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MERRY CHRISTMAS

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ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS GREETINGS!



Merry Christmas from the eight of us! We hope this Christmas letter finds you, because clearly yours didn't find us (see [The Awkward](#)). For your convenience, we have organized this letter into the following sections: [The Good](#), [The Bad](#), [Statistics](#), [The Awkward](#), and [The Excruciatingly Ugly](#)¹.

The Awkward

The disturbing lack of Christmas letters we received this year from all of you is, at best, awkward... at worst, an indictment of your collective character. What of your duty to inspire us?! If this letter isn't going well in a bit, we reserve the right to increase the font size, use giant first letters in sections, repeat sentences, use double spacing, include irrelevant charts (see [Figure A](#)), and repeat sentences².

The Bad

Ben learned he has a brain cyst and promptly named it Josh Groban, after his favorite dog, also named

Josh Groban. Don't worry, unlike Josh Groban's singing, Ben's cyst has no long-term negative side effects.

The Good

No members of the LoPresto family were struck by lightning this year (see [Figure A](#)). This comes as quite a relief.



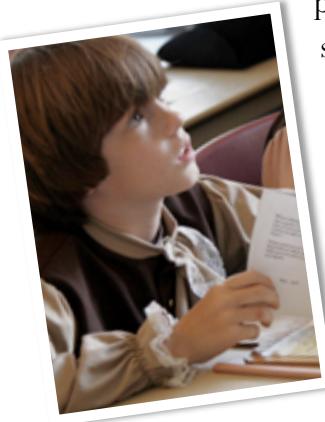
Mom added another vacuum to her collection. This one is portable and features a multi-touch screen, GPS, built-in 3g internet, a recommendation engine ("I see you're cleaning a room. Would you like to clean another room?"), heated hand grips, ergonomic





shoulder harness, green to white technology, image stabilization, cruise control, and night vision. Quite the addition to her growing family!

Mark, pictured here looking at something (not



pictured), accidentally quit smoking recently thanks to those really cool-looking fake cigarettes they sell in the mall now. They duped him, but cut the kid some slack. He's only in the.. third(?) grade (cut us some slack.. it has become increasingly

hard to keep track of our fake sibling(s)³.

Katy broke her four-year streak of not graduating

but promptly decided to double back and take some more scientific courses. It turns out most grad schools don't recognize Walt Disney Theory as a viable substitute for Organic Chemistry. Katy insists that she has a 4.0 GPA since graduation, though, as it turns out, so do the rest of us. In other news, Philadelphia University's football team remains undefeated since 1884. Now that's impressive.

Katy is now employed at a company not run by Dad. And they pay her.



Chris joined a plethora of bands this year, one of which has reached #1 on the Internet⁴.

Ben Quote ~ Chris's Day Job

Listen, what do you do? Because I've been telling people you work for Apple.

Dad had successful shoulder surgery, and, while drugged, did very funny things that even we would feel bad about including in this Christmas letter.

Ben Quote ~ Dad's Day Job

What did Dad do this year besides nothing and retire?

Jess left Matt and Tucker in May of this year. She had been unemployed for quite some time, so





she jumped at a job offer in Ohio. She returned a month later to accept a job in New York City. She can now run from 39th to 33rd street in under seven minutes⁵ in what she calls A Miracle on 33rd Street⁶.

It has come to our attention that Mark, pictured here looking at something (not pictured⁷), has just been struck by lightning.
Agggghhhhhh!!!⁸



He was a good boy. He had some rough spots but he had really turned it around of late. And though still

mourning^{9, 10}, we can't help but point out the irony of the situation, because, despite kicking his tobacco habit, Mark is, in fact, still smoking.

Here is an artist's rendering of what it may have looked like.



Matt designed a lovely kitchen for Mom and Dad's house. Chris contributed a man-sized pantry.

Tucker hit the bottle(s) pretty hard during Jess's absence, but



he's much happier with her home.

Merry Christmas from the seven of us!

-The Los





Figure A

Odds of Becoming a Lightning Victim	
Odds of being struck by lightning in a given year (reported deaths + injuries)	1/750,000
Odds of being struck by lightning in a given year (estimated total deaths + injuries)	1/500,000
Odds of being struck in your lifetime (Est. 80 years)	1/6250
Number of LoPresto family members struck by lightning in the year 2009	0*

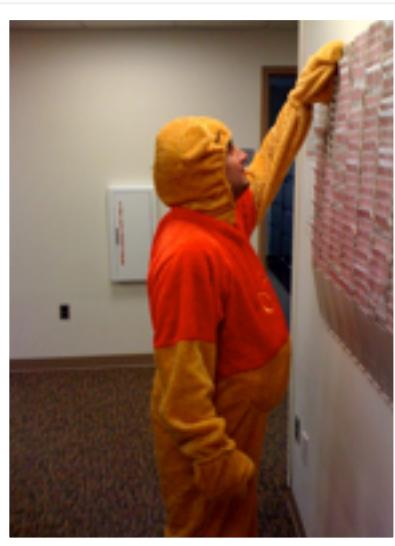
Figure B - The Excruciatingly Ugly



Figure D

There is no Figure D.

B E N AT W O R K??





¹ There was much debate over the adverb in this section title... **Excruciatingly, Astonishingly, Unbelievably**, etc.

² Techniques that served Katy well throughout college.

³ But hey, three years is pretty good for a running gag.

⁴ Sadly, the band is not #1 in Canada, which, apparently, lacks internet access.

⁵ The seven minutes include crossing over from 7th Ave to 8th Ave, which is the longest part of her journey (and story).

⁶ 31st Street for the MegaBus.

⁷ Possibly lightning.

⁸ Mark was dictating at the time.

⁹ It's ok... Mark is with Santa now.

¹⁰ And hey, three years is pretty good for a running gag.

* Statistics may not be up to date, depending on a combination of when you read and when we wrote this.

