

# ST.SOMETIMES

COVID MAY 2021 V.242

## DREAMING OF ST.SOMEWHERE

What do you dream of?

I cannot help but dream of certain things. Beautiful women (uncovered), beer, bacon, diving. That order.

I've been here too long. I'm going stir crazy with not just Covid, but Covid where I live and everything else about where I live. Blame me? I still love my job enough to stay here but the only thing that keeps me, really, is the ability to travel.

Travel is what keeps me from going crazy. Hence, I am crazy. But, would I be this crazy any where else? Probably. Better to just stay put and dream.

**Everything will be better  
once I travel again.**



## THE ONLY SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY - FACE TO FACE

I won't mention the school or country, but we are the only school that isn't fully online. We went through several stages. We have been Face to Face with half of each class in the morning and half in the afternoon since November 2020.

Why? I don't know. We are all at risk while the numbers still go up country wide.



**HENK SAVES ME WITH ANOTHER 3TB OF MEDIA**



One of my "dance class" buddies, Henk, is a fellow techie. He and his family are originally from South Africa. When we aren't sharing stories of South Africa or dancing, we are sharing tech. Henk is vast levels above me in his techie prowess. He's amazing.

One day, Henk offered to set me up with some recent movies and TV series. I asked him if he might have Law & Order seasons? One of my favorites. He simply told me to bring over a hard drive and he'd see what he could find.

He filled up the entire 3TB (that's 3,000 Gigabytes of information) drive with movies and TV series. That's unheard of in my world. Usually, it is me that is offering and setting up



**NOPE, THAT'S NOT ME. UNFORTUNATELY.**



friends with my DVD collection that I put together with my brothers and a few choice other techies.

Sure enough, I noticed the tags on the 20 seasons of Law & Order - torrents. I'm sure he would NEVER torrent download just like I'd NEVER download. Nope. That would be illegal. I buy all of my movies on Amazon, iTunes, or watch via Netflix etc.

There is only so much screen time any one person can handle. I've watched. I've read all my books. I need to travel. Get me out of here. Let me fly to St. SomeWhere and get out of this place. I need some new input. Let me dive. Let me travel and experience a new country. Please. Travel gods where are you?



## ROBOTIC ARMS WITH 4TH GRADE AND PAPER



## KINDERGARTEN HELL



Teaching for us has been transformed into a wild stream of exploration into a gray area between curriculum and freedom. There is no set curriculum. No one has ever done this before. We are the test school for the model that is being created every minute of every class.

Now, add to that our little conundrum I just explained above! Every minute I sit down to plan for classes that have never been done before, I get called by a colleague to fix a monitor, clear a printer, check the wireless, or help a student with one of our 1200 student Chromebooks.

Three labs. Three techies that have no time to do their tech jobs. All we do is our teaching jobs. Every grade level except pre-kinder come to us. Not only do we teach, we sub for other teachers and babysit for countless hours of recess duty. We are, of course, the highest paid recess teachers in the world, so I cannot complain too much. It's just....

There is no time for the work we are asked to do! I am one of three techies at our school. There is only one at each of our other schools in the district. However, we are the only school that requires the techie to teach full time.

Basically there are four jobs for a techie at our school. (1) Teach full time, (2) support the physical technology teachers use in class, (3) support the soft technologies (everything online like grading, online classes, and training for it all), and (4) act as liaisons for corporate (known as Assistant Information Security Analyst -AISA). How? When? What? Shit!

## THE FUTURE LABS ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS, AT LEAST PARTIALLY FACE TO FACE.



## KEVA PLANKS FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS



The students love what we have done so far. When we switched to Face to Face, only one grade level comes in to class each day of the week. 4th on Sunday, 3rd on Mondays, and so on. I have a lot of workshop experience and have always held after school classes so the Future Lab has been an easy transition for me to plan out...so far. Once we commence full classes in August, the challenge will increase. With 20 students in a class (or a max of 22), my lab will transform into small groups doing a lot of separate projects. I feel terror, apprehension, joy, bliss, confusion, eagerness, and more. All wrapped into a feeling of "not enough time".



# BREAKING MY BALLISTIC MISSILE ATTACK CHERRY

Living on the island is not predictable. I hesitate to write this because my parents and family might worry. Usually, I wait for a length of time before I report the bad stuff. This couldn't wait. I had to record it for my own sake.

