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the one and only

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monday, november 12, 2007

Ramblings

I was reading someone's blog, in which the blogger wrote a letter to herself, to be read sometime in the future, and it reminded me of [Future Me](#).

random tidbits

♪ **November 27**

"If God can make penicillin out of moldy bread, he can make something out of you."

To Doings

- » Clean room (and keep it clean)
- » Write: Tsubasa
- » Edit all writings
- » BellaBiblio?
- » Update photos and stuff

come what may

- » 02 Dec- Jessica's Birthday
- » 05 Dec- Jesse's Birthday
- » 10 Dec- Cathy's Birthday
- » 10 Dec- Cindy's Birthday
- » 14 Dec- Camille's Birthday
- » 18 Dec- Ed's Birthday
- » 15 Dec- CHRISTmas Cafe
- » 25 Dec- CHRISTmas
- » 28 Dec- Iris's Birthday

posting calendar

Jan 1 2007
Go!

[oldest](#) | [newest](#)

Basically, it's a website where you can write an email to yourself, and it'll send the email to you in the time you specify. Pretty cool. I've written one before, and I'm in the process of writing another one, only to realize how much I've changed in a relatively short period of time.

Of course, life is always changing, you're always changing, and writing an email to your future self won't do your life any justice. Still, the concept of writing an email to your future self is exciting. It's not that your future self is so much more different than your present self, because you're still you, but on the other hand, you're writing to a totally different you. I'm probably not making much sense to anyone else, but it makes perfect(ish) sense to me.

Future Me is like making a time capsule (I've always wanted to make a time capsule). You're capturing your life so far in one box, all at once. But then that box is buried, to be reopened at a specified time in the future. And until then, you have to keep making more life (not making life in the sense that you're in charge of how long you live, but in the sense that you have a say in what happens in your life). That's one of the reasons I keep blogs and journals - to document my life, according to me, to look back on whenever I want to.

I started keeping a journal (an actual journal in an actual notebook/diary!) when I was in second grade. I really didn't write in it much, but the things I did write bring back memories and feelings of nostalgia. Then, that journal, or at least parts of it, turned public when I moved to the blogosphere, online.

I sometimes still write in an offline journal, for my more personal thoughts. Some words aren't meant to be read by others; they're just for me, to get whatever I'm thinking or feeling onto paper so that they don't escape into the dark corners in the back of head. Sometimes, I make my xanga entries private, but what really is the point of writing an entry on xanga, on the internet, if there is no one to see it? Isn't the whole point of the internet to connect with others, without actually tangibly connecting to them?

To me, an offline journal, one that you can actually touch, seems more permanent, more real, somehow. With the computer, all your files can be deleted with the click of a mouse, the outbreak of a virus, the touch of a hacker.. I'm always afraid that my files will one day disappear, and I'll lose them forever. Despite how much I like and use computers, I don't trust them much. I don't trust anything built by human hands that can "think" on its own. For this reason, I'd rather not advance in robot technology, however cool robots are.

Plus, there is no OCD involved with writing on paper, other than ugly handwriting and maybe bad formatting. When I'm writing on xanga, I'm always OCD when the minutes in the timestamp isn't a multiple of five. I don't like seeing 6:14. I have to wait until it's 6:15 and update the timestamp again. Other times, I'm too lazy to do it, and I don't care. But I had to do it for this

one because I was thinking about it. Don't ask why, I don't really know. I blame my self-diagnosed OCD. My brother's like that too. He has to practice cello at 6:30, not 6:31 or 6:32 - or else, he'll wait until 6:35 to practice. So no timestamp with offline journals (unless you're really exact and perfectionist-y). Just a day and a date.

I'm constantly rereading and editing my blogs. I find some grammatical error or some flaw in the sentence flow, and I have to change it. If I'm writing with a real pen and a real piece of paper (rare nowadays, sadly), I won't cross everything out and rewrite it so that it sounds better. There's simply no point in doing so. If you can understand what you've written, that's all that matters. You don't need to please your audience and make sure they understand. You are your own audience, and usually, you understand your own writing, even if it's complete nonsense to someone else. It's like Da Vince and his backward writing. He wrote it for himself, not for anyone else. I think that all too often, I write for other people, not that that's bad, but I don't write exclusively for me often enough. But then again, there's a middle ground too. There are some entries where I type out exactly what I'm thinking, but they are ones that I don't mind other people reading. Like this one.

