

I am posting this photo on the U.S. Capitol (on the map) in the hope that this message might reach those with influence....

I would be very grateful if you would take a moment to read this:

Saturday the 8th of March 2008, was the United Nations' International Women's Day & in France dedicated to Ingrid Betancourt who has been held hostage now for over six years - 2205 days to be exact (as on the 8th of March).

This series of photographs was taken on the 6th anniversary of her capture (Saturday 23rd February 2008) outside the Town Hall of Paris, France. It has been an especially difficult past few weeks for Ingrid's family & friends (especially for her two children M<sup>v</sup>lanie & Lorenzo). Following the release of Clara Rojas & Consuelo Gonzalez de Perdomo in January, four other hostages (Gloria Polanco, Luis Eladio Perez Bonilla, Jorge Eduardo Gechem & Orlando Beltran) were liberated by the FARC on Wednesday the 27th February 2008. News of their release was wonderful and a sign of hope for the other hostages & their families - that a peace process would be possible, leading to further releases - but they brought with them bad news concerning Ingrid. She is being treated very badly by her captors and is extremely ill - suffering from a recurring hepatitis B infection which, if left untreated by doctors; will undoubtedly kill her. Consuelo Gonzalez has described the conditions of captivity; the lack of hygiene in the forest where the hostages are held, the non-existence of doctors and medication. In such conditions, Ingrid has only a limited number of weeks left.

President Uribe and the Colombian government have decided to turn their backs on a possible peace process by attacking the FARC and killing Raul Reyes and another senior member of the group. Reyes was negotiating with Ecuadorian, Venezuelan & French officials with the aim of releasing a further 19 hostages this month, including Ingrid Betan-

court. These hopes have just been smashed to pieces at a moment when time is running out fast.

Uribe was aware of the negotiations and in spite of international calls for the two sides to talk and come to a peaceful settlement, he decided to answer the release of hostages with bullets and only voice.

President Uribe listens to at the moment is that of the government of United States of America. If there are U.S. citizens reading this, I ask you to please contact your Governors, Senators and Representatives. Please try and help make a difference. I know it sounds useless and impossible, but Ingrid hasn't got much time left. If we all try and act to make a difference, it can be done. I would like to encourage everyone, no-matter where you are, to spread the word and try to get in touch with those who have enough influence to make that difference. If you are a Senator, Representative, politician, an official or adviser, (not highly likely I know, but), then I ask you to try for a moment and imagine this was happening to you or someone you know. Really, try to imagine for a moment that your political combat for freedom and justice resulted in you being held for years away from your family, that you were seriously ill with little time left, that your children grew to adulthood without you, fought everyday for your liberation so that the world would not forget you and that you may never see them again, imagine for one slight moment, then surely you realise that you must do all you can.

I would like to dedicate this day to Ingrid Betancourt & to all the

courageous women such as Ingrid, the Nobel Peace Prize winners Shirin Ebadi & Aung San Suu Kyi, and the many other women who are fighting for Liberty & Justice against all odds. These women are our mothers, our sisters, our daughters, our wives, our girlfriends, our best

friends.

For news, contacts, ideas of what you can do to make a difference; follow these links:

[www.agirpouringrid.com](http://www.agirpouringrid.com) (official site, in French)

[www.betancourt.info](http://www.betancourt.info) (multi-lingual)

[www.saveingrid.blogspot.com](http://www.saveingrid.blogspot.com) (my blog in support of Ingrid - in English)

Thank you for taking the time to read this and please do all you can.

H de C.

Samedi 8 mars 2008 - Journ<sup>v</sup>e Internationale de la Femme  
d<sup>v</sup> Ingrid Betancourt.  
Mobilisons nous !  
[www.agirpouringrid.com](http://www.agirpouringrid.com)

Sabado 8 de Marzo 2008 - D<sup>v</sup>a Internacional de la Mujer dedicada  
a Ingrid Betancourt.  
Reuni<sup>v</sup>n en Barcelona, martes 11 de marzo 2008, A<sup>i</sup> delante el consulado de Colombia : Carrer Consell De Cent, 333. Barcelona.

Photos: 23.II.2008, A<sup>i</sup> Hotel-de-Ville. Paris, France.

La Fueva, Huesca (Spain).

