

THE END

If I should die today
I hope I've done all the laughing
I can let out of this body
I hope it was heard, appreciated and contagious

I hope a great many people remember
the fact that I was here

Not remembered like
Shakespeare or Mussolini
Remembered more along the lines of
a much simpler person
like Gandhi . . . Albert Gandhi
who lived down the street from me and
loved food and women as if
they were oxygen and humor. . . .

Humor
as in
there is no Albert Gandhi that I know of
I made him up and
that's funny to me

If I die today
I want the world to be able
to go on without me

Even though I know
it will be incredibly hard

If I die today
I should be cremated
or properly stuffed
because I would make one fabulous
lawn gnome scarecrow

It really doesn't matter what is done with my remains
but please
do not auction off my genitalia
or I will haunt you with dick jokes
for the rest of your life

If I should die today
I hope those who knew me well
will tell the world that I was
rarely ever serious
 that inciting laughter was always
 my primary goal
 that by experiencing
 someone else's joy

I lived it as well

When ordering my tombstone
please have the date of my death
span three or four days
 I want people to think of it

as a big event they may have missed out on

McGee-A-Palooza

If I die today
I want everyone
I've loved and liked
to know that I've
appreciated them very much
 you've made this world
 a hell of a lot more tolerable
 I hope my life was worth your time
 as yours was worth every second of mine

Should I die today
make note that I
am not ready for it
but I've accomplished
centuries in my decades and
for that I am grateful

So please enjoy tomorrow for me

If you can hear this
You're invited to my funeral
especially if you promise to
shut the fuck up every
once in a while and just listen
 to keep fighting the good fight
 to always do what is right

and before you go
tell the sun I said hello and
kiss the moon goodnight



PROGRESS FACILITY (SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA 2008)

Seek out real change. It keeps us going.

I MAILED MYSELF A LOVE LETTER YESTERDAY

I mailed myself a love letter yesterday
I can't wait to get it back
to see what's going in my life
 to see how my relationship with myself
 is developing
Yesterday I learned of all my
faults and casualties
Tomorrow I will come to grips with how great I am
Next week I will begin teaching
courses in coolness where water
can enroll itself to learn
how to become ice cubes

When I'm thirty-five
I may run for President
bringing back facial hair as the symbol of a good leader
I could be the first President of the United States
to get elected without a campaign budget
but instead
with the help of small woodland animals
 who control the winds of change

I will have
 Gomez
 Neil Diamond
 Neil Young

The Roots
RC Weslowski
Myself
and Sigur Ros
perform at my inauguration

The White House will serve ramen noodles 24 hours a day

On tap

I believe I am living my life to the fullest
but I have to accept the fact that
there are others whose lives
are much fuller than mine
I will make up for it
with my lack of hunger
I will catch up

If I change my name to Robin Hood
I can steal from the rich and give to the poets
I can wear tights and people will
finally understand me
because deep down I'm a chubby ballerina
with a penchant for dictionaries
late-night television and
fuzzy slippers

Weirdos
should look weird
This will be my uniform

Yesterday I felt like a singer
with a song I couldn't sing

Today I'm a father who
can never have children

Tomorrow rests inside a full night's sleep
for billions of lovers and fighters
who love to fight about
everyone else on the planet

Sometime ago I promised myself that
I would always put things down on paper
 whether they were letters to women
 who never knew I loved them
 or in sticky notes to bullies
 demanding their immediate surrender

*"Give us one week, my little nerdlings, and the talkers will take
down the entire school"*

It's not easy to convince a table of nerds
to fight without a twenty-sided die
but I'm confident that a good bark can stop any bite

I promised myself many, many years ago
 that I would never settle for average or mediocre
 that I would always try to find the best and worst
 within myself and maybe I'd be able

to work the two out so they could learn from each
other

It's one thing to say that I'm worthy of love
It's another thing to say that I'm worthy of my own

Here I am, alone
with all this love to give and
it seems as though I'm still trying
to find myself so I know who to give it to

I've lived a life with
such varied confidence
so I mailed myself a love letter yesterday
It was just a dress rehearsal
so that I would know how to
respond to the women who've told me that
I'm ugly
or I'm a great friend
or I'm just like one of the girls (shit)

I know I'm not tall, dark & handsome
but two* out of three ain't bad

*now you're probably wondering which two I'm
talking about
(but I only need one woman to figure that out on her
own)

Most women say all they really want is
a man with a good sense of humor

LIARS

I'm a 5' 6" stack of bad-ass
which is just the right height
for a man who loves life
so if I'm gonna find a girl that
 digs me with life's biggest shovel
then I'm just gonna have to learn to dig myself first

THE WAFFLE TRUTH

If God presented
itself to you
in the form
of a waffle
and said

*“Marty, I’ve got a plan for you!
Tell the world of my imminent return!”*

Would you answer to the name Marty and
do as God commanded?

Or

Would you cover God in syrup and
finish your breakfast?



MANHATTAN MANGO BEAR (FOR KAREN), (NEW YORK, 2004)

Tastes good on waffles and New York!

METHODS FOR BEING NICE

Being a shitbox to others is easy and probably instinctual. For nice people, the practices listed below are almost second nature. That's not to say they aren't worked on and failed at by nice folks everyday. Nice people also have to work at being nice.

- ⊗ Be attentive. Recognize the importance of what people tell you. Memorize faces, names, and dates. You'll probably surprise them with your recalling and informative abilities. Everyone wants to be remembered. Be one of the ones who does the remembering. Your efforts will not go unnoticed.
- ⊗ Be generous. Splurge. Cover a meal from time to time. Help someone move. Get up and give. If you can afford it and someone very much needs it, then help out. Always need over want. Always. Always. Always.
- ⊗ Be calm. Never show anger unless absolutely necessary. It can and will be necessary in life, but most of our displays of anger are reactionary, showy and uncalled for, nor do they benefit anyone within earshot.
- ⊗ Be real. If you keep up with your niceness activities

and practices, people will spread the word, but only if they feel it's genuine. If being nice doesn't feel right to you, then it won't be and people will notice.

- ⊗ Be honest. The absolute best policy. Never take undeserving credit for anything. Never allow false representation of your views and policies. Never deny someone a deserved compliment. Always be willing to say the truth to everyone who needs it. Always admit when you are wrong, but never when you aren't.
- ⊗ Be thorough. Practice niceness every day. Allow yourself time alone. Be social, helpful and courteous, but know when you're not needed.
- ⊗ Be available. Be approachable. Let people talk and be sure to listen as much as possible. Give them a channel to contact you through if they need an ear down the road.

Other Duhs:

- ⊗ Learn to cook and do it often for others. Feed the hungry!
- ⊗ Make sure people get home safely.
- ⊗ Be an authority, but always defer to an expert.
- ⊗ Open doors for people. Offer your seat to anyone.
- ⊗ Be kind to all strangers.