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一月份

01 A Letter To the Year 2100

Dear you:

Are you wearing ¹pajamas? I do not mean to begin this letter by getting personal. I was just wondering if you people leave the house anymore-something that seems to be increasingly unnecessary these days, a hundred years ago.

Are you six-feet-six? Are you fly-fishing on Mars? Are you talking on a cell phone? We are, usually.

As lovers leaving lovers say, By the time you read this, I'll be gone. Or possibly I won't. Given the way life is being prolonged these days, I - with my pig's liver, ²titanium hips and knees, artificial heart, transplanted kidney and reconstructed DNA - could write this letter in my century and pick it up in yours.

I write you in the dead of winter from a summer village by the Atlantic Ocean. The last of the houseflies beats its body against the window, through which I watch the ³tremors of a ⁴berry bush and the shorn stoic trees. Afternoon lowers on evening; the sky is the color of ⁵unpolished silver. A Cole Porter song, In the Still of the Night, goes through my head. I do not know why.

We are generally content, generally at peace, generally optimistic, and with good reason. We are generally rich; more people have homes of their own. We are generally healthy, thanks largely to remarkable advances in medicine. People who died of certain diseases even 30 years ago are routinely saved today.

In short, we are generally OK in spite of notable low spots and areas of significant concern. Our movies are mostly silly. Our books? Mostly small. The quality of our cultural criticism is generally so low that one cannot tell how good or bad any artist is, but in literature, at least, it is highly unlikely that any writer touted as a heavyweight in our era will make it to the ring in yours. Movies that once were judged by normal artistic criteria are now valued by the amount of money they make over a weekend. For your horrified amusement, see if you can dig up a print of something called ⁶Scream or The Blair Witch Project.

We enlarge and expand. We have recently found out that the entire universe is expanding more than we had ⁷initially believed. We build, invent and discover at a pace that is ⁸dizzying for us, perhaps turtle footed for you.

I wonder how far you have progressed. I wonder if you have figured out how to make the best use of the past. I see you looking back at us. You see us looking out at you. Because we can imagine one another, we constitute each other's dreams.

Outside, the air is cold and deep. The moon hangs in a fingernail of light. The clouds conspire and retreat to reveal your stars and ours. Come. Walk with me in the ⁹chill still of the night.

Yours,
Roger Rosenblat

一封致 2100 年的信

亲爱的你：

你已经穿上睡衣了吗？我无意把信的开头写得过于私人化。我只是想知道，一百年后你们是否还到户外去——今天，那已经变得越来越没有必要了。

你们是否身高六尺六？是否在火星上钓鱼？是否用手机谈话？我们通常如此。

正如情侣在分离时说的一样：当你读到这时，我已经不在了。我也可能还在。凭着如今延长寿命的方式——换猪肝、钛制臀部和膝盖、人工心脏、移植肾脏、重建DNA——我也就能够在你的世纪里收到这封在我的世纪写下的信了。

我身处大西洋岸边的避暑山庄，给你写这信时，正值隆冬季节。最后的家蝇撞击着窗户，透过窗我看到摇曳的果树与修剪过的忍冬树。下午渐去，薄暮来临；天空是暗银色。不知何故，我的脑海中浮想起了科尔·波特的歌《静夜》。

我们通常是满足的，通常是平和的，通常是乐观的，我们这样做有着很好的理由。我们通常是富裕的；更多的人拥有了自己的家。非常感谢医药的巨大进步，令我们保持身体的健康。30年前的一些不治之症如今都找到了治疗方法。

简言之，我们总的来说还好，除了在一些重大地方有明显不足以外。许多电影拍得傻里傻气。书？多是小本的。文化评论的质量一般都很低劣，令人分不清哪些艺术家好哪些艺术家不好，不过在文学方面，至少我们的时代里似乎还没有能称为泰斗的哪位作家，可以到你们那时依然享有盛名。过去电影是通过正常的艺术水准来加以评判，如今却以一个周末所赚到的金钱作为衡量。如果你想自我惊吓娱乐一番，试试能否挖到《尖声惊叫》或《噩夜丛林》的电影拷贝吧。

