

## End of 2022 Newsletten

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## Mout Super Trees Rash

#### Who-?

You and your cool (not lame) friends are invited! Expect to run into several other awesome people and their awesome friends.

#### What?

Super Friend Bash is a group vacation. It started in 2010 with the goal of getting awesome people to do awesome things in awesome places. The idea is simple: pay a deposit and become part of the planning committee. The planning committee sets an itinerary for the selected place and time. Then we go there, have fun, and vote on next year's place and time!

#### Why?

Super Friend Bash originated from two desires: to have an annual tradition with close friends and to stay in touch with our friends as they went on with their lives. Let's take each in turn:

#### "Worst. Tradition. Ever"

It began the last day of classes in high school. Three close friends decided to commemorate passing into a new stage of life. To get to school, every day we were bused to school over a mountain. We thought it would be nice symbolism to get together each year and walk across it on foot. We had a party afterward the first year, but stopped doing that in subsequent years for some reason.

The walk was awful. It would take 4 hours of the hottest New Mexico sun. But we kept doing it for seven years because we're awesome. (Translation: stubborn.) In 2009, we decided a change was in order. We couldn't keep coming back to the same place, having a terrible time with a dwindling set of friends. Instead, we started a new tradition to have a great time in new places with as many friends as we could...

#### "Quit Making Something of Yourself, Dammit!"

The older we get, the more awesome people we meet. Sadly, these awesome people tend to do things with their lives. One can call, but that's not the same as visiting. And visits are expensive, especially when friends live in far away places... the jerks.

This idea was born as a solution to that problem. Instead of everyone spending money to go visit *their* friends and family, why not have *all* the friends and family spend money and go see each other? And as long as we're doing that, why not make it in an awesome new place?

#### When? Where??

Every year we pick a new time and new place. Anyone can suggest a location, but where we go is decided by vote relative to how many times you've attended. (Given the 2022 snafu, we're voting for time and place separately from now on). To see where we'll go in 2023, turn to the last page!



If you met me after 2005, you might think this whole thing is a bit extra. As a teen, I wrote a biweekly 'viewspaper' for six years. This is its annual, spiritual successor to that project. Enjoy!



OLD LOGO: 2010-2022





#### ABOUT:

- Font 20<sup>th</sup> Century Modern in yellow. Curved, outlined in black, with a red bevel, and dark shadow.
- Put together in an hour or so; not much thought.
- Really leaned into the old Super Friends logo for some reason.

This was fine while it lasted, but now that SFB has returned for two extremely successful trips in a row, we need to up the level of effort for the event. After some testing, the following fonts, practices, and uses have been adopted.

SUPER ABOUT:

Rash

- \*Doedel with stylized ligatures, strategic kerning, outlined, and colored based on the flags of the countries we'll visit.
- Set as both a horizontal and square, depending on use.
- Captures the spirit of the previous logo with a new, stylized, exciting flavor.

OTHER FONTS Leosler Stamp Regular:

This fun font is a general section header, but also used for labels and other comments.

Amithen:

For use in scripts, emphases around titles, and anywhere a new emotional register is called for.

Adobe Jenson Pro:

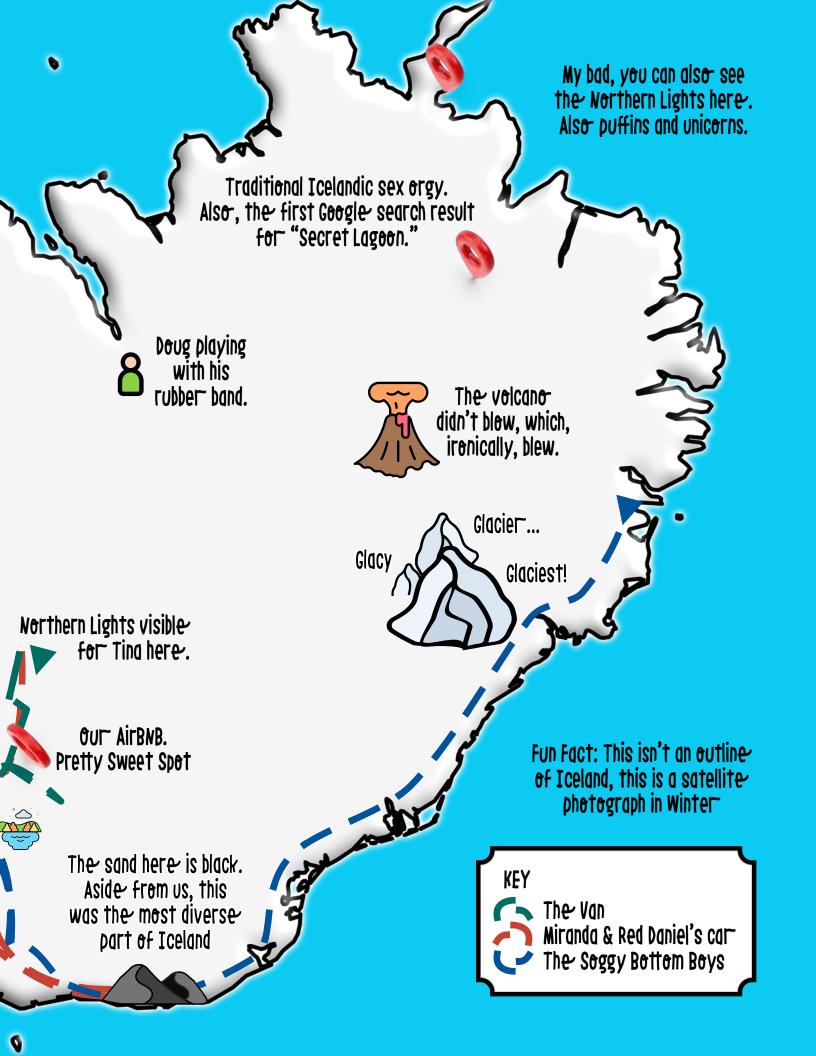
For use in general text, occasionally bolded or italicized. Long been my favorite font :D

**Unit Slab Pro:** 

For limited, occasional slab serif use. Strong, powerful, attention grabbing.