View Large On White

My daughter wanted that I did this photo in the emerged ruins emerged of Mediano. She's not bad... :-)

Mi hija quiso que le hiciera esta foto en las ruinas emergidas de Mediano. Ella no es mala... :-)

#### ENGLISH

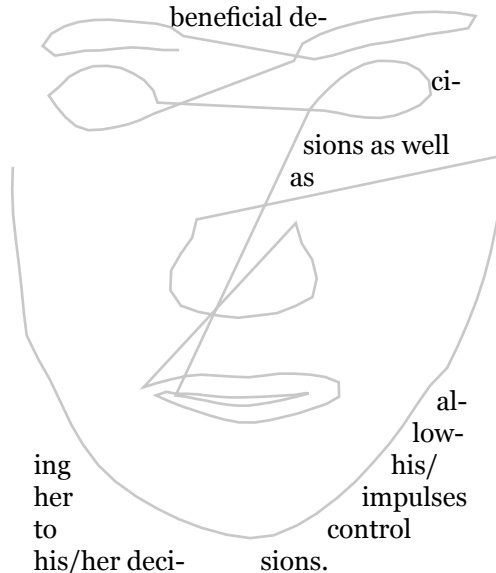
Adolescence is a transitional stage of physical and mental human development that occurs between childhood and adulthood. This transition involves biological (i.e. pubertal), social, and psychological changes, though the biological or physiological ones are the easiest to measure objectively. Historically, puberty has been heavily associated with teenagers and the onset of adolescent development. In recent years, however, the start of puberty has seen an increase in preadolescence and extension beyond the teenage years, making adolescence less simple to discern.

Adolescent psychology is associated with notable changes in mood sometimes known as mood swings. Cognitive, emotional and attitudinal changes which are characteristic of adolescence, often take place during this period, and this can be a cause of conflict on one hand and positive personality development on the other.

Because the adolescents are experiencing various strong cognitive and physical changes, for the first time in their lives they may start to view their friends, their peer group, as more important and influential than their parents/guardians. Because of peer pressure, they may sometimes indulge in activities not deemed socially acceptable, although this may be more of a social phenomenon than a psychological one. This overlap is addressed within the study of psychosociology.

The home is an important aspect of adolescent psychology: home environment and family have a substantial impact on the developing minds of teenagers, and these developments

may reach a climax during adolescence. For example, abusive parents may lead a child to "poke fun" at other classmates when he/she is seven years old or so, but during adolescence, it may become progressively worse, for example, the child may now be using drugs or becoming intolerably violent among other classmates. If the concepts and theory behind of right or wrong were not established early on in a child's life, the lack of this knowledge may impair a teenager's ability to make beneficial de-



Views of family relationships during adolescence are changing. The old view of family relationships during adolescence put an emphasis on conflict and disengagement and thought storm and stress was normal and even inevitable. However, the new view puts emphasis on transformation or relationships and maintenance of connectedness.

More info: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolescence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolescence)

#### CASTELLANO

La adolescencia es un continuo de la existencia del joven, en donde se realiza la transición entre el infante o niño de edad escolar y el adulto. Esta transición de cuerpo y mente, proviene no solamente de sí mismo, sino que se conjuga con su entorno, el cual es trascendental para que los grandes cambios fisiológicos que se produce en el individuo lo

hagan llegar a la edad adulta. La adolescencia es un fenómeno biológico, cultural y social, por lo tanto sus límites no se asocian solamente a características físicas.

Todos los individuos, durante el periodo de la adolescencia, presentan un mayor o menor grado de crisis de desarrollo. Desde el punto de vista práctico, el perfil psicológico es transitorio y cambiante durante la adolescencia y emocionalmente inestable. El desarrollo de su personalidad dependerá en gran medida de la personalidad que se haya estructurado en las etapas preescolar y escolar y de las condiciones sociales, familiares y ambientales que se les ofrezcan. Los cambios y transformaciones que cubre el individuo en esta etapa son considerablemente acusados tanto en la esfera psíquica como en la orgánica.

En las fases más avanzadas, la capacidad de juicio crítico se extiende a sí mismo, de ahí el sentimiento de culpabilidad como característica de la esfera afectiva y por el cual nacen deseos de rectificación por mecanismos de sublimación y racionalización. Las relaciones con el sexo opuesto se hacen más serias, aumenta su capacidad para establecer sus propias metas, disminuyen los conflictos y aumenta su estabilidad emocional, así como la aparición e identificación de patrones o tendencias aberrantes.

