Hey y’all,

MFA here. Still in America. Actually, still on campus.

Maggie gives me a tough job here. I have to make doing almost nothing but work seem as exciting as she did.

After finals, I went on my LTT and then had a quick (12 hour) turn around to start working reunions. As always, the event is super fun no matter how busy you are, especially when you get to see 57-year-old alums getting more plastered than Joseph on Steel Reserve night.

After somehow making it through that week, I went back home to Connecticut and promptly slept for 17 (yes, you read that right – seventeen) hours. One of my better snoozes if I dare say so myself. I spent that week just hanging out at home and seeing the few friends that were still home / I still wanted to see.

Then came the dreaded moment of returning back to campus. Not gonna lie to you guys, it was a pretty soul-crushing drive back here.

In all seriousness, it hasn’t been too bad here. I’m researching with the Astrophysics department for the summer, which keeps me busy for a good chunk of the day. I spend most of my day in the basement struggling to read academic papers and struggling to read / write my own code. My project is pretty interesting, and I’m learning a ton about the field – if you wanna hear about what exactly my project is, DM me. I’m not gonna pretend I totally understand it myself, but I’ll give it my best shot)

When I’m not locked in the Peyton Hall basement, I spend a lot of time working out. Oddly enough, I’ve returned to my old roots of swimming early in the morning. My old coach and I are training buddies, which has created a cool relationship based mostly on really weird jokes – like almost on the level of Hudson and Benis.

As for climbing…

Well at the moment I’m a little pissed at Clay for peer pressuring me into 2x25 minute arcs yesterday (kidding, love you Graddy Traddy Daddy). Rockville has been my hideout for the past month or so [STAY TUNED FOR A TRIP REPORT‼], and have been doing various workouts so I can hopefully hit my first 5.12 before I inevitably destroy every single one of my pulleys again. Might head down to hit Tetanus (V1R, FA by yours truly) soon.

Almost forgot the thing I was most excited about this summer! I joined the town’s Astronomy Club, and have been hanging out at their observatory on most Friday nights and learning a ton about the sky / how to work telescopes. It’s super super cool and I think they’re having observing nights until the end of October (@Social Chairs) .

Not sure what else to say. I’m done in a few weeks, and am heading out west to Santa Barbara and maybe up to Idaho. I’m planning on getting some outdoor climbing done when I go to ID, so if you got any good suggestions let me know.

I haven’t taken many (any) pictures, sorry about that. Look below for a selfie I took on my computer right after I wrote this.

Miss you guys, and can’t wait to see almost all of you in the fall. Seniors, come back soon.

Deuces,

Mark ‘From America’ ‘The Shark’ Forese

P.S. Word of advice, if you ever hear your friends say “Let’s go to the Museum of Science!” while you’re in New York City, please make sure they are indeed saying ‘Museum of Science’ and not ‘Museum of Sex.’ Learned that one the hard way (see below).