# Marre We Went





## Meet the Participants

Chum May 25

Birthday Name France (CDG) They/their

**Hub of Origin Pronouns** Draws, handstands, names people

**Traits** 

Traveling, keeping valuables, mosquitos

Weaknesses



Carlos

He/his

Name Reno(RDV) Pronouns May 29

**Hub of Origin** 

Birthday

Wears glasses, plans trips, has face

Gummy bears and Taco Bell (same reason)

Weaknesses





Name Boston, Mass. (BOS) **Birthday** She lher

July 10

**Hub of Origin** Travel, action, adventure **Pronouns** 

Traits

Would do awful, awful things for helium

Weaknesses

June 16



Jessy

Name

She lher **Pronouns** 

El Paso (ELP)

August 2

**Hub of Origin** Laughs, mixology, mad makeup skills

**Birthday** 

**Traits** 

Probably called you a bitch out of love

Weaknesses

He/his



Tina She/her **Pronouns** Name

**Hub of Origin Birthday** Has bangs, attended most SFBs, planning

**Traits** Hates planning, apparently

Weaknesses

Allofthem



Providing Daniel (LM)

El Paso(ELP)

Pronouns February 14

**Hub of Origin** 

Birthday

Cooking, drones, going the extra mile

Traits

Jessy, getting sick

Weaknesses





Craig

Name El Paso(ELP) **Pronouns** March 19

He/his

**Hub of Origin** Birthday Down, calm, collected, willing to drive

Traits

Can't get enough rock

Weaknesses



Alicia

Name El Paso (ELP)

October 24

She/her

Pronouns

**Hub of Origin** Probably drew you at some point

Birthday

Always the drawer, never the drawee:(

Weaknesses

Exceeding Daniel

Name Albuquerque (ABQ)

Pronouns November 29 **Birthday** 

He/his

**Hub of Origin** 

Nurse, aspiring doctor

**Traits** 

Shins, back, probably front, too

Weaknesses



He/his

**Pronouns** February 6

Birthday

Steven

Name

Phoenix (PHX)

**Hub of Origin** 

Doctor, aspiring nurse

Can only play a half-dozen instruments

Weaknesses

He/his

Pronouns



Jason "J.D."

Name Los Angeles (LAX)/(ATL)

February 13 **Hub of Origin Birthday** Actor, stunt person, curly-haired

**Traits** 

Looking at the camera in group pictures

Weaknesses



Amy

Name Germany (FRA)

Red Daniel

Portland (PDX)

True dad energy

**Hub of Origin** 

Weaknesses

Name

**Traits** 

**Hub of Origin** 

Miranda

Birthday Vegan, but like, not in your face about it

When he tells dad jokes, his dad laughs

Traits

In Carlos' face about everything else

Weaknesses



She/her

March 3

Pronouns



Name Portland (PDX)

He/his

Pronouns

**Birthday** 

February 28

**Hub of Origin** Birthday Paints eggs, sits on walls, hides gummies!

Traits Misses her daughters :(

Weaknesses

She Ther

Pronouns

April 24







Lawful Good



Lawful Neutral



Lawful Evil



Neutral Good



True Neutral



Neutral Evil



Chaotic Good



Chaotic Neutral



Chaotic Evil

## First Meetings

Two-day trek!

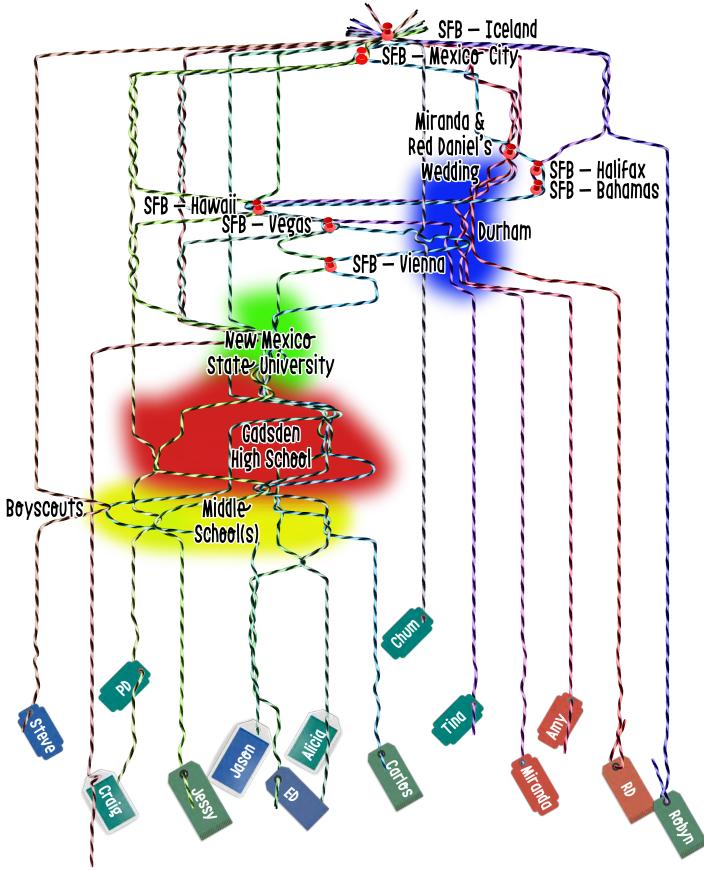




The Van Gang!



# How We Met Each Other



### Where We Were

Click stuff! Not just here, but throughout this entire document!





No, really! Look!



(We also stayed somewhere else one night!)

## Getting There!

You have plenty of time. There is no way you will miss your flight. I know you're worried about it, because there's **weather over Dallas**, but that shouldn't matter to your flight — it's really unlikely the captain will be flying through Dallas, which, I'm told, has **weather**.

I don't know what 'weather' means. Everything is weather. Sunshine is weather. Heck, the outside is weather... which makes no sense because the Weather Man only appears inside in newsrooms. He doesn't seem to be in the one place his power set would be most useful.

Maybe "weather over Dallas" is one of those fine print gimmicks. Like when they give you a tag for your bag, but they make it the size of chewed gum. It's safe as long as you don't mind holding onto trash across three time zones.

To be fair, I assume the ticket is not meaningless. It might help address territorial disputes if Mr. Middle Seat tries to manspread on your spot when you go to the bathroom. But it's only paper until someone *enforces* it and the only people in that cylindrical hunk of aluminum with a military rank are behind a bulletproof hatch.

The flight attendant makes brutal eye contact and informs you, "your flight is delayed. You are going to miss the whole trip." It turned out there was weather



Damn. Can you call anyone? Well, you booked your flight through Air Mongo Dongo, which it turns out is a Brunei top-level domain that didn't exist until the day before your credit card appeared on the Dark Web.

Okay, what *can* you do? Your flight was delayed and you're going to have a negative eight minute layover. But that layover was only an estimate. You're bound to get more time if the pilot makes up the difference in the air, presumably by speeding or passing on the shoulder.

I wouldn't expect too much, though, pilots are just bus drivers in three dimensions. The only difference is that they don't need to know enough math to make basic change. This is just their day job. Their real passion is model trains, which, I guess, is like being a bus driver in one dimension. They might speed to get to the end of their day, but they won't be doing you any favors.

You ask the flight attendant if they could let the people with tight connections get out first. But you're asking them to do something that's not in their job description. Flight attendants are just servers in one dimension.

Okay, okay, you land. Now you just have to taxi for an hour for no reason (traffic? construction? maybe parallel parking is just hard?). Then you get enough wifi to check how screwed you are. Are you screwed enough that you can relax finally, or should you start throwing elbows? You gleefully eye the grandma in 7C who would never expect the Heisman.

