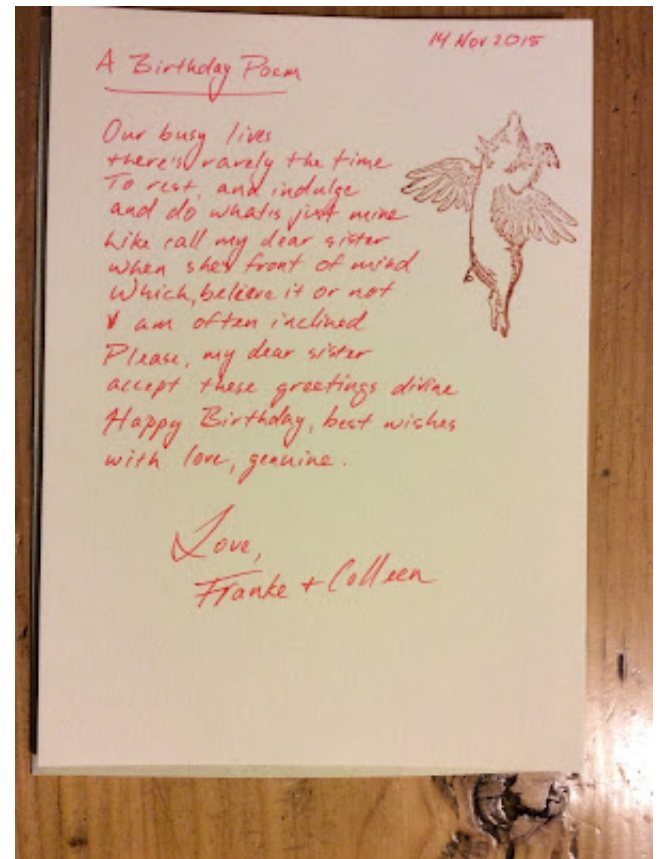
NO COMMENTS

A BIRTHDAY POEM FOR PEGGY

November 14, 2015

Categories: Poetry

Our busy lives
there's rarely the time
To rest, and indulge
and do what's just mine
Like call my dear sister
when she's front of mind
Which believe it or not
I am often inclined
Please, my dear sister
accept these greetings divine
Happy Birthday, best wishes,
with love, genuine.



NO COMMENTS

SAUERKRAUT AND BREAD MAKE A MEAL

September 19, 2015

Categories: Food, Recipes



This is the kind of simple, tasty meal that one can prepare with sauerkraut and bread (both *hecho casero*), scrambled eggs, and a little mayonnaise.

Bread, eggs and fermented cabbage. Nothing else needed. On second thought, maybe a nice, sour beer would have been a nice accompaniment.

NO COMMENTS

HATCH CHILE

September 4, 2015

Categories: Food



'Tis the season for Hatch Chile,
Fa la la la la la la la la.

NO COMMENTS

SUNGOLD AND SWEET MILLION TOMATOES

August 28, 2015

Categories: food, Plants

The Sungold and Sweet Million tomatoes are done for the season. Lord am I going to miss these little gems.



NO COMMENTS

75% WHOLE WHEAT BREAD

August 18, 2015

Categories: food

Made with my 2 year old, yet-to-be-named levain. The whole wheat flour is from Bluebird Grain Farms.



NO COMMENTS

GARDEN BETTY'S RUBY KRAUT

August 14, 2015

Categories: Food, Recipes



Found this lovely, 4 pound cabbage at the farmers market and was inspired to again try my hand at sauerkraut. Using this Garden Betty recipe as a guide, here's what I did:

- Used our lovely and somewhat impractical old mandolin to shred 1.70 kilograms of cabbage.
- Added 160 grams of carrot
- To that, 27 grams of salt
- 2 teaspoons of peppercorns
- 3 small bay leaves
- 2 teaspoons of celery seeds



Massage the salt into the cabbage and other ingredients, and let sit for a couple of hours to draw out the water, giving it the occasional turn and massage all the while.

Stuffed it all into my lovely fermenting crock from In Ferment and waited 14 days.

Voilà, sauerkraut! But, I've no idea how Garden Betty can maintain the bright color of those carrots after a long fermentation. Mine was truly ruby kraut throughout.

NO COMMENTS

PASTA WITH FLOWERS

August 13, 2015

Categories: food

Whole wheat pasta with squash, borage and nasturtiums from the garden. Plenty of olive oil, brown butter, garlic, red pepper flakes, and parmigiano reggiano, not from the garden. 😊



NO COMMENTS

GARDEN'S BOUNTY

August 12, 2015
Categories: Plants

The squash has been prolific, the tomatoes are thriving in the hot weather, and we are the beneficiaries of our own hard work.



NO COMMENTS

FINGERLING POTATOES HARVEST

August 10, 2015

Categories: Food, Plants

A portion of the 5.2 pound (recent) harvest of Russian Banana fingerling potatoes from our garden. Boil, add butter and salt, and enjoy. It really is that simple.



NO COMMENTS

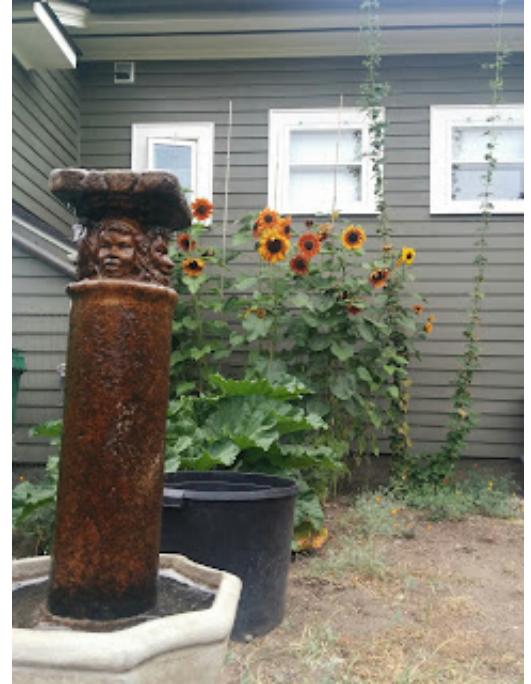
SUNFLOWERS

August 7, 2015

Categories: Plants

The sunflowers are in their prime. What is lovelier than seeing these magnificent plants, which had their start from a tiny unremarkable looking seed?

That's our hop on the vine to the right of the sunflowers. Brown leaves, stunted growth. ¿Qué pasó?



NO COMMENTS

MEXICAN SOUL FOOD

August 6, 2015
Categories: Food



Calabacitas (with Hatch chile), frijoles y tortillas. Soul food for raza.

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR PEGGY – YEARS OLD (THE POEM, NOT PEGGY)

March 26, 2015

Categories: Poetry

Sitting here, pondering, over a beer.

What will I do? Your birthday is here!

It's tomorrow, in fact, and I've not sent a gift.

But we send love and regards, so please don't feel missed!

NO COMMENTS

A SILLY BIRTHDAY LIMERICK FOR ANTS, MY BROTHER

March 18, 2015

Categories: Poetry

In sports, you make me a klutz
and your politics, batshit nuts.

But we love you still,
and we always will

Cuz you're family, no ifs, ands or buts.