我们扩大并扩展着。最近我们发现，整个宇宙比起初时我们所知道的膨胀得还要多。我们以令自己惊讶的速度建设着、发明着、发现着，也许对于你来说那只是一小步。

我想知道你们发展到了什么程度。我想知道你们是否已经知道怎样去充分利用历史经验。我看到你们在朝我们回顾。你们看到我们在向你们展望。我们相互想像着，编织彼此的梦。

屋外寒气正起，暮色深重。月光迷离。云朵缭绕过你我的群星。来吧，和我一起走进这夜晚冷冷的寂静中去。

此致

敬礼

罗杰·罗森布拉特

¹⁾ pajamas n. 睡衣，宽长裤

²⁾ titanium n. (化学) 钛

³⁾ tremor n. 震动，颤动

⁴⁾ berry n. 浆果

⁵⁾ unpolished a. 无光泽的

⁶⁾ Scream和The Blair Witch Project是美国近年最卖座的恐怖影片。

⁷⁾ initially adv. 最初，开头

⁸⁾ dizzying a. 令人昏乱的

⁹⁾ chill a. 寒冷的，扫兴的

02 IF Thou Must Love Me

If ³⁾thou must love me, let it be for ⁴⁾nought
 Except for love's sake only. Do not say
 'I love her for her smile...her look...her way
 Of speaking gently,...for ⁵⁾a trick of thought
 That ⁶⁾falls in well with mine, and ⁷⁾certes brought
 A sense of pleasant ease on such a day' -
 For these things in themselves, Beloved, may
 Be changed, or change for ⁸⁾thee, - and love, so ⁹⁾wrought,
 May be unwrought so. Neither love me for
¹⁰⁾Thine own dear pity's wiping my cheeks dry,
 Since one might well forget to weep, who bore
¹¹⁾Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby.
 But love me for love's sake, that evermore
 Thou may'st love on, through love's eternity.

如果你爱我

如果你爱我，就无条件地爱吧，
 只为爱而爱。不要说
 “我爱她是因为她的微笑，她的容颜，
 她的轻言细语，为了她思想的习惯
 正合乎我的心意，那天，的确
 给我带来满怀的喜悦和舒畅。”
 亲爱的，这些好景都不能常在，
 会因你而改变，-而那么完美的爱
 也将这样失色。爱我，也不要因为你
 怜惜地给我揩干了泪腮，
 因为一个人会忘了哭泣，当她久受你
 温柔的安慰-却因此失去你的爱。
 为爱而爱我，那么
 你就能继续地爱，让爱永恒。

³⁾ thou pron. [古]汝，尔，你 ⁴⁾ nought n. 无，徒然

⁵⁾ a trick of 习惯，癖好 ⁶⁾ fall in with 同意，赞成

⁷⁾ certes ad. [古]必然 ⁸⁾ thee pron. [古] [thou的宾格]你，汝

⁹⁾ wrought a. 精炼的；装饰的；激动的，兴奋的

¹⁰⁾ thine pron. [古] [thou的所有格]你的

¹¹⁾ thy pron. [古] [thou的所有格]你的

03 How Do I Love Thee?

How do I love thee? let me count the ways.
 I love thee to the depth and breadth and height to
 My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
 For the ends of being and ideal grace.
 I love thee to the level of everyday's
 Most quiet need, by sun and candlelight.
 I love thee freely, as men strive for right;
 I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.
 I love thee with the passion put to use
 In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
 I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
 With my lost saints, I love thee with the breath,
 Smiles, tears of all my life! And, if God choose,
 I shall but love thee better after death.

我是如何爱你？

我是如何爱你？让我逐一细述。
 我爱你之深邃，之宽广，之高远
 尽我的灵魂所能及之处-犹如探求
 玄冥中神的存在和美好之极。
 我爱你如每日之必需，
 阳光下和烛焰前都少不了。
 我自由地爱着你，像人们争取他们的权利；
 我纯洁地爱着你，如人们在赞美前会垂首。
 我爱你，带着我昔日悲伤时的
 那种激情，童年时的那种诚意；
 我爱你，抵得上往日对圣者怀有的
 如今似已消逝的那种爱-我用呼吸，
 用微笑，用眼泪，用我整个生命来爱你！
 -假使上帝愿意，我死后将更加爱你。

04 The Arc Angels

Several years ago, Iris Arc Crystal, a company I co-founded with Francesca Patruno, experienced a ¹⁾lull in business. We had recently hired several new employees and hoped that the ²⁾slowdown was only temporary. However, in the meantime, we had work enough for only four days of the week. So, instead of letting 20 percent of our work force go or

sending them home one day per week, we decided that we would keep everyone on the ³payroll for the entire week, working from Monday through Thursday, and taking Fridays to do service projects in our hometown of Santa Barbara.

I remember phoning several service agencies to find out what was needed in the community. We divided up into three groups and showed up where the agencies said they most needed us. The first week, the group I was involved with went to a very old ⁴Ukrainian gentleman's home to do a total cleanup of his house and garden. When we arrived, an elderly woman greeted us at the door. We thought she was the wife, but it turned out she was the daughter. She was 75, and her father was 97! She told us what we needed to do, and we proceeded to clean the house from floor to ceiling and clean up the yard as well. It is amazing how much work a group can get done when everyone is working together and being of service to someone who really needs the help. That gentleman's house went from dirt and ⁵dinginess to a ⁶sparkling clean palace by the time we finished at the end of the day.