Oh shit, you have exactly enough time that if you sprint, break a sweat in bad places, you'll make it to the gate... that is, as long as there isn't some jerk in the way, asking you to print out a check mark for some reason.

Oh, and you are wearing sneakers, right? Can you imagine trying to race across the biggest airport in North America in rain boots.?

Wait... why would you even be wearing rain boots? Did you expect there to be weather over Dallas?

H20-land Everything in Iceland was some form of water.
There was no way we could have known.



## Breaking the Ice

**Scene:** everyone is getting into the hot tub after a long, long day of travel. Many are strangers to you.

**Person 1:** "We should do an ice-breaker!"

Murmurs of agreement
Okay, let's all take turns asking each other questions. I'll
go first, 'what's your favorite color?'

Person 2: Blonde!

But that's not a color!

Ice Breaker Gal: Ha ha, now it's your turn!

Blonde lover: Okay!

Turns to Person 3 what's your favorite TV show?

**Person 3:** That's easy, I really love MILF Island! It reminds me of my grandma-ma.

Murmurs of agreement. Everyone else is also a weirdo. Bad TV Guy turns to you.

You're excited. You hope he asks you the same question. You have an awesome answer.

Bad TV Guy: How big is your penis?"

Uh.. Everyone laughs and looks to you.

You: What??

**Person 1:** It's a simple get-to-know you prompt

Murmurs of agreement. You get it, you're getting messed with.

**Person 4:** I'll answer! I'm wearing his trunks and they are rooooomy... in the back!

You laugh and relax.

He's not actually wearing your trunks. He turns to you.

**Trunk stealer:** Okay, but now you have to answer my question! Under what circumstances is abortion morally permissible? Be sure to show your work and use controversial examples.

Everyone laughs. Is this... also a joke?

Are you getting <u>punked</u>?

You: Uh.. Tuesdays?

You tried to joke, but everyone looks at you, quietly horrified. The bubbles in the hot tub are your own creation

Bad TV Guy: I was born on a Tuesday.

Long silence

All right, but it's my turn now, right?

Blonde lover: Sure.

Wait, why is he an authority in this?

**Bad TV Guy:** What is one more than two?

Ice Breaker Gal: Three!

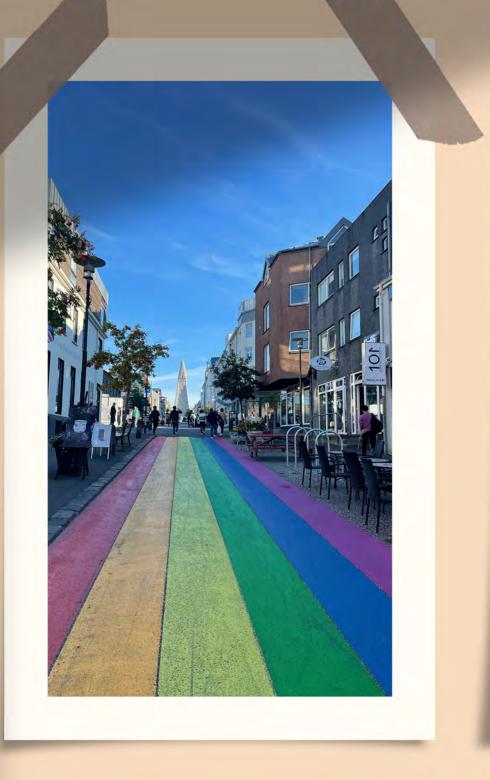
How is this even an icebreaker?? Oh no, why is she turning to you again?

Ice Breaker Gal: Did you tell your father you loved him before he passed away or were you too proud?

Oh, come on!



### Around Testand









### The History of Sceland (As lived Through the Worst Days in the lives of Random Icelandic People)

#### Trells

Icelandic children know to fear trolls. They are small creatures, who sometimes steal their toys if they misbehave. They are probably not anti-Semitic stereotypes.

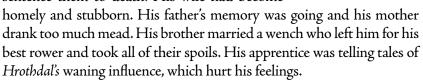
Trolls fear the sun, which turns them to stone, and Christianity, for some reason. There is much sun in Iceland during the Summer and much Christianity during Christmas, so trolls are always wary.

Trolls have big noses, hang out by themselves, and have mysterious powers... You know, it really is on us that we didn't notice the deep anti-Semitism in this mythology. Why else would Justin Timberlake star in the movie?



#### A Story about 988

Shortly before the milenium, Hrothdal Vikingson was having a no good, very bad day. His back hurt and his eyes were failing. His daughter and son had conceived a child and he had been compelled to sentence them to death. His wife had become



One night, after being mocked by a youth, *Hrothdal* sat alone drinking mead. Nobody knew why he was melancholy, so they left him until he got better. The next day, his body was found drowned in a bowl of yak's milk. The villagers ruled it accidental, as ruling it a suicide would mean his home could be freely ransacked.

If you or someone you know is in need of help, please dial 988. Don't let your house be ransacked.

#### The Legal Structure of Iceland

In the days before Norwegian conquest, Icelandic chiefs would gather at the *hrøkthkúl* to hold court, pass laws, and tell tales of the large sizes of their fish, sheep, along with their more private meats.

Incest was the greatest crime, followed by importing horses, then murdering babies in order to hide the evidence of your incest, fourth was maiming of the elderly, and finally, murdering babies for mirth or industry, but not entertainment. Other crimes also existed.

Punishments could included fines, exilery and outlawery, with time off for good behavior or death. In all, nine men were burned to death for sorcery, 130 women were drowned, often while not wearing makeup, and dozen were beheaded... without getting a chance to brush their hair.

#### The Real Girl

Barbi Dolldottir was the greatest beauty Tyr Magnusson had ever known. Her eyes were like buttons and her hair was said to be thicker than yarn. Tyr courted her for fifty days nights, until she agreed to be his bride. But their marriage was doomed. Barbi was unwilling to reciprocate in the night and Tyr was soon persecuted for spilling his seed in inanimate objects. Tyr's friends worried about his ability to discern reality. They advised him to seek help or he would be lost.

In a panic, *Tyr* begged *Barbi* to give him one strand of her hair so that he might string a bow and slay his frenemies, but she merely stared ahead, as if stuffed. He was captured the next day, sentenced to outlawry, and beheaded.



## Mhat We Did

If you missed it, I'm sorry to say it was one of the best memories of our collective lives. Hopefully next time will be even better with you there! Here's what we did:

#### Friday, September 2

- Chum arrived at midnight after a looong journey and slept at the airport, waiting for us.
- Alicia and Craig's flights were delayed, threatening their connection.
- Jessy, Carlos, and Daniel met in Toronto, worried about Alicia and Craig, then finally caught them when they arrived to barely make their connection.
- Northern lights were apparently visible, but proved elusive to us all.
- Tina and Robyn flew out of Boston.

