



December 14, 2022

Dear Friends and Family,

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

As a follow-up to last year's holiday letter in which I regaled you with a detailed account of the many notable things I saw in my backyard through the sliding glass door (the multiple phases of the rotting Halloween pumpkin surely being one of the highlights), I thought I would completely change it up this year and tell you about the notable things I saw through my front window in 2022.

And here they are ...

- Children laughing and playing in the park across the street, reminding me of the carefree days of youth.
- A young couple passing by with their baby in a stroller, reminding me of the excitement of new beginnings and the simple joys of family.
- A brilliant red cardinal, perched in the tree in front of my window, reminding me of the beauty of nature and the enviable freedom of our avian friends.
- Leaves of myriad shapes and sizes on the ground in autumn, reminding me of the inevitable passing of the seasons and the eternal march of time.
- A family of squirrels, playing tag and chattering at each other, reminding me of how much I hate squirrels (and chipmunks, too ... and you know what, add rabbits to that list).
- A multitude of walkers, runners, and bicyclists moving up and down our street, reminding me of how much I hate those smug, healthy-living b*st*rds, I mean, who the h*ll do they think they are?!?!
- A dog walker with multiple dogs, letting at least two of them do their business on my lawn, reminding me of the interminable rage that lives inside me.
- The snow on the ground after the first snowfall of winter, reminding me of how much I'd love to fake a slip and fall "accident" in front of some rich a**hole's house and take them to court for a tidy sum.
- A municipal tow truck, reminding me that I'd forgotten to pay those multiple parking tickets.
- Two police officers, casually making their way from their squad car to my front walk, reminding me that I'd failed, for a third time, to show up for that court date.
- Yet another young couple passing by with their baby – in a ridiculously expensive designer stroller – reminding me that all children are burdens and, ultimately, disappointments and that the human race is a parasitic blight on this planet.
- Even more children laughing and playing in the park across the street, reminding me that life is passing me by and that my best years are long behind me.
- A ragdoll kitty cat. I love ragdoll kitty cats.

I hope your year was filled with as much joy as mine was. I'll be back next December with what I'm sure will be a much-anticipated report on the sights from the east side of my house.

With much love,

Mark T.