

Death and HouseCats

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<https://www.aginginterventionfoundation.org/DeathAndHouseCats.pdf>

Updated Dec 27, 2024. Updated from time to time. Check back.

When life throws death my way, collecting and writing things like this makes me feel better.

Reading this may help you feel better. Or worse.

WARNING: It deals with death – and cats. Some people don't like those things, or some dope trying to lift your spirits during a miserable time. Sometimes it's deadly serious, sometimes funny or irreverent.

This may bum you out so be aware. You may want to skip it.

I hope you're not afraid of death. After all, things weren't so bad before we were born, were they? Anyway, it has been said that time is an illusion. We are in an eternal present moment. More on that later.

It's like this . . .



You hear, and say, things like

I'm sorry for your loss . . .

I'm so sorry to hear of your loved one's passing.

*I pray your mournful thoughts soon turn from grief
to joyful and loving memories.*

I hope you are well, and will soon be beginning to feel better after this difficult loss.

I offer my warmest condolences to those who remain, and hope you are well and strong after your recent losses. Let me know if you would like to talk sometime or if I can help in any way.

*Please accept my sincere condolences.
I wish I could find words to make it better.*

I offer you sincere condolences. From your message I have learned a tradition in your loved one's homeland is to turn loss and mourning into a transition to joy and celebration of the loved one who is no longer here in this realm with time, the "stubbornly persistent illusion" as we experience it.



In Thailand, the Naga is often associated with joy and happiness.

I'm so sorry your loved one went out for a pack of smokes and never returned.

Other than that, how did you enjoy the play Mrs. Lincoln?

Tis a Fearful Thing
by Judah Halevi

'Tis a fearful thing
to love what death can touch.

A fearful thing
to love, to hope, to dream, to be –

to be,
And oh, to lose.

A thing for fools, this,

And a holy thing,

a holy thing
to love.

For your life has lived in me,
your laugh once lifted me,
your word was gift to me.

To remember this brings painful joy.

‘Tis a human thing, love,
a holy thing, to love
That death has touched.”

— **Judah Halevi**

“... Quoth the raven ‘Nevermore.’”

-- **Edgar Allen Poe**

“Love always ends in pain.”

-- **Unknown**

Moving on . . .

“Time is but an illusion created by beings with limited perception.”

-- **Ken Poirot, similar quotes by Einstein, Buddha and others**

www.learning-mind.com/illusion-of-time

“The distinction between past, present and future is only a stubbornly persistent illusion.”

-- Albert Einstein

Article: *Einstein Believed In A Theory Of Spacetime That Can Help People Cope With Loss*

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/quora/2016/12/28/einstein-believed-in-a-theory-of-spacetime-that-can-help-people-cope-with-loss/#330cf09c55d2>

“We perceive the time track in sequence, but reality is like looking down at a line from above and we think we’re traveling along it. All time is one time. We are in an eternal present moment.

The joy we felt will always live.”

-- **Anonymous**

“Time is basically an illusion created by the mind to aid in our sense of temporal presence in the vast ocean of space. Without the neurons to create a virtual perception of the past and the future based on all our experiences, there is no actual existence of the past and the future. All that there is, is the present.”

-- **Abhijit Naskar**

“What if everything is an illusion and nothing exists? In that case, I definitely overpaid for my carpet.”

“I don't want to achieve immortality through my work; I want to achieve immortality through not dying. I don't want to live on in the hearts of my countrymen; I want to live on in my apartment.”

"To love is to suffer. To avoid suffering, one must not love. But, then one suffers from not loving. Therefore, to love is to suffer, not to love is to suffer, to suffer is to suffer. To be happy is

to love, to be happy, then, is to suffer, but suffering makes one unhappy, therefore, to be unhappy one must love, or love to suffer, or suffer from too much happiness — I hope you're getting this down."

-- **Woody Allen**

"In each loss there is a gain, as in every gain there is a loss. and with each new ending comes a new beginning."

-- **Buddhist proverb**

"Rejoice in what you have, and had -- not what you have lost."

-- **Anonymous**

"Grief, and anxiety, fear, the whole lot – it's all biochemistry greatly under your control, that you can work through and learn to handle (perhaps in time).

It's all in that 5 pound universe that resides in your head. Okay with most people it's 3, but yours is 5.

After tending to the basics like nutrition, exercise, stress reduction and meditation -- and grieving if you must – rewire your brain for a better outlook and better you.

So don't fret. Celebrate your loved one's life. Choose joy!"

-- **Anonymous**

"Rocks last, living things die. I prefer rocks. Rocks never leave. Love rocks. I am a rock. Be a rock – and an island."