#### Saturday, September 3

- Tina and Robyn arrived at 8:55
   a.m. and met up with Chum.
- Carlos, Providing Daniel and Jessy, and Alicia and Craig arrived.



- The group was now eight people. The fun began!
- Carlos and Craig went to get the van, because the shuttle driver sucked, then we all went to CostCo. to buy supplies.
- We checked into the AirBNB, started drinking, hung out in the hot tub and discussed who would help someone bury a body.
- Providing Daniel made pasta and we played Marry, Fuck, Kill with friends, celebrities, and abstract concepts.

#### Sunday, September 4

- Jason, his brother Exceeding Daniel (ED), and Steve arrived in separate flights.
- And then there were ELEVEN!
- ED, Jason, and Steve (Termed the Soggy Bottom Boys until we forgot about it) went climbing and to buy supplies.
- Chum, Tina, Robyn, Craig, Alicia, and Carlos went to the Secret Lagoon and had Fish & Chips.
- Jessy and Providing Daniel recovered from Saturday in time to join the van group see Geysir, the oldest Geyser.
- We climbed a mountain, Robyn broke the law by flying a drone, and ziplined in a playground.
- Everyone reconvened at the house, had dinner, but then Jason, Robyn, and Carlos did work! Boo!
- Then everyone crowded into the Hot Tub and discussed their worst behaviors in history.

#### Monday, September 5

- Miranda and Red Daniel arrived, went to the Blue Lagoon, and then CostCo.
- THIRTEEN PEOPLE! AH-AH-AH!
- And there are SO MANY DANIELS!
- Chum and Robyn went snorkeling
- •Since we were their ride, Alicia, Carlos, Tina, and Craig went to walk around, see waterfalls and such. They read about awful Icelandic history. (Awful at being history, it was just a bunch of sad things.)
- Jessy and the *Soggy Bottom Boys* went to Vik, the black sands, and to see (but not touch) a glacier.
- Everybody else hung out, drew, and played *Llamas Unleashed*, then went to dinner nearby.
- Sadly, there was limited seating, so PD, Carlos, Chum, Craig, and Alicia made some pasta instead.
- Tina saw Northern lights alone, but only told people when it started getting lame. Two groups drove off to get a better view

#### Tuesday, September 6

- Miranda, Red Daniel, Tina, Robyn, and Chum went horseback riding and learned SO MANY HORSE FACTS.
- The Soggy Bottom Boys went to Thingvallir to try to snorkel and see some fissures.
- Everyone else (but Carlos) went to CostCo to get all of the foods.
- Everyone (but Jessy) and had a Trip Trip in which Carlos likened eating a gummy bear to being stuck in World War I. It was both hilarious and traumatizing.
- People unsuccessfully tried to do laundry, had dinner, then played *Do You Know Me?* (we didn't)

#### Wednesday, September 7

- The van traveled to Northern Iceland. We saw trolls and learned their antisemitic heritage.
- We had a hard time getting fed (like, they didn't want our money or to help us). We arrived to hang out in the hot tub and see the disappointing Northern Lights (much like waiting too long to get married). Jessy and Craig felt an earthquake.
- Miranda and Red Daniel went to Vik and visited some yarn stores, then went to a school of beans and had a great hot chocolate
- The Soggy Bottom Boys went to go see some glaciers and hot springs, including the Secret Lagoon again.

#### Thursday, September 8

- The Northern Island group goes to a bakery, through the longest, stupidest, single-lane mine tunnel in the world. They hung out in a waterfall/hot spring combo and came back.
- Miranda and Red Daniel had a quiet day in.
- The Soggy Bottom Boys went Hiking. They're really going everywhere!
- Everyone got together to grill chik'n and other food.

#### Friday, September 9

- The Soggy Bottom Boys and the van group went to the Blue Lagoon then dicked around at the Phallus museum until Miranda and Red Daniel arrived.
- Carlos, Tina, Miranda and Red Daniel picked up Amy and went to get food.

- FOURTEEN?? WE'RE AT 14! OMG! Record!!
- We played Cards Against Humanity and debriefed about the Trip. Great suggestions, y'all!

#### Saturday, September 10

- Exceeding Daniel flew out early in the morning,
   Steve changed his flight to go with him.
- Now we're back to twelve people. It is the sad time of the trip when new things stop happening and old things end.
- Miranda and Amy go see goats and get tattoos.
   Carlos was too sleepy, but wished he'd gone.
- Everyone else either stayed asleep, had crepes, or went to explore the river. More serious, longer conversations throughout the day.
- We all go to eat in a Tomato Restaurant and have tomato cocktails. Why? Because it was there.
- We have one final hang in the hot tub, have a dance party, chili, and played *Scruples*.

#### Sunday, September 11

- Amy, Miranda, Robyn, Tina, and Jessy stayed up with Carlos and Chum. Then Tina, Jessy, and Providing Daniel accompany Carlos to take Chum to the airport.
- Goodbyes were had, but then Carlos turned around and caught Amy and Miranda trying to stuff gummies in his luggage. They laughed like schoolchildren.
- Craig drove everyone to the airport, dropping off Jason and Robyn to explore Reykjavik. Everyone was very tired.
- Jessy, Adequate Daniel, Alicia, and Craig flew off, while Tina and Carlos drop off the van.
- Carlos left.
- Jason and Robyn made it back to the airport.
- Jason left, then so did Tina and Robyn.
- Now it's just three people chillin, they go snorkeling

#### Monday, September 12

- Amy leaves in the morning.
- Miranda and Red Daniel turn off the lights as they leave Iceland in the evening.
- Goodbye, Iceland!



# What we Heard Lick to Play:



## Mat We Said



PD: Do you want to go skinny dipping?

Jessy: No, you'll just make fun of me.

PD: No I won't. Well, maybe I'll say that you brought your floaties.

Robyn: So there's five doctors on this trip?

Steve: Yeah, but Daniel's a nurse and he makes more money than any of us.

Daniel: I just give a lot of blowjobs.

**Carlos:** No worries. We don't need food, we can just fast for a day. Or a week.

Chum: Or three weeks.

**Jessy:** I will eat you. Even if we get to a restaurant and there's food in front of me, I'll eat you.

Alicia: I guess we'll never have Icelandic food.

Chum: Maybe the food is just University towns?

Carlos: Maybe the real food were the friends we made along the way? 😔

Jessy: I think I'm going to get one of those under-the-skin ones. I've never been on birth control and these morning after pills are getting expensive! Robyn: Pain is just weakness leaving the body.

Chum: The more you say that the less I believe it.

**Jessy:** They compare getting kicked in the balls to giving birth. Apparently, getting kicked feels worse but giving birth lasts longer

Alicia: Have you ever been straight-on kicked in the balls?

**Carlos:** Oh yeah, it's so much worse than giving birth. Labor is just weakness leaving the body.

Chum: We met when I was in undergrad.

lessy: So preter

Jessy: So pretentious!
Only a doctor would specify college is undergrad.