Más info: [es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolescencia](http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolescencia)

This is just one of some 30 of Rankin's great portraits, set in exhibition panels I created for the Cheka Kidogo exhibition.

BBC report: [news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/7680597.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/7680597.stm)

Cheka kidogo means „À laugh a little,À in Swahili.

And surprisingly, people still are „À even though they are living in the midst of one of the world's deadliest civil wars, which has already killed five million people, and made more than one million homeless.

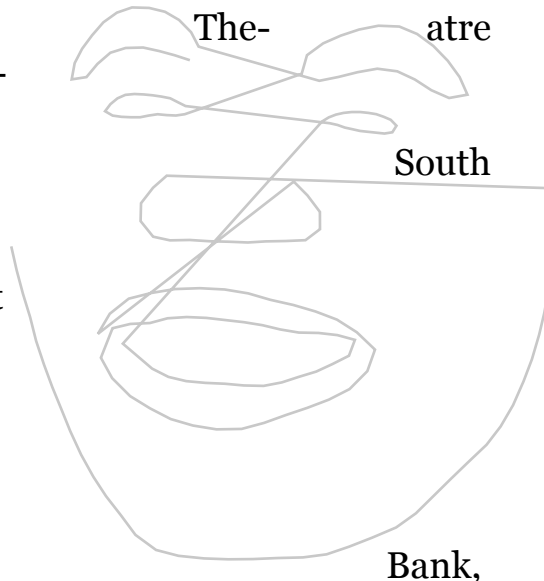
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and their hope for the future.

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21 October to 21 December 2008

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Graphic Design: Christian Guthier

Exhibition display: Standard8

Photography: Rankin

Also see:

[www.guardian.co.uk/theguardian/2008/oct/16/people](http://www.guardian.co.uk/theguardian/2008/oct/16/people)  
[www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/39681/exhibitions/emcheka-kido...](http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/39681/exhibitions/emcheka-kido...)

Map: [listings.thelondonpaper.com/title/che-ka-kidogo-photograph...](http://listings.thelondonpaper.com/title/che-ka-kidogo-photograph...)  
[www.london-se1.co.uk/whatson/event/5322/che-ka-kidogo](http://www.london-se1.co.uk/whatson/event/5322/che-ka-kidogo)

The Guardian: [www.guardian.co.uk/artanddesign/2008/oct/20/photography-c...](http://www.guardian.co.uk/artanddesign/2008/oct/20/photography-c...)

Sky News: [video.news.sky.com/skynews/Home/video/Celebrity-photograph...](http://video.news.sky.com/skynews/Home/video/Celebrity-photograph...)

AOL UK: [entertainment.aol.co.uk/entertainment-news/rankin-swaps-c...](http://entertainment.aol.co.uk/entertainment-news/rankin-swaps-c...)

The Northern Echo: [www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/uk\\_national\\_entertainment/37721...](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/uk_national_entertainment/37721...)

BBC: [news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/news-id\\_7674000/7674796.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/news-id_7674000/7674796.stm)

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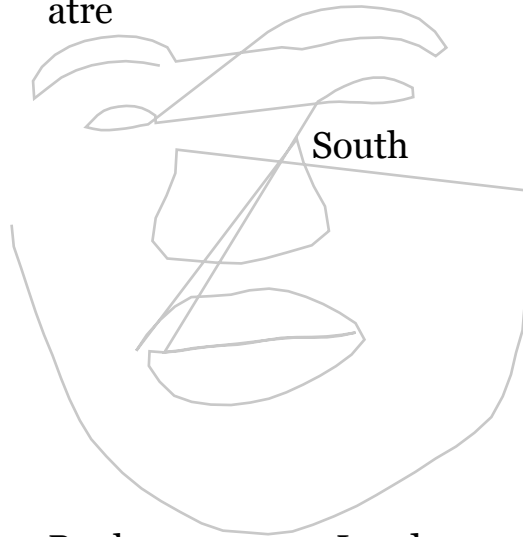
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It was Grandma Cornell's 50th Birthday Party. It was a surprise. Most of the family from Chicago was in attendance. Everyone was very excited.