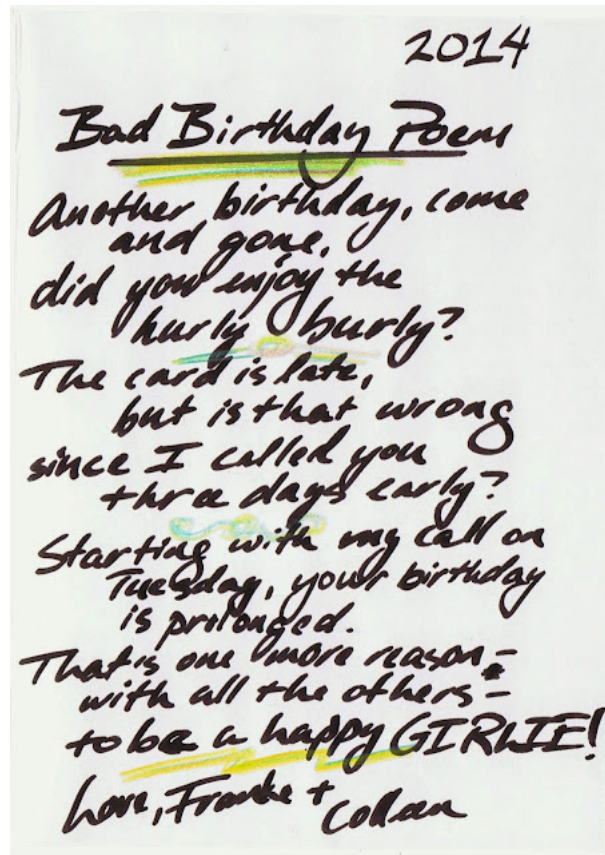


NO COMMENTS

A BAD BIRTHDAY POEM, FOR PEGGY

November 13, 2014

Categories: Poetry

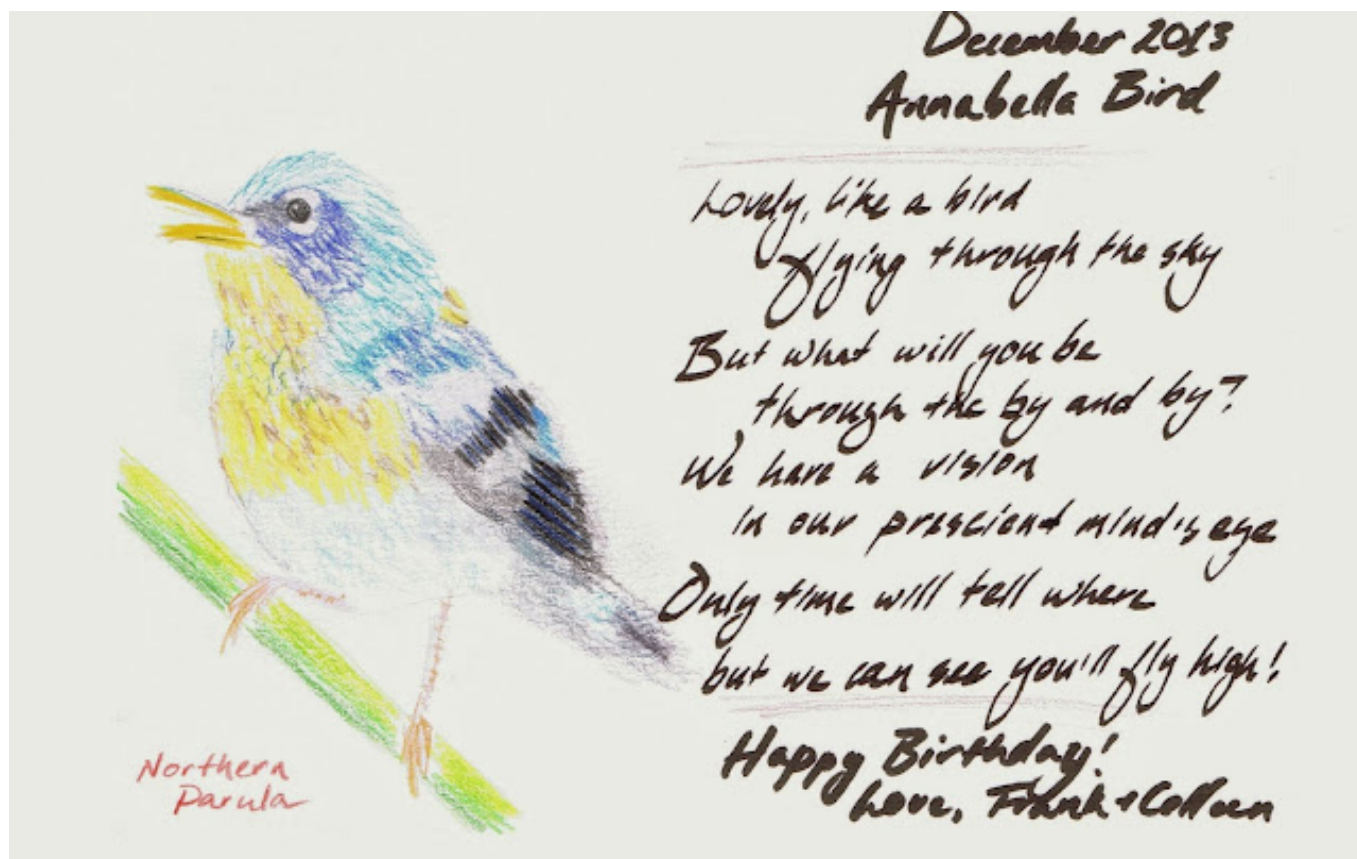


NO COMMENTS

ANOTHER BIRTHDAY POEM, THIS TIME FOR BIRD.

November 13, 2014

Categories: Poetry

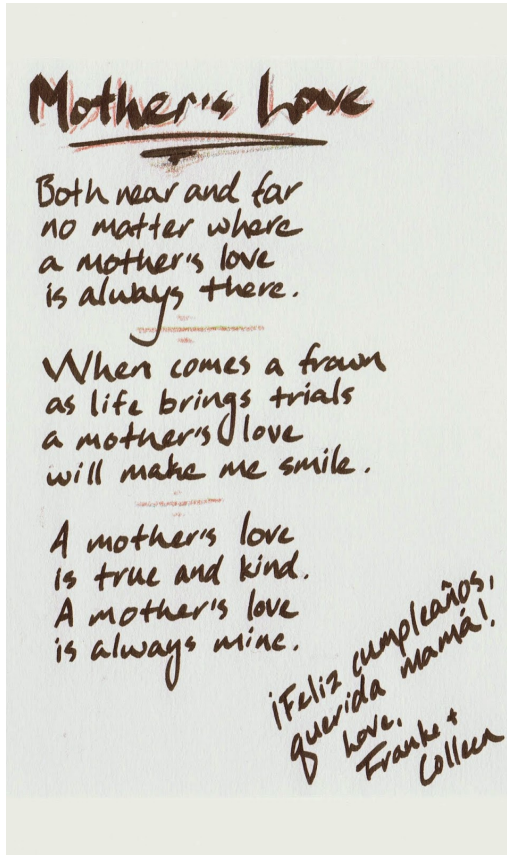


NO COMMENTS

A BIRTHDAY POEM FOR MI QUERIDA MAMÁ

September 15, 2014

Categories: Poetry



NO COMMENTS

MOTHER'S DAY POEM, 2013

August 30, 2014

Categories: Poetry

How can I say,
what you mean to me?
You are why I am here
you are my reason to be.

To be happy to know
that you too are fine.
To be sad when you're down
your feelings are mine.

I am right at your side
although I'm not near.
It's what you've given to me
year, after year.

NO COMMENTS

A MOTHER'S DAY CARD, 2014

August 30, 2014

Categories: Poetry



NO COMMENTS

SAUERKRAUT

August 22, 2014

Categories: Food, Recipes



Here's what I started with:

- A lovely cabbage from the farmers market (used 1.63kg of this mammoth 2.7kg beast!)
- My cool, new fermenting crock from In Ferment
- Salt, 36g
- Juniper berries and caraway seeds, maybe 1tsp each

Here's a recipe I found, which I liked because it gave salt measurements as a proportion of the amount of cabbage. We use a very nice, refined (wimpy) salt and I figured that following a volume measurement would not do.



I departed from the recipe by massaging the salt into the cabbage and then letting it sit in a large bowl for an hour to draw out moisture and reduce to a size that I could fit in my fermenting crock!

I was told that the crock could accommodate a 5 lb cabbage, which I never would have believed until my cabbage had reduced to a point where ultimately it filled only half the crock.

Here's what it looked like in the fermenting crock.

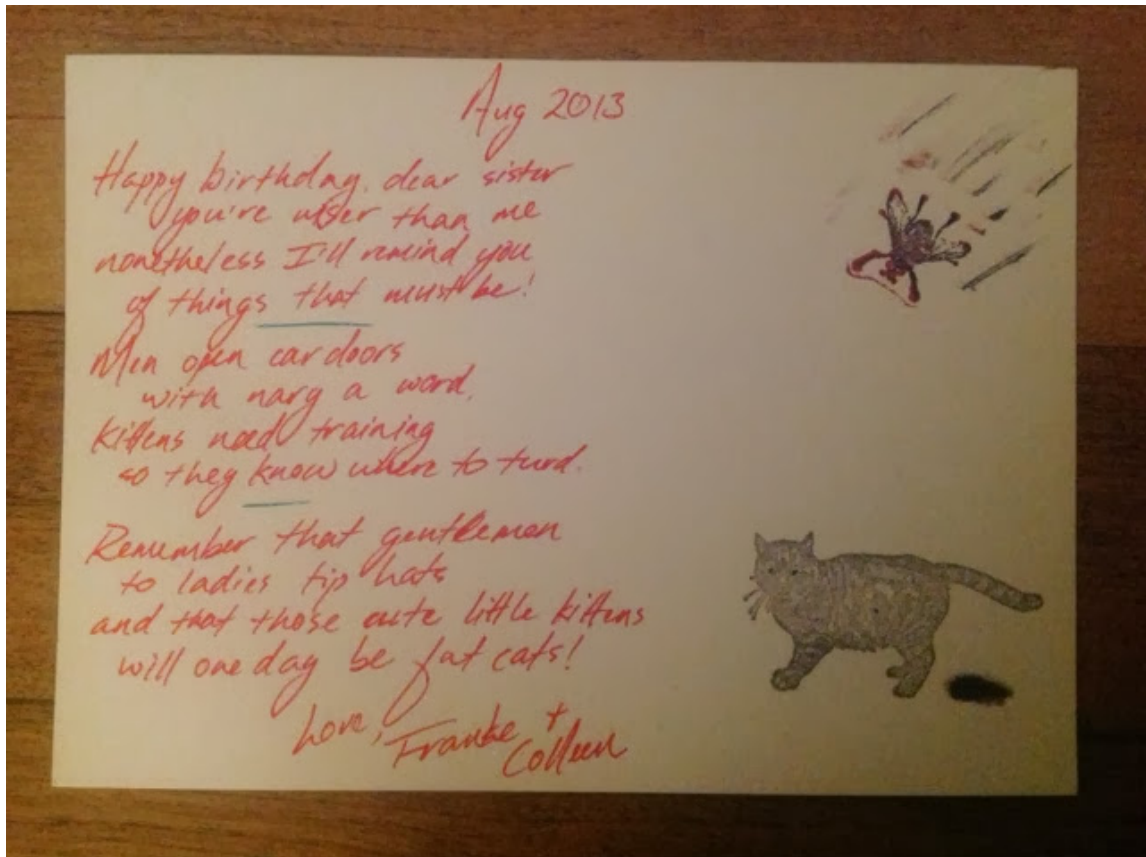


Two weeks later I had delicious sauerkraut. Next time, perhaps I'll slice it thinner and let it ferment a little longer.