Chum: College in French means middle school.

Jessy: It's weird that by adding French you didn't make it less pretentious.

Chum: You're from New Jersey?

Robyn: Yes

**Jessy:** When did you pump your first gas?

Robyn: There are starving people everywhere!

Jessy: Oh yeah? Name five.

Exceeding Daniel: \*Holds up two fingers\* That's peace.

Chum: \*Holds up three fingers\*

**ED:** That's super peace. \*Holds up all five fingers\* That's world peace

Craig: Is someone looking up a restaurant?

**Carlos:** \*dicking around online\* Someone else can do it, too.

Jessy: You're literally not doing it.

Craig: It's 2.5% alcohol content. So it's just the taste and the carbs.

Carlos: but... those are the worst part of beer! If they could only squeeze in the hangover, they'd hit the trifecta!

**Jessy:** I read somewhere that self-driving cars were going to impact the availability of organ donors.

Robyn: Just get more people to ride motorcycles.

Alicia: You get free motorcycle with every sign up.

Carlos: So it turns out
learning Icelandic was a
huge waste of time. Maybe
learning any language is also
a huge waste of time?

Providing Daniel: That's a nice wall

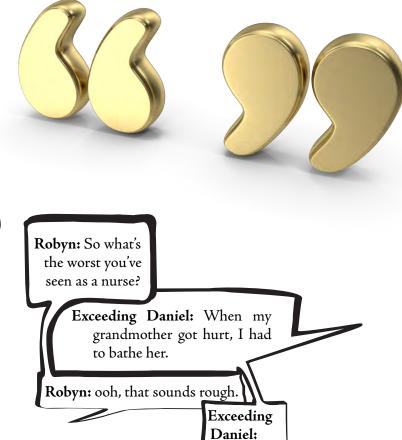
Craig: yeah, you notice there's no Mexicans here?

Carlos: \*Playing discordant music on an out-of-tune guitar while uttering a low ohhm\* This might be a different version of the song you know. This is the Icelandic version of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Carlos: My hands are silky smooth.

**Chum:** An academic that has never worked a day in his life.

Tina: Why is it only one hand?



\*Looking at the smokey sky\*

Jessy: Am I going to just have to lower my expectations?

Yeah, she

was so hot..

Carlos: Maybe, yeah.

Jessy: What a bunch of bullshit!

\* \* \*

Carlos: So, anyway, I was telling you guys about this woman I liked back in the day. We reconnected some 20 years later and it turned out that she was still saving herself for marriage. I didn't think that people kept that up past 30. Can you imagine waiting until you're 40 and having sex for the first time?

**Jessy:** I bet it would be amazing. You have nothing to compare it to.

Tina: Unless it hurts or is really bad.

Jessy: Can you imagine? You build it up your entire life and then when it actually starts to happen you're just laying there waiting until you can scroll snapchat?

Carlos: It would be like the Northern Lights of sex!

#### Jing, Carlos, and the Davenports

**CHRISTMAS:** Carlos and Jing drove around New Mexico and ran into old friends from SFB2010

#### Jessy, Providing Daniel, and Alicia

**SPRING:** Providing Daniel has some near family in southern Mexico. They flew out to go hang out with them.

#### Carlos & Miranda & Red Daniel

**EARLY JUNE:** Carlos drove across the country and visited Miranda and Daniel, along with a few other people that haven't made it to an SFB yet.

#### Tina & Robyn

FALL: Visited Acadia National Park in Maine.

#### Ting & Mike

**NOV 8:** Mike flew into Boston!

#### Tina, Robyn & Chum

**NOV 8–10:** in Boston, Cape Cod, Somerville, Cambridge, and Watertown

#### Tina, Carlos, Freddy, Joy, and Ali

**NOV 16–20:** Tina flew to Reno for Friendsgiving! And then she and Carlos went to hike in Tahoe to visit another old friend

#### Near Misses

**EARLY NOVEMBER:** Chum & Tina in D.C. **EARLY NOVEMBER:** Tina & JD in San Diego

#### Upcoming Trips (2023)

CARLOS: Mexico through El Paso in January; Pennsylvania in June/July; France in July; Europe afterward; North Carolina, Arizona, Wisconsin, and New Zealand sometime after that. Probably San Francisco or the Pacific Northwest, too. Trying to meet up with Amy, Tina, Robyn, Mike, and a bunch of other people.

**TINA:** Trying to meet up with Carlos and Robyn and Amy in Cancun. Going to Patagonia with Robyn and Young May and others.

**ROBYN:** Going to Cancun with Tina to try to meet up with Amy and Carlos in Cancun. Trying to meet up with Chum in the Alps, perhaps going to Patagonia.

**AMY:** Heading to visit family soon, then out to Cancun to catch up with Carlos.

CHUM: Might meet up with Robyn in the Alps!