Aunt Kathy took Grandma out under the guise of a shopping trip for the day. They were not to return until we were all ready. Dylan helped put out decorations and make the place look festive.

All other conspirators carefully placed the decorations. Turquoise and Cotton Candy pink streamers hung wall to wall, the fragrance of fresh flowers filled the air, confetti on every table, and a cake, gifts and balloons welcomed the birthday girl. Dylan and Cameron peeped out the windows anxiously awaiting their arrival.

Soon we were all huddling closely in the dining room waiting for their entrance. As she entered we all yelled in unison, "Surprise!!!" It was a grand celebration.

Grown ups reminisced and laughed at amusing stories. The kids roughhoused and scurried from room to room.

Dinner was had and the cake was a delight. Dylan had an extra large portion with Neapolitan ice cream.

The night was winding down; several were heading out the door. A poker game was set up in the basement. Dylan and Kayla ventured into the living room to play with the balloons.

We were all startled by Dylan calling, "HELP!" I was watching the poker game downstairs and was startled when Teresea came to say Dylan had been hurt badly. My mind went blank and my

heart stopped instantly. I was driven by something beyond my control.

When I entered the living room he was lying on the floor. Grandma was there, helping to calm him. His face was filled with fear. He was cold and sweaty at the same time. He couldn't move his arm. He had been planning to

kara- te  
kick a bal-  
loon from the  
ottoman  
when  
it rolled  
out from underneath him. After  
that, he reported, it was a blur.  
He couldn't remember how he  
landed. Eric and I whisked him  
away to the hospital.

"Please come with me for the results of the X-Ray," stated the Doctor in the hallway of the Emergency department at the hospital. Fear overwhelmed me. I had seen TV programs where the parents were asked to step aside and discuss the discouraging results of medical tests. As I walked down the hall behind the doctor I felt my knees going weak. The forced strength in front of Dylan was wearing on me. Without him near I felt weak. I was scared. As he showed us the X-Ray, he showed us that in fact Dylan's humerus bone had been broken through-and-through just above the elbow. Tears overcame me when he revealed Dylan would need surgery to correct the break.

Back down the hallway I walked with Eric. As we drew nearer to my angel, my strength miraculously began to return. My eyes dried up instinctively and as I turned the corner to see him a smile swept over my face. He was so scared and in so much pain. My weakness didn't exist when I was near him.

As they wheeled his bed away for surgery, the fear came back, very quickly. My baby, my little man. They're going to fix him. He's gonna be OK. But the tears were too much to restrain.

My previous faith was broken. The strength of a mother is fickle it seems. The whole night was a blur for me. It was only a broken bone, but I felt like I was in a dream.

The doctor arrived to tell us the surgery went well and Dylan would recover nicely. The relief was tremendous and it was all I could do to hold myself back from giving the surgeon a big hug.

Groggy from the medication Dylan says to me, "I hope I didn't ruin Grandma's party." Tears welled up in my eyes once again for this child who was in so much pain but only thought to mention his concern toward others. This is my boy.

Mommy loves you Dylan.

## Karsh and Me

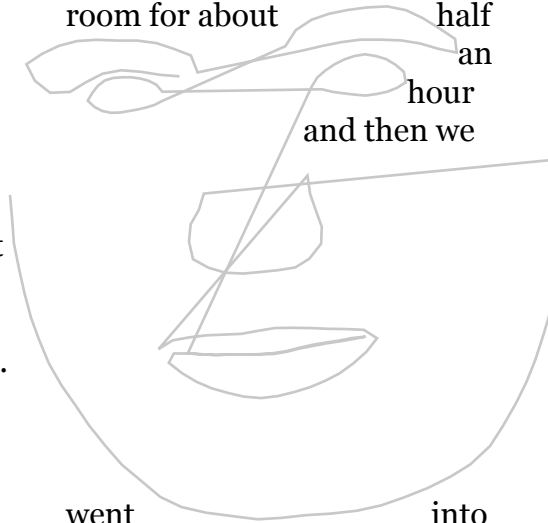
I grew up in Ottawa and my entire career was in Ottawa as a teacher, department head and principal with the former Ottawa Board of Education. Attached is my resume.