I like spontaneity. I like writing whatever comes to mind. Whatever flows from the pen is the real thing, even if it's not perfect. It's more natural, it's more real. People need to be real. Sometimes, they're so fake. The things people say and do, the friendships they create, the life they live - sometimes, people just put on a front that doesn't reveal who they really are. And I realize that I do that too. And I don't like it.

That's why I like candid photos - photos that are not planned, that aren't posed, but capture life exactly the way it is. Candid photos are so much more full of life. Not that studio shots are bad or aren't full of life; some are amazing. But candid photography is just.. more real. I have no other words to describe it. This is probably due to my lack of vocabulary, but maybe because it's just that - real. How do you describe real? Why do people long for others to see them the way they really are, but choose to hide behind a mask anyways? How did this entry go from writing emails to being real? I've overused the word "real."

And suddenly, I don't have more to say.

Posted 11/12/2007 6:15 PM - [email it](#)

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Stream of consciousness!!!

i think i started like..at least seven notebook journals... but i always felt like i should write in them everyday, so it became a chore and i stopped

and now i just write whenever, but i like using the comp and word, because it looks neater. in the paper notebook i have, my handwritings always really messy, so i like the cleanliness of typed text

hm...writing an email to myself would be fun..but i dunno whatd id write. its like if you had some amazing child psych prodigy who decided to keep a journal on how he thought as a kid (eeh..kind of scary), but if he grew up and read it, would it make sense anymore?

Posted 11/12/2007 8:28 PM by [justduhit](#)

Ahaha Allison I was going to say that!

I used to keep journals... I have like five of them that are only filled in the first couple of pages haha. But then it became boring so I stopped =/
I still write notes occasionally though and stick them in a box.

Posted 11/14/2007 6:41 PM by [IhopeNot](#)

You know, I just use my xanga to entertain myself. That's about it.

Posted 11/15/2007 4:15 PM by [Drakonskyr](#)

Aw. The future me project sounds cute. <3

I like the community involved with online journals that you can't have with tactile journals.

Posted 11/15/2007 4:23 PM by [pandasp0ts](#)

I write a lot more in my actual hand-written journal than I do on line. I can't bring myself to be that open and honest online. I mean, what I do write online is honest... but I just feel like, even with a private post... there's such a risk that the people I'm writing about could see it.

Plus, it's so much more satisfying to flip through pages and pages and books and books of your own handwriting... than to hit the "next" button a bunch of times.

Posted 11/15/2007 4:24 PM by [A_Gurl_Named_Goo](#)

Yeh, in year 9 at my school we had solo camps, and while in the bush for 24 hours alone, we had to write a letter, and the teachers gave it back to us a year later.

It's a brilliant idea!

xoxo

Posted 11/15/2007 4:28 PM by [ThexGreenxSmartie](#)

fantastic. i'll go do that right now.

Posted 11/15/2007 4:38 PM by [goats_r_sexy](#)

I remember doing something in high school, the first day of class for history, and the last day of class for history class, and so much has changed that I started crying, but wow that's interesting concept

Posted 11/15/2007 4:38 PM by [lilyqueen777](#)

Wow, Future Me sounds awesome! I'm going to give it a try.

Posted 11/15/2007 4:38 PM by [DriftingGC8](#)



 **pWn3d!!!**

that is a cool idea...I'm going to check it out.

As for the journal thing...I haven't kept a written journal since my exhusband stole all my journals (they were locked up, but that did not stop him) and read parts of them aloud in an open court during our custody battle. That was fun.

Then again...I recently crashed my hard drive and lost a 75,000 word novel that took me over six months to write.

I just hope nothing ever happens to xanga. It's about the only place I trust right now to keep my writing safe.