It all started one March Saturday Night while I was watching a movie on the projector wall...



## KABOOM! "HOLY SHIT"

I really had no idea what had just happened. It was the loudest fireworks display ever. The kaboom shook my apartment. It didn't bother me. No warning signals had gone off. It wasn't a tornado. I am an earthquake virgin, but nothing had moved in the brief explosion.

I was a bit miffed, but I was like a fish out of water. Figured I'd wait to get instructions if it was more than a power generator exploding and taking out the power the next block over. My power was fine (this time) so I kept watching my movie with the volume just a bit below normal.

## THE CHATTER EXPLODES MY PHONE

Why did I even look at my phone? The Whatsapp group was like a scrolling ticker tape on Wall Street. The feed just kept going.

"It was a bomb." "It's a missile attack!" "Stay away from your windows and go to the ground floor!" "What are you putting in your Go-Bag?" "Has anyone heard officially from school?" and on and on. Everyone was packing up. Getting ready to evacuate.

The scuttlebutt was missiles from Yemen. These weren't just the usual drone attacks on the oil factories. It had become an attack on the civilian areas!

## GO BAG? WHAT WOULD YOU PUT IN IT?

My bag consists of my passport, money, computer, phone, a white t-shirt, jeans, 2 pairs of boxer briefs. That's it. I'm gone. Everything else stays. Enough said. Get to the evacuation point, wherever THAT is, buy what I need when I get there. Done. Get safely out. Replace material stuff at a later point.

Did I mention nothing was ever said? Truth. Nothing was ever announced by the company or by the school I work for. Not even later. Nada. I've attached just one media source that covered some of the attack, but this isn't my news. I saw nothing. Only heard a boom. I know nothing, still today.

07 Mar 2021 | 07:29 PM UTC  
**Saudi Arabia: Al-Houthi rebels claim responsibility for missile attack targeting Aramco oil facility in Dhahran late March 7**



### EVENT

The Al-Houthi rebels in Yemen have claimed responsibility for eight missile strikes and 14 drone strikes targeting an Aramco oil facility in Ras Tanura, Saudi Arabia, as well as military targets in Dammam, Asir, and Jazan late March 7. The Royal Saudi Air Defense Forces (RSADF) have not issued a comment on the attacks. There have been no immediate reports of damage or casualties. Additional cross-border attacks could occur in the coming days. Transport and flight disruptions are possible.

### CONTEXT

The lack of objective sources covering the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and Al-Houthi rebels makes it challenging to independently verify reports of longer-range weaponized drone and ballistic missile attacks or intercepts inside Saudi Arabia. Each side relies heavily on propaganda and misdirection in the media to shape the narrative to its policy objectives. As is often the case when reports of an alleged drone or ballistic missile attacks or intercepts emerge, neither Riyadh nor the Al-Houthi rebels provide much, if any, verifiable

proof to support their respective claims.

The Al-Houthi rebels have demonstrated an intent to target major population centers in Saudi Arabia with weaponized drones and ballistic missiles. While their precise tactical capabilities are unclear, the rebel group claims to possess several short-range ballistic missiles (SRBMs) with ranges from 30 km (18 miles) to 1,000 km (620 miles). The group, with help from Iran, also claims to possess several indigenously produced drones with ranges from 15 km (9 miles) to 500 km (310 miles). Nevertheless, the Saudi military employs a wide array of air defense platforms and appears to have significantly mitigated the drone and ballistic missile threat in its southern border provinces; however, falling debris post-intercept remains a potentially lethal hazard.

Previous Al-Houthi cross-border attacks have resulted in civilian casualties; however, most are due to shorter-range mortar and rocket attacks that concentrate near areas within 10 km (6 miles) of the Saudi-Yemeni border.

Source: <https://www.garda.com/crisis24/news->



## SILVER UP-KEEP FOR MY SILVER KING

It took me four hours to shine up my Silver King clarinet. It's silver plated, except for the solid silver bell. Imagine what it looked like after a year in the desert!

I wish it was as easy as dropping your best silverware set into a cleaning bath. Nope. A full box of Qtips and four micro-fiber towels later...

Maybe I'll add this one gem into my Go Bag?