

Dear friends,

Wow, what a whirlwind year. I never thought this would be the year I'd become closer to my family but here we are, snuggling on the couch as I type this. I think you'll remember in my previous letters what my family life was like before 2020 - my sister and I would be left alone in the house for hours at a time while our mother and our butler would be doing Freyja knows what. We'd frolic in the empty home, leaving presents for them to find when they returned. The butler would clean them and we'd cuddle with mother and all would be right. We were grateful for the time we had together, even when we had to settle for the butler when mother was away for long bouts of time.

But this year! I am rejoicing, as is my sister, about our fortune. Mother and even the butler are staying home! We are able to be with them at all hours of the day. As I write this I can hear the butler tapping away at that machine I so like to sleep by. Mother is near on the big bed she sits on every day with my sister in her lap. The tree is up and I can again climb into it's scratchy boughs and enjoy their cold embrace. Though their sudden stay in our shared abode was a surprise, and honestly at first jarring, my sister and I are happy they are here. We enjoy the time we spend together (though we do tend to spend most of it sleeping).

We do not know why they are home, but we do not question Freyja's blessing. Though the situation that caused it seems dire, the unexpected outcome is celebrated. We are there to comfort mother and the butler when they are sad, or when they are anxious. We are there during their chats with the machine and the people who share the machine's screen. We are with them always and I hope 2021 means that we will never be separated again. We have found new ways to be closer together and I hope this means our bonds will grow with every moment we experience in our home together.

That's a big highlight of 2020 but there were some other things worth celebrating too. Summer brought us some good hunting and we had plenty to eat and forage. Those pesky flies and bugs could not hide from my fearsome skill. We feasted well. I have rediscovered some old friends after my mother moved some furniture around and I have enjoyed carrying them around, singing them lullabies from my childhood. As the weather gets colder I've found joy sleeping in the bountiful blankets mother keeps around our home.

I hope you and your family are doing well, and that Freyja's light has also given you extra worship from your parents this year.

S.G.