

# Forget the mail, here's my holiday newsletter

due to the fact I'm either: A) too lazy to address Christmas cards, or B) too cheap to pay postage, I'll be posting my annual holiday newsletter here. Yes. I realize Christmas is now over, but I'll be honest: I've never actually mailed my cards before the 25<sup>th</sup>, anyway.

There is, however, a downfall to this new plan. You'll not be receiving a card with my dog in a Santa hat — a yearly tradition. It's mostly because she's cute, but also because I like to secretly take a jab at those who send me cards with their kids. Your kid may be cute, but my dog is cuter.

## December 2006!

Where has the year gone? Speaking of which, where has the bloody decade gone? This year, as usual, was full of many highs and lows, some of which I'll share with you in my usual, self-deprecating manor.

### The Highs

- Scoring a writing gig. Finally, I'll be paid for dating badly — bringing significance to a decade of bad dates.
- Discovering the joy of 750-thread-count sheets.
- Every moment spent with my niece and nephew. They are undoubtedly the most fabulous children sex ever produced.
- Spending more time than last year with my bestest-sister-friend.
- A family who loves me, despite frequently humiliating them online.
- Meeting Captain America.
- Finding a drink at Starbucks for under \$2!
- Inappropriate sex dreams about dreamy co-workers.
- Acquiring many, many impractical, yet adorable, shoes.
- Having a pseudo-date with above-mentioned co-worker.
- Learning to not only be comfortable with my singleness, but grateful as hell (please refer to reasoning below).
- Discovering that if I don't have a boyfriend during the holidays, I'm able to spend the allotted boyfriend money entirely on myself. Buying your own gifts guarantees you'll love it!
- Winning yet another iPod at my company party.
- Openly admitting my love of the television show "The Simpsons," after years of scoffing at it.
- Buying clothing a size smaller than last year.
- Trading my PC for an Apple iBook — my



## The Dating Years

BY SARAH NIELSON

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beloved Stella James deserves a name despite being an inanimate object.

- Not ending the year in an unhappy relationship.

### The Lows

- Turning 31. Being 30 was bad enough, but now I'm *in* my 30s.
  - Paying unforeseen vet costs for Daisy and her bad liver, therefore depleting my hot jean allowance.
  - High dermatology bills — the price for years in the sun.
  - My first root canal, teaching me that nightly flossing doesn't always prevent tooth decay. I might as well spend those two minutes on something worthwhile.
  - Hearing that my family took notice when I "dropped the F-bomb" in the newspaper.
  - Being told pessimism is not my best trait. Obviously, that person has not read my blog. For real!
  - Walking away from Captain America.
  - Finding that people enjoy making flippant remarks to and about "that girl who can't keep a man."
  - The moment I realized The DaVinci Academy booked the wrong John Stewart for their annual fundraiser. Broken were my dreams to meet my ideal man...
  - Understanding the most quoted phrase to me this year, "There's someone for everyone," is pretty much a giant lie!
- Looking over my list, I have quite a few more highs than lows, making me a 2006 survivor; bring on 2007! I'm ready — alone, but ready!

Keep track of Sarah in 2007. Visit her blog at [www.sarahbellum.org](http://www.sarahbellum.org).

**NAILED!**

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