### X-MAS LETTER 2023

My dearest family, and friends- it is me, MB, back with a glimpse into my world in 2023. Yet before the new and now, I owe 2022 a proper goodbye!

Goodbye, the blue bird of Twitter and the keyboard warriors who must now purchase a subscription to post their useless opinions

Goodbye to Jack Sparrow and his Aquaman starlet, and the legal battle over who really pooped in the bed

Goodbye to the Oscar slap that will forever embody love's true devotion

Adieu 2022 ... I bid you adieu!

## 12/2022

Kelly and Jackson are doing great! Kelly is halfway finished with her last year of college, and Jackson with his first. And I too, have bounced back relatively unscathed from my 2022 mental breakdown.

I'm working remotely corporate (way better than the education system), living in a new place (less drama than the old place, just more expensive), sleeping on a new mattress (yep, totally new ... no body fluids from previous nappers), and eating on new dishes. Truth be told, my dishes are always new since I live by myself and only use paper plates.

Yes, I am an adult. And yes, I should own a set of dishes, so I'm told. But why? I'm never going to use them since I can get a great deal on buying bulk while conserving water. Don't know about you, but I see it as a win-win!

I do own 1 pot, 1 pan, and 1 lid that works for both, which I plan on using eventually while cooking on a stove, that for now, has never been turned on, yet gets dusted weekly.

As December 2022 comes to an end, and the Northern United States is hit by a major winter storm, while Miley Cyrus announces her new single 'Flowers,' and drops it on her exhusband's birthday, I am peacefully spending my time adding items to my Amazon cart, watching TikTok, and drinking nature's true green tea!

All is finally as it should be!

# 1/2023

It's January. Some more countries have adopted the euro, others countries held elections, while even other countries did more stuff that I don't give 2 figs about. And all this lovely

data is passed on to me via TikTok as I scroll mindlessly trying to find juicy celebrity gossip. I guess it's time to reset the algorithm.

I am also informed by Kelly that Dylan Mulvaney\* had a photo shoot where they are featured as Audrey Hepburn. The kids and I usually update each other when Dylan is in the headlines since the two of us have a TV connection. Kelly tells me that Dyaln looks amazing! Of course, Dylan looks amazing! When the best glam squad, lighting, and camera people are on the payroll, nothing less should be expected!

\*Side note, just between us, Dylan's PR person is a bit of a tool! Yes, I said it! And I have good reasons!! I reached out to her twice and was ghosted both times. I guess the TV connection that we had meant more to me than to them.

## 2/2023

February brings tracking of alleged Chinese spy balloons over America, a train carrying hazardous material crashes, releasing hydrogen chloride and phosgene into the atmosphere, and egg prices are out of control! Eggs Prices! Eggs Prices!

The whole world is obsessed with egg prices! The egg problem is affecting us all! The chickens stopped laying eggs, and now the only affordable source of good protein is no longer affordable! I want modern-day problems and not feel like Caroline Engels and Mrs. Olsen, from Little House on the Prairie, haggling over eggs!!

So, I've created a modern-day problem that I am now trying to solve! The problem is quite perplexing! Mind-boggling even! I'm trying to decide what type of nightlight to buy for my bedroom. Do I get a dragonfly nightlight? Or do I get the mushroom nightlight? The decision quite taxing! What to do? What to do? I'm at such a loss!!

I take a gummy, put on some Medieval LoFi I found on YouTube, lay down on my bed of nails acupressure mat, start surfing Amazon, and add a couple of options to my cart. Yet I'm still not sure. I'm so confused! I close my eyes and start to meditate.

Oh, great spirit of Amazon, show me the way! Show me the nightlight option that will fit the ambiance of my bedroom. Help me decide between the two- is it the dragonfly or is it the mushroom?

Show me! Show me! Show me now!!

And then, just like that, the YouTube playlist ended, and the answer came to me ...

# PICK THE MUSHROOM ... AND NOT JUST ONE! PICK MANY MUSHROOMS!!

I opened my eyes, removed the dragonfly nightlight from my cart, and pressed "Proceed to checkout".