I had the privilege of being the principal of Glebe Collegiate from 1979 to 1987. Sometime during 1986 I was enjoying a relaxing time after work with some friends at a popular establishment in Little Italy. The conversation got around to my expected transfer from Glebe in the next year or so. Someone said: 'I guess we will have to get your picture taken before you go.' This led to a conversation as to how that could be set up in such a way to show that we do things differently at Glebe. 'What about getting Karsh to do your portrait?' someone said. I think I interjected that it would be too expensive, probably not possible to arrange and who would notice? As all the portraits of previous principals to that date were in colour someone piped in that it would be noticed if Mr. Karsh did the portrait in black and white. That got the ball rolling. Brian Doyle (the well known author who was then an English teacher at Glebe) allowed as how a niece (I think a niece not nephew) of Karsh had attended Glebe and participated in our annual school shows. He said he would contact Mr. Karsh and see what could be done.

Mr. Karsh agreed to take my

portrait. One of the conditions was that we would have to submit an anecdotal biography of me in advance of him seeing me. Brian prepared this and off I went to my appointment with the great Karsh. 'I was very nervous!'

Well Mr. Karsh was very charming and soon put me at ease. We chatted in his living room for about half an hour and then we



went into his studio for another half hour or so. Then back to the living room. I asked him how he knew when to release the shutter when he was doing a portrait. I will never forget his answer. He said that he carefully read the biography that had been sent to him and then expanded his knowledge of me as we chatted. Then when he is looking through the lens as soon as he sees the Alan Wotherspoon he has gotten to know he takes the picture.

Mr. Karsh asked me to return and view the proofs about a week later. Before I left I told him that I had a signed copy of his famous Churchill portrait. He asked me to bring it with me. So the next week I brought it along (as well as a jar of my

home made marmalade). He was very pleased to see the Churchill photo and remarked that the paper he used in those days was better than many of the papers available to-day. We had a wonderful chat and I met his charming wife. We chose two proofs. 'One that would be used to hang at the school and another for my family. They are attached.' Alan-Karsh001 is the formal school portrait that now hangs in the main entrance at Glebe Collegiate (where my son-in-law is now a vice-principal) and Alan-Karsh002 is the one that hangs in our families' homes.

Having Mr. Karsh take my portrait was a great privilege and an experience I will never forget.

Alan Wotherspoon  
Peterborough, Ontario

Festival Karsh

Canada Science and Technology Museum / Musée des sciences et de la technologie du Canada

Accompanied by Vanessa, I traveled to Scottsdale one Saturday evening to attend a dance competition called Arizona Challenge 2007, sponsored by the Fred Astaire studios. I was setting up my camera for the evening's events when instructor Miss Amber showed up to introduce me to her mother, a professional photographer with a Nikon D200 dangling around her neck. She didn't look nearly old enough to have a 23-year-old daughter, but after we were introduced, I put my arm around Amber, drew her close, and said, "I am VERY fond of this young lady!" To which her mom replied, "She is very fond of you, too," a statement which sort of made my day all by itself.

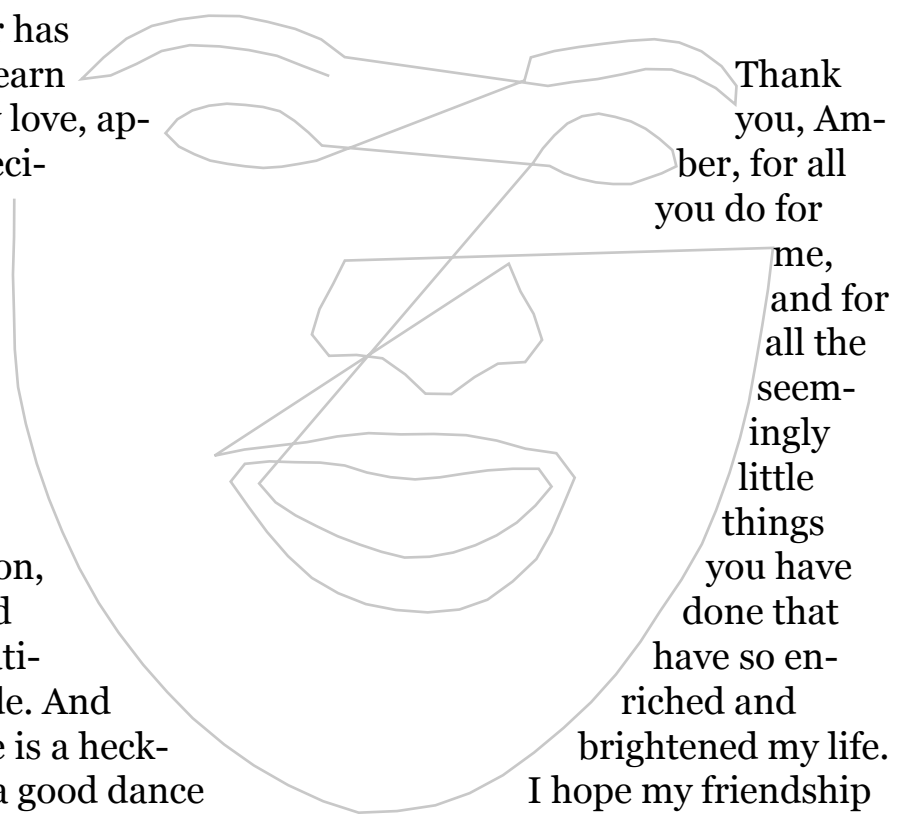
Upon later reflection, I decided I had not said quite enough, and that in addition, I should have thanked her for bringing Amber into the world so that she could be here to bless me, in her unique and special way, during this period of my life. Amber has never moved heaven and earth for me, but she has never needed to, as little things are very

