

"Enjoying Cooking Again" - 5 June 2024

Writing

When I woke up this morning, my plan was to meet Lalit at 10 or so to learn to weld and then have him over for lunch while my bathroom got repainted. Unfortunately, it was raining (the welding was being done outside). Fortunately, I now had a project I really wanted to work on: my website!

After some procrastination, I made myself breakfast.

[3907]

[3906]

I then sat down in the living room to eat & write. I did not move for about two hours.

[3908]

Finally, just before Lalit was set to arrive, I decided I needed to be prepared for him (that is, shower and buy some veg). I somehow was ready when he arrived.

At this point, I hadn't enjoyed cooking in a while. I didn't feel inspired. I was sort of scared to cook for him. But, I just went on autopilot and bang! Had so much fun! And the food was incredible!

[3909]

[3914]

After our lunch, Lalit and I looked at my photos and Lalit selected some for him to keep, including my laptop's background photo so that he could use it for his too. Matching!

## Cleaning

One thing I'd been putting off was to move all of your food into my cupboard. It had now been sitting on the table for a good week. I think absentmindedly I started moving those things around, and before I'd really thought of it, I was in the midst of organizing our food!

As I started doing this, Lalit decided he too wanted to clean, and he proceeded to take out all the bins, clean the bins, and Hoover! No one has ever done that kind of thing before (no one in his position). He offered to clean our shower drain & do a variety of other tasks, but he ended up having to leave.

[39/16]

Upon finishing my cleaning up, I realized it was almost Söderberg's pick up time. I hurried off to do that, and then dropped it all off at Otis's before eating a pastry on my way to work.

[Eating Pastry]

## Work

This was a very good work day. I'd recently been asked if I liked cooking, and having said yes, Elad had me make some cookies. So, after my usual cleaning & laundry, I got to work on that. However! They had run out of ground cinnamon. At first, Elad suggested I grind up the cinnamon sticks in the mortar & pestle, but then he had the great idea of having me make a special spice mix to use instead of just cinnamon.

So, I spent over half an hour making this mix (which was very fun), before making the cookies dough and adding the new spice mix.

[mortar & pestle-ing]

And then, we decided to make the cookies a tray bake instead. So really they became oatmeal raisin bars in the end!

[pre baked tray]

[post baked tray]

### Walking Home

I had probably planned to call you on the way home, but you were asleep. For the best because I ended up walking home slowly with a camera in hand. I would look around and take photos of anything interesting. It was a warm clear evening and many people had their windows open. I took many photos of the windows, as you will see.

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I really like the effect of not using night mode when it is getting dark. It creates a beautiful sky.

### Back home

Once home, I immediately ignored my hunger and went back to writing. Quickly I realized I did have to eat, so I took out some bread pudding to eat as I worked. Midway through eating it, I realized I had some food stuck to my tooth. I tried to scratch it off, but it wouldn't. Then I realized, it was not a protrusion. My tooth had chipped! A look in the mirror solidified this.

For some reason, my greatest physical fear at the moment (but for years) is losing a tooth, with chipping them a close second. So much so that my worst dreams centre around this idea. Fair to say I was not happy about this turn of events and even a bit stressed.

### Closing Thoughts

While Lalit and I had lunch, the painter came by to paint two more layers. Now the bathroom looks great and the flat looks good! Very happy about that. This was especially the case because I got through more of my to do list. I was very impressed by my reorganizing to the extent of getting almost all our stuff into my cupboard!

I was so so grateful for Lalit's helping. It was so unexpected while also being very M-like with who he is. I love Lalit so much. He is such an incredible friend and person. I feel really very cool being

able to say that I am his friend (one of the closest!). I'm really going to miss him a lot. Next year will honestly be really strange. Not just because he'll be gone, but because it will be the first year (gap!) and we will live together & stuff. Wow. I'm really excited! But I am sad about time passing. In some ways, Lalit is so unique. I don't think I could ever find a person like him. He is so generous. And I think he's shaped how I see myself more than anyone else. I'm so grateful for that. I think I love, like, appreciate myself so much more because of him. :3 I'm sad, but I'm glad to have a good reason for it. Plus, I'll hopefully see him in London this summer! And it gives me another reason to visit ~~the~~ England. (The most important one.)

Lalit also really liked the lunch! It was so so good! I was happy to have enjoyed making it & the result because I had not enjoyed food making in a while. And then I got to look at work too! That was fun. Making the spice mix was a bit extra, and I don't actually think it made a big difference, but it was really very fun! The projects also made me feel more comfortable at work (in their home) and with all of them!

It was also really very enjoyable walking home. I really like how taking lots of photos has opened my eyes even more to detail! Or maybe that's because I'm happy & look for (subconsciously) beauty around us. Regardless of the reason, I'm really enjoying the freedom walking. It feels very calm.



Really, other than the chipped tooth, this was a really good day. I think it left a good mark on me, from what I can tell as I write this days later.

Much love!

Isabella! ♥