

ODE TO TOILET PAPER

by Marc Prisament, Global Supply Chain Poet

Oh, toilet paper, toilet paper, how do I miss thee toilet paper. Once you were plentiful and soft, But now you are scarce and not as loving as you were. I remember those days, when the sun would shine, And you would be around to help me in times of need. Those glorious days will hopefully return, When the stars all align again, and the monsters of supply retreat. Let's conquer this plague on humanity, And enjoy the true and unbridle pleasures that only you can bring. That day is coming and we all pray it will be soon!

CORONAVIRUS TRAVEL GUIDE

TEN PANDEMIC-FRIENDLY DESTINATIONS

by Ray Prisament

Your Kitchen

Have you visited your kitchen lately? Don't answer that.

Travel experts say that despite a steady decline in visitors over the years, your kitchen is now experiencing a surge of foot traffic, driven by renewed interest in not starving to death.

"We think it's because they have no choice," said your microwave, chairperson of your kitchen's Convention and Visitors Bureau. "Whatever the reason, it's really been a joy to be called upon to reheat such a vast and unrelenting variety of Hot Pockets."

Your kitchen appliances then issued a joint statement, saying they plan to celebrate the newfound attention by self-destructing at noon tomorrow.

Your Bathroom

Granted, the lack of toilet paper means your bathroom's main attraction has lost some of its luster. But your bathroom is about so much more than that!

For example, it's a great place to "flatten the curve" by washing your hands, which you should do for the length of time it takes to sing Happy Birthday twice in binary. Careful: if you touch the doorknob to exit, your hands are dirty again, and it's time for two more binary Happy Birthdays. Instead, we recommend knocking the door down with your feet, then going back into the

bathroom to wash your feet.

You can also use the bathroom to take a shower but, why?

Your Kitchen

Shoot, I already did this one.

Your Bedroom

You already knew your bedroom was a great place for sleeping. But did you know it's also a great place to be when you're *not* sleeping, and also not allowed to leave the house? Check it out!

Your Hallway

For the sophisticated traveler who wants a little of everything, your hallway can feel like a "portal" between all the parts of your abode. That's because it is.

Your Local Supermarket

Not only is visiting your local supermarket fun and educational, but as an Essential Activity, it's still legal! (Check your local regulations.)

Visitors from places other than the Star Wars Cantina may find it bleak at first. Yet watching the mask- and glove-wearing patrons browse empty shelves, stay six feet away from each other, and get into knife fights over the last remaining bar of soap truly provides an authentic post-apocalyptic travel experience.

Don't forget to pay for what you buy, because that's still a thing. And while it's okay to grieve for the sudden and dramatic decline of civilization, whatever you do, *don't ask for a single-use plastic bag*.

Your Local Park or Nature Preserve

Just kidding, it's closed and they'll arrest you if you try to go in.

Your Neighborhood Library

Just kidding, same.

Um, Okay, Maybe the Supermarket Again, At Least It's Open?

No it closes at 5pm now.

Wait, How Many Pandemic-Friendly Destinations Did We Promise?

Ten but we did Your Kitchen twice, so we need to make up one more.

Happy Happy Fun Land

Don't lack imagination! Just because you can't physically travel doesn't mean you can't explore the world in your mind.

To visit Happy Happy Fun Land, close your eyes, picture the most wonderful place you can, and say "I'm going to Happy Happy Fun Land" three times while clicking your ruby red slippers.

If you do it right, when you slowly open your eyes, you'll be in:

your kitchen. But that's okay, because Happy Happy Fun Land was fake anyway. Bon Voyage!

TRAIN TRACKS

by Elena Prisament

Boy: No! Dad, don't do it!!!

Dad: What?

Girl: We're in a movie, remember?

Dad: Yeah...

Boy: In a movie, whenever a car goes over train tracks, it gets hit by a train!

Girl: Or it ends up flying!!!

Boy and Dad: What?

Girl: Never mind.

Boy: No, no, no, no, don't, Dad!!!! You're getting closer! Stop it, stop the car!!!

Girl: Yes, please!!!

Dad: Come on, nothing's going to happen. Look, there isn't even a train coming.

Girl: It always comes when you least expect it!

Boy: Yeah! Don't go over the rails!

Dad: If we get hit by a train, I won't have to spend a hundred dollars on Christmas presents! Yay!!!

Girl and Boy: What??!!