NO COMMENTS

A BIRTHDAY POEM FOR PAM

December 8, 2013
Categories: Poetry



NO COMMENTS

A MOTHER'S DAY CARD, 2012

August 23, 2013

Categories: Poetry



Mom loves butterflies.

NO COMMENTS

ANNABELLA BIRD, 2012

August 23, 2013
Categories: Poetry

Lovely Bird.



NO COMMENTS

TIGERLILY, 2013

August 23, 2013

Categories: Poetry

A birthday card for TigerLily. She'll be famous one day; follow her at [+Bleach Bear](#).



NO COMMENTS

PICKLED JALAPEÑOS (ESCABECHE)

August 23, 2013

Categories: Food, Recipes



I started with some beautiful [farmers market](#) jalapeños, cauliflower, garlic, carrots, and an onion. I found [this recipe](#) to put it all together.



Here's what it looked like in the pot, before the apple cider vinegar was added.



After adding apple cider vinegar.



Ended with five, pint size jars of the good stuff. Lovely. I'm hoping that the sharp bite from the vinegar mellows out over time.

NO COMMENTS

A CHRISTMAS POEM / PRAYER, 2012

December 25, 2012

Categories: Poetry

Remembering Christmas

enjoyed over the years

so happy that again

together we're here

Remembering those who have passed

Dear family and friends

they live on in our hearts

their souls have no end

We give thanks for this meal

we savor this day

we remember our good fortune

as we pause and we pray

NO COMMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOM

September 15, 2012

Categories: Poetry

Happy Birthday, Dear Mom

You make life a treasure

We have nothing to want

We have gems beyond measure

You're gracious like amber

So kind and so fair

Your beauty like emerald

So lovely and rare

You're respected like jade

So highly esteemed

And your love's like a diamond

It sparkles, and gleams!

Happy Birthday, Dear Mom
You make life a treasure
We have nothing to want
We have gems beyond measure

You're gracious like amber
So kind and so fair
your beauty like emerald
so lovely and rare

You're respected like jade
so highly esteemed
and your love's like a diamond
it sparkles, and gleams.

Love
Frank & Colleen

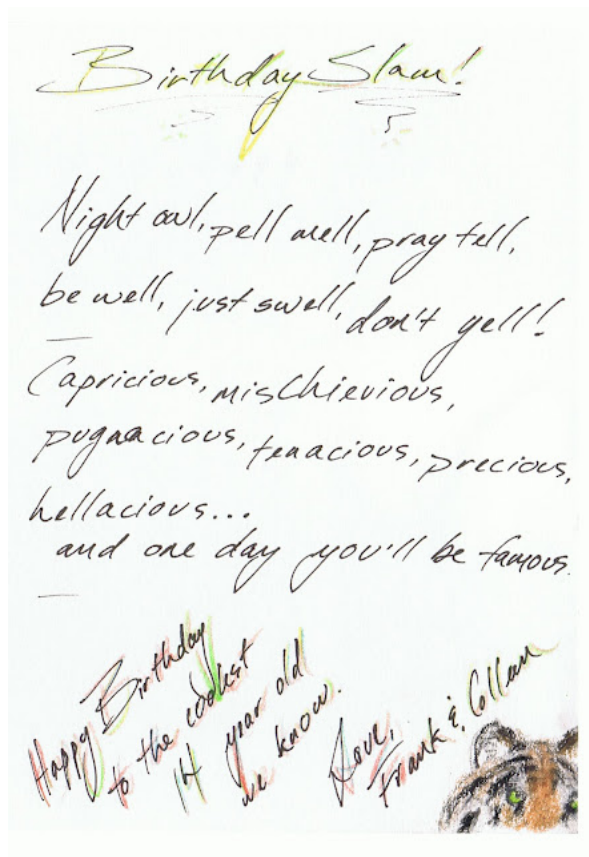


NO COMMENTS

A POEM FOR TIGERLILY (A BIRTHDAY POEM SLAM!)

May 16, 2012

Categories: Poetry



COMMENTS

CHRISTOPHER BARE

I dunno who Tigerlily is, but I know what I want for my birthday next year.

October 23, 2012

KIKO

Beer?

October 23, 2012

A BROTHER'S RIVALRY

March 19, 2012

Categories: Poetry

(...or how Ants was or is better than me at almost everything.)

The girls thought you handsome
with your *guapo* good looks
you got the girls
and I was stuck with my books.

You're a charming smart ass
a joke telling tease
while I write silly poems
and study Chinese.

You beat me at sports
and you got all those muscles
I couldn't compete
no matter how much I hustled!

You fart like a bull
and you burp with much glee
but I'm Uncle Stinky
to AJ and Bri.

But there's one thing I have
that beats all the others
the thing I'm most proud of
I have you as my brother.

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR DEE

March 13, 2012

Categories: Poetry

Happy Birthday dear Dee

Happy Birthday to you

How about a toast?

Not just one, but a few:

First a toast to your health,

then a toast to the day,

then a toast to your future,

good luck come what may.

So many toasts,

But there's one thing we missed

we'll toast our good fortune

for having you as our "sis".

NO COMMENTS

MOCKUAVIT, AGAIN

March 2, 2012

Categories: food

Used the below and then some (except for the vodka):

- 750ml potato vodka
- 1t caraway seeds
- 1/2t fennel seeds
- 1 t dill seeds
- 2t coriander seeds
- 1" length cinnamon stick
- 1t cumin seeds
- 2 juniper berries
- 1 clove

Toasted all but the clove, caraway seeds and juniper berries in cast iron until fragrant and smoky. Now the waiting begins.



NO COMMENTS

A CHRISTMAS POEM / PRAYER

December 26, 2011

Categories: Poetry

Christmas,
a time for celebration.

Celebrating the company of family,
all of us together, here, now.

Celebrating the memory
of dearly departed loved ones.

Celebrating life.

Celebrating faith.

Celebrating this paradise on earth.

Celebrating this great repast
which we are so fortunate
and blessed
to be sharing with one another.

So, we celebrate.

It is Christmas.

NO COMMENTS

A POEM FOR BIRD

December 15, 2011

Categories: Poetry

when you were just one
you were still much too young
for us to foresee
just whom you'd become

smart as a whip
and lovely and sweet
the girl who makes anyone
happy to meet

would you love candy and cake
and big bowls of beans?
and eat big yellow peppers
and hate vegetables green?

now that you're 12
we can see for ourselves
that you're all these and more
you've turned out just swell

NO COMMENTS

CHERRY PRESERVES

November 29, 2011

Categories: Food, Recipes

- 2 lbs of sweet, Bing (?) cherries from the previously abandoned house next door
- 1/4 cup sugar mixed with 2t of Pomona pectin (*sans* calcium water)
- Scant 2 cups of sugar
- Dash of salt
- 1T of balsamic vinegar
- 1 1/2 T fresh squeezed lemon juice



Yield was 5 1/2 pint jars. Barely enough for gift giving. Damn. Might have to try some [apple pear butter](#) to complete my black friday / cyber monday holiday gift activity.

This was my inspiration for the addition of balsamic. In a tiny test batch the taste of molasses in the brown sugar was not to our taste, so no brown sugar was harmed in the making of this jam.

Brought the cherries and pectin / sugar mixture to a boil. Added the remaining sugar, vinegar, salt and lemon juice and boiled for just under 2 minutes, stirring all the while. Ladled into my very clean jars (fresh from a bowl of simmering H2O) and boiled the jars for 10 minutes, until they were just *al dente*. Uh huh.

Now, hoping that botulinum toxin will not visit upon my preserves like creep gun owners who open carry guns in public places.

COMMENTS

KIKO

March 2, 2012

Cherry preserves, not my favorite. The fruit from my neighbor's cherry tree probably didn't lend itself to preserve making. C'est la vie, c'est la guerre, c'est la bummer.

November 16, 2011

Categories: Poetry

A poem for my siblings to celebrate my own birthday. I suck at getting cards, phone calls and gifts out on time, despite my best intentions. (Which don't count for a hill of beans, it seems.)

My birthday approaching,
I thought it the time
to send birthday wishes-
your birthday, not mine.

For Pam, this poem comes
three months too late.
for Peggy this comes,
with nary a wait.

For Dee and Evette,
this comes months too soon.
And Ants usually gets something
to get buzzed when consumed.

Now when comes next Friday
and the birthday is mine,
think of me fondly
and toast my health with some wine!

NO COMMENTS

November 11, 2011

Categories: Poetry

Twitter poetry, in very bad taste:

my butt on fire/ delicious chile rojo/ only time relieves. #**haiku** #**apologies**

NO COMMENTS

A POEM FOR GRACE

November 9, 2011

Categories: Poetry

Here's to Grace

at 41

Bore two daughters

and one son

Lovely, witty, smart

and fun

Happy Birthday

41

NO COMMENTS

FATHER'S DAY POEM

June 20, 2011

Categories: Poetry

me quiero expresar
es imposible que dar
a usted
the love, the respect that I feel

me quiero decirle
a usted
lo que sentirse
among men
you are my ideal

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR GAVIN HENRY, 9 YEARS OLD

June 20, 2011

Categories: Poetry

we hope you enjoyed the day
a week early, but it's all just the same

there was food, and some basketball too
there's one thing that's still left to do

the cake and the candles are done
and happy birthday was by all of us sung

but there's one thing that's left to be given
a gift, that great birthday tradition!

we thought of this, and of that, and the other
and we dismissed them one after another

but an idea from nowhere just came
we'll give him a ___, and enjoy a game!