important to me and she does those exceptionally well. (For an example, read this story, in which Amber plays the central role; I honestly believe it was the best thing anyone in the world could possibly have done for me that day, and I will remember it for the rest of my life.) Few have done more than Amber has to earn my love, appreciation,

and gratitude. And she is a heck-uva good dance instructor, too!

This portrait will be replaced at some point, as soon as I can find someone who can do a better job of editing it than I can. (Are you around, Proverbs 31:10?) But once that is done, I may include it among my favorites. The title is based on the presence of Amber's mother,

who was standing just to my right when I took this picture, snapping away with her Nikon D200. Amber juggled between the two of us very nicely, and of the eight or so pictures I took of her during this brief, impromptu shoot, every one turned out just fine. But I liked this one best.



I hope my friendship and affection are good for you, too, because they most assuredly are richly deserved.

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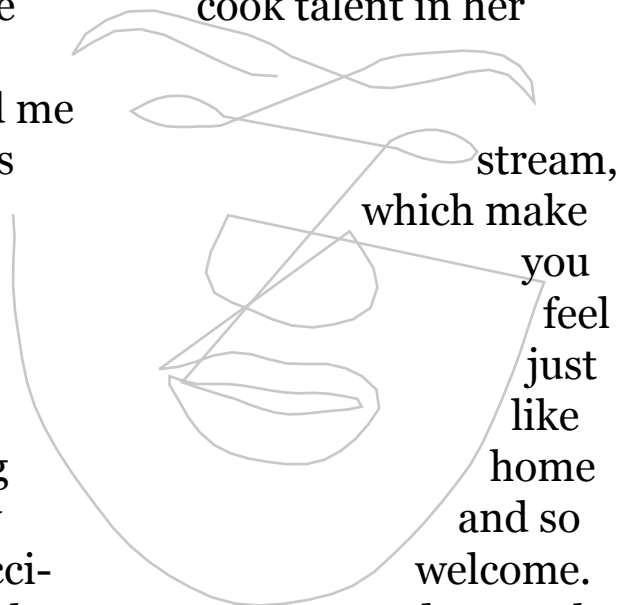


After months having no news from Maryam, I was able to chat a little with her through msn yesterday.

Maryam was one of the main reason that decided me to choose Iran as my next travelling destination. Maryam's stream is actually one of the most compelling exemple on how distorted our occidental vision of the country is. A radiant Iranian woman, beloved by a gentle husband called Mohammad and a marvelous (yet restless =D) little sweetheart named Setayesh (&quot;Setayesh&quot; has since become my favorite firstname).