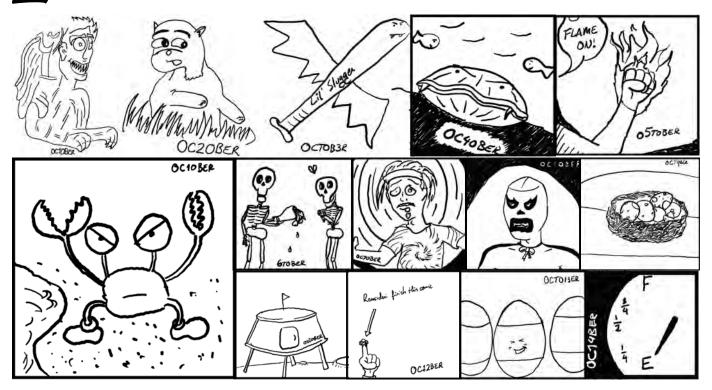






### Inktober

#### Alicia, Chum, Tina, and I did Inktober. All of my prompts were "Spongebob"



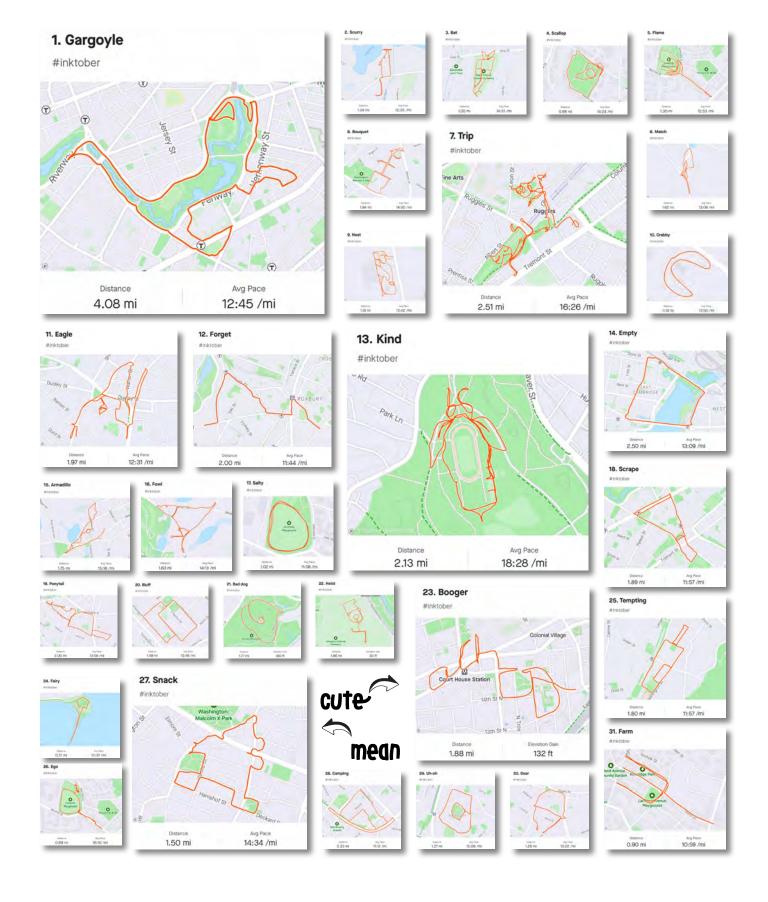
### Дli

#### I failed halfway through, but ${f ALI}$ jumped in with her own art



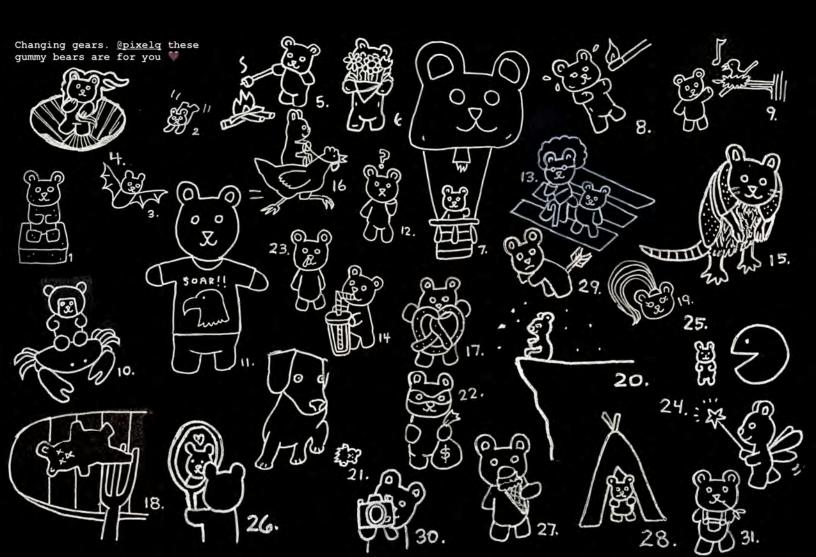


### THE Ran circles around us.









### 2022 in the News

#### January

Omicron, which is less deadly, but more contagious than Vanilla COVID, infects 300 million worldwide, a new record. The world collectively sighs, can we just... not?



Meanwhile, COVID vaccinations reach a staggering 10 billion worldwide. Non-conspiracy theorists see this as a monumental human achievement of science, technology, and public policy. So do conspiracy theorists who value a good 5G connection.

#### February

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change publishes its latest climate report: "Fucked: the Story of Earth," in which they reveal the kinds of staggering facts that make everyone numb. World leaders argued this was a distraction as they had bigger issues to worry about, such as record wildfires, hurricanes, and droughts.

Russia decides that this would be a good time to start World War III. World governments immediately hit Russian citizens with crippling economic sanctions. Everyone expects this conflict will end quickly. Russia, after all, has the name recognition of China, the economic power of Brazil, and the military might of a country slightly weaker than Ukraine.



#### March

While global deaths pass 6 million, new cases of COVID reduce. Everyone rejoices. Surely the virus is gone this time, *right*??

Europe and U.S. declare a ban on Russian oil, leading to increased oil prices. These, along with the continued compounding effects of inflation, lead many leaders around the world to suffer huge drops in popularity. Essential good costs skyrocket, while yachts continue selling at a record pace.



#### April

IPCC releases a report saying emissions must decline 43% in the next eight years if we want the Maldives to continue existing. Climate activist Wynn Bruce literally lights himself on fire to show that heat can be bad. Nobody pays attention.

The Large Hadron Collider resumes operations after three years of inactivity. It seems they are not done mucking around with the timeline.

#### May

World Health Organization holds meeting to discuss MonkeyPox. Villagers begin gathering pitchforks. The person running the simulation is just messing with us now.

#### June

An earthquake hits the dividing line between Afghanistan and Pakistan, as if those two countries needed anything more to divide them.

The U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. I was going to make a joke about this, but I've terminated it because I live in a state that gives me that choice.

#### July

The first images from the new space telescope, JWST, are revealed. We will not to refer to its full name because James Webb has been canceled and there's just no way to change the name of inanimate objects.

#### **August**

Pakistan is hit by devastating floods and declares a climate emergency. Check mate, Wynn Bruce! It turns out can also be bad!

#### September-

The UN accuses China of crimes against humanity. Unclear whether China was made aware.

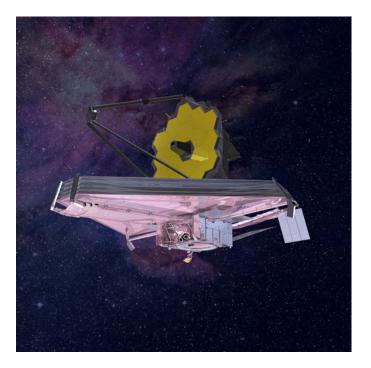
The UK is roiled by the death of the Queen Elizabeth II, 96, who had served for 70 years. No reports of whether foul play is suspected. Epstein again, *amirite*??

NASA crashes a satellite into an asteroid in a proof of concept of us being superior to dinosaurs. Birds not impressed.

#### october-

Leftist president Lula defeats COVID denier and superspreader Jair Bolsonaro to become president of Brazil. Unclear whether the clearing of the Amazon will continue, but Lula promises to not be a personal incubator of new disease variants.

Elon Musk is forced to buy Twitter by court order. Subsequently, Twitter's workforce shrinks by 90 percent, many advertisers cut ties with the company, and Twitter announces it may not be able to pay for its offices or severance packages. Elon loses the richest man in the world spot. Millions hit refresh on news stories until their mouse breaks.



#### November

The Red Wave fails to materialize as Democrats and Republicans trade slight advantages. Republicans begin repudiating Donald Trump even as he announces his 2024 campaign. Kanye West also declares his candidacy and joins his neo-nazi campaign manager, Nick Fuentes, to ask Trump to be his vice president. All in all, not a great month for the former POTUS.

In Israel, a right-wing bloc manages to win a majority, paving the way for yet another term for legally embattled former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. There must be a better way to avoid prison than running a country.