*(We gave him a baseball glove and the promise of a Mariners game. The basketball reference was to watching the Mav's kick the Heat's a*s!)*

NO COMMENTS

MOTHER'S DAY POEM

June 10, 2011

Categories: Poetry

Every mother loves her son
I'm glad for me
that you're the one

Every breath that I enjoy
I've you to thank
Because I'm your boy

every time i think of you
my soul is sated
I feel renewed

Every year in early May
I wish you
Happy Mother's Day.

NO COMMENTS

GARDEN UPDATE

May 12, 2011

Categories: Plants

Damn it's cold. A warm day here and there gives one hope that maybe we really will have a growing season for our garden. But today that thought seems like some distant dream, sort of like imagining what a rainy season might be like in Riyadh.

More radishes went into the ground this past weekend. Never had much luck with radishes, and they should be easy, easy, easy. Damn.

Peach Passion, Velvet Queen and Autumn Beauty sunflowers were planted. Hoping they have a fighting chance against the slugs, snails and bugs with and appetite for these things when they first pop out of the ground. Damn.

Mint's thriving. Epazote seems OK despite the weather. Lettuce is coming up, however slowly. Rhubarb is monstrous. Damn.

NO COMMENTS

A CHRISTMAS POEM

December 24, 2010

Categories: Poetry

Home is where the heart is
Home is where it stays
Home is where I want to be
Home on Christmas Day

A day to feast and drink
A day to fill our plates
A day to be with loved ones
A day to celebrate

To celebrate the memories
of those who are away
To celebrate this holiday
To celebrate, and pray

To pray for journeys safe
Pray for bounty great
To pray to end this poem
So our bellies we can sate.

NO COMMENTS

A LITTLE HOLIDAY POEM

December 17, 2010

Categories: Poetry

a little poem
for us to say
understand
we're most sincere

we wish you all
this holiday
peace and joy
and seasons cheer.

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR BIRD, HER 11TH

December 13, 2010

Categories: Poetry

A Bird celebration
filled with temptations
chocolate cake
and no vegetables green

And a poem with some clues
which perhaps you can use
to guess gifts
which you haven't yet seen

One will pretty your locks
it comes in a box
and is used
when in front of the mirror you preen

For the other we'll need
some cloth to proceed
and buttons
and a sewing machine

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR PEGGY

November 22, 2010

Categories: Poetry

Another year passed
It seemed like a blast
At least for your sons
and your daughter.

Living life loose and fast
Each day like the last
But what to expect
from an Espinoza and Trotter?

But this too shall pass
When they run out of gas
bringing peace
to their mother and father.

NO COMMENTS

AUTUMN, INTO WINTER

November 22, 2010

Categories: beer, food, ramblings

The maple in front is bare of leaves. It's 36F outside, with the occasional snowfall to remind us of just how cold it is outside. It's perfect weather for [homemade mac and cheese](#) and a nice [holiday ale](#). Can one go wrong with a recipe from the amazing [Martha](#)?

NO COMMENTS

HAIKU FOR ETHIOPIAN RESTAURANT EXPERIENCE

October 23, 2010

Categories: food, Poetry, ramblings

stomach contented

exotic berbere spice

too much injera

NO COMMENTS

MOM'S BIRTHDAY POEM

September 15, 2010

Categories: Poetry

Giver of life

Giver of smiles

You gave us what's needed

To face life's trials

Teacher of lessons

These lessons of life

That help us to manage

Life's occasional strife

Forgiver of errors

Forgiver of sins

And when we screwed up

You forgave us again

Happy Birthday Dear Mama

Happy Birthday to You

I miss you so much

And I love you lots, too.

NO COMMENTS

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

September 7, 2010

Categories: food

We considered [Bumbershoot](#), mostly because I wanted to see [Edward Sharp and the Magnetic Zeros](#), but blackberries are nearly done and I had to make a batch of preserves (I almost spelled it “perverses”, which may have been appropriate) for gift giving and my own morning toast.

For this batch, I used [Pomona's Universal Pectin](#), which allows one to use a little less sugar to jell the preserves. Two batches, started both with 4 cups of crushed blackberries from the [Ballard Farmers Market](#). Added to that 2t of calcium and 1/4 cup of lemon. The only difference between batches 1 and 2 is that I used slightly less than two cups of sugar in #1 and slightly more in #2. Haven't tasted batch #2 on toast yet, but these particular berries were not sweet, and I'm thinking that a little more sweetness than what I had on my morning toast with batch #1 would have been [a good thing](#). Each yielded about 3 pints of *purple deliciousness*.



NO COMMENTS

SEATTLEITES ICE CREAM FETISH

September 6, 2010

Categories: [ramblings](#)

Wondering what it is with Seattle-ites and their ice cream fetish? There seems to be a line in front of every permanent or [mobile ice cream](#) shop calling their product “artisan” or “handmade”, with the obligatory flavors of fruits in season and salted something-or-other. Maybe we’re all fattening up for our long, cold, wet winter. Personally, my fattening agent of choice is [bacon](#). (Which doesn’t seem to be working, as I tend to be freezing for eight months of the year. Maybe it’s all that exercise....)

Oh, and [Molly Moons](#) is way overrated.

NO COMMENTS

FIRSTS

September 1, 2010

Categories: Poetry

For TP...

Our friendship defined

By a series of firsts

Not second at all

In fact the obverse

The first founding member

Of the L-G-M-H-A

And among the first Fish

Whom on dry land flopped and flayed

You made your first million

You were first to be wed

You were first with four kids

The first to homestead

Your collection of firsts

Are all pretty nifty

But the one least begrudged:

You're (almost) first to hit 50.

-K&A

NO COMMENTS

GARDEN POEM

August 28, 2010

Categories: Plants, Poetry

Tomatoes are green

Blackberries too.

A bad season for gardening

This much is true.

But the sunflowers bloomed

most but not all.

And the hops made a comeback

For the beer brewed in fall.

The basil did well

and we're seeing more bees

The sage, thyme and rhubarb

They thrive like zombies.

NO COMMENTS

NO WEAPONS

August 3, 2010

Categories: ramblings



No weapons. Still some sanity in our National Parks. For now, anyway.



NO COMMENTS

August 3, 2010
Categories: food



Indian food, *hecho de mano*. Featuring *peas pullao*, *raita*, *baingan barta*, and *aloo gobi*. We make our own *garam masala*. Lots of influence from the cookbooks of Madhur Jaffrey.

Not bad for a Chicano / Asian-American couple, eh?



NO COMMENTS

WOOD FOOD

July 6, 2010

Categories: household, ramblings

The antique benches and not-quite-antique table were treated with Briwax while enjoying the ecstasy and heartbreak that is the 2010 World Cup. Is there any greater spectacle than the World Cup? Is there anything worse than polishing furniture?

NO COMMENTS

SICK HOPS

July 6, 2010

Categories: beer

My Cascade hop is one sick plant. Suspecting nitrogen deficiency and spider mites. Time will tell if I have enough to brew a batch come harvest time.

NO COMMENTS

POEM FOR AJ

June 12, 2010

Categories: Poetry

At the time of your birth
We were somewhere not near
We were in Munich, abroad
Quaffing good beer.

We didn't have email
I couldn't call on a cell
I called your dad from a payphone
He had good news to tell.

In the 18 years since
The world has all changed
In 18 more years
Your life's arranged.

The sum of this is
That you're now a young man
The future before you
A big, wide expanse.

You can choose to blaze trails
To live a life without peer
But this sort of life only comes
If you work hard, persevere.

Graduation is fine
But you're in a big crowd
Now stand up and stand out
And make us all proud.

NO COMMENTS

HOMEcomings

June 5, 2010

Categories: ramblings

...are such a beautiful thing. Even observing those of perfect strangers in front of some transit terminal, they are nearly as good as my own.

NO COMMENTS

A MOTHER'S DAY POEM

May 8, 2010

Categories: Poetry

on mother's day we celebrate
this lucky, special, twist of fate

that made you what you are to me
you gave me life, you let me be

you're my mother, I'm your son
my lucky fate, that you're the one!

it's not enough, but let me say
have a happy mother's day!

NO COMMENTS

SUGAR SNAP PEAS, FIRST ROSES, SEEDLINGS MIA AND THE GREAT SLUG WARS

May 5, 2010

Categories: *Plants*

More sugar snap peas in the ground, two weeks after planting the first wave. I have a single shoot coming up.

Every rose bush has a handful of roses in bloom. Late, maybe it's the temps in the 40's. Brrrrr!

Parsley planted several weeks ago has still not made an appearance. Chervil...maybe. Or maybe those are nascent weeds!

A f*cking squirrel at the tops of every one of my sunflowers. Or maybe it was a pill bug. I don't like to use poison in the garden, but I did put a little slug and snail bait. It's supposed to be safe in veggie gardens. Normally I'd have regrets about this sort of thing, but, but, but, ...it was my sunflowers!