-- **Anonymous**

Dead mother, father, relatives, partners, friends, lovers, cats and other animals, and everyone we've ever met and never met – we grieve for them all.

Michael E. Spautz

June 11, 1931 - May 31, 2018

Though separated by geography and time, (half) brother Mike was a positive influence and inspiration, and a dear friend.

He shared so very much with me – Natural history museum, microscope, philosophy, reality . . .

This account chronicles **one component** of his life –

just one part of the Mike I knew:

www.comments.bmartin.cc/2018/08/29/a-disastrous-quest-for-justice

HouseCats



Bretster in his prime

~2000 – Sept 1, 2018

The stories I could tell you, the adventures we had.

He was the best assistant -- while working he would jump up on his chair next to me with a look that was inquisitive, innocent, extending pure adoration to me. I could almost hear him say “What are we doin’ Dad?”

Although for years he showed signs of age related decline, he was always alert and engaged with life and with me. We had a great last day together. Deidra said at about 3:30 am he was on the bed and she petted him. At about 4:30 I heard a little “ywaaa”, his final goodbye. When I got up I found my best friend dead.

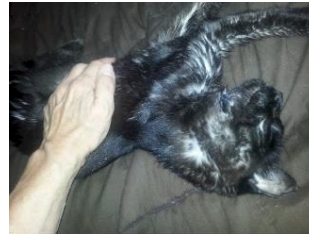


Sabrina napping and content

~2000 – Oct 4, 2018

The “sweetest little kitty”. And very wise. She was the best at hiding and it was as though she vanished into thin air . . . until *she* decided to materialize.

At bedtime she would rush to the bed to say goodnight.



Comforting one another during final hours

Sabrina rapidly lost weight and had behavioral changes after Bretster’s passing. We

held out until it seemed she would start to suffer. On her bed at home I held her head in my hand and Sabrina gave me one final “nose kiss”, then the vet administered euthanasia. Goodbye to the sweetest little kitty.

“Until one has loved an animal a part of one's soul remains unawakened.”

-- Anatole France

An anonymous objective scientist steps in with a dose of reality:

Pet animals are opportunistic moochers that have exploited our loneliness, weakness, sympathy and need for fulfillment and companionship -- and desire to stroke something warm and fuzzy. Maybe our need to control or be controlled. What a sweet evolutionary niche.

Although felines once pulled their own weight by keeping grain stores, ships etc free of vermin, they have evolved or been bred to fill a niche that’s pretty comfortable for them. In exchange for providing a perceived emotional fulfillment and solution to loneliness, inconsistent emotional support and on their own terms – they receive food, shelter, free health care, hygiene, grooming, entertainment, massage therapy, excrement cleanup and meeting any and all demands at all hours of the day and night. Tally the costs over a lifetime to arrive at an investment/return ratio.

Humans are their servants. Guilt that gnaws at our insides if we make a well-intended mistake that harms them.

Then they either die and rip our hearts out, or disappear, or depart unannounced for a better deal down the street.

The evolution of puppy dog eyes

. . . the inner eyebrow raising movement triggers a nurturing response in humans because it makes the dogs' eyes appear larger, more infant like and also resembles a movement humans produce when they are sad.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/06/190617175625.htm>

Then there are their accomplices and facilitators –

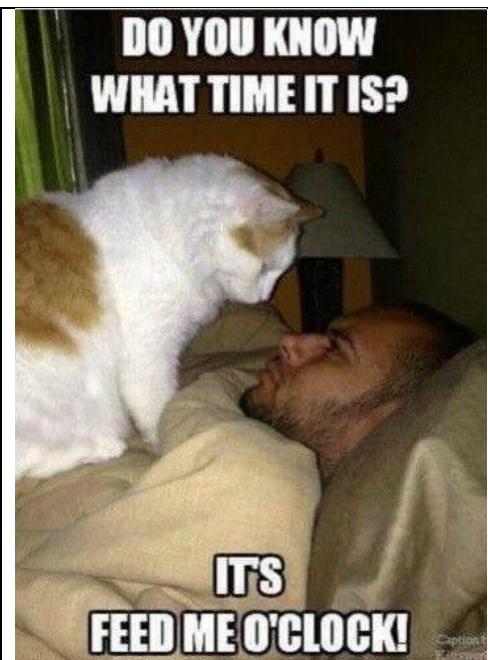
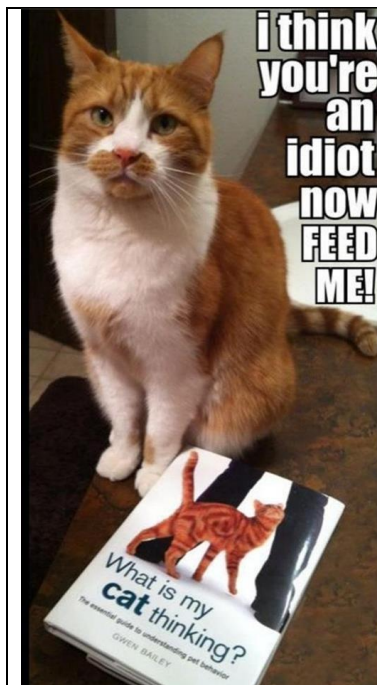
The *breeders* designing ever more adorable and heartstring-tugging configurations.