It might be a pretentious problem, yet a pretentious modern problem ... and it is also the only kind of problem that I want to solve... at least for tonight.

## 3/2023

The 16th largest bank in the United States failed, creating the largest bank failures since the 2008 financial crisis, affecting companies around the world, OpenAI launches GPT-4, and Bonnie Raitt/Olivia Rodrigo/Sheryl Crow are named Generations of Stars in March.

Bet you are wondering why I included this weird combo of singers. I'm actually not sure either- maybe it's because they are relatively unimportant these days, unlike the first two, yet they still made the headlines.

Me, well, I have become a bit obsessed with elephants! Yes, elephants! No, not real elephants, that would require watching elephant documentaries, reading elephant fun facts, or something even more daunting like going to the zoo. I'm way too lazy for that level of commitment, so I just focus on man-made elephants that I can use for decor.

My elephant obsession began with the good fortune of finding an Ivory Ganesh at WINGS. The luck continued with Dex, a black ceramic elephant, hitting me up at GoodWill. The lucky streak kept going with a random stop, at a random re-sale shop, where I found Whittie, a white elephant that can also hold a candle. It's like the cat distribution system, except mine don't scratch or require a litter box.

You would think I would be done! But no, my obsession grew! I opened the app, and started cruising, that which never disappoints... You know the one, to which I meditate for funky shoes, remote lightbulbs that can be turned on from my phone, and healing crystals!

High on whatever I was high on at the time, I found a glass elephant wearing an Evil Eye protection kippa, I named him Gabriel, and a purple elephant with lots of sparkly stones, I named her Queen, that arrived at my front door between 7-11 AM with overnight delivery since the purchase was over \$25! All tusks pointing to the window! That's it! All are set! The corner shelf is full! I'm done.

## Nope!

One day, while walking through the Suburban middle-aged woman heaven of Home Goods, I was stopped in my tracks by pillows! Yes, pillows!! A pillow with mirrored images of elephants enjoying each other's company, and a pillow quilted in an elephant shape! Score! THE TWINS, and Petunia (the ring leader), have also joined the motley crew of factory-designed pachyderms!!

Now my elephant gang is complete, and I can move on to new adventures such as asking Chat GPT how to meet a man, who is at least 6' tall, financially stable, legally single, has grown kids, and lives within a 20 minutes radius... only to realize that collecting random elephant decor is way easier than finding even one guy who fits the req!

### 4/2023

April brought world elections, followed by more world elections, civil unrest, followed by more civil unrest- the same thing over and over to which we have become completely desensitized.

I, on the other hand, have expanded my world with a few new "likes". I have added Black Forest salami, the Bold Glamour filter, and random brightly colored glass treasures that I find at garage sales and such to the list. Now I can eat a yummy sandwich, while staring at brightcolored glass things, looking like a hot piece of ass! And in case you think that my mind is being skewed by stuff that was made legal in Illinois in 2020, you are correct!

Happy 4/20 to all, and to all, a good night!

### 5/2023

April showers bring May flowers... or as in May of 2023, we were showered with San Francisco banking crises, that surpassed March's collapse of Silicon Valley Bank. The WHO ended its declaration of MPOX being a global health emergency. And the useless King and his hussy Queen, waved from the balcony of Buckingham Palace to us peasants, reminding us that the rich are getting richer, and the poor are getting poorer.

Mazel! Now we can all relax!

Me, well, I keep being MB!

I get a random text to "save the date" to some random wedding for some random people whom I do not know! Am I being catfished? I put on my detective hat and start to snoop... I'm a great snoop! I gained this skill while internet dating and gathering information about potential dates.

How to, you ask? It's quite simple, the guy gives you his number- they always give you their number, and then, with a few quick keyboard taps, you learn that Bill is Jim, has 3 babymamas, has had his bank account cleaned out for not paying child support, while living in his sister's she-shed.

But I digress... What worries me, is that with one transposed number, I received an invite to save the date instead of Aunt Karen, who did not get a text, and is no longer speaking to the groom's dad, her brother, and is blaming his wife, for the mistake. But, I digress, again...