In her stream, she is sharing in the simplest way a day-to-day living that will so much look-alike yours that you'll ask yourself if you're

not dreaming and really watching some Iranian stuff. Part of this feeling comes that Maryam don't miss a chance to share her cook talent in her



stream, which make you feel just like home and so welcome. And I actually never thank them enough on how well I've been welcomed by her and Mohammad.

another portrait of Maryam made by Hamed here. I like this picture a lot (the comments a bit less) : [www.flickr.com/photos/hamed/417936161/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/hamed/417936161/)

and Maryam's not-to-be-missed pictures : [www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/492160962/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/492160962/)

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[www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/184570449/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/184570449/) (my favorite picture of her)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/136747961/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/136747961/) (her dol-meh recipe yummy!)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/126845187/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/126845187/)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/505801850/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/maryamgoli/505801850/)

For some reason, Carolyn thought there weren't going to be enough pictures of her, so she took a quick self-portrait.

Read about this camping trip at: [clintjcl.wordpress.com/2007/04/29/journal-camping-first-c...](http://clintjcl.wordpress.com/2007/04/29/journal-camping-first-c...)

7 videos were uploaded from this camping trip:

Clint Vs. The Hammock (original):

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=jToLR5O8KdA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jToLR5O8KdA)

Clint Vs. The Hammock (AE Remix):

[youtube.com/watch?v=IlciUrWfhms](http://youtube.com/watch?v=IlciUrWfhms)

Clint spazzing out:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWoZIAI\\_gnw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWoZIAI_gnw)

Carolyn spazzing out:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=7\\_li28WWh2Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_li28WWh2Y)

Eli bouncing on the tree: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1pzg-f9n7Bk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1pzg-f9n7Bk)

Axl Rose impersonations: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=-](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=-](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-)

[o8SeZZFpd-tE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8SeZZFpd-tE)

Kipp:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8SeZZFpd-tE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8SeZZFpd-tE)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8SeZZFpd-tE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8SeZZFpd-tE)

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[ClintJCL.wordpress.com](http://ClintJCL.wordpress.com)

... Read Carolyn's blog at [CarolynCASL.wordpress.com](http://CarolynCASL.wordpress.com)

... View Casey's photos

at [www.flickr.com/photos/Casey-Lea](http://www.flickr.com/photos/Casey-Lea)

... View my camping-related blog posts at

[clintjcl.wordpress.com/category/hobbies-activities/camping/](http://clintjcl.wordpress.com/category/hobbies-activities/camping/)

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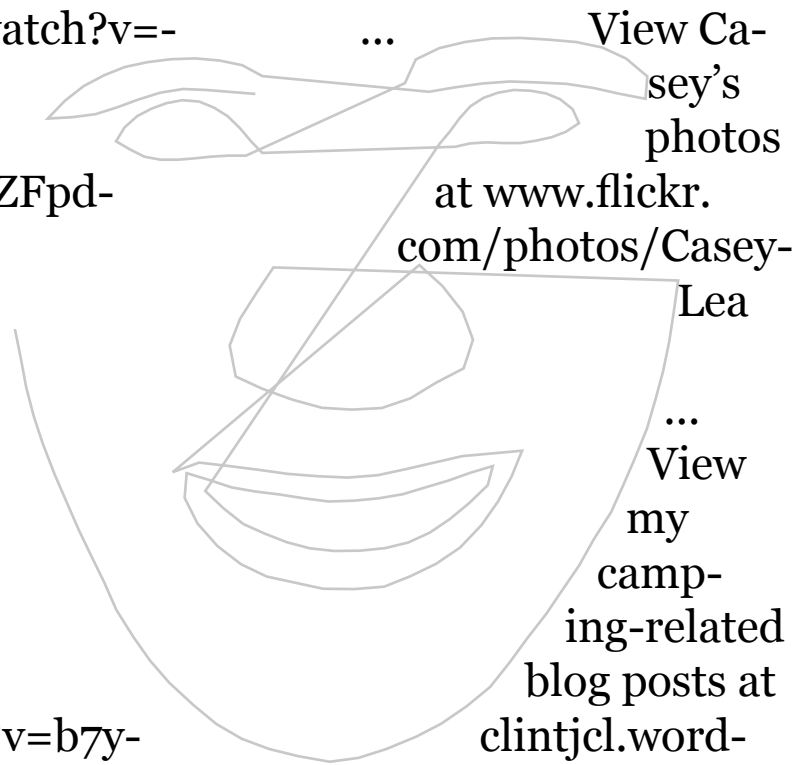
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Carolyn, Casey. close-up. self-portrait.

Elizabeth Furnace, George Washington National Forest, Virginia.

April 28, 2007.

... Read my blog at