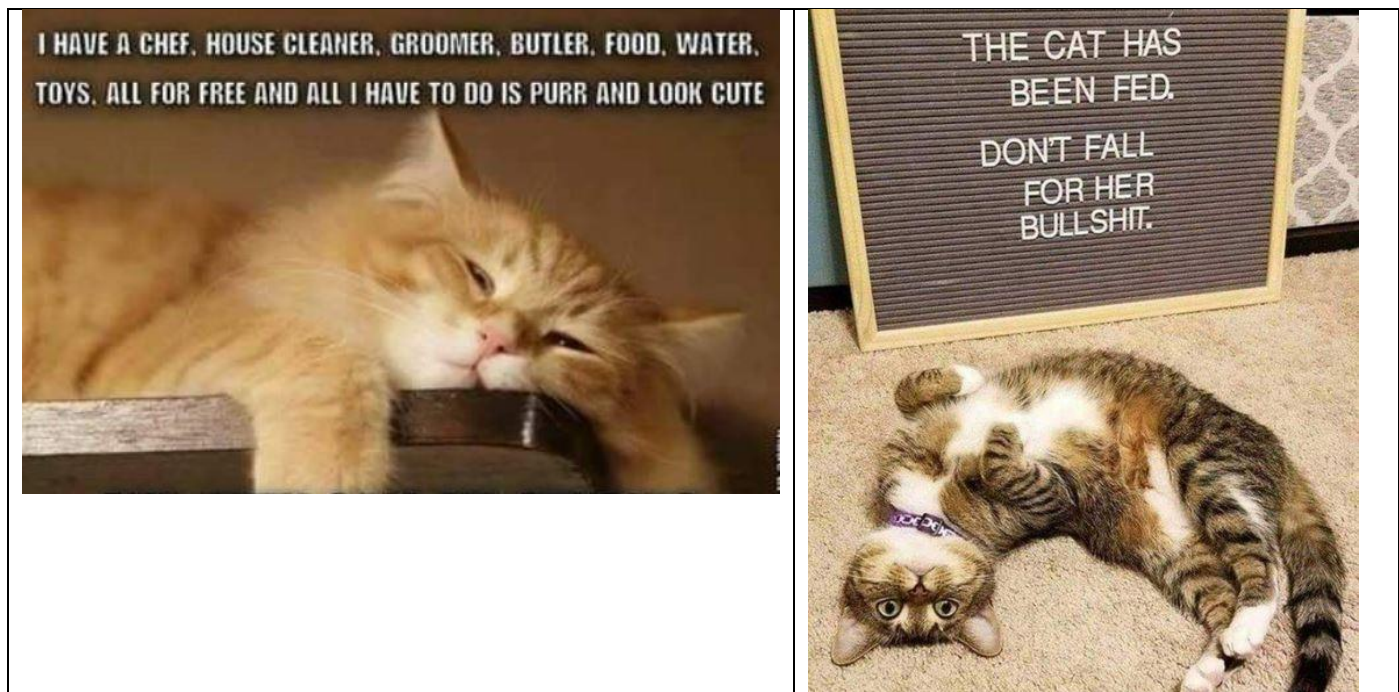
And the *trainers* driving out every last vestige of the animal's basic instinct and true self.

There are rumors of cats from outer space who have embedded themselves in our society in eventual expectation of taking over the world. Ha! They have ALREADY SUCCEEDED.

Still, I like most animals more than I like most people.

And although cats have a reputation for “sneakiness”, at least they're honest about it. Usually . . .





OK just kidding. Cats are great.

This should keep you busy for the next day or so:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=funny+cats

Unless we create serious aging interventions for our feline friends, be ready . . .

Lap of Love Veterinary Hospice, In-Home Euthanasia

www.lapoflove.com

Sorrento Valley Pet Cemetery and Crematory

www.svpc.biz

Epilogue

Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,
To the last syllable of recorded time;
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools
The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.