G20 Summit occurs in Bali, to discuss the economy; the COP 27 summit occurs in Egypt to discuss Climate Change. Both, presumably, a laugh riot.

The world population reaches 8 billion. Yikes.

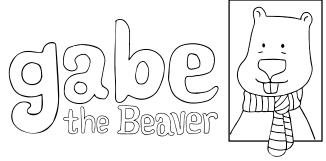
#### December-

After a huge campaign of protests in person and social media, China relaxes its stringent Zero-COVID policies. Apparently, there was no win-win approach to the virus. Good to know, I guess?

Peruvian president Pedro Castillo attempts a coup and is removed from office. Nobody in Congress pays attention.







Gabe the Beaver is a newspaper advice columnist. His writing has been syndicated from New Mexico to however far the Internet goes (France, probably). He's best known for his self-published collections of tweets, "Gabe Gives Advice," "Gabe's Apology Tour," and "Gabe: Uncanceled, Uncovered, and Underwear." This is his first column since his troubling 2006 NDA expired.

Near Gabe, Iwant to go on a group vacation with my friends, but Im getting married/arrested/murdered/abducted. Can you tell my friends to get off my back?? -Busy in Boise

#### Dear Busy Boi,

Sorry to hear about your problems. Your friends just want to see you. That's one of those *good* problems. If you think they're being too pushy, perhaps let them know you hate them and wish they would fall into a well. They'll get the message.

Eventually, your friends might stop inviting you, which would be one of those problems you don't realize are problems, like when your zipper is undone on the Jumbotron or when you get shadow-banned because of what people saw you do on a large screen.

Try to honestly self assess whether this is an issue of possibility or priority. Do you want to go to a *place* or go with *people*? Are your excuses *one-offs* or would you *find others* if they were gone? In other words, do you have a plan to *ever* go? If there's an end in sight to your problems, let them know. If you won't, maybe ever, say that, too. Otherwise, you're communicating that you want their chapter in your life to slowly close.

There's no shame in growing apart. That's one of the better endings friendships can have.

Dear Gabe,
What do I do when I'm in love with someone who
doesn't know I exist?
- Cyrus G. Billsworth III

Dear Cyrus, Be sad. P.S. I mean, like should I say or do anything?
- Cyrus G. Billsworth III

#### Dear Cyrus,

Hahaha, no. Nobody who writes to a beaver for love advice should expect love in their lives.

Dear Gabe,
I've recently become a doornsday prepper. What should I
prep first?
- Doornsday in Dayton

#### Dear Doomy,

Good for you! A lot of people think they'll never have to prepare, but as they say, you're dam<u>m</u>ed if you do and dam<u>n</u>ed if you don't. (It's not a saying that works well out loud. A <u>lot</u> of people misunderstand it.)

What you really need to worry about is not the *first* thing you have to prepare, it's the *last* thing you have to prepare. There's some debate over whether that should be perishables, your living will, or your dying cactus, but I think the real answer is toilet paper.

As we saw during COVID, people need toilet paper for all kinds of shit. You can use it to make a mummy or a daddy or even use it to toilet paper someone's house. There is a fourth use for it, but it's pretty crappy.

A lot of people think toilet paper stores well. Those people just lack the palate for distinguishing fine-grained textures. Trust me, after a few months without good quality wood products, you might turn to canned goods. A few months of that and you might turn into quite the animal.

Sincerely,

Gabe

### Crossword

### Caution: May take a full year to complete

#### ACTOSS

- 1. A mid-level provider
- 7.9 to 7
- 8. The elder brother of 6D and 49A
- 15. Not quite a lie
- 16. 18A to 30A
- 18. He says his name a lot
- 19. What 30A calls 139A backward
- 20. Deter
- 23. Do you even use these, bro?
- 25. A French try
- 26. Vroom
- 27. To mend, repair
- 28. What bi people complain about, but are ignored
- 30. A down bitch
- 32. Vitamin stat
- 33. See 59A
- 36. The \$200 you need to give me to join SFB23
- 39. How you drew as good as 139A or 80D
- 40. Not S10E10/265381
- 41. See 85A
- 43. 18th Prez
- 45. Oops, all these!
- 48. A worse Spotify
- 49. The youngest of 6D and 7A
- 52. Philbrick's " Three Lives"
- 54. Early \_\_\_ \_\_\_
- 56. It's trino
- 58. What everyone dreads in SFB
- 59. With 33A, disappointing as waiting forty years to have sex
- 62. It used to blow, but now it's just a manly name

- 64. Luxor's land, abbrev.
- 65. Also
- 66. People who live here forget other places exist 67. As 12D
- 68. Uno's knock off. Not quite Dose
- 70. SFB 2015 alum
- 72.What my dad says that sounds like shit
- 74. When the Rocky sequels started going bad
- 76. We did two of these this vear because nobody could agree
- 77. If you know what this is, you're on a list
- 78. Huh
- stories or snorkeled
- 85. With 41A, an alum 140. Best wall sitter
- 87.What time does, except for cancer patients
- 90. Married to 139A
- 91. A rational spider
- 93. I see..
- 94. I'm not mad,
- 95. Several SFB alums
- 97. Yucks (not yuks)
- 99. What's up, doc?
- 100. Don't be thirsty on here
- 102. A lagoon facemasks
- 105. Have you told your 8. Be mom you're gay yet?
- 107. Kwanzaa Menora
- 111. Jessy's cousin
- 113. The worst state.
- 114. I guess 49A now?
- 115. Current record for most SFBs attended

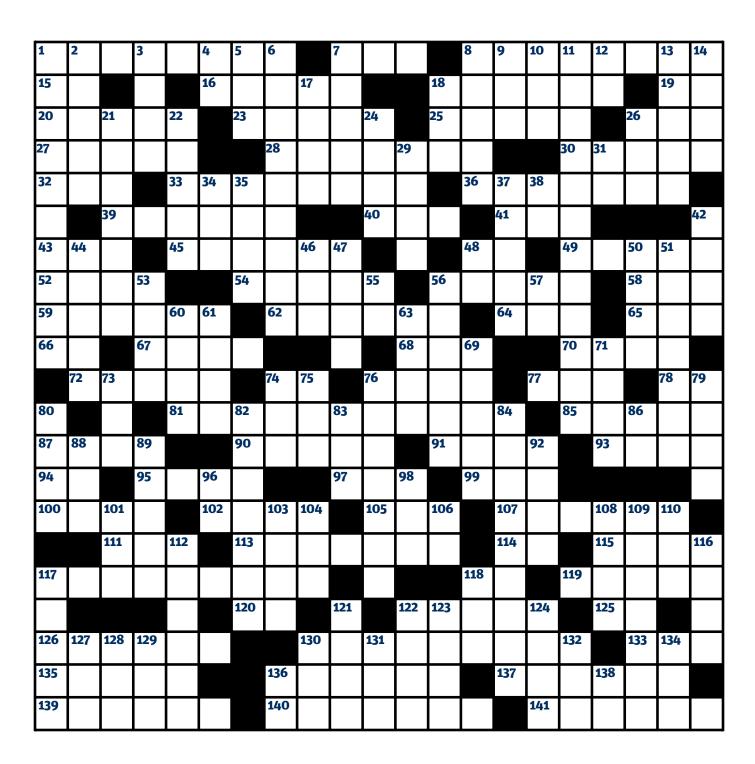
- 117. SFB 2011 alum
- 118. One who has a nicer dorm room
- 119. She'd do troubling 17. Large Argentine fox things for helium
- 120. Won't charge your Tesla
- 122. Boyscout bud of 49A
- 125. First word
- 126. Partner of one of 24. Park Su Hye 11Ds
- 130. 1A's new name/tattoo 134. Hoping to lose some
  - of these SFB2023
- 135. People here say si or
- 136. How monkeys travel 138. 80D's name
- 81. Where we read sad 139. She probably drew you