NO COMMENTS

ANOTHER POEM

April 25, 2010

Categories: Poetry

i wanted to write

an epic poem

i imagined creating

a beautiful tome

but to say what i want

words needed are few

simply, and honestly

i adore you

NO COMMENTS

GERMINATION (!) & PLANTING

April 25, 2010

Categories: Plants

A germinated seedling is a beautiful thing, especially when it's the arrugula I planted just one week ago. A couple of radish seeds dropped into the ground the same time as the arrugula are also peeking out of the ground. No sign of the chervil or parsley. Pumpkins are also MIA.

Dropped some Lilly Miller Mammoth Sunflower seeds into the ground, front and back. Hoping for a good show at the end of the summer.

NO COMMENTS

STRAWBERRY RHUBARB PRESERVES

April 24, 2010

Categories: food, household

For those clueless victims and their ilk who claim that the government doesn't produce anything worth a darn, I present the following:

USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning, 2009 revision

It's an excellent reference which I used for my second attempt at home canning: rhubarb strawberry jam. I followed a recipe from this site (the one with 2 lbs each of rhubarb and strawberries along with six cups of sugar). Yield was 9 pints. It's a little runny...next time I'll try a recipe with pectin. (Which I didn't have to use for my blackberry preserves. I have much to learn.)

The rhubarb came from the monster rhubarb plant in our garden. (Photo below.) She's a beauty, eh?



NO COMMENTS

SUNFLOWERS BREAKING DIRT

April 22, 2010

Categories: Plants

And finally, the sunflowers are emerging. It was about 44F and rainy today at noon. If I were a sunflower, I'd turn right around and reemerge when it felt more springlike outside.

NO COMMENTS

PLANTS EMERGE AND KIMCHI BREATH

April 21, 2010

Categories: Plants

The sweet peas are poking out of the ground. Finally, the chard has made her appearance as well.

Cold outside—I can see my breath. And it's not from the kimchi.

NO COMMENTS

THE TIME FOR GARDENING

April 19, 2010

Categories: Plants

Parsley, chervil, more beets, more arrugula, and some Cinderella Bush Type French pumpkin are starting their respective journeys from seed.

Finally cut back the hop to it's four strongest vines. It's at about two feet.

Our first rose of the season.

NO COMMENTS

A BIRTHDAY POEM FOR TIGERLILY

April 17, 2010

Categories: Poetry

You're so much to so many
at 12 years of age.

What are you to us?

To find out, turn the page...

A good student, a teen

a basketball guard.

Your writing reveals

that you're quite the young bard.

You once liked taxidermy,

fresh eggs leave you befuddled.

On top of all that,

you pretend to hate being cuddled.

A daughter, a sister,

and to some a young niece.

At some time or another

you had a pet cat with fleas.

You're all of these things;

your future grows brighter.

To us you'll be always,

a sweet girl named Tiger!



THE
TIGER



NO COMMENTS

A BIRTHDAY POEM FOR MY TIA LOLA

April 10, 2010

Categories: Poetry

Wife, sister, friend and hija
Mother, grandmother, and my Dear Madrina
It's a pleasure to be
in your fold

Since I was a child
I think of your smile
Beautiful then and still lovely at
80 years old

You cook chile rojo
Y frijoles sabrosos
Causing noisy, fragrant effects
I am told

Your well deserved reputation
In this great Peña nation
Rolling Thunder, so big
and so bold

So many lives touched
Loved by many so much
But there's something that's still
left untold

So now I bring you to task
Because I just have to ask
¿Why in the hell you chose this...
name Arnold?!

NO COMMENTS

ROAD TRIP, CHILE RELLENOS

April 9, 2010

Categories: [food](#), [ramblings](#)

Road trip from ELP to Denver. An early dinner at the [Church Street Cafe](#), a 300 year old historical residence in [Old Town Albuquerque](#). No self respecting restaurant in New Mexico would serve bad chile, and in this sense the restaurant did not disappoint. But the chile rellenos were a disappointment. I don't understand why it's so hard to find a good chile relleno in an otherwise decent Mexican restaurant, especially considering that they're so simple to make.



NO COMMENTS

GIRASOL CITRUS PLANTING

April 8, 2010

Categories: Plants



Sunflowers went into the ground front and back. Citrus won't look like this, but when you've experienced the joy of a good sunflower in your garden (like this one from 2005), then you *must* have sunflowers in your garden every year!

NO COMMENTS

SOWING SEEDS

April 5, 2010

Categories: Plants

A great weekend of sowing seeds:

- Two rows of swiss chard, a row of beets and some mixed lettuce planted in the NW bed.
- Two rows of radishes and a row of arrugula (roquette, rocket, “white pepper” in England...new to me) in the north bed.
- House of Blues Sweet Peas from Dragonstonefarm Seed along the west and north fences.
- North Shore Sweet Peas from Renee’s Garden on the south fence.

Garden was prepped one week before with 3-4 inches of compost and natural fertilizer. Lots of rain and cool temps with occasional sun breaks. I hope it stays just wet enough until the plants reveal themselves above ground.

Must get some sunflowers in the ground.

NO COMMENTS

GARDEN UPDATE

March 10, 2010

Categories: Plants

The hops are poking out of the ground, Phyllis the Amaryllis is putting on a show (two full flowers), and that ugly tree in our front yard is now closing shop after showing off her springtime blooms over the past three weeks.

It snowed a little yesterday. I think that it was the only snow I saw this season in Seattle.

COMMENTS

KIKO

Phyllis is done.

April 5, 2010

SEEING RED IN RIYADH

February 12, 2010

Categories: *ramblings, riyadh*

The people here are polite and friendly; the food is amazing. I'm told that the finest dates in the world come from Saudi Arabia. My own small sample would seem to confirm that. But for a country that celebrates friendship and good food to such a degree, I don't at all get this paranoia about relations between men and women—part and parcel and a natural extension of the experience and celebration of our life on this earth. Family, friendships and food...there is nothing more to this existence IMHO.

Apparently red objects associated with Valentines Day are banned here, leading up to a black market for these same objects because men will be men, and women will be women, and no amount of religious piety can overcome basic human needs and desires. I guess it's easy to make light of the situation, but in Saudi it's real, and it sucks for lots of unmarried young men who think of women 95% of the time and for women who want to be treated like equals 100% of the time.

I don't believe that this is a Muslim thing, because there are plenty of Christians who believe that a womans place is in the home. All religions are distorted by extremists. I guess Saudi is what happens when the *disagreeable* guys are ahead.

NO COMMENTS

SHISHA, OR HUBBLY-BUBBLY

February 9, 2010

Categories: riyadh

There are no bars in Saudi; there's no (legal) consumption of alcohol. But there is shisha, AKA "hubbly-bubbly" which is what men do instead of going to the bar. Women not allowed, but they certainly are on the minds and a part of the discussion over an evening of smoking, eating dates, drinking coffee and tea, and then having a grand meal. It's like having beers with the guys, with all the laughs, bad jokes and silliness that we boys enjoy but without the alcohol sloppiness.

[Evidence here.](#)

NO COMMENTS

“IN CASE OF ANY ‘DANGER ALARM’ (GOD FORBIDDEN)…”

February 7, 2010

Categories: rambblings, riyadh



Is there a more elegant way to discourage smoking? “It is prohibited in the Holy Book, do not hesitate to stop this bad habit.”

NO COMMENTS

MATRIMONIAL CLASSIFIEDS FROM THE “ARAB NEWS”

February 7, 2010

Categories: *ramblings, riyadh*

“...parents invite suitable alliance for their son, 27 years, 5’8”, B.Tech (IT), **wheatish** and good-looking, ...”

“Wheatish”. A new word for me, and another way to say, “I’m not dark skinned!” Hey, black is beautiful!

NO COMMENTS

MAMA NOURA

February 3, 2010

Categories: food, riyadh

Mama Noura has ruined it for me. Well, not completely. I haven't tried their falafel yet but when I do then the destruction of any desire I might have for Arabic food in the US will be gone, gone, gone. Why? Because once one has had the best, nothing else will do. The fresh squeezed pomegranate juice alone made it into my top five list of drinks for 2010, pretty impressive for a drink *sans* alcohol! (But it is early in the year, and once I depart from this place I do have the intention of taking a large sample to sort out which really are my top five. I'm guessing that it'll be three sublime beers, maybe a nice red wine and this amazing pom- juice from Mama Noura!)

Here are some pics from Mama Noura.

NO COMMENTS

OMM ALI أم علي

February 2, 2010

Categories: food, riyadh

Day one, Riyadh. Omm Ali for dinner after an amazing lunch of some familiar Arabic foods. I've eaten these foods before, but (like Thai, or Japanese, Chinese, et cetera) they taste somehow different (better) when eaten in their country of origin than they do in the good ol' USA. Maybe there is something to this idea of terroir.

NO COMMENTS

STUFFED CABBAGE ROLLS (GALUMPKIS)

January 30, 2010

Categories: food, household

Best cabbage rolls I have ever made. All the more special because I made them with my own two hands. [Simple recipe](#), and they are beautiful—especially if one uses [Savoy cabbage](#). Here's what dinner looked like on this pleasant evening:



NO COMMENTS

PHYLLIS, WILL SHE OR WON'T SHE?

January 16, 2010

Categories: household, Plants, ramblings

I feared that Phyllis the Amaryllis was a-goner, but I noticed a teeny, tiny little green nib revealing itself yesterday, and today it had 1/2" of new growth! Hoping that she delights us as she has these past couple of years.