Dad: I'm just joking, please. I simply love spending my hard-earned money on toy cars and jelly beans.

Girl: Okay, good. Because I really like those jelly beans.

Boy: Focus, Dad! Look! A train might be coming!

Dad: The lights on the signs will blink if a train is coming.

Boy: What if they're broken?

Dad: They're not - *sigh*. Listen, we really need to get to the mall to pick up your mom, and this is the shortest route!

Boy: You're going to get us killed!!!

Girl: Don't kill us, Dad! You don't want us to die!!!

(They begin to go over rails. Dramatic music builds up)

Girl and Boy: AHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!

(They go over the rails normally, without any problem. No train comes. Dramatic music fades away. Girl and Boy slowly look up, nervous and confused)

Dad: See, it was fine.

Girl: What? How?

Boy: Huh? But that's impossible!

Dad: The magic of being off-camera.

Boy: Yes! We didn't die!!! WE DIDN'T DIE!!!

Girl: WE DIDN'T - Wait, but then what was the dramatic background music for?

Dad: Makes the story more interesting, I guess.

Boy: OH NO! Dad, don't cross the bridge!!!

Dad: What?

WHEN WILL THIS EVER END?

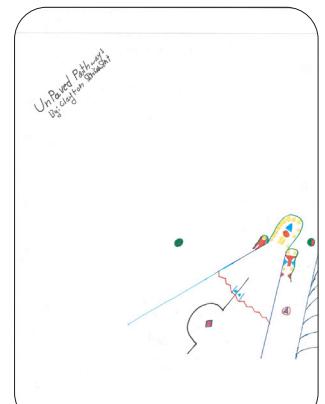
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been spreading for a long period of time, if restrictions are lifted then there will be a much larger number of initial unknowing carriers who are much more spread out within the region. This could increase the start of the spread exponentially.

This brings us to another important point, how do we stop the virus? There are two ways to stop the spread of a harsh virus like Covid-19, especially one which is very infectious and asymptomatic. The first is to develop herd immunity and the second is to create a vaccine. Whenever someone gets the virus, they can spread it to a number of people, in order for the virus to stop spreading this number of people must, on average, be 1 or fewer. Currently statistics show that the average person who contracts Coronavirus spreads it to 2.5 people which would mean that we would need 60% of the population to be immune to contracting the virus in order for the average number of new infections to reduce to only 1 per person. The other alternative is a vaccine which would artificially grow that herd immunity without the need for people to develop their own antibodies for the virus.

One thing to consider while listening to epidemiologists in the news, or rather anyone talking about some model or estimate of Covid-19 spread is the inherent problems with such forms of models. There is always a trade off in these types of models between complexity and over-simplification. The more parameters or intricacies that are added to a given model can make it more accurate, however, these parameters generally require assumptions and some amount of assumptions that could potentially make the model perform wildly incorrectly or be very unstable. On the flip side, if the model is too simple, it could miss out on important phenomena in the spread of the virus. Therefore, it is often difficult to discern meaningful results that do not over-fit the poor data we already have. It is important to always take the predictions with a grain of salt, especially those which do not explain their epidemiological models or do not have one to begin with.

I want to end by reiterating that everything isn't bad news; we can, and will stop the virus, and you can be assured that there are multitudinous people tirelessly working to model the spread of the virus accurately and find the best ways to inhibit it. It is only a matter of time and caution.



Welcome to the "ROMA" (Revolutionary rOad Museum of Art)

With the museums closed, Elena (above left, "Windows"), Clayton (above right, "Unpaved Pathways") and Lucas (left, untitled) turned their home into a contemporary art exhibit as part of Evelyn's birthday celebration.

Fun Zone!

MAGIC NUMBER 17

by Elena Prisament, Concept invented by Benjamin Franklin

5		2	
	1		
2			5
7		3	

Fill the empty boxes such that **every row** and **every column** adds up to 17.



Your
Ad
Here?
:-)

Solution to last week's Sudoku

1	4	5	6	8	2	7	3	9
9	8	3	7	1	5	4	6	2
2	7	6	3	9	4	8	5	1
6	9	2	1	4	3	5	8	7
4	3	7	2	5	8	9	1	6
8	5	1	9	6	7	3	2	4
5	1	8	4	2	9	6	7	3
3	2	9	5	7	6	1	4	8
7	6	4	8	3	1	2	9	5