<u>Manifesto</u>

Dear Classmates,

We have entered unprecedented times. There is no more "physical" school for the rest of the year. Covid-19 has made herself right at home in all of our lives whether we like it or not. Plans have been changed and we are all walking into unmanned territory. As Architecture class continues I ask that we all try and do one thing: Have fun. I have spent the last two weeks stressing over, harping on, and crying over school and my future. Being so suddenly ripped out of my comfort bubble of school sent me somewhere that I would never like to be in again. It wasn't until receiving our "RAFT" boxes that I came to an epiphany, why am I upset? Was it because the school told me I couldn't stay on campus? Or because I would no longer be with my friends? Or the fact that my senior was being taken away from me so suddenly? It was all of those and some.

Even though the circumstances are and were stacked against us for class I still received a box in the mail. It reminded me that the world is still moving on. In my time of moping and feeling sorry for myself, my teachers were still making an effort to teach, learn, and inspire. It is only right for not just me but as a class to come together and bring each other up. We should all be inspiring each other to continue working and pushing forward.

I am excited to explore Architecture in a different way. At school we were surrounded by technology that helped bring out thoughts to fruition with relative ease. Now that we have been separated and are no longer on campus, building and Architecture has begun to take on a different meaning. My intentions for this class are to test my creative limits and see how well I can use my mind to come up with solutions to create the structures that I want. Using my current surroundings how can I best articulate the tasks at hand. I feel as if we have been taken back to the times before technology became prominent. In a sense I feel closer to the origins of Architecture, as if I am experiencing what it was like to build before the world evolved. My mindset has shifted from "this can be done using the laser cutter and AutoCAD" to "how precise can I get these measurements and cuts using what I have". In a sense I have become Bob the Builder and I am asking all of you to do the same. I am going to have fun for the rest of the semester and see where that takes me. I hope that you are all able to join me on my architecture adventure.

 From one builder to another,

Alphonse