Posted 11/15/2007 4:43 PM by [A___Beautiful___Disaster](#)

the link that you gave doesn't seem to work right now. I like to read some of my old entries (back in 2003) but I would really like to try this email thing out

Posted 11/15/2007 4:48 PM by [MCTCanadian](#)

I've been on xanga since I was a freshman. I'm a senior now and it's kinda crazy when I log into my old ones. It's funny to see how I'm the same and different at the same time. The future thing sounds cool. =]

Posted 11/15/2007 4:49 PM by [xxLeT_iT_bExx](#)

I started on Xanga my sophomore year of HS, now I'm a junior in college. I started using it again a few months ago after having not for 2 years. The only reason why I could never delete it (just hid all the entries) because there was just too much nostalgia. Going back and reading those entries is shoking at how much changes.

~Michael

Posted 11/15/2007 4:56 PM by [MackyM](#)

i wrote one 3 years ago. maybe i'll put it online and you can read it.

Posted 11/15/2007 4:58 PM by [liquid_s](#)

wow. thinking about the past like that, like when i go back and read my old journals, almost makes me cry. i often can't believe how much i have changed, even in short periods of time. it's funny how looking back can be so melancholy yet so hilarious at the same time, and it can be amazingly depressing and simply joyful, too. i think everyone should keep journals, if only to reflect. at times i just keep lists in mine, but its enough because sometimes it's what i need just then. it's like therapy.

amzing entry. kudos to you.

Posted 11/15/2007 5:02 PM by [daddys_grl_93](#)

i should do the future me thing....

thanks =]

Posted 11/15/2007 5:26 PM by [same_old_ridiculousness](#)

yeah, I've commented about the pointlessness of private entries before.

and yeah, it is nice to look back on old entries occasionally. I also like just kinda writing with the flow of my mind, whether it makes sense or not. And then sometimes I write really cryptic things that only I really understand...gives me the option of deciding whether or not to actually tell somebody who asks me what it is. Or just because I felt like writing it down for my own purposes...

Posted 11/15/2007 5:31 PM by [math_music_me](#)

wow nice entry.. makes me think about all the posts i've ever written on xanga as well. thanks for the future me idea.. i'll definately try that out. :)

Posted 11/15/2007 5:32 PM by [sunshinegurl31](#)

I must say, I'm not very good at checking for grammar and only remember to check spelling about half the time. Probably from spending so much time with paper journals, I have at least 3 at any given time, that way I'm never without one when I have an idea.

Posted 11/15/2007 5:59 PM by [cuteluvr21](#)

this is not exactly what you are blogging about, but last year I read Tom Arnold's autobiography (the Roseanne T.A.). He wrote the entire book as his yet-unborn son was speaking...It was weird and somewhat disconcerting. He's never had any children and now (again) he's divorced again. But back to your original thought, I thought it was kind of cool.

ilena holder...Rose Garden...a contemporary romance by Awe-Struck ebooks 11.11.07

Posted 11/15/2007 6:07 PM by [ilenaholder](#)

I do that, only in blog form.
I go back and read my old entries.

For me, its the LACK of change that really disturbs me...

Posted 11/15/2007 6:19 PM by [McScarry](#)



I feel you...

random props. I think I will take a look at the site you speak of. This was a great post, thank you for sharing. I have a journal I keep by my bed to write thoughts and dreams in.

Posted 11/15/2007 6:21 PM by [to_my_dearest_love](#)

i do the same thing! sometimes i feel like i write for other people too. even though i haven't told anyone about my xanga. but just in case somebody i know reads it, i try to please them. so basically i write to please non-existing readers. strange i know lol. and i always read my entries after to make sure i didn't spell anything wrong because i want them to look published and perfect just in case anybody ever does read them so they're focused on what i'm saying rather than my mistakes.

=)

Posted 11/15/2007 6:21 PM by [HONESTLYxxo](#)

Yeah, I write in an offline journal. It's good that people do this still.

Posted 11/15/2007 6:23 PM by [pain_is_my_antidrug](#)

I love going over my thoughts from previous years

Posted 11/15/2007 6:32 PM by [FairyBunnyPrincess](#)

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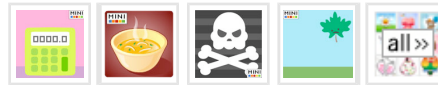
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