June, July, August... the three months that felt like one...followed by a deep sigh. Heck, all months this year are followed up by deep sighs. I'm so tired of sighing, that each time I sigh, I feel I should swipe left! I don't even want to discuss world happenings anymore; I just want to talk more about the new things that I like!

Singing loudly on my new Karaoke mic, and annoying my neighbors

Memorizing the 2023 summer classic that teaches Margarita drinkers the sequence of events that follows as another Margarita is downed

Finding out that my high school Geometry teacher is now ordained, lives on the beach, and makes money by marrying tourists

CHILL, a vegan, plant-based pill for relaxation

UIN gym shoes with breakfast at Tiffany's look that are my new going-out shoes

A day trip to Joliet Prison

Getting a promotion while working at a Bouncy House as a ticket checker to an Emcee

Adding a fairy door next to the front door, while acting like Gladys Kravitz from BEWITCHED, and looking through the peep-hole, each time I hear a new noise in the common areas

I ordered a "PASS J  $\overset{}{>}$  INTS NOT JUDGEMENTS" sweatshirt that I plan to wear when out for sushi (this might be my favorite thing so far!!)

#### 9/2023

And just like that, September is here... Yea, I know, there are earthquakes, cyclones, interest rates are at an all-time high, and some media mogul passes his fortune to his son, and more crap that I do not wish to track.

What can I say, I'm just an American girl trying not to spend her life's savings at the grocery while shopping for a Labor Day cookout.

# 10/2023

#### OCTOBER 7

#### 11/2023

November 1. The first AI Safety Summit takes place in the United Kingdom, with 28 countries signing a "world first agreement" on how to manage the riskiest forms of AI.

A bit too late, don't ya think??

But what do I know? Heck, maybe robot dogs patrolling New York City streets, and resumes getting rejected left and right by some machine that is now more powerful than its inventor, could become a thing of the past since a bunch of old guys got together to discuss it. The same old guys who still cannot figure out how to send a text, and put FaceTime calls next to their ears.

Me, well I'm still meditating on my bed of nails except now, instead of Medieval LoFi, I listen to 40 Hz Gamma-Pure Tone Binaural Beat. What is that you ask? It's magic that I learned about while attending an Akashic records class at a holistic fair. The same fair at which I was stopped and recognized by an over-exited fan!

#### 12/2023

Dec

December December December December December December December December December

December is here! How quickly the year passed! This year in December, each week, I'm picking a random holiday to celebrate. And if you want to join, take a pic and save it to your favorites!

12/2-National Bartender Day

12/8-Pretend To Be A Time Traveler Day

12/11- National App Day

12/23-Festivus

12/29- Tick Tock Day... FINALLY!!

With the ending of each year, as every year, I light up a greenie, find a safe space, and ponder all that has happened. What lessons have I learned? What to do better, differently, or nothing at all, about experiences of the year.

And out of the clear, a strange and repetitive phenomenon comes to mind-I did spent lot of time meditating and manifesting this year. The vision came from TikTok-my new best friend.

A random creator told me that I will see a Smurf in 3 days. And I did. And I did, again. And again. And again. I have been bombarded with sighting of Smurfs! I even dressed up as a

meditation for a costume party with Smurf profiles stuck to my back from that joke of a dating site called Facebook dating (yes, it's a thing, a sad thing, yet a thing).

# MAGICAL BLUE HUMANOIDS

# HIDING IN A CLOAKED FOREST

# LIVING IN FUNGI HOMES

# CONSTANTLY SINGING

# ALWAYS HUNTED BY AN EVIL WIZARD

# WHO WANTS TO USE THEIR ESSENCE TO UNLOCK UNIQUE POWER

That's it! That's it! I finally got my 2023 answer! I need to lay off the weed, and start eating shrooms! I'm on it! I booked a flight to Oregon, threw some essentials in a carry-on, and off I go!

And on this note, I will end my x-mas letter the best way I know how ... by wishing everyone a year filled with love, happiness, money, and lots of orgasms!

The only and never lonely, Maggie Brown!