--William Shakespeare

Epilogue's Epilogue

You do look, my son, in a moved sort,
As if you were dismay'd:
be cheerful, sir.

Our revels now are ended. These our actors,
As I foretold you, were all spirits and
Are melted into air, into thin air:
And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Ye all which it inherit, shall dissolve
And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack (wisp) behind. We are such stuff
As dreams are made on, and our little life
Is rounded with a sleep.

Sir, I am vex'd;
Bear with my weakness; my, brain is troubled:
Be not disturb'd with my infirmity:
If you be pleased, retire into my cell
And there repose: a turn or two I'll walk,
To still my beating mind.
--William Shakespeare

Dear You Comfort and joy will be here soon

My dear loving You,

I am wishing and hoping that you will soon come to a place where this is in better perspective,
with memories filled mostly with comfort and joy.

I would like to come see you soon, very soon if you like. Otherwise how about a phone call?

I want to somehow bring peace to you and if you're open to new ideas on how to frame all this, I
have some. If not I'll keep quiet.

I too have had losses lately and learning to handle it all and sometimes don't do as well as others
so don't worry about any embarrassing crying spells as we just may do some of that together.

Cell # xxx-xxx-xxxx. Call anytime.

Comfort and joy will be yours soon.

I love you,
Me

Time To Move On

Dear You,

I hope you are feeling better. Clearly this is where the term “heart-ache” came from because that’s how it feels. Its partner “brain fog” is familiar, and I have coined the phrases “brain stab” and “eye drench and buff” as their accompaniments.

We’re really looking forward to getting together with the family next month.

I hope you will pardon what may seem too direct, even blunt and cold.
Re taking care of dad -- You did great. Nothing can change the past.

But now it’s about YOU.

I hope you won’t put yourself through more prolonged grieving than is necessary or useful, or that your loved one would have wanted.

I’ve been studying and learning about this, and have a couple other recent losses of my own – but in the grand scheme they are trivial.

I keep hearing everyone grieves in their own way.

I don’t know where you are on the healing process. Maybe all OK now, I don’t know.
But if you are ready and feel the time is right to stop going over memories and pain, and start to sort of rewire the brain and look at life anew, there is something called a “bereavement assist”. I would be glad to help with this. It reset some things a few nights ago.
Otherwise I’m just a phone call away if you want to talk. I’m at xxx-xxx-xxxx.

And of course there are many other resources and support groups for you to consider.

With love,
Me

Short condolence messages with an unusual embedded ad copied from the internet. Seriously.

<https://condolencemessages.net/short-condolence-message>

- Please accept my deepest condolences for your family's loss.
- May you be comforted by the outpouring of love surrounding you.
- Words cannot even begin to express our sorrow.
- May your heart and soul find peace and comfort.
- Please remember that you are not alone... We are always here for you.
- I am thinking about you and sending love.



Seriously, Stop Using Q-Tips

Professionals warn people that they should never use Q-Tips to remove their earwax.

q-grips.com



- Wishing well of you and your family in this time of loss.
- I'm always there in your hour of need. May his/her soul rest in peace.
- Your loss has left all of us deeply saddened.
- Our hearts are saddened by your loss and our thoughts and prayers are with you.
- May peace and comfort find you during this difficult time.
- My families hearts are with you and your family.
- We are very saddened to hear of your recent loss.
- Gone from our sight, but never from our hearts.
- My heart goes out to you and your family at this difficult time.
- No words can describe how sorry I am for your loss.
- We would like to express our sincere condolences to you and your family.
- We want to express our sympathy and let you know that our thoughts are with you.
- Our hearts go out to you in your time of sorrow.
- Sharing in your sorrow. With love and friendship.
- My heart goes out to you during this difficult time.
- You and your family are in our prayers. Sorry to hear of your loss.
- I want you to know that I am here for you during this difficult time.
- May your memories give you peace and comfort.
- Thinking of you, at this time of loss.
- Someone so special can never be forgotten.
- I am here for you. Please let me know if I can help in any way.
- When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.
- Words fall short of expressing my sorrow for your loss.
- You and your family are surrounded by love during this difficult time.

Another actual screen shot. 15% off fashionable attire to wear to the funeral!

- ★ Please accept my deepest condolences for your family's loss.
- ★ May you be comforted by the outpouring of love surrounding you.
- ★ Words cannot even begin to express our sorrow.
- ★ [Get 20% off Amazon here](#)
- ★ May your heart and soul find peace and comfort.
- ★ Please remember that you are not alone... We are always here for you.
- ★ I am thinking about you and sending love.



I hope you are all doing well, and more comfortable with the sad and untimely life change.
-- Johnny

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