

Wintering (2 January 2024)

This is a shortest “yearly” email to friends that I’ve ever sent. No photos, no history, no memes... just : a sign of life.

I am alive, but not “in a good place”.

The winter is here: dark, cold, lonely; the world is full of wars, injustices, crisis-es, violence, suffering... (but also beauty, brightness, belonging.).

I am semi-healthy, with lots of periodic health problems & not much energy.

(my knee is 90% healed, it took 10 weeks; I went through a “scare” of having breast cancer — but it was confirmed that I do NOT have it — it was difficult to keep this news from the close friends.. ; I had two more infections that had to be treated with antibiotics (in addition to throat) : ear & bladder; and most recently: cold or covid, who knows... or maybe “Long Covid”?!). (for the emotional pain & trauma: I am going to two therapies (schema & somatic) and still taking antidepressants).

Kids are *great*. Them becoming adults is making my new role in life... new, something to explore, get used to, learn: and that takes energy... And, it is also the loss of the “old”, and mourning that loss take energy too.

Work is OK: I still have a part-time job; it’s been 25 years in the same company! I am mostly working from home, I am mostly working on what I like: Sustainability, Diversity, Community Building.

My relationship is ending (*) — or changing. This is a difficult phase to go through, after 12+ years of togetherness... painful & sad, but with gratitude for all the good parts, too.

Our housing situation is going to change in 2024: in the summer we will move out from the “big house”, into our old houses. This is already stressing me out. . all the logistics & downsizing & repairs & *change*!!!

Only the cat is *amazing* — brings the most joy to my life!!!

Plans:

- I am going to be in Athens 22-23. April <https://ripe.net/see-12>
- I might be in Krakow 20-24. May, <https://ripe88.ripe.net>
- I might be in Lika in between and/or after: <https://tinyurl.com/Lika-Lodge>
- Charlie & Arnd are going to Japan from mid-March to 7. April

Offers:

- you have till June to visit us in Osdorp, and after we will be a bit more compressed, when you visit.
- the best time to visit is mid-March to 7. April , when Arnd & Charlie will be in Japan
- my “small house” might be available for rent, stay or renovation March-July. Let me know if you need it!

Requests:

- Please help to find a good use for my Bonaireplein apartment <https://wiki.techinc.nl/User:Becha/apartment>
- Please offer a place to stay or tips on what to visit in Japan, to Charlie & Arnd
- **Please be patient with me, in this state of hibernation.**

The regular programme of yearly reports will continue when I am more rested, recovered, restored.

I have to send this out NOW, because of the pressure of my perfectionism & fear of being disappointing to all my friends... so then I can go back to composing a HUGE message with all the trimmings ;-) ... later.

Love from Vesna

ps. (*) kao onaj vic: “ovo se vise ne moze izdrzati” , i tako nekoliko puta...