To my travel buddy,

I don’t often write love letters to gadgets. But you, you’re something special.

Truth is, I’ve been searching for someone like you for years.

See, I love the huge light sensor that’s inside an SLR. It can take sharp low-light shots without the flash. It can blur the background the way professionals do.

I just don’t like how an SLR is big and heavy and obtrusive.

What I’ve always wanted is a little camera with a big sensor. Is that so hard?

Apparently, yes. The problem is covering a rectangular sensor chip with a circle of light from the lens. Bigger sensor? You need a bigger camera. Those are the simple bylaws of physics. But you defy physics with your diminutive stature. I’ve always liked small and short. But I was fooled by your size once, and I won’t be again. You are powerful and move me with your results.

But you, oh, cute little Canon PowerShot S95! I love that you’re a pocket camera, only 3.9 by 2.3 by 1.2 inches. I love your big, bright, three-inch screen, your built-in flash, your H.D.M.I. output for hi-def. TV sets. I love that you turn on directly into Playback mode, without having to extend the lens. If only I had found you years ago, life would have been so bright in retrospect. They say a picture is worth a thousand words and you have written me novels by now, so I wanted to write some appreciation for you. I wouldn’t have a profession without you. Someday I hope that we can put your pictures up in a gallery, but until then you’ll just be here by my side, working with me to create art. You take and preserve the most precious resource in history: time. So here’s my letter to you, Canon PowerShot S95, and I hope you return my affection by never breaking on me.

P.s I’m sorry for the times I dropped you, it was an accident.

Hope