The thing I most remember about that day, however, was not the great cleaning job that we did, but something altogether different. When we first walked into the house, I noticed the wonderful pen-and-ink drawings that ⁷adorned the walls in all the rooms of the house. I asked the daughter who had done them. She said that her father had, and that he hadn't ⁸taken up art until he was 80 years old! I was ⁹dumbfounded: these drawings were works of art that could have easily been hanging in a museum. At the time, I was in my early 30s and wanted to do something that would ¹⁰utilize my creative and artistic capabilities more than being the president of a giftware company would allow. I had been feeling that it would be too difficult to make a change at this "advanced" stage of my life. Boy, did my limited belief system get expanded that afternoon

We continued to do service projects around town for several more weeks, including completely painting someone's home and setting up a large ¹¹bleacher for a horseback riding academy for physically challenged children. We had a lot of fun and did a lot of good. We ended up with the nickname The Arc Angels. In addition to the good feelings that came from helping out others, the good feelings we shared as employees of a company that cared for both its employees and the community went a long way toward creating a work atmosphere that was a joy to be part of.

亚克天使

几年前，我和弗兰西斯卡·帕楚诺共建的爱里斯·亚克水晶公司经历了一个缓落期。那时我们刚雇了几名新员工，心里希望这种低调状态只是暂时的。而同时，我们一周只需工作四天。为了避免流失百分之二十的劳动力或每周给员工放假回家一天，我们决定给每人发放全周薪金，周一至周四工作，周五则在家乡圣巴巴拉服务。

记得为了了解社区的需要，我给好几家服务公司打过电话。我们分为三组，去服务公司说最有需要的地方。第一周，我所在的小组去一位年迈的乌克兰人家，为他的房子和花园做大扫除。我们到的时候，一位老妇人在门口迎接我们。我们以为她是老人的妻子，而结果她

却是他的女儿。她75岁，她父亲已是97岁了！她吩咐了需要做什么后，我们就开始由天花板至地板清洁起房子以及打扫起院子来。当众人帮助真正有需要的人而在一起团结努力时，一个群组能完成的工作量真是惊人！一日下来，我们完工后，老人的房子由满是尘污变为清洁光亮。

然而那天令我印象最深刻的不是我们做的了不起的清洁工作，而是别的事情。我们刚刚走进那座房子的时候，我注意到房子里所有房间的墙上都挂着非常美丽的水墨画。我问老人的女儿是谁画的。她说是她的父亲，而且他到80岁的时候才开始对艺术产生兴趣！我傻眼了：这些画是完全可以挂在博物馆里展出的艺术品。当时我三十岁刚出头，不甘于只当个礼品公司的老总，很想做点什么可以好好利用上我那艺术创造力的事。可我一直觉得要在生命中那么“迟”的时候做改变太难了。天啊，那天下午，我那点狭隘的信心得到了多大的拓扬！

我们继续在城区一带又服务了几个星期，包括为某人的家做粉刷房屋、为向体能挑战的儿童在赛马会建了一个大看台。我们得到了许多乐趣并做下许多好事，最后还赢得“亚克天使”的称誉。除了通过帮助他人而获得良好的感觉以外，我们还长期分享了身为这家既关心雇员也关心社区的公司中一员的美好感觉，营造出一股欢乐的工作气氛。

- ¹⁾ lull n. 间歇，平息 ²⁾ slowdown n. 减速 ³⁾ payroll n. 薪水册
⁴⁾ Ukrainian a. 乌克兰的 ⁵⁾ dinginess n. 暗淡，肮脏
⁶⁾ sparkling a. 闪闪发光的 ⁷⁾ adorn v. 装饰
⁸⁾ take up 从事，对……有兴趣 ⁹⁾ dumbfounded a. 发愣的 ¹⁰⁾ utilize v. 利用
¹¹⁾ bleacher n. 露台

05 Olympic 2000 Review

It's the water that defines Sydney. It's a playground, a front yard, and a highway upon which thousands of "Sydneyiders," as the locals are called, get to and from work. Ocean and harbor beaches help ¹⁾fuel the unique Sydney spirit. The harbor's most recognizable feature is its ²⁾dramatic Opera House. Completed in 1963, it looks like ³⁾billowing sails to sun, although the architect had orange sections in mind. While Australia is almost as big as the continental U.S. with only 18 million people, it has just about one fifteenth the population. Sydney's four million residents, make it Australia's largest city by far. It's also the capital of New South Wales, one of Australia's eight states and territories.

Announcer 1: We can crossover now to Stadium Australia and pick up the opening ceremony which I gather is just begun 4 hours of entertainment awaiting us. As we pick it up, and the crowd there of 110,000 watching the ⁴⁾stockriders coming in, apparently 120 men on horses, and I'm keeping a close lookout for Paul Hogan, who's supposed to be one of them.

Announcer 2: We had had word that Paul might be one of these riders. Interesting the stadium holding a 110,000, it's the largest ever Olympic stadium. Los Angeles' held 101and Moscows held 100,000, but this one is the biggest.

Announcer 1: And I think we're going to get dizzy with all the facts and figures apparently. that cloth was gone over the stadium, because there's a playing surface under there, the