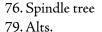
  - from SFB 2013 & 2014 141. Nickname of Pink Floyd musician after he became a financial watchdog

#### Down

- 1. It's who she is and what she does; August 6 is her day
- 2. Nicer way to say 7A
- Give up
- 4. Hard high school
- Soccer matches, often
- with 6. With 45A, a nurse
  - Bloomy mass
  - care
  - 9. Many er
  - 10. Columbian org.
  - 11. She has this down in heart: S04E10/957472
  - 12. Such 67A

- 13. TOEFL maker
- 14. YMCA group was in this, too, I guess
- 18. First Allied victory of WWI
- 21. SFB 2011 alum
- 22. People who won't be good, \_\_\_ \_\_\_
- 26. E.g. Carpal tunnel syndrome
- 29. Not new
- before 31. Is in SFB 2021
  - 34. Non-Catholic church in the USA
  - 35. Where 1D, 11D, 18A, 117D, and 127A live
  - 37. SFB 2013 alum
  - 38. A real mid-level provider
  - 42. Going in SFB 2021
  - 44. Many of Iceland's most popular lagoon
  - 46. That in SFB 2021
  - 47. Law in SFB 2021
  - 48. Not jk
  - 50. The forgotten third child
  - 51. 😧
  - 53. SFB 2013 product
  - 55. Classified abbrev.
  - 56. Anti-Semitic Icelandic
  - 57. Billionth of a gram
  - 60. Small trumpet
  - 61. Pituitary hormone
- oneself without 63. Banned by the first commandment
  - 69. Playground game
  - 71. Many golds in SFB2021
  - 73. Military for understood
  - 74. Test for hemophiliacs
  - 75. Most abundant antibody





80. A lot of clues pointed 88. Historic time you here, didn't they? Well, tough! No more clues are available for you now. Deal! :P

82.84D country

83. Life, for 80D

84. Home of a CostCo

86. Film about a scout 108. Indivisible getting high

89. K-Q

92. What WoWers do

96. Defunct toy store

98. El Paso is this city

101. The land of SFB2022

103. Wöhler synthesis

104. Bingo start

106. Teachers want this

109. Many usernames

110. Most of many

112. \_\_\_ \_ write these?

116. So many anuses, in SFB 2021

118. With 45A, spouse of 132. Suckers HODL this

140A

121. Money goes \_\_\_\_\_

122. Frozen reindeer

123. ~

of 122A's 124. Son of 50D

127. Kiev coin, for now

128. Electric association

129. Leopold II successor

130. \_\_\_ Gow poker

134. Korean film, Old

136. Poo

138. Page 28, for ex.

## More Games!

WORD SEARCH	N		A		L	_	A	A	D	N	A	R	I	M	A	A	I	C	I	L	_
ICELAND	I	0	D	0	M	0	K	J	T	E	R	C	E	S	0	L	A			C	I
REYKJAVIK	M A	L O	K L	J	G K	N E	I V	D E	I	V S	0 P	R I	P X	L E	J D	Y	D O	D L	E D	R A	F O
THINGVELLIR	A N	Y	В	0	R	E 7.	A	R	Z	3 Z	D	z.	E	E	N	A	H	P	E	A	S
AURORA	A	N	I	T	Z	L	I	D	A	N	0	В	I	R	A		0	S	L	0	A
BOREALIS	E	L	E	Ţ	V	0	K	A	Y	K	J	V	E	u	L	B	L		0		M
BLUE	B	0	L	R	E	L	Y	N	Y	P	Ī	X	E	A	E	K	I	M	R	A	u
LAGOON	J	E	S	Y	C	S	E	E	S	X	G	I	A	R	C	L	L	0	Z	A	H
SECRET	G	N	u	0	Y	E	R	I	L	L	E	V	G	N	1	H	T	L	R	A	C
LCELAND	T	u	N	A	0	J	S	L	L	E	A	A	A	0	1	0	1	E	J	K	A
GEYSIR	Y	N	H	0	J	Y	C	0	0	G	A	L	A	G	0	0	N	S	P	I	N
LIBRARIAN	L	S	S	K	Y	0	E	A	R	I	S	Y	E	G	V	A	R	0	R	u	A
PREHEAT	E	0	L	E	0	I	I	C	T	A	L	0	L	N	0	E	L	D	E	A	I
NELALSNKLRY	N	0	S	A	J	L	M	A	B	G	C	L	E	I	N	A	D		H	J	R
A BLANK SPOT	A	L	L	C	Y	A	M	R	0	C	A	R	0	D	E	L	0	L	T	K	A
SMALL LETTERS	u	Z	E	Z	0	L	E	E	L	S	I	L	A	E	R	0	B	K	A	Y	R
FIVE LOLS	Y	S	S	E	J	K	R	E	R	E	R	K	A	E	A	J	V	X	E	E	B
Q	E	L	0	L	Y	0	L	A	A	A	L	R	A	C	A	R	I	E	H	R	I
TROLL	S	R	E	S	0	L	R	A	C	L	0	L	E	X	I	P	I	X	E	M	L
	N	I	M	A	J	N	E	B	A	E	T	A	A	E	T	A	u	Q	E	D	A

#### Cryptethingy

FDTKNW: NPZ UIWV MUDXMPZ WMWRHLIW DW LDHHR. LZ ZPONRW HIWLMPX VLZ TNFC IH VLZ LMKK.

FLIU: WMWRHLIW MW D ENGREIMKGZT. LZ'W KMCZ, "GIGZ, OIWV KZV UZ XZV UR TZHW MP."

CRYPTOCLUE: Keep going until you see gain Z.



You have too many gummies.

What should you dowith them?

...Carlos said they gave him LSDPTSD...

Wouldn't it be funny to wage psychological warfare on him?

TIP: If it
won't close,
just throw
out some
underwear
until it
does!









You'll Always Remember You Went, You'll Never Remember Why You Thought You Guldn't

Send \$200 by March 15 to reserve your spot!

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