NO COMMENTS

HOLIDAYS ARE OVER

January 4, 2010

Categories: household, ramblings

The Christmas tree and outdoor lights came down today. It seems not so long ago that we were decorating the house, filled with anticipation about seeing family, enjoying nice foods and indulging in holiday cheer. It's over now, and I'm hoping for another year of good health for family and friends, and looking forward to doing it all again next year.

NO COMMENTS

STORM WINDOWS

January 3, 2010

Categories: household, ramblings

Two more new, wooden storm windows hung today. Filled the gaps on a couple of windows with pile weather strips. Those windows that we took delivery of when the weather was warm and balmy have taken months to finish. Six of seven windows completed. Not so long ago it seemed that I'd be working on these things for a hundred years. Isn't that how large projects always go? One keeps plugging away, and suddenly you're...done. Or nearly so. It was worth it. Sweat the small stuff.

NO COMMENTS

A CHRISTMAS POEM

December 29, 2009

Categories: Poetry

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

We're greeted at first
By dads outdoor lights
Then moms stockings and tree
Such a beautiful sight!
Raw eggs in our nog
We drink without fear
The eggnog won't kill us
It brings Christmas cheer!
Then there's Mom and Dad's gifts
What's left to bring?
They've been spoiled for years
They have everything!
They have grandkids, good health
They have a beautiful home
We walk this earth knowing
We're never alone.
Remembering loved ones
Those who've passed on
Hearts full of memories
Remembrances fond.
If I could pray for more still
Dear God if you please
Good health and good tidings
And more days like these
A Christmas prayer and a poem
All this talk's getting old
Now let's enjoy our meal
Our food's getting cold!

COMMENTS

ANONYMOUS

January 4, 2010

what a beautiful thoughtful,touching caring poem!!!! uncle bob

BIRD'S TENTH

December 14, 2009

Categories: Uncategorized

This poem was a struggle
the words would not come
our efforts were doubled
then words came by ones

"chocolate" and "gifts" and "cake"
came to mind

"frosting", "candles", "keepsakes"
came behind

now seven more words
to give you a lift

Happy Birthday, Dear Bird
enjoy your gift!

NO COMMENTS

POEM FOR JAMES

December 3, 2009

Categories: Poetry



you fly jets, you fly props, and even a broom
and you certainly know how to light up a room

some think you're crazy, but that's not what we say
you just love life, hard at work, hard at play

we'll miss you this christmas, and in the new year
and we'll be sure to toast you, with holiday cheer

what's most desired, for what do we yearn?
our family's good health, and for your safe return.

love,

Tios Franke & Colleen

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR PEGGY

November 14, 2009

Categories: Poetry

hello, my dear sis

we woke up renewed

a great day is this

for reasons not few

falls colors bring thrill

thanksgiving's near

weathers seasonal chill

soon, holiday cheer

but what makes this day best

more than the season

it's not holiday fest

your birthday's the reason

NO COMMENTS

DAD'S BIRTHDAY POEM

October 23, 2009

Categories: Poetry

Twenty third of October

1928

My dear Dad was born

In New Mexico state

Siete hijos are yours

And our wonderful mother

A house filled with love

Unmatched by another

All these years, all these memories

And I've only to say

Two words, no more

Happy Birthday!

NO COMMENTS

FALL

October 5, 2009

Categories: household, Plants, ramblings

Wooden storm windows got a fresh coat of paint today and were rehung after resting in the cool basement for a period for a break from the elements during the warm months.

The heater kicked in last Thursday, the 30th of September. We were determined to wait until 1 Oct to turn the heater on, but the thermostat setting (60F) foiled our plans.

The tree across the street is putting on it's fall show. Our maple is showing red on a branch facing south.

The rosebushes got their last pruning.

The tomatoes are done. C- picked a bunch of green ones for a nice meal of fried green tomatoes.

NO COMMENTS

MY FIRST YELP REVIEW

September 30, 2009

Categories: food

I had to do this based on a well reviewed Japanese izakaya style restaurant that...sucked.



Recent reviews by Frank F

What's this?

NO COMMENTS

HOLSTEIN, THE “GRAPEFRUIT APPLE”

September 19, 2009

Categories: food

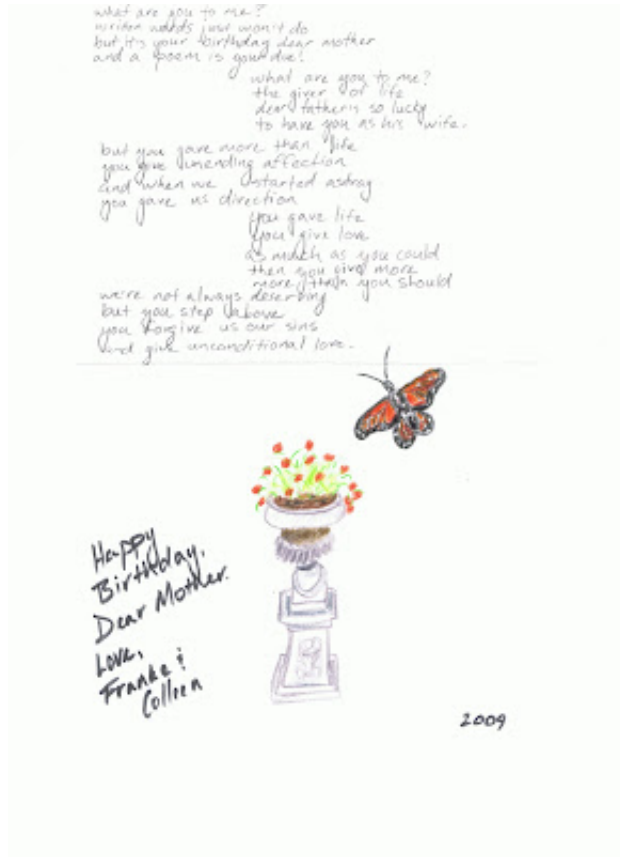
The nickname is apt. Tangy, sweet, amazing. Unlike any apple I've had before. Must remember the name. Discovered at Seattle Tilth.

NO COMMENTS

MOM'S BIRTHDAY CARD

September 16, 2009

Categories: Poetry



NO COMMENTS

A BUSY WEEKEND

September 15, 2009

Categories: household, ramblings

Wash and wax the car on Saturday. Bake some bread. Sunday, a 30 mile bike ride on the Green River Trail. But that's not all..., it's still light out so why not mow the lawn? First time in weeks that the lawn's been mowed, but it has been a dry summer so the yard looked no worse than that of most of my neighbors.

Chocolate chip cookies for dessert this Monday night. Made sure that I placed the plate so that the two smaller cookies ended up on C-'s side. But it backfired, her cookies had more chips than mine, and maybe a touch more of dough in the center of the cookie that's in that perfect spot between just cooked and raw.

NO COMMENTS

GAVIN'S BIRTHDAY POEM, HIS 7TH

September 12, 2009

Categories: Poetry

There are many ways to fly a kite
But when flying a kite you must do it right
Most important is wind for your kite to take flight
If everything's right your kite will fly out of sight!

Of course rule number one
Is to avoid lightning
When you fly in the sun
It's much less frightening!

Another rule is
To stay far from trees
The reason for this?
To avoid branches and leaves.

But this poem is not about
The dangers of kites
It's not about lightning
And wind when when it's right

It's about Gavin
And eating a big piece of cake
And now that your seven
How much can you take?

NO COMMENTS

MY XP LAPTOP

September 5, 2009

Categories: Poetry, ramblings

<p>it is my enemy i want to toss it out the window and then stomp on it with my feet and then hit it with a hammer and then throw it in the trash and then set fire to it</p>		
	<p>and then dance on the ashes from the laptop and then bury the ashes and then plant flowers on the dirt over the laptop ashes and then sprinkle cow manure on the flowers</p>	

NO COMMENTS

MOCKUAVIT!

August 31, 2009

Categories: Food, Recipes

Made 3/4 liter Mock Aquavit using an Andreas Viestad recipe. Variations:

- Used 360 grain vodka instead of potato.
- Added 2 juniper berries.
- Toasted all of the spices beforehand.

Used 3/4 of all of the ingredients called for, but didn't sweat using a whole clove. (Where would one cut off 1/4 of a clove, from the top or bottom? I'm not being serious.)

NO COMMENTS

HOP HARVEST

August 31, 2009

Categories: beer, Plants

Harvested 2.5 oz of beautiful Cascade hops. Need to schedule a brew date.

NO COMMENTS

BLACKERRY CANNING

August 24, 2009

Categories: food, household

Blackberry season is ending. C- and I picked several pounds of blackberries from the Francis St patch. Canned some and froze some. This is my first attempt at canning, and here what I learned: acid and sugar are needed for gel formation, and sugar preserves. (I wonder about the shelf life of a Twinkie..) Pectin contains organic acids. But I was wary about using pectin, and worried that I'd have something resembling warm jello if I didn't. So I made two different recipes:

- 1 lb of blackberries, 1 lb of sugar, juice of 1 lemon. Combined for 1.5 hours, then cooked for about 45 min's—enough to coat the back of a spoon. Set beautifully. Yielded 3 1/2 pint jars.
- Ball Original Fruit Pectin recipe – Crushed 5 cups crushed berries, added 1 package of pectin, brought to a hard boil. Added 7 cups of sugar and returned to hard boil for a couple of minutes. Yielded 9 1/2 pint jars.

Was easier than I thought. Sort of like brewing beer: keep everything clean and stir, stir, stir.

Both recipes made a preserve that set beautifully. Next, rhubarb!

NO COMMENTS

LONG BEACH

August 11, 2009

Categories: household

Enjoyed a long weekend on Long Beach peninsula in WA state. Stayed at the Shelburne Inn in Seaview where we enjoyed a wonderful dinner in the restaurant, and Fish Tale Organic Ale in the pub! Visited Cape Disappointment and North Head Lighthouses. Note to self: North Head Lighthouse keepers homes can be rented to large groups, and they are cool! Supped at Jimella's in Klipsan Beach. Strolled through (and actually enjoyed) the World Kite Museum in Long Beach. Hiked the Bay Loop, Bearberry, Weather Beach trails at Leadbetter Point. Weather Beach to Dune Forest trails sucked because of the very high population of ravenous mosquitos! The Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center near Cape Disappointment lighthouse was '*vale la pena*'. Imagining leading the Corps of Discovery at the age of 29 (Meriwether L) boggles the mind—these were special men. I wonder what they would have done in this life had they lived in our time?

NO COMMENTS

GARDEN UPDATE

August 11, 2009

Categories: Plants

The dahlias are in full bloom, roses are back after their buzzcuts from a month ago, the tomatoes are producing loads of fruit and the blackberries are coming into season. Raspberries are long ago finished. Hops have loads of flowers, but it's not going to be a particularly bountiful harvest. Hydrangea flowers are starting to fade.

NO COMMENTS

FOUR HOURS OF ROSE PRUNING

June 30, 2009

Categories: Plants

Roses all got very aggressive haircuts last week. Hoping that we get a second flush soon, but not seeing a lot of new growth. How can mine look so bare, and those at [Woodlawn Park](#) look like this? (That's my beautiful mother.)



From 2009-06 Ma and Pa Visit

NO COMMENTS

FRESH SOCKEYE SALMON

June 16, 2009

Categories: food

On the menu this evening:

- Fresh sockeye salmon, cooked outside over charcoal
- Fresh WA asparagus, on the grill
- A couple of fresh turnips, cooked on the grill
- Sour cream & yogurt dressing
- Fresh sugar snap peas
- A nice glass of wine (beer over the grill)



NO COMMENTS

JUPITER'S BEARD GETS A SHAVE

June 16, 2009

Categories: Plants



Trimmed back the first bloom from the Jupiter's Beard, and cleaned up the rhubarb—lots of detritus under the larger leaves. Trimmed the roses.

Still have free time? Why not clean out the fountain? Our little bird friends are cute, but they're also pigs.

K- put in some kale, basil and chard on Sunday.

NO COMMENTS

FREE TIME? WHY NOT CLEAN SOME WINDOWS?

June 15, 2009

Categories: household

Cleaned 11+ casement and double hung windows upstairs. Because that's what you do when you're a homeowner with free time!

NO COMMENTS

BECAUSE THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO...

June 14, 2009

Categories: household

So what was there to do today in this old house? Cleaned the grout in the downstairs bathroom, removing some old stuff at the intersection of tub and the walls and replacing it with caulk. Because there is always something to do around here....

NO COMMENTS

SUNFLOWERS, CHILI AND THAT BEAUTIFUL SMALL ROSE

June 11, 2009

Categories: household, Plants

The sunflowers in back are at about a foot, 6"-8" in front. The hop outgrew me a couple of weeks ago and the fastest growing vine is at about 10'. Transplanted the chili and the beautiful, small neglected rose which was cooking in a smallish, black plastic pot.

Mowed the lawn and weeded the yard, and I have it here to convince my non-homeowning friends that there is nearly always some maintenance to do around this old house.

NO COMMENTS

ANOTHER LOAF

June 11, 2009

Categories: food

I baked another free form loaf of 'sour' white/wheat bran bread tonight. Cranberry beans with kale and a nice salad with a few slices of grilled beef were on the menu for dinner, along with some bread baked a couple of days ago.

NO COMMENTS

CLEARED THE GUTTERS

June 8, 2009

Categories: Uncategorized

Risked my life on the roof today clearing the gutters. Man, I am not comfortable on the roof.

NO COMMENTS

FINALLY, ROSES BLOOMING

May 24, 2009

Categories: Plants

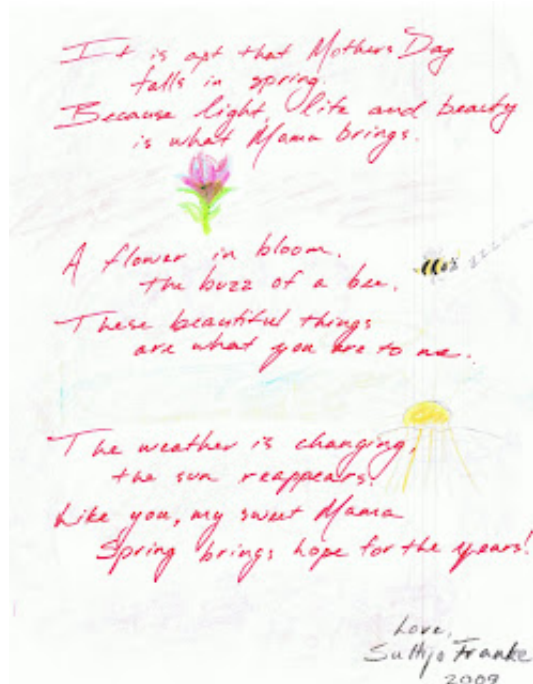
Late this year. Our first blooms appeared over the weekend. Lovely.

NO COMMENTS

MOTHERS DAY CARD, 2009

May 11, 2009

Categories: Poetry



NO COMMENTS

A VISTA LAMENT

March 23, 2009

Categories: Poetry, ramblings

windows vista sucks
despite the eye candy
one crash a day is luck
it's usually two or three

today as if on queue
the screen went blue or black
when it's time for something new
i think ii'll buy a mac

NO COMMENTS

RIP PHYLLIS THE AMARYLLIS

March 23, 2009

Categories: *Plants*

Phyllis the Amaryllis is done. She'll be back again next year.

NO COMMENTS

HOPS, LOVAGE & RHUBARB

March 23, 2009

Categories: beer, Plants

Spring has once again prevailed in the great battle of the seasons. The hops peeked out of the ground last week, and not seeing their own shadow they continue to work their way skyward. The lovage is at 6", and the rhubarb looks like a boiling cauldron of blood!

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR MIS HERMANAS

March 23, 2009

Categories: Poetry

your birthday has passed
i missed the date.
and you usually know better
then to sit and wait
for a gift that won't come
at any rate
but this time it's different
i've stepped up to the plate!
i've sent you a gift
i think it's first rate!
and i send it with love
even if late.

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM FOR ANTONIO RAT-ONIO

March 23, 2009

Categories: Poetry

Feliz Cumpleano

Dear brother Antonio

Enjoy this bottled gift

It's Tequila Tezon

Cabroncito Fregon

and a sip will give you a lift

It can make you see double

It can get you in trouble

It makes you less smart than you think

It makes dumbness profound

And bad jokes abound

But no worries, enjoy a drink!

NO COMMENTS

SNOWDROPS

February 16, 2009

Categories: Plants

The snowdrops are in bloom. It's a good thing.

NO COMMENTS

PHYLLIS THE AMARYLLIS

February 16, 2009

Categories: Plants

World, meet Phyllis the Amaryllis. Phyllis, meet the world. This is a picture of Phyllis the year we were lucky enough to take her into our home. At this moment, she's about two feet tall. Not yet flowering, but we're looking forward to another spectacular show.



NO COMMENTS

A SON'S POEM

October 10, 2008

Categories: Poetry

Happy Birthday Dear Padre

Happy Birthday to You

you taught us life's lessons

I've listed a few

to be humble but proud

to be respectful to all

to extend a kind hand

when one suffers a fall

to know right from wrong

to deal with crisis

and you didn't forget

to teach us the vices

to gamble, to drink

to do both with class

without looking foolish

or dumb as an ass!

to enjoy ourselves

escuchando canciones

cantar "¡Ay Chabela!"

con mucho cojones!

You taught us to love

I see it dear Padre

in the way that you are

to our sweet and dear Madre

I wish I could follow

the example you've set

but it's not easy to do

you're the best man I've met!

NO COMMENTS

PALIN VS. SPEARS

October 4, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong

Click on the picture.



From Hong Kong

NO COMMENTS

THE SKINNY LIFESTYLE

October 4, 2008

Categories: beer, food, Hong Kong

I love to shop in Hong Kong. Clothes are made for skinny people, so everything just...fits. I'm a 32" waist after a large meal (wearing a belt so that my pants don't work their way half way down my arse). The tag is from a pair of **size large** Adidas workout undergarments that fit me...tight!

How to stay skinny:

1. Do lots of yoga.
2. Live in a city where you sweat (embarrassingly) like a pig whenever you step outside.
3. Eat little or no meat.
4. Go out for a session only once weekly.

The picture below captures the lifestyle that keeps me skinny:

1. I'm going to yoga later.
2. I'm dining alfresco in Hong Kong park, so sweating like a pig.
3. The few mean pieces of meat in this delicious curry (maybe \$3US) are as much as I've had in many days.
4. I'm eating alone, so not enjoying alcohol with friends!



