Dear Alyssa,

Merry Christmas! I hope you like the presents I got you (assuming you’ve received more than one of them in the mail by now!) I hope the food you eat today is both delicious and plentiful, and that you have plenty of time to be a sleepy, lazy lump. That is, if your pups give you any time to relax!

I know it’s only been about a week since I last saw you, but I miss you already. Those two days post-term didn’t do my any favors in that regard – it re-calibrated my sense of how often I should see you from ‘once a week’ to ‘constantly’. No matter how I feel now (and all jokes aside), I’m so glad we got to spend that time together. I wouldn’t trade those two days for anything, babe.

I’m glad you were able to get some sleep before coming back up to Worcester – between the fact that we don’t sleep too well in the same bed and the insane hours you pulled working on your IQP the week before, you deserved it many times over. While it’s hard for me to fathom exactly how much time you put into that project, sixteen weeks of working on anything is a lot of time to working on anything, so I’ll assume it’s a lot. At least 36 hours, I’d say. I know I may sound like a broken record, but the amount of work you put into this project is awe-inspiring, and I’m so proud of how you handled it. Your ability to just buckle down and Get Shit Done is something I try to emulate whenever I can. Keyword there is ‘try’, but I’ll blame mono for that – next term, I won’t get mono, so that’s when I’ll try again.

Speaking of, I hope your next semester is less hectic than this past term. For one, you deserve to never be that busy again, and for two, I wanna spend time with you! Call me Saran, baby, ‘cause I’m kinda clingy :)

In all seriousness, though, I’m really looking forward to this coming semester and seeing you in person once more. The next 30-some days can’t go quickly enough (although you’re right, I don’t want to squander this). In the meantime, I’ll read your letters, open your presents, and think back on the amazing time we’ve had this term.

With all the love in my heart,