NO COMMENTS

EXPAT BLUES

September 27, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong, Poetry

I'm bored with my diet
if you ask then I've tried it
my kitchen at home is so missed.

So what to do now?

QING GEI WO JIESHAO (请给我介绍)
to a restaurant to add to my list.

On the Island side

or a Star Ferry ride

I just want to try something new.

I'm far from home

and all alone

resigned to my expatriate blues.

NO COMMENTS

BIRTHDAY POEM TO MAMA

September 14, 2008

Categories: Poetry

By the hour
I think of you
Pretty as a flower

Every day
I'm missing you
More than I can say

Comes the week
When feeling lost
It's thoughts of you I seek

A month will pass
It's been so long
Since I've seen you last

Ends the year
Happy Birthday Mom!
The one I love so dear

NO COMMENTS

ONE BAD MUTHA TOCAYA

August 23, 2008

Categories: *ramblings*

My tocaya just won a semifinal match in Tae Kwon Do in the Olympics. She is “one bad mutha...shut yo mouth”. RIP Isaac Hayes.

NO COMMENTS

PAM'S BIRTHDAY POEM

August 19, 2008

Categories: Poetry

I missed your birthday
for the umpty-umph time.
But you're never late
when that birthday is mine.
If only you knew
just how much you're missed.
As proof of my feelings
I've made you a list!

When I'm drinking fine wine
good times past come to mind

When I go to Kowloon
I hope to see you real soon.

And when loneliness comes
separated by miles
I'm warmed by the thought
of your beautiful smile.

NO COMMENTS

WHAT, NO BEER?

July 22, 2008

Categories: beer, food, Hong Kong

What would a site called “WORTHOG” (or “WORT-HOG” because WORTHOG was taken) be without some mention of beer? “Wort” is unfermented beer, and fermented beer happens to be my favorite drink. “Hog”...well, I do love pork. Especially when it’s in a nice bowl of ramen, a slice of nice bacon, or a mean enchilada. (With a big bowl of *frijoles*! Oh God how I miss *comida Mexicana*.) But I digress. Suffice it to say that I didn’t misspell “warthog”, or that I did so intentionally. You decide.



Anyway, beer. My current favorite western restaurant in HK serves three interesting beers on tap, Budvar (the real, and better Budweiser), Maissels Weisse in an oversized glass, and a third whose name I don’t recall. The beer I’m drinking in my apartment for the last couple of weeks is called HUIQUAN, and old timers will recognize the very, very “old school” pull tab next to the can.

Back to the other “WORTHOG” Blogger site. It is taken by some young Japanese kid who has two posts in three years. I love his two posts. So much said in so few words. I wonder what his story is?



NO COMMENTS

MEAT MARKETS

July 19, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong



This is near LKF, but it's not that kind of meat market. It's like 85F in Hong Kong, and this meat is hanging out in the open waiting for buyers. I'm sure the flies are getting what they can before these pieces of flesh find a home. The amazing thing is that it doesn't stink, unlike the assault to the senses of piss, perfume, and partying pfarting pforeigners after dark in Lan Kwai Fong!

NO COMMENTS

TOIL

July 19, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong

Endless toil. A taxi driver told me he works 13 hours daily, with one day off every two weeks. The guy who cuts my hair said he works 10 hours per day, every day. The waitress in my favorite vegetarian restaurant said that she has one day off each week. My day is relatively short...I leave my apt at 745 and get back a little less than 12 hours later. As my barber said regarding his work schedule, "This is Hong Kong style."

NO COMMENTS

FINES & DOG “FAECES”

July 13, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong

Spitting from a taxi will cost you \$1500HKD. Smoking in a taxi gets you a \$5000HKD fine. “...fouling of streets by dog faeces” will set you back \$500HKD. Still, I managed to step in some dog poo on my way home from work. This on the same day that I noted a billboard reminding citizens of the “dog faeces” fine, and then thinking to myself about how I very rarely see pet animals, and how that is a Good Thing. Canine Cosmic Karma at work here?



NO COMMENTS

(NORTH) AMERICANS WITH PROBLEMS

July 11, 2008

Categories: *Hong Kong*

Enjoying a beer at a very cool bar in the Japanese restaurant housed in the Mongkok Langham Place hotel. Two 30-something Westerners walk in with a local gal and one of them is talking very loudly about how one of the bosses daughters is “very hot.” He then tells his colleagues (and everybody else within earshot, which included everybody in this bar) that he refuses to look at the naked baby children of anybody he knows, because he doesn’t want to deal with whatever it is that goes through his little mind when he sees them after they’ve grown up into hot young adults. He said something about how it “messes with his mind”. Freud might describe it differently. I think he’s just a really f*cked-up-in-the-head American (or Canadian, eh).

How can people who are so messed up be at least successful enough to enjoy \$15US glasses of scotch in a faraway land (probably) at company expense? I wonder if his colleagues were embarrassed by his pronouncement? I’m a little nutty myself, but I put myself firmly in the camp of the sane compared to this dude.

NO COMMENTS

APPLE, BALL & ICE

July 10, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong

I've met two gals named "Apple", a guy named "Ice", and a girl named "Clifton". I work with a guy who calls himself "Ram". Here's how he explained it, "I need provide english name in first day of high school. I like computer class. Therefore, using RAM for my english name." That's right, it's RAM as in Random Access Memory! I've yet to run into a boy named Sue.

Update...there's a "Ball" who works in my office.

COMMENTS

KIKO

Spotted: Two young ladies named Fanta & Remy.

July 22, 2008

KIKO

Winkie

October 4, 2008

GWEILO SEATING

July 5, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong



This is Gweilo seating in an inexpensive noodle shop in Causeway Bay. The Blackberry on

the table is my constant dinner companion.

NO COMMENTS

TYPHOON FENGSHEN

June 25, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong

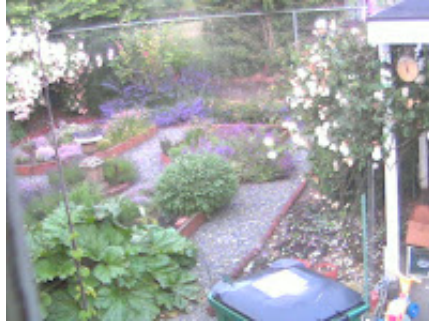
Just experienced my first typhoon, whose name I now know to be my namesake in Chinese. The city completely shut down. All those cool city lights were extinguished last night while the wind howled and the rain pounded. It was eerie seeing Hong Kong dark at 10PM.

NO COMMENTS

MISSING HOME

June 25, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong



I miss K. I miss home. I miss our garden. TigerLily wrote, "We will miss you in Hong Kong. Make sure to meet the King!"

NO COMMENTS

CHERYL'S WORST NIGHTMARE

June 21, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong



This is Cheryl's worst nightmare. Cheryl is a colleague who eats American food.

This was my lunch at a vegetarian restaurant near where I work. It was quite nice, but not nearly as nice as my current favorite vegetarian restaurant, where my broken Mandarin is coming in handy.

COMMENTS

ANONYMOUS

cheryl rocks!

January 7, 2009

HONG KONG

June 14, 2008

Categories: Hong Kong

I have arrived safe and sound in Hong Kong after a 14 hour flight from Vancouver. Spent the weekend doing a little shopping, picking up some necessities that I'll need during my stay (oil for making popcorn, butter for making popcorn, etc). My boss was thoughtful enough to have beer, noodles and some (tasteless) apples and oranges, and a mobile phone waiting in my apartment for me when I arrived. All helped to ease the shock of my trip somewhat.

My 336 sq ft apartment doesn't seem that small. One certainly can't beat the view!

NO COMMENTS

HOPS & OTHER GARDEN STUFF

October 8, 2007

Categories: *Plants*



Harvested nearly 2 oz of Cascade hops in late September. The sunflowers are nearly done, and the hollyhocks went past their prime in mid-September. The maple is starting to put on it's fall show.

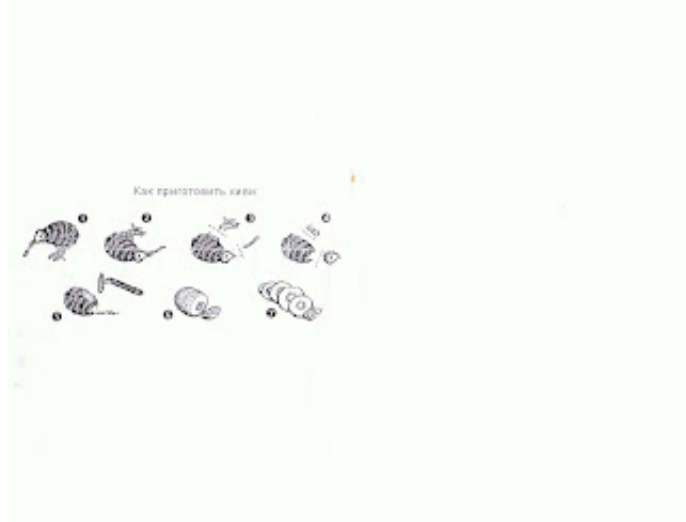
NO COMMENTS

HOW TO SLICE A KIWI

August 9, 2007

Categories: Uncategorized

From my friend [Serge...](#) (Click on the image for a better view.)



NO COMMENTS

TEST

August 9, 2007

Categories: Uncategorized

Hello, world.

